



Rain Check Seeking Rain Garden and Permeable Paver Installers

The Philadelphia Water Department, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and the Sustainable Business Network are seeking landscape and/or hardscape contractors to install residential rain gardens and permeable pavers through [PWD's Rain Check](#).

Program Description:

Rain Check is a Philadelphia Water program that helps residents manage stormwater at their homes. Participants can get a free rain barrel and/or get funds towards a downspout planter, rain garden, or permeable pavers installation through Rain Check's cost-share structure. Rain Check supports Philadelphia's [Green City, Clean Waters](#) program which is working in neighborhoods across the City, adding green features to keep excess stormwater out of sewers.

The program is funded by Philadelphia Water and managed by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) in partnership with the Sustainable Business Network (SBN).

Project Details:

Rain Check is looking to hire 3 contractors to install rain gardens and permeable pavers, and to depave impervious surfaces, through the program. Installation contractors may include landscapers, hardscapers, and general home contractors who have previous work experience with permeable pavers and/or rain gardens.

These contractors will be given projects as they are requested by new Rain Check participants. They are responsible for scheduling, planning, and completing the installation of rain gardens and masonry projects for program participants.

[Rain Gardens:](#) Rain gardens are shallow, planted depressions that are designed to absorb water from a roof, allowing it to drain directly into the soil.

[Masonry Projects:](#) Removing pavement and/or replacing it with permeable pavers, grass seed, gravel, or other treatment.

Contractors are also required to perform consultations ahead of the install. Contractors are compensated for these visits. They are required to meet with the homeowner, analyze the site, take basement photos, and (if the site meets Rain Check requirements) plan the installation.

Requirements:

- *For Rain Garden installers:* demonstrated experience installing rain gardens.
- *For Masonry installers:*
 - o Demonstration that ICPI Paver Installer course has been completed, certification preferred (or willingness to complete course before starting work with Rain Check)
 - o Established portfolio in hardscaping, with experience in permeable paver systems strongly preferred



- Demonstration that a course on permeable paver installations has been completed (from ICPI, paver manufacturer, or other equivalent vendor)
- Three references who can speak to your relevant experience
- Ability to travel to all parts of Philadelphia
- Ownership of a reliable truck or van as well as other tools and equipment necessary to perform work.
- Proof of insurance, including:
 - Commercial General Liability Insurance
 - Automobile Insurance
 - Workers' Compensation & Employers Liability Insurance
- Commercial Activities License

Budget:

The amount of work provided through the Rain Check program varies considerably by season; installation contractor positions are not intended to be full-time.

The average rain garden project is roughly \$2500 with Rain Check contributing a maximum of \$2000 and the participant paying the rest.

A typical depaving project costs roughly \$2500 with Rain Check contributing a maximum of \$2000 and the participant paying the rest.

The average permeable paving project is roughly \$5000 with Rain Check contributing a maximum of \$2000 and the participant paying the rest.

Clients sometimes request additional landscape work outside of Rain Check.

Depending on participant demand and contractor availability, active contractors can expect to receive \$10,000-\$35,000 per year.

To Apply:

Please contact Chris Hershberger-Esh at chris@sbnphiladelphia.org or 215.922.7400 ext. 103. To apply, please send an e-mail stating your interest in the program and describing your relevant experience.

Info Session: All interested contractors should attend the Rain Check Subcontractor Information Session, followed by the All-Contractor Meeting.

Friday, February 12, 2016

Info session: 8:00-8:45am

Contractor meeting: 9:00-11:00 am

PHS Board Room

100 N 20th Street - 5th Floor

RSVP: <https://www.tfaforms.com/404997>