



CONVERT FOR CASH WATER CONSERVATION REBATE PROGRAM

Up to \$1,000 Rebate *(Single-Family Residential)*

Up to \$5,000 Rebate *(Commercial & Multi-Family – 5+ units)*

- Landscape Conversion
- Irrigation Conversion
- Water-Efficient Appliance Replacement
- Smart Irrigation Controllers
- Pool Covers

The City of Brentwood's [Convert for Cash Water Conservation Rebate Program](#) is designed to help water utility customers conserve water. Converting lawn to sustainable landscape and upgrading to high-efficiency irrigation equipment, and appliances helps to conserve the water supply and offers potential savings on utility costs.





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STEPS TO GET A REBATE

STEP 1: COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

- Review the Program. Complete the attached Application and read the Terms and Conditions; you may apply for one or more of the rebates, up to the maximum rebate amount of \$1000 for residential and multi-family accounts 4 units or less, and \$5000 for commercial and multi-family accounts 5 units or more.
- If applying for lawn or drip conversion rebate(s), you must attach the following items to your Application:
 - Sketch showing the shape of your lawn, pool and/or drip area(s) you wish to convert, including measurements; and
 - Photos of the area(s).
- If applying for smart irrigation controller, pool cover, or appliance replacement rebate(s), you must attach a copy of the receipt(s) to the Application.
- Application must be signed by the property owner. Non-property owner applicants must also obtain signature of the property owner or owner's agent.
- Mail completed and signed Application to the address provided on the Application under Terms and Conditions.

STEP 2: ON-SITE INSPECTION PRIOR TO START OF LANDSCAPE AND/OR IRRIGATION CONVERSION(S)

- If applicable to your selected rebate(s), City of Brentwood will contact you for a phone interview to verify that you understand the rebate Program and Terms and Conditions and to schedule an on-site pre-inspection within ten (10) business days after receipt of Application.
- After the pre-inspection and review, you will receive notification by email (if one was provided) or by mail indicating qualification status and maximum rebate amount. **Proceeding prior to authorization is at customer's own risk.**
- Pre-inspection is required prior to the start of lawn and drip irrigation conversions.

STEP 3: COMPLETE YOUR CONVERSION(S)

- You will have 6 months from the date of authorization to proceed to complete your conversion(s).
- Be sure to save original receipts or contractor's itemized invoice for rebated items.
- Call the City of Brentwood at the number below to request a post-installation inspection prior to the expiration of your 6-month deadline.
- Any applicable rebate will be processed after verification.



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**For additional information Contact the City's Public Works Department
Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
(925) 516-5373 or www.brentwoodca.gov/savewater**



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REBATE REQUIREMENTS & INFORMATION

- Converted and upgraded properties must be served by an active City of Brentwood water utility account using potable water.
- Rebate amounts and rates are shown on the Application.
- If conversion is completed in phases, you may apply for additional rebates as long as the total combined rebate amount does not exceed the maximum rebate as described in Step 1.
- Rebates of \$25 or less will be credited to the City of Brentwood utility account.
- Rebates more than \$25 will be issued by check to customers whose City utility account is current (current charges only due).
- Each conversion must meet the “Qualifying” requirements as described for that rebate.
- Upon completion of conversion(s), applicant must notify the City of Brentwood within 6 months following the Authorization to Proceed date.
- All rebates are subject to availability of funds, and the City may revise or terminate the rebate program as necessary at its sole discretion.

LAWN AND DRIP IRRIGATION CONVERSION(S):

- The same converted area may qualify for both lawn and drip irrigation conversion rebates.
- Lawn areas proposed to be converted must be currently maintained. Dirt areas that show no signs of the presence of a lawn are not eligible.
- Plants must be irrigated by hand or with drip irrigation, unless an exception is approved by the City.



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1. LAWN CONVERSION (\$1.00/SQUARE FOOT)

While lawns can be a good choice for recreation and sports, they use at least two times more water as sustainable landscapes.

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES INCLUDE PLANTS SUITED TO OUR LOCAL CLIMATE, DRIP IRRIGATION AND MULCH. LAWNS CAN BE CONVERTED USING A TECHNIQUE CALLED SHEET MULCHING WHICH DECOMPOSES A LAWN IN PLACE AND CONTROLS WEEDS WITH VERY LITTLE DIGGING.

QUALIFYING CONVERSIONS:

- Climate-appropriate plants that require little or no supplemental water once established. Refer to City's list of acceptable plants: [Drought Tolerant and Native Plant List](#)
- A minimum of two inches of mulch covering bare soil after lawn removal.
- Lawns converted using sheet-mulching technique.
- Plants that are watered only by hand or with drip irrigation.
- Fifty percent (50%) plant cover, when plants are fully grown (does not include tree canopy or plants outside of the conversion area).

Rock (not to exceed 20% of the total area to be rebated).

- Non-permeable paving and hardscape (not to exceed 20% of the total area to be rebated).
- Artificial turf (not to exceed 20% of the total area to be rebated).
- Lawn areas located in front yard or publicly accessible areas visible to the public.
- Minimum of 300 square feet of lawn, unless otherwise approved by City staff.
- Existing lawn sprinkler heads in the converted area must be removed from conversion area.

NON-QUALIFYING CONVERSIONS:

- Any plant that is not climate-appropriate*.
- Non-biodegradable material (such as plastic barrier).
- Any converted lawn area irrigated with overhead sprinklers. The City may grant exceptions where drip irrigation is not practical.
- Exposed soil surfaces, unless City approves a horticultural exception.
- Dirt or weed-filled areas are not eligible.
- Vegetation removal not meeting residential landscaping requirements of Brentwood Municipal Code, Chapter 8.36.



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2. DRIP IRRIGATION CONVERSION (\$1.00/LINEAR FOOT)

Convert high pressure spray irrigation to drip irrigation. This is a water saving alternative for shrub areas and anywhere sprinklers are used. Drip irrigation is recommended for small, narrow, oddly shaped, windy or steep areas that are difficult to irrigate efficiently with sprinklers. Drip irrigation eliminates problems of costly overspray that wastes water and may damage sidewalks, fences and roads.

QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Must replace entire existing high-pressure spray irrigation zone.
- Must be installed per manufacturer's directions.
- Must be installed on the surface, or underground and covered with mulch.
- Any drip emitter, including multi-outlet drippers.
- Any bubbler with a flow rate of 0.25 gallons per minute or less.

NON-QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Any conversion of a zone that retains a portion of high pressure spray irrigation.

3. SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLLER (\$5.00/STATION OR ZONE)

During the irrigation season, it is common for conventional timers to apply twice the amount of water needed by plants. A self-adjusting irrigation controller turns the irrigation system on and off in response to local weather data or actual soil moisture, and adjusts the irrigation system daily — even while on vacation.

QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Purchased controllers must be on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) list of WaterSense-labeled controller devices. For more information visit [Qualifying Smart Irrigation Controllers | Contra Costa Water District, CA \(ccwater.com\)](https://www.ccwater.com/Qualifying-Smart-Irrigation-Controllers)
- Controller must be installed and programmed per manufacturer's directions and City requirements.



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4. POOL COVER (\$50.00/EACH)

Pool covers significantly reduce evaporation and the need to periodically refill pool water levels.

QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Pool covers that completely cover the pool and prevent evaporation.

5. APPLIANCE REPLACEMENT (\$25/TOILET AND \$50/CLOTHES WASHER)

Reduce water use by replacing existing appliances with water-efficient models.

QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Toilets using 1.28 gallons of water or less per flush.
- Clothes washing machines that qualify as high-efficiency, ENERGY STAR® models. For the list of qualifying ENERGY STAR® models, click on the following link: <https://guide.pge.com/products/washers>
- Dishwashers that qualify as high-efficiency, ENERGY STAR® models: For the list of qualifying ENERGY STAR® models, click on the following link: [Find the right dishwashers for your home - PG&E Energy Action Guide \(pge.com\)](#)

6. COMMERCIAL IRRIGATION ONLY METER (\$400/METER)

Improve water management by separating meters for indoor and outdoor water. Separately metering outdoor water is the best means of monitoring irrigation water use to determine overwatering. In addition, it may also reduce sewer bills, as sewer rates are determined by water use.

QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Must measure all irrigation water supplied to the property.
- Meters and installation must meet all City of Brentwood Standard Plans and Specifications, and applicant must obtain all applicable permits.

NON-QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Installations that do not clearly separate ALL outdoor water from indoor water.



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7. COMMERCIAL POTABLE TO NON-POTABLE IRRIGATION SERVICE (\$500/SERVICE CONNECTION)

Conserve potable water by converting landscape irrigation to non-potable sources. Significant cost savings can also be achieved as non-potable water is a fraction of the cost of potable water per unit. Confirm with City staff if non-potable water is adjacent to the service location.

QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Must measure all non-potable irrigation water supplied to the property.
- Meters and installation must meet all City of Brentwood Standard Plans and Specifications, and applicant must obtain all applicable permits.

NON-QUALIFYING INSTALLATIONS:

- Installations that do not clearly separate ALL outdoor non-potable water from potable water.