



Water Conservation Program

ROOTED IN TEXAS – NATIVE TREE REBATE

GUIDELINES

Why Texas Native trees? Planting a native tree offers a multitude of benefits that go beyond that it's simply the tree best suited for our climate—which it is! Natives also are the foundation of the local food web, essential host plants providing food and shelter for local wildlife, have deep root systems to reduce water needs and help manage stormwater, and once established, require little to no special pampering.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY:

- Applicant must be a direct City of Round Rock water customer & compliant with Year Round Watering Rules.
- Pre-approval is required. Contact us at waterconservation@roundrocktexas.gov to share your plans.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

1. **A mandatory pre-inspection** will determine if the tree is an approved species and your space is ample for it; meaning not too close to the house, not under telephone wires, etc. We will ask for a picture of the potential planting spot or come to visit the site. We will conduct the pre-inspection within five business days.
2. **Only Texas Native trees suitable for our ecoregion will be approved.** Round Rock is in Williamson County, which is split between the **Edwards Plateau**, West of IH-35 and **Texas Blackland Prairie**, East of IH-35.

Find Texas trees best suited to your side of IH-35 using the following resources:

1. Native Plant Society of Texas-Williamson County Chapter's searchable database: www.wilcoscape.org
 2. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center list "[Texas-Central Recommended](http://www.wildflower.org/plants)" tree. Use link or search at www.wildflower.org/plants
 3. Texas Tree Planting Guide from Texas A&M Forest Service: www.texastreeplanting.tamu.edu. Use the custom tree selector feature.
 4. Native Plant Society of Texas' Austin Area plant list: [NPSOT Austin List 20.0615.pdf](https://www.nps.org/visiting/visiting-austin/visiting-austin-plant-list)
3. **Trees that WILL NOT be approved.** There are a few specific trees that will not be approved for this rebate, no matter if they appear on one of the plant lists mentioned above or not. Denied trees include Crepe Myrtle, Vitex, and any Magnolia due to their aggressive nature, incompatibility with our soils, or high water needs.
 4. **Buying your new tree.** Purchasing from a local nursery is advantageous, as the tree is grown locally. National chain stores generally grow their plants in other parts of the country and ship them here, which can cause a lot of stress to the plant, as it's not acclimated to our weather. The City's Landscape webpage has a list of local nurseries that offer the great selections of Texas trees. Find that at www.roundrocktexas.gov/landscaping. It is not a requirement that you purchase from one of these nurseries.
 5. **New Texas Native tree must be planted between November 1 – March 31.** Winter is the best time for planting trees in Central Texas. The tree can focus on establishing roots while temperatures are cool. Growth will happen below the ground that first year after planting; do not be surprised if the tree does not grow much taller. Trees planted outside of this winter window will not be approved.
 6. **Plant it properly, for the best success.** Find tree planting instructions using the Texas Tree Planting Guide from Texas A&M Forest Service: <https://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/TreePlantingTools.html> Use "the best way to plant your tree" feature.

7. **How often and where to water.** Water thoroughly once per week. New trees generally need 5-10 gallons per inch of diameter of the trunk. *See the chart to the right for what this means.* Hand watering or allowing a hose to slowly trickle at the dripline is best. Watering at or on the trunk is not advised, that's not where the roots are.

Size of Tree	Water Needs
Diameter (inches)	Gallons per week
0-5	1-5
6-10	10-20
11-15	30-45
16-20	60-80
21-25	100-125
26-30	150-180
31-35	210-245
36-40	280-320
41-45	360-405
46+	450+

REBATE DETAILS:

- Pre-approval is required. Contact us at waterconservation@roundrocktexas.gov to ensure you qualify.
- Native Tree must be a **minimum of 5-gallon size**; up to two trees may be applied to the rebate.
- New tree must be mulched to a depth of 3-4 inches. Mulch can be purchased or use free mulch from the City's brush recycling center. Mulch should not touch the tree trunk, and mulch ring should be 3-ft minimum from the tree trunk. *See graphics below.*
- Rebate amount is 50% of cost of new tree and native hardwood mulch purchased (*not including sales tax or delivery fees*) up to a maximum amount of \$500. You may reapply annually.
- Rubber mulch, dyed mulch, artificial plants or turf, rocks, and landscape fabric or weed barriers **are not permitted around the new tree. Projects with these items will be denied.**
- Submit applicable tree and mulch purchase receipts, application, and a picture of the installed tree within 90-days of purchase date.
- A final inspection may be scheduled.
- A rebate check will be mailed 2-4 weeks after the final inspection.

Plant Your Tree Properly

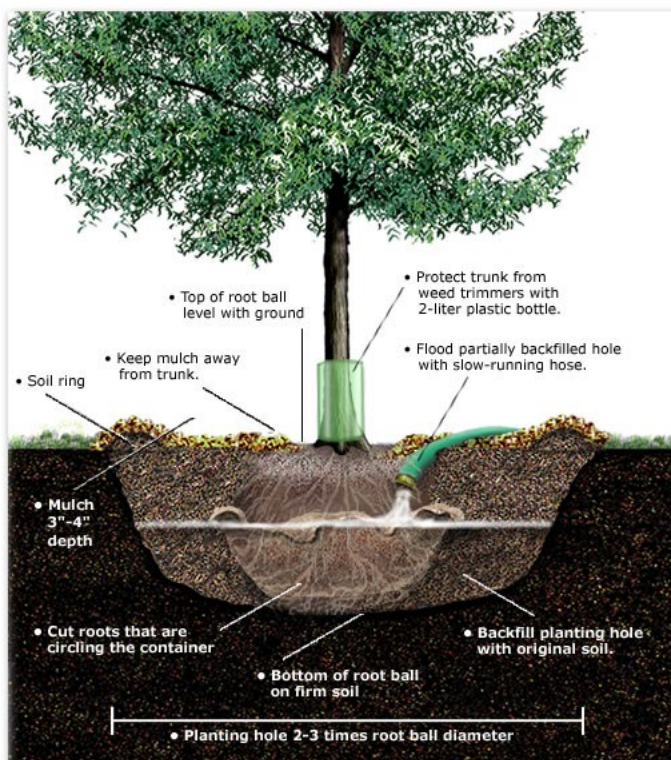


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Water Conservation Program

ROOTED IN TEXAS – NATIVE TREE REBATE APPLICATION

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

1. Read the Program Guidelines to ensure eligibility.
2. Pre-approval is required. Contact waterconservation@roundrocktexas.gov to schedule.
3. Submit application and receipts within 90 days of material purchase.
4. A final inspection may be conducted.
5. A rebate check will be mailed 2-4 weeks after final inspection.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name on water utility bill: _____ Water CID-Account #: _____

Tree Installation Address: _____ Zip: _____

Rebate Mailing Address (if different than above): _____

Best Contact Email Address: _____

Best Contact Phone Number: _____ Are you able to receive a text message? Yes | No

What species of tree did you plant? (ex: Desert Willow or Red Bud)	What size tree? (minimum of 5 gallon)	How Many? (1 or 2)	Cost of the tree	Rebate (not including delivery fee or sales tax)	Total Rebate Amount*
				50% of price	
				50% of price	
If you purchased MULCH, include the cost here:				50% of price	

Total Rebate _____
(*not to exceed \$500)

Please sign to confirm you have read and agree to the Program Guidelines listed on Page 1 of this application.

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

SUBMIT APPLICATION AND ITEMIZED RECEIPT(S) AND PICTURE OF INSTALLED TREE TO:

Email: waterconservation@roundrocktexas.gov

Fax: 512-255-6911

Mail: Water Conservation, 3400 Sunrise Road, Round Rock, TX 78665

QUESTIONS? Contact the Conservation Team at 512-671-2872 or email waterconservation@roundrocktexas.gov

CITY USE ONLY		
Application # _____	Rebate Amount _____	Approved ____ Acct # 20040000-5422
Inspection Date _____	Date Rebate Issued _____	Finance Approval _____