



2023 REDUCE YOUR USE REBATE PROGRAM

Reducing our water use is important indoors and out. However, we use much more water outdoors and only ~20% of that water makes its way directly back to local waterways. This makes outdoor water conservation extremely important in protecting our vital water resources in the Eagle River Valley.

ERWSD provides rebates for customers who take steps to reduce their outdoor water use. Thank you for doing your part to reduce your outdoor water use.

What Rebates Are Available?

Irrigation Audits – schedule an appointment with a certified irrigation auditor to check your irrigation system and find ways to make it more efficient. The District will provide a rebate for 25% of the cost up to \$200.

Smart Irrigation Controllers – Replace your current irrigation controller with a Smart one that uses weather data, soil sensors, and rain gauges to automatically adjust irrigation based on plant water requirements. The District will provide a rebate of 25% of the cost up to \$200.

Irrigation Efficiency Bundle – After a required irrigation audit, upgrade your irrigation system and equipment based on audit recommendations. The District will provide a rebate of 25% of cost up to \$1500.

Lawn/Turf Replacement – For every square foot of lawn you replace with native or drought tolerant landscaping, the District will pay \$2. There is a 100 square foot minimum requirement but no maximum requirement. See specific details below.



Options for Rebates	Rebate Amount for Residential Customers	Rebate Amount for Commercial/HOA Customers
Irrigation Audit	Rebate of 25% of the customer's cost up to \$200	Rebate of 25% of the customer's cost up to \$275
Smart Irrigation Controller	Rebate of 25% of the customer's cost up to \$200	
Irrigation Efficiency Bundle	Rebate of 25% of the customer's cost up to \$1500	
Lawn Conversion (Turf Replacement)	\$2 for every square foot of lawn removed (min of 100 sqft) (Additional rebates may be available in your area, ERWSD staff will notify customers of matching rebate opportunities and process)	

How do I get a rebate?

Here are the six simple steps to getting a rebate:

- 1. Request a site visit.** It's important that we get a clear picture of your existing landscaping conditions, answer any questions, and make recommendations as needed. (In some cases, high quality photos may be sufficient instead of a site visit)
- 2. Make a plan.** You may realize that all you need is a Smart controller. Or you may want to do an entire lawn/landscape transformation. Your site visit and/or irrigation audit will help determine this. Consider consulting with your fire district for a fire assessment as well. You may qualify for multiple rebates.
- 3. Complete the work.** Do the work yourself or have a professional landscaper do it (save your receipts). Either way, the work must be completed before we issue a rebate. And this is the fun part!
- 4. Request a post-work site visit.** We'd like to see the improvements made. And we can't wait to know how much water you're saving.
- 5. Submit rebate application.** You can access the online application here. Send before and after photos, itemized receipts or invoices, and the size estimate for any lawn conversion areas. And then pat yourself on the back!
- 6. Get your rebate!** Rebates will come in the form of a credit or a check depending on the amount. Either way, you will get some compensation for your water conservation

efforts. Good job!

Additional information about ERWSD's rebate program

Landscaper Resources:

- [Qwel Certified Landscapers](#)
- [Irrigation Association Certified Irrigation Professionals](#)

- Irrigation audits are required for multi-family residential, commercial, or irrigation only accounts and should focus on irrigated common space areas.

- Irrigation audits are required to participate in the Irrigation Efficiency Bundle Rebate and may be used one time per customer in a 10-year period.

- The Irrigation Efficiency Bundle rebate can be used for equipment and/or irrigation system upgrades, not for costs associated with landscape design, consultations, or installation services.

- Rebates are offered on a first come, first served basis.

- To receive a lawn (turf grass) replacement rebate, ERWSD will need to validate existing lawn areas prior to the start of the project. Lawns that are dead or dying from lack of irrigation will qualify for a rebate. There is no maximum square footage limit for lawn/turf to be eligible for the rebate.

- Lawn/turf replacement projects shall follow the Town of Vail and/or Eagle River Fire Protection District guidance on defensible space.
 - o [Town of Vail Defensible Space Guidance](#)
 - o [Eagle River Fire Protection District Guidance](#)

- The homeowner, property manager, HOA manager, or written designee can apply for rebate(s).

- Item(s) and/or services must have been purchased within the last six months of the application date.

- Remodels that involve landscape alterations may qualify for rebates at ERWSD discretion.

- Any product purchased must be used as a replacement or upgrade of an old fixture.

- Smart irrigation controllers should be purchased to replace manually adjusted, timer-based irrigation controllers. This rebate is available one time per customer, per 10

years. Please reference the [EPA WaterSense irrigation controller product list](#).

- Customers must submit a legible copy of a receipt or invoice for the eligible product(s) and/or services with the date of purchase to receive a rebate.
- Customers may apply for rebates through the [WaterSmart Forms Page](#).
- All customer account types are eligible to participate in the rebate program. Please allow 6-8 weeks for processing.

The following does not qualify for a rebate:

- Equipment that is used, leased, refurbished, rented, received from warranty or insurance claims, exchanged, or won as a prize.
- New construction.
- Invasive plants, impermeable hardscape, artificial turfgrass, and water features. A customer may always request a review of their landscaping plan.
- Yards or landscaping that is bare dirt.

If you are not currently registered with WaterSmart we encourage you to do so to track your water use and access important information about your water bill. Locate your account number on your water bill and go to [WaterSmart](#). You can enroll online using your account number or call customer service at (970) 477-5451 and our team will be happy to get you enrolled.

ERWSD is authorized to audit all rebate submissions and can deny or return rebate fund/credits to the program if the account did not properly follow guidelines or was found to have violated the program guidelines.

Clean Water. Quality Life.™

846 Forest Road Vail, Colorado 81657 Tel (970) 476-7480 Fax (970) 476-4089 erwsd.org