



Guidelines for Micro Irrigation Rebate

Effective April 15, 2015

Residential Customers:

Up to \$0.30 per square foot when upgrading existing overhead sprinklers to micro irrigation in other than grass replacement areas such as existing flower, shrub and vegetable garden beds (up to 3,000 square feet and \$900 per site).

Please note: If you are replacing your grass the rebate for micro-irrigation is already included in the \$1.50 per square foot rebate

Commercial Customers:

Up to \$0.30 per square foot when upgrading existing overhead sprinklers to micro irrigation in other than grass replacement areas such as existing flower, shrub and vegetable garden beds (up to 8,000 square feet and \$2,400 per site).

Please note: If you are replacing your grass the rebate for micro-irrigation is already included in the \$1.50 per square foot rebate



What is the value of an efficient irrigation system?

The objective of the micro irrigation rebate is to encourage the conversion of conventional overhead sprinklers to micro or drip irrigation in existing flower, shrub and vegetable bed areas. A switch from sprinklers to a well designed high efficiency micro irrigation system can improve irrigation water use efficiency and reduce urban runoff into the storm water system while maintaining a high level of living landscape to benefit the environment. Conversion to micro irrigation can save up to 9 gallons of water annually for each square foot of irrigated area converted.

City of San Diego Micro Irrigation Rebate Process

1. **Read and understand these Micro Irrigation Rebate Guidelines.** Please read these requirements prior to submitting your application to the City of San Diego.
2. **Complete the [RESIDENTIAL Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Application](#) or [COMMERCIAL Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Application](#)** and submit it to the City via U.S. Mail or scan and e-mail it to waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov. **This is not approval to begin your project.**
3. **Have a pre-site visit:** Once your application is deemed complete by the City, a scheduler will contact you to set up a pre-site visit (must occur before you begin your project). Qualification to participate in the rebate program will be determined at this site visit. If you qualify, you will be given a project start date. Project must be completed within 120 days of the pre-site visit.
4. **Have a post-site visit:** Once your project is complete, contact the City at **(619) 533-6661** to schedule your post-site visit so the City can confirm the micro-irrigation conversion meets the Rebate Program parameters and requirements.

Program Parameters and Requirements

- **For Residential Customers:**
 - ✓ City of San Diego Public Utilities Department residential customers served by an individual water meter may receive a rebate.
 - ✓ Rebate amount - up to \$0.30 per square foot when upgrading existing overhead sprinklers to micro irrigation in other than grass replacement areas such as existing flower, shrub and vegetable garden beds (up to 3,000 square feet and \$900 per site. Minimum conversion is 400 square feet). If less than 400 SF must convert the entire overhead sprinkler system to micro-irrigation.
- **For Commercial, Irrigation and Multi Family Customers:**
 - ✓ City of San Diego Public Utilities Department customers served by a commercial, irrigation or multi-family water meter may receive a rebate. This includes HOAs.
 - ✓ Rebate amount - up to \$0.30 per square foot when upgrading existing overhead sprinklers to micro irrigation other than grass replacement areas such as existing flower, shrub and vegetable garden beds, up to 8,000 square feet and \$2,400 per site. Minimum conversion is 1,000 square feet. If less than 1,000 SF must convert the entire overhead sprinkler system to micro-irrigation.
- Existing flower, shrub and vegetable bed areas must have existing overhead sprinklers.
- Multiple applications submitted over time for a site are acceptable, so long as total square footage micro irrigation that is rebated does not exceed maximum allowed square feet (3,000 SF for residential customers and 8,000 square feet for commercial customers). Commercial customer may be eligible to re-apply for additional rebates each City fiscal year so long funds are available.
- Micro irrigation components must be of a “low application rate” which means that flow rates are measured in gallons per hour (gph) not gallons per minute (gpm).
- Project must be completed within 120 days of approved start date.
- Entire irrigation station(s) should be replaced with micro irrigation.
- Ensure the use of pressure regulator(s), backflow prevention device(s), and filter(s). Click [here](#) to see a photo of each type of device.
- Site changes made related to rebate program must comply with all applicable laws, codes, policies, covenants, conditions, and restrictions.
- Applicant’s water account must be in good standing, and micro irrigation at project site must be maintained for a minimum of 5 years or for the duration of ownership of the property, whichever is the shortest. Failure to meet this requirement may require the customer to refund all or portion of the rebate to the City. Photos of the project site may be taken by City staff to illustrate transitions from high water using landscapes to attractive water efficient landscapes.
- **Original Paid** receipts and/or **Paid** invoices must include transaction date(s), name and telephone number of the service provider, and payment method, and must be submitted to receive a rebate. Receipts must display the following categories separately:
 - ✓ Eligible labor and materials costs (may also include delivery charges and installation fees, may not include costs for tools).
 - ✓ Taxes and tariffs.
- Estimated rebate shown on the Rebate Application is based on information entered by the customer. Actual final rebate amount will be determined by supporting documents provided, cost of device or project, and available funding. Rebate will be the lower of the two: total eligible costs for the project or device or the

stated maximum total dollar amount per customer rebate.

- Project square footage may not be increased at the pre-site inspection, make sure you measure carefully.
- Customer must agree to and sign the application agreement before rebate is issued. A pre-site visit by City of San Diego staff is required before work begins. A post-site visit is also required.
- Rebate check will be sent to the customer of record 6-10 weeks after post-site visit is successfully completed and the application and supporting documentation are deemed correct and complete by the City.

What does not qualify for a rebate?

- Irrigation components rated in gallons per minute (gpm) from any manufacturer.
- Taxes or tariffs associated with purchase of rebate-related device/products or work performed.

Funding for a limited number of rebates is available through the City of San Diego the Public Utilities and Transportation and Storm Water Departments and/or a State of California Integrated Regional Watershed Management grant and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis until exhausted. This program is subject to change without prior notification.

Other Important Information

Please consult with a tax advisor if you have questions regarding any potential tax implications of your rebate.

If you have questions after reading these guidelines, please call **619-533-4126** or e-mail waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov. Include your project reference number if you have one.

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Please visit SoCalWaterSmart.com or bewaterwise.com to determine if you are eligible for other rebates and for other water conservation information.



