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CONTACT: Eric Brown

Communications Specialist

970-622-2306/970-415-2899

ebrown@northernwater.org

12 water-efficient landscape projects receiving funding support through Northern Water grant program

BERTHOUD – A Northern Water grant program launched last year is now funding 12 projects that will bring additional water-efficient landscapes to the region and also create new education opportunities for the public.

About \$130,000 was awarded this spring through Northern Water’s Collaborative Water-Efficient Landscape Grant Program for projects that are now underway.

The recipients include local government entities and HOAs located throughout Northern Water’s boundaries, with the projects consisting of irrigation-system upgrades, incorporating Colorado climate-friendly plants into the landscapes, and turf-to-native-grass conversions.

In addition to helping fund the projects, Northern Water will also provide signage and other materials at these sites in an effort to help educate the public.

“We couldn’t be more excited about the quality and diversity of these projects, as well as their potential impact in educating the public about wise outdoor water use,” said Frank Kinder, the manager of the Water Efficiency Department at Northern Water.

The amount of funding support awarded to each entity ranges from about \$3,000 up to the maximum of \$15,000, depending on the scope of the project. A 50 percent match is required of the grant recipients.

Here’s a list of the recipients and the projects Northern Water’s Collaborative Water-Efficient Landscape Grant Program is currently supporting:

Boulder County

- Applicants notified Jan. 15, 2020
- Contracts signed/projects can start March 15, 2020
- Project completion deadline Aug. 31, 2020

Potential applicants are required to take part in a consultation with Northern Water prior to submitting an application. Anyone wanting to schedule a pre-application consultation can do so by contacting Chad Kuhnel at 970-622-2566 or at ckuhnel@northernwater.org.

Additional details and updates about the grant program are available at www.northernwater.org.

About Northern Water:

Northern Water, a public agency created in 1937, provides water for agricultural, municipal, domestic and industrial uses to an eight-county service area with a population of about 980,000. Northern Water and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation operate the Colorado-Big Thompson Project, which collects water on the West Slope and delivers it to Northeastern Colorado through a 13-mile tunnel beneath Rocky Mountain National Park. It and the Municipal Subdistrict are currently developing the Windy Gap Firming Project and the Northern Integrated Supply Project to enhance Front Range water supplies for the future.