

Cash for No Grass

EBMUD has increased the two-year dollar cap on lawn conversion rebates for **commercial irrigators** in our service area from \$15,000 to \$20,000 through December 31, 2026. The additional \$5K only applies to lawn conversions, not irrigation equipment upgrades.

Why convert turf?

In 2023, [Assembly Bill 1572](#) was passed prohibiting the use of potable water to irrigate non-functional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties. The legislation will replace a temporary non-functional turf irrigation ban enacted during the last drought and will be phased in beginning Jan. 1, 2027.

Converting turf to a waterwise garden is an alternative to shutting off irrigation completely. With efficient irrigation and climate appropriate plants, regenerative landscapes save water, support biodiversity, sequester carbon, and beautify our communities.

How to participate?

Submit a landscape rebate application before starting your project. Rebates are for converting existing, actively irrigated and maintained lawns to waterwise gardens that utilize mulch and low-water, climate-appropriate plants.

See ebmud.com/lawntogarden for rebate requirements.

How much is the rebate?

Receive up to \$2 per square foot of lawn converted up to \$20,000, for a limited time only. While the normal rebate cap is \$15,000 per customer per two year period, we are currently offering a one-time \$5,000 bonus, increasing the cap to \$20,000, for all lawn conversion rebate applications received through December 31, 2026.



Non-functional turf converted to a waterwise garden.

What is non-functional turf?

Non-functional turf is ornamental grass not used for recreation. It includes landscaping irrigated for aesthetics such as [street medians](#) and office parking lots. It does not include sports fields, parks, or other turf used for recreation.

What properties are affected?

The irrigation ban applies to City and County land, government buildings, offices, stores, warehouses, schools, hospitals, and other institutions. The ban also applies to large apartment buildings and common areas owned by homeowners' associations. This irrigation restriction does not include single-family residential homes.

