

Valley Water's Water Conservation Program Overview

Since 1992, Valley Water has run a water conservation program with over 20 different water conservation rebates and programs to ensure everyone can participate in making conservation a way of life in Santa Clara County (Attachment 1). Water conservation programs are targeted to residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, and agricultural sectors (Attachment 2). Additionally, Valley Water has educational and workshop videos about our programs and tips on how to save water and money on the water conservation website at www.watersavings.org. Valley Water also conducts communication and outreach campaigns to inform our community about these programs as well as other tips on saving water.

Recognizing the important role conservation and demand management plays in extending Valley Water's water supplies, through the Water Supply Master Plan, the Board has set ambitious long-term water conservation goals from a 1992 baseline:

- 99,000 acre-feet of water per year by 2030, and
- 109,000 acre-feet of water per year by 2040.

As of fiscal year 2020, over 74,000 acre-feet of water have been saved (since 1992). Additionally, because of Valley Water's investments in water conservation since 1992, water use in the county has remained relatively flat despite an increase in population over the same period.

Water Conservation Rebates and Programs



Water Conservation: Are You Drought Ready?

These rebates are designed to make water conservation easier, helping you to make your Santa Clara County home or business drought ready.

Online Shopping Cart

Chances are, you are using more water in your home or business than needed. Valley Water offers free water conservation devices that can help you save water. Visit cloud.valleywater.org/shopping-cart to order your **FREE** gear and literature today!



We're here to help!

To learn more about our rebate programs, including specific program details and contact information, please reach out to us. Since there are eligibility requirements for these rebate programs, **before purchasing equipment or starting any project, please check with us** via email, by phone or online.



(408) 630-2554



www.watersavings.org



conservation@valleywater.org

NOTE: All programs are subject to funding availability and certain restrictions apply. The rebate rate and maximum amounts **may be higher** in some areas.

Landscape Rebate Program

To start, submit an online application for approval and to be scheduled for a pre-inspection before beginning any work on your project. For more information or to schedule a pre-inspection, visit valleywater.dropletportal.com.

Landscape Conversion Rebates

Any property with qualifying high-water-using landscapes (i.e., irrigated turf or functional swimming pools) can receive a rebate of at least \$2/square foot for converting a high-water-using landscape to a low-water-using landscape.

Irrigation Equipment Upgrade Rebate

Rebates are offered for replacing old, inefficient irrigation equipment with new, qualifying high-efficiency equipment, including:

- Installation of a dedicated landscape meter, flow sensor or hydrometer for a rebate up to \$1,000.
- Replacement of old sprinkler nozzles and bodies with high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles (up to \$5 each).
- Replacement of old rotor sprinklers or spray bodies with either pressure regulation or check valves (up to \$20 each).
- Conversion of existing pop-up sprinklers to an inline drip irrigation system for a rebate of \$0.25/sq. ft.
- Installation of a rain sensor to avoid watering while it's raining for a rebate up to \$50.
- Conversion of an existing irrigation timer to a qualifying smart controller for a rebate up to:
 - » \$300 for 1-12 station controller
 - » \$1,000 for a 13-24 station controller
 - » \$2,000 for a 25+ station controller

Rainwater Capture Rebates

Rebates are available for rainwater capture installation or diversion efforts such as:

- Installation of a qualifying rain barrel to collect rain water from existing downspouts for a rebate of at least \$35/barrel.
- Diverting existing downspouts to qualifying cisterns to receive a rebate of at least \$0.50/gallon.
- Installation of a rain garden to collect roof water runoff for a rebate of at least \$1/square foot of roof area diverted, up to \$300.

Rebate Caps

All Landscape Rebate Program applicants will be held to a total rebate cap (for the Landscape Conversion Rebate, Rainwater Capture Rebate, and the Irrigation Equipment Upgrade Rebate combined).

- \$3,000 for single family and multi-family (4 or fewer units)
- \$50,000 for all commercial sites and multi-family (5 or more units).

Rebate caps may be higher in some areas.

[continued on back »](#)

Graywater Laundry to Landscape Rebate Program

Receive at least \$200 per residential site for enabling your clothes washer to irrigate your yard with graywater. Apply online and find how-to-videos at watersavings.org. No pre-inspection required, but wait for approval before beginning any work on your project.

Water Wise Survey Program

This two-part program will help you save water indoors and out. Sign up for one or both!

- Request a free **Do-It-Yourself Water Wise Indoor Survey Kit** to evaluate your home's water use efficiency. The kit includes a step-by-step instruction guide, a flow-rate testing bag and toilet leak testing tablets. After completing the survey, you can request free items such as low-flow faucet aerators, showerheads, and toilet flappers. See the Online Shopping Cart section for more details!
- Request a free **Water Wise Outdoor Survey** consultation from a trained irrigation professional. The visit will result in a customized report for your property, including any apparent leaks or inefficiencies, suggestions for irrigation scheduling, and recommendations for money-saving landscape rebates. We can survey up to ½ acre of landscape at single family or small multi-family sites, with a working irrigation system. To get started, have a recent copy of your water bill on-hand and call **(408) 630-2000** or email waterwise@valleywater.org. If you are a customer of San Jose Water Company, please contact them directly.

Fixture Replacement Program

Replace old qualifying fixtures for **FREE!** Inefficient fixtures can be replaced for free by licensed plumbers at qualifying multi-family and business/institutional properties. Inefficient fixtures that qualify include toilets, urinals, showerheads, faucet aerators, and pre-rinse spray valves. Sign up at www.blusinc.com, call **800-597-2835**, or customerservice@blusinc.com.

Submeter Rebate Program

Mobile home parks, apartments and condominium complexes can receive at least \$150 per installed water submeter by upgrading from a single meter.

Large Landscape Program

Commercial, industrial, institutional and multi-family complexes with over ½ acre of landscape area may be eligible for a free landscape field survey. Professional irrigation auditors perform free site evaluations to provide recommendations for improving system efficiency. Free landscape water budgets are available for some sites, which compares your actual irrigation use to a site-specific budget. Visit waterfluence.com to see if your site already receives this free benefit. Sign up for a survey at watersavings.org.

Commercial and Facility Rebates

Receive up to \$100,000 for replacing or updating equipment with water efficient technology that results in measurable water reduction. This custom rebate based on the measured amount of water saved is available to qualifying facilities including commercial, industrial and institutional facilities like schools and hospitals. The rebate is at least \$4 per 100 cubic feet of water saved per year, or 100% of the project cost (excluding labor and taxes), whichever is less.

Report Water Waste

Help local residents and businesses save money and preserve our shared water supply by confidentially reporting water waste and leaks. We appreciate your detailed observations, and photos are a big help. Any specific notes like location, date and time, or frequency will help our inspectors follow up. To report water waste, you may do one of the following:

- Use our Access Valley Water app (by downloading or using the QR code)
- Email waterwise@valleywater.org
- Call (408) 630-2000



CONTACT US

For more information, contact the **Water Conservation Hotline** at **(408) 630-2554** or by email at conservation@valleywater.org. Or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request and information system at valleywater.org to find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions, complaints or compliments directly to a Valley Water staff person.



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Valley Water's Water Conservation Programs by Sector

Residential Programs

- Water Wise Indoor Survey Kits
- Water Wise Outdoor Surveys
- Landscape Rebate Program
 - Landscape Conversion Rebate
 - In-line Drip Irrigation Conversion Rebate
 - Irrigation Equipment Upgrade Rebate
 - Rainwater Capture Rebate (rain barrels, cisterns, and rain gardens)
- Graywater Rebate
- Submeter Rebate
- Fixture Replacement Program (Multi-Family Properties of 4+ units)
- Online Shopping Cart (free toilet flappers, resources, and efficient showerheads and faucet aerators)

Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) Programs

- Landscape Survey (Large Landscape Program)
- Customized Irrigation Budget Tracking (Large Landscape Program)
- Landscape Rebate Program
 - Landscape Conversion Rebate
 - In-line Drip Irrigation Conversion Rebate
 - Irrigation Equipment Upgrade Rebate
 - Rainwater Capture Rebate (rain barrels, cisterns, and rain gardens)
- Water Saving Technology Upgrade Rebate (Water Efficient Technology Rebate Programs)
 - Site specific (e.g. cooling towers, chillers, onsite water reuse)
- Fixture Replacement Program
- Online Shopping Cart (free toilet flappers, "drinking water upon request" table tents, hotel door hangers, pre-rinse spray valves, resources, and efficient showerheads and faucet aerators)

Agricultural Programs

- Mobile Irrigation Lab
- Efficient Irrigation Calculators
- Agricultural Baseline Study

Water Waste Inspector Program