



To: Veva Deheza

From: Brenda O'Brien, GreenCO Project Manager

Date: January 7, 2009

Re: Status Report for 95% Completion of GreenCO BMP Expansion Project

The project scope of work as outlined in the original grant includes seven tasks that build upon GreenCO's commitment to promote landscape water conservation and water resources protection.

Task 1 – 100% Complete

Convene industry-based task force to review existing BMP Manual to identify areas in need of expansion or revision.

Task 2 – 100% Complete

Revise BMP Manual and distribute the manuals on CD and in hard copy.

- The final version of manual is posted on GreenCO's website (www.greenco.org/bmp) and includes the following:

Status	Description	Status	Description
New	Sustainable Landscaping	2004	Mulching
2004	Xeriscape	2004	Drought and General Water Conservation Practices for Landscapes
2004	Water Budgeting	New	Snow Removal
Sig. Rev.	Landscape Design (including Plant Selection & Placement and Hardscapes)	2004	Production Practices for Nurseries, Greenhouses, and Sod Growers
2004	Landscape Installation/Erosion and Sediment Control	2004	Water Management Practices for Nurseries, Greenhouses, Sod Growers and Holding Yards
Sig. Rev.	Soil Amendment/Ground Preparation	2004	Retail Practices for Nurseries, Greenhouses and Garden Centers
New	Tree Protection	2004	Park, Golf Course and Other Large Landscape Design and Management
New	Tree Placement in Urban Landscapes	New	Landscape Features in Low Impact Development
New	Tree Planting	2004	Revegetation of Drainageways
Sig. Rev.	Irrigation Efficiency	2004	Riparian Buffer Preservation
Sig. Rev.	Irrigation System Design	2004	Employee Education

Sig. Rev.	Irrigation System Installation	2004	Public Education
Sig. Rev.	Irrigation System Maintenance	2004	Regulatory Awareness
New	Irrigation Efficiency Audits	Sig. Rev.	References
New	Irrigation Technology and Scheduling	New	Glossary
New	Irrigation Using Nonpotable Sources	2004	Appendix A Basic Erosion Sediment Control
2004	Landscape Maintenance	2004	Appendix B Basic Stormwater BMPs
Sig. Rev.	Tree and Other Woody Plant Care	2004	Appendix C Potentially Applicable Regulations
2004	Herbaceous Plant Care	2004	Appendix D Water Budget Calculator
2004	Turf Management	2004	Appendix E Plant Water Requirements (Kc/ET)
2004	Fertilizer Application	New	Appendix F Historical Grass Reference ET Tables
2004	Pesticide and Herbicide Application	New	Appendix G Irrigation Efficiency Audit--Pre-audit Checklist
2004	Pesticide, Fertilizer & Other Chemical Storage, Handling & Disposal	New	Appendix H Salt Tolerant Plants
2004	Lawn Aeration	New	Appendix I Continuing Education
2004	Lawn Waste Disposal/Composting	New	Appendix J Industry Checklists
2004	Mowing		

- CDs were reproduced and distributed to all GreenCO members. Hard copy manuals will be distributed to target audiences in January 2009.
- 100% of the matching hour requirements for grant were met through significant involvement from advisory committee and reviewers.
- The electronic version of the manual was prepared in two formats: 1) master manual with sequential page numbering; and 2) packaged set of individual BMP PDF files so that users can easily print BMPs of interest. The second packaging approach was completed in lieu of updating the BMP on-line search engine (which is no longer being used on the website). Additionally, Adobe PDF software enables key word searches without requiring a formal search engine.

Task 3 - 95% Complete

Package revised GreenCO BMPs in a manner that will enable direct insertion into CWCBC Water Conservation Plans and assist CWCBC in outreach/education related to the BMPs.

- A “utilities” packet was developed with input from CWCBC to accompany a complimentary copy of the BMP manual. The packet contains concise instructions on how GreenCO’s BMPs and training program can be integrated into required CWCBC conservation plans. The packet and manual will be sent to 150-300 utility decision makers across the State, based on input from CWCBC.

Task 4 – 100% Complete

Revise BMP training program materials to include additional example slides and other updated information.

- Training program revisions are complete and include a PowerPoint presentation, two versions of exams and answer keys in both English and Spanish. A “train the trainer” session has been conducted to introduce the new material.

Task 5 - 95% Complete

Coordinate with GreenCO members, water utilities, and local governments to facilitate broader awareness of and potential adoption of the BMP training program.

- The BMPs and training program will be rolled-out at ProGreen EXPO in January 2009 in English and Spanish. Both the training course and an overview update will be provided.
- GreenCO will provide a BMP overview and/or training for the following partners:
 - Peak to Prairie Symposium, Colorado Springs, February 2009.
 - Colorado WaterWise Council’s Event, Denver, April 2009.
 - BMP Training for the Landscape Registration Program, Town of Castle Rock, March/April 2009.
 - Colorado Municipal League Annual Conference, Vail, June 2009.
- Articles have been published in several newsletters and publications.
 - GreenCO News, monthly publications in 2008
 - Colorado Green Magazine, Oct 2007, Mar/June/Aug/Dec 2008
 - Colorado WaterWise Council newsletter, Nov 2007, Nov 2008
 - AWARE Colorado newsletter, Jan 2009
 - Colorado Watershed Assembly newsletter, Jan 2009
 - Colorado Municipal League, email and publication, Jan 2009
 - Spoke at Conservation Plan Training hosted by Great Western Institute, June 2008

Task 6 – 95% Complete

Publicize project goals and accomplishments to increase awareness of landscape water conservation tools available to the green industry, local governments and water providers.

- Articles written for the above mentioned publications have introduced the 3rd Release of Green Industry Best Management Practices for the Conservation and Protection of Water Resources in Colorado to all key stakeholders and instruct and invite water users and suppliers to take full advantage of the BMPs and training program. Public relations will continue long after the project is complete.

Task 7 – 100% Complete

Translation of BMP Manual and Training Materials to Spanish.

- Spanish translation is complete for all BMPs, training presentation, exams, appendices and industry checklists.

Conclusion

Overall, the project is a success and is within budget. GreenCO is excited to showcase the new material to all stakeholders and meet its objectives of:

- Decreasing water use and protecting water quality
- Developing internal and external water conservation education tools
- Developing drought preparedness/ industry survival strategies
- Leveraging industry lessons into broader community understanding and action

Due to the significant amount of new material integrated during Task 1, an extension of the project timeline was requested and granted by CWCB during the summer of 2008. The BMP project is expected to be 100% complete by January 31, 2009. The final products from the GreenCO BMP Expansion Project, as described above, will be delivered to CWCB for its records.

Respectfully submitted,



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