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August 15, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out on behalf of Central Utah Water Conservancy District to notify you of funding opportunities, incentive program availability, and the required action that affected your residents' eligibility beginning in 2023.

CUWCD, in partnership with the Utah Division of Water Resources (DWRe), offers several funding opportunities related to water conservation across the seven counties in the CUWCD service area at no additional cost to participating cities. Grants and incentives are available for qualifying commercial, industrial, institutional, and municipal conservation projects through the Commercial Smart Controller Program, Commercial Landscape Incentive Program, and Strategic Water Management Program. Residents are also eligible for a Smart Irrigation Controller Program, Toilet Replacement Program, and Residential Landscape Incentive Program. As these programs are all taxpayer funded, utilizing them is a great opportunity that puts money back into your community.

The Landscape Leadership Grant and Landscape Incentive Program offer \$3 per square foot of lawn removed and replaced with water efficient landscaping. As the cost of converting a landscape to something attractive and efficient can be prohibitive to many homeowners, this funding greatly reduces the financial burden of those interested in making changes. The funding also allows cities to make needed landscaping upgrades with less impact on their budgets and residents. In the three years these programs have been available, we have received nearly four thousand applications and continue to see an increase in interest.

In addition to funding opportunities, our staff has a robust curriculum of water conservation related classes taught in person and online, available free-of-charge to your residents. While these classes are primarily taught at our office in Orem, upon request, our staff is available to teach classes, offer informational booths for community events, and work with your community to further any city and District goals for water conservation education.

All programs and resources mentioned above were available to your residents through 2022 however, starting January 1, 2023, the Residential and Commercial Landscape Incentive Programs are only offered within cities that have adopted the required language in the water efficiency standards. These standards are intended to benefit your city by increasing drought resiliency, providing long-term water savings, and ensuring that any new growth is sustainable.



The standards required for continued participation in the two Landscape Incentive Programs are found in sections two, three, and four of the attached document. The language in sections five, six, and seven is recommended to further water efficiency in new construction developments, but adoption of this additional language will not affect program eligibility. It is also worth highlighting that in residential new construction developments, these standards need only apply to landscape areas within the front and side yards.

We are eager to continue providing all available resources to as many residents as possible and add yours to the list of <u>58 cities</u> that have already taken this step for water conservation. Our staff would be happy to discuss the water efficiency standards further with any city staff or council members. Outside of the water efficiency standards, we would like to be a more active resource for your community. If there are other water conservation related tools, classes, information, or other resources that would be useful for your community, please let us know. For questions and support please contact Savannah Peterson at Savannah@cuwcd.gov or by phone at 801-226-7151.

Sincerely,

Savannah Peterson Water Conservation Programs Coordinator Central Utah Water Conservancy District