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# Pavement Removal Fact Sheet



## What is pavement removal?

Pavement removal is the replacement of impervious surfaces, such as asphalt and concrete, with grass or native plants or with permeable pavement. Instead of seeping through the soil (infiltrating) and replenishing groundwater, rainfall that falls on driveways, sidewalks, and other impervious surfaces rapidly accumulates in the form of runoff, which often contains pollutants (sediment, chemicals, animal waste, trash, etc.). Large expanses of impervious area are associated with increased stream bank erosion and decreased water quality.



**Before**



**After**

## What are the benefits to property owners and communities?

Reducing pavement on individual properties can:

- Improve downstream water quality, reduce downstream erosion, reduce stormwater runoff.
- Enhance property aesthetics with landscape vegetation and promote native plant species and habitat.
- Increase potential green space within the community.
- Cool parking lots and improve air quality.
- Reduce pavement maintenance costs and potentially increase home values.

## How can you determine if your property is suitable for pavement removal?

- Identify the types and locations of impervious pavements, e.g., driveways and sidewalks.
- While it is raining, observe where the rainwater flows on your property and identify areas that could benefit from reduced runoff through pavement removal.
- Measure the pavement area to be removed and compare it with the minimum area needed to qualify for a rebate.

## Qualifying for a rebate

Project	Individual Residence or Individual Members of a Housing Cooperative	Commercial, Homeowner Associations, Condominium Associations, Civic Associations, Multi-Family Dwellings, Nonprofits, Not-for-Profit Organizations, Housing Cooperatives
Pavement Removal	\$6 per square foot	\$6 per square foot (400 square foot minimum)

## What are the costs?

The cost of pavement removal varies considerably and is dependent on the scale of the project.

Costs include:

- Rental equipment (excavators, jackhammers, walk-behind pavement saws, and pick axes).
- Contractor, if work not done by property owner.
- Landscaping, debris haul away and disposal.

## Can you do this project yourself?

Yes, under most circumstances. But, pavement removal can be labor intensive and requires specialized tools and equipment. You may want to consider hiring a professional designer and a qualified contractor.

