



Rain Garden Cost-Share Application



Introduction

Thank you for your interest in working to protect the water quality of our local streams, providing important habitat, and beautifying your neighborhood!

The rain garden cost-share assistance is supported by several Central Ohio cities and municipalities and allows Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to work directly with interested homeowners wishing to plant rain gardens. Eligibility for this grant requires that the property be located within the participating location, and the garden completed the current year of application submittal.

Rain gardens capture runoff from hard surfaces (i.e., rooftops, driveways, sidewalks and even lawns). They are planted with native perennials, shrubs, or trees that allow 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, residents work with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to help with sizing, location, and planting options. This assistance is available throughout the process of rain garden planning in a remote or onsite manner.

Occasional circumstances where site-appropriate plants may offer stormwater, habitat, or drainage improvements may warrant approaches outside the scope of a traditional rain garden. Conservation staff will review these instances on a case-by-case basis.

Your participating City/Municipality offers limited grants in an amount not to exceed \$250.00, as reimbursement for the purchase of plants, mulch, compost, and drainage hardware for a rain garden on your property. Applications are accepted throughout the year, but funding is limited to first-come, first-served basis for approved applications.

Reimbursement for materials used in your rain garden will be provided after a visit from a Franklin Soil and Water representative to verify that your rain garden has been completed. All plants must be planted and the original receipts from purchases must be submitted to receive reimbursement. Once the rain garden is properly documented, you should receive your reimbursement for 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.

Please contact Franklin Soil and Water at 614-486-9613 to discuss eligibility or address questions prior to submitting this application.

Submit Completed Agreement and mail or drop off to:

Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District
1404 Goodale Blvd.
Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43212

Alternatively, email your application to:
Madison Wisniewski : mwisniewski@franklinswcd.org

Rain Garden Cost-Share Application (*Last updated October 2022*)

In 2022, participating areas include:

- Gahanna
- Grove City
- Hilliard
- New Albany
- Obetz
- Reynoldsburg
- Westerville
- Unincorporated villages within Franklin County

1. Applicant Information

Application Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Applicant mailing address:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Applicant phone number & email:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Watershed of project location:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Participating City/Municipality (must be your primary tax district):

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Name of Landowner (if different than applicant):

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Landowner mailing address:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Landowner phone number & email:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Have you previously applied to Franklin Soil and Water for this project, or one like it on the same property? Yes No If yes, explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Funds requested (up to \$250): [Click here to enter text.](#) Total Project Cost: [Click here to enter text.](#)

What watershed concern will this project address?

Water quality Water quantity Wildlife habitat Erosion Wet basement
Drainage concerns on property Neighbor's water concern Flooding near house

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Are your streets or lawn frequently flooded or have standing water? Yes No

2. Description of Garden Project

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Describe your project (attach site map, design, planting lists, photos, or other information you have): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Size and depth of rain garden: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Are you planning on disconnecting your downspouts to direct roof runoff to your rain garden?

Yes No If not, where will the stormwater come from to feed your rain garden? [Click here to enter text.](#)

Do you agree to have Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District help assess the site, offer design guidance, 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:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Anticipated Budget**				
Materials	# of Units	Unit Costs	Total Cost	Description
Plants	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Mulch	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Compost	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Soil additives (if any)*	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Labor costs (if any)*	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Other/misc.*	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Totals	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

**Actual costs will be reimbursed with receipts and documentation of work completed. This budgeting exercise is helpful with planning.

*These expenses do not apply to reimbursement, but are used to assist future gardeners with budgeting.

Please Indicate Agreement by Initialing/Checking Items 1-8 Below:

1. The maximum amount of cost-share available is \$250.00 to go toward materials for rain garden installation (plants, mulch, drainage hardware, 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. Franklin Soil and Water and the City/Municipality are not responsible for any labor involved in any project, nor 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: [Click here to enter a date](#).
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 local City/Municipality representatives to photograph and document applicant rain garden before, during, and after planting. Pictures from your garden may be used in publications, reports, and educational programs.
9. 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.
10. The cost-share grant requires that you allow Franklin Soil and Water and local City/Municipality 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.
11. 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
12. I/We [Click here to enter text](#). 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.