



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Colorado WaterWise
Name of Water Project	Native Grass Manual Website
Grant Request Amount	\$50,000.00
Primary Category	\$50,000.00
<i>Conservation & Land Use Planning</i>	
Total Applicant Match	\$21,450.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$0.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$21,450.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	\$9,800.00
<i>Northern Water</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Western Resource Advocates</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>City and County of Denver - Climate Action, Sustainability, & Resilience</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Denver Water</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Aura Water</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>Joan Sapp / Landscaping Business Owner</i>	\$300.00
Total Project Cost	\$81,250.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Colorado WaterWise
Mailing Address: PO Box 101012 Denver CO 80250
FEIN: 841,155,433

Organization Contact: Melissa Brasfield
Position/Title:
Phone: 720-471-0042

Email: admin@coloradowaterwise.org

Grant Management Contact: Melissa Brasfield
Position/Title:
Phone: 720-471-0042

Email: admin@coloradowaterwise.org

Description of Grantee/Applicant

No description provided

Type of Eligible Entity

- ☐ Public (Government)
- ☐ Public (District)
- ☐ Public (Municipality)

- ☐ Ditch Company
- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☒ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity
- ☐ Other

Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects
Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- ☒ Conservation & Land Use Planning
Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- ☐ Engagement & Innovation Activities
Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- ☐ Watershed Restoration & Recreation
Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- ☐ Water Storage & Supply
Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.

Location of Water Project

Latitude 39.679751
 Longitude -104.943551
 Lat Long Flag Default/Proponent headquarters: If the location cannot be defined with flags above, use location of project proponent headquarters
 Water Source
 Basins Arkansas; Colorado; Gunnison; Metro; Yampa/White/Green; Rio Grande; South Platte; Southwest; Nort...
 Counties Adams; Archuleta; Baca; Boulder; Cheyenne; Clear Creek; Arapahoe; Bent; Broomfield; Chaffee; Alamosa
 Districts

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type Education
 Type of Water Project Education
 Scheduled Start Date - Design 1/1/2023
 Scheduled Start Date - Construction
 Description
 Purpose
 To produce an educational manual that describes the best practices for the successful installation and maintenance of native and water-wise grasses in urban/suburban landscapes in Colorado.
 Need

Native and water-wise grasses have become a viable water conservation measure, especially for replacement of high-water turfgrass in large commercial and municipal landscapes. But current native grass installation and maintenance best practices have not been systematically identified, current projects have many points of failure, and are not a common skill set among landscape professionals. This project seeks to distill best known steps into actionable procedures, create usable resources, and educate landscape owners/managers along with landscape industry professionals.

Project Objectives

1. Document consistent, expert guidance, and best practices to maximize project success. Identify common causes of failure, potential risks, and provide guidance to improve outcomes.
2. Provide usable tools for landscape professionals, project managers, program managers, and associated parties involved in decisions and oversight of grass projects.
3. Include case studies to showcase options, costs vs. benefits, and water/maintenance savings.
4. Communicate options for different ecological regions.

While not achieving water savings directly, this project will enable successful numerous projects and programs to achieve measurable landscape water savings throughout Colorado.

Measurable Results

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)

Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning

1,500,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity

Other

This website will be an informational resource that will enable water providers, municipalities, and other entities to create landscape water efficiency programs that achieve measurable water savings for their communities.

Water Project Justification

The Native Grass Manual aligns with the Colorado Water Plan's vision and supports the plan's "action areas" of building vibrant and resilient communities. The plan identifies partner and agency actions to support conservation in the state. This project supports those actions by creating support tools, developing collaborative solutions, and increasing conservation.

Rethinking landscape design in our state is a viable adaptive approach to mitigating our uncertain water future. The manual will equip Coloradans with the education needed to transition from water-thirsty turf to water-wise native grasses. It can aid in shifting dated perceptions of what is suitable for Colorado landscapes. Some of the many benefits of this project include water conservation and efficiency, climate resiliency, and biodiversity. This project has the potential to impact every basin in our state positively. It is currently supported by The Metro, South Platte, and Arkansas Basin Roundtables and supports their implementation plans through broadening communications, education, and outreach about appropriate landscapes in Colorado.

Related Studies

No related studies; program supports the implementation of CWCB turf replacement program.

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

No TABOR impacts associated with this program.