



## CITY OF COTATI

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### CASH FOR GRASS TURF REBATE – INFORMATION SHEET

#### Rebate amounts:

- Residential: \$1.00/sq. ft. up to max of \$500.00 once for the life of the account.
- Multifamily/Condos/PUDS: \$1.00/sq. ft. up to max of \$500.00 once for the life of the account.

#### Applicant Must:

- Have a City of Cotati water account (service) in their name for the property where the project will be completed.
  - If the property owner is the participant in the program and not the water account holder, they must receive written consent from the water account holder using a City of Cotati/Account Holder Permission Form.
- Agree lawn already removed at the time of the pre-inspection are not eligible for rebate.
- Agree lawn must not be reinstalled while you are the current account holder or property owner. If lawn or any other high-water use plants (such as gardens) are reinstalled during that time, the entire rebate amount must be refunded.

#### Steps to Participate:

1. Call Water-Use Efficiency staff at 707-547-1909 for pre-qualification, eligibility verification and a potential site visit. All rebates require a pre-qualification before any work is started.
2. After eligibility of site is verified, you will receive your Eligibility Form (required to qualify for rebate). You may then proceed with lawn replacement. You have 240 days from the date on the eligibility form to complete the project in accordance with project guidelines.
3. Once project is finished, and within the 240-day period, call 707-547-1909 to set up a post-inspection.
4. City staff will verify project completion and that the project follows the guidelines above.

#### Guidelines:

- It is recommended that the lawn is sheet mulched. Physical removal may be used but is not recommended.
- Only permeable landscapes are allowed (mulch, rock, small pavers, etc.).
  - Not allowed: “gorilla hair” mulch, dyed mulch, solid plastic sheeting, rubber mulch, artificial turf, concrete, mortared or glued surfaces including patios. Allowed but discouraged: “permeable” plastic landscape fabric: this suffocates the soil, increases water runoff, prevents nutrient cycling, and makes it harder to pull the weeds that inevitably grow on top.
- Only non-invasive low or very-low water use plants are allowed as determined by WUCOLS:  
<https://ccuh.ucdavis.edu/wucols-db>

- A plant density requirement of 50% at plant maturity is required as calculated by planted square footage divided by total project area. Planting areas 6 feet wide or under are exempted from this plant coverage requirement.
- If there is an existing irrigation system in the project area, you must do one of the following:
  - Cut off irrigation valve, remove it and cap the pipes OR
  - Cut and cap all sprinkler heads OR
  - Cut and cap all but select sprinkler heads and convert those heads to a drip system using an all-in-one conversion kit (must have a pressure regulator and a filter built in) OR
  - Cut the output side of the irrigation valve and convert to a drip system with a pressure regulator and filter from there .
- If you do not have an existing irrigation system you may either install a new irrigation valve with a pressure regulator, filter, and drip system, or you can hand water.
- For water advice check out: <https://www.savingwaterpartnership.org/> or email Sonoma County Water Agency at [water.smart1@scwa.ca.gov](mailto:water.smart1@scwa.ca.gov) or call at (707)547-1909