



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. Photos of the proposed project site
5. 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).
6. *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.

If you have any questions, please contact the Rain Check Rebate Team at rebate@cbtrust.org.

Example Conservation Landscaping Sketches from Previously Completed Projects

