



Community WaterSmart Garden Grant Program

What is the WaterSmart Garden Grant Program?

The purpose of the Community WaterSmart Garden Grant Program is to educate the public about saving water in the urban landscape. For nearly 40 years, EBMUD has worked with the public and the landscape industry to create attractive, low water-use gardens. EBMUD's water conservation landscape rebate and education programs have encouraged customers to do the same.

EBMUD is currently offering monetary awards to community organizations for publicly accessible garden and urban farm projects that demonstrate water conserving principles.

Award Levels

Grant awards range from \$500 to \$15,000. Awards are paid only upon successful approval of an application and completion of the project and are subject to the available budget.

Applying

1. Applications are accepted year-round.
2. Applicants are typically notified within 30 days after an evaluation by EBMUD (and its selected partners).
3. Garden and urban farm projects must be completed within 180 days of notice of an approved application.
4. Applications are evaluated using a numerical ranking system, and include several factors, including:
 - clarity of vision, purpose, and project features
 - clear project scope, budget, and scheduling
 - plans for public outreach
 - preparedness to begin
 - long-term commitment to the maintenance of the garden and/or urban farm
5. Grant funds cover materials and supplies only, up to 50% of project cost. Labor costs are not covered.
6. Grant funds will cover up to 100% of water efficient irrigation equipment.
7. Grant funds will cover up to 50% of plant costs. Plants in containers larger than 15 gallons are not covered.
8. Plant choices must come from EBMUD's gardening book, *Plants and Landscapes for Summer-Dry Climates*, or cited as low water-use plants in two other related publications.

Eligibility

See eligibility requirements on the reverse side.



Community WaterSmart Garden Grant Program

Eligibility Requirements

1. Gardens / urban farms must be located within the EBMUD service area and have an active water account or other water source.
2. Grants are for EBMUD pre-approved projects only. Awards are not retroactive.
3. The garden / urban farm site must have safe public access and high visibility.
4. Conservation of water and other natural resources must be the clear message and intent of the garden through the design, printed and web materials, and interpretive signage. EBMUD support of the project will be acknowledged in signage.
5. Whenever possible, a demonstration site must utilize the best current sustainable design principles, including:
 - California native and summer-dry climate plants
 - low-volume irrigation methods, such as drip
 - weather-based irrigation controllers
 - recycled or reclaimed materials
 - permeable hardscape
6. Applicants must commit to ongoing operation and maintenance of their demonstration project according to proper horticultural principles (supplied by EBMUD), and for a minimum of five years.
7. Grant awards are subject to reimbursement to EBMUD in the event that gardens are not maintained per the agreement or are removed prematurely.



Application instructions and forms are available at ebmud.com/watersmart. Search for "garden grants."

EBMUD encourages applicants to show their unique qualifications by providing planting and irrigation plans, photographs, drawings, models and other supporting documents with the signed application and maintenance agreement. Send completed applications to:

WaterSmart Garden Grant Program
Water Conservation Division, EBMUD
P.O. Box 24055, MS 109
Oakland, CA 94623