

**COLORADO**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Colorado Water Conservation Board

**Water Plan****Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	Thompson School District
Name of Water Project	Cottonwood Plains Elementary School Low Water Landscaping Upgrade
Grant Request Amount	<b>\$41,500.00</b>
Primary Category	\$41,500.00
<i>Engagement &amp; Innovation Activities</i>	
Total Applicant Match	<b>\$33,200.00</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$12,000.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$21,200.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	<b>\$8,500.00</b>
<i>Northern Water</i>	\$8,500.00
Total Project Cost	<b>\$83,200.00</b>

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: Thompson School District  
Mailing Address: 800 S Taft Ave Loveland CO 80537  
FEIN: 846,013,346

Organization Contact: Melissa Carroll

Position/Title:

Phone: 970-613-5380

Email: melissa.carroll@tsd.org

Organization Contact - Alternate: John Rowell

Position/Title: Project Manager

Phone:

Email: john.rowell@tsd.org

Grant Management Contact: Melissa Carroll

Position/Title:

Phone: 970-613-5380

Email: melissa.carroll@tsd.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 40.473054  
 Longitude -105.069154  
 Lat Long Flag Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project  
 Water Source Municipal - potable water from Fort Collins-Loveland Water District  
 Basins South Platte  
 Counties Larimer  
 Districts 4-Big Thompson River

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type  
 Type of Water Project Education  
 Scheduled Start Date - Design 4/16/2023  
 Scheduled Start Date - Construction  
 Description  
 Cottonwood Plains Elementary School seeks to replace approximately 3,000 square feet of irrigated Kentucky Blue Grass turf at the front entrance of the school with native, low-water landscaping. The goals of this project are to reduce the outdoor water demand of the school and to provide a showcase to the community of the potential natural beauty available through native, low-water landscaping. While contractors will be needed for a majority of the site preparation, students, parents, and staff will be involved in the planting to establish a sense of ownership and hands-on learning. The design was developed through the partnership of Northern Water and Denver Botanic Gardens and promotes plant diversity, all-seasons color, and low maintenance landscaping. The design offers pathways and sitting areas through the garden. The Thompson School District intends to use this site as an example for future turf conversion projects across the District. This project is intended to start in Spring

2023, with planting occurring early Summer 2023. However, if full grant funding is not available through the CWCB and WSRF, the project will be broken into phases with each of the three turf sections being completed as their own phase over a 3-year period, or as funding is available.

### 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)  
 \$350 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)  
 17,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning  
 2,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity  
 Other  
 Students of Cottonwood Plains ES will have a better understanding and ownership of the water use in their school through their participation in the installation of the low water, native landscaping. The site will act as a demonstration garden for the school district community as well as the community surrounding the school. Hopefully, this will encourage others to remove unnecessary irrigated turf around with low water, native landscaping as well.

### Water Project Justification

The Colorado Water Plan focuses on efficiently using water for long-term sustainability under various scenarios and across all water users. This includes both systematic changes through infrastructure and technology improvements as well as behavioral changes through outreach and education. The basin roundtables have specific goals and strategies to support the Colorado Water Plan on a watershed basin scale. The Cottonwood Plains Elementary School (CPES) landscape project is in alignment with the Colorado Water Plan and the South Platte River Basin Roundtable goals for long-term water reduction through the permanent replacement of high water-using turf with low water-using native landscaping. By providing funding to the Thompson School District (District) for this project, the basin is fulfilling its first goal of encouraging implementation of projects, since funding is critical to make something like this happen. This project also supports the basin's third goal of maintaining and promoting municipal and industrial conservation and efficiency, since CPES uses municipal water for irrigation and would be conserving water with the updated landscaping. Additionally, this project is intended to promote and demonstrate the natural beauty available through low water use landscaping. Overall, this project educates the community about the benefits, importance, and possibilities of low water use landscaping for long-term water conservation and efficiency.

### Related Studies

No Related Studies provided

### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

No Tax Bill of Rights provided