



WATER EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT FY2014-2015

OVERVIEW

The Water Efficiency Grant Program (WEGP), created in 2005 under HB05-1254 and expanded in 2007 through SB07-008, is administered by the Colorado Water Conservation Board's Office of Water Conservation & Drought Planning (OWCDP) within the Water Supply Planning Section.

This grant program provides financial assistance to communities, water providers, and eligible entities statewide for water efficiency and implementation, as well as drought planning and implementation projects.

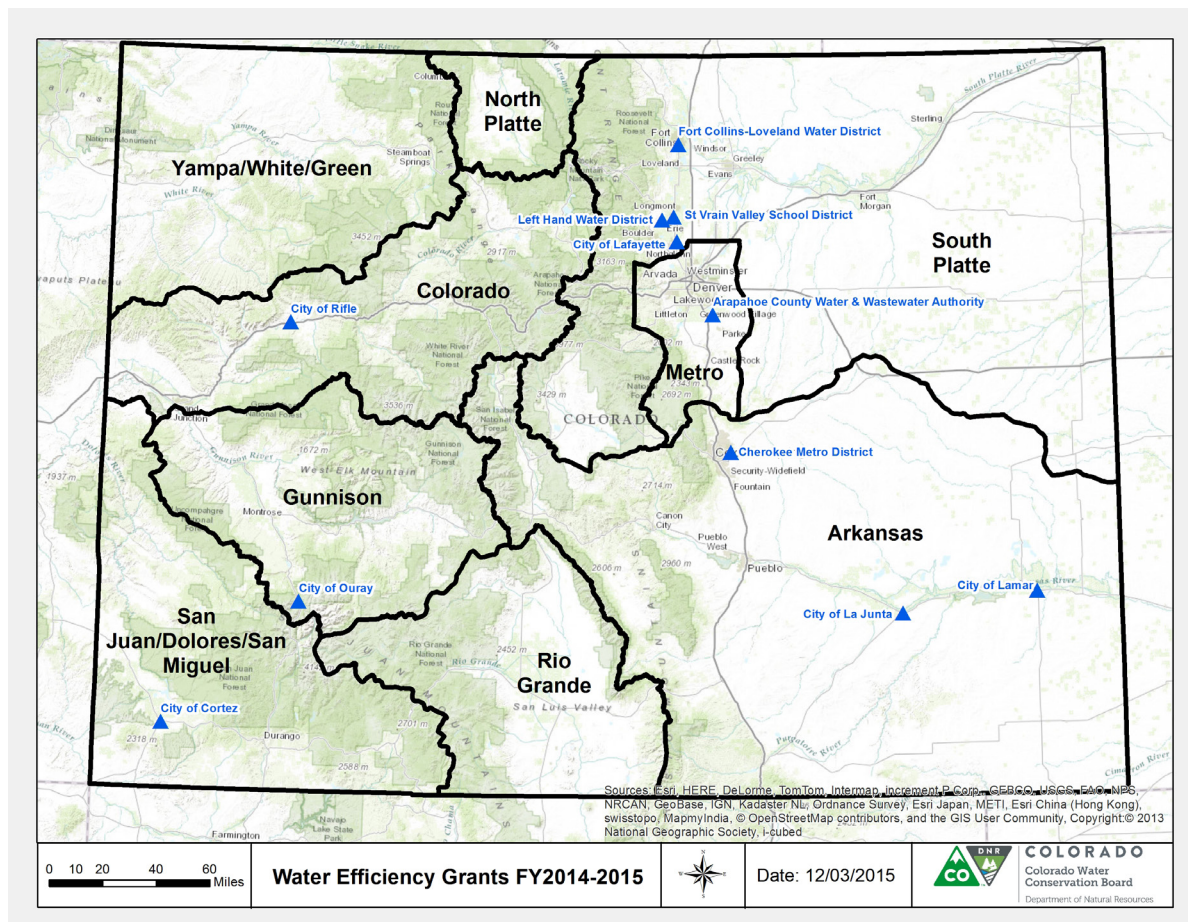
Since 2005, more than \$4.2 million has been awarded through this grant program.

For Fiscal Year 2014-2015, the CWCB awarded over \$482,000 to fourteen entities in six river basins.

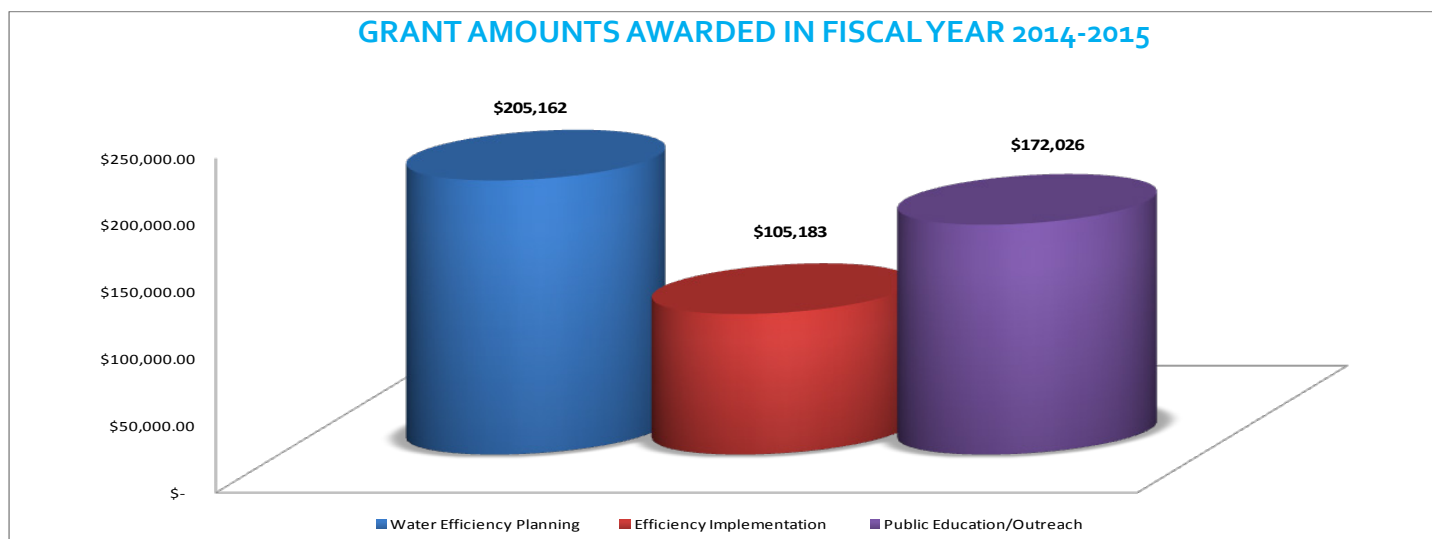
Water Efficiency Grants are available in the following areas of water resource planning:

- Water Efficiency Planning
- Water Efficiency Plan Implementation
- Water Resource Conservation Public Education & Outreach
- Drought Management Planning
- Drought Management Plan Implementation

GRANTS AWARDED IN FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015



In FY2014-15, 14 grants were awarded in six river basins. Two of the 14 grants awarded were statewide grants.



WATER EFFICIENCY PLANNING PROJECTS

A goal of the CWCB is to provide technical and financial support and assistance to water providers, state, and local governmental entities to develop or update Water Efficiency Plans. Across Colorado, water entities of all sizes turn to the CWCB for assistance with local water efficiency planning efforts.

For Fiscal Year 2014-2015, the OWCDP awarded seven water efficiency planning grants to the following entities:

| | | |
|--|----------|--------------|
| Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority | \$43,323 | Metro |
| Cherokee Metro District | \$27,000 | Arkansas |
| City of La Junta | \$16,200 | Arkansas |
| City of Lamar | \$19,100 | Arkansas |
| City of Rifle | \$30,200 | Colorado |
| Fort Collins-Loveland Water District | \$35,406 | South Platte |
| Left Hand Water District | \$32,933 | South Platte |

WATER EFFICIENCY IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Entities may utilize WEGP money to implement the goals and programs identified in their CWCB-approved Water Efficiency Plan.

For Fiscal Year 2014-2015, the CWCB awarded three grants for implementation projects to the following entities:

City of Ouray

Water Measurement Plan – \$49,964

Gunnison Basin

The City of Ouray is utilizing grant money to implement Phase One of the City's Water Measurement Plan. The Plan aims to provide a foundation of implementing water efficiency measures and improve overall system efficiency. Phase One of the plan focuses on Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) improvements which will enable the City to:

- *Create a baseline of their water supply and usage data*
- *To better track water usage and supply at water sources*
- *Improve measurement of wastewater flows*

Once the City has the ability to accurately collect and analyze their baseline data, they will be able to better prioritize future water efficiency measures and track future water savings.



City of Lafayette

City Hall Fixture Replacement Program – \$5,219

South Platte Basin

The City of Lafayette is using grant money to replace several fixtures inside the Lafayette City Hall. The City has been promoting water efficiency and believes the best way to show their commitment to wise

water use is to lead by example. The fixtures that will be replaced are indoor fixtures such as toilets, urinals and water faucets. The City will install nine .8 gallons per flush (gpf) toilets in both men and women's restrooms. Two .5 gpf urinals will be installed in the men's restroom and nine .5 gallons per minute water faucets will be installed in all bathrooms and the City Hall's kitchen. The City has estimated, based on daily water use of its staff, 78,000 gallons of water will be saved annually.

City of Cortez

Meter Replacement - \$50,000

Southwest Basin

In combination with CWCB Loan funds, the City of Cortez has replaced 3,400 existing water meters and upgraded their entire system with Automatic Meter Reading devices. The new meters will provide the City with more accurate, frequent information which will enable them to reduce the amount of water lost due to leaks. The City believes the installation of new meters will result in approximately 138 acre feet in water savings by the end of 2017.

A newly installed water meter with a radio antenna will help the City of Cortez gather more timely and accurate data.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROJECTS

The CWCB is committed to promoting the benefits of water resource conservation and supporting statewide public education and outreach efforts to increase water conservation awareness. Public education & outreach grants can reach a broad audience and help achieve these goals.

For Fiscal Year 2014-2015, the CWCB awarded four grants for public education & outreach projects to the following organizations.

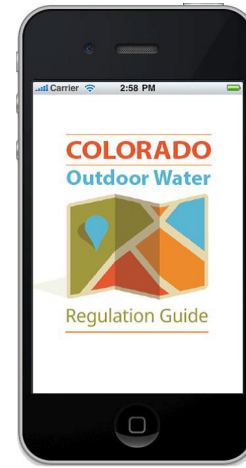
Center for Resource Conservation

School District Water Efficiency Project - \$48,882

The Center for Resource Conservation (CRC) received grant funds to perform 20 indoor assessments at pre-selected K-12 schools and 10 outdoor assessments for high outdoor water use schools in the St. Vrain Valley School District. In addition to the assessments, the CRC has also developed a database of lesson plans for St. Vrain educators around water efficiency which is available on the St. Vrain School District's blog. Water curriculum developed through the grant will also be posted at the blog site. Another component of the project was to educate students about water efficiency. Students at Longmont Estates Elementary helped perform an indoor assessment on faucets throughout their school providing a valuable hands-on experience.

Colorado Water Innovation Cluster: NetZero Water Planning Toolkit - \$49,399

The Colorado Water Innovation Cluster (CWIC) was awarded grant money to develop a NetZero Water (NZW) Toolkit & Analysis Tool. NZW planning is a water management concept that makes water resource planning decisions based on local conditions. Rather than securing water supplies to meet historical demand patterns, a NZW approach looks at local precipitation patterns and tries to maintain consumption at or below that available local supply. "Water neutral" means using only as much water as falls on a site. The Toolkit will help users determine a company's baseline and forecasted water footprint, identify ways to reduce water consumption and measure progress during implementation. The Net Zero Water Planning Toolkit is available for download at: <http://brendlegroup.com/water/netzerowater/buildingtoolkitdownload>



Colorado WaterWise

Smart Phone App for Landscaping & Utility

Professionals - \$24,245

Colorado WaterWise (CWW) used grant funds to develop a Smartphone and a desktop application to consolidate and house extensive utility codes and ordinances from sixteen Front Range utilities. The App provides quicker information for landscape field professionals saving time and money as they can access the information using their phone rather than making a call to the utility. The App is currently available at both the iTunes Store and the Google Play Store. A mobile site was also created and can be accessed at m.h2oregsco.org. To date, the App has been downloaded 83 times with minimal marketing. CWW will begin a marketing campaign in 2016 to promote the App.

The Keystone Center

Water & Growth Dialogue Phase 2 - \$49,500

The Keystone Center, along with a working group composed of about 30 water/land use planners, land/economic developers and policy makers, is continuing its work to identify and explore impactful strategies that, if achieved, will help reduce water use in new development and redevelopment for Colorado. A Technical Sub-Committee was created in Phase 1 of this project to develop a set of recommended land use patterns and a strategy to determine the savings potential of each pattern. Moving forward, the second phase of the dialogue will propose the best strategies to address the water and growth issue as well as proposing specific implementation plans.

Drought Management Planning Projects

Drought is one of the most destructive of all natural hazards, yet often the least planned for by local governments. Drought adversely affects nearly all sectors of Colorado's economy; however, improved drought management can reduce these impacts.

By developing Drought Management Plans, communities are working to appropriately address and reduce existing and potential drought related impacts. These Plans can help to preserve essential public services and minimize the effects of a water supply emergency on public health and safety, the local economy, environmental resources and quality of life.

During FY 2014-2015, no applications were submitted.



OFFICE OF WATER CONSERVATION & DROUGHT PLANNING

WATER SUPPLY PLANNING SECTION

The CWCB's Office of Water Conservation and Drought Planning was created to promote water conservation and drought mitigation planning and implementation by: acting as a repository for related information; providing technical assistance; providing financial assistance; and providing evaluation of plans to address water needs and prepare for water related emergencies.

