



# Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate Conservation Landscaping Pre-approval Guidelines



**Conservation Landscaping** is a new practice covered under Rain Check Rebate. A conservation landscape is a native plant garden that improves water quality, promotes and preserves plant species, and increases wildlife habitat. There are three tracks: (1) Native Plant Landscape, (2) Edible Conservation Landscaping, and (3) Reforestation and Meadow Creation.

This document serves as a guideline for obtaining pre-approval of conservation landscaping projects. For more detailed information, please refer to the Rain Check Rebate Conservation Landscaping Fact Sheet and Guidelines: <https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/Fact-Sheet-and-Guidelines-Conservation-Landscaping-1-10-25-1.pdf>.

## **Pre-approval Requirements for Conservation Landscaping**

1. In-person site visit with the Trust staff.
2. Sketch of the proposed design that includes the items below:
  - Existing structures (e.g., buildings, trees, driveways, etc.)
  - Estimated square footage (minimum size is 250 sq. ft.)
  - Species and proposed location of each plant

*\*Example sketches are included on the second page of these guidelines\**
3. Plant list that includes native species, quantities, and sizes. Plant density requirements are as follows:
  - Plugs: 6 inches on center
  - Perennials or mini shrubs: 2 feet on center
  - Large perennials or grasses: 2 to 4 feet on center
  - Shrubs: 4 to 6 feet on center
  - Small to medium trees: 10 to 12 feet on center
4. Land cover conversion/change details:
  - Description of existing land cover (practice must replace non-native turf grass, eroding soil, invasive plants, and/or hard surfaces like a driveway).
  - Method for how project will be implemented (how existing cover will be removed and replanted).
5. *Only Track 3- Reforestation and Meadow Creation Requirements:*
  - Minimum size is 1,000 sq. ft.
  - Applicants must attend a class prior to project pre-approval.

## **Additional Guidance**

- Projects cannot be located in the County right-of-way, and projects located in front yard must be bordered with a fence, hedge, edging, or mowed strip.
- All plants must be Mid-Atlantic native species, or non-native, noninvasive edibles for Track 2.

