



PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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RAINWATER HARVESTING GRANT PROGRAM

The Rainwater Harvesting Grant Program is intended for public or community locations that demonstrate rainwater harvesting (RWH) as a sustainable water conservation practice. This program is designed to raise public awareness of water-saving practices by showcasing real examples within the community. These systems also serve as educational tools that engage the public and reinforce the District's mission of conserving groundwater.

Through this initiative, the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (PGCD) seeks to highlight practical system designs that showcase the benefits of capturing and using rainwater for non-potable purposes while providing educational value in public settings

Program Overview & Eligibility

- The system must be installed in a **public or community space** located within Ellis, Hill, Johnson, or Somervell County.
- Projects must be **publicly accessible** and **include educational signage** highlighting the benefits of rainwater harvesting and gallons of water saved.
- Eligible projects may receive funding **up to 85% of approved project costs**, subject to available funding. Awards are made on a **first-come, first-served basis**.

Application Process & Instructions

1. **Submit a completed application package that includes:**
 - Completed grant application form
 - Photos and/or diagrams of the proposed project site
 - Proposal(s) or quote(s) for the proposed cistern(s) tank(s), and related equipment
2. **Following grant approval and installation of the system:**
 - a. **Submit proof of purchase, installation, and any other documentation required for reimbursement, and**
Schedule a post-installation inspection with District staff.

Grant Program Agreement

These terms and conditions are intended to ensure fair and effective administration of the Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) Grant Program. By applying, the applicant acknowledges and agrees to the following:

- **Plan Approval:** Proposed projects must receive approval from PGCD **before equipment is purchased or installation begins**. Purchases made or work performed prior to PGCD approval may not be eligible for reimbursement.
- **Application Completeness:** Applications must be submitted in full and are subject to verification, approval, and availability of funds.
- **Funding Availability:** Eligible projects may receive grant funding up to **85% of approved project costs**. Funding is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, and is subject to approval and availability of budgeted funds.
- **Verification and Inspection:** PGCD reserves the right to verify information submitted with an application and inspect the completed rainwater harvesting system to confirm compliance with program requirements. Funding is contingent upon the project being completed substantially as approved by PGCD and satisfying all applicable program requirements.
- **Program Changes:** PGCD reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify the Grant Program, its requirements, or available funding, or to suspend or discontinue the program at any time.
- **Rainwater Use:** Rainwater may be used for **potable purposes** and for **outdoor landscape irrigation**, subject to the following requirements:
 - **Potable Use:** Systems intended for potable use must include treatment (e.g., filtration and disinfection) capable of producing water that meets applicable drinking-water standards and comply with all federal, state (e.g., TCEQ), and local codes and permits.
 - **Cross-Connection Control:** Unapproved cross-connections with a public water supply or private well are prohibited. Any permitted interconnection must include appropriate cross-connection protection in accordance with applicable requirements.
 - **Labeling and Operations & Maintenance:** Potable and non-potable outlets must be clearly identified, as applicable. The system owner is responsible for appropriate operation and maintenance of the system and its treatment components.
 - **Applicant Responsibility:** The applicant is responsible for all required testing, operation, maintenance, permitting, and ongoing compliance with applicable health, plumbing, building, and other regulatory requirements.
- **Tank Base:** Tanks/cisterns must be installed on a **level, properly compacted base** made of materials capable of supporting the tank or cistern at **full capacity**.
- **Signage & Public Education:** Funded projects must include informational signage as part of the project's educational component. Signage should:
 - Identify the project as participating in the Prairielands GCD Rainwater Harvesting Grant Program;
 - Describe the purpose and benefits of rainwater harvesting;

- Identify the system's storage capacity and estimated annual rainwater collection potential;
- Describe the estimated water savings or reduction in demand on other water supplies, as applicable; and
- Include the PGCD logo and website information so visitors can learn more about water conservation efforts.

Reasonable signage costs may be considered an eligible reimbursable project expense if included in the approved project proposal.