

AUSTIN WATER RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Water Conservation



watercon@austintexas.gov
512-974-2199 option 4



City of Austin Water Conservation Code

The City of Austin's Drought Contingency Plan contains guidelines for using water that can help protect our water resources for the future. For the current restriction stage, rebate application instructions and forms, visit [WaterWiseAustin.org](https://www.austintexas.gov/department/waterwise-austin).

WaterWise Landscape Rebate Program

The Rebate Program offers cash incentives to decrease outdoor irrigation. Austin Water customers who replace a minimum of 200 sq feet of healthy turf grass with native plant beds may be eligible for **\$100** per 100 square feet, up to **\$3,000** in rebates. WaterWise landscaping can reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental watering.

Landscape Survival Tools Rebates for Your Yard

Prepare your yard for Austin's long hot summers! By using a combination of mulch, compost and core aeration of your lawn, you will be prepared for the damage that an Austin summer can do to your yard. These techniques will ensure that water stays on your yard, reducing the need for supplemental irrigation. Austin Water has rebates for each of these tools.

- ◆ Compost: 2 cubic yards or 54 cubic feet Rebate **\$50**
- ◆ Mulch: 2 cubic yards or 54 cubic feet Rebate **\$40**
- ◆ Core aeration service for entire front and/or back lawn area (equipment rental is acceptable) Rebate **\$30**
- ◆ Maximize your rebate by doing all three **\$120**

WaterWise Rainscape Rebate Program

The Rebate Program helps residents install landscape features (berms, terraces, swales, rain gardens, porous pavement, etc.) to keep and beneficially use rainwater on the property. The rebate pays **\$0.50** for every square foot (100 sq. ft. minimum) converted, up to **\$1,500** per property.

Rainwater Harvesting Rebate

Rebates of **\$0.50** per gallon capacity for non-pressurized systems or **\$1.00** per gallon capacity for pressurized systems up to a maximum rebate of **\$5,000** are available for rainwater harvesting systems.

Irrigation Upgrade Rebate

Customers may receive up to **\$1,000** in rebates for making improvements to their existing irrigation systems to increase water efficiency. New irrigation systems and expansions to existing systems are not eligible.

Laundry to Landscape Rebate

The rebate of up to **\$150** can help customers buy equipment to reuse laundry graywater to water the landscape, reusing about 10 to 25 gallons of water per load for a horizontal-axis machine, or about 40 gallons per load for a vertical axis machine.

Water Timer Rebate

Customers may receive a rebate of up to **\$40** for a watering timer that gives more control over hose-end watering.

Pool Cover Rebate

Installing a properly fitted swimming pool cover can reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation, decrease the amount of debris in the pool, and help lower pool maintenance costs. Customers can receive a rebate for **50 percent** of the purchase price up to **\$50** for a new manual pool cover; or **\$200** for a new permanent, mechanical pool cover.

Pool Cartridge Filter Rebate

The rebate pays customers up to **\$250** toward the cost of replacing a sand or D.E. (diatomaceous earth) pool filter with a high-efficiency cartridge pool filter that can save between 2,000 and 8,000 gallons of backwash water annually.

Free Irrigation System Check-ups

Austin Water offers free irrigation check-ups for its residential customers with high irrigation water use. During the evaluation, a licensed irrigator will provide an overview of your system's performance and make recommendations for scheduling changes and equipment upgrades. Services provided include:

- ◆ Controller settings check
- ◆ Inspection of components during operation
- ◆ Flow rates and recommended usage for each station
- ◆ Suggestions for improvement

To schedule a free check-up, call 512-974-2199 or schedule online at WaterWiseAustin.org.

For updates about Austin's current conservation stage or to check your watering day, please head to Austinwater.org.

Free Water Conservation Tools

Indoor Tools

- ◆ **Showerhead** - save 2 gallons per minute or more with a water-efficient showerhead, available in either regular or soap-up valve models that only use 1.5 gallons of water per minute.
- ◆ **Kitchen & Bathroom Faucet Aerator** - mix air with water to reduce the amount of water used without reducing water pressure. Bathroom aerators use 0.5 gallons of water per minute and kitchen aerators use 1.5 gallons per minute.

Outdoor Tools

- ◆ **Soil Moisture Meter** - measures the moisture of your soil to help you know when it's time to add water; available in ladybug or frog design.
- ◆ **Water Saver Hose Meter*** - monitor and control water use with a digital meter attachment for garden hoses and hose-end sprinklers.
- ◆ **Sunlight Calculator*** - measure the amount of light each area of your yard receives, then use the included plant guide to select plants that best fit the light conditions.

You can request these indoor and outdoor water conservation tools by filling out an online form austintexas.gov/department/rebates-tools-programs or by calling 512-974-2199 option 4. Items marked with **are only available through check-out at the Austin Public Library.*



My ATX Water

Austin's Smart Water Meter System, is replacing analog water meters with electronically read meters connected to a wireless network. The My ATX Water customer portal will provide near real time, daily water use data and custom notifications.

Benefits to Customers

- ◆ **Customized Notifications** Sign up for custom notifications if your water use suddenly increases, indicating a possible water leak.
- ◆ **Daily Water Use Updates** Your data is at your fingertips. Know how much water you are using.
- ◆ **Water Budgeting Feature** Sign up for alerts if your water usage is exceeding your threshold.
- ◆ **Tools to reduce your water use and save money**
 - Water-use reports help you manage and reduce your water use to save on your monthly bill.
 - Suggestions provide ways to save water and links to conservation programs and rebates.
 - Utility announcements and alerts share new conservation programs and information.

Find more information at myatxwater.org.

