



RAIN GARDEN REBATE APPLICATION FORM

In an effort to improve the quality of stormwater runoff and increase awareness of the importance of protecting our local streams and lakes, the City of Marion is promoting methods to capture and infiltrate stormwater in residential areas. Stormwater Best Management Practices, such as rain gardens can be used in residential yards to capture stormwater where it falls and allow it to infiltrate into the ground. These gardens reduce the amount of pollutants that runoff our yards and enter local waterways.

A rain garden is a depression or shallow bowl (6" to 9" deep) made in the landscape that captures rain from roofs, driveways and yards. Rain gardens must be designed to collect and contain rain water as opposed to allowing water to flow through it such a swale or ditch. Runoff that travels to a rain garden is temporarily ponded, but it doesn't stay there for long. Capturing runoff in a rain garden allows water to infiltrate into the soil rather than run into streets and storm drains. Rain gardens work best in well-drained soils, but even if the soil does not drain well it may still be possible to construct an enhanced rain garden with amended soils and draitile. Native plants and/or horticultural flowers must be incorporated into rain gardens as well. These plants provide food and habitat for pollinators, and their root systems help increase absorption and infiltration.

Rain garden design details can be found in the Iowa Rain Garden Design and Installation Manual:
<http://www.rainscapingiowa.org/images/stories/RI%20Rain%20Garden%20Design%20Manual.pdf>

Terms and Conditions

- Rebate covers 50% of the cost of rain garden project, up to a maximum reimbursement amount of \$1000. Limit of one pervious rain garden rebate per residential property. Items covered by the rebate are listed in the Program Procedures.
- Applicant must be a City of Marion utilities customer.
- Applicant is solely responsible for of purchase, installation, and maintenance of rain garden.
- Applications must be submitted and approved by the Engineering Department prior to making any purchases. Purchases made prior to approval may not qualify for rebate.
- Applications will be reviewed by City staff within 15 days.
- Project must be completed within 6 months of application approval.
- The approved application along with itemized and dated receipts must be submitted for rebate payment within 30 days of completion of the project.
- Rebate checks will be issued to the account holder unless otherwise established.
- Rebate will not be issued until rain garden is inspected by city staff to confirm that installation complies with submitted plans.
- Rebates may be subject to income tax. Consult your tax advisor for more information.
- Rebates are subject to the availability of funds.

The City of Marion makes no warranties, expressed or implied, with respect to any of the materials purchased, including, but not limited to, any warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. In no event shall the City of Marion be held liable for any incidental or consequential damages or injuries resulting from rain garden installation. The City of Marion reserves the right to cancel or change programs at any time. The City of Marion acceptance of an application does not guarantee payment of rebate or acceptance of financing.

Marion Rain Garden Rebate Program Procedures:

- 1) Identify flat areas of your yard down slope of roof drain downspouts and away from the foundation where gardens can be installed.
- 2) Contact Iowa One Call 1-800-292-8989 to have your yard flagged for utilities in the selected area.
- 3) Conduct a simple soil test: percolation test and ribbon test according to the Iowa Rain Garden Design and Installation Manual.
- 4) If the soils don't adequately drain, a rain garden may not be practical in your yard. Consider soil quality restoration and/or planting native plants in your flower gardens.
- 5) Once you have determined that soils adequately drain for a rain garden in your yard, develop a site plan. In order to qualify for the rebate, the garden must be able to treat an impervious area of at least 600 square feet. City staff can assist with plan review.
- 6) Complete the Rain Garden Rebate application and maintenance agreement (attached). Submit the application and signed maintenance agreement along with your site plan to the Marion Engineering Department at 1225 6th Avenue, Suite 200 (Marion City Hall).
- 7) The Marion Engineering Department will review the application and notify you when the application has been approved and you can proceed with construction of your rain garden.
- 8) Install your rain garden according to your site plan and the Iowa Rain Garden Design and Installation Manual.
- 9) The Marion Rain Garden Rebate can be used towards the purchase of the following:
 - a. Plants (at least 50% of the plants need to be native to Iowa)
 - b. Amended soil (50% sand, 30% compost, 20% yard topsoil-low clay content or purchase topsoil). This can be mixed by yourself onsite or delivered to your site by a local supplier. It is required to use a minimum of 6 inches of amended soil in the rain garden if choosing to amend the soil.
 - c. Edging (such as pavers, plastic, metal, or rocks)
 - d. Rental of a rototiller and/or sod cutter
 - e. Non-perforated (no slots or holes in pipe) drainage pipe
- 10) When construction of your rain garden is complete, contact the Marion Engineering Department at 743-6340 to schedule an inspection.
- 11) To get your rebate, complete the Proof of Purchase Form and provide receipts for the purchased materials and equipment rental to the Marion Engineering Department.
- 12) A check will then be mailed to you.

Submit this page along with site plan prior to making purchases. Failure to submit and get approved prior to making purchases may make purchases ineligible for the rebate.

RAIN GARDEN REBATE APPLICATION

Applicant Name _____

Address _____

Marion Utilities Account Number _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

How did you find out about the Rebate Program? _____

Soil Test Performed? Ribbon Test Percolation Test Soil Analysis

RAIN GARDEN DESIGN

Impervious area contributing to rain garden (minimum 500 square feet): _____ square feet

Select the approximate percolation rate based on your soils: 0.5"/hour 1"/hour

Desired depth of rain gardens: 6" 8" 9"

Based on percolation and depth, determine the rain garden surface area needed: _____ square feet

Rain garden area: Length: _____ feet Width: _____ feet

Attach a copy of your site plan showing location and configuration of rain garden.

After rain garden has been installed:

- Contact the Marion Engineering Department at 319-743-6340 to schedule an inspection
- Submit the Proof of Purchase form with receipts and original application form

CUSTOMER AGREEMENT

I certify that I am a customer of the City of Marion utilities, and that this rain garden will be constructed in the yard at the address specified above. I have read and agree to the Marion Rain Garden Rebate Program Terms and Conditions on this form. All statements made in this application are correct. I understand that the City of Marion reserves the right to inspect and verify rain garden installation prior to issuing rebate.

Customer Signature _____ Date _____

Complete this form and submit it for city approval along with the signed maintenance agreement. Do not make purchases associated with the project until confirmation of approval. Send materials to: City of Marion Stormwater BMP Rebate Program, 1225 6th Avenue, Suite 200, Marion, IA 52302.

For City of Marion Use Only

Date Submitted to City for Approval _____ Amount \$ _____ Account No. _____

Reviewed By _____ Date Approved by Engineering _____

Submit this page after project completion and within six months of having your application approved. Attach your original rebate application, copies of sales receipts, and a picture of the completed project.

MARION RAIN GARDEN REBATE - PROOF OF PURCHASE FORM

Date	Description	Amount
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
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_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____