


RESOURCE
central

CONSERVATION MADE EASY

2023 Annual Report

City of Boulder

About

Resource Central is an award-winning nonprofit in Boulder, Colorado, that helps municipalities and water districts achieve their water conservation goals. Working in collaboration with more than 45 water partners, our conservation programs have helped Colorado families save more than a billion gallons of water. Since 1976, our innovative programs have assisted more than 900,000 people save water, conserve energy, and reduce waste.

2023 Water Provider Partners

Thank you for your partnership!

Arapahoe County WWA

City of Arvada

Aurora Water

Bancroft-Clover WSD

Town of Berthoud

City of Boulder

City of Brighton

City & County of Broomfield

Castle Pines North MD
Castle Rock Water
Centennial WSD
Denver Water
East Cherry Creek Valley WSD
City of Edgewater
City of Englewood
Town of Erie

City of Evans
Town of Firestone
City of Fort Collins Utilities and Nature in the City
City of Fountain
Town of Frederick
City of Golden
City of Greeley
City of Lafayette
City of Lakewood
Left Hand WD
Little Thompson WD
Town of Lochbuie
City of Longmont
City of Louisville
Loveland Water and Power

Town of Lyons
Northern Water
City of Northglenn
Parker WSD
Pinery WWD
Pueblo West Metro District
Roxborough WSD
Town of Severance
South Adams County WSD
Town of Superior
City of Thornton
Town of Wellington
City of Westminster
City of Wheat Ridge

Willows WD
Town of Windsor



[Learn More About Resource Central's Conservation Programs](#)

13,996
residents reached

25.3 million
gallons of water saved or
about 38 Olympic-sized
swimming pools

At-A-Glance

2023 Cumulative Impact



GARDEN IN A BOX

- **39** water providers
- **7,746** community members
- **11,554** waterwise gardens sold
- **10,200,000** gallons of water saved*



LAWN REPLACEMENT

- **23** water providers
- **604** community members
- **329,213** sq. ft. of lawn removed
- **3,900,000** gallons of water saved*



SLOW THE FLOW



WATERWISE YARD SEMINARS

- **33** water providers
- **2,231** residential properties
- **48** non-residential properties
- **11,200,000** gallons of water saved*
- **16** water providers
- **3,415** community members
- **25** waterwise webinars

*Estimated water savings in 2023.

Overview

Garden In A Box

Professionally designed, DIY, low-water garden kits offer a simple, beautiful approach to waterwise yards for gardeners of all levels.

“This is the best program. We wanted to xeriscape our yard, but the price tag and knowledge of native plants were out of range. This made it possible and our front yard is gorgeous now. Thank you so much!”

– Garden In A Box participant

GARDEN IN A BOX

Program Impact

CUMULATIVE IMPACT



The estimated cumulative lifetime savings of all gardens sold through 2023 is **355 million gallons of water (about 538 Olympic-sized swimming pools).**



Through 2023, Garden In A Box has helped convert more than **4.9 million square feet (about 112 acres)** of landscape to low-water perennial gardens.



By replacing just 100 square feet of lawn with a Garden In A Box kit, homeowners can expect to **save at least 7,000 gallons of water over the garden's lifetime.**



Approximately **60,000 waterwise Garden In A Box kits** have been sold to date.

2023 CITY OF BOULDER IMPACT

Claimed Income-Qualified discounts / Contracted discounts	9/22
Total Garden In A Box kits given to Marshall Fire victims	18



100%

are very satisfied with the Income Qualified Garden In A Box Program*



75%

said they would purchase another Garden In A Box kit next year with the \$100 discount*

**Reflects Income-Qualified program participant data, including a satisfaction survey which was sent to 9 program participants, with 4 responding to the survey.*



Overview

Lawn Replacement

A one-stop lawn conversion shop, where participants choose how to use their predetermined discount: complimentary Garden In A Box kits or discounted lawn removal or a combination of both.

“It's so exciting to transform a dismal, flat, water-wasting lawn into a wild, multileveled pollinator garden! It's been an amazing way to connect with my neighbors and community who have cheered me on all along the way.”

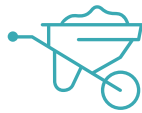
– Lawn Replacement participant



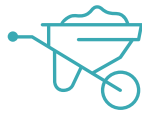
LAWN REPLACEMENT

Program Impact

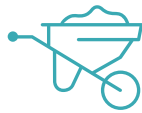
CUMULATIVE IMPACT*



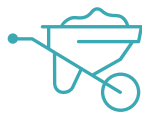
The estimated cumulative water savings since 2016 amounts to **45.9 million gallons of water saved (about 69 Olympic-sized swimming pools)**.



Through 2023, the Lawn Replacement Program has helped residents convert **879,898 square feet of lawn to waterwise landscapes**.



Since 2016, Resource Central has helped **1,721 residents replace** thirsty grass with beautiful, low-water gardens.



As of 2023, residents have planted **2,055 waterwise gardens** as part of converting their lawns.

2023 CITY OF BOULDER IMPACT

Total participants	65
Total square feet of lawn removed	35,623
Average square feet of lawn removed per participant	548
Percent of participants who received waterwise gardens	55%
Estimated gallons of water saved annually per participant	6,000
Estimated gallons of water saved annually by lawn removal	420,000



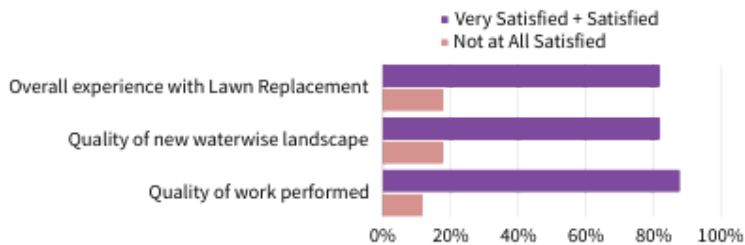
**Cumulative Impact includes Grass to Garden, Lawn Removal Service and Lawn Replacement.*

LAWN REPLACEMENT

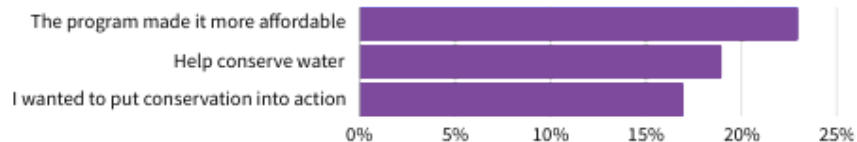
Participant Feedback

OVERALL PROGRAM SATISFACTION

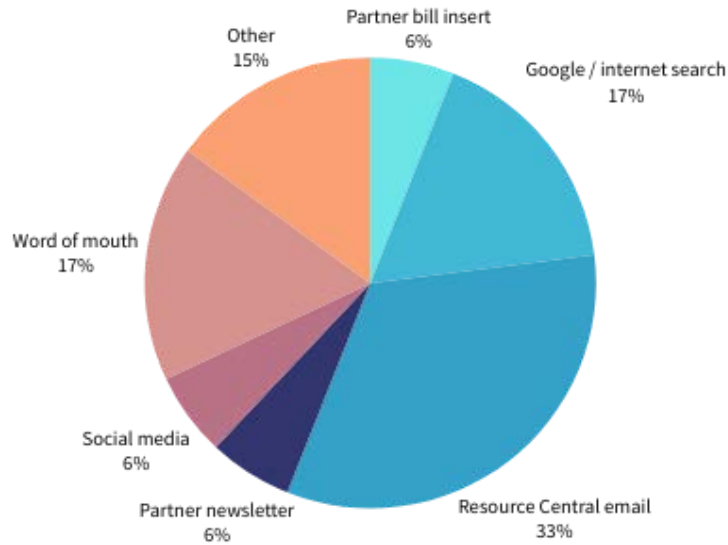
The Lawn Replacement Satisfaction Survey was sent to 65 program participants, and 18 responded to the survey.



TOP REASONS FOR PARTICIPATION



TOP WAYS PARTICIPANTS HEARD ABOUT THE PROGRAM



82%

likely to very likely to recommend



100%

good or very good use of provider resources

LAWN REPLACEMENT

Participant Quotes

& Projects

“Overall, great program and it has helped me move toward our goal of a no-lawn front yard!”

– City of Boulder resident

“The team that removed the sod did a good job, and were easy to work with.”

– City of Boulder resident



AFTER

BEFORE

Overview

Slow the Flow

Educates community members and property managers on simple irrigation solutions to manage long-term water needs more efficiently and effectively.

“I think this whole program is wonderful! I can see a real difference in my water bill and my grass is gorgeous and healthy looking now!”

– Slow the Flow participant

SLOW THE FLOW

Program Impact

CUMULATIVE IMPACT



Water savings through 2023 total an estimated **192.4 million gallons (about 292 Olympic-sized swimming pools).**



Through 2023, Slow the Flow has evaluated **approximately 132.3 million square feet of residential landscape (about 2,757 football fields).**



Since 2004, Slow the Flow has helped roughly **34,000 residents reduce their outdoor water usage** through sprinkler system improvements.



Annually, Slow the Flow has identified an average of over **21,000 sprinkler system inefficiencies** such as broken heads, tilted heads, and overspray.

2023 CITY OF BOULDER IMPACT

Residential sprinkler evaluations completed	63
Large/non-residential property sprinkler evaluations completed	10
Estimated gallons of water saved annually	315,000

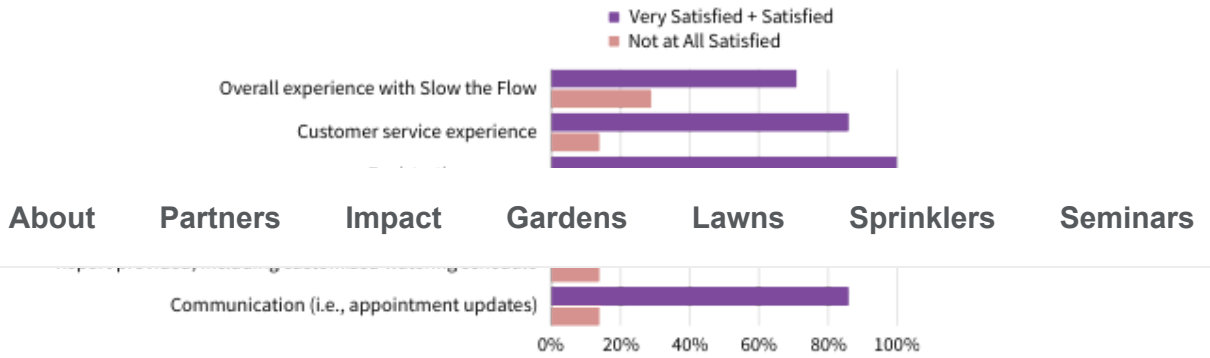


SLOW THE FLOW

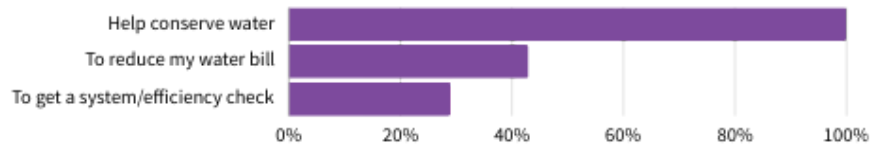
Participant Feedback

OVERALL PROGRAM SATISFACTION

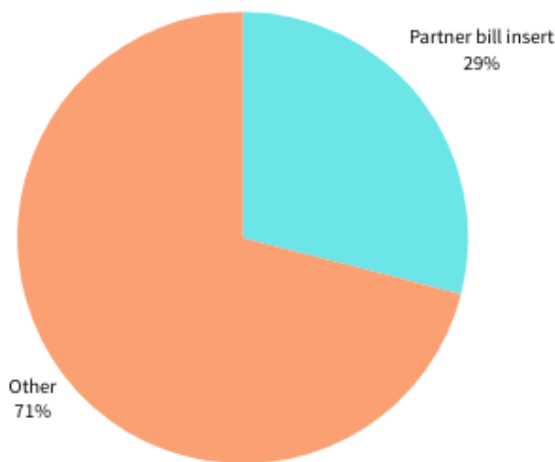
The Slow the Flow Satisfaction Survey was sent to 63 program participants, and 7 responded to the survey.

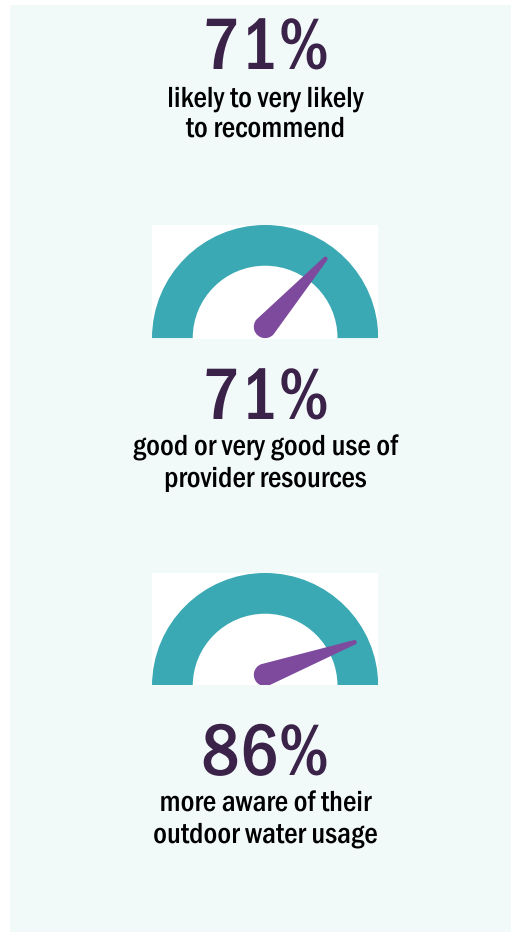


TOP REASONS FOR PARTICIPATION



TOP WAYS PARTICIPANTS HEARD ABOUT THE PROGRAM





SLOW THE FLOW

Program Statistics

In 2023, Slow the Flow associates discovered that most participants had inefficient watering schedules. To address this issue, Resource Central recommended a minimum of three short watering cycles per day (cycle-and-soak schedule) because of the limited water absorption capacity of clay soil commonly found at residences. Implementing this schedule immediately reduced water waste among participants without any other sprinkler system improvements.

Inefficient Watering Schedule	Total Residences	Percentage of Residences
	56	89%

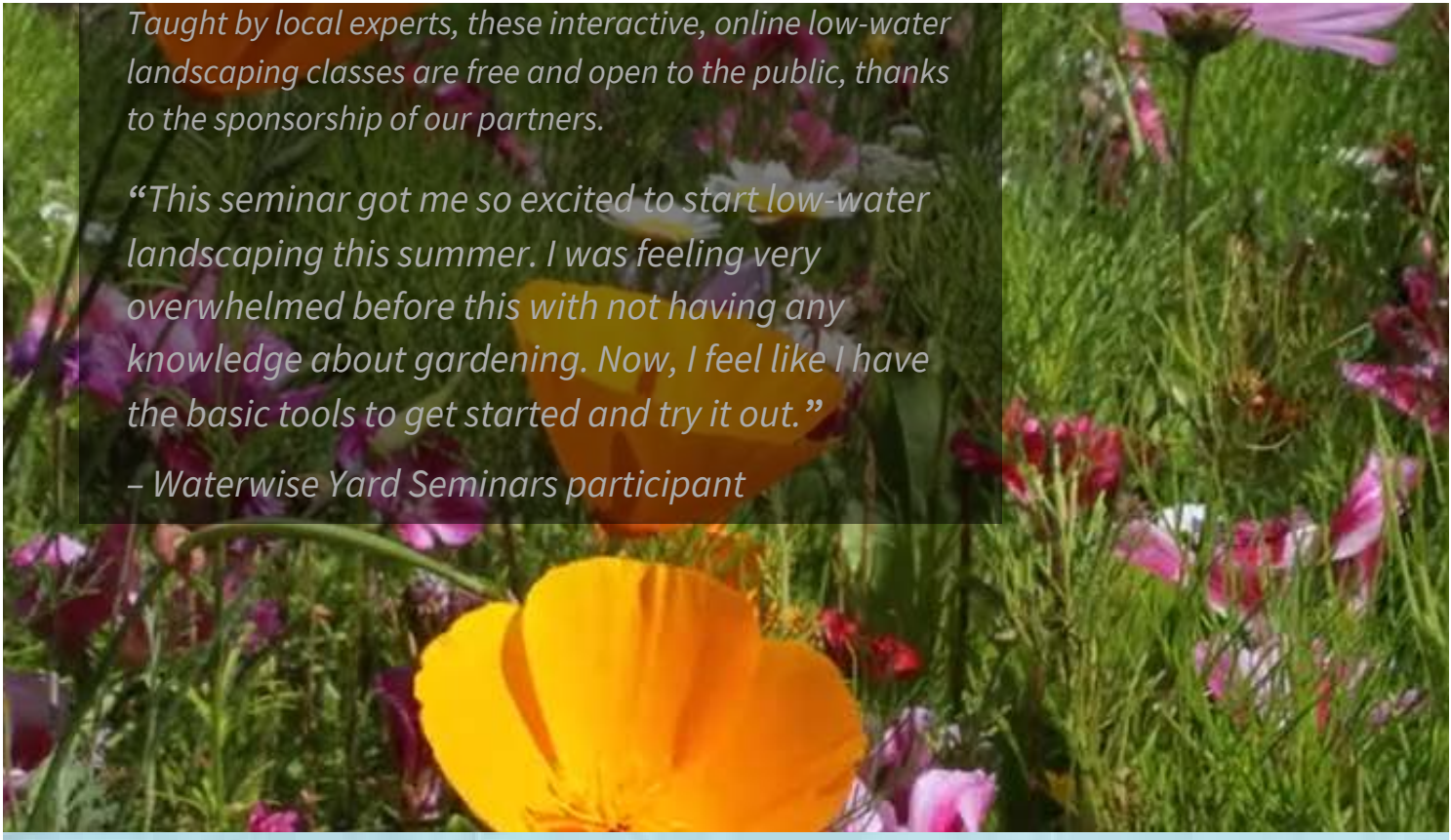
Almost 44,000 sprinkler issues were identified in 2023. These issues included broken, clogged, or tilted sprinkler heads, which can lead to significant water waste over time.

Sprinkler Inefficiencies	Total	Average/ Residence	Percentage of Residences
	672	11	94%

“The tech was very thorough, explained the process, and afterwards explained best water conservation tips utilizing my system.”

– Slow the Flow participant





Taught by local experts, these interactive, online low-water landscaping classes are free and open to the public, thanks to the sponsorship of our partners.

“This seminar got me so excited to start low-water landscaping this summer. I was feeling very overwhelmed before this with not having any knowledge about gardening. Now, I feel like I have the basic tools to get started and try it out.”

– Waterwise Yard Seminars participant

WATERWISE YARD SEMINARS

Program Impact

CUMULATIVE IMPACT



Resource Central has worked with **25 partners** over the last **19 years**.



Through 2023, the seminars have reached over **17,452 participants** with an average attendance of **51 people per seminar**.



Since 2004, Resource Central has hosted **345 seminars** throughout the Front Range and beyond.



See the 2023 webinar schedule and topics.

2023 CITY OF BOULDER IMPACT

Total waterwise webinars held	3
Total attendees	270
Total Boulder attendees	50
Total Boulder attendees across all webinars	244
Percentage of first-time Boulder attendees	53%

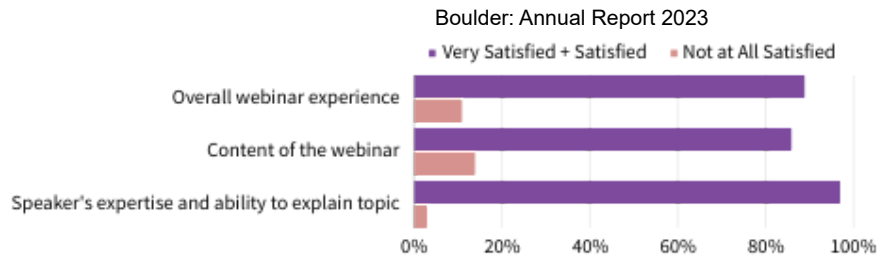


WATERWISE YARD SEMINARS

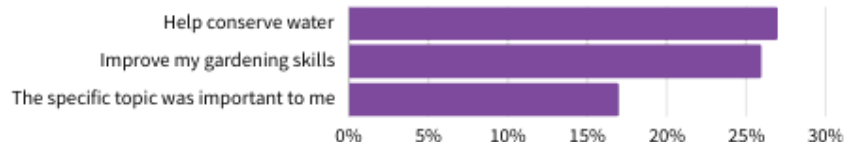
Participant Feedback

OVERALL PROGRAM SATISFACTION

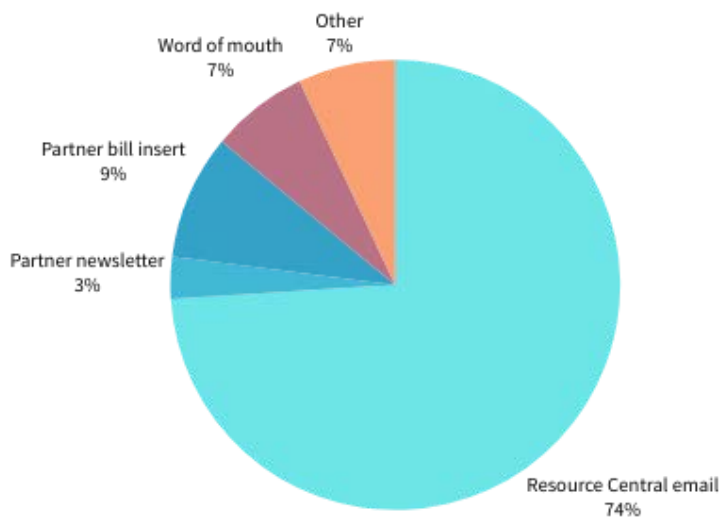
The Waterwise Yard Seminar Satisfaction Survey was sent to 244 program participants, and 70 responded to the survey.



TOP REASONS FOR PARTICIPATION

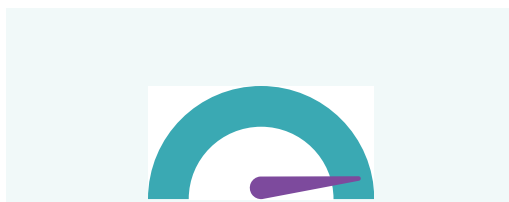


TOP WAYS PARTICIPANTS HEARD ABOUT THE PROGRAM



“So much great information! The tips on winter watering were also very helpful. Thank you for a great seminar!”

– City of Boulder resident





WATERWISE YARD SEMINARS

Webinar Schedule

Topic	Sponsor	Date
Branch Out with Colorado Trees	Westminster	February 15
Knowing the Native Plants	Longmont	February 16
Intro to Permaculture	Lochbuie	March 6
Planting for Pollinators	Superior	March 9
Design and Plant Selection	Longmont	March 15
Perennials, Shrubs, and More!	Thornton	March 20
Carrots and Cabbage and Kale, Oh My!	Golden	March 21
Waterwise Yards: Turf Removal	Brighton, SACWSD	April 3, July 24
High Altitude Gardening	Boulder	April 5
Navigating Your HOA During a Xeriscape Conversion	Northern Water	April 11
Best Practices in Western Horticulture	Berthoud	April 13
Veggie Garden Care Through the Seasons	Boulder	April 18
Earth Day: Feed the Pollinators, Feed the Earth	Lafayette	April 20
Water Smarter with Smart Irrigation	Northern Water	April 26

Insects Who Share the Garden	Arvada	May 9
Intro to Xeriscaping	Westminster	May 25
What's the Buzz on Pollinators?	Arvada	June 1
New to Colorado Landscaping	Loveland WP, Northern Water	June 14, August 1
Firewise Landscaping: Methods & Design	Louisville	July 10
Troubleshooting Your Summer Garden	Loveland WP	July 12
The Future of Colorado's Water	Boulder	July 20
Perennials and Fall Planting	Little Thompson WD	August 7
Regenerative Agriculture Techniques	Westminster	August 16