

**COLORADO**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Colorado Water Conservation Board

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

|                                             |                                    |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Name of Applicant                           | Eagle County Conservation District |
| Name of Water Project                       | Beyond Lawn Phase II               |
| Grant Request Amount                        | <b>\$346,018.90</b>                |
| Primary Category                            | \$346,018.90                       |
| <i>Conservation &amp; Land Use Planning</i> |                                    |
| Total Applicant Match                       | <b>\$9,550.00</b>                  |
| <i>Applicant Cash Match</i>                 | \$5,550.00                         |
| <i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>              | \$4,000.00                         |
| Total Other Sources of Funding              | <b>\$179,075.00</b>                |
| <i>Beyond Lawn Participants</i>             | \$22,500.00                        |
| <i>Homeowner's Association</i>              | \$60,000.00                        |
| <i>Town of Avon</i>                         | \$20,000.00                        |
| <i>Town of Eagle</i>                        | \$20,000.00                        |
| <i>Eagle River Coalition</i>                | \$10,000.00                        |
| <i>Coca-Cola</i>                            | \$12,075.00                        |
| <i>Property Owner</i>                       | \$30,000.00                        |
| <i>Exploremos</i>                           | \$4,500.00                         |
| Total Project Cost                          | <b>\$534,643.90</b>                |

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: Eagle County Conservation District  
Mailing Address: PO Box 360 Eagle CO 81631

Organization Contact: Laura Bohannon

Position/Title:

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Phone: 970-445-0307

Organization Contact - Alternate: Allegra Waterman-Snow

Position/Title: District Lead Technician

Email: [allegra@eccdistrict.org](mailto:allegra@eccdistrict.org)

Phone: 3152435590

Grant Management Contact: Laura Bohannon

Position/Title:

Email: [laura@eccdistrict.org](mailto:laura@eccdistrict.org)

Phone: 970-445-0307

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Allegra Waterman-Snow

Position/Title: District Lead Technician

Email: [allegra@eccdistrict.org](mailto:allegra@eccdistrict.org)

Phone: 3152435590

**Description of Grantee/Applicant**

CO Special District- Title 35; Conservation and Natural Resource Management

### 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      | 39.652044                                                         |
| Longitude     | -106.828553                                                       |
| Lat Long Flag | County centroid: Coordinates based on centroid of county boundary |
| Water Source  | Eagle River Watershed                                             |
| Basins        | Colorado                                                          |
| Counties      | Eagle                                                             |
| Districts     | 37-Eagle River Basin                                              |

### Water Project Overview

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Major Water Use Type                | Municipal                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Type of Water Project               | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Scheduled Start Date - Design       | 1/1/2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Scheduled Start Date - Construction |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Description                         | The Beyond Lawn Phase II project will build on the success of the Eagle County Conservation District's (ECCD) existing Beyond Lawn program, which has effectively promoted water conservation and waterwise landscaping, |

reduced non-functional turf, and increased biodiversity throughout Eagle County.

In response to growing demand, Phase II aims to broaden the program's reach and deepen its impact by expanding technical assistance, education, and on-the-ground support for landowners, HOAs, and public entities. Key components include: 1) integrating simple landscape and hydrozone designs into site evaluations and reports, 2) partnering with and training independent contractors to work directly with Beyond Lawn participants, 3) enhancing educational workshops and resources, 4) launching an internship program, 5) installing waterwise demonstration gardens, 6) offering Spanish translation and interpretive resources, 7) expanding Home Owners Association (HOA) consultations, rebates, and support through a new HOA grant program, and 8) maintaining support for rebates from stakeholders.

These efforts will drive measurable reductions in outdoor water use, promote healthy soils, and support resilient, biodiverse landscapes across Eagle County. As the western slope continues to face aridification, Beyond Lawn Phase II is a critical step in addressing the region's growing demand for practical solutions in water conservation and sustainable landscaping.

### 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)                                                    |
|       | Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)                                                   |
|       | Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)                                                                       |
|       | Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)                                                                     |
| 5     | Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)                                                           |
|       | Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet) |
| 1,000 | Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning              |
| 1,500 | Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity                                                    |
| Other |                                                                                                         |

Beyond Lawn Phase II will continue to create positive impacts on new storage created and financial/water efficiency savings. The Efficient Irrigation System Program, originally funded by CWCB, is not complete and therefore we cannot predict water savings for the second phase of this project. The Eagle County Conservation District will continue to collect before and after water data pertaining to each grant.

### Water Project Justification

In the face of Colorado's growing water scarcity, the Beyond Lawn Program emphasizes the urgent need for water conservation, and it empowers the community with innovative tools, knowledge, and support to create sustainable solutions. These solutions both promote and implement long-term strategies found in the Colorado Water Plan, the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan, and the Education Action Plan.

The Beyond Lawn Phase II grant supports key Colorado Water Plan objectives by translating state-level goals into actionable, community-based solutions that promote long-term water sustainability. It directly supports the Water Plan's Vibrant Communities vision in section 1.7 (CWP 2023, p. 188), which calls for "Identifying turf replacement options that support transformative landscape change." This grant activates each tool cited in the Plan, including water efficiency and conservation programming, public outreach and education, policy and regulatory changes, equity, and collaboration.

Beyond Lawn Phase II also advances key goals and themes of the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan, particularly in promoting outdoor water conservation through turf replacement, education, and collaborative implementation. It directly supports: "Theme 1: Protect and restore healthy streams, rivers, lakes and riparian areas" (Vol. 1, p. 14) by reducing water waste and minimizing runoff to protect streamflows; "Theme 4: Develop local water conscious land use strategies" (Vol. 1, p. 18) by fostering community led water conservation within the Eagle Valley and encouraging local adoption of water-saving policies and codes; and "Theme 6: Encourage a high level of basinwide conservation" (Vol. 1, p. 19) by providing private landowners, municipalities, HOAs, and special districts with practical tools, educational resources, and implementation support towards waterwise landscaping, best management practices for land use, and sustainable outdoor water use.

Lastly, Beyond Lawn Phase II strongly supports the Colorado Basin Education Action Plan (EAP) 2021–2022 by elevating public awareness, expanding community engagement, and fostering collaborative solutions for outdoor water conservation. In alignment with the EAP's vision and goals, the program prioritizes public outreach through workshops, demonstration gardens, local events, and personalized landscape evaluations that empower residents to take action. It also reflects the collaborative strategies outlined in the EAP by uniting municipalities, special districts, state agencies, and nonprofit partners to implement the Beyond Lawn's water conservation program.

Overall, the Beyond Lawn Phase II grant supports the goals of the Colorado Water Plan, the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan, and the Education Action Plan by promoting outdoor water efficiency strategies, sustainable landscaping practices, and community-led conservation. Beyond Lawn addresses urgent conservation needs while empowering local residents to take meaningful, measurable, and necessary action. Ultimately, this program positions Eagle County as a leader and a model for innovative and sustainable water management across Colorado.

### Related Studies

The Beyond Lawn Phase II grant is a continuation of a 3-year project, originally called the Water Efficient Landscape Conversion Program. This grant was funded by the Colorado River District's "Community Funding Partnership" and Colorado Water Conservation Board's "Water Plan Grant" (Efficient Irrigation System Program).

Now called Beyond Lawn, this program established water conservation and biodiversity strategies through Landscape and Irrigation Evaluations, non-functional turf replacement and irrigation system rebates, public waterwise demonstration gardens, HOA outreach, DIY Landscape Conversion and Rain Barrel workshops, and educational resources on sustainable landscapes and outdoor water conservation strategies. Please see the attached "Beyond Lawn Impact Report" for metrics.

With a growing population, shrinking water supplies, and rising water costs, the demand for waterwise solutions like the Beyond Lawn program has surged. Widely supported by the community, local governments, and stakeholders, the program has become a key component of Eagle County's water conservation strategy. As this program becomes a model for the Western Slope, its potential to scale results is no longer limited to the Eagle River Valley and additional funding is imperative.

Beyond Lawn Phase II aims to amplify its impact, improve outcomes, and expand community reach while addressing gaps identified during the program's initial development.

### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

N/A

