

City of Manteca – Public Works Department

Design Requirements

Before you complete the application for this program, you must read and understand these [Design Requirements](#) as well as the [Terms and Conditions](#) and the [Process Guidelines](#).

Complete your [application](#) for the Lawn-to-Garden (L2G) Incentive program and submit for approval. The design MUST include the six (6) items discussed on the following page.

Remember: You have NOT yet been approved for funding. You cannot be approved until PWD approves the design of your new landscape. So IF you begin work on your new landscape before the design is approved, you do so prior to a commitment from PWD to provide an incentive.

The design you submit to us is the design that must be installed. For example, PWD will not be required to make the L2G payment if the installed landscape is not the same as the approved design. Read carefully the [Terms and Conditions](#) for more information.

A professionally-drawn design is NOT required: A simple, hand-drawn design is fine, using circles to show where bushes will go, and the like. PWD assumes most of the designs submitted to us will be simple pencil drawings done by your typical homeowner. The drawing must show enough detail to illustrate the overall project design.

If, after reading these requirements, you have any questions about what is required, please contact us at waterconservation@ci.manteca.ca.us, or call us at (209) 456-8463.

The Irrigation System

You are not required to show the irrigation system in your drawing. The irrigation system, if there is one, MUST be water-efficient. Examples of water-efficient irrigation systems include:

- Drip irrigation
- Bubblers for shrubs and trees
- Rotating sprinklers rated at emitting less than one gallon of water per minute
- Pressure regulators, allowing no more pressure than recommended by the manufacturer of the drip system (usually about 10 to 15 psi) or the rotating sprinklers (usually about 35 psi)
- Separate valves for each part of the landscape (known as ‘hydro zones’) that needs a different watering schedule

Inefficient irrigation systems include traditional fan-spray type sprinklers. PWD may verify the efficiency of the irrigation system during its final inspection, prior to payment of the Lawn-to-Garden incentive.

What to Include in Your Design

As previously mentioned, the drawing can be done by a non-professional and by hand. Although the drawing does not have to be at a high level of detail, it should show enough detail to illustrate the overall project design.

Your drawing must comply with the following:

1. The top-right corner of each page you submit MUST include the street address of the project, so we are able to match your drawing with your application
2. Your drawing MUST show exactly where the new landscape will be in relation to large, existing fixtures such as the street, sidewalk, driveway, home, and the like.

In addition to showing these large existing features, the drawing must provide the measurements (or size) of the area to be re-landscaped, in square feet. These measurements should add up to no more square feet than the number of square feet you entered on your application. If you are approved for an incentive payment, the payment cannot be for more landscape than was approved on your application.

3. Your drawing MUST label the plants that you will put in the new landscape, AND you must state if the plants are from the two websites listed below.

If the full names of the plants will not fit on the drawing, feel free to use a code for the plants on the drawing, adding the associated plant names on a separate piece of paper.

Only drought-tolerant plants may be installed as part of this landscape project. Refer to the City's already approved [list](#) of landscape or www.bewaterwise.com for help selecting the right plants.

All plants referenced on the above two sources are acceptable plants, with the exception of turf looking grasses. If you choose to install plants that are NOT on either of these two sources, the plants you choose MUST be pre-approved by the PWD.

Your Drawing MUST state which option you will commit to:

Option 1: That all the plants shown on your drawing are among the drought-tolerant plants showcased on the City's [list](#) and/or www.bewaterwise.com; or

Option 2: NOT all the plants on your drawing are showcased on the referenced. If you choose Option #2, you MUST submit with the drawing printouts from the [Water Use Classification of Landscape Species \(WUCOLS\)](#) website showing that the plants are rated as "Low" or "Very Low" when grown in the Central Valley region.

4. Your drawing **MUST** show that plant material will cover at least 65% of the newly landscaped area.

Your new landscape **MUST** be designed such that it can reasonably be assumed that at least 65-percent of the site will be covered with plant material by the time the plants are mature, or within two years, whichever is sooner. This reasonable assumption will be made at the sole discretion of PWD. An example of what is **NOT** acceptable: a new landscape that is almost entirely graveled, containing few if any living plants.

5. 100% of the new landscape **MUST** be covered with materials such as plants, compost and mulch, and permeable hardscape.

Examples of permeable hardscape include pavers and brick set on a bed of sand, where no mortar or grout has been used.

If not covered by permeable hardscape or plant material, your new landscape must be completely covered by at least a 2-inch layer of mulch. Acceptable mulch includes rock, compost, bark and other organic material.

In other words, there can be no bare soil or installation of non-permeable (material water cannot easily penetrate) hardscape such as a concrete patio or walkway.

6. If you are re-landscaping your parkway, it must meet all of the requirements of the City of Manteca Municipal Code.

Designing a landscape for your parkway can be especially challenging. Compliance with the City of Manteca Municipal Code is one of the criteria for final approval and is your responsibility. You should read the applicable section of the code in its entirety.

7. Your drawing must **NOT** include any turf grass as part of the rebate. No turf grass or turf-looking grass (such as Buffalo Grass) is allowed in the newly landscaped site, but if drawing has turf to be installed, it will be deducted from the credit applied for removing existing turf.

Synthetic turf is allowed and must be installed per industry standards. Description of installation must be submitted prior to approval of synthetic turf application, and proper installation will be verified at final inspection.