



COMMUNITY BACKYARDS

Save Money. Protect Clean Water.

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BUSINESS REBATES

City of Columbus businesses and organizations are eligible to apply for a rebate on a green infrastructure project such as a rain garden, native plantings, or rainwater collection for a reimbursement up to **\$2,500**

WHAT IS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE?

Green infrastructure generally refers to systems and practices that use or mimic natural processes to infiltrate, evaporate, or reuse stormwater runoff where the rain falls. The goal is to capture and soak in rainwater to prevent it from entering the stormwater system. This reduces water pollution. Green infrastructure is also a great opportunity for low impact development, an avenue to implement stormwater management best practices or requirements, and meet sustainability initiatives. Plus, green infrastructure can improve monetary and aesthetic value of a property. Green infrastructure is a great way to beautify our neighborhoods and provide important environmental benefits.



WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District has teamed up with Sustainable Columbus, GreenSpot Columbus, and the Columbus Department of Public Utilities to promote and incentivize conservation practices on land owned or managed by businesses and organizations. Businesses make a significant amount of land use and management decisions in Central Ohio and the City of Columbus. With this program, we want to demonstrate that small-scale green infrastructure and urban conservation projects can be done by businesses and organizations cost effectively while making a significant, positive environmental impact.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Businesses and organizations, including non-profit and for-profit organizations, that are registered and current with the Secretary of State are eligible to apply. The project site must be located within the City of Columbus per the Franklin County Auditor's site. Fiscal sponsors are also acceptable.

www.communitybackyards.org/columbus-business-rebates

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WHAT IS THE OFFER?

Through Franklin Soil and Water's Community Backyards program, businesses and organizations can apply for up to a \$2,500 reimbursement on a green infrastructure project such as a rain garden, native plantings, or rainwater collection. Project site must be located within the City of Columbus. The rebate can be used on supplies, native plants, mulch, rainwater collection systems, rain barrels, soil amendments, and educational signage. This is a reimbursement only grant. Funds will not be dispersed until the project is completed. Fiscal sponsors are accepted.

Special consideration will be given to projects benefitting underserved populations and projects located in Columbus CelebrateOne neighborhoods, opportunity zones, and areas with less than 20% tree canopy cover.

Businesses who participate will be signed up as a Columbus GreenSpot member!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Here's how the business rebate process works:

- A business or organization representative must submit a brief application to Franklin Soil and Water's Community Backyards program, detailing what their general project idea is and the potential environmental impact.
- After the application is received, Franklin Soil and Water will reach out to set up a time to meet and tour the project location. We want to make sure the project is a good fit for that location and provide technical assistance.
- An agreement will need to be signed. Then, you can install your project.
- Once installed, you will submit a receipt and photos to Franklin Soil and Water.
- Once approved, a reimbursement check will be issued.

If your business or organization is interested, please reach out to Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District directly or visit www.communitybackyards.org/columbus-business-rebates



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THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

**SUSTAINABLE
COLUMBUS**
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR



**Franklin Soil and Water
Conservation District**

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