

# Water Conservation Rebate Program

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2024



**Okotoks**

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# Compost, Turf/Grass and Mulch

## Compost (Grade A)

50% up to \$200

Compost mixture that is 100% composted animal manure or plant-based compost. Includes compost used to top-dress lawns to aid in water retention and soil health. (Examples: composted sheep manure, mushroom compost)

*NOTE: Does NOT include soil mixes or fertilizers. Include photo of compost packaging or a screenshot of the item purchased, if it is a larger quantity.*

## Drought-Tolerant Turf/Grass

50% up to \$500

Drought-tolerant sod, grass seed, hydro-seed and non-turfgrass groundcover seed such as White Dutch or micro clover are eligible for the rebate program if they are TWCA-certified and/or composition consists of less than 30% of Kentucky Blue Grass. Rebate includes the cost of installation.

*NOTE: Proof of seed mix composition from bag, or a turf/seed composition list from the supplier/installer required.*

## Mulch (Bark & Rock)

50% up to \$100

All forms of bark and rock mulch that are used for landscaping/groundcover are eligible. Examples: bark shavings, nuggets, wood chip mixes, rock mixes.

*NOTE: Include photo of mulch after it is installed in yard. The purpose of mulch is to provide cover around plants or to replace turfgrass. Program does not include mulch for areas under structures (decks, etc.), in dog runs, or in driveways. Mulch must be permeable; non-permeable surfaces such as pavers or patio stones are not eligible. Rubber mulch is excluded from the program.*

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GENERAL

# Residential Rebate Items

## **WaterSense® Irrigation Controller** 50% up to \$300

Rebate provided for the installation of a WaterSense® labelled irrigation controller. Controllers purchased for new or existing irrigation systems are eligible.

*NOTE: Installation must be done by a professional irrigation contractor to ensure new equipment is working at its best. Product spec sheet must be attached to application form.*

## **Rain Sensor** 50% up to \$75

Rebate on the installation of a rain sensor that suspends the irrigation schedule during a rain event. Sensors purchased for new or existing irrigation systems are eligible.

*NOTE: Installation must be done by a professional irrigation contractor to ensure new equipment is working at its best. Product spec sheet must be attached to application form.*

## **Irrigation Master Valve Install** 50% up to \$75

Rebate on the installation of a master valve on an irrigation system.

*NOTE: Installation must be done by a professional irrigation contractor to ensure new equipment is working at its best. Proof of make/model must be attached to application form.*



## **Rain Barrels & Rain Totes**

50% up to:

- \$100 for up to 100 gallon barrel
- \$200 for up to 200 gallon barrel/tote
- \$300 for up to 300 gallon barrel/tote
- \$400 for up to 400 gallon barrel/tote

Rebate provided for residential or commercial rain barrel, any type. Must provide proof of rain barrel capacity on application.

*NOTE: These have a limit of 4 per household.*

## **Rain Barrel Accessories**

50% up to \$25

Rebate provided to repair or replace a spigot, or purchase a diverter kit that connects rain barrels together.

## **Rainwater Collection System**

50% rebate for total cost  
up to a maximum of \$2,000.

Rebate for systems that include larger residential scaled tank systems/cisterns that collect a minimum of 2,000 litres (500 gallons) of rainwater. Collection system expenses such as piping, debris traps, filters, pumps, irrigation supplies, and installation costs are eligible for the rebate.

*NOTE: Pre-approval from the Town required.*

*Contact Sustainability at 403.995.6316, or apply online from March 1 until September 1.*

## **Soaker Hose**

50% up to \$50

Rebate provided for the purchase of a soaker hose(s) for controlled use in flower and vegetable gardens.

*NOTE: For best water conserving results, use a watering timer with the soaker hose. Alternatively, soaker hoses can be hooked up to a rain barrel.*



## **Watering Timer**

**50% up to \$75**

Rebate provided for an outdoor watering timer that attaches to an outdoor garden hose and is programmable to automatically shut off the water flow at end of programmed watering period.

*NOTE: Follow the watering schedule when using the water timer. Monitor the time needed to sufficiently water turf as it requires only 1 inch of water per week to thrive.*

*Limit of 2 per household.*

## **WaterSense® Labeled Toilet**

**50% up to \$100/toilet**

**(Limit of 4 per household)**

Rebate provided to replace high-flow toilets (13 litres/flush or 3 gallons/flush or over) with WaterSense® labeled low flow toilets.

*NOTE: Application requires a photo of proof of old toilet's water use amount (gallons or litres/flush) or make/model (photo for each toilet being replaced) and proof of product specification sheet for the new toilet.*

## **GeneralAire Water Savor Controller**

**50% up to \$100**

Rebate provided for the installation and cost of a GeneralAire Water Savor controller that is installed on a flow-through humidifier system.

*NOTE: Installation must be done by a professional to ensure that your new Water Savor controller will work its best. Provide a photo of the installed controller with your application. The GeneralAire Water Savor is the only humidifier controller available that meets the Town's water conservation requirements.*

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# Perennials, Shrubs & Trees Rebate Items

## Xeriscaping Program

Up to \$2,500 per residential property

Rebate provided for pre-approved turf removal and xeriscape landscaping project where minimum 46 m<sup>2</sup> turf is removed and replaced with drought tolerant landscaping. Minimum of 40% of new xeriscape landscape area must be plants. All plants must be drought tolerant. Newly built home landscapes eligible.

Eligible items include drought tolerant/deer resistant plants, soil amendment, mulch, equipment rental for turf removal, landscape fabric and basic edging, as well as install/delivery costs.

Items not eligible for the rebate are: non-drought tolerant plants, artificial turf, concrete, boulders, pathways, retaining walls, arbors, pergolas, patio stones, and decking.

*NOTE: Applications are accepted March 1 and are treated on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-approval from the Town is required. The project must be completed by October 15, unless otherwise approved by the Town. Please apply BEFORE you've started your landscape project, if possible. If your landscaping is underway or complete, then you may be asked to make changes to your landscape to comply with bylaws and qualify.*

## Fruit Tree Replacement

100% up to \$500

This rebate will help you create a deer-deterrent yard! This rebate covers the removal and replacement of fruit-bearing trees located on residential property. Any fruit-bearing tree qualifies when it measures less than 15cm around the trunk at the 15cm mark from the ground. Replacement trees must be a non-fruit-bearing tree. If selected from the eligible tree rebate list, then it can be combined with the Raise the Canopy funds.

# Drought Tolerant Trees, Plants and Seeds

## PLANTS

50% up to \$100 for all listed plants

## TREES

100% of the first \$100+

50% up to \$100 for the remainder of the cost

Rebate provided for approved drought-tolerant and deer resistant plants listed below.

Note:

- Only items listed are eligible for a rebate.
- A photo of plant(s), including highly legible plant identifier tag/label, and pictures of garden areas after planting must be submitted.
- Mulch must be added around new plants and shown in 'after picture' for rebate to be awarded.
- Adding compost to the soil around the plant is recommended.
- Plants intended for pots or containers are NOT eligible.

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## ELIGIBLE PERENNIALS

Alpine Aster - *Aster alpinus*

Bergamot/Purple Bee Balm - *Mondara fistulosa*

Brown-eyed Susan - *Rudbeckia triloba*

Black-eyed Susan - *Rudbeckia hirta*

Buffalo Bean/Golden Bean - *Thermopsis rhombifolia*

Nodding Onion/Prairie Onion - *Allium textile*

Prairie Goldenrod - *Solidago missouriensis*

Sage - *Salvia officinalis*

Sticky Geranium - *Geranium viscosissimum*

Yarrow - *Achillea millefolium*

## ELIGIBLE SHRUBS

Gooseberry (wild currant) - *Ribes oxycanthoides*

Juniper - *Juniperus spp.*

## ELIGIBLE TREES

Amur Maple - *Acer ginnala*

Aspen (Trembling) - *Populus tremuloides*

Bur Oak - *Quercus macrocarpa*

Douglas Fir - *Abies spp.*

Hawthorn (Snowbird) - *Crataegus x mordenensis* 'Snowbird'

Hawthorn (Toba) - *Crataegus x mordenensis* 'Toba'

Japanese Tree Lilac - *Syringa reticulata*

Ohio Buckeye - *Aesculus glabra*

Pine - *Pinus spp.*

Siberian Larch - *Larix siberica*

Spruce - *Picea spp.*

Tatarian Maple - *Acer tataricum*

# FAQs

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO USE WATER WISELY?

Conserving water is always a good habit and it can help your community, as well as Albertans downstream from you. Southern Alberta is at risk of severe drought conditions in 2024. We all need to do our part by practicing responsible water use.

## WHY DO WE HAVE A WATER REBATE PROGRAM?

The Town of Okotoks is committed to water conservation and living within our means. We value our community's water conservation efforts and established the Water Conservation Rebate Program to reward residents who practice responsible water use.

## WHEN IS THE WATER REBATE PROGRAM OFFERED?

Rebates for the 2024 program are offered from March 1 to December 15, 2024 or until the fund is fully depleted. All approved rebate items purchased from January 1st, 2024 onward that fall under the program requirements are eligible!

## Raise the canopy!

Trees provide shade, calm our minds and clean our air, while also providing habitat to our local critters!

The Town wants to help you add to our local tree canopy by providing an extra \$100, in addition to the rebate funding, towards any tree on the plant list!

**Simply apply for the rebate, and you will get \$100 towards the cost of the tree, and 50% up to \$100 for the remaining cost.**

*Raising the Canopy funding is limited to the first 100 applications, one tree per household.*

*Additional trees purchased fall under the rebate program.*



## WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE WATER REBATE PROGRAM?

Rebates are available for Okotoks residents and renters who are connected to the Town's water distribution system.

## HOW MUCH MONEY WILL I GET BACK AS A REBATE?

Each rebate item has a maximum eligible amount per household. The total amount rebated to a household depends on the number of eligible items applied for.

## HOW WILL YOUR MONEY BE REBATED?

Rebate funds in the amount of under \$1,500 will appear on your utility bill – NO other forms of payment will be issued. Rebate funds \$1,500 and over will be issued as a cheque or EFT payment.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A WATER REBATE?

**ONLINE:** [okotoks.ca/Water-Rebate](https://okotoks.ca/Water-Rebate)

**EMAIL:** [Environment@okotoks.ca](mailto:Environment@okotoks.ca) to request a paper application.

**IN PERSON:** Water Conservation Rebate Program, PO Box 20 Stn Main, Okotoks, AB, T1S 1K1.

*Include a sales receipt and any additional required documentation with your application form. Items purchased as of January 1, 2024 are eligible.*





**QUESTIONS?**

**Environment & Sustainability**

403-995-6316

[environment@okotoks.ca](mailto:environment@okotoks.ca)

[okotoks.ca/Water-Rebate](https://okotoks.ca/Water-Rebate)