

Dear RainWise Contractors,

Welcome to the September 2016 edition of our RainWise Contractor Newsletter! The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with important program updates and event announcements.

Included in this newsletter are a number of program changes and clarifications: a new form to increase customer understanding of rebate requirements, clarification about the eligibility of properties built after 1979, and an update to the rebate package to capture language preferences. Please also join us at one of our many upcoming events!

Seattle Public Utilities and King County greatly appreciate the work you are doing to help us reduce sewer overflows and keep pollutants out of our waterways. Thank you!

Best regards,



Laura Cacho, Program Manager

IMPORTANT UPDATE: A New Form!

Enclosed with this newsletter is a new form: "Before RainWise Construction Begins – Customer Understanding". **Starting on October 1, 2016, you will be required to ask your customers to complete this form.** You will then need to send it in with your pre-inspection request or with your "Notice of RainWise Project" pre-inspection waiver.

The purpose of this form is to **make sure the customer understands and is comfortable with the "fine print" of the RainWise rebate** (e.g. the tax status). RainWise staff frequently receive calls from upset customers who did not know about the taxability of the rebate or understand the five year maintenance requirement prior to construction. They feel deceived, and, even if they love their RainWise project, it leaves them with a bad feeling about the program. While we are making a greater effort to talk about these program elements at our RainWise events, customers can find out about RainWise in numerous different ways and may not speak with our staff before they contact you. This form ensures that, before too much time and money is invested, the customer has full knowledge of what they are signing up for.

Note: SPU/King County continue to lobby the the Federal government to change the tax status of green infrastructure incentives.

Eligibility of Properties Built After 1979

Due to stormwater code requirements at the time of construction, **properties built or remodeled after 1979 may have infiltration facilities already on-site which make them ineligible for RainWise.** Be sure to look at the side sewer cards (<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/sideseewercardsv2/>) and site plans and permits (<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/>) available through the City of Seattle's website to ensure there are no on-site flow control facilities. You will also need to share this information with your inspector at pre-inspection. If you do a pre-inspection waiver and an existing infiltration facility is discovered at post-inspection, your customer will not receive his/her rebate.

ASK AN INSPECTOR?

Q What do inspectors expect to see on a RainWise project site plan?

A RainWise site plans can be hand drawn or done on a computer. All site plans should:

- Include a North arrow;
- Show the correct house shape and measurements;
- Show which areas of the roof are being captured;
- Identify the location(s) of RainWise feature(s);
- Show the location of downspouts and side sewer connections;
- Indicate piping to cistern, side sewer, and rain garden, as appropriate.

If you are asked to update a site plan, please do so as soon as possible. Information requested at pre-inspection needs to be in before requesting a post-inspection. Have more questions about site plans? Want to see some examples? Contact us at rainwise@seattle.gov.

Contact Us

- For general questions about the program: rainwise@seattle.gov
- To schedule a pre- or post-inspection: inspectionrequest@seattle.gov or call 206-684-0100
- For questions about an installation or a specific property, please contact your Seattle Public Utilities or King County RainWise inspector.

Join Us and Meet New Customers

We have a busy few months ahead! Please attend these events to meet new customers and grow your business.

You can also join us at the Capitol Hill (9/18), Columbia City (9/21, 10/12), and University District (11/19) Farmers' Markets!

To sign-up, contact organizer or visit: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4daaf2fa5fc1-rainwise>

Optional Contractor Training: Working with Big Roofs

Are you interested in working with churches, apartment buildings, and other big roof projects? Come learn more about the process for working with these properties.

Oct 15 at 10am - 11am

Highland Park Improvement Club
1116 SW Holden St, Seattle, WA 98136

We hope you will attend the training and stay for the Contractor Fair!

RSVP: 206-678-2604 or sonja@urbansystemsdesign.com

Craft3's RainWise Pilot Access Loan is still available!

Contractors approved for a Craft3 loan can get up to 50% of the estimated rebate amount after pre-inspection and then the remaining amount after project completion. Craft3 charges a small fee to cover their expenses. **Be sure to sign up soon! The one-time initial underwriting fee is being waived for a limited time.** Visit www.Craft3.org/RainWise.

If you no longer want to be part of the RainWise Program, please email rainwise@seattle.gov.

Sept 14 at 7pm - 8:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Ballard Homestead 6541 Jones Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98107

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-745-2592, rain@sustainableballard.org

Sept 21 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Montlake Community Center 1618 E Calhoun St, Seattle WA 98112

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-745-2592, rain@sustainableballard.org

Sept 22 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Columbia Branch Library 4721 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118

Organizer: Susan Harper, 206-386-9139, susan.harper@seattle.gov

Sept 27 at 7pm - 8:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Our Redeemers Lutheran Church 2400 NW 85th St, Seattle WA 98117

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-745-2592, rain@sustainableballard.org

Oct 5 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Rainier Beach Community Center 8825 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118

Organizer: Susan Harper, 206-386-9139, susan.harper@seattle.gov

Oct 11 at 7pm - 8:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Keystone Congregational Church 5019 Keystone Pl N, Seattle WA 98103

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-745-2592, rain@sustainableballard.org

Oct 15 at 11am - 2pm: RainWise Contractor Fair

Highland Park Improvement Club 1116 SW Holden St, Seattle, WA 98136

Organizer: Jo Sullivan, 206-477-5528, jo.sullivan@kingcounty.gov

Oct 19 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

NE Seattle Library 6801 35th Ave NE, Seattle WA 98115

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-745-2592, rain@sustainableballard.org

Oct 20 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Columbia Branch Library 4721 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118

Organizer: Susan Harper, 206-386-9139, susan.harper@seattle.gov

Oct 26 at 7pm - 8:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

Phinney Neighborhood Center 6532 Phinney Ave N, Seattle WA 98103

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-745-2592, rain@sustainableballard.org

The many languages of our customers

RainWise outreach staff and consultants have been working hard to make sure customers who speak and read languages other than English can access RainWise.

Therefore, we have included a new section on the RainWise rebate form to record language preferences.

This form can be found on the 'Contractor Resources' page of the website: <http://www.700milliongallons.org/rainwise/contractor-resources/>. Please be sure to download this form and to make note of your customers' written and spoken languages.



Know someone who wants to be a RainWise contractor? The next training is Nov 1st, 3rd, and 5th. <http://rainwisefalltraining.brownpapertickets.com/>