



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## 2022 MULCH REBATE PROGRAM

### Q&A BACKGROUNDER

#### 1. What is the Mulch Rebate Program?

A program designed to conserve our water resources. Available on a first-come, first-served basis to Red Deer residents, 50% of the cost of permeable mulch purchased in 2022, to a maximum of \$50, will be credited to your utility account. The program runs until October 28, 2022.

#### 2. Why should I purchase and install mulch?

Installing mulch helps:

- Control weed growth.
- Improve soil drainage and moderates soil temperature, which reduces the need for excess watering.
- Protect against soil erosion; this prevents soil from entering stormwater and polluting the river.
- Add nutrients to the soil, reducing the need for fertilizer.

#### 3. How much does mulch cost?

The cost of mulch depends on the type, amount and where it was purchased. Bark mulch costs about \$3 for 56 L (2 cubic feet).

#### 4. Where can I purchase mulch?

Many home and garden centres and landscaping companies sell mulch.

#### 5. What are the qualifications for the Mulch Rebate Program?

The following criteria must be met to receive a rebate:

1. Must have a City of Red Deer utility (water bill) account.
2. Mulch must be permeable (e.g. bark mulch, wood chips). Rubber mulch does not qualify.
3. A copy of the receipt of your mulch purchase must be included with the application form. The receipt must clearly indicate the name of the store, product name, price and date of purchase. Your name must be clearly written on the receipt.

4. Must include before and after photos of the space where mulch was applied.
5. Mulch must be purchased in the 2022 calendar year.
6. Mulch must not have been purchased through another municipality's incentive program.
7. Mulch must be applied at a property located in the city of Red Deer.
8. Maximum one (1) rebate per property.
9. Applications are received by October 28, 2022.

Please note that funding is limited and rebates are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. The program runs until October 28, 2022. Applications received after October 28 will not be processed.

## **6. How do I apply for a rebate?**

Applications can be submitted online at [www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch](http://www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch).

## **7. Why can't I receive a rebate for mulch that was purchased prior to 2022?**

There is a limited annual budget. Each year has its own budget and we want to ensure that as many residents have the opportunity to participate as possible.

## **8. Can residents who don't have a utility account apply?**

No. Only utility account holders may apply. The name of the applicant must match the name associated with the utility account.

## **9. How many mulch rebates can I get?**

Maximum one (1) rebate per property is permitted. Previous participants in the program are not eligible to receive another rebate.

## **10. How long will it take for my rebate to be processed?**

A credit will be applied to your utility account within 8-12 weeks.

## **11. Can I have the money instead of a credit on my account?**

No. There is no cash back option.

## **12. Why do before and after photos have to be taken?**

Mulch that qualifies for a rebate must be used for the purpose of:

- Conserving water in a landscaped area
- Reducing erosion and stormwater pollution

Before and after photos demonstrate that the mulch was applied as landscaping or groundcover, rather than for cosmetic purposes.

**13. Where can I find more information on this?**

For more information and to apply to the Mulch Rebate Program, visit [www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch](http://www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch) or call Community Development at 403-406-8820.