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December 2025

Happy Holidays from the Colorado Water Center team!

Register Today for the 2026 Water Workforce Summit & Career Fair

Registration is open for the [Colorado Water Center's Water Workforce Summit and Career Fair](#) on **February 12-13, 2026** at CSU Spur in Denver!

The [2026 Water Workforce Summit](#) will welcome **keynote speaker Dr. Angie Paccione**, and features exciting panels and breakout group sessions including:

- **Artificial Intelligence & the Water Workforce - How AI and Machine Learning are Changing the Workforce Landscape**

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- **Industry-Education Partnerships & Funding Opportunities in Times of Change**

[Check out the full 2026 Water Workforce Summit agenda on the event website.](#)

And don't miss the [2026 Water Workforce Career Fair on February 13!](#) Connect with students and job seekers from across Colorado as an exhibitor - spots are limited!

Registration is free for students for both the Summit and the Career Fair

[Register for one or both events here](#) or via the link below.

RSVP for 2026 Water Workforce Events

Colorado Water Center 60th Anniversary Events



[Celebrate 60 years of water research, education, and outreach with the Colorado Water Center on March 26, 2026!](#)

The evening will feature two different opportunities to celebrate at the Lory Student Center, with a **4-6:00 p.m. Colorado Water Center Reception** free and open to the public, and a **6-8:00 p.m. Water Tables Fundraiser** in partnership with the [CSU Water Resources Archive](#).

2026 Water Tables **sponsorship opportunities** are now available - [discover the benefits of becoming a Water Tables sponsor at our event page here](#) or via the link below.

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ticket gives you the opportunity to dine and converse with western water experts from across Colorado and the nation! [Learn more about Water Table hosts here.](#)

Learn More about the 60th Anniversary Events

Colorado River Insights, 2025: Dancing with Deadpool



Colorado Water Center Senior Scholar Brad Udall and ten other members of the Colorado River Research Group recently released a new report on the Colorado River's most pressing issues entitled [Colorado River Insights, 2025: Dancing with Deadpool](#).

In their chapter, "**Think Natural Flows Will Rebound in the Colorado River Basin? Think Again**," Udall and co-author Jonathan Overpeck discuss the latest science which suggests that the recent precipitation declines are human caused.

[Read the full report via the Getches-Wilkinson Center at CU Boulder here.](#)

Colorado River Insights, 2025: Dancing with Deadpool

Aspen Journalism: Conservation studies' findings have lessons for water managers

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[Recent water-conservation research on Colorado's Western Slope has important lessons](#) for future programs as the state plans for increasing water scarcity under climate change.

[Perry Cabot, Colorado Water Center research scientist and CSU Extension faculty](#), led a study on fields near Kremmling tested the effects of removing irrigation water from forage fields for a full or partial season.

In Fruita at Colorado State University's Agricultural Experiment Station, Cabot also studies alternative forage crops like sainfoin, which are more drought-tolerant and may allow producers to conserve water without giving up economic benefits.

[Read more at Aspen Journalism here](#) or via the link below.

[Read the Article at Aspen Journalism](#)

Colorado Water Fellow alum Ryan Sawyer on 'Outstanding Graduates' List



Colorado State University annually selects [10 Outstanding Graduates](#) for the fall semester, an honor that celebrates stories of perseverance and student achievement.

This year's cohort includes Water Fellow alum Ryan Sawyer! Growing up in Denver as a fifth-generation Coloradan, Sawyer developed a connection to water and the environment at an early age. So, it was no surprise to Sawyer that water became a central element of his time at CSU.

Congratulations Ryan! [Read more about this outstanding grad here](#) or via the link below.

Ryan Sawyer, Fall 2025 Outstanding Graduate

Over 200 Water Filters Delivered to Fort Collins Mobile Home Park by 18 Volunteers

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For more than two years, the [Colorado Water Center has worked in close collaboration with residents of mobile home park communities](#) in Larimer County to better understand drinking water quality issues and concerns.

On December 7, the Colorado Water Center, [Mi Voz](#), [Leadership Fort Collins](#), and [Odell Brewing Company](#) gathered 18 volunteers in a Larimer County mobile home park to **distribute the Epic Water Filter Nano Pitcher and filters to more than 200 mobile home park residents** as a result of the funds raised by the [Clean Water for our Neighbors fundraiser](#) led by the Leadership Fort Collins team.

“Our Leadership Fort Collins team chose to host the Clean Water for Our Neighbors fundraiser because access to clean, safe drinking water is a basic human need—and many of our neighbors in local mobile home parks still don’t have it,” said Amanda Crose of Leadership Fort Collins.

“We also know water filters are just a Band-Aid. We’re encouraged by Colorado legislation that will hold landlords accountable for safe infrastructure, but while long-term solutions are in motion, families deserve clean water now.”

Stay tuned for more on this effort soon and learn more about [Colorado Water Center Water Quality & Access work here](#).

[Read More About Mobile Home Water Quality & Access](#)

Climate-Ready Agriculture & Water Innovation Grants RFP



The [CSU School of Global Environmental Sustainability](#) (SoGES), Colorado Water Center, and [CSU Agricultural Experiment Station](#) (AES) [invite proposals for targeted, interdisciplinary research projects](#) that explore innovative approaches for promoting **climate resilience** and **water sustainability in agricultural systems**. This joint initiative seeks to foster community-engaged research that advances CSU's strategic priorities and builds capacity for securing external funding.

- **Application Deadline:** February 2nd, 2026
- **Funding Available:** 1-2 projects for a total of \$200,000 over a two-year period
- **Notification of Awards:** March 2026
- **Funding Period:** July 1st, 2026-June 30th, 2028

Projects should involve meaningful engagement with local stakeholders, integration across disciplines and CSU colleges, and partnerships with CSU Extension. We encourage interdisciplinary proposals that include professionals at multiple career levels, support junior faculty, thoughtfully engage students, and demonstrate potential for real-world impact.

[Learn more and apply here or via the link below!](#)

Climate-Ready Ag & Water Innovation Grants

Water Scholar Award Applications

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Water Scholar Award



The [Colorado State University Water Resources Archive](#) is now welcoming applications for the **Water Scholar Award**.

This annual award grants funding to researchers whose work on western water would benefit from access to the collection. For the 2026 award, the total amount of funding is capped at **\$3,900**, to be allocated to a maximum of three applications.

Applications are due January 31. [Find additional information and application details here](#) or via the link below.

Water Scholar Award Information

Upcoming Water Events



Kick off the new year at these upcoming water events in Colorado and beyond:

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- **March 6:** [Poudre River Forum](#) in Greeley, CO
 - **March 26:** [Currents of Change: The Colorado Water Center's 60th Anniversary Celebration & Water Tables Fundraiser](#) in Fort Collins, CO
 - **April 22-23:** [Arkansas River Basin Water Forum](#) in Salida, CO
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[Download the complete issue](#)

[View The Current Archive](#)

Stay connected with the Colorado Water Center! We share even more water-related news, events, educational opportunities, and more on these channels.



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