

SAN DIEGO Public Utilities Department

Guidelines

Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) Rebate Program

Background

Pressure Reducing Valves are a type of valve installed in a plumbing system to regulate water pressure and potentially reduce water waste. Pressure reducing valves can save water by automatically reducing the incoming water pressure from the city street mains and providing a lower, more functional pressure in the home. The devices can save between 30,000 to 40,000 gallons of water per year in the average home. Lower pressure results in water fixtures using less water, and reduces the potential for leaks.

PRV Rebate

City of San Diego residential water customers served by an individual water meter may be eligible to receive a rebate up to \$100 per property. The rebate covers the cost of a new indoor PRV up to \$100, and is for properties that currently **have a static pressure equal or greater than 80 psi (pounds per square inch) and cannot be adjusted downward**.

The rebate is made possible by a grant from the California Department of Water Resources and will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis until funding is exhausted in this pilot program. The rebate covers the cost of a new household PRV only (not for irrigation). This program is subject to change without prior notification. Customer must be in good standing with the Public Utilities Department and in compliance with all regulations at the time of application.

Symptoms of a damaged PRV resulting in high pressure are: banging or high pitched whistling sound coming from the pipes usually when the water is being turned off; higher than expected water flow coming from water fixtures; high pressure at the faucet; or frequent leaks in toilets and faucets.

To confirm that you have high pressure, you should check your pressure in one of the following ways:

- Ask a plumber to check your household pressure when he is on-site for other repairs.
- Use a pressure gauge on a hose bib attached to the house in the back yard. Pressure gauges may be purchased at a hardware store for a nominal cost. Screw the gauge on firmly to the hose bib and turn on the water to the fully open position. Read the pressure.
- Call the Water Conservation Program (619-570-1999) and ask for a Residential Survey <u>http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/surveyprogram.shtml</u>, as part of the survey, your household pressure will be provided.





Rebate Guidelines

You must obtain a plumbing permit, from the City of San Diego <u>Development Services Department</u> if your property does not currently have a PRV and you want to install one. As per Municipal code section 129.0402 any new plumbing work requires a permit. You can obtain a plumbing permit online at: <u>sandiego.gov/development-services/industry/simplepermits</u>

Rebate Process

The PRV may be installed by the homeowner, a maintenance person or a licensed plumber. For installation by a homeowner or maintenance person follow Process A. Licensed plumbers should follow Process B.

Process A: Homeowner or Maintenance Person

- 1. Locate your existing PRV.
 - In the garage
 - On the side of the house.
 - In a box or buried in the ground just before the pipe goes into your house.
 - In the crawl space under the house or just inside a basement wall where the water line enters your house.
 - Near your hot water heater.
- 2. Take a picture of the existing PRV (Remove existing PRV).

3. Determine your household pressure

For assistance testing your household water pressure, step-by-step videos are available on youtube.com. Ensure your pressure is equal to or greater than 80 psi. If you are able to, adjust the pressure down to between 45 and 75 psi. If successful, you do not need to replace your PRV.

4. Take a picture of the pressure gauge showing existing pressure, ensure the gauge is legible.

If you had a Residential Survey and the pressure was recorded on the survey form, you may send a copy of the survey in lieu of preinstallation photo.











- 5. Remove existing Pressure Regulator.
- 6. Install Pressure Regulator and set to a pressure between 45 psi and 75 psi. Step-by-step instruction videos are available on youtube.com. Be sure to keep your receipt.
- 7. Take a picture of the new PRV



8. Take a picture of the pressure gauge after installation of new PRV

showing pressure between 30 and 75 psi.

9. Complete the PRV rebate application <u>online</u> and upload all supporting documentation. <u>sandiego.gov/water/conservation/rebates</u>

Supporting documentation includes:

- Proof of Purchase: Paid invoices or sales receipts (must show PRV manufacturer and model, store name, purchase date, purchase price, and payment method). Date must be 1/1/2016, no later. (Keep a copy of your **completed** application and supporting documentation for your records.)
- Four pictures (before and after photos of PRV, pressure gauge)
- Under current US tax code, water conservation rebates are not tax-exempt. Please consult with a Tax advisor if you have questions regarding any potential tax implications of your rebate.
 A <u>W-9</u> is required to be submitted with your application.





Process B: Licensed Plumber

Plumber should document existing pressure and confirm that it is equal to or greater than 80 psi and cannot be adjusted downward. Replace the PRV and have plumber confirm that the new pressure is between 45 and 75 PSI.

- 1. Licensed plumber completes the **PRV Rebate** and **Plumber's Certification form.**
- 2. Complete the **PRV rebate application** <u>online</u> and upload all supporting documentation.

Note: You may also submit the application and supporting documentation via U.S. mail or email. If submitting by U.S. mail, send application and supporting documentation to:

City of San Diego Public Utilities Department – Water Conservation Program Attn: Pressure Reducing Valve Rebate Program, 525 B Street, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92101

If submitting by email, send application and supporting documentation to: waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov – SUBJECT LINE: PRV Rebate

Rebate Guidelines

- Static pressure behind the PRV must be equal or greater than 80 psi in order to qualify for this rebate.
- City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department residential customers served by an individual water meter may participate in the rebate program.
- Rebate applications must be received within 90 days of purchasing a PRV.
- Purchase of PRV must be after April 1, 2016.
- Limit one PRV rebate per account.
- A random inspection of newly installed PRV may be performed by the City of San Diego before the rebate check has been issued. Participating customers must agree to a random inspection.
- Rebate check will be sent to the customer of record approximately 10 weeks after application is deemed complete.
- Rebate is for a new PRV at a maximum of \$100 per site not to exceed the purchase price of the device. **Labor, taxes, fuel or tools costs are not included**.
- New PRV should be set between 45-75 psi.

What does not qualify for a rebate?

- Labor, taxes, fuel or tools costs.
- Costs associated with fixtures or components used to install a PRV.

Other Important Information

Please consult with a tax advisor if you have questions regarding potential tax implications of your rebate. If you have questions after reading these guidelines, please call 619-533-3467 or e-mail <u>waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov</u> (Subject Line: PRV Rebate).