



Green Practices Commission

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RainScape Rebates Program – Mini-workshop

Questions and Answers (Attachment to the 2/14/13 Minutes)

Thanks for attending the RainScape Rebates Program mini-workshop during the Green Practices Commission meeting. You are receiving this information based on the meeting sign-in sheet. Several of you had questions that we were not able to answer during the workshop. We sent your questions to the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance for feedback and the responses are below:

1. Is there a list of approved contractors? The RainScaping Rebates page will be updated by the end of the day today to include the contractor list, an updated FAQ, and more.
2. If an application is not awarded a rebate, will there be a chance to get feedback so that the application can be improved for round 2? Yes, we plan on providing feedback on those applications that have potential, so they can make changes to their application form and reapply in round 2.
3. If I don't receive a Reward this round, can I re-apply again in future rounds? Yes, however you will need to complete and submit another application at that time.
4. Is there an income threshold (i.e. might a person be denied a rebate if they make too much money)? No.
5. Are there any ways to reduce maintenance? One of the guests suggested removing vegetation (vines, turf grass) before installing a rain garden to minimize the occurrence of this vegetation in the new garden. This vegetation can be removed in a variety of ways depending on the vigorous nature of the target plant. Mechanical means might be sufficient for fescue grass (digging up, pulling, or spreading an opaque tarp on the surface for several days). However, more vigorous plants like zoysia or euonymous vines may require herbicides (i.e. glyphosate), depending on how much labor one is willing to exert. One more environmental friendly alternative to herbicides is Corn Gluten.
 - a. http://eartheasy.com/article_corn_gluten.htm
 - b. This link to the Missouri Botanical Garden has resources, and halfway down the page is a section titled "Maintenance Resources" that has more tips.
 - c. <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/sustainability-conservation/sustainable-living/at-home/rainscaping-guide/resources.aspx>
6. Is there a guideline regarding how to list the cost of our own/family labor in building the rain garden, etc.? This cannot be listed and it is not considered a reimbursable expense.

7. My neighbor and I are planning a rain garden and bio swale to slow down water flowing down our street and from my yard to his. Do we submit an extra graph paper sheet to show the joint feature? Both homeowners need to submit an application listing their own property and the amount of rebate they are requesting as each homeowner should only include expenses on their application that are relative to their own property. Then, they can attach an extra piece of graph paper showing the overall design and the connected features to one or both applications. If they only attach it to one, then they should note that the extra paper is attached to the other person's application making sure to include that person's name and address.