



# Residential 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.
- It is the participants responsibility to receive HOA or mobile home community management approval as necessary before applying to XIP. XIP approval does not guarantee HOA or mobile home community management approval.
- Participants may begin to kill grass only after receiving application approval.
- Standard rebate: \$0.75 per square foot up to \$750. Native Rebate: \$1.00 per square foot up to \$1000.
- Eligibility for the Native Rebate rate is determined by City staff at the time of application approval.
- XIP is first come, first served. Estimated rebate funds are held per participant for one-year from the date of application approval. Extensions will not be granted. Applicants with expired applications must reapply.
- 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 measurement at final inspection multiplied by the approved rebate rate. Rebate amount may not exceed total project cost.

- Rebates are issued in the form of a Utilities bill credit unless otherwise requested.



## 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.
- **Front yard must contain a total of 50% plant coverage at maturity. Plant coverage is determined based on estimated area of plants at maturity, verified at design approval. Landscape plans must show plants drawn to scale at mature size.** Remaining areas of grass in the front yard may count toward coverage. Tree canopy does not count toward coverage.
- Changes to **parkway landscapes** must meet the City's parkway guidelines and require an additional Parkway Amendment Application. Parkways are city-owned property and are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to maintain.
- Eligibility for the **Native Rebate** rate requires 1) minimum of 80% plants native to Colorado, calculated by total quantity of plants 2) 50% plant coverage at maturity of the total renovation area.
- **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 the new landscape efficiently. Drip irrigation is preferred to overhead sprays, but not required. If overhead sprays are used, high-efficiency nozzles are required. Hand watering and semi-automatic irrigation is acceptable.
- **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.



## Rebate Materials

Rebate materials must be submitted prior to or at inspection.

- **Final Rebate Application Form:** Digital form filled out at inspection that requires total project cost and signature.
- **Soil amendment certificate:** notarized form certifying you amended your soil. A soil amendment certificate is NOT a soil test. A soil test is not required for this program.
- **W9:** Water rebates over \$600 are considered taxable income. Participants who receive more than \$600 of water rebates throughout the year will be sent a 1099 form for the tax year the rebate was received.
- **Receipts:** original or copies of project receipts must prove the project cost is equal to or greater than the rebate. XIP rebate cannot exceed project cost.