

Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program Policy

Section 1.0 Introduction

The Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District (“District” or “LPGCD”) has adopted this Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program Policy to promote water conservation by incentivizing the use of rainwater as an alternative to groundwater. This program is open to residents of Bastrop and Lee Counties and is administered as part of the District’s broader commitment to sustainable groundwater management.

Section 2.0 Purpose

The purpose of the Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program is to:

- Encourage the installation of rainwater harvesting systems;
- Reduce reliance on groundwater for outdoor and/or indoor use;
- Support the conservation goals outlined in the District’s Management Plan.

Section 3.0 Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for a rebate under this program, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- The applicant must reside in Bastrop or Lee County. If a property spans two counties, one of which is within the District, the applicant will qualify if they pay property or school taxes in the county located within the District.
- The applicant must attend a Rainwater Harvesting 101 Information Session hosted or approved by LPGCD.
- The rainwater harvesting system must be newly installed as referenced in Section 4.0 Rebate Process.
- The system must comply with all local, state, and federal regulations.

Section 4.0 Rebate Process

1. Attend a Rainwater Harvesting 101 Information Session.
2. Submit a completed Rebate Application Form provided by LPGCD.
3. Await written approval from LPGCD. Installation will not begin until written approval is received, unless previously negotiated with LPGCD.
4. Install the rainwater harvesting system.
5. Contact LPGCD to schedule a post-installation inspection.
6. Upon successful inspection, the rebate will be issued.

Section 5.0 Rebate Amounts

Rebates will be issued based on the storage capacity of the installed system at a rate of \$1.00 per gallon, with a maximum rebate of \$5,000 per applicant. All rebates are subject to availability of program funds.

Section 6.0 Program Conditions and Limitations

- Rebates are issued on a first-come, first-served basis until annual program funds are exhausted.
- Each property is eligible for only one rebate.
- LPGCD reserved the right to deny any application that does not meet program guidelines.
- Participation in the program does not exempt participants from any regulatory compliance requirements.
- Rebates may not be issued for systems installed before receiving written approval, unless previously negotiated with LPGCD.

Section 7.0 Recordkeeping and Reporting

LPGCD will maintain internal records of all applications, inspections, and rebate payments, and annual summary of rebates issued and gallons of storage capacity added through the program will be presented to the Board of Directors.

Section 8.0 Delegation of Authority

The Board of Directors delegates authority to the General Manager, the Education & Outreach Coordinator, and the Education & Outreach Committee to administer the Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program, including application review, inspection scheduling, and issuance of rebate payments.

Section 9.0 Contact Information

For questions about the Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program or to register for a Rainwater Harvesting 101 Information Session contact (512) 360-5088, emarks@lostpineswater.org, or www.lostpineswater.org.