



Residential Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Rebate Program Procedures and Policy

Revision #

Implementation Date 11/1/2023

Last Reviewed/Update Date

Page 1 of 2

Resolution # 31632

1. Purpose

Stormwater runoff from residential properties can pick up pollutants such as lawn fertilizer, pet waste, and trash, and carry those into storm sewers, creeks, and rivers. Stormwater Best Management Practices - or BMPs - can be used in residential yards to capture stormwater where it falls and allow for it to infiltrate into the ground. Methods exist to improve the quality of stormwater runoff and increase local awareness of the importance of protecting our local streams and lakes. The City of Marion has therefore established the Residential Stormwater Rebates Best Management Practices (BMP) Cost-Share Program to incentivize BMPs to reduce stormwater runoff volume for those residential properties subject to Marion's stormwater utility fee to assist in the promotion of such methods to capture and infiltrate stormwater in residential areas.

2. Definitions

BMP: Stormwater Best Management Practices. i.e. rain garden, soil quality restoration, pervious pavers, etc.

GIS: Geographic Information System

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY: A lot or parcel of land within the Marion corporate limits developed exclusively for residential purposes.

3. Scope

1. The BMPs included in this program are:
 - a. Rain barrels
 - b. Rain gardens
 - c. Soil quality restoration
 - d. Pervious pavers
 - e. Native vegetation
 - f. Trees
2. BMPs are to be in accordance with the Iowa Stormwater Management Manual when applicable.
3. Property owners must submit applications on the appropriate rebate application forms provided by City and be approved to be eligible for rebates. Additionally, applicants must enter into a maintenance agreement if applying for the rain garden or native plant rebates.
4. The program will be funded by the Stormwater Utility.
5. Residential stormwater BMP funding and program maintenance.
 - a. City will provide an annual maximum funded amount (\$10,000 FY 24/25) for the support of the program participation.
 - i. This fund will be reviewed annually in line with the city's budget process.
6. The rebate amount for rain gardens, soil quality restoration, pervious pavers, and native vegetation is 50% of the cost of applicable purchases made for the practice up to \$1000. Rebates for these four practices can only be applied once to each residential property. The rebate amount for trees and rain barrels is up to \$50 per qualifying rain barrel or tree, with a maximum of three for each residential property. See individual rebate applications for purchases that qualify for the rebates.



Residential Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Rebate Program Procedures and Policy

Revision #

**Implementation
Date** 11/1/2023

**Last
Reviewed/Update
Date**

Page 2 of 2

Resolution # 31632

4. Responsibilities

Staff in the Engineering Department, primarily the Stormwater Coordinator and Environmental Specialist, will be responsible for implementing all aspects of this program. This involves, application review, inspections, and keeping a database of the locations of all residential stormwater BMP projects installed as part of this program.

5. Procedure

City staff will review applications for rebates and will respond to applicants within 15 days. Rain Barrel and Tree Rebate Applications do not need to be reviewed prior to purchase/installation but will need to meet requirements detailed in their respective applications to qualify for a rebate. Pervious Paver, Rain Garden, Soil Quality Restoration, and Native Plant Rebate Applications need to be reviewed and approved by staff prior to any purchases being made for the project. Purchases made before approval may not qualify for the rebate. Specific details and requirements for each rebate type are found in the rebate application form for that practice.

City staff will perform inspections for all BMP types prior to issuing a rebate to ensure that the BMP was constructed/installed correctly. For rain gardens and native plants, City staff will also perform an inspection one year after installation to ensure necessary maintenance is being performed. Additional inspections may be performed if City staff have reason to believe that a rain garden or native plant area is not being properly maintained.

Rebate forms will be made available through the City website, and physical copies will be provided upon request. If the BMP rebate fund is depleted, the page of the City website with the rebate forms will be updated to reflect that no more rebates are available for the current fiscal year.

6. Questions

Any questions concerning the above policy should be directed to the following:

City of Marion — Engineering Department
1225 6th Avenue
Marion, IA 52302
319-743-6340