

Waterwise Verge Incentive Scheme

Information sheet

Overview

This scheme aims to support councils to promote the creation of low water use waterwise verge gardens in their communities.

For councils that offer residents a rebate or incentive to create a waterwise verge garden, we will match the contribution by the council per verge.

To be eligible councils must meet the following criteria:

- Be an endorsed Waterwise Council.
- Promote a verge policy that is consistent with good practice or better, as outlined in the Waterwise verge best practice guidelines.
- Offer a program to incentivise residents to create a low water use garden verges.



Details

Councils can apply for funding to match their contribution per residential verge e.g. if the council offers a \$500 rebate scheme, we would reimburse the council \$250 per verge. Or if the cost to the council to supply mulch, soil amendment and plants for a residential verge was \$400, we would reimburse the council up to \$200 per verge. Each council can apply for funding up to a maximum amount of \$10,000 per year.

To apply for the scheme a council must provide the following.

- Evidence of the verge incentive program promoted by the council.
- A breakdown of how the cost of each verge is calculated.
- Key information about the verge garden including;
 - Residential address
 - Date of installation
 - Before and after photos (to be used for promotional purposes)
 - Permission from the resident to monitor water use and take photos of garden once established.

This scheme will be offered for a period of 3 years, pending an annual review and funding availability.

Key dates

Each council will be eligible to apply for the scheme in two funding rounds in 2016/17

1. For gardens established in Winter/Spring 2016 (1st July 2016 – 30th November 2016). Applications for funding for gardens established in this period will open in December 2016.
2. For gardens established Autumn/Winter 2017 (1st April 2017 – 30th June 2017). Applications for funding for gardens established in this period will open in July 2017.

Councils are only eligible to apply for the scheme after the verge installation has been completed and we are satisfied the verge garden meets the criteria for the scheme.

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Register

To register your interest in the Waterwise Verge Incentive Scheme please contact Lauren Waite, Water Efficiency Programs Officer, on 9420 2572 or email water.efficiency@watercorporation.com.au.

Please note that funding available for the Scheme is limited each year and will be offered to eligible councils on a first come first serve basis.