DWA’s Turf Buy Back Grants

Desert Water Agency’s (DWA) Turf Buy Back Grants aim to reduce water use by paying customers to convert their water-guzzling grass into beautiful, water-wise landscape.

Property owners will receive a $1 rebate per square foot converted, up to $1,500 for single-family homes and $20,000 for large-scale projects. Final grant approval is subject to a post-conversion inspection. Visit www.dwa.org/turf to find out more about how you can get a rebate for installing a water-friendly landscape.

Grant Process:

1. Get a bid for the project and collect items needed for application.

2. Submit an application at www.dwa.org/turf. If you don’t have a computer, please use the public library. Remember to have the documents that you’ll need to upload.

3. Wait to see if you’ve been approved. Approval notification will come via email.

4. Complete your project within 90 days for single-family homes or 180 days for large-scale projects.

5. Fill out completion form at www.dwa.org/projectcomplete.

6. DWA will inspect to verify project completion.

7. Your rebate will be issued about 60 days after inspection.*

*Inspections are being consolidated, so if you finish your project early you will have to wait longer to get your rebate check.

REMOVE, REPLACE, REBATE!

Learn more at www.dwa.org/turf
Application Information

Items needed to apply:
- DWA account number
- Contact person name, email & phone
- Property address & mailing address for correspondence & rebate check
- Assessor’s Parcel Number (contact Riverside County)
- Project bid or cost estimate
- Photo of the project area from the street
- Street name & closest intersection
- Square footage of area (worksheet available at www.dwa.org/turf. DWA will verify)
- Signed W-9 form

Specific to Large-Scale Projects (Commercial, HOA, Public Entities):
- Map of property with turf removal areas clearly labeled
- A letter certifying that your decision making body has approved a landscape conversion for the areas applied for
- Title, lease or ownership documents

Landscape Requirements

- Replace existing water-guzzling grass with water wise landscaping. For examples, see the book Lush & Efficient, visit DWA’s Operation Center Demonstration Gardens or visit DWA’s website. Artificial turf is also allowed.
- Participants must cover half of the conversion area with plants. Each plant will be credited using estimated square footage at full-maturity. For coverage areas, visit www.dwa.org/turf.
- Artificial turf will be counted as plant cover.
- The landscape area must be covered with mulch that is permeable to air and water. Some examples include rock, bark, ungrouted pavers, or synthetic turf. Rebates will not be issued for non-permeable hardscape areas, such as grouted patios.

Irrigation System Requirements

- The new area must be on a separate irrigation valve from any higher flow irrigation.
- A low-flow irrigation system must be installed on the conversion area. NO emitters in the project area (or on the same valve) can exceed 20 gallons per hour (0.33 gallons per minute).

Proof-of-Purchase Requirements

- Large-scale projects must submit receipts to DWA at www.dwa.org/projectcomplete.
- Single-family homeowners are required to keep invoices and receipts on record. DWA may request them after your conversion.

Contact DWA

If you have questions about our Turf Buy Back Grants, please visit www.dwa.org/turf or call (760) 323-4971 x183

Application Selection Criteria

Single-Family Homes:
Fully completed applications accepted in order received

Large-Scale Projects:
Scoring criteria at www.dwa.org/turf

Save me!