

Lawn to Garden Rebate Program

Rebates up to \$4,500 residential
\$15,000 commercial

City of Tulare's lawn to garden rebate supports water-wise gardens that thrive in California's summer dry climate and during drought. Lower your water bill and conserve water when you convert lawn to sustainable landscape and upgrade to high-efficiency irrigation equipment.




When you convert or upgrade your landscape you:

 **Save Water**  **Save Money**  **Save Time**  **Reduce Waste**

HOW TO GET STARTED IN THREE STEPS:

- 1** Decide you want to participate in lawn to garden rebate!
- 2** Send in a completed application form to the City of Tulare.
- 3** Wait for City of Tulare approval before beginning work.

RESOURCES FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT:

-  Low-water plants for our local climate: fresnogardening.org
-  Garden design and maintenance guidance: fresnogardening.org/tours.php
-  Tutorials for lawn removal: <https://www.bewaterwise.com/toolkit.html#how-to-videos>





Lawn to Garden Rebate Program Application

Eligibility:

- Rebates are reserved for landscaped areas currently irrigated by an active potable City of Tulare water service.
- City of Tulare rebates are subject to terms, conditions, and available program funding. Please read entire application carefully.
- Rebate is \$3.00 per square foot up to 1,500 square feet with a maximum rebate amount of \$4,500 per residence.
- Rebate is \$3.00 per square foot up to 5,000 square feet with a maximum rebate amount of \$15,000 per multi-family or commercial property.

Return completed form to: aluttrell@tulare.ca.gov or
 City of Tulare Lawn to Garden Rebate Program, 3981 S K St, Tulare, CA 93274

Customer Information

Property is:

- Residential Single/Multi-family 4 units or less
 Maximum possible rebate \$4,500
- Multi-family 5 units or more/Commercial Property
 Maximum possible rebate \$15,000
- Irrigation only meter? Yes No

Contact Information:

Check one:

- Owner Tenant Property Manager Landscape Contractor

City of Tulare Water Account # _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Installation Address: _____

Phone: _____ Owner Email: _____

Tax Notice

All residential rebates, that individually or in combination, total \$600 or more in a tax year require submittal of a W-9 form to the District prior to payment. All personal information provided within the W-9 will be kept confidential in accordance with the Privacy Act. If your total rebate amount is \$600 or more, you will receive a 1099 form to comply with IRS requirements. The determination of whether your rebate is taxable or not may depend on several variables; you are recommended to contact your tax professional for more information.

Agreement

I, the undersigned, understand that this a limited, first-come/first-served program and that the City of Tulare is entitled to deny any application that does not meet program requirements. I have voluntarily determined to participate in the City of Tulare's Lawn to Garden Rebate Program. I have independently selected materials, supplies, and labor for the purpose of performing the installation. I agree that all work performed will comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations. I agree that the City of Tulare may visit the premises and verify existing conditions and that the work has been performed. By virtue of these inspections, I understand that the City of Tulare makes no determination with respect to whether materials and equipment are free of defects, the quality of the workmanship, or the suitability of the premises or the materials or the equipment for the installation. I also understand that the installation of irrigation equipment and landscape materials may not result in lower water bills. If this application is approved by the City of Tulare and the work proceeds, I agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Tulare, its directors, officers, agents and employees against any and all loss, liability, expense, claims, suits and damages, including attorneys' fees, arising out of or resulting from the installation of irrigation equipment and landscape materials.

Please provide Property Owner signature and Applicant signature (if Applicant is not Property Owner) to process rebate application.

 Property Owner Signature Print Name Date

 Applicant Signature Print Name Date



Lawn to Garden Rebate Requirements

Step 1. Check each box to indicate you understand the requirements.

Is your lawn eligible for a rebate?

- Lawn has been actively maintained and irrigated by potable City of Tulare water.
- Lawn conversion project has not started.
- Project will not begin until City of Tulare provides written notice of approval.

Projects must include:

Conversion Method (select one)

- Physical removal: Fast and effective, but can disturb and compact soil. Compost may be required to improve soil health.
- Sheet mulching: Layer cardboard, compost, and mulch on top of the lawn instead of physically removing or killing it with herbicides. For more information about this easy process, visit lawntogarden.org.

Plants

- Plants must cover 50% of the converted area once fully grown. A tree is recommended.
- Plants must be low-water-use for our local climate. Low-water-use plants need little to no supplemental water once established. Edible plants and trees are accepted. Find examples at fresnogardening.org.
- (Recommended) Majority of plants are native to California.

Materials

- Planted areas and exposed soil must be covered with two (2) inches of mulch.
- New landscape may include pathways or patios as long as they are permeable, allowing water to pass through. Permeable materials can include pavers or brick filled with sand, gravel, or decomposed granite.
- Only permeable weed barriers may be used. Must be permeable to air and water.
- (Recommended) Compost must be applied in planted areas (minimum 1/2 inch layer)

Irrigation

- If there is a sprinkler system currently in place, it must be removed, capped, or replaced with a drip system.
- If installed, drip systems must use a pressure regulator and filter to ensure proper function.
- If there are any plants with different watering needs, they must be placed in separate irrigation zones to avoid overwatering.

Project Timing

- Lawn conversion project will be completed within 120 days of project pre-approval.
- (Recommended) Plants will be installed between September and February.

Project must **NOT** include:

- Artificial turf.
- Concrete, mortared, or glued paths or patios.
- Plants that need moderate to frequent watering once established.
- Plastic or non-biodegradable weed barriers.
- Low-water lawns from seed or sod.
- Plants listed as invasive on cal-ipc.org/plants/profiles.



Lawn to Garden Rebate Application

Step 2. Complete all sections below.

Measure and sketch the lawn conversion area below or attach a sketch separately.

Reminder: Non-irrigated lawns and lawns already converted at the time of the pre-inspection are not eligible for a rebate.

Attach several photos of the existing lawn area to this application.

I understand City of Tulare may need to schedule a rebate pre-inspection at the project site.

Provide a plant list

- Use the space below to list the plants planned for your lawn conversion area. Plants must be climate appropriate and require little to no supplemental water once established. Visit fresnogardening.org for suggestions of approved low-water-use plants. Mark plants that are California native with an asterisk *.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Estimate your lawn to garden rebate:

_____ square feet x \$3.00 = \$ _____

Step 3. Wait for City of Tulare approval before beginning work.