



Marina Coast Water District

11 Reservation Road, Marina, CA 93933
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RAINWATER CATCHMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Customers can receive reimbursement for the purchase of materials and equipment associated with the initial installation or capacity expansion of a rainwater catchment system.

Program Procedures

Please do not start any rainwater catchment system installation, or purchase materials until after receiving written project approval from the District. Before starting any project, purchasing new equipment, and participating in the program, customers must follow the steps below:

- **First, take pre-installation photo(s):** Take and save at least 1 clear photograph of each of the following items: 1) catchment area 2) existing rain gutter downspout that will direct rainwater to a rain barrel 3) area that the rain barrel will eventually stand 4) area to be irrigated using the captured rainwater.
- **Calculate the catchment area in square feet:** multiply the width of your catchment area (roof-top) by the length in feet, then record and save these measurements for future use.
- **Fill out application form:** application forms can be requested via email to conservation@mcwd.org, found online at [MCWD Rainwater Catchment](#), or picked up at the main office, 11 Reservation Road Marina, CA 93933.
- **Submit the pre-installation photo(s) and the completed application form** to the Marina Coast Water District. Applications can be emailed to conservation@mcwd.org, hand delivered to our office, or mailed to our office at 11 Reservation Road Marina, CA 93933.
- District staff will review your application and contact you regarding the status of your application.
- **Only once you receive District approval for your project, should you purchase materials and move forward with your rainwater catchment project.** The project must be completed within 60 days, otherwise the program application will be rejected. Materials purchased before District approval will not be eligible for any reimbursement payment from the District.
- **Once the project is completed, the applicant must schedule a follow-up site inspection with the District.** District staff will verify installation and compliance with the Project Criteria. At this time, the District staff will request the original itemized receipts showing proof of material purchases and that a purchase transaction tookplace.
- After the follow-up site inspection, if the project is completed as planned, the District staff will sign the application form verifying project completion.
- After verifying project completion, District staff will take all necessary paperwork to then begin processing the incentive payment.
- Please note, it can take up to 8 weeks to receive payment after the incentive has been processed.

Terms of Agreement, and Program Eligibility Requirements, and Project Criteria

- Program is limited to available funding. Approved applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Only MCWD customers of current record are eligible to participate in, and receive payment from, the Rainwater Catchment Incentive Program.
- The customer's account must be in good standing and non-delinquent at the time of initial project approval.
- The Applicant certifies that all necessary permissions have been obtained from the property owner, if the Applicant is not the owner themselves. The incentive payment will be made to the property owner.
- The approved project site must be located within the Marina Coast Water District service area.
- Projects are approved at the discretion of the MCWD staff.
- Projects that do not meet the program eligibility requirements will be denied.
- Materials installed prior to the District's approval of the project are not eligible for reimbursement.
- Only original, itemized receipts showing proof of payment for products, and dated after initial project approval are accepted.
- Rainwater catchment incentives are based on the size of the catchment system (number of gallons that can be stored) and the incentive payment is limited by the customer's expenditures for materials.
- The incentive will not exceed the purchase price of items or materials purchased for the project or the incentive payment calculated by storage capacity (i.e., you purchased an 85 gallon tank for \$100 and bought \$15 to divert the rain gutter, you will only receive \$85)
- Sales tax, delivery charges, and installation costs are not reimbursed.
- MCWD reserves the right to alter this program at any time.
- MCWD does not endorse specific brands, products or dealers; nor does it guarantee materials, workmanship, or results.
- MCWD assumes no responsibility or liability for damages to an Applicant's property as a result of participation in this program.
- The District cannot guarantee that the installation of a rainwater catchment system will result in lower utility costs.
- Incentives are only provided for renovations to existing properties. New construction projects are not eligible for incentives.
- Customers will receive \$1 for each gallon of rainwater storage, up to 250 gallons. For any rainwater storage over 250 gallons and not to exceed 2,500 gallons, the applicant will receive an additional \$0.50 per gallon (Maximum incentive per customer, \$1,375 for 2,500 gallons).
- Residential and Commercial Customers may apply for the incentive more than once until they reach the maximum incentive of \$1,375 for 2,500 gallons.

- The minimum storage capacity is 50 gallons.
- The maximum storage capacity is 2,500 gallons.
- Incentives are available for new systems or existing systems adding more storage capacity.
- Previously installed rain catchment systems are not eligible for the incentive.
- Both purpose built and self-made systems are eligible for the incentive, but incentive payments are only equal to the net cost of materials purchased.
- Quality of construction and the operation of second-hand or self-made systems shall be equivalent to purpose-built professionally designed systems.
- The rainwater holding tank must be algae resistant, UV resistant, or must use specially constructed sun barriers.
- The rainwater holding tank must have a secure lid for child safety, vector control, and debris control.
- The rainwater holding tank must be designed for the intended purpose of rain capture and must be connected to a gutter downspout.
- It is recommended that the rainwater holding tank be elevated.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the placement of the rainwater holding tank abides by the CityCodes.
- All rainwater catchment systems shall have sufficient roof area to fill the capacity of the rainwater holding tank after first flush during a “normal” Water Year and shall require verification of usable roof area by site inspection.
- All rainwater catchment systems that are gravity fed and only utilize flexible distribution tubing or garden hose, do not require backflow protection at the meter.
- Adequate backflow prevention at the meter is required when:
 - The rainwater catchment system is connected to any buried rigid plumbing; i.e., PVC pipe, copper pipe, galvanized pipe.
 - A pump is utilized to transport rain water to another location on the property or used to feed an irrigation system.
- When a backflow prevention device is required, the Water District must be notified prior to installation and backflow prevention test results must be submitted to the District annually.
- All approved project sites are subject to an annual cross-connection site survey to ensure that the drinking water supply is not connected to potential source(s) of contamination or that a potential cross-connection condition exists.
- Customer(s) agree to authorize MCWD personnel access to conduct annual site inspections to verify no cross-connection conditions exist.
- A permit may be required when installing a backflow prevention device. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the installation does not violate City, District, or HOA Code requirements or enforced restrictions.

- To prevent a possible cross connection, and lessen the possibility of contaminants or pollutants entering nearby potable water systems, Hose Bib Vacuum Breakers must be installed at all hose bib locations throughout the associated property.
- To assure compliance, quality, and performance, it is recommended that only a licensed insured contractor install components or modify your existing potable water system or irrigation system.
- Rainwater holding tanks must be placed on a stable, secure, and level foundation such as concrete pad, paver, or brick; and not block or restrict narrow pathways around the home causing a safety/emergency access issue.
- The overflow pipe from the rainwater holding tank must be directed away from the buildings and/or adjacent properties and should flow to the landscape.
- Captured rainwater may only be used for irrigation and other non-potable uses (i.e. washing your car).
- All projects must be completed within 60 days of initial project approval.