



**COLORADO
WATER CENTER**
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



HACH CENTER
FOR REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT



Community Foundation
of NORTHERN COLORADO

Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado

September 2021 — May 2022

watercenter.colostate.edu/wll

The goal of Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado is to convene current and emerging leaders from the region's communities to convey an understanding of basic water information and issues critical to future decisions that will have deep influence over their communities' long-term economic, social, and environmental sustainability. The program will:

- Create a cohort of community leaders with knowledge and concern about our region's water future
- Introduce participants to key regional and statewide players in water
- Impart information about water institutions, policies, and issues from multiple angles
- Provide an opportunity for discussion that delves deep into the area's water challenges and opportunities
- Showcase and examine examples of water leadership as a means of encouraging such leadership in participants

Our curriculum is somewhat fluid so that we can take advantage of opportunities and your input as we go. It reflects the areas of emphasis we will be concentrating on and the expert resources we will engage. We aim for sessions to be about one-third relay of key information critical to each topic area and about two-thirds opportunity for you to engage in dialogue with our experts and each other. We will supplement speaker presentations by providing you with links to pertinent resource materials from time to time.

Each session includes:

- Debrief of the previous session, including homework responses and questions remaining
- Presentations from key experts
- Leadership Challenge: key water leader(s) will meet with the group to tell a story about their water leadership experiences and engage with the class in an interactive dialogue about what we can learn from these stories to inform and inspire the leadership needed to address our region's water issues
- Time for individual discussion and building relationships with your classmates

All materials will be posted on our website at <https://watercenter.colostate.edu/wll/>

2021-2022 SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

September 29: Overview and historical perspectives

October 27: Water law, administration, and policy

November 17: Water for municipal water supply, wastewater, and stormwater management

December 8: Water for agriculture

January 19: Water for recreation and business

February 16: Water for the environment

March 30: Economic growth and development

April 27: Supply, storage/delivery projects, and groundwater

May 18: Bringing it all together, opportunities for regional cooperation

ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS PARTICIPATION

Post-Session Homework

Program participants are required to submit their responses to the following three questions before 5:00 PM on the Monday after each session. Your responses will be compiled and shared with the class (without attribution) and provide a valuable opportunity for discussion and clarification at the next session.

1. From your perspective as a community leader in Northern Colorado, what is your key takeaway from today's session?
2. What did you learn today that encouraged you, discouraged you, or captured your attention to the extent that you could see yourself engaging in it further?
3. What questions do you have based on what you heard from today's speakers and group discussion?

Submit your responses via email to: NoCoWaterLeaders@colostate.edu with the following subject line and file name: [LAST NAME] WLL Homework [MONTH]

Book Assignment

During our first session, you will choose a future date to provide a brief book report to the class. The book you select should correlate with the topic for that particular session. Your report should include a 2-3 minute overview and key takeaways from your perspective as a community leader. You will then lead the class in a short discussion about an important point or two from the book.

We set aside 30 minutes at the beginning of each session for book reports (3 reports per class x 10 minutes per book). We will provide you with a list of recommended reading to get you started, and we have a small collection of books that were donated by previous class members that you are welcome to borrow.

Attend a Water-Related Meeting or Event

One way to learn about water is to attend events and engage with other attendees. Over the course of the class, select at least one water-focused meeting, conference, or workshop that will allow you to learn about a particular subject matter and network with others. You will provide a brief written overview describing key takeaways from your perspective as a community leader. Your submission will be shared with the class, and we will set aside time for group discussion as time permits.

Examples of local events to consider: [South Platte Basin Roundtable](#) meetings, [South Platte Forum](#), [Big Thompson Watershed Forum Conference](#), [Poudre River Forum](#), [Colorado Ag Water Alliance Summit](#), and the [Colorado Water Congress Convention](#). Please choose an event that you would not usually attend as part of your professional work!

Although the following calendar is not inclusive of all events in the area, it will provide you with some opportunities to consider <https://watercenter.colostate.edu/events/>

Submit your water event report prior to Monday, April 4, 2022 to NoCoWaterLeaders@colostate.edu with the following subject line and file name: [LAST NAME] WLL Event Report

Connecting You to Outside Information/Opportunities

From time to time, we will announce additional water education opportunities for your consideration. We know most of you do not have time to take advantage of all of the opportunities, but we want you to know about them if you are interested.

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES

- We will not require proof of vaccine unless required by CSU or local health authorities. We will operate on the honor system and recommend that those not fully vaccinated wear a mask while indoors.
- Plan to bring a face covering to all sessions and field tours as they may be required based on local health guidance and/or the preference of our speakers and guests. Regardless of the local mask rules, we recommend that anyone with health concerns wear a face covering while indoors.
- Service of all meals and snacks will follow local health guidance.
- We will adjust programming as needed depending on the status of the pandemic and local health guidance (for example, moving sessions to a virtual format).

QUESTIONS

Throughout our time together, please feel free to contact us directly with any questions or email us at NoCoWaterLeaders@colostate.edu

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