

# 2022 PLANT REBATE PROGRAM Q&A BACKGROUNDER

### I. What is the Plant 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 perennial, drought-tolerant, and Zone I-3 plants 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 drought-tolerant plants?

Drought-tolerant and Zone I-3 plants are more capable of withstanding periods of dryness and high temperatures. Less watering and fertilizer is needed for these plants, which helps to conserve water as well as protect against stormwater pollution due to runoff.

#### 3. How much do drought-tolerant plants cost?

Small plants can cost less than \$10, while trees can cost up to \$200-\$300 each.

## 4. Where can I purchase drought-tolerant plants?

Many home and garden centres sell drought-tolerant plants.

#### 5. What are the qualifications for the Plant 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. A copy of the receipt of your plant purchase must be included with the application form. The receipt must clearly indicate the <u>name of the store</u>, <u>product name</u>, <u>price</u> and date of <u>purchase</u>. Your name must be clearly written on the receipt.
- 3. Must include before and after photos of the space where the plant(s) was planted, as well as photo of the plant identifier tag.
- 4. Plant(s) must be purchased in the 2022 calendar year.
- 5. Plant(s) must be on the list of qualifying plants.
- 6. Plant(s) must not have been purchased through another municipality's incentive program.
- 7. Plant(s) must be planted in the ground at a property located in the city of Red Deer.

- 8. Maximum one (1) rebate per utility account.
- 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 <a href="https://www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch">www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch</a>.

#### 7. Why can't I receive a rebate for plants that were 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 plant rebates can I get?

Maximum one (I) rebate per utility account 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.

#### II. 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?

Plants that qualify for rebates must be used for the purpose of conserving water in a landscaped area. Before and after photos demonstrate that the plants were planted directly in the yard, rather than in pots or planters.

#### 13. Why is there are qualifying plants list?

The qualifying list was developed to encourage residents to purchase plants that The City has determined grow well under local conditions and support The City's water conservation and water quality protection goals.

## 14. Where can I find more information on this?

For more information and to apply to the Plant Rebate Program, visit <a href="https://www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch">www.reddeer.ca/plantandmulch</a> or call Community Development at 403-406-8820.