

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a clothes washer greywater system?

A clothes washer greywater system uses the washer's pump to distribute laundry water directly to plants through mulch basins.

How much water will I save?

This depends on your household size and your washing machine. A family of 4 with a high efficiency clothes washer will produce about 4,000 gallons of greywater between April-October. That's a lot of water that can be put to use instead of going down the drain!

Can I install a new landscape with this program?

Applicants must have medium or high water use plants to be able to participate in the program. New landscape projects are not eligible.

Is there any cost to participate?

The direct installation program covers the cost of 3-way valve installation and greywater piping out of your house to your landscape! If you are willing to pick up a shovel and dig your own mulch basins (with our help), there is no cost to participate. If you prefer that a contractor does the digging and distributes the irrigation lines, the contractor will charge you a small co-pay between \$250-\$500.

Can I install a new landscape with this program?

Applicants must have medium or high-water use plants in the ground to be able to participate in the program. New landscape projects are not eligible.

I am a renter and I pay the water bill. I'm not sure if my landlord will allow a greywater system. Can I still apply?

In order to receive direct installation services, the owner of the property must sign a project agreement and be a senior citizen (60+), a United States veteran, a person with a disability, or be considered low income. This project agreement allows Ecology Action and our contractors to work on the property, and ensures that the property owner understands the maintenance requirements of the greywater system. The short answer is – You can begin the application process, but the property owner or their official representative must sign the project agreement. We will include the property owner in all communications throughout the direct installation process.

How do you spell greywater?

Greywater can be spelled with an “e” or with an “a” as in “graywater”. You may even see it spelled as two words. But they’re all the same, safe way to reuse water in your landscaping. Just be sure to double-check how “greywater” is spelled in URLs like centralcoastgreywater.org versus valleywater.org/graywater so you can find the best resources to help your project regardless of how you choose to spell greywater.