



## **LANDSCAPE REBATE PROGRAM**

New Braunfels Utilities is committed to conserving our natural resources and is inviting you to join us by participating in our landscape rebate program. This program will help you enjoy a beautiful and drought tolerant landscape that conserves water and saves you time. For example, choose pervious hardscapes over impervious hardscapes to reduce run-off and allow water to soak into the soil. Good examples are wooden decking, flagstone set in sand, or decomposed granite pathways. The installation of low maintenance shrubs and mulch, important factors in a drought tolerant landscape, minimize weeding and pruning, thus saving you time. In addition, the replacement of large areas of water-thirsty turf with trees and shrubs provide shade and cool the surrounding area. Also, a water saving landscape provides an opportunity to fill your yard with colorful butterflies and birds and creates a haven for wildlife.

Below is a list of requirements that must be met to qualify for a landscape rebate. Take some time to examine your landscape and once you meet all of the following requirements, complete a landscape rebate application and return the completed application to NBU (contact instructions can be found on the application). Please contact NBU at 830/608.8925 for a list of approved plants for Comal County or a list of invasive plants, if needed. These lists can also be found on the NBU website: [www.nbutexas.com](http://www.nbutexas.com).

### **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (must meet all requirements)**

- A landscape inspection and a program application are required to properly register and document your project. The entire landscape must meet the requirements.
- Must be owner of landscape location and an NBU water customer, residential or non-residential.
- Non-grass plantings must be on the approved "Outstanding Landscape Plants for Comal County" list.
- If a permanent irrigation system is installed, it must pass an NBU inspection to receive a rebate.
- Lot sizes of less than 6000 sq. ft. must have a minimum of one approved tree and lots greater than 6000 sq. ft. must have a minimum of two approved trees. Trees must be a 6' minimum height and existing approved trees count.
- Topsoil depth must be 4" minimum with 6" as the target depth for optimum benefit. Soils must be comprised of a minimum of 25% compost or organic matter.
- Approved turf from the "Outstanding Landscape for Comal County" list must not cover more than 49% of the total landscape.
- Annuals, vegetables, and other unapproved plants can constitute no more than 5% of your total landscape.
- The remainder of the landscape plants shall be from the Outstanding Landscape Plants for Comal County.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR A WILDSCAPE (to attract birds, butterflies, and wildlife)**

- Select plants that provide food, such as seeds, nectar, pollen, or fruit. Berries are an important winter food.
- Choose densely branched shrubs, small brush piles, hollow logs, and trees of various sizes to provide cover and nesting opportunities for many species. Bird houses and nesting shelves are a good alternative in the absence of dense cover.
- Provide water in a bird bath or shallow pond for wildlife.