

Austin Water's **Rainwater Harvesting Rebate\*** can help you buy equipment for capturing rainwater.

*\* For tanks greater than 500 gallons (including combined capacity if multiple tanks are connected), you must get pre-approval before you buy and install any equipment.*

## WATER SAVINGS

- Water captured from a rainwater harvesting system can supplement, or even replace, the water you would normally use to irrigate your landscape.

## REBATE AMOUNT

- Up to \$5,000 per site, based on rainwater storage capacity
  - Non-pressurized (*no pump*): \$0.50 per gallon of capacity, up to half of the equipment cost
  - Pressurized (*has a pump*): \$1.00 per gallon of capacity, up to half of the equipment cost
  - May apply every 12 months for system expansions until the \$5,000 per site limit is met
- Eligible equipment costs (*materials and labor*) include tank, pad, screens, filters, first-flush, and selected piping installation. Ineligible for rebate are costs for gutters, irrigation system, shipping or delivery, and auxiliary water source requirements.
- Applicants will receive the lesser of the per-gallon calculation or half of the eligible equipment cost.

## ELIGIBILITY

- **Applicant:**
  - Must be a customer of Austin Water or a **qualifying water provider**
  - Must be the property owner or utility account holder
  - May not have applied in the past 12 months or reached the \$5,000 limit for the site
  - Must intend to keep a system 500 gallons or less in service for five years and a system greater than 500 gallons in service for ten years
  - Agrees to any needed pre- and post-installation inspections by Austin Water
  - Willing to let Austin Water reference the project in outreach materials
- **Rainwater Harvesting System:**
  - Must be a new system or an expansion of an existing system
  - Must meet City subdivision and zoning requirements, including setback and impervious cover limits (*contact **Development Assistance Center** at 512-978-4000*) and any homeowners association regulations
  - Systems with a pump and greater than 500 gallons of capacity (*including combined capacity if multiple tanks are connected*) must meet auxiliary water requirements, including cross connection testing, backflow prevention, and permits prior to rebate approval. (*contact **Special Services** at 512-972-1060*)
  - Equipment must be new and intended for rainwater harvesting

# RAINWATER HARVESTING REBATE

- o Metal tanks must be lined. Transparent tanks/pipe must be painted or enclosed
- o Tanks that are greater than 500 gallons must have a first-flush diversion system and a level base made of gravel, sand, or concrete

## CHECKLIST

### FOR TANKS 500 GALLONS OR LESS

- Meet all eligibility requirements
- Install the system
- Submit the application within 30 days of installing equipment and include:
  - An itemized, dated, **paid-in-full** receipt with vendor contact and payment information
  - IRS W-9 form** (*commercial & multi-family accounts only*)
  - Send application and receipts to:  
**Mail:** Austin Water Conservation, PO Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767  
**Email:** watercon@austintexas.gov  
**Fax:** 512-974-3504
- Apply for the **Stormwater Management Discount**
- Wait 6 to 8 weeks for your Austin Water rebate check

### FOR TANKS GREATER THAN 500 GALLONS (INCLUDING COMBINED CAPACITY IF CONNECTED)

- Meet all eligibility requirements
- Submit application for pre-approval **before you buy and install any equipment** and include:
  - Site Drawing:** show locations of buildings, streets, existing/proposed tank(s), water meter, and piping from the tank to the landscaped areas. Identify the size of the catchment area (*usually the roof*) and the area you will water with rainwater
  - System Drawing:** sketch plans for the system, include piping, first-flush diversion system, pump location (*if applicable*), tank material, dimensions, placement, pad materials (*must be gravel, sand, or concrete*) and construction
  - Operation & Maintenance Guide:** describe how the system will function and how you will maintain it
  - Photographs:** show existing area the cistern will be located
  - IRS W-9 form** (*commercial & multi-family accounts only*)
  - Send application materials to:  
**Mail:** Austin Water Conservation, PO Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767  
**Email:** watercon@austintexas.gov  
**Fax:** 512-974-3504
- Receive a pre-approval letter from Austin Water
- Within 90 days after Austin Water issues the pre-approval letter:
  - Buy materials, get any required permits, and install the system

## RAINWATER HARVESTING REBATE

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- Submit the [rebate calculation worksheet](#), photos of the installed tanks, and itemized, dated, **paid-in-full** receipts with vendor contact and payment information to Austin Water
- Complete a post-installation inspection (*if required*)
- Apply for the [Stormwater Management Discount](#)
- Wait 6 to 8 weeks for your Austin Water rebate check

### RESOURCES

[Rainwater Harvesting Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Examples of Site and System Drawings](#)

[Stormwater Management Discount](#)

**RAINWATER HARVESTING REBATE APPLICATION****APPLICANT INFORMATION**Austin Water Account # *(leave blank if unavailable)*

Or Qualifying Water Provider Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant *(property owner or account holder)*: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:  
*(if different from above)* \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**REBATE INFORMATION**Type of Property?  Single-family  Multi-family  Commercial

Total New Storage Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_

Is a Pump Included?  Yes  No Are Multiple Tanks Connected Together?  Yes  No  
*(You must meet auxiliary water requirements if your system has a pump and the tank or connected tanks have a capacity of greater than 500 gallons. Contact Special Services at 512-972-1060 for information.)*Installation Date *(systems 500 gallons or less only)*: \_\_\_\_\_**REBATE AGREEMENT**

I certify that all statements and representations contained in this application are true, correct and complete. I have read and understand the rebate eligibility on page one. I have completed each of the required items on the rebate checklist and submitted all required items. I understand that incomplete applications will not be processed. Austin Water reserves the right to cancel or modify the program without notice. Rebates are subject to funding availability.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

WaterWiseAustin.org | watercon@austintexas.gov | 512-974-2199

**CITY OF AUSTIN USE ONLY:**

Pre-Inspection Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspected By: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass/ Fail

Post-Inspection Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspected By: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass/ Fail

Rebate Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_