



# Commercial Terms and Conditions

## Eligibility

- Participant must receive water from Fort Collins Utilities.
- Project area must be high-water use grass proposed for low- or no-water landscape.
- New construction without landscape may be eligible to participate.
- One rebate per address per year.
- Previously installed landscapes not approved through XIP are not eligible for a rebate.



## Terms and Conditions

- Proposed renovation area must be existing high-water grass with historical, regular water use. Fort Collins Utilities will confirm eligibility by looking up historical water use. Automatic irrigation systems are not required. Proposed projects must demonstrate long-term water reduction.
- Projects may only be initiated after approval of an Amendment application through the Zoning Department. XIP approval does not guarantee Zoning approval.
- Rebate rate: \$1.50 per square foot up to \$15,000.
- XIP is first come, first served. Estimated rebate funds are held per participant for two years from the date of application approval. Extensions will not be granted. Applicants with expired applications must reapply.
- Approved projects will enter into a contract agreement with the City of Fort Collins. Contract agreement meetings will be scheduled following notification of approval.
- Landscapes must be installed to plan within reason. Variations in plant location, plants are acceptable without additional approval.
- Inspections are performed by City staff after project completion. Participants may schedule an inspection on the XIP website.

- Rebate amount is based on landscape conversion area as estimated by a landscape contractor. Area may be verified by City staff. Rebate amount may not exceed 50% of total project cost.
- Rebates are issued in the form of a check..



## Landscape Requirements

- **Plants** must be appropriate to the Fort Collins climate and may be selected from but not limited to the plants listed on the XIP-Approved Plant List and City Vegetation Database. Plants listed with moderate, low and very low water requirement are eligible. Moderate to Low-water turf types may be eligible.
- To avoid overwatering some plants and underwatering others, **plants must be grouped together according to water requirement.**
- **Hardscaping is eligible area if it allows water to pass through.** Concrete and grouted patios are not eligible.
- Changes to **parkway landscapes** must meet the City's parkway guidelines and require a Parkway Amendment Application. **Parkways must contain a total of 50% plant coverage at maturity.** Plant coverage is determined based on estimated area of plants at maturity. Tree canopy does not count toward coverage. Parkways are city-owned property and are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to maintain.
- **Areas not eligible** for rebate include artificial turf, water features, veggie beds, trees and concrete. The area of these features will be subtracted from the total rebate-eligible area.
- Automatic **irrigation** zones must be retrofitted to water both remaining grass adequately and irrigate new landscape efficiently. Drip irrigation is preferred to overhead sprays, but not required if use of overhead irrigation is justified. If overhead sprays are used, high-efficiency nozzles are required.
- **New and existing trees must have dedicated irrigation** or a proposed method for regular hand watering. Regardless of size, age and how long trees on the property have existed without regular irrigation, trees need 10 gallons per inch of diameter of tree trunk at least once per month to stay healthy. Young trees require the calculated volume once a week, mature trees require the calculated volume once a month.
- **By City code, soil amendment is required** in areas that are cleared and set to hold plant material. Soil amendment is intended to enhance soil water storage capacity, improve conditions for plant growth and reduce water runoff. Soil amendment includes

but is not limited to plant-based compost, manure-based compost, organic and inorganic materials. *A soil test is NOT required for the program* unless a participant wishes to bypass the soil amendment requirement.

- To avoid landscape failure, participants must manage weeds pre- and post-installation. Participants are required to eradicate weeds prior to landscape installation.



## Payment

- Following a passing inspection of the completed landscape, participants must submit expense documentation in ZoomGrants to receive payment in the form of a check.