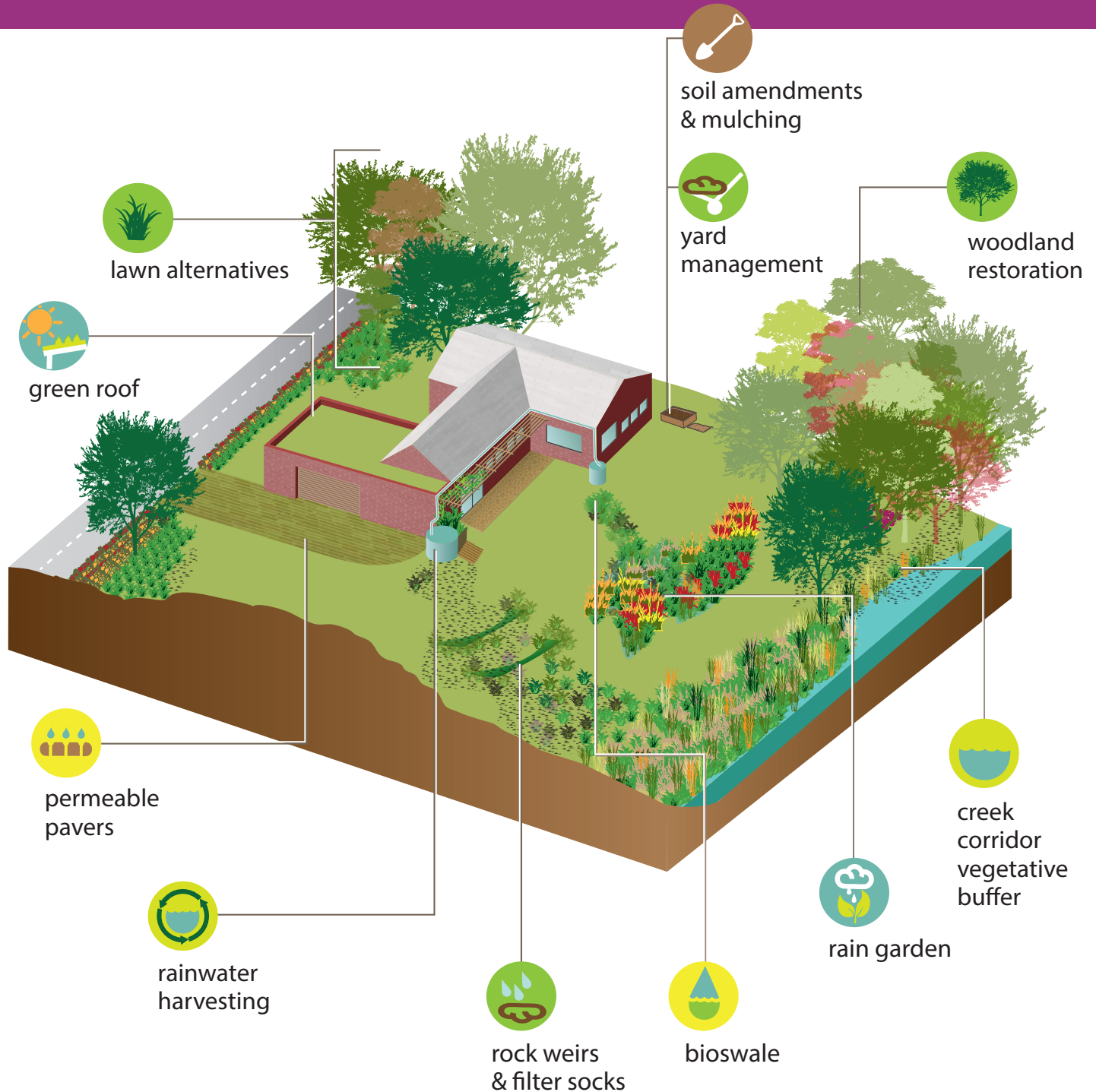


Rainscaping Cost-Share Program

A joint program of the Missouri Botanical Garden,
Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Missouri Department
of Natural Resources, and project partners



Deer Creek Watershed Alliance

a project of  MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
deercreekalliance.org



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Rainscaping Cost-Share Program

Background

This **Rainscaping Cost-Share Program** is a program of the Missouri Botanical Garden's Deer Creek Watershed Alliance (DCWA). The purpose of this program is to improve water quality and benefit aquatic life in Deer Creek and its tributaries by installing landscaping that helps manage stormwater by capturing rain where it falls, instead of allowing water to run off-site.

Rainscaping is any combination of plantings, water features, catch basins, permeable pavement, and other activities that manage stormwater as close as possible to where it falls, rather than moving it someplace else.

Rainscaping can also be employed to solve a drainage problem, increase aesthetic appeal, improve property values, and/or attract birds and butterflies, in addition to other benefits. Rainscaping practices can include features such as rain gardens, bioswales, trees and shrubs, green roofs, etc. to slow down, soak up and reuse rainwater before it carries pollutants to a local stream.

Program Guidelines

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Site must be located within one of the Program Focus Areas (see maps at deercreekalliance.org/cost-share). Landowners including residential, institutional and commercial are eligible to participate.
- Only projects to be installed after the award notification date will be considered.
- Application must include a plant-based solution that removes and replaces a minimum of 100 square feet of established lawn, invasive species, impervious surface, or bare ground except where noted. No re-landscaping of previously landscaped areas will be accepted. For more details, download the *Eligible Improvements List* at deercreekalliance.org/cost-share.
- A 1–3" mulch layer is expected where appropriate to inhibit weed growth, prevent soil loss and retain moisture.
- Include a plant list. The use of a significant percentage of Missouri native plants and/or their cultivars is expected. The planting of invasive species is prohibited. See deercreekalliance.org/cost-share for plant suggestions and for a list of prohibited invasive species. Use plant palette recommendations or defend alternatives.
- Landowner agrees to maintain the design feature for a minimum of five years, including watering plants during the establishment phase, weeding, pruning, annual mulching, and plant replacement as needed.
- Application must be submitted and signed by the **actual landowner**.

FUNDING SELECTION CRITERIA

Only completed applications will be considered. Only appropriately designed eligible improvements will be reviewed.

In addition, priority will be given to projects that meet one or more of the following criteria: large amount of stormwater managed, high percentage of native plants, cost effective project, appropriate design, and appropriate and detailed maintenance plan.

REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

Each landowner with property located in one of the Program Focus Areas is eligible to apply to receive a rebate of 75% of approved and documented costs up to a maximum of \$4,500 for project design, implementation, and/or maintenance costs incurred for Rainscaping Cost-Share funded feature(s). Institutional applicants are eligible to apply to receive a rebate of 60% of project costs up to a maximum of \$6,000.

All reimbursable labor costs must be completed by a qualified professional and/or contractor formed and operating as a duly registered business in the State of Missouri.

Save all itemized receipts and/or invoices to submit to Deer Creek Watershed Alliance. Site visits will be scheduled to verify that projects have been appropriately installed prior to reimbursement.



See mobot.org/rainscaping for rainscaping solutions and details.

Rainscaping Cost-Share Program Application

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

Municipality _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

1. Is your property located in one of the Rainscaping Cost-Share Program Focus Areas? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(Go to deercreekalliance.org/cost-share to view detailed Focus Area maps.)
2. Would you like to receive the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance quarterly newsletter? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Did you attend a required landowner orientation? ☐ Yes ☐ No Date of orientation: _____
4. Project is (check one):
 - ☐ Residential
 - ☐ Institutional/Commercial (includes businesses, schools, governments, churches, etc.)
5. Are any of your neighbors also submitting applications? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, what are their names and addresses?
6. Type(s) of rainscaping to be installed; check all that apply and indicate size of each. (Go to mobot.org/rainscaping for step-by-step rainscape planning guidance.) NOTE: choose only one box for each rainscaping feature you are implementing; multiple checked boxes mean multiple features are being proposed.

Plant-based solutions

- ☐ Native soil rain garden: _____ sq. ft. × _____ inches ponding depth
- ☐ Engineered bioretention (MSD permit required*): _____ sq. ft. × _____ inches deep
- ☐ Bioswale(s): _____ sq. ft. × _____ inches deep
- ☐ Lawn alternatives (replace turf grass or invasives with trees and groundcover, shrubs, perennials and/or prairie plants): _____ sq. ft.
- ☐ Upland woodland restoration: _____ sq. ft.
- ☐ Lowland woodland restoration (creek corridor vegetative buffer): _____ sq. ft.
- ☐ Green roof: _____ sq. ft.

The following improvements **must** be paired with a plant-based solution:

- ☐ Permeable pavers: _____ sq. ft. × _____ inches gravel layer depth
- ☐ Soil amendments
- ☐ Filter socks
- ☐ Rock weirs
- ☐ Rainwater harvesting: cistern(s) or rain barrel(s): _____ gallons
- ☐ Other: _____

The following improvements **do not need** to be paired with a plant-based solution:

- ☐ Septic System Remediation (check all that apply)**
 - ☐ Inspection ☐ Removal ☐ Replacement ☐ Cleaning ☐ Repair
- ☐ Other: _____

* To obtain an over the counter MSD permit, contact Engineer of the Day at (314) 768-2705.

**If checked, request Septic System Remediation Application Insert. Septic system official inspection report required with application submission.

7. Is your rainscaping feature(s) replacing one or more of the following? **(Note: previously landscaped areas are NOT eligible.)**
Lawn grass: ☐ Yes ☐ No Invasive species: ☐ Yes ☐ No Bare ground: ☐ Yes ☐ No Pavement: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Other; please explain: _____

For a list of invasive species, see deercreekalliance.org/cost-share.

8. Are you installing a rain garden or permeable pavers? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, what was the percolation test result for each rain garden and/or permeable paver feature (in inches per hour drained)?
Indicate test location(s) and result(s) on your landscape drawing. (Percolation test instructions mobot.org/perc.)

9. Describe your mulching and/or soil amendment strategy. What kind and how much will be applied? Please also indicate type of compost or soil to be added or aeration method to be used if applicable.

10. Describe/attach your maintenance plan—this is a critical component for all approved proposals. See maintenance resources and recommendations at deercreekalliance.org/cost-share.

11. List plants to be installed, including genus and species, common name, quantity, spacing, container size. Indicate which plants are native (including native cultivars). **Attach additional paper as needed.**

Plant Genus & Species (List each plant species separately)	Common Name	Quantity	Spacing	Container Size	Cost	Native?

- | | Materials Cost | Labor Cost | TOTAL COSTS | Rebate Requested |
|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------|------------------|
| Design | | | | |
| Installation | | | | |
| Maintainance | | | | |
| TOTALS | | | | |

Which rebate are you requesting? (check one): ☐ 75% up to maximum of \$4,500
☐ 60% up to maximum of \$6,000 (institutions only)

-
-
-
-
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- APPLICATION, PAGE 3 OF 4 (BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR SIGNATURE ON PAGE 4)

13j. If installing rain garden(s), please include/show the following:

- percolation test location(s) and results
- planned ponding depth
- location(s) of rain garden inflow and overflow

If installing permeable pavers, please include/show the following:

- percolation test location(s) and results
- planned gravel layer depth

13k. Optional: attach additional plan(s) showing cross sections with elevations.

13l. If there are multiple features that cannot be included in one drawing, an overall site map is required.

14. Take photographs of your current site. Loose photos must be attached to an 8½" × 11" piece of paper. You must:

14a. Show exact future location(s) of your rainscaping feature(s). We must be able to see what currently is in the location where you intend to add a rainscaping feature.

14b. Show proximity of the feature(s) to the street.

14c. Include descriptive labels on all photos.

14d. Clearly label all pages with your name and address.

15. SIGNATURE/AGREEMENT

- I have read and agree with all Rainscaping Cost-Share Program requirements.
- I agree to maintain the rainscaping feature(s) for a minimum of five years, including watering plants, weeding, pruning, annual mulching, and plant replacement as needed.
- I understand that this program is partially funded with public money, therefore names, addresses, and project data may be shared with partners as requested.
- I understand that the Rainscaping Cost-Share Program parameters and the Rainscaping Guide are provided as guidelines only. Landowners are solely responsible for ensuring the success of their own rainscaping feature designs and implementations. Grant application review and acceptance for funding does not imply program, funder, or partner endorsement or responsibility for proper design, installation, or maintenance.
- I will allow Deer Creek Watershed Alliance representatives to come onto my property to assess and photo-document installed features. I will also allow them to use pictures of this project for outreach efforts or publications. I understand that photographs will not reveal street location or property ownership details without my express permission.

Landowner Signature (signature required)

Rainscaping Cost-Share Program



Timeline

	ROUND 2023	ROUND 2024
Cost-Share Applications Due	6.2.23	6.7.24
Project Notifications Out	7.14.23	7.19.24
Planting Time	Fall 2023 or Spring 2024	Fall 2024 or Spring 2025
Project Receipts and Completion Forms Due	10.13.23 for Fall 2023 installs 6.14.24 for Spring 2024 installs	10.11.24 for Fall 2024 installs 6.13.25 for Spring 2025 installs
Quality Control/Ground Truthing/ Completion Forms Processed	Within 6 weeks of receipt of Project Completion Forms	
Cost-Share Funds Dispersed to Landowners	Within 12 weeks of receipt of Project Completion Forms	
Maintenance Reimbursement Forms and Receipts Due	5.17.24 for Fall 2023 installs 11.15.24 for Spring 2024 installs	5.16.25 for Fall 2024 installs 11.21.25 for Spring 2025 installs

Application Checklist

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

To be eligible, please include the following:

- ☐ **One fully completed application**
 - ☐ Have you answered all application questions?
 - ☐ Did you remember to sign the form?
- ☐ Maintenance plan
- ☐ Budget detail—itemized materials list including cost per item
- ☐ Detailed plant list
- ☐ Landscape drawing(s) with all required components included (do not resize original design)
- ☐ Photo(s) as previously specified
- ☐ Septic System Remediation Application Insert (septic system remediation only)
- ☐ Bonus points—additional project details and description of installation process

Submission

Applications must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on the due date. Electronic submittals will not be accepted. Please make a copy of your **FULL** application for your records. We cannot take responsibility for applications lost in the mail. If you submit your application by mail, keep your receipt as proof of mailing.

Submit applications to:

**Deer Creek Watershed Alliance
c/o Missouri Botanical Garden – Sustainability Division
CBEC – West
4651 Shaw Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63110**

Questions? Contact (314) 577-0202 or
rainscaping@mobot.org.

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