

## **Liberty Hill EDC WaterMatch Program Water Saving Equipment and Practices**

***The purpose of the WaterMatch Program is to encourage water saving practices by commercial water customers in Liberty Hill and its ETJ.***

**What it covers:** Water-saving technology, such as rainwater harvesting, cooling tower recycling, water-efficient toilets, efficient irrigation, and commercial ice machines.

**What it doesn't cover:** As professional water audits are covered 100% by the LCRA WaterSmart Program, no matching funds are available.

**How much it covers:** Additional 50% match of eligible LCRA WaterSmart grants, up to \$10,000. (For example, if a business earns a \$1200 LCRA grant, WaterMatch would grant an additional \$600.)

The **LHEDC WaterMatch Program** is set up as single-payment grant funds to non-residential property owners, and in some situations, tenants.

The annual funding cycle begins October 1st of each year and ends September 30th of the following year in alignment with the City's Fiscal Year. Grants are available on a first-come, first-serve basis until funds for the funding cycle are depleted.

If awarded a WaterMatch grant, any deviation from the approved grant project may result in total or partial withdrawal of the grant.

A WaterMatch Program recipient sign, if requested by the LHEDC Executive Director, must be displayed in the recipient's storefront window for a minimum of one year (beginning on the date the business is open to the public or on the date the grant funds are distributed, whichever is later) to publicly recognize the grant program.

Instructions:

**Submit the Application:** Fill out **WaterMatch** application and sign the agreement form.

**Provide LCRA WaterSmart Documentation:** All grant applications must include a the LCRA WaterSmart award letter and all documentation provided to LCRA. Support documentation and/or informational material needs to be included with the application for review by the LHEDC Board.

**Approval Process & Eligibility:** The approval and eligibility process includes:

a) All **WaterMatch** projects must meet local Standards & Codes, including building and/or other permit requirements.

b) The LHEDC Board of Directors meets monthly and applicants are encouraged to attend.

c) Only completed Applications with all required information will be considered.

d) An Applicant denied a grant by the LHEDC Board is not eligible to re-submit a similar grant application for a minimum of six (6) months from the date the prior Application was declined.

e) Applicants who receive approval by the LHEDC Board must commence construction as described in the application within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the grant being awarded.

f) Applicants must complete construction described in the submitted Application within twelve (12) months of the grant being awarded.

g) If the Applicant is unable to commence construction within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the date granted, or complete construction within twelve (12) months from the date granted, the Applicant must submit a written request for an extension. The extension request MUST be made prior to the time limits elapsing. The LHEDC Board is not obligated to allow extensions but may do so for good cause.

h) An extension, if granted, will be for the Terms & Conditions determined exclusively by the LHEDC Board. An extension denial cannot be appealed and will be final.

i) The LHEDC Board shall consider any Application within its discretionary authority to determine what grant amount will be in the best interest of the Grant program.

j) Applicant is required to obtain applicable City permits and approvals for construction, if required.