

Graywater Laundry to Landscape Rebate Program



A \$200 rebate per residential site (or up to \$400 in cost-sharing partner areas while funding remains) is made available by the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) for properly connecting a clothes washer to a graywater irrigation system as described in this application packet.

A Graywater Laundry to Landscape System (herein referred to as “graywater system”) delivers water from the clothes washer to the landscape without additional pumps, filters, or tanks.

How do I participate?

STEP 1: Prepare and Plan

Read the Program Requirements as well as the Terms and Conditions in this application packet, which are also available online under the Graywater Laundry to Landscape (L2L) Rebate Program at www.valleywater.org/Graywater. Call the District’s Water Conservation Hotline at **(408) 630-2554** for clarification or to ask questions before you begin your project as rebates are only issued for work completed after receiving a Notice to Proceed (Step 3).

STEP 2: Application Process

Complete and submit this application packet. **Use the checklist** below to help ensure a complete application:

- ☐ Complete all fields under the Pre-Inspection Questionnaire and the Rebate Application on pages 6-8
- ☐ Provide a simple plan design or diagram that depicts the plant types to be irrigated with graywater, and where the graywater irrigation piping and distribution points will be installed relative to your home, clothes washer, landscaping, and property line
- ☐ Include 3 to 5 photos that show your laundry area, exterior wall, and landscape area to be irrigated with graywater
- ☐ Attach a copy of a recent water bill(s)
- ☐ Provide a signed W-9 if participating in other District rebate programs and the total rebates are estimated to be \$600 or greater within a calendar year. W-9s can be downloaded from the Internal Revenue Service at <https://www.irs.gov/forms-instructions>
- ☐ Sign and date the Terms and Conditions at the end of this application packet: signature must correspond with the site owner name or authorized representative

STEP 3: Notice to Proceed

- Once the District determines that your project qualifies for this rebate program, you will be provided a Notice to Proceed. **Do not begin installing your new graywater system until you receive a Notice to Proceed.**
- You have 90 days to complete your project from the issue date of your Notice to Proceed.

STEP 4: Post Inspection

- ☐ Schedule a post-installation inspection (post inspection) upon completion of the project. District surveyors will meet with you onsite to verify that the project meets the Program Requirements as well as the Terms and Conditions. If the project passes the post inspection, it will be approved for the rebate.

STEP 5: Rebate

The Graywater L2L Rebate Program is based upon successfully installing a graywater system as outlined in this application packet, and completing Steps 1-4. Your rebate payment will be mailed to you within 4 to 6 weeks.

Program Requirements

- Be a homeowner within Santa Clara County, complete Steps 1-3 of this application packet before installing the graywater system, and meet all requirements below.
- Adhere to state and local regulations, including Chapter 15 of the California Plumbing Code, available online at: epubs.iapmo.org/2016/CPC/mobile/index.html#p=350.

Landscape Requirements

- All graywater must be gravity-fed and distributed from the clothes washer to a pre-approved landscape area that is large enough to absorb the graywater.
- Mulch basins are required. Excavate soil around the drip line of the plants to be irrigated with graywater, and backfill the empty space with mulch. Additional information and specifications are available at www.valleywater.org/GraywaterResources.
- Mulch basins must be sufficiently sized to prevent runoff and pooling of graywater.
 - » A specific required square footage of mulch basins will be provided before or upon receiving your Notice to Proceed. This square footage is based on the amount of graywater expected to be produced and the landscape's soil type.
 - » The graywater system may have one or more valved zones. Mulch basins within each zone must meet or exceed the required square footage provided.
- The site where graywater is used must be in an area where seasonally high groundwater is at least five feet below ground surface. This will be verified by the District using available information.
- Graywater must:
 - » Not be stored, must not runoff into streets and waterways, and must not pond nor pool on the soil surface.
 - » Not be used to irrigate root crops or edible parts of food crops that touch the soil.
 - » Be contained on the site where it is generated.
 - » Be distributed subsurface or released to an area covered by a minimum of two inches of soil, bark, rock, mulch, or appropriate permeable cover.

Graywater System Requirements

- The graywater system and parts thereof must be on the same lot (parcel) as the building or structure that discharges the graywater.
- Graywater must be distributed at least:
 - » 18 inches from the property line (Note: this minimum distance requirement shall be increased if the adjacent property is downhill from the graywater distribution point(s).);
 - » 2 feet from buildings;
 - » 5 feet from any septic tank or leach field; and
 - » 100 feet from wells, waterways, or other water sources.
- Graywater piping/tubing and the diverter (3-way) full-port ball valve shall be the same diameter as or larger than the clothes washer drain hose. Typically, 1-inch diameter.
- The end of the main-line tubing shall be left fully open (allow a continuous unobstructed graywater route from the clothes washer to the landscape; never use a valve or plug on the distribution point furthest away from the clothes washer.).

Graywater System Requirements (Continued)

- The graywater system shall:
 - » Not include a potable water connection, filters, nor a pump. (Note: The pump in a clothes washer is not considered part of the graywater system.)
 - » Not connect to overhead (spray) irrigation nor to a conventional irrigation system.
 - » Be designed to prevent clogging of any emitters.
 - » Be designed and installed to prevent contact with humans and pets.
 - » Be labeled on every 5 feet of exposed graywater piping with, "Caution: Nonpotable graywater. Do not drink." Labels may be provided upon request.
 - » Include a diverter (3-way) full-port ball valve to allow the user to direct the flow of graywater between the graywater system and the sanitary sewer/septic system.
 - » Include an auto vent (or an in-line vent or an air-admittance valve).
- The diverter valve and auto vent assembly:
 - » Must be installed at least 6 inches above the flood rim (typically the top) of the clothes washer.
 - » Must be easily accessible and labeled. Labeling shall indicate which direction to turn the diverter valve's handle to send graywater to either the landscape or the sanitary sewer/septic system, respectively. Example labeling may be provided upon request.
 - » Shall be used to direct to the sanitary sewer/septic system all wastewater derived from activities that could create health issues. These activities include, but are not limited to:
 - ◇ Washing diapers or similarly soiled garments,
 - ◇ Washing greasy or oily rags,
 - ◇ Cleaning car parts,
 - ◇ Disposal of waste solutions from photo labs, and
 - ◇ Other activities that contain hazardous chemicals.
- Any perforations in the building created during installation are properly sealed or patched.
- The finished system must include an operating and maintenance manual. The manual is to remain with the building throughout the life of the system. Upon change of ownership or occupancy, the new owner or occupant shall be notified that the structure contains a graywater system and provided the manual.
- To facilitate future maintenance, the operating and maintenance manual shall include a diagram depicting the final locations of graywater piping, distribution points, and mulch basins with respect to the property line and landscape.



CONTACT US

For more information, contact
the Water Conservation Hotline at **(408) 630-2554**
or **conservation@valleywater.org**. Use our
Access Valley Water customer request and information system
at **valleywater.org**. With three easy steps, get the latest
information on the project or submit questions, complaints,
or compliments directly to a water district staff person.

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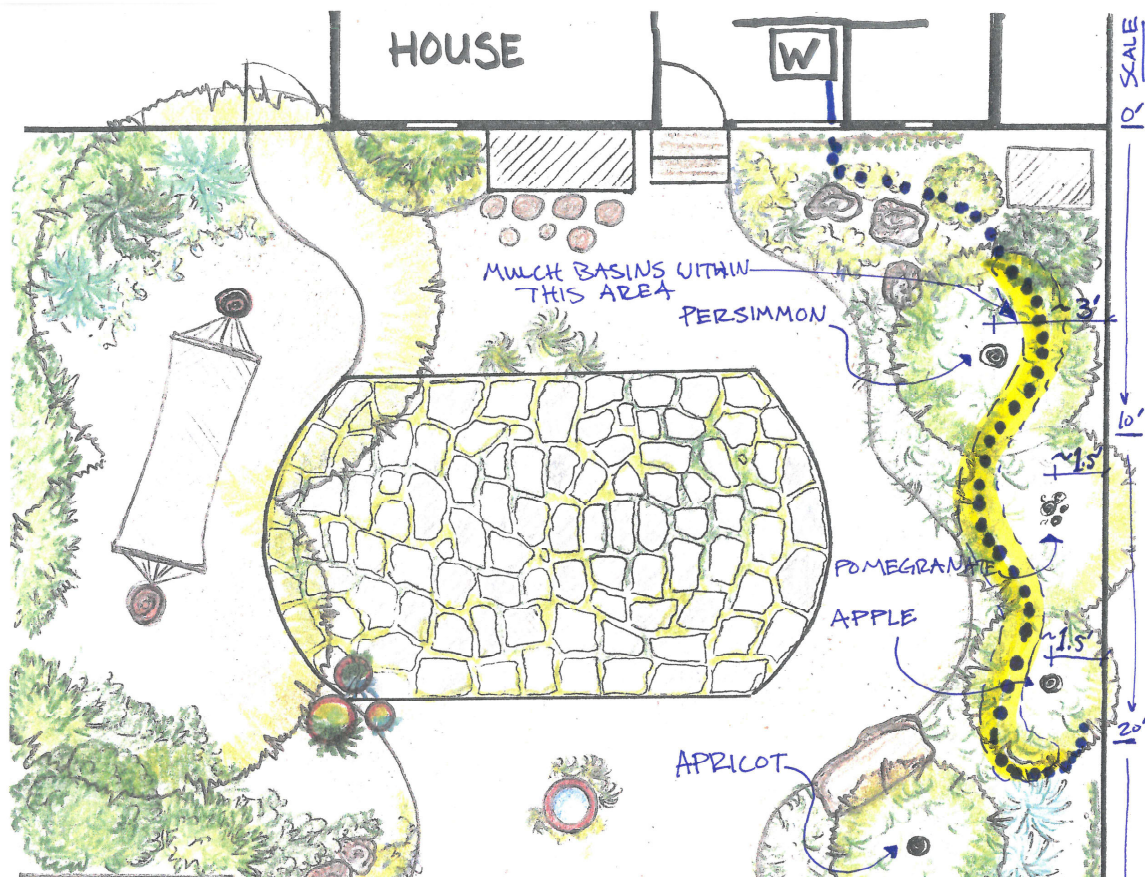
watersavings.org



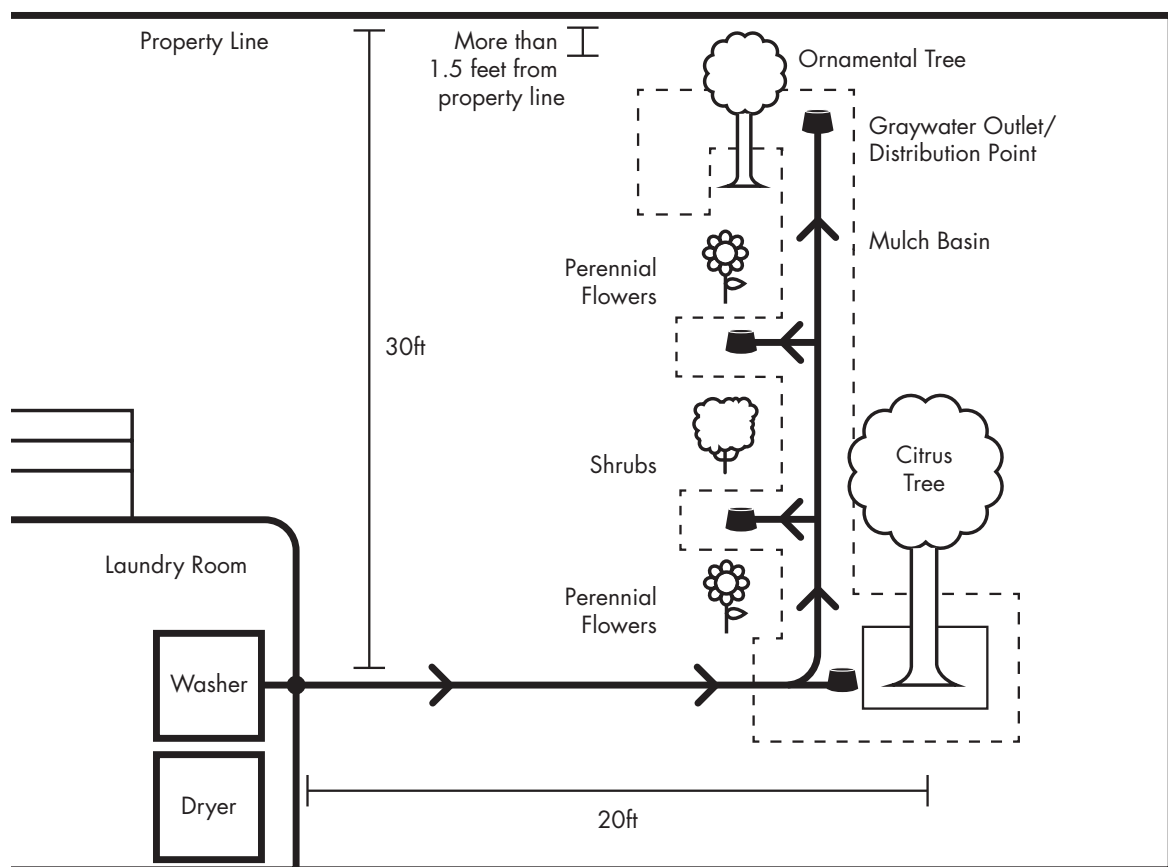
To get eNews,
drop an email to:
info@valleywater.org

For assistance completing the plan design described on the following page, please see the examples below.

Example 1



Example 2



Feel free to use this space to sketch your graywater system's proposed plan design. The plan design does not need to be exact, but please keep sizing and spacing proportional and consistent throughout your sketch. Examples have been provided on the previous page for reference. If more space is needed, you may either include a larger drawing on a separate piece of paper or attach a digital copy to this application packet.



This Pre-Inspection Questionnaire will help the District estimate your graywater production, provide general project feedback, and determine whether this type of graywater system is appropriate and feasible for your property. You may request an inspector to visit your property instead of completing this section by calling (408) 630-2554.

Residence Information

To determine how much graywater you produce:

1. Do you have a top-loading or a front-loading clothes washer? _____
2. Is your clothes washer marked with either "HE" or "Energy Star"? _____
3. If known, what is your clothes washer's model number? _____
4. Approximately, how old is your clothes washer? _____
5. Typically, how many loads of laundry are done per week? _____
6. AT MOST how many loads of laundry are done within a 24-hour period? _____
7. Total bathrooms and total bedrooms: _____

of Bathrooms # of Bedrooms

To help us determine whether your site would be a good candidate for this type of graywater system:

8. Is there a crawl space underneath the clothes washer or is it located on a slab foundation? (please specify) _____
9. Is the clothes washer located along an exterior wall? _____
10. Approximately how many feet away is the landscape you plan to irrigate with graywater from the clothes washer? _____

Landscape Information

11. Is the planned graywater-irrigated area:
 - A. Higher in elevation than the clothes washer? _____
 - B. Within 100 feet of a creek, well, or other water source? _____
 - C. Within 5 feet of a septic tank or leach field? _____
 - D. A minimum of 2 feet away from buildings? _____
 - E. A minimum of 1.5 feet from the property lines? _____
12. What is your soil type (sand, loam, clay, etc.)? Most locations in Santa Clara County will be a type of clay soil. If your soil type isn't clay or is unknown, please feel free to ask for assistance by calling (408) 630-2554. _____
13. What types of plants do you want to irrigate with graywater?

Projects must be pre-approved

Applicants may be asked to provide documentation that local ordinances/requirements have been met.

Customer Name _____ Phone _____

Official Customer Name must be site owner or authorized site representative

Email _____ Alternative Phone _____

Installation Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Mailing Address _____

If different than installation address

Make Check Payable To _____ If applying for Landscape Rebate Program, provide Rebate Number _____

Water Company _____ Water Company Account Number _____

How do you plan to install the graywater system?

☐ Self Installation ☐ Professional Installation by: _____

How did you hear about the program

Check all that apply

☐ Direct Mail ☐ Contractor/Landscape/Plumber ☐ Friend/Neighbor ☐ Home Water Survey

☐ Website ☐ City/Water Company ☐ Nursery/Retail ☐ Other

Rebate Amount

All applications issued a Notice to Proceed on or after July 1, 2019 are eligible for the \$200 rebate, or up to \$400 in **cost-sharing partner areas while funding remains**.^{*} Rebates are paid on a first-come, first-served basis and are only available until funds are depleted or June 30, 2020, whichever comes first.

^{*}Restrictions may apply. Please contact the Santa Clara Valley Water District by calling (408) 630-2554 or visiting www.valleywater.org/Graywater for more information on cost-sharing partner areas.

Once Application is Filled Out

Please submit completed application with the plan design, photos and current water bill to:

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Attention: Water Conservation
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118-3686

For questions regarding the Program Requirements, criteria, and/or general information, please call the Water Conservation Hotline at (408) 630-2554, Or email conservation@valleywater.org with the subject "Graywater Rebate Application."

For office use only

Rebate Number: _____ Pre-Inspection Date: _____

Application Received Date: _____ Notice to Proceed Date: _____

Project Due Date: _____ Post Inspection Date: _____

Post Inspectors: _____ Mulch Basin Square Footage Required (sf): _____

Rebate Issued: _____

Post Inspection Status: ☐ Complete ☐ Incomplete ☐ Disqualified

Terms and Conditions of the Graywater L2L Rebate Program

1. To be eligible for a rebate under the Santa Clara Valley Water District's ("District") Graywater L2L Rebate Program, I must install and operate a graywater system that meets the program requirements specified in this rebate application.
2. To ensure water savings are achieved, if I do receive a rebate from the District for the installation of an eligible graywater system, the graywater system must be maintained for a period of at least five years. If this requirement is violated, then I understand and agree to return the rebate to the District.
3. I will allow, if requested, a representative from the District or any District authorized third party reasonable access to my property before and after the installation of the graywater system. I understand a rebate will not be issued if I refuse to participate in any required verification that is scheduled within thirty (30) calendar days of District or its authorized third party contacting me. District or its authorized third party may contact the graywater system vendor and/or installer to verify purchase and/or installation of the graywater system, and may provide my name and/or address to third parties to complete this verification.
4. I certify that I will install and will maintain the graywater system in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, building codes, manufacturer's specifications, and permitting requirements.
5. DISTRICT MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY, AND ASSUMES NO LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE QUALITY, SAFETY, PERFORMANCE, OR OTHER ASPECT OF THE GRAYWATER SYSTEM OR ITS INSTALLATION, OPERATION OR PERFORMANCE, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY SUCH REPRESENTATION, WARRANTY OR LIABILITY. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the District, its employees, officers, directors, contractors and agents, from any liability, claims, suits, actions, arbitration proceedings, administrative proceedings, regulatory proceedings, losses, expenses or costs (including, without limitation, costs and fees of litigation) of any kind whatsoever without restriction or limitation, incurred in relation to, as a consequence of or arising out of or in any way attributable actually, allegedly or impliedly, in whole or in part, to the my participation in this Graywater L2L Rebate Program; provided that the foregoing indemnity does not apply to liability for any damage or expense for death or bodily injury to persons or damage to property to the extent arising from the sole negligence of the District.
6. I authorize my water retailer to provide my water use information to the District, and for the District to share the information I provide under the Graywater L2L Rebate Program with my water retailer.
7. I agree to adhere and properly perform all manufacturer recommended maintenance for the graywater system.
8. I understand that each graywater system rebate is \$200. The rebate amount is increased another \$200 to a total \$400 rebate in cost-sharing partner areas while funding remains. Please contact the Santa Clara Valley Water District for information on cost-sharing partners at (408) 630-2554 or visit www.valleywater.org/Graywater. Notwithstanding the foregoing, funding for the Graywater L2L Rebate Program is limited, subject to change, and available on a first come, first serve basis.
9. I understand that if I apply for multiple rebates that result in the issuance of total rebate amounts equal to or greater than \$600, the District will report the rebated amounts to the Internal Revenue Service and the State of California as taxable income.
10. The District reserves the right to terminate or adjust the Graywater L2L Rebate Program at any time.

I have read, understood, and agree to the terms and conditions of the Graywater L2L Rebate Program specified in this Rebate Application. I certify that the information I have provided is true and correct and that the graywater system for which I am seeking a rebate will meet the requirements of the Graywater L2L Rebate Program.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____