



# **Water Education Colorado – For a Water Aware Colorado**

**Jayla Poppleton, Water Education Colorado  
Interim Water Resources Review Committee  
Sept. 12, 2019**

# HEADWATERS

OF THE COLORADO WATER RESOURCES FEDERATION

*Inaugural Issue*

## DROUGHT 2002

COLORADO'S DRIEST  
YEAR ON RECORD?

HARD TIMES ON THE WHITE RIVER:  
LESSONS FROM HISTORY - LAW & DROUGHT  
2003 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

# Legislative founding – HB02 1152

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



WELCOME FROM DIANE HOPPE  
INAUGURAL ISSUE, HEADWATERS MAGAZINE

*W*elcome, readers, to this inaugural issue of Headwaters magazine published by the Colorado Foundation for Water Education. I certainly hope you enjoy it.

The Colorado Foundation for Water Education was established legislatively by the Colorado General Assembly in 2002, during one of the state's worst droughts. The purpose and mission of the Foundation is to promote a better understanding of water issues through educational opportunities and resources, so Colorado citizens will understand water as a limited resource and make informed decisions. The Foundation does not take an advocacy position on any water issue.

Headwaters magazine is designed to provide up-to-date information on recent events and fundamental concerns related to Colorado's water resources. Growth, legal developments, drought, floods and the use of water in the everyday lives of Coloradans are some of the very public and personal themes we will explore in every quarterly issue.

The feature of this inaugural issue is drought, a very timely topic in the fall of 2003. In this issue we recount the 2002 drought - its severity and what it says about our vulnerability to future droughts. Thank you, Roger Peake, our State Climatologist, for presenting us with important information on just how little precipitation we did receive during last year's withering dry spell. Reagan Waskom, Colorado State University, provides us with critical information on how

severe drought conditions in 2002 had significant impacts on the state's economy and natural resources. And, as Justice Hobbs recounts, drought events have profoundly shaped our state's water laws and institutions.

Our "Profiles" section features individuals from around the state whose lives are shaped by their relationship and dependence on our water resources. In this issue we highlight residents from the small town of Meeker who all managed to "give a little bit" so that the community as a whole could survive in tough times.

In our special section "Voices" we ask writers and poets to submit their original work. Thank you, Mary Crow, Colorado's Poet Laureate, for creating the poem "Colorado Drought" especially for this inaugural issue of the magazine. Also, thanks to Katie Post, for sharing your River Of Words prize winning poem, "I Am the Headwaters."

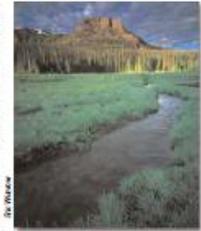
I hope you will consider becoming a member of the Foundation and subscribing to Headwaters magazine.

The Foundation for Water Education is a non-profit organization, and proceeds from your membership or subscription will be used to fund additional water education efforts.

Thank you!

*Diane Hoppe*

State Representative (R. Sterling)  
& President, CPWE

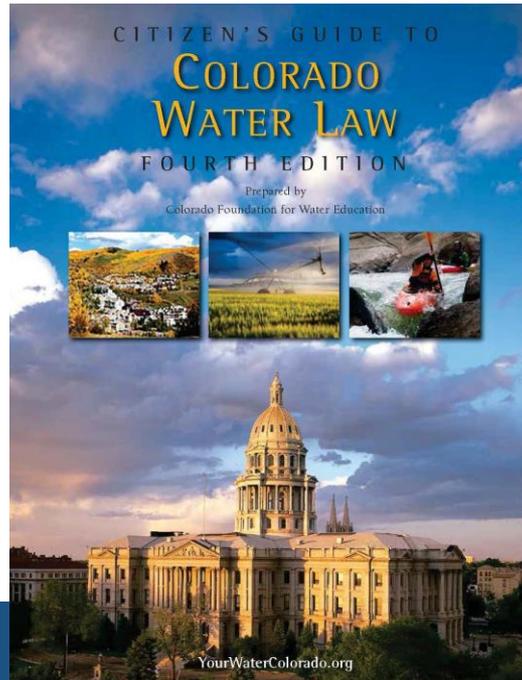


File Photo: Wikimedia  
Upper Colorado River Basin

*"Growth, legal developments, drought, floods and the use of water in the everyday lives of Coloradans are some of the very public and personal themes we will explore in every quarterly issue."*



# Water keeps Colorado running

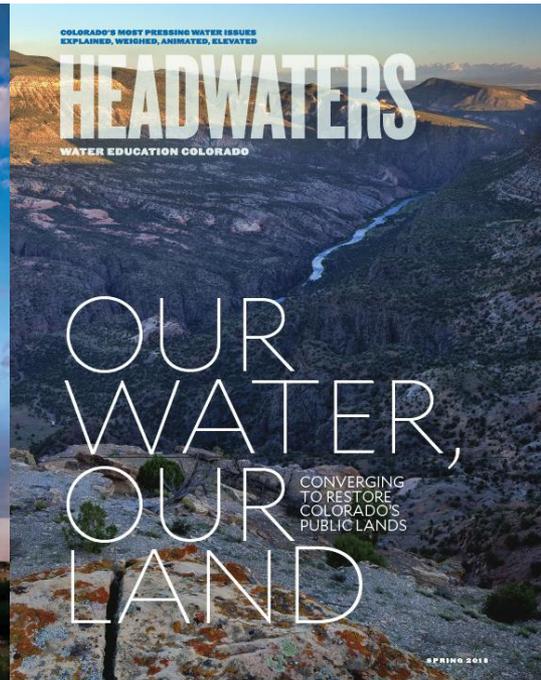


CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO  
**COLORADO WATER LAW**  
FOURTH EDITION

Prepared by  
Colorado Foundation for Water Education



[YourWaterColorado.org](#)



COLORADO'S MOST PRESSING WATER ISSUES EXPLAINED, WEIGHED, ANIMATED, ELEVATED

# HEADWATERS

WATER EDUCATION COLORADO

# OUR WATER, OUR LAND

CONVERGING TO RESTORE COLORADO'S PUBLIC LANDS

SPRING 2018

# Headwaters Magazine – 48 issues and counting



# Existing Citizen's Guide library – 9 guides



CITIZEN'S

COLORADO  
CLIMATE

Prepared by  
Colorado Foundation

CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO

**Where Your Water  
Comes From**

SECOND EDITION

PREPARED BY WATER EDUCATION COLORADO

CHANGING WATER ISSUES  
IDENTIFIED, ELEVATED

**DOWATERS**

COLORADO

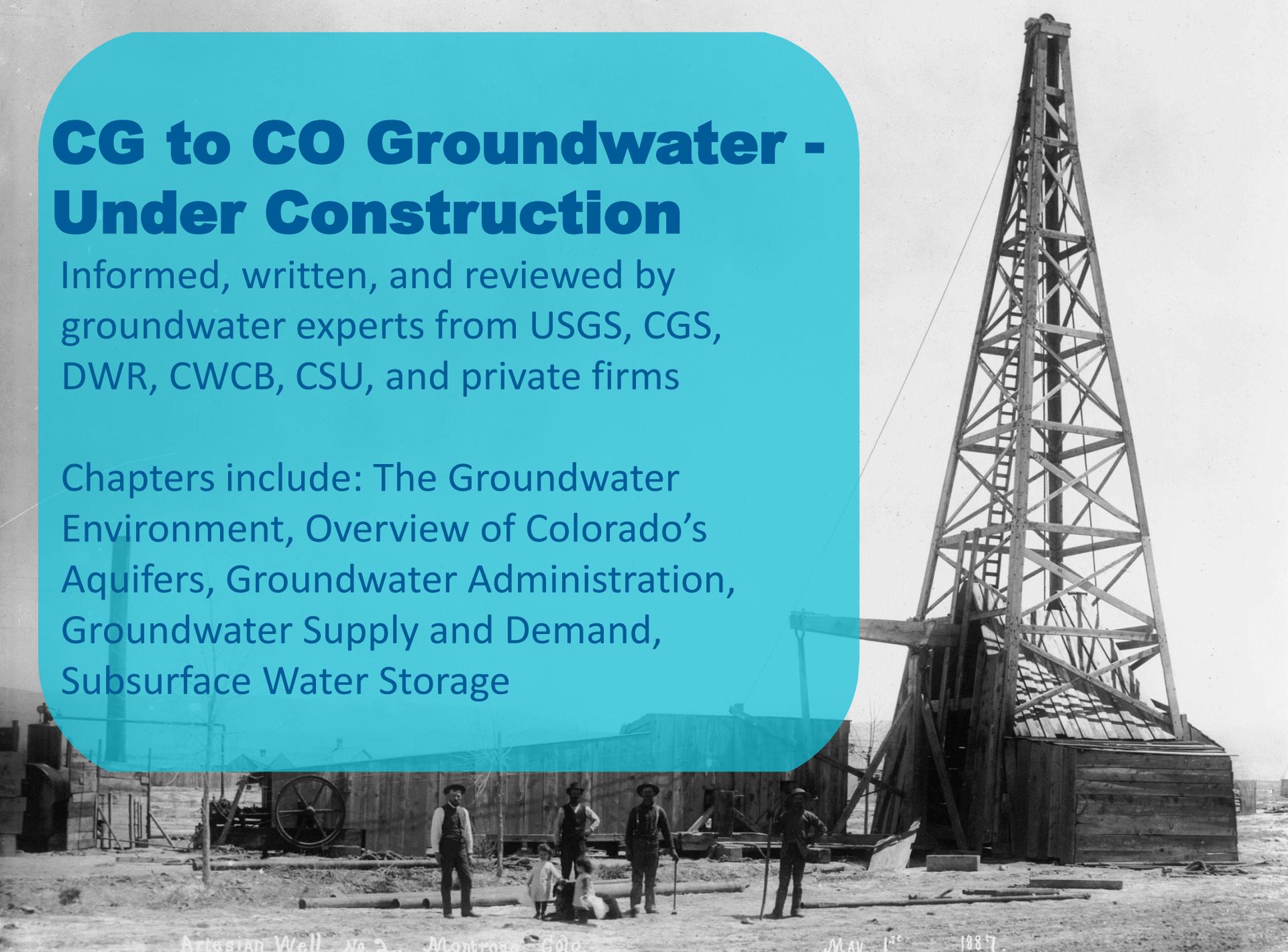
WHAT WILL  
POTTER  
PURE MEAN  
WATER?

SPRING 2019

# CG to CO Groundwater - Under Construction

Informed, written, and reviewed by  
groundwater experts from USGS, CGS,  
DWR, CWCB, CSU, and private firms

Chapters include: The Groundwater  
Environment, Overview of Colorado's  
Aquifers, Groundwater Administration,  
Groundwater Supply and Demand,  
Subsurface Water Storage



# Audiences & Distribution

- Decision makers
- Various courses, trainings, conferences
- WEco Water Fluency program
- Interested citizens



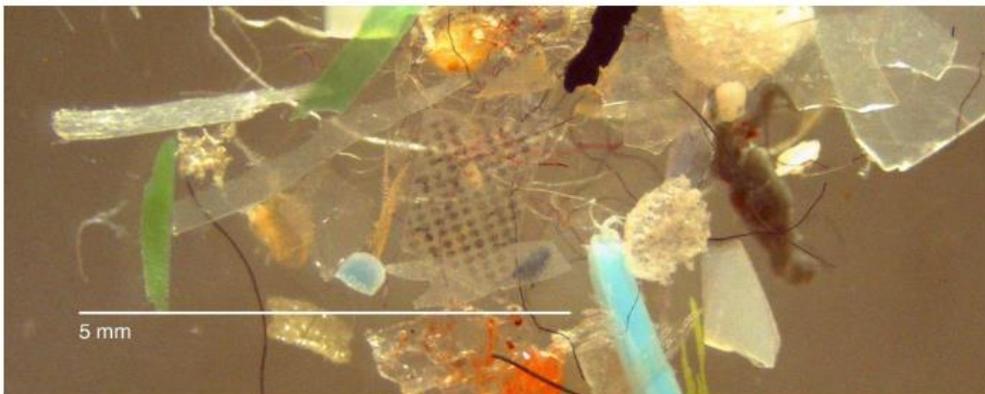
- Headwaters readership 5,000+
- More than 2,000 Citizen's Guides distributed annually
- All available online

## Fresh Water News

An independent nonpartisan news service on Western water.

### Microplastic pollutants found in pristine Colorado high country, can a San Francisco Bay research initiative offer answers?

by Gary Pitzer | July 31, 2019



#### ENVIRONMENT



#### Denver Water asks EPA for rare exemption from Safe Drinking Water Act

July 17, 2019 by Jerd Smith

#### News Digest

Despite a \$50 million PFAS cleanup in El Paso County, residents remain concerned about the contamination

# Fresh Water News delivery



## FRESH WATER NEWS 8/21/2019

Fresh Water News is an initiative of Water Education Colorado dedicated to covering water issues across Colorado and the West. This week FWN looks at a major new effort, fueled by hundreds of thousands of dollars and a small army of volunteers, to plant trees to restore a shade canopy and help the Yampa River stay cool in the face of climate change. We're also following a new technology that uses Fitbit-like devices to monitor crop water use; the first-ever mandatory water cutbacks on the Colorado River; and a look at the City of Aurora's decision to spend \$34 million to reclaim water from a toxic mine site.

### This week from Fresh Water News



Far away in northwestern Colorado's Yampa River Basin, a massive community tree-planting effort aims to help the river combat climate change

As the young shade trees take hold, the program may offer hope for other rivers in the American West

[Read more Fresh Water News here](#)

### Top stories from Colorado and the West



Can Fitbit-like device help corn growers use less water?

Researchers in Nebraska and Iowa think their device could hold one of the answers to reducing farm water use

[Read more here](#)



# Annual River Basin Tour - Coming to the Lower Arkansas June 2019







# Water Leaders - 175 graduates

## November applications open for 2020



# Wagers for Watersheds

June 21, 2018



#RecycledWaterFest2018

watereducationco  
Water Education Colorado  
www.wateredco.org

hosted in partnership with  
WATER REUSE  
COLORADO



4,009 likes  
Water Education Colorado: Informing the conversation for a sustainable water future! #recycledwaterfest2018 #wateriswater #jointheconversation #waterintowine #drankityoucantoo



Oct. 18, 2018 from 5:30-7:30 pm  
CU-South Denver: Outdoors on the Veranda  
10035 S Peoria St, Parker, CO 80134

Public welcome!

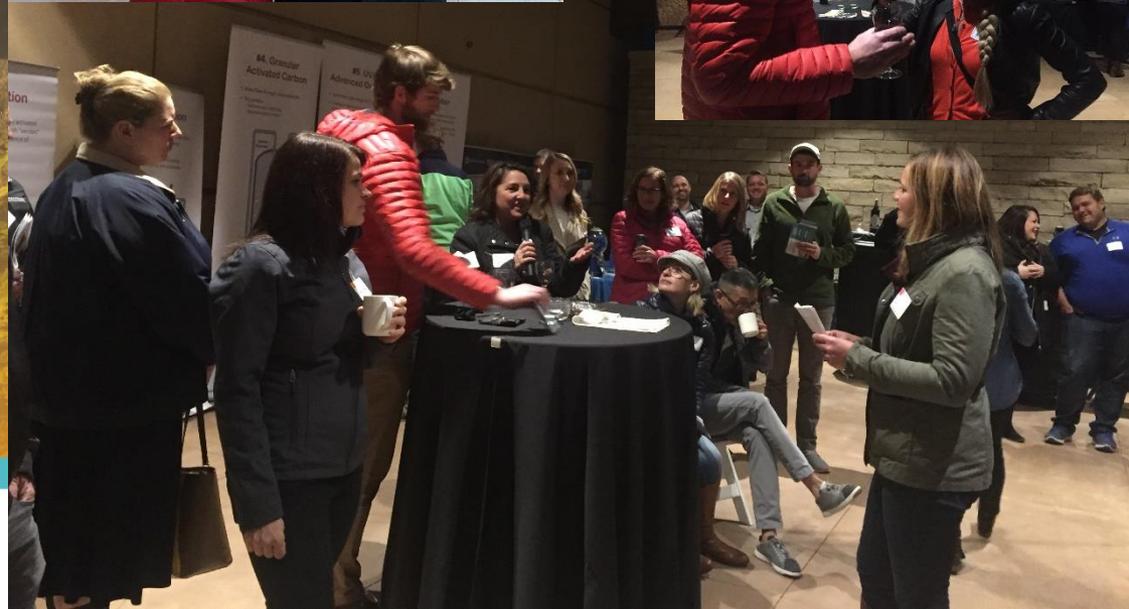
# BLUE IS THE NEW GREEN

## RECYCLED WATER FEST

Appetizers Bounce House Fire Pit Free Pumpkins

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle WATER!  
Come learn how Colorado can use water more than once to meet the needs of a growing population.

LEARN MORE AND RSVP AT [WWW.WATEREDCO.ORG](http://WWW.WATEREDCO.ORG)



# The Fork Not Taken

March 8, 2019



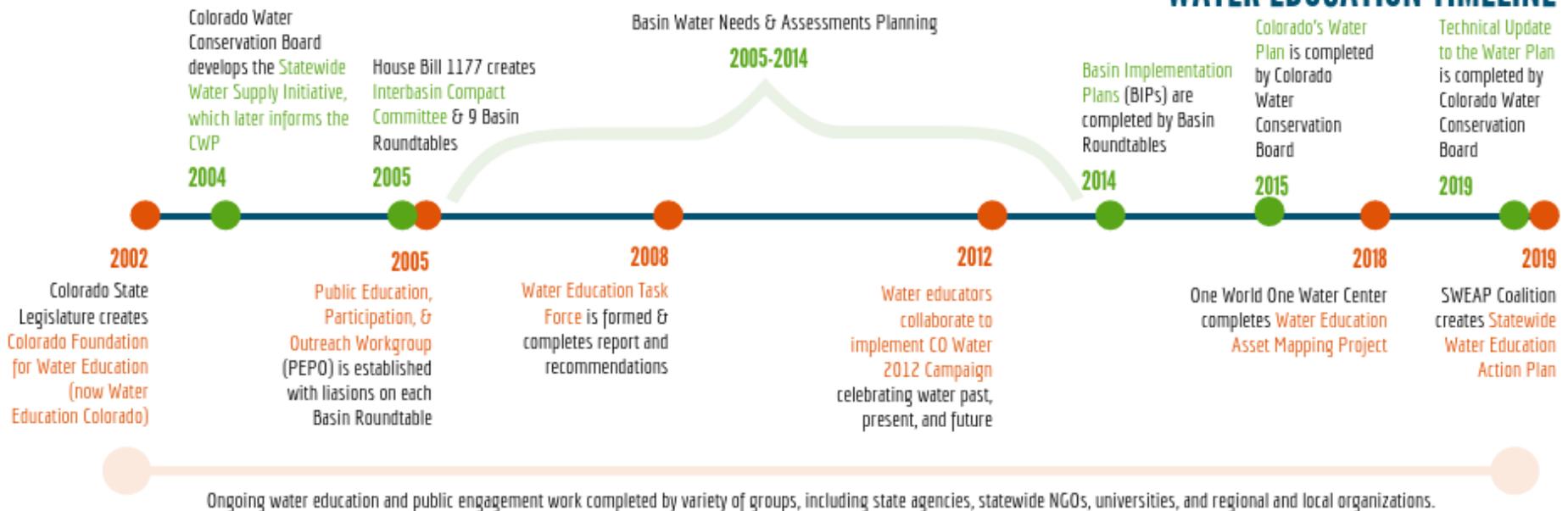
# **Water Educator Network –**

**> 100 members since 2014, working toward collective impact across the state**



# A statewide plan for water education – SWEAP

## COLORADO WATER PLANNING & WATER EDUCATION TIMELINE



# Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference



**Oct 8-10 in  
Avon  
“The Human  
Element”**

# Land Use in Water Efficiency Plans

A workshop for water providers on Best Practices for Implementating Water Conservation and Demand Management Through Land Use Planning Efforts.

## Learn from Examples in Your Area!



**Anne Castle**  
Getches-Wilkinson Center

Are you a water provider, a consultant or someone in a position to write, guide or approve Water Efficiency Plans? Water Education Colorado and the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy invite you to join us for a workshop. This free workshop will focus on opportunities, requirements, and new guidance for incorporating land use practices into Water Efficiency Plans.

### Speakers:

Anne Castle, Getches-Wilkinson Center  
Erin Rugland, Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy  
Kevin Reidy, Colorado Water Conservation Board  
Local Special Districts (varies by location)  
Local Municipalities (varies by location)



**Kevin Reidy**  
CWCB

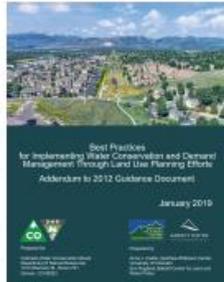
### Workshop Details:

This workshop will take participants through the new guidance in detail, with examples of how different land use practices can be implemented. Each workshop will include case studies of land use integration from a special district and a municipality in the region.



**Erin Rugland**  
Babbitt Center

Registration is open! Registration will be capped at 30 participants. The event is free. Lunch is included.



## FREE

**Longmont - September 16**  
SW Weld County Building  
9:00am-3:30pm

**Pueblo - November 5**  
El Pueblo Museum  
9:30am-4:00pm

**Durango - October 30**  
Durango Public Library  
9:30am-4:00pm

**Grand Junction - November 12**  
Colorado Mesa University  
10:30am-5:00pm

303-377-4433  
scott@wateredco.org

**REGISTER TODAY!**

Visit [WaterEdCo.org/LU-WEP](http://WaterEdCo.org/LU-WEP)

In partnership with:



[WaterEdCo.org](http://WaterEdCo.org)

# Free trainings

## Sept 16 – Longmont

## Oct. 30 – Durango

## Nov. 5 – Pueblo

## Nov. 12 – Grand Junction

# Pedaling the Poudre™ Urban Water Cycle Tour

**Sept 20 – 1-4pm**

**Sept. 21 – 9am-12pm**



In partnership with:

*Cache la Poudre River*  
National Heritage Area

When: September 20 (1-4pm) and September 21 (9am-12pm)



# **What's next for WEco?**

**Strategic Planning Retreat Sept. 5-6**

**Leadership role in water education and  
SWEAP implementation**

**Maintain effectiveness and stay relevant**

**Reach more diverse, unreached  
audiences**

# Questions, Feedback, Suggestions?

Jayla Poppleton – Executive Director

[jayla@wateredco.org](mailto:jayla@wateredco.org)

