Net Zero Water Planning Toolkit: An Overview

Becky Fedak
Brendle Group
Engineer and Water Practice Lead
Net Zero Water Initiative

VISION

To make Colorado the center for thought leadership in “net zero” water planning, providing visibility for the state and showcasing the capabilities of Colorado’s water innovation economy.

DEFINITION

Water neutral means only using as much water as falls on a site and eliminating all water quality impacts from the site.
Why this Initiative? Why Now?

• Importance of sustainable water management, especially in the face of climate change
• Consider quantity AND quality
• Less developed frameworks and tools (compared to climate and energy)
• Developing the footprint is only the first step – creating an action plan for reducing impact is key
NZW Consortium – Steering Committee

- Project Team

- Program Sponsors
NZW Consortium

• Technical Advisory Group
  – American Water Works Association
  – Colorado State University – Civil/Env Engineering
  – CSU Stormwater Center
  – Colorado Water Conservation Board
  – Environmental Protection Agency
  – Living Building Challenge
  – The Nature Conservancy
  – Western Resource Advocates

• General Stakeholders
NZW Planning Toolkit Framework

Water Footprint
- Baseline water quantity/quality footprint
- Business-as-usual forecasted footprint

Vision & Goals
- Vision statement
- Focus areas
- Planning horizon
- Goals and milestones

Footprint Reduction Strategies
- Indoor/outdoor efficiency
- On-site water supply
- Stormwater management
- Trading credits

Plan Implementation
- Documentation
- Tracking progress
- Communication and engagement
Building Scale Pilot Results
Schedule/Next Steps

• January
  – Draft Building Scale Toolkit complete
  – **Webinar February 6th at 1pm**

• February/March
  – Incorporate sponsor/stakeholder feedback
  – Expand methodology to building portfolio, campus, and eco-district scales
  – Pilot testing with program sponsors
  – Release v1.0
QUESTIONS?

Becky Fedak
Brendle Group
bfedak@brendlegroup.com
970-207-0058

http://www.co-waterinnovation.com/