

2020 Maintenance Grant Application

Overview

The Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD) Stewardship Grant Program provided you with financial assistance to install a best management practice (BMP) on your property. The first two to three years after project installation are critical to making sure your project functions as designed and continues to thrive as intended. RWMWD offers grant funds to assist with that establishment period when the required maintenance is most intense.

Purpose

Maintenance grants may be used by public or private landowners for maintenance of rain gardens, shoreline restorations, habitat restorations, porous pavement and other water quality BMPs.

Available funds

The RWMWD will accept applications year-round until funds are gone. You are encouraged to apply early in the year. Maximum coverage amount is up to 50 percent of annual maintenance costs totaling no more than \$5,000 for up to five years after project installation. If your project was installed in 2019, then 2020 counts as Year 1.

Eligible Expenses

The RWMWD may offer to fund all of or a portion of your application. Maintenance grants reimburse a portion of your costs for materials and contractor labor. Your application must be approved by RWMWD before starting any work. Projects started or completed when submitted are not eligible. In-kind services will not be considered for matching contributions. This grant is not available for BMPs installed to meet permit requirements. If the grant is for multiple years, you must submit reimbursement requests to RWMWD annually, typically in the fall when work is complete for the season.

Selection Process

RWMWD staff will review and approve all applications. Complete applications can be submitted anytime for review. Allow up to seven days for review and approval. We may request changes to your proposed plan to better suit the needs of the program.

Maintenance Grant Application

Applicant Name	
Mailing Address	
City	Zip Code
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Project Address (if different from mailing address)	
City, Zip	
RWMWD Stewardship Grant Application Number or Year Project was Installed	
Estimated Annual Maintenance Cost	Total Amount Requested (for up to 5 years)
If a contractor will be doing the maintenance, provide contact information for your contractor and attach a copy of the contract or cost estimate.	
If you will be doing the work yourself, provide detail of your ongoing maintenance plan.	
Signature of Applicant. I certify the above information is true and accurate.	Date

Maintenance Grant F.A.Q.

Who can apply?

All residents, not-for-profit and religious organizations, governmental agencies, businesses and corporations, public and private schools within the RWMWD who have received funding for a Best Management Practice (BMP) installation.

Where do I submit the completed application or receipts for reimbursement?

Via email:
paige.ahlborg@rwmwd.org

Via US Mail:
Paige Ahlborg
Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
2665 Noel Drive
Little Canada, MN 55117

What types of projects are considered for the program?

Routine maintenance of projects installed through the RWMWD Stewardship Grant Program. This includes rain gardens, infiltration/filtration basins, underground treatment systems, porous pavement, shoreline restoration and habitat restoration.

What are considered eligible expenses?

- Routine maintenance work done by a contractor including weeding, sediment/debris removal, minor erosion repair, mulch and native plant replacement.
- Vacuum cleaning of porous pavement or underground treatment systems.
- Major repairs, tools, and in-kind services are not eligible expenses.
- Contact [Paige Ahlborg](#) at RWMWD if you have questions about eligible expenses.

Can I only replant with native plants?

RWMWD will only fund replacement of native plants, but you can install others on your own if you would like.

What percentage of cost share is offered?

Up to 50 percent of annual maintenance costs.

How long can I take to complete the project?

Maximum period of time to use grant funds is five years after project installation. Reimbursement requests must be submitted annually and cannot all be compiled until the final year of eligibility.

Do I have to do anything after approval?

Keep copies of all receipts for eligible materials needed to maintain your BMP, or copies of paid invoices to the hired contractor. Reimbursement requests can be submitted to RWMWD one time per year, typically in the fall when work is complete for the season.

Where do I look for a contractor?

If you hire a contractor to install your project, you may also request a bid for 2-3 years of maintenance. If you are seeking other options, you can download a supplier list on our website at: rwmwd.org/get-involved/stewardship-grants.

How do I estimate maintenance costs if I am planning to do the maintenance myself?

A typical residential rain garden costs about \$200 per year to have a contractor maintain. Contact RWMWD for assistance on estimating your total cost.