



MARSHALL  
CULTIVATING THE BEST IN US

## City of Marshall Commercial Water Softener Rebate Program Funded through a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Grant

### BACKGROUND:

The City of Marshall's Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is required by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to reduce the discharge of chlorides into the Redwood River by 2024. A large portion of chloride discharge comes from water softener salt that is sent into the sanitary sewer collection system that flows to the WWTF and is discharged into the Redwood River. Since chlorides cannot be removed through conventional mechanical treatment systems, the City of Marshall and Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) worked together and upgraded MMU's Water Treatment Plant to produce a softer water to help attain compliance with the required limits set by the MPCA. As of June 1, 2021, MMU has been delivering water at 8 grains hardness compared to 35 grains hardness previously. This project alone will not meet MPCA State Standards. Your water softener must be adjusted to the new hardness. This will result in less salt and cost savings for you, and lower discharge of chlorides to the sanitary sewer system.

### REBATE PROGRAM:

The City of Marshall partnered with Bolton & Menk, Inc. and received an MPCA grant to provide **free** water softener setting adjustments (also known as optimization for salt use). The grant also provides up to \$4,000 rebates for upgrading timer-based softeners or modifying water softeners to reduce salt use.

### PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- ▶ Commercial businesses and facilities serviced by the Marshall Wastewater Treatment Facility and Marshall Municipal Utilities Water Treatment Plant
- ▶ Facility must currently have a working water softener installed
- ▶ Facilities with water softeners 15 years or older, timer based, or with a rated efficiency <3350 gr/lb salt are eligible for a rebate to replace the softener with an efficient (minimum rated 4000 gr/lb salt) demand initiated water softener or to complete equipment modifications per the rebate chart on the next page
- ▶ Work must be completed by a qualified city approved vendor (list on website)
- ▶ Facilities with newer water softeners not eligible for replacement are eligible for a **free** optimization of settings to be performed by a qualified city approved vendor
- ▶ Rebates are not retroactive; water softener replacement or optimization must be performed after 7/4/22 to be eligible
- ▶ An alternative salt-free water conditioner is eligible for a rebate, but must be pre-approved by the City
- ▶ Rebate funds are limited and subject to availability; optimization or softener installation or modification must be completed, and paperwork submitted by 4/30/24
- ▶ The City of Marshall reserves the right to inspect optimized and replacement water softeners
- ▶ Small businesses are also eligible to apply for an MPCA 0% interest loan for the equipment

### WATER SOFTENER REPLACEMENT REBATE SCHEDULE:

FACILITY	AVG. MONTHLY WATER USE (GAL)	REBATE
Commercial 1 (small business, 4000 - 4999 gr/lb salt efficiency)	<20,000	\$500
Commercial 1 (small business $\geq$ 5000 gr/lb)	<20,000	\$700
Commercial 2 (e.g. 5 unit apt. bldg. and up)	20,000 - 150,000	\$1,000
Commercial 3	150,001-300,000	\$1,500
Commercial 4	300,001 - 1,500,000	\$2,000
Commercial 5	1,500,000 - 3,000,000	\$3,000
Commercial 6	>3,000,000	\$4,000
Replace softener with a salt-free water conditioner, including reverse osmosis	Requires pre-approval	Commercial 1: \$700 Commercial 2 - 6: 1/3 of cost up to \$4,000

### WATER SOFTENER MODIFICATION REBATE SCHEDULE:

MODIFICATION	ELIGIBLE	REBATE
Addition of brine reclaim system	Commercial 2-6	25% of cost up to \$500
Addition of a blending valve (set to result in a hardness greater than 2 grains)	All	25% of cost up to \$200

### REBATE PROGRAM STEPS:

Contact a city-approved water softening/conditioning contractor to inspect your water softener to determine if it can be optimized for salt use or is eligible for replacement. A list of approved contractors can be found here: <http://ci.marshall.mn.us/rebate>.

Contact Marshall Municipal Utilities at 507-537-7005 or [info@marshallutilities.com](mailto:info@marshallutilities.com) (or check your account online) and request the most recent year of monthly water use information and provide this to the contractor.

If the water softener can be optimized and is not eligible for replacement, have the contractor complete the optimization (adjust hardness settings, salt dose, and other settings for lower salt use).

If it is eligible for replacement, you may have that contractor complete the installation or get additional bids from the approved contractor list and choose one to complete the installation.

Hire an approved contractor to install a new water softener. Make sure the installer adjusts the hardness setting to match the current 8 grains/gallon hardness and optimizes the softener for low salt use.

*Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) and administered by the MPCA.*



## **SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO RECEIVE THE REBATE:**

1. Completed application
2. Photos of newly installed equipment (see details below depending on type of equipment installed)
  - **water softener:** photo of whole system and close-up of controller (on top of softener tank)
  - **water conditioning system or modification work:** photo of installed device and closeup of device information
3. Your water use information from MMU that you provided to the contractor
4. Copy of the contractor receipt/additional information from contractor showing the following (have contractor include completed forms with receipt)

### **For Water Softeners Replacement:**

- Equipment manufacturer and model number
- Rated salt efficiency, Note: salt optimization settings (water hardness shall not exceed 8 grains, salt dose, reserve capacity, grain capacity, salt efficiency)
- Amount paid

### **For Water Softeners Brine Reclaim Addition:**

- Modification description, equipment manufacturer and model number as appropriate
- Softener salt optimization settings (water hardness shall not exceed 8 grains, salt dose, reserve capacity, grain capacity, salt efficiency)
- Estimated salt savings due to addition of brine reclaim system

### **For salt-free water conditioning devices:**

- equipment manufacturer and model number
- type of device (technology)- e.g. template-assisted crystallization (TAC), reverse osmosis (RO)
- amount paid

### **For blending valves:**

- description of work completed
- resulting measured hardness in grains/gallon (must be greater than 2)
- amount paid

*Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) and administered by the MPCA.*





MARSHALL  
CULTIVATING THE BEST IN US

## Commercial Water Softener Rebate Program Application

Please apply online at <http://ci.marshall.mn.us/rebate> or submit this application along with the required documents by email to [Jazmin.Meza@ci.marshall.mn.us](mailto:Jazmin.Meza@ci.marshall.mn.us), or mail to **Wastewater Treatment Facility, Attn: Jazmin Meza, 600 Erie Rd, Marshall, MN 56258**. Call 507-537-6776 with any questions.

### APPLICANT:

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Installation Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send rebate check to (if different than above address)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### WATER CONDITIONING VENDOR/CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRODUCT INFORMATION

*Old Water Softener*

Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Model Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated pounds of salt used per year: \_\_\_\_\_

### INSTALLATION OR MODIFICATION COMPLETED

Water Softener Replaced  Brine Reclaim  Blending Valve  Salt-free Water Conditioner Installed

Rebate amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** Include copy of receipt & required documents from the dealer that installed the new equipment.

### SIGNATURE REQUIRED

I, \_\_\_\_\_ certify that the above facility meets the program eligibility requirements, and that the information provided is true and correct, that the product was installed or equipment modifications completed at the installation address provided above, and that the work meets the requirements of this rebate program.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Rebate application and documentation must be submitted no later than 4/30/24. Funds are subject to availability. Check rebate website to ensure funds are still available.**