



RAIN READY OTTAWA

Program Overview

November 15, 2022

Landscape Ontario Ottawa Chapter Meeting



Presentation Outline

- Rain Ready Ottawa Program overview
- Rebates for homeowners
- Supporting your clients
- Fusion Landscape Professional training and certification
- Q&A
- Julia Robinson, City of Ottawa
- Connor Renouf, City of Ottawa
- Jen Stelzer, EnviroCentre
- Stephanie Benoit, EnviroCentre
- Lindsey Best, Hansen Lawn & Gardens

What is Rain Ready Ottawa?

A pilot program to support Ottawa residents:

- Install rainwater management projects at home
- Reduce the harmful impacts of rainwater runoff



Rain Ready Ottawa

Industry Training



Home Assessments



Community Engagement

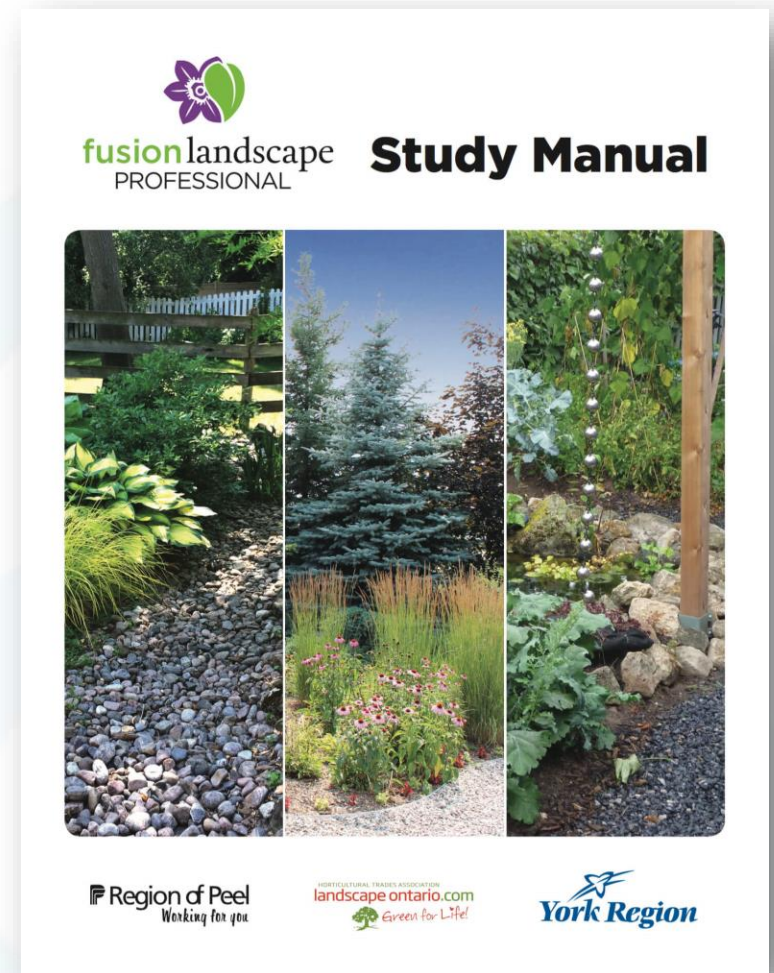


Design and Installation Incentives



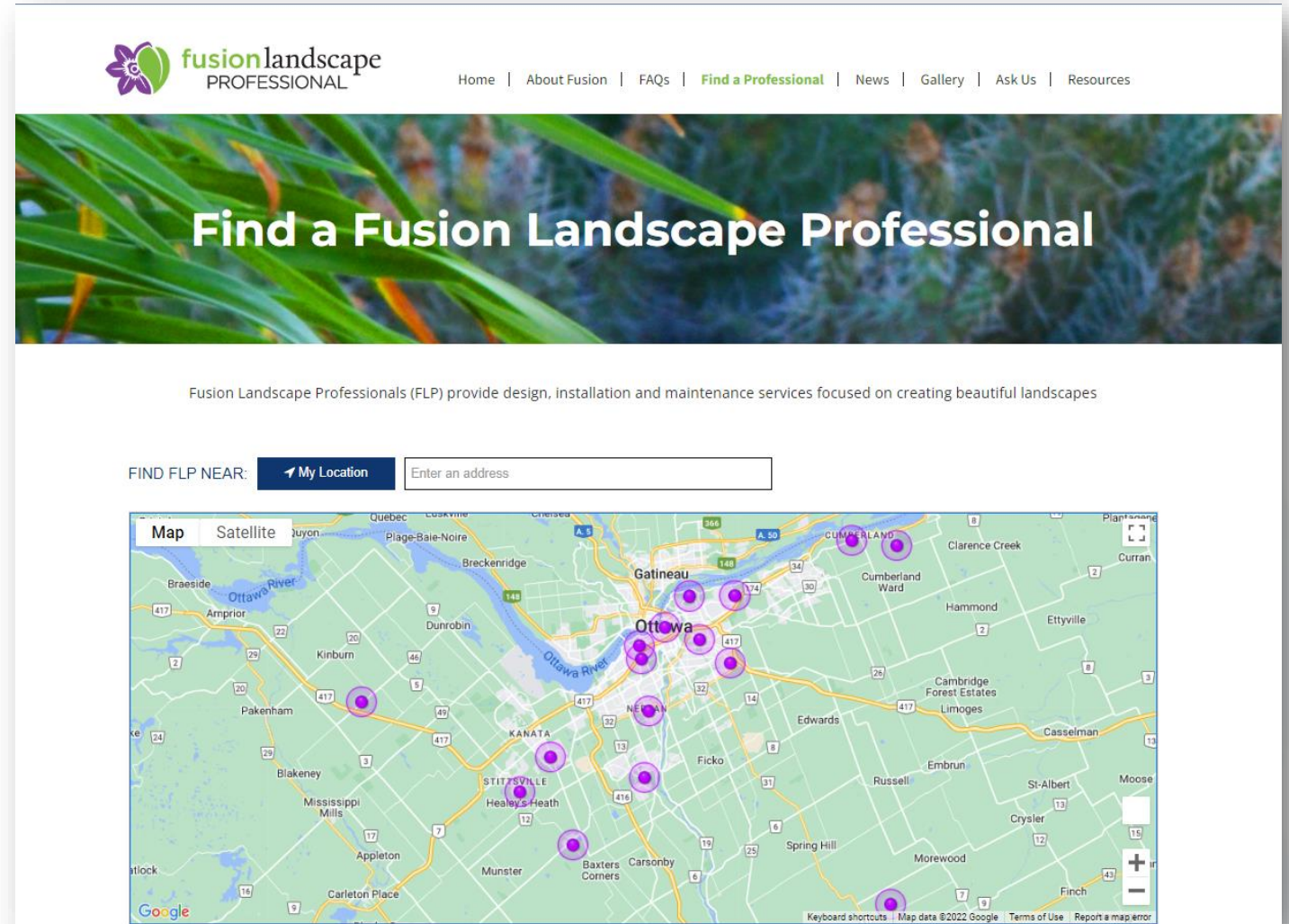
Fusion Landscape Professional Training

- Annual training and certification for Landscape Professionals on holistic stormwater management
- Delivered in partnership with Landscape Ontario
- Reduced fees for companies that operate in Ottawa
- 36 trained to date in 2 courses for Ottawa
- Next course: February 2023



Fusion Landscape Professional Certification

Rain Ready Ottawa includes a link to Landscape Ontario's list of certified FLPs



The screenshot displays the Fusion Landscape Professional website. At the top left is the logo, which consists of a stylized purple flower icon next to the text "fusion landscape PROFESSIONAL". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "About Fusion", "FAQs", "Find a Professional", "News", "Gallery", "Ask Us", and "Resources". Below the navigation is a large banner image of green grass with the text "Find a Fusion Landscape Professional" overlaid in white. Underneath the banner, a text box states: "Fusion Landscape Professionals (FLP) provide design, installation and maintenance services focused on creating beautiful landscapes". Below this is a search interface with the text "FIND FLP NEAR:" followed by a "My Location" button and an input field labeled "Enter an address". The main part of the screenshot is a map of the Ottawa region, showing various neighborhoods and roads. Numerous purple circular markers are placed on the map, indicating the locations of Fusion Landscape Professionals. The map includes labels for areas like Gatineau, Ottawa, Kanata, and Stittsville, as well as roads like 417 and 416. The Google logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the map, and copyright information "Map data ©2022 Google" is in the bottom right.

Home Assessment Program

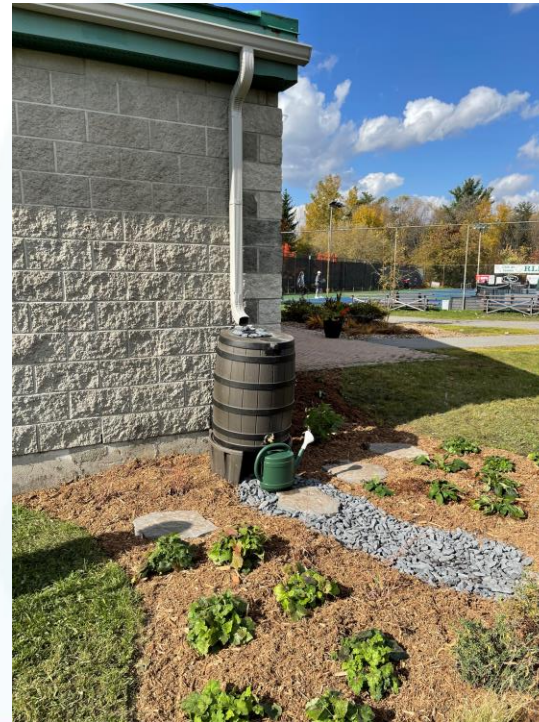
- Free ~1hr home visit to provide custom advice
- Delivered in partnership with EnviroCentre
- 165 Home Assessments delivered in 2021 and 2022
- Detailed report provided to residents
- ~750 person waitlist

envirocentre



Community Engagement

- Ottawa.ca/rain
- Rain/ PLUIE Facebook and Instagram
- Webinars/ public events
- Rain barrel fundraisers (with rainbarrel.ca)
- Rain Garden demonstrations
 - Cornerstone Women's Residence
 - Manordale-Woodvale Community Centre
 - Pierre Rocque Community Centre



eLearning Program – coming soon

A series of free self-guided courses to educate on rainwater projects and provide another option to become eligible for rebates

Courses to be offered:

1. Introduction and Overview
2. Downspout Redirections
3. Rain Gardens
4. Soakaways



Photo: City of Ottawa | Ville d'Ottawa

Design and Installation Incentives

Max \$5,000 per household

- 1. Downspout redirection (max \$1,000)**
- 2. Rain gardens & Soakaway pits (max \$2,500)**
- 3. Permeable pavements (max \$5,000)**
- 4. Certified landscape designs (Max \$500)**

As of November 2022:

- 46 applications approved (\$160,000)
- 41 applications resulting from FLP partnership
- 15 Certified FLP companies in Ottawa region



Homeowners must live in Priority Retrofit area.

3 ways to apply: work with an FLP, complete a Home Assessment, or complete E-Learning

Determining Geographic Eligibility

Rebates are available in:

- Pinecrest Creek / Westboro Priority Stormwater Retrofit Area (~**18,000 households**)
- Eastern Subwatershed Priority Stormwater Retrofit Area (~**73,000 households**)

Eligibility can be checked at ottawa.ca/rain

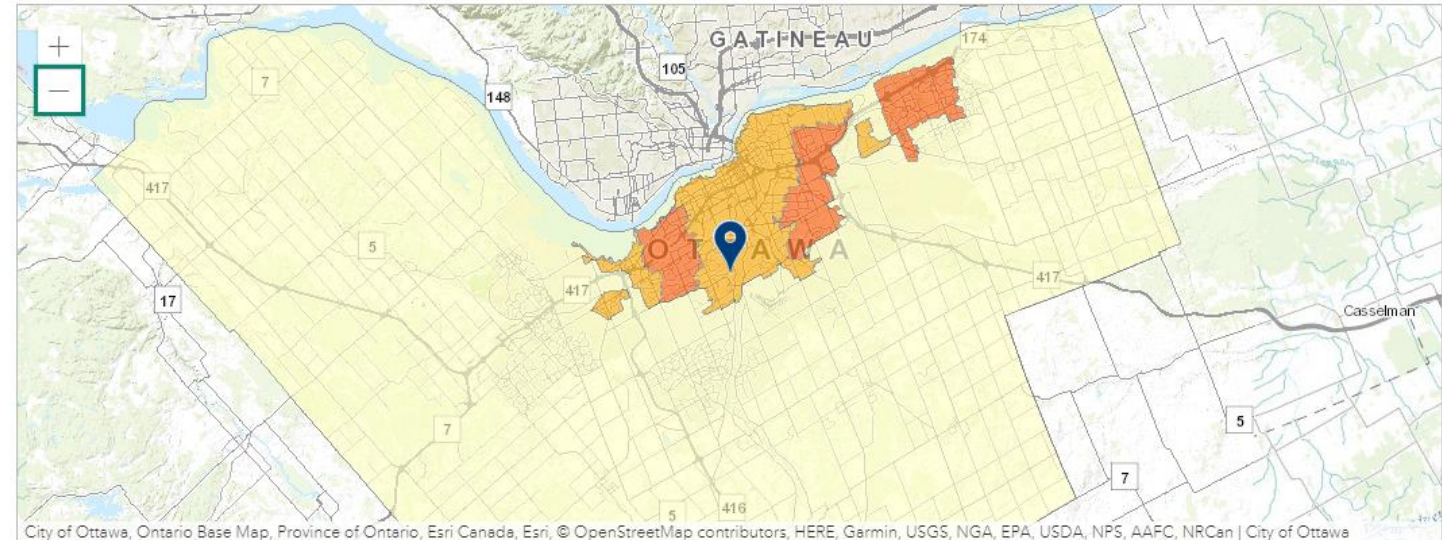
Menu 

Rain Ready Ottawa programs are targeted to areas that were built before adequate stormwater management measures were common. Ottawa is divided into three sections;


- Priority stormwater retrofit areas,
- Secondary stormwater retrofit areas, and
- Outside stormwater retrofit areas

Check which area you are in below.

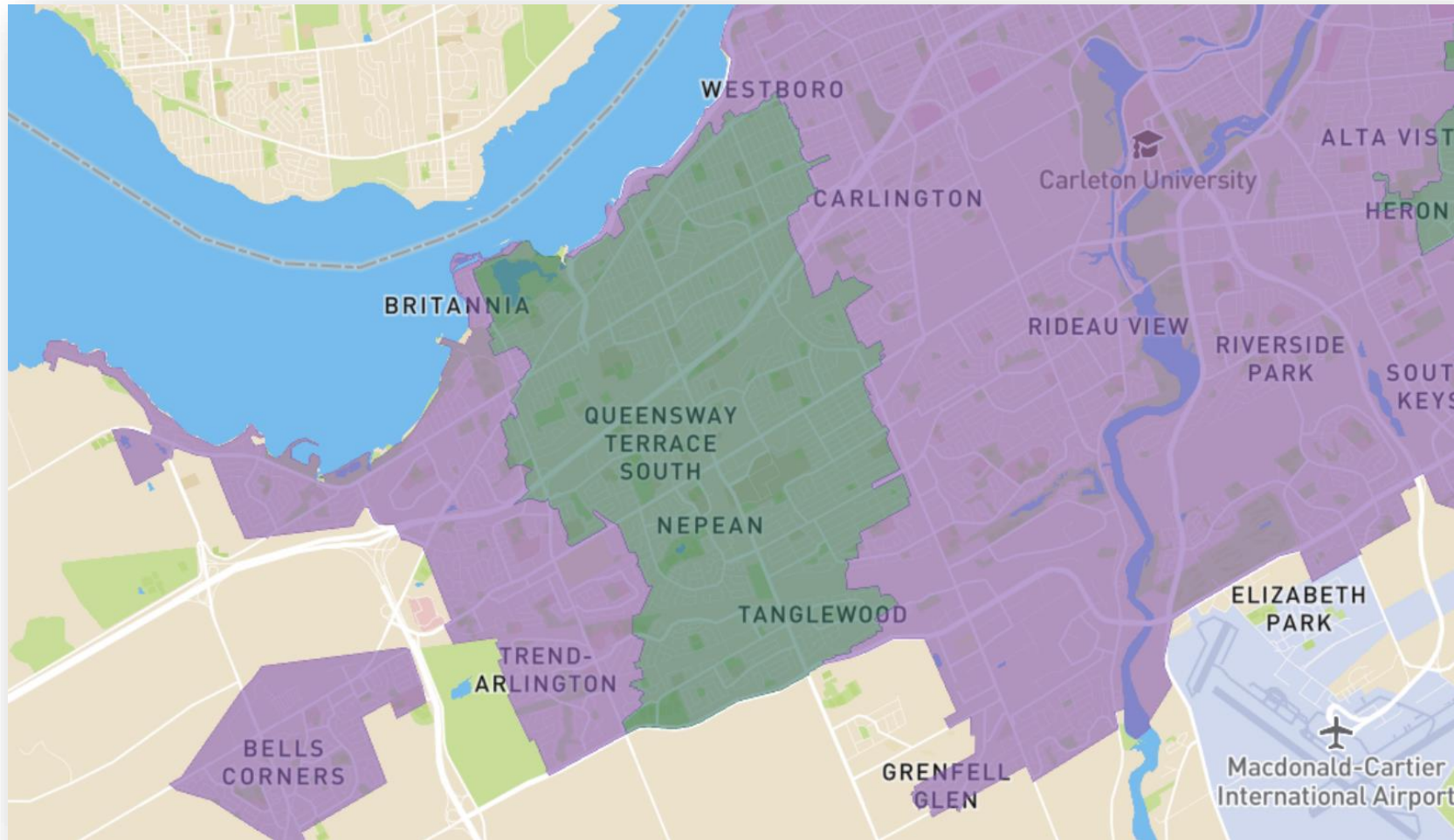
Full street address



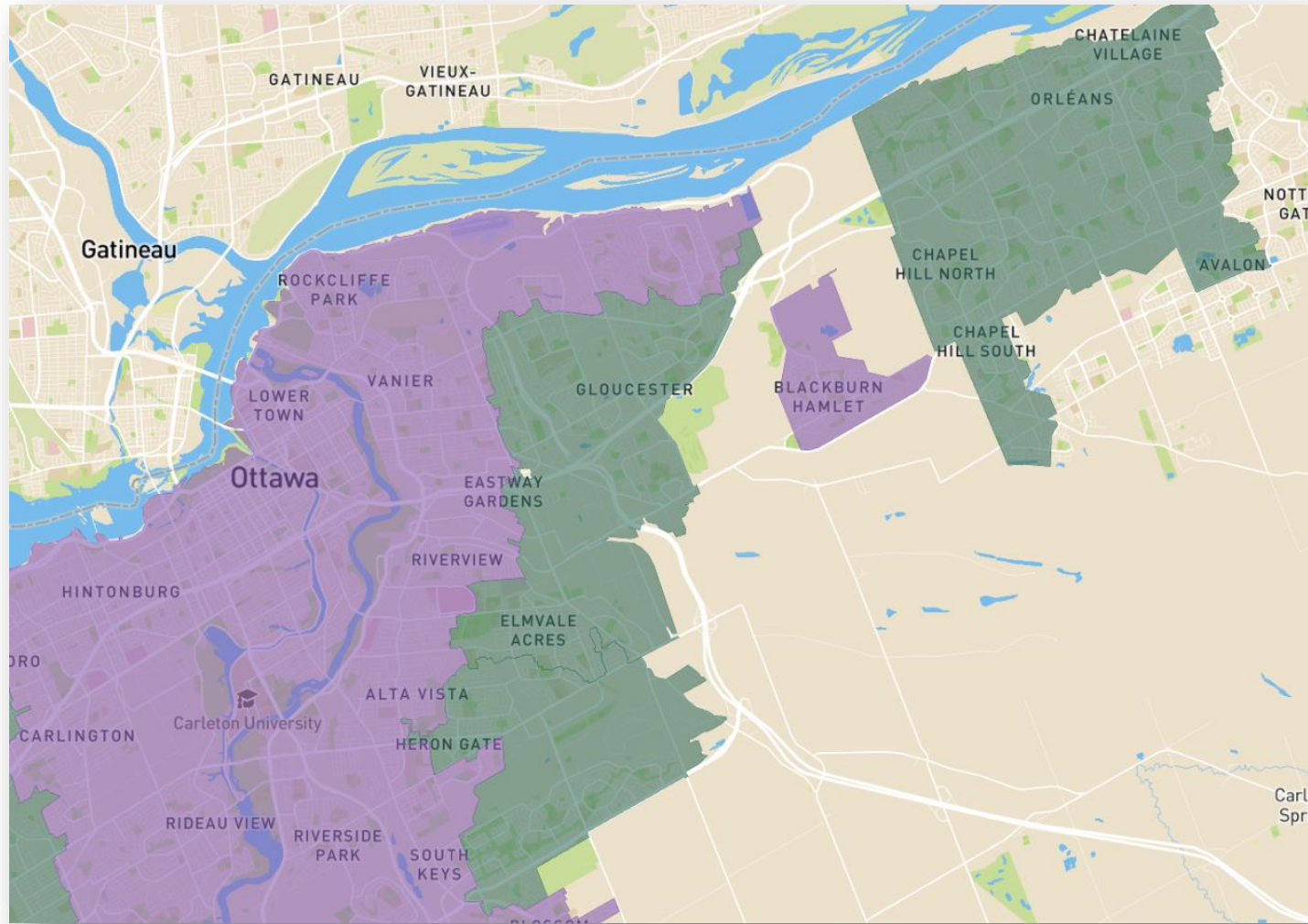
Rain Ready Ottawa

-  Priority Stormwater Retrofit Area
-  Secondary Stormwater Retrofit Area
-  Outside Stormwater Retrofit Area

Pinecrest Creek/ Westboro Subwatershed



Eastern Subwatershed



Rain Ready Ottawa rebates

Downspout redirection (up to \$1,000)

- *Requirement:*
 - redirecting roof drainage to permeable surfaces
- *Ineligible for rebate:*
 - Application of new eavestrough
 - Solely decorative in nature
- *Incentive: 75% of total expenses of materials and labour relating to downspout redirection*
 - Receipts for relevant materials and labour needed for claim

Downspout Rebate Projects:

Approved: 31

Installed: 20

FLP project applications: 25



Rain Ready Ottawa rebates

Combined maximum rebate of \$2,500

Rain gardens

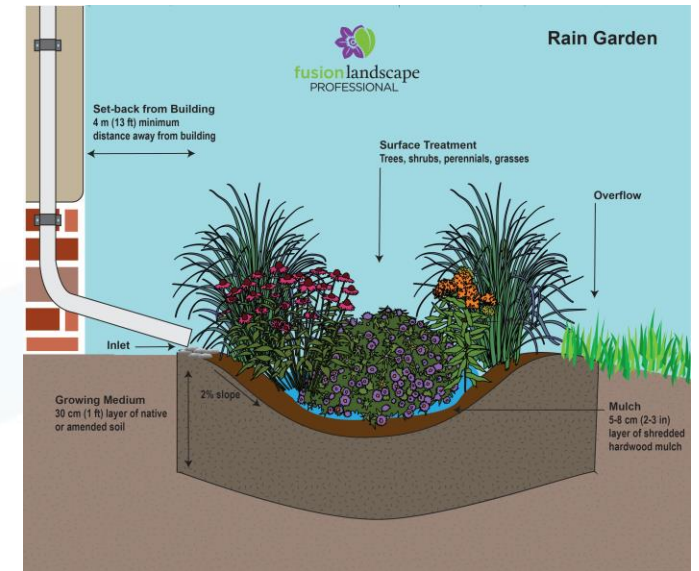
- *Practice:* shallow, depressed areas that collect rainwater running off roofs, driveways, and patios
- *Incentive:* \$75/m² of rain garden area not to exceed 20% of the directly connected impermeable area

Soakaway pits/trenches

- *Practice:* underground systems that allow water to percolate into the ground
- *Incentive:* \$10/m² of directly connected area managed by soakaway
 - STEP LID guidance for sizing and materials

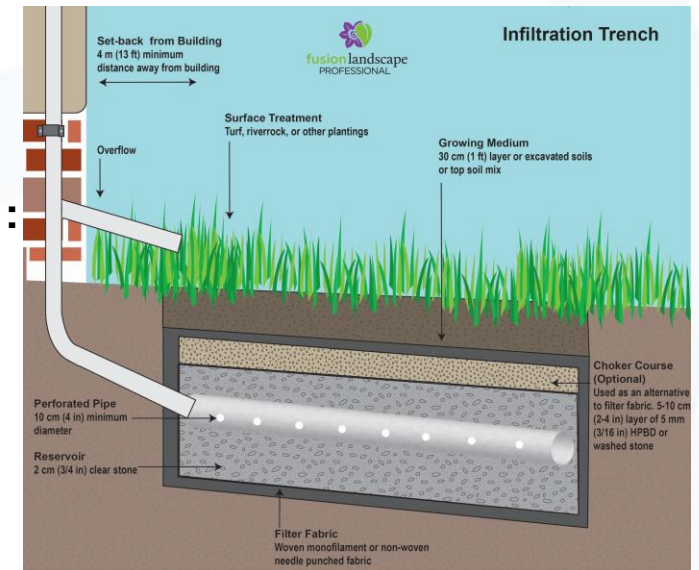
Rain Garden Rebate:

Approved: 5
Installed: 1
FLP projects: 0



Soakaway Pit Rebate :

Approved: 8
Installed: 4
FLP projects: 4



Rain Ready Ottawa rebates

Permeable pavements

(Maximum of \$5,000)

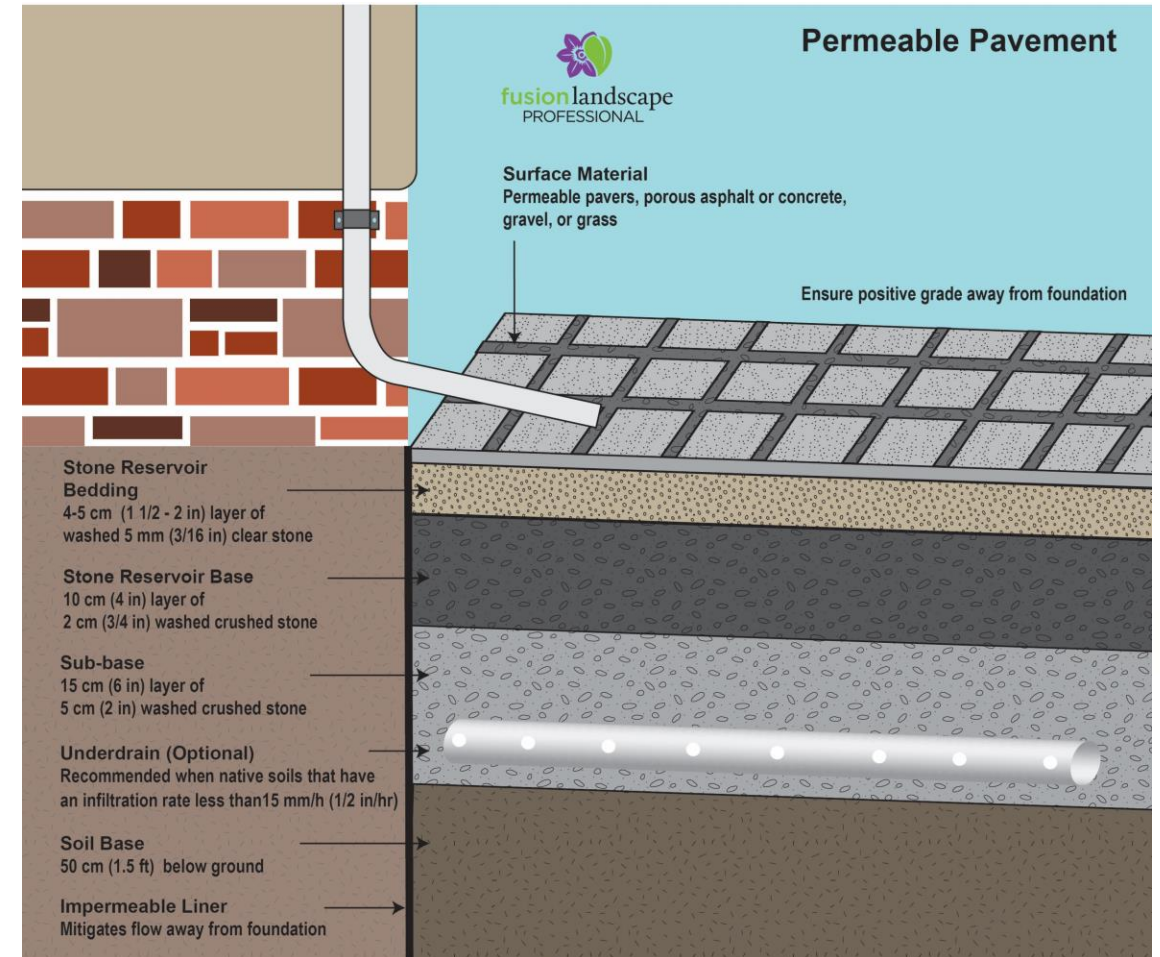
- *Practice:* hardscape materials that have wide joints or pore spaces that allow runoff to infiltrate into the ground
- *Incentive:* \$50/m²
 - Invoice from certified FLP or Interlocking Concrete Pavers Institute certified professional

Permeable Pavement Rebate Projects:

Approved: 41

Installed: 23

FLP Projects: 41



Rain Ready Ottawa rebates

Certified landscape designs (\$500 rebate available)

- *Requirements:*
 - 2 Rain Ready Ottawa practices
 - more than 400sq.ft or 30% of the outdoor space
- 41 projects applied as of 2022
- 25 projects claimed for rebates







fusion landscape
PROFESSIONAL



Process overview

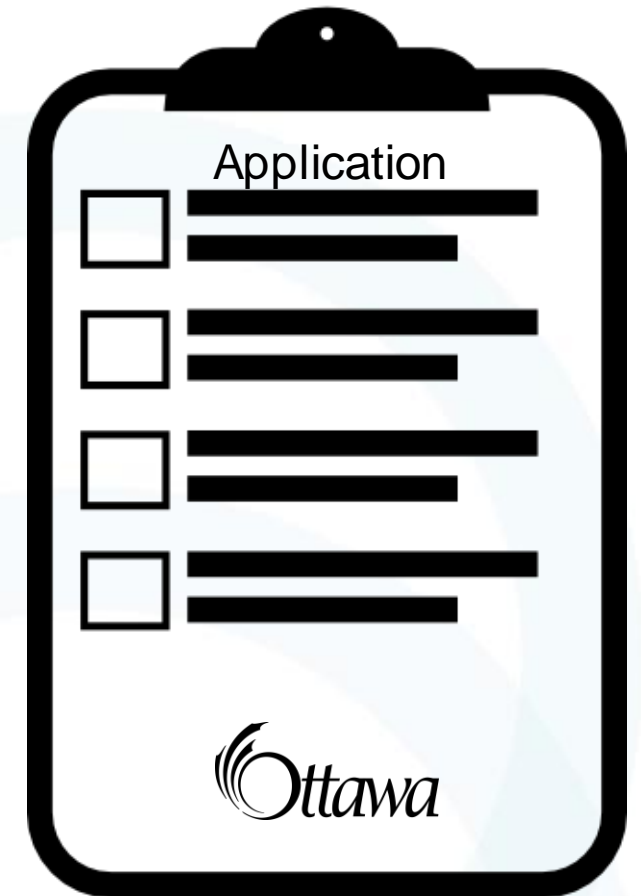


= Led by FLPs

1. Client contacts you
-  2. Determine eligibility (enter address at ottawa.ca/rain)
-  3. Provide quote for RRO eligible practices
4. Resident submits an application to the City (online form)
5. City reviews application and notified client of they have been approved
Resident must receive project approval before work begins
-  6. Work begins
-  7. Invoice provided to client including details on RRO eligible practices
8. Resident files online claim form to receive final rebate amount

What to provide your clients

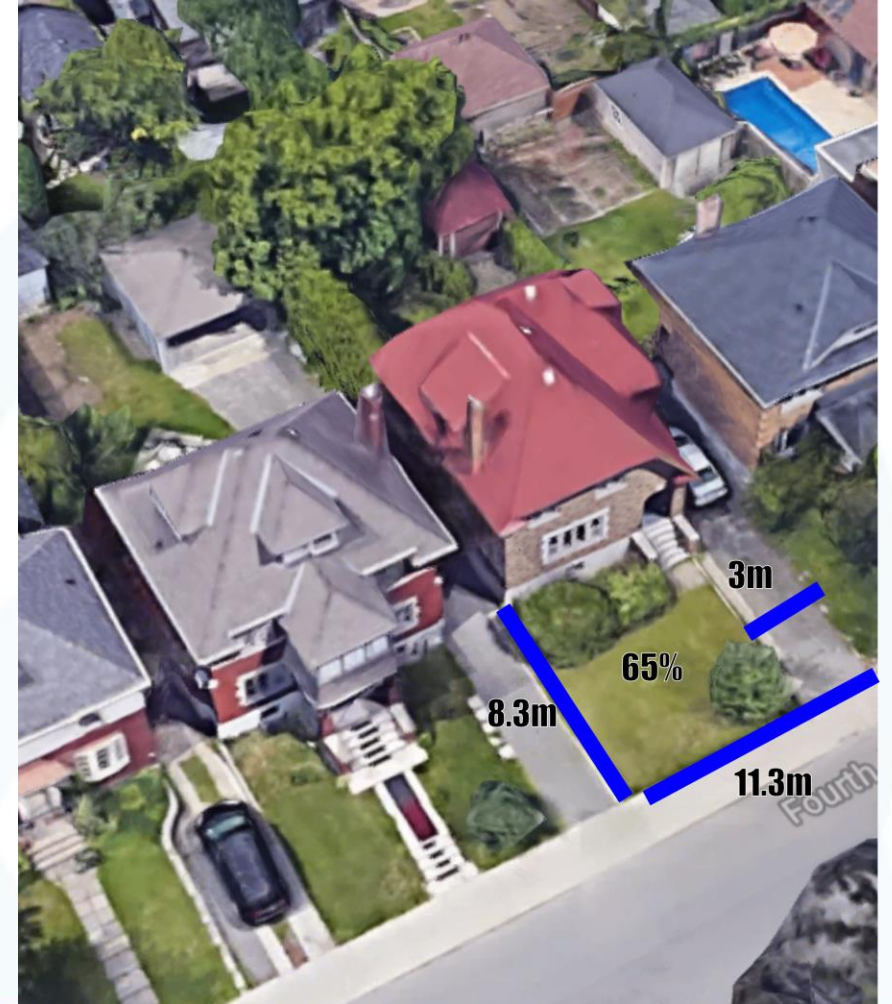
- Confirm they are eligible (use online address tool)
 - Project Application form:
 - Standard quote (itemize RRO elements)
 - Size of rain garden, soakaway or permeable pavement installation
 - Project sketch
 - Project description
 - Directly connected impervious area(s) to be managed (m² or sq.ft)
 - Total converted landscape area (m² or sq.ft)
 - Materials and labour estimates for downspout redirection
- **Residents must receive approval for their project prior to installation****
- Claim form:
 - Standard invoice for the work provided
 - Line item for downspout redirection costs (includes materials and labour)
 - Final area of completed project(s) installed
 - Photos of construction process and final project



City of Ottawa Requirements

- Site Alteration By-law
 - Can't cause water flow to adjacent properties
 - Don't alter drainage for sites with existing grading plan
 - Don't alter shared swales (City easements)
- Tree protection By-law
 - Don't remove trees
- Low-rise infill regulations
 - Hardscaping set back from back lot line (4.5m)
- Maximum widths for driveways
 - Typically 3m
- Soft landscaping requirements (%)
 - Dependent on set back and lot width

Contact Ottawa's Development Information Service
dioinquiry@ottawa.ca



Discussion

- Do you have any questions on the Rain Ready Ottawa (RRO) program?
- What has been your experience with the RRO program?
- Has FLP certification led to new business opportunities?
- Are there any barriers to working with clients on RRO projects?
- Do the rebate amounts provide enough incentive for projects?
- How can the RRO program better support you and your clients?

For more information:

Contact: Connor Renouf rain@ottawa.ca
ottawa.ca/rain