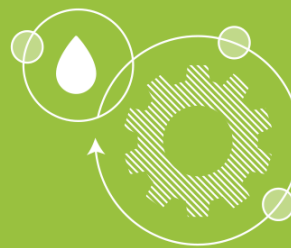


# NEWS & UPDATES


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## H2Overhaul: Time for Planting, Planning and Learning

Now is the time to plan for spring garden planting and lawn care! Check out the [H2Overhaul page](#) for a complete guide to turning your thirsty lawn into a diverse, waterwise landscape! This month, get started with [planning and design](#) and learn how to select native and drought-tolerant grasses, trees, shrubs, and flowers on our [plants and alternate turf resources](#) webpage.

If lawn removal is factored into your plans, don't forget that Thornton Water residential customers qualify for up to \$750 in discounts on [lawn removal services from Resource Central](#). Customers can also sign up for a [FREE sprinkler consultation](#) to Slow the Flow and learn how to set their sprinklers for optimal water usage and plant health. Applications for both the Lawn Replacement program and sprinkler evaluations are open, and appointments are still available this spring and summer. Sign up today!

To help with your planning efforts, join [Resource Central's free webinar series](#). From March through August, horticultural and landscape professionals will walk through topics about water-wise landscaping, smart irrigation, lawn transformation and more in free virtual sessions. Sign up for the [webinar interest list](#) for reminders and updates!



*Before* - an unhealthy, unused portion of lawn.



*After* - a beautiful, waterwise, pollinator-friendly flower bed!

## Happy World Water Day!

This month, we're celebrating [World Water Day](#) all month long! World Water Day reminds citizens around the globe to protect water resources and make climate-friendly choices.

Simple actions like taking shorter showers, replacing your lawn with a waterwise landscape or updating your appliances to water-efficient models

can help preserve our most precious resource for future generations.

For more tips and tricks for saving money and water, visit our [Residential Rebates and Services](#) webpage.

## Groundwater Awareness

Groundwater is water that is present below the surface of the earth. It can be found underground in cracks and spaces in the soil by moving through formations in the soil and rock called aquifers.

Groundwater is a natural and important part of the water cycle, but overwatering landscapes and poor drainage can result in the water table beneath the surface rising, which can cause unwanted leaks and pooling above ground. You can avoid problems by catching leaks early, avoiding overwatering and installing drainage systems that keep water moving out to our gutters and to the storm water system. Learn more about this aspect of the water cycle and how you can help in our [All About Groundwater blog post](#).



*Groundwater on pavement coming out of a drainage culvert.*

## Water Saving Tip of the Month

### Plan Ahead with Drought-Resistant Plants

Did you know we only receive about 12-15 inches of precipitation annually in Thornton? The air is dryer here due to lower dew points and feels more comfortable than humid climates in the summer, but this also leads to landscapes that dry out much quicker than those in more humid climates. Keep this in mind when picking your new plants this spring and look for drought-resistant and low-water options. [Plant Select](#) is a great resource to identify plants that will thrive in Colorado.

## Water Quality Corner

### What is Water Hardness?

Hardness is a measure of calcium and magnesium in our water. These minerals naturally accumulate in our water as it runs over rocks and soil through the water cycle.

Thornton's water hardness can vary during the year and by location within the city. In 2024, hardness varied between 116 mg/L and 288 mg/L, averaging around 197 mg/L. These values are typical of water systems in the western United States, which tend to have higher hardness than eastern parts of the country.

While not harmful to health, hard water can cause aesthetic problems like mineral build-up on dishes, fixtures, and in pipes. Thornton does not remove hardness during our treatment process.



If you would like to reduce the impact of hardness in your water, we recommend:

- Hand drying dishes and fixtures immediately after washing to avoid spots and reduce deposits.
- Using a 1:1 water and white vinegar solution to clean fixtures or soak dishes to remove any mineral deposits you may notice.

More expensive options include point-of-use or whole-house treatment systems, such as water softeners and reverse osmosis.



WITHOUT WATER *life would be* PRETTY DRY

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