With every storm, rain carries pollutants off our roofs, driveways and other hard surfaces to local creeks, Lake Washington and Puget Sound. During big storms, the sheer volume of this “stormwater” can cause sewer overflows, and erode hillsides and stream banks. RainWise rain gardens and cisterns can manage this runoff with your help.

RainWise is a rebate program that helps eligible* property owners manage stormwater by installing rain gardens and/or cisterns on private property. This prevents flooding, adds attractive landscaping, and can provide water for summer irrigation.

- Over 2,000 projects completed in Seattle
- Project cost can be covered up to 100%
- Average residential rebate amount is $4,400

Get RainWise with your neighbors!
When you and your neighbors choose the same contractor, the process can be more cost-effective for everyone....and more stormwater will be managed on site. Win-win! Contact us and we will help you organize a “cluster” project.

What your neighbors are saying about RainWise:

- “People walk by all the time and comment on our rain garden. It’s wonderful to know that they also are helping Puget Sound — a win-win.”
- “I am thrilled to be a part of Seattle’s RainWise program and doing what I can to help our Sound.”
- “With my cisterns, I can use the water in my garden during the summer and help manage stormwater in the winter!”

*To receive a rebate, you must live in an eligible combined sewer overflow (CSO) basin. Rebate varies from $3-4 per square foot of roof area captured, with a minimum of 400 square feet required for the rebate.
How does a RainWise cistern work?

A cistern is a large, above-ground container used to collect roof water. It is like a huge rain barrel and can hold 200 or more gallons. During the winter, RainWise cisterns collect rain and slowly release it to the sewer system. In the summer, the water can be collected and used for watering.

RainWise cisterns are especially equipped to let water trickle out slowly during the winter months. This ensures the cistern empties after each storm and is ready to fill during the next rainfall.

Cisterns come in several shapes, sizes and colors.

How do RainWise rain gardens work?

A rain garden is a shallow depression containing spongy soil and a variety of plants. It collects water from your roof downspout and allows it to slowly soak into the ground. The soil and plants act as a natural filter, cleaning the water before it enters the ground or a nearby waterway.

Rain gardens can include a variety of plants and a design of your choosing.

FAQ

How much will my rebate be?

Your rebate will be based on the square footage of roof area being managed. A consultation with a contractor will include an estimate of the rebate amount and a discussion of options available for your property. Your final cost (if any) will be the total project cost, minus the rebate amount. RainWise rebates cover 60-100% of project costs and are considered taxable under federal law.
South Seattle RainWise Contractors

Ready to get RainWise? Curious to learn more? Consult with a RainWise contractor to find out what’s possible on your property!

Steps to becoming RainWise:

1. Check eligibility:
   Use our eligibility map at rainwise.seattle.gov.

2. Contact contractors**:
   Choose contractors from the list we’ve provided to the right.

3. Your contractor will handle pre-inspection, build, and post-inspection.

4. Get your rebate!
   Submit your rebate package and receive your rebate within 6-8 weeks.

Want inspiration?
Check out installations on our website at rainwise.seattle.gov!

Visit rainwise.seattle.gov for tips on maintenance, resources and more!

FAQ

How do I choose a contractor?
It’s kind of like choosing a roofer or plumber — who do you want to work with? Check their websites and references, get suggestions from neighbors, have a consultation with more than one and see whose ideas and pricing fit best for you. These contractors went through our RainWise Orientation, and are licensed, bonded and insured. Please evaluate them on their experience.

**The City of Seattle, King County, and their outreach consultants are not endorsing any specific business/contractor/vendor or making any representation or warranty regarding their qualifications, products, or workmanship. The City, County, and their outreach consultants disclaim any liability that may be alleged to arise from the work of any business/contractor/vendor on a customer project.

Acer Gardens
(206) 747-4746
acergardening.wa@gmail.com
www.acergardening.com

Hop Gardening
(425) 306-1380

Justin’s Landscaping
(206) 390-1463
www.justinlandscaping.business.site

Kat with a K Landscaping
(206) 850-2609
katwithaklandscaping@gmail.com
www.katslandscaping.com

Dynamic Waters
(360) 545-3110
dynamicwaterpnw@gmail.com

Lacewing Fine Gardening &
Botanical Design
(206) 319-8659
britt@lacewingseattle.com
www.lacewingseattle.com

Liang’s Construction
(206) 501-0292

Lumo Landscape
(206) 349-7092
lumolandscape@gmail.com
www.lumolandscape.com

Rain Dog Designs
(253) 389-2060
David@raindogdesigns.com
www.raindogdesigns.com/wordpress

Regeneration Landscaping
206-473-0621
andrewlong@regenlandscaping.com
www.regenlandscaping.com

Sky Landscaping Services
425-260-7968

Stone Soup Gardens
(206) 661-7628
gardenergnome@gmail.com
www.stonesoupgardens.com

Thriving Garden Design
(206) 326-9732
thrivegardening.com
www.thriving-garden.com

Zhen Xin Chen
(206) 319-8011

Types of installations offered:

- = rain gardens
- = rain gardens + cisterns
- = cisterns
- = can do hardscape and/or construction

S = Habla Español
V = Nói Tiếng Việt
C = 说广东话
M = 说普通话
South Seattle is getting RainWise!

Plan an outing to check out some rain garden and cistern installations. These RainWise installations are all part of the RainWise Big Roof Program. Please respect their property and observe from the sidewalk only.

These installations are located in an area that is no longer eligible for RainWise.

A. Our Lady of Guadalupe School 3401 SW Myrtle St
B. Barton Court Apartments 9021 35th Ave SW
C. Peace Lutheran Church 8316 39th Ave SW
D. Fauntleroy Schoolhouse 9131 California Ave SW
E. Brace Point Pottery 4208 SW 100th St
F. Seattle Gospel Assembly 10005 42nd Ave SW

These installations are located in areas that are eligible for RainWise.

1. Noise w/o Sound 8112 Dallas Ave S
2. South Park Fourplex 1051 S Sullivan St
3. South Park Apartments 1004 S Cloverdale
4. Oromo Church of God Prophecy 850 S Cloverdale St
5. Highland Park Improvement Club 1116 SW Holden St
6. Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene 8600 9th Ave SW
7. Highland Park Elementary 1012 SW Trenton St
8. Highland Park United Methodist Church 9001 9th Ave SW
9. Young’s Restaurant 9413 16th Ave SW
10. New Hope Academy/Al Noor Mosque 9403 18th Ave SW
11. Learning Way School & Day Care 9202 21st Ave SW
12. Holy Family Parish 9615 20th Ave SW

The lines on the map above mark the areas that are eligible for RainWise rebates. Other areas of the City are also eligible – indicated in yellow at the left. Tell your friends to check their eligibility at rainwise.seattle.gov .

For more information, visit rainwise.seattle.gov. Contact us at rainwise@seattle.gov.