



WaterWise Communities

Must be a City of Bend water customer to participate.

A site-specific pathway for homeowner associations, community associations, and commercial properties to reduce water consumption while maintaining healthy and efficient landscapes. The WaterWise Communities program provides resources to participants to help them achieve their water-savings goals.

Offering a 50% match of project cost, up to \$10,000.

Projects are unique to each landscape and can include:



Landscape Conversions



System Efficiency Upgrades



Water Saving Upgrades

Projects Include:

- ✓ Landscape Evaluation
- ✓ Irrigation Evaluation
- ✓ Project Support from City of Bend

Benefits:

- Water-Efficient Landscapes
- Community Recognition
- Improved Site Value
- Reduced Water Use & Utility Costs
- Lower Maintenance Requirements

WaterWise Communities Frequently Asked Questions

How much water can I save?

- Water savings vary based on existing landscape plant type and water use. Site improvements can sustain water savings year-over-year with a regular maintenance program.
- Previous pilot projects have realized up to 23% savings for **landscape conversions** and 21% savings for **system efficiency & water saving upgrades**.

Who is eligible?

- City of Bend commercial customers, with an active water account, are eligible for the program. This includes Homeowner's Associations, Community Associations, multi-family, and commercial properties. Customers with a sewer only account are not eligible.
- Customers must also have at least 1,000 sq/ft of living landscape area with functioning irrigation to qualify; non-living or unmaintained landscape areas do not qualify.

What are the program requirements?

Program requirements are based on the proposed project type.

- **Landscape conversions** require the existing lawn will be replaced with low water use plantings with 50% coverage at maturity which is about 10 plants per 100 sq/ft. Additionally, the existing sprinkler system will need to be upgraded to support new plantings with efficient irrigation such as drip or high-efficiency nozzles.
- **System efficiency & water savings upgrades** require existing irrigation system upgrades to high-efficiency irrigation or upgrades to smart irrigation controllers or site management technology upgrades.
- Review the program terms and conditions for the full list of requirements and available resources at www.waterwisetips.org.

How do I participate?

This program is offered from April 1st - October 31st:

- Submit a completed application prior to starting work on your project; the application package is available online at www.waterwisetips.org.
- Schedule a pre-construction consultation with stakeholders, including the landscape contractor.
- Sign a grant agreement with the City of Bend to receive notice to proceed.
- Complete the project within 90 days and before the end of irrigation season, October 31st.
- Schedule a follow-up evaluation to ensure program requirements have been met and receive final project approval.
- *Participating communities will receive recognition from the City of Bend for their newly updated landscapes!*

How will I receive my rebate?

- Participants with a completed project that has received final approval will be mailed a check within 60 days of approval.

- 541-317-3000, ext. 2
- conservation@bendoregon.gov
- WaterWiseTips.org



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. please contact Utility Staff at conservation@bendoregon.gov, 541-317-3000, ext. 2; Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.