



Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach Residential Rain Garden Program **INCENTIVE GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION 2019-20**

Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach is launching an incentive program to encourage property owners to install and maintain rain gardens on their property in an effort to decrease the amount of pollutants entering the Indian River Lagoon.

A rain garden is a shallow depression in the landscape vegetated with native grasses and plants that collects stormwater runoff. The rain garden holds the stormwater so that it can be taken in by the plant roots, and allows the water to soak into the ground instead of flowing into a street or combined sewer. Together, the plants and soil trap, absorb and filter the pollutants found in stormwater runoff such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil, grease and metals. This process allows clean water to slowly soak back into the ground recharging groundwater supplies.

The **Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach Residential Rain Garden Program** provides an incentive to property owners who install and maintain rain gardens. The incentive consists of a direct cash payment that may be used to offset any expenses related to the planning, planting and maintenance of the rain garden. Incentives are limited to properties located inside the City limits, and only one incentive is provided per property regardless of the number of rain gardens that may be located on that property. In order to be eligible for the incentive program, residential property owners are required to complete each of the following steps:



1. Complete this **Residential Rain Garden Program Application** and submit it to Sunrise Rotary using the address and contact information shown on page two of this form (may also be submitted at a workshop).
2. Attend one of the **rain garden instructional workshops** offered by Sunrise Rotary. Dates and locations for the workshops may be found on Sunrise Rotary' rain garden website at SunriseRotaryVeroBeach.org. It is mandatory that you sign-in at the workshop in order to qualify for the incentive. Workshops are provided at no cost, but you must register in advance by emailing rpelensky@surlaterrela.com.
3. At the workshop, you will receive **free technical assistance** to help you determine the optimal location on your property for a rain garden and help with selecting the appropriate plants for the chosen rain garden location. You will also receive **advice** on routing storm water to your rain garden as well as advice on rain garden maintenance.
4. Sign a **Homeowner Rain Garden Agreement** and return it to Sunrise Rotary at the address shown on the Agreement form. The Agreement form is provided at the rain garden workshops or may be found at SunriseRotaryVeroBeach.org. The Agreement form will ask you to indicate if you will be using one of the rain garden designs provided by Sunrise Rotary. If you are not using a standard design, you will need to provide a copy of the layout that you will be using (including a plant list) along with a completed and signed Agreement form (may also be submitted at a workshop).
5. **Register your rain garden** by going to the Sunrise Rotary rain garden website at SunriseRotaryVeroBeach.org. It is important to register the rain garden on your property. If you do not have access to the internet, please request a Rain Garden Registration Form by calling Sunrise Rotary. You may register your rain garden by completing the registration form and mailing it to the address shown on the form. Up to three photographs (.jpg) will also be accepted for posting on the website.
6. After registering your completed rain garden, a Sunrise Rotarian will schedule an appointment with you to **inspect the garden for compliance** with the standards addressed in the workshop. At the time of inspection, the owner will be presented with a certificate of completion.
7. **Sunrise Rotary will pay an incentive to owners of certified rain gardens** at a rate of \$2.00 per square foot of rain garden installed up to \$250. The payment will not exceed \$250. Property owners seeking the incentive must file a W-9 IRS form with Sunrise Rotary. The payment will be mailed to the property owner after all of the qualifying activities have been completed.

Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach
P.O. Box 6274 Vero Beach, FL 32961

Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach Rain Garden Application

All fields required. Please print.

Address of Rain Garden Property:

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Owner(s) of Rain Garden Property:

First, Middle, Last Name

Mailing Address

City/State/Zip

Day Phone

Evening Phone

Email Address

Estimated Square Footage of Roof _____

of Down Spouts to be Directed to Rain Garden _____

Square Footage of Proposed Rain Garden _____

Sun Exposure for Proposed Rain Garden Location

_____ Sun (receives at least 6 hours of direct sunlight each day)

_____ Partial Sun (3-6 hours of direct sunlight each day)

_____ Full Shade (receives indirect sunlight each day)

First, Middle, Last Name

Mailing Address

City/State/Zip

Day Phone

Evening Phone

Email Address

By signing below, the named individual(s) represent(s) that he/she/they is/are the sole owner(s) of the property proposed for a rain garden and that the property is not subject to a lease, contract or other restriction that would in any way prohibit the installation and maintenance of a rain garden. The applicant(s) acknowledge(s) that he/she/they has/have read and understand the rain garden requirements outlined above. The applicant(s) also acknowledge(s) that this application alone does not entitle him/her/them to receive a rain garden incentive payment. The applicant(s) agree(s) that if he/she/they request(s) technical assistance in locating and planning a rain garden on his/her/their property that he/she/they will allow a representative of Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach to access his/hers/theirs property solely for the purpose of providing technical assistance, guidance and advice, and inspection for compliance.

The applicant(s) acknowledge(s) that he/she/they will hold Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach harmless from any personal injury or property damage that may arise from the installation and/or maintenance of a rain garden on his/her/their own private property and/or its participation in the **Sunrise Rotary Vero Beach Residential Rain Garden Incentive Program.**

Printed Name

Signature of Applicant

Date

Printed Name

Signature of Applicant

Date