Water Efficient Landscape
Turf and Irrigation Rebate Program

The Town of Windsor offers a rebate for removal of natural or synthetic turf and a separate rebate for irrigation equipment.

Updated Guidelines!

Turf Removal
$1.00 ft² up to $1,500.00

Steps to Participate

1. Call the Sonoma Water line at 707-547-1909 to set up a pre-inspection. Natural or synthetic turf/ lawn must be inplace, alive or dead, at the time of the appointment. Bare soil with weeds will not qualify.
2. Read the complete list of Terms and Conditions on the back of this sheet.
3. Within 120 days of the pre-inspection approval, complete the lawn transformation.
   a. Either cut and abandon the irrigation system or convert it to drip irrigation with a pressure regulator and filter on each valve.
   b. Sheet mulching is the recommended way to remove the lawn.
   c. **Installation of Artificial turf and impermeable surfaces do not qualify. Removal of Artificial Turf can be rebated.**
4. Once the project is completed, call 707-547-1909 to schedule a post-inspection.
5. Upon approval of the post-inspection, the rebate will be placed on the water bill as a credit for the



Irrigation Equipment Rebate for total cost up to $500.00

Steps to Participate

1. Call 707-547-1909 to set up a pre-inspection of existing irrigation equipment.
2. Read the complete list of Terms and Conditions on the back of this sheet.
3. Within 120 days of the pre-inspection approval, complete the irrigation equipment upgrade.
   a. Not all irrigation equipment is approved for this rebate. Equipment must be pre-approved in order to qualify.
   b. Installation costs (labor), sales tax, and delivery charges are not eligible for this rebate.
   c. New construction sites are not eligible for this rebate.
4. Once the project is completed, call 707-547-1909 to schedule a post-inspection.
   a. Original itemized receipts are due at the time of the post-inspection. Please make copies for yourself as the originals will not be returned.
5. Upon approval at the post-inspection, the rebate will be placed on the water bill of the account where the work was completed as a credit.

The following applies to both Turf Removal and Irrigation Equipment Rebates

Tenants and Renters must receive written consent from the property owner to participate in the rebate program. A completed Tenant Permission form (obtained during the pre-inspection from the Town of Windsor staff) must be submitted prior to the start of work.

Terms and Conditions

1. A site can qualify for both the turf/ lawn removal rebate and the irrigation equipment rebate.
2. Only sites with Town of Windsor water accounts qualify.
3. Sites with recycled water will not qualify.
4. A site water survey is required during the pre-inspection appointment to qualify for either rebate.
5. Natural grass lawns may be living or dead at the time of pre-inspection. Bare earth areas with no sign of lawn are not eligible, however a photo of the previous lawn qualifies if it was allowed to die during the drought.
6. Removal of Artificial Turf will also be rebated due to its harmful environmental impacts. All terms and conditions must still be met for the updated landscape.
7. Sheet mulching is the recommended method of turf removal.
8. The rebated area may only include low water use, drought-tolerant or California native plants. The Water Use Classification of Landscape Species list (http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/) or local plant lists may be used to make this selection.
9. There should be a minimum of three plants installed per 100 square feet. The plants must be of the type described above in #6 of the Terms and Conditions.
10. **Live or synthetic turf is not allowed in the rebated portion of the converted landscape.**
11. At least 50% of the rebated area must be covered with organic mulch. No more than 50% of the rebated ground surface may be covered in rock or gravel.
12. We do not recommend using highly flammable mulches such as shredded redwood (Gorilla hair mulch) or rubber mulch.
13. Non-permeable materials and the following items are ineligible to be in the rebated area: fences, trellises, retaining walls, hot tubs, pools, or sheds.
14. The replacement landscape must be watered by drip irrigation or hand watering.
15. Impervious decks or patios are not allowed as part of the rebated area.
16. Paving stones, pavers and brick patios are permitted but must be filled with loose material. No concrete or impermeable grouting may be used to affix the pavers in place.
17. Lawn may not be reinstalled while you maintain ownership of the property. If lawn is reinstalled during that time, the entire rebate amount must be refunded.
18. The rebated project must be completed within 120 days of application approval.
19. Rebate is first come, first served and subject to the availability of funds.
20. Rebate is only available once per property even if rebate is not fully expended.
21. Rebate is applied as a credit to the water service account of the property where the turf was removed.
22. Rebates are awarded at the discretion of Town of Windsor water conservation staff.
23. Customer accounts must be current and non-delinquent (i.e., no past due balances) at the time the rebate application is processed. No rebate will be given to customers whose accounts are delinquent.

While this rebate does not prohibit the use of inorganic mulches such as gravel, we advise against using them outside of a 5 ft firesafe barrier around your home if possible. Gravel and stone trap heat, making your home even hotter in the summer months. We recommend using organic mulches such as wood chips that won't heat up your home, as they improve soil and plant health.

Have questions? Contact 707-547-1909

