



City of Fountain Sustainable Landscape Incentive Program

The City of Fountain is offering financial support to **HOAs** and **multifamily communities** that replace high-water-use turfgrass with low-water, climate-appropriate landscaping.

This type of landscaping is drought-resilient, attractive, and helps conserve water while maintaining vibrant and functional community spaces.

Program Overview

- Participants can **receive up to \$18,000** through a **60/40 cost-share** with the City for eligible project expenses.
- Priority is given to affordable housing providers with 501(c)(3) status or the Fountain Housing Authority, who may qualify for a 50/50 cost-share.



Funds are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.





Why Replace Turfgrass?

In Fountain, **nearly 40% of total water use occurs outdoors**—much of it used to maintain areas of high-water-use, non-functional turfgrass. Replacing turf benefits your community!

- 💧 **Water savings** – Reduce outdoor water use by up to 50%
- 💰 **Cost savings** – Lower irrigation costs and reduce mowing/fertilizer needs
- 🌸 **Curb appeal** – Improve aesthetics and increase property values
- 🐝 **Pollinator habitat** – Support biodiversity and attract beneficial species
- 🌱 **Healthy soils** – Reduce runoff and improve infiltration
- 🔥 **Wildfire mitigation** – Use fire-resilient trees, compact shrubs, and native plants
- 🧘 **Community well-being** – Green spaces support mental and physical health

Is This Program Right for Your Property?

Your property is a good fit if:

- ✓ You manage an HOA, multifamily housing complex, or other commercial/institutional property
- ✓ You have at least 3,000 square feet of healthy, irrigated turfgrass
- ✓ You are a City of Fountain commercial water customer in good standing
- ✓ You can hire a qualified contractor for the design and installation
- ✓ You are committed to maintaining the new landscaping for at least 5 years



What are the Requirements?

Eligible projects must:

- ☐ Remove at least 3,000 square feet of living, high-water-use turfgrass
- ☐ Replant with low- or no-water-use plants, appropriate for the Fountain climate
- ☐ Include at least 50% living plant material coverage at maturity
- ☐ Retrofit or install a functional irrigation system (drip preferred)
- ☐ Be completed by a qualified contractor (DIY is not eligible)

Ineligible expenses include:

- Artificial turf or plants
- Concrete, patios, or decking
- Vegetable gardens
- Water features
- Invasive species



How to Replace Your Turfgrass

1. Submit Program Interest Form

- City staff will review your project and reach out to schedule a site visit.

2. Schedule an Initial Site Visit

- City staff will take photos, verify eligibility, and discuss project goals

3. Submit Application & Statement of Work

- Landscape/irrigation design
- Project scope and timeline
- Contractor information
- Budget and receipts
- 5-year maintenance plan
- Required permits or documentation

4. Wait for Notice to Proceed

- Installation cannot begin until this is received.

5. Install Landscape & Final Site Visit

- Installation must be completed by September 1, followed by a post-installation inspection.

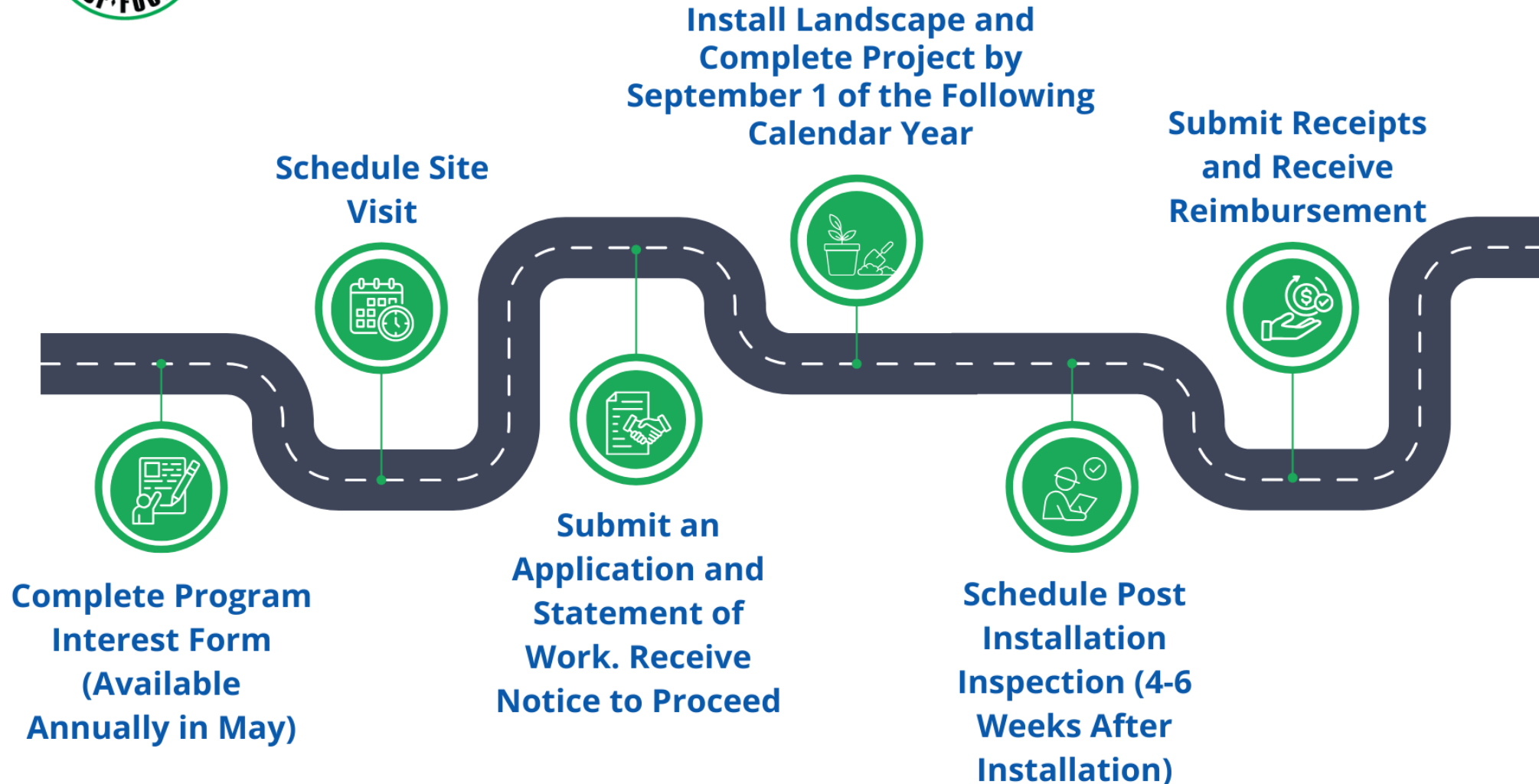
6. Submit Receipts & Receive Reimbursement

- Approved participants will receive up to 40% of eligible project costs (or 50% for affordable housing), up to \$18,000.





Sustainable Landscape Incentive Program Steps



Example: Fairway Ridge HOA (Loveland, CO)



Before



After

Fairway Ridge HOA project converting unhealthy turfgrass to low water plant beds.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can we use our HOA landscaper?

Yes, as long as they are a qualified professional with relevant credentials. DIY projects are not eligible.

What if we already started the project?

Unfortunately, projects started before approval are ineligible.

What plants can we use?

Plants must be low or no water and suited for the Fountain climate. Native species are encouraged.

Check out Fountain's Plant Guide:

<https://www.fountaincolorado.org/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=19079235>

Is artificial turf eligible?

No. Artificial turf, hardscape, water features, and certain other materials are ineligible.

What's the reimbursement process?

After final inspection and receipt verification, reimbursement checks are issued in 6–8 weeks.



Have Questions? Ready to Get Started?



Visit:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/685f01a9c554448a85633ef9426560e2>



Email: conservation@fountainutilities.org

