UGRA Rainwater System Grant Program Guidelines

Effective 11/16/22

Program Overview

UGRA is promoting water conservation and management of stormwater runoff by providing a matching grant reimbursement from $5,000 to $15,000 to fund rainwater catchment systems in Kerr County. The program is open to all nonprofit organizations, schools, and public entities interested in initiating a rainwater catchment system or expanding a current system in Kerr County. Applicants can request a maximum of 75% of the project cost up to $15,000. A panel will evaluate and review the applications against program criteria in order to determine if the project will be funded. See Exhibit B for evaluation criteria.

UGRA will accept applications on a continuous basis, and they will be reviewed by the panel quarterly during the months of January, April, July, and October. Applicants who are not selected for the grant will have the option to have their application rolled over to the next quarter for evaluation as long as the project continues to meet eligibility requirements.

Program Guidelines and Eligibility (See Exhibit A for application)

1. The rainwater catchment system must be located in Kerr County, Texas.

2. The grant funding can be used to reimburse the cost of a proposed rainwater catchment system or additions/enhancements to an existing system to increase its capacity.

3. The rainwater catchment system must capture at least 5,000 gallons of rainwater.

4. The applicant must be a nonprofit organization, school, or public entity.

5. Applications will be received on a continuous basis. Complete applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the UGRA Outreach and Education Committee four times annually. Recommendations for funding will be made to the UGRA Board during the next regular board meeting following the committee's quarterly evaluation (January, May, August, November). All applicants will be notified of the Board's decision. UGRA's Board of Directors will determine which application(s) are approved, if any. The amount of grant funds allocated to any approved application is based on the availability of budgeted funds for the Program. UGRA disclaims any representation that budgeted funds will remain available for each quarterly evaluation.

6. The applicant must use the rainwater catchment system to promote water conservation to the public, conduct water conservation education outreach programs, or otherwise provide water conservation benefits to the general public.

7. Priority will be given to systems that maximize reduction in stormwater runoff (e.g. systems that intercept rainfall that would have otherwise been directed onto impervious surfaces).

8. After an application has been approved for funding by the Board, the applicant and UGRA will be required to enter into a binding contract setting forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which UGRA will reimburse to the applicant a maximum of 75% of the costs of the project cost up to $15,000. Among other terms, the agreement will include the following:

    a. The specifications of the rainwater catchment system that is required to be completed as a condition of receipt of funds.

    b. The rainwater catchment system must be completed within 12 months after the agreement is executed in order to receive funds from UGRA.

    c. The applicant must install and maintain a sign at the location of the rainwater system crediting UGRA for its contribution of funding. The sign will also contain educational information about rainwater harvesting as a water conservation and stormwater reduction practice. The sign will be provided by UGRA and will be reviewed by the applicant prior to installation.

    d. Proof of costs

    e. Verification of completion

9. If the applicant does not meet all requirements of the contract, including completion of construction within the specified period, the grant funds will not be paid to the applicant.

10. Upon satisfaction of all conditions set forth in the contract, UGRA will remit the grant payment to the applicant(s) in the amount approved by the Board of Directors and set forth in the contract.

11. If the applicant(s) selected to receive the grant funding already received funding from UGRA's Rainwater Catchment Rebate Program for the same project costs, the total grant funding payment will be reduced by the amount of the rebate received.

12. UGRA's Rainwater System Grant Program is funded with monies budgeted for the Program by the UGRA Board of Directors and no other monies will be utilized for payment.

13. UGRA reserves the right to reject any application based on fraud, irregularities, lack of budgeted funds, efficacy of the proposed catchment system, or otherwise as determined in UGRA's sole discretion.

14. The Board of Directors of UGRA may determine in its sole and absolute discretion whether to renew, modify, or terminate this Program at any time, and nothing herein shall be construed to award any person any vested right to grant funding from UGRA.

EXHIBIT A

UGRA Rainwater System Grant Program Application

Date Submitted:

Applicant Name:

Type of Organization: Nonprofit ☐ School ☐ Public Entity ☐

Other: _____

Mailing Address:

Individual submitting application:

Name:

Job Title:

Email:

Phone number:

Address where system will be installed:

Projects system completion date:
Funds will not be remitted until project is completed.

Amount requested: $
The maximum amount eligible is 75% of the total project cost up to $15,000.

Have you previously receive funding from UGRA through the Rainwater Catchment Rebate Program or any other UGRA Program? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please describe the type of funding and when it was received:

If you previously received funding through UGRA's Rainwater Catchment Rebate Program for the same project costs described in this application, the total grant funding will be reduced by the amount of the rebate you received.

EXHIBIT A

Please answer the questions below on a separate page and attach it to your completed application:

1. How many people will have access to the system annually?
2. How do you intend to use the captured water?
3. Is this the first rainwater catchment system on the property?
4. How will the system function to conserve water and reduce stormwater runoff?
5. Describe your procedures of operation and maintenance of the system.
6. Will the system serve as a demonstration to others? If yes, explain how and what information or practices will be demonstrated.
7. This grant will fund a maximum of 75% of your total project costs up to $15,000. How will you fund the remaining 25%? Do you plan to pursue matching grant funding?
8. Will you be able to complete your system if you do not receive the full amount you requested? If no, is there a minimum amount needed for you to complete your system?
9. Describe your project and budget by providing at least the following information: detailed description of the rainwater catchment system including a schematic, itemized budget, capacity of storage tank(s). You may provide additional information that will be helpful to evaluate your project.

By execution below, applicant hereby certifies that all information submitted in support of this application is true and correct.

_____

Signature of Applicant Date

_____

Received by UGRA (print name and title below) Date

Submit application by mail to: UGRA, 125 Lehmann Drive, Suite 100, Kerrville, TX 78028 or by email to Shelby Taber (staber@ugra.org)

EXHIBIT B

Form for Judging Rainwater System Grant Program Applications

Please use one form to judge each application. Assign a numerical value between 1-5 for each question, with 5 being the highest mark and 1 being lowest.

The scoring results will be one factor to consider during the selection and are not intended to be definitive.

Project Name:	**Judge's Name:**				
Criteria	**1-low**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5-high**
1. Is the project well-conceived and clearly described?					
2. Is the project of benefit or demonstration value to others in the community? How visible is the project to others? How effectively will the project be used as an educational tool?					
3. How well will the project promote water conservation or reduce demand on groundwater/surface water?					
4. How well will the project reduce stormwater runoff?					
5. Does the application clearly state all details of operation and maintenance including who, what, how, and when including funding mechanisms?					
TOTAL: please provide a sum of all scores					