



Rain Gardens Cost-Share Introduction



Franklin Soil and Water
Conservation District
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 60 Years

Thank you for your interest in working to protect the water quality of our local streams! The purpose of the rain garden cost-share assistance grant is to financially assist property owners within the City of Westerville with the placement of rain gardens on their property. **Eligibility for this grant requires that the property be located within the City of Westerville.**

A rain garden is an attractive landscaped area in a low spot on a property designed to catch storm water runoff from impervious surfaces (i.e., rooftops, driveways, sidewalks). Rain gardens are planted with native perennials that allow the runoff to infiltrate naturally into the ground, prevent pollutants from entering our streams, slow the flow of water from a yard during and after a storm, and recharge groundwater. As part of the application process, you are asked to work with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to help with sizing and location.

The City of Westerville will offer grants, in an amount not to exceed \$250.00, as reimbursement for the purchase of plants, mulch, or compost for a rain garden on your property. Applications will be accepted throughout 2012, however only six (6) grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, for **approved** applications.

Reimbursement for plants, mulch, or compost used in your rain garden will be provided after an on-site visit from a Franklin Soil & Water representative to verify that your rain garden has been completed. All plants must be planted and the original receipts from your plant, mulch, or compost purchases must be submitted in order to receive reimbursement. Once the rain garden is properly documented, you should receive your reimbursement for the amount of the actual documented costs or \$250.00, whichever is less, within 30 days. No reimbursement will be provided for items purchased but not planted in the rain garden area.

The application consists of four (4) pages and a manual:

- General Information
- Application and Agreement

Please complete the Application and Agreement and mail or drop off to:

Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District
Westerville Rain Garden Cost-Share Application
1328 Dublin Rd., Ste. 101
Columbus, OH 43215

Questions can be directed to the Franklin Soil and Water office: 614-486-9613



Rain Gardens Cost-Share Application



General Information

Application Date _____

Name of Applicant (individual, group, or organization) _____

Applicant mailing address _____

Applicant phone number & email _____

Name of Landowner (if different than above) _____

Landowner mailing address _____

Landowner phone number & email _____

Name of Project _____

Watershed of project location _____

Have you previously submitted an application to Westerville for this project, or one similar to it on the same property?

Yes _____ No _____ If yes, explain:

Westerville funds requested (up to \$250) _____ **Total Project Cost** _____

Type of watershed concern this project will address (can check more than one):

Water quality _____ Water quantity _____ Wildlife habitat _____

Drainage concerns on property _____ Neighbor's water concern _____

Flooding near house _____ Wet basement _____ Erosion _____

Do you have a stream or drainage swale running through your property? Please describe:

Are your streets or lawn frequently flooded or have standing water?

Yes _____ No _____

Describe the current watershed, drainage, or other concern you are seeking to address:

Describe your project (attach site map, design, planting lists, photos, or other information you have):

Size of rain garden: _____

Are you planning on disconnecting your downspouts to direct roof runoff to your rain garden? Yes _____ No _____ If not, where will the storm water come from to feed your rain garden? _____

Do you agree to have Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District help assess the site, design the plan, and suggest plantings for your rain garden? Yes _____ No _____

**This box must be checked "Yes" as a requirement for cost-share assistance approval.*

Do you have others involved in your planning or implementation process (i.e. landscapers, consultants, etc.)? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please list

Anticipated Budget				*Reimbursement only applicable for plants, mulch, and/or compost.
Materials	# of Units	Unit Costs	Total Cost	Description
Plants				
Mulch				
Compost				
Soil additives (if any)*				
Labor costs (if any)*				
Other/misc.*				
Totals				

Initials **Agreement:**

- _____ 1. **The maximum amount of cost-share available is \$250.00 to go toward materials for rain garden installation (plants, mulch, and/or compost).**
- _____ 2. **Checks will be made out to the buyer of the materials with receipt documentation showing the purchase of the materials no sooner than 3 days before the approval of the application, and no later than 15 days after the planting of the rain garden.**
- _____ 3. **Cost-share will not be awarded to a rain garden completed prior to the application date.**
- _____ 4. **Grant winners will be notified by phone once awarded to coordinate the purchase and delivery of materials. Franklin Soil and Water and the City of Westerville are not responsible for any labor involved in any project, nor are they liable for any damages or injuries incurred through the project.**
- _____ 5. **The landowner agrees to maintain their rain garden for at least 3 years, unless the property is sold.**
- _____ 6. **The landowner agrees to go over careful instructions on rain garden design and installations with Franklin Soil and Water, either through a technical workshop, site visit, or consultation (free to applicants). Date of workshop/site visit/consult _____**
- _____ 7. **Notification of excavation and planting must be made to Franklin Soil and Water, and notification of completion of planting must be made to Franklin Soil and Water no later than 1 week before or after installation or completion.**
- _____ 8. **The cost-share grant requires that you allow Franklin Soil and Water and Westerville representatives to photograph and document your rain garden before, during, and after planting. Pictures from your garden may be used in publications, reports, and educational programs. Throughout the duration of your rain garden (to be maintained at minimum 3 years), additional photographs may be taken. You will receive prior notification when anyone will be on your property to document your rain garden.**

We will not share your rain garden location/address unless permission is granted by the landowner. Do you grant us permission to share the location address for educational purposes only? (If yes, you may contact us in the future to decline permission.)

Yes _____ No _____

I/We _____ agree that the information in this application is true to the best of our knowledge. I/We agree to implement the project within 2 months of the application approval. I/We understand that we are required to provide proper accounting of project expenses, and necessary and normal maintenance to sustain the value of the project once it is completed.

Applicant name printed

Applicant signature

Date

Landowner name printed (if different than above)

Landowner signature

Date