

Water Smart Business Grant Terms & Conditions:

Please read the following eligibility requirements and grant terms:

Grant Terms:

- The grant is at the discretion of the Town of Okotoks and provides up to a maximum of \$10,000 to each approved grantee. A total of \$40,000 is annually available through the grant program.
- All fixture installations are subject to inspection and must meet applicable safety codes.
- All outdoor projects are subject to inspection and must reflect the approved landscaping plan or specifications submitted to the Town of Okotoks.
- All projects must reflect the parameters specified by the grantee in the original application, unless otherwise discussed and approved by the Town of Okotoks.
- If the grantee is not the building owner, any changes made to the plan must also be approved by the building owner.
- All projects must be complete by, or prior to, October 31, 2024.
- Upon project completion, the successful applicants will submit all final receipts, itemized paid invoices, and project photos and other documentation before receiving the funds in the form of a cheque or EFT payment.
- To receive the funds, the grantee must have all documentation and application submitted on, or prior to, November 15, 2024.

☐ I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above terms for the Water Smart Business Grant.

Project parameters per project type:

Water-wise landscaping/xeriscape

- Landscaped area is 90 m² minimum; if the entire business yard space is less than 90m² and being landscaped in it's entirety it will still qualify.
- Landscape transforms from non-functional turf¹ to mulch and drought-tolerant plants.
- 40% of the landscaped area must consist of plants, trees and/or shrubs.
- Soil in the project area will have compost mixed in to the topsoil.
- Any existing irrigation systems can be used to establish plants during the summer they are planted; once the growing season is over, the irrigation system must be decommissioned.
- Projects need to ensure 30 cm of loam depth throughout the xeriscaped area.
- Project must meet the landscaping requirements in the [General Design and Construction Specifications](#)

¹ Non-functional turf: mowed turf areas that see little or no active or recreational use, yet still require substantial irrigation to remain healthy

Irrigation System Water Efficiency Upgrades

- Upgrade from standard irrigation controllers to WaterSense labelled irrigation controllers and rain sensors.
- Installation of a master valve.
- Replacement of sprinkler head with emitter lines in higher-density plant areas (assumes WaterSense irrigation controller and rain sensor install).
- All work must be done by a professional irrigation installer.
- Includes decommissioning an irrigation system through capping the system or through complete removal of system, and the removal of the water meter.
- If the system is capped, all components that reside over 1 cm above the ground's surface must be removed.
- All work must be done by a professional irrigation installer.
- Any enterprise that decommissions an irrigation system and installs drought tolerant turf and/or mulch and drought tolerant plants will be the focus for grant funding.
- Non-functional turf areas will be the focus for funding.
- Decommissioning will be such that it would be impossible to reattach the system.

Rain or Storm Water Capture and/or Reuse Project

- All projects must have prior [Government of Alberta](#) approval
- Installation of an above ground rainwater harvesting system over 1000 gallons, including irrigation, in place of the potable water supply.
- A project that involves using low impact design methods to capture storm water; or
- A project that captures rain/storm water for the purpose of reusing it in place of the potable water supply.

Indoor Water Fixtures

- Project replaces high water using fixtures and appliances (e.g. faucets, toilets, commercial dishwashers, etc.).
- Applicant must provide proof of old fixture via specifications/photos of the make/model information and/or a specification sheet.
- High water use fixtures/appliances are replaced with WaterSense certified fixtures. (where certification exists) or energy star appliances rated for water-efficiency.
- Water Savor Controller installation on flow-through humidifiers.
- Hot water recirculation pump(s) installation.

In condominiums where water is metered on a building basis, rather than an individual unit basis, the condo board may apply for the program in order to see collective water and dollar savings that can be passed to the residents.

☐ I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above parameters of the grant.

Eligible expenses for the grant program per project type:

Project Type	Eligible Expense
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour for professional install of materials/equipment related to the project • Materials/equipment to complete project (see below)
Water-wise Landscaping/Xeriscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost for professional services of a landscape architect • Equipment rentals (if self-landscaping) • Drought tolerant plants (Zone 1-3 perennials, shrubs, trees) as part of xeriscape projects • Drought tolerant turf • Bark mulch • Compost • Landscaping rock/gravel mulch • Compost/soil for soil amendments (30cm loam depth) • Landscape fabric, edging, larger ornamental rocks
Irrigation System Water Efficiency Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WaterSense labelled irrigation controllers and sprinkler bodies • Parts for installation of irrigation master valve • Rain sensors • Emitter lines (drip irrigation) • Labour costs for water efficiency upgrades • Cost of the removal of the water meter by the Town of Okotoks • If applicable, the cost for removing the system from the ground, including ground repairs
Rain/Storm Water Reuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainwater harvesting tanks and stands/housing • Piping, debris traps, filters, pumps, irrigation supplies • Storm water capture/reuse materials are subject to project needs and will be assessed per project
Indoor Water Fixtures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WaterSense labeled toilets, faucets, showerheads, and urinals • Water Saver Controllers for flow-through humidifiers • Energy Star rated appliances/mechanical systems that impact water use • Hot water recirculation pumps

Which expenses are NOT eligible for the grant?

- Supplies, materials, or labour not directly related to the project
- Office operating and maintenance expenses
- Retroactive funding for projects already initiated or completed
- Non-drought tolerant plants
- Applicant organization's staff wages
- Replacement of irrigation system piping and rotors or installation of new irrigation systems



- Artificial turf and rubber mulch

☐ **I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above eligibility requirements of the grant.**

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____