



**Board of County Commissioners**

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September 27, 2022

Colorado River Water Conservation District  
201 Centennial St., Suite 200  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Dear Colorado River District,

Eagle County Board of Commissioners support the work of the Eagle County Conservation District (ECCD) and Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) on a Water Efficient Landscape Conversion Program. The establishment of this program aligns with our community and organizational values, as the Eagle River Valley relies on a healthy river system and conservation efforts to support our vibrant economy, our wildlife, and quality of life.

The establishment of a turf conversion rebate and education program in greater Eagle County will not only help reach goals outlined in the Climate Action Plan adopted by Eagle County, but will also support larger planning efforts like the Eagle River Watershed Plan and water efficiency plans adopted by smaller municipalities. Based on our local CoAgMet station in Gypsum, an average 5,000 square feet of turf requires 70,113 gallons of irrigated water a year with only 15-40% making its way back to local waterways. This clearly strains our water supply. Converting turf to water-wise and native plants can drastically reduce the consumptive use of water, and will encourage other Coloradans to reconsider our landscapes. Additionally, as a community seated in the headwaters of the Colorado River Basin, water efficiency action is critical as the West faces ongoing drought and dropping water levels in two of the nation's largest reservoirs.

Eagle County urges the Colorado River District to consider this application for the Community Funding Partnership grant to help catalyze further water efficiency action in the Eagle River Watershed and beyond through the Water Efficient Landscape Conversion Program.

For more information about the project proposal, please contact Laura Bohannon (ECCD – [eaglecountycd@gmail.com](mailto:eaglecountycd@gmail.com)) or James Dilzell (ERWC – [dilzell@erwc.org](mailto:dilzell@erwc.org)).

Sincerely,

Jeanne McQueeney  
Chair

Kathy Chandler-Henry  
Commissioner

Matt Scherr  
Commissioner