Residential Rebate Programs Across Canada

1. Rain barrel: The City of Chilliwack offers the rain barrel rebate program to homeowners to collect and store rainwater that runs off the roof of their homes. The city covers 50% of the cost (before tax) up to a maximum rebate value of $80 for a new rain barrel.

2. Rain Garden / Bioretention Rebate: The City of Guelph has offered a rain garden rebate program since 2019, pairing free home visits and guidance from a community organization (REEP Green Solutions) with a rebate of up to $2,000 for residential property owners to implement the practice [1].

3. Permeable Paving / Driveway Replacement Rebate: The City of Hamilton's Rain Ready Rebate allows homeowners to receive rebates for installing permeable paving, or other runoff-reducing solutions [2].

4. Downspout Disconnection Rebate: Peel Region offers a Downspout Disconnection Subsidy Program with a maximum of $100 per home for multiple downspout disconnections, and a separate Financial Assistance Program with up to $1,000 for low-income seniors or persons with disabilities [3]. Disconnecting downspouts from the foundation drainage system and directing roof runoff to the lawn or a rain barrel is low-cost, high-impact, and easy for residents to understand.

5. Sump Pump & Backwater Valve Installation Rebate: Mississauga's Basement Flooding Prevention Rebate Program allows homeowners to receive rebates of up to $6,800, covering installation of a sump pump (up to $6,000), downspout disconnection, and weeping tile disconnection (both up to $400) [4].

6. Foundation Drain (Weeping Tile) Disconnection Rebate: Eligible work under Mississauga's program includes installation of basement flood prevention measures such as sump pumps, foundation drain pipe capping, downspout disconnection, and storm lateral backwater valves [5].

7. Free Tree Distribution Program (as opposed to a cash rebate):

The City of Windsor offers up to 200 free trees per calendar year to residents, with spring and fall pickup events [6]. Rather than a rebate, this is a direct giveaway program with a lower administrative burden than a reimbursement model and very popular with the public.

Summary Table

Program	Stormwater Benefit	Admin Complexity	Cost Range	Municipality Currently Implementing Program
Rain barrel	Roof runoff capture	Low	$50–$120/unit	City of Chilliwack, Kamloops
Tree/shrub planting	Interception, ET	Low-Medium	$50–$200/tree	City of Windsor
Rain garden	Infiltration/retention	Medium	Up to $2,000	City of Guelph
Permeable paving	Reduces impervious area	Medium	$500–$2,000	City of Hamilton
Downspout disconnection	Diverts roof runoff	Low	$100–$400	City of Toronto
Sump pump / weeping tile disconnect	Reduces system inflow	Medium-High	$400–$6,000+	City of Mississauga
Free tree giveaway	Interception, ET	Low	Program cost only	City of Windsor

Note: **ET** stands for Evapotranspiration, which is the combined process of Evaporation and Transpiration, while **Interception** is the process where rainfall is caught and held by vegetation.

References

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