



City of Chandler Water Conservation

Landscape Conversion Rebate Program (Amended Policy)

Authorized by Resolution No. 4370 8/19/2010

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Rebate Program encourages installation of low-water-use, drought-tolerant plants (Xeriscape), thereby creating a permanent reduction in the amount of water applied to landscapes.

A rebate is offered for the removal of grass from the landscape and installation of City approved low-water use landscaping. Rebates are calculated based upon the amount of turf removed and landscape installed, and is limited to no more than \$3,000 per property.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Rebates are available for Chandler utility customers that meet the program requirements stated below.

REQUIREMENTS

- Applicant must be the property owner and a current Chandler utility consumer.
- Rebate application must be filled out and submitted by applicant.
- The entire front and back yards must be landscaped prior to conversion. Exposed soil in conversion areas must be landscaped. Bare soil is not acceptable.
- The total landscapable area of the property must exceed 1,000 square feet. This area excludes buildings, driveways, pool, etc. (Patios or decking are included in landscapable area.) A minimum of 1,000 square feet of established turf area in the landscape must be converted to low-water use landscaping.
- Plant material in the conversion area (both newly installed and/or retained plants) must be listed as low-water use and, at typical mature size, must cover 50% or more of the landscaped area.
- After conversion, a minimum of 50% of the total landscapable area must be in non-grass and include plants from the Phoenix AMA Low Water Use Plant List, with inorganic or organic top dressing. Drought-resistant trees and shrubs must be the primary accent plants. Inorganic top dressing includes gravel, river rock, and decomposed granite. Organic top dressing includes bark, shredded bark or mulch.
- Non-pervious materials such as black plastic sheeting are not permitted in the rebated area.
- No fountains are allowed in the conversion area unless they are of a recirculating, cascading and non-spraying design.
- A final inspection is required.
- A property currently landscaped with low-water use plants will not be eligible for a rebate if the area is redone.

GETTING STARTED

- Call the Water Conservation Office to set up a preliminary site inspection.
- Submit a "before" photo of the established turf area, if available.
- You can begin the project after verification of eligibility by the Water Conservation Specialist.
- When the landscape conversion is completed, call the Water Conservation Office to schedule a final inspection.
- At the final inspection, turf removal and plant material will be verified. You may submit photos of the completed landscape, if available.
- If all requirements are met, the rebate will be approved and a check will be mailed to you.

The number of rebates awarded each year will depend upon availability of funds. Rebates are awarded in the order applications are received (from the date the completed application is received) on a first come, first served basis. The rebate is not retroactive and does not apply to work completed before August 1, 2010. This is the second revision to the residential Rebate Conversion Program. Rebate participants applying for a rebate that have completed a conversion of their landscapes prior to April 1, 2008 are only eligible for a \$200 rebate according to the previous program guidelines. Rebate participants completing work between April 1, 2008 and August 1, 2010 are eligible for \$200 per 1,000 square feet up to \$600.

Contact the Water Conservation Office at 480-782-3580 to apply for a rebate. To assist citizens with their landscape conversions, free low-water use landscaping booklets and an interactive CD are available. Call the office or visit Chandler's Water Conservation web site at www.chandleraz.gov/water.