



Turf Removal Program Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a website where I can find a list of approved plants and groundcovers, gardening and watering tips, and California Friendly Landscape classes?

Please follow the link: <http://www.bewaterwise.com/knowledge01.html> to learn more about California Friendly Gardening.

What is the current status of the Program?

The funding availability for the Turf Removal Program is available on a first-come, first-served basis. If funding is no longer available, a notification will be posted on the program website, and the application will be removed.

Can I apply for the Turf Removal Program if I have already removed my turfgrass and/or completed my project?

No. MWDOC must be able to gather an accurate measurement of your well-maintained turfgrass during the pre-inspection. If it is not there, an accurate measurement cannot be obtained.

What if my turfgrass is already dead?

To be eligible for the turf removal rebate program, at the time of your mandatory pre-inspection all proposed turfgrass removal areas must be free of weeds, dirt patches, and bare soil. Watering of your proposed turf removal area may be stopped prior to the mandatory pre-inspection. Any proposed turfgrass removal areas that do not fall within the guidelines of the turf removal rebate program may be denied eligibility. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for examples of eligible and ineligible project areas.

What if I removed more turf than was approved in my Notice to Proceed?

You will only receive up to the amount indicated on your Notice to Proceed. Any additional square footage beyond the reserved amount will not be considered for rebate due to program funding limitations.

Do I have to include invoices and receipts to show the cost of my turf removal project?

Yes. MWDOC calculates the project costs to prevent over-payment of a rebate. All rebates are paid up to the initial reserved rebate amount calculated from the pre-inspection square footage. Your rebate amount will not exceed your project cost. For example, if your eligible rebate is \$1,000.00 but your project costs are \$800.00, you will receive a rebate for \$800.00.

What can I include in my overall project cost?

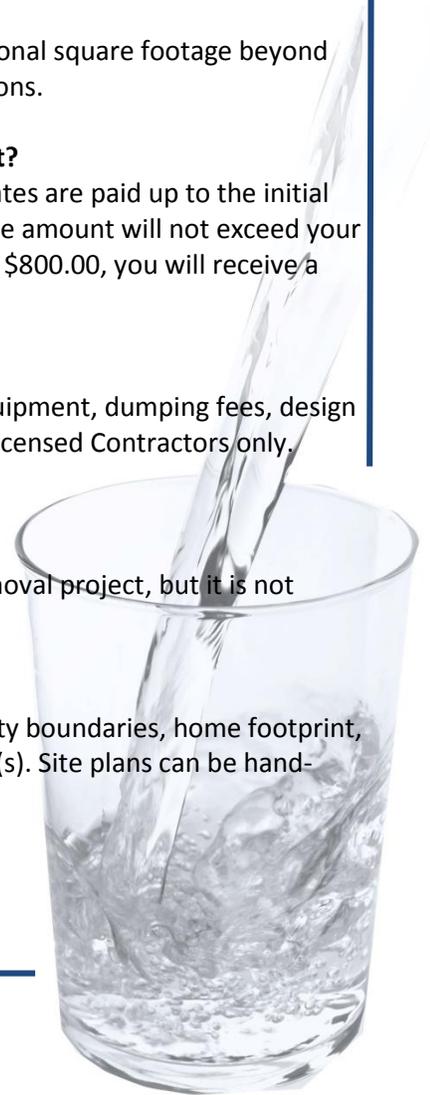
Your turf removal project costs include, but are not limited to, the following: rental equipment, dumping fees, design fees, plants, irrigation supplies, mulch, weed barriers, and labor costs from California Licensed Contractors only. Applicants who perform the work themselves will not be reimbursed for labor costs.

Do I need to hire a licensed contractor to perform my turf removal project?

MWDOC strongly recommends hiring a California Licensed Contractor for your turf removal project, but it is not required. Applicants can do the work themselves as an alternative.

What is a site plan?

A site plan is a simple drawing of your proposed project area that includes your property boundaries, home footprint, proposed turf removal area(s), and square footage of your proposed turf removal area(s). Site plans can be hand-drawn or computer generated.





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Can I replace my turfgrass removal project area with a swimming pool or other water containing fixture?

No. A swimming pool or other water containing fixtures (fountains, ponds, etc.) are considered impermeable and therefore not eligible for a rebate.

Can I replace my turfgrass removal project area with a vegetable garden or raised planter beds?

Yes. The area must be irrigated with a low-flow irrigation system, such as drip tubing, low-volume spray heads, or hand-watered. Areas that are unplanted must be covered with at least 2-3 inches of mulch.

Can I replace my live turfgrass with a synthetic or artificial turf?

Yes. Synthetic or artificial turf can replace your turfgrass removal area so long as it is installed correctly and the project area is permeable to air and water.

What is considered “permeable to air and water?”

Any time water is applied to your final turf removal project area (either by a garden hose or precipitation), that water must not leave the project area as runoff. The water should be able to seep down into the ground and not pool on or flow off of the surface. **Installing drains does not make your final turf removal project area permeable to air and water.**

How long does it take for my mandatory pre-inspection to be scheduled?

It can take up to two (2) weeks to have your inspection scheduled. Typically, you will be contacted between 4-6 business days to schedule.

Is it possible for my rebate to be denied after my project has been completed?

Yes. In very few cases, projects have been denied a rebate due to the installation of impermeable surfaces such as concrete or pavers that have been grout/cement filled or installed incorrectly. Additionally, projects that re-installed other turfgrass after removing their original turfgrass have also been denied. Please read the Program Process and Terms & Conditions before submitting your application.

Are extensions beyond the 60-day deadline allowed?

Request for extensions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Factors include the project's progress, expected completion date, reasons for the delay, and proximity to the Turf Removal Program end date. Requests should be made close to the end of your 60-day deadline in order to determine an appropriate extension based on your turf removal progress.

How long does it take to receive my rebate check?

MWDOC is currently issuing rebate checks 8-10 weeks from the post-inspection date.

If you would like to submit a paper application instead of submitting one online, please visit our turf removal program page where you will find a link to our paper application.

You will need to submit a copy of your water bill and a simple site plan along with your application form.

Can I submit photos of my turf area along with my paper application?

No. Submission of photos is only required as part of the online application package and does not qualify you for a rebate. All proposed turf removal areas will need a pre-inspection performed to determine rebate eligibility.

