
Title/Subject: Environmental Stewardship Statement
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James S. Lochhead, CEO/Manager


Date Signed

Sustainability and Denver Water

Since 1918, the employees of Denver Water have sustained a world-class metropolitan area in a semi-arid climate at the base of the Rocky Mountains. We manage a resource essential to human life; a resource necessary for economic development and one that creates beauty and recreational opportunities. Yet we depend on complex and fragile natural systems that are affected both by people and by events beyond our control.

Every day, Denver Water collects, stores, treats and distributes potable and non-potable water to meet the needs of over 1.4 million customers in the Denver metropolitan area. Doing so requires the development and operation of dams, reservoirs, conduits, canals, treatment plants, laboratories, treated water storage facilities, pumps, distribution lines, heavy equipment, vehicles and support facilities. By virtue of gravity-based collection and distribution systems, Denver Water also produces significant amounts of hydroelectric power. Denver Water's collection system and service area encompass nearly 4,000 square miles.

As a result, Denver Water's environmental footprint across Colorado is significant, which creates a special responsibility to the natural systems that support our water supply. It also enforces the need for Denver Water to conduct our operations and maintain our facilities in ways that are sustainable and environmentally-friendly.

Denver Water has taken a leadership role in understanding and promoting sustainability. Denver Water will take actions to interact with the land, water resources and communities we affect in ways that provide the best possible results for our customers, our neighbors and the environment, consistent with our Charter responsibility to meet the water supply needs of our service area and maintain rates as low as good service will permit.

Guiding Principles for Denver Water Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

- **Best Practices and Compliance with Environmental Requirements** – Denver Water will comply with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and standards, and will develop and adhere to environmental best practices and performance standards in order to achieve environmental sustainability beyond minimum legal requirements.
- **Leading by Example** – Denver Water will be a leader and engage with environmental communities, government, industry and academic research agencies in order to learn and further develop our environmental stewardship programs and share our experience and expertise. We will develop progressive positions on evolving environmental issues impacting the interests of the organization and our customers.
- **Healthy Built Environment** – Denver Water is committed to workforce safety, health, wellness, and quality of work-life through buildings and grounds integrated with the natural environment and promotion of indoor environmental quality.
- **Responsible Operations** – Denver Water is committed to the responsible management, and sustainable growth and operation of all our assets, including land, forest, water and other natural resources in our control. We recognize the

impacts to the environment from our operations and will take active measures to minimize this footprint. Denver Water will continue to improve environmental best practice standards and will include such standards in procurement and contract processes. Employees will work to recognize and resolve environmental impacts within Denver Water facilities, operations and policies.

- **Waste Diversion and Pollution Prevention** – Denver Water is steadfast in our commitment to responsible solid and electronic waste management. This includes reuse, recycling and compost programs, and the careful and proper use, tracking, storage and disposal of hazardous materials.
- **Climate Adaptation and Mitigation** – Denver Water is a nationally recognized leader in understanding and preparing for the complex challenges of climate change. A multi-faceted approach focuses on partnerships, knowledge generation and transfer, research, long-range planning, and operationalizing adaptation practices across the organization. Denver Water will minimize our own climate impacts by measuring and tracking goals for the reduction of climate changing emissions, including updating an annual greenhouse gas inventory and incorporating climate adaptation and mitigation into current and future operations, plans and policies.
- **Environmental Management System** – Annually, and considering internal and external stakeholder input, the Environmental Compliance Section will conduct a review of the Environmental Management System and Denver Water’s compliance thereunder. The review will assess, among other items, existing environmental objectives, performance standards and best practices. Based on such review, the Environmental Compliance Section will update the Environmental Management System, as appropriate and consistent with this Policy Statement, and will recommend changes in Denver Water’s operations to achieve better environmental performance.
- **Environmental Education and Awareness** – Employee training will include a review of the commitments, related policies, introduction to the Environmental Management System and best sustainability practices.