

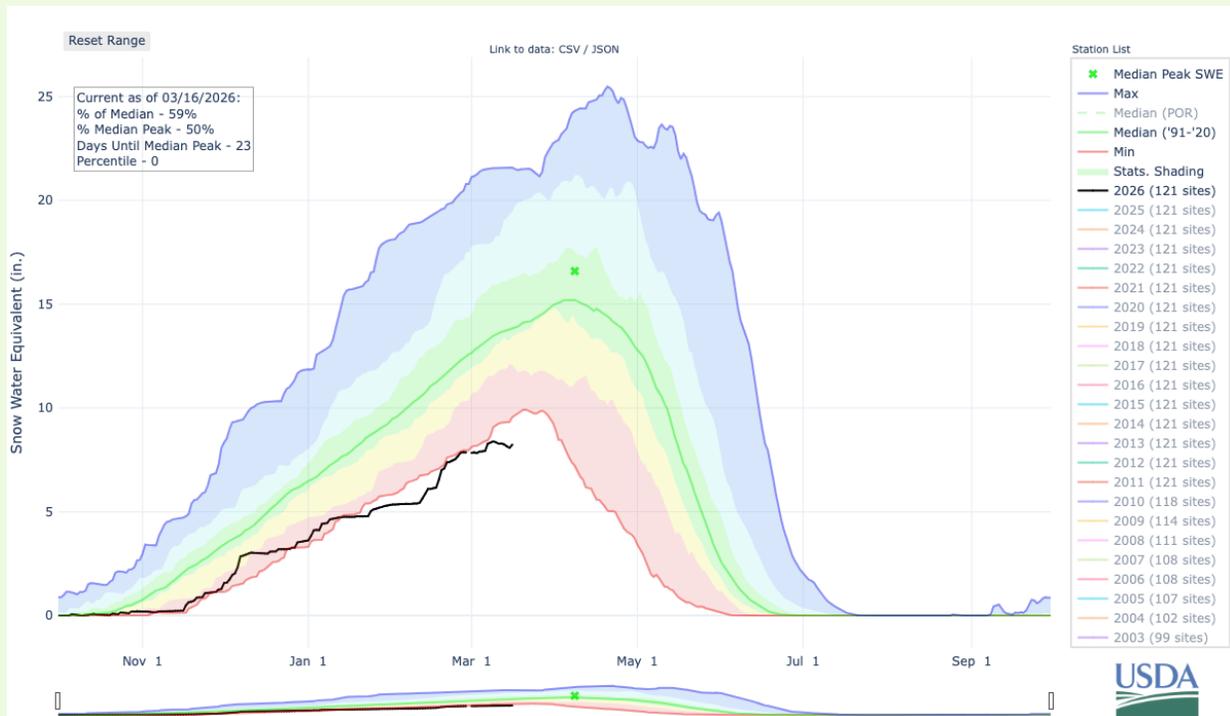
News & Updates

from Thornton Water

[September E-News](#) [October E-News](#) [November E-News](#) [January E-News](#)

Thornton is in Stage 1 Drought

Thornton has declared a Stage 1 Drought Response, effective March 15, in accordance with the drought triggers and procedures in Thornton’s Drought Management Plan. While recent storms have helped, snowpack in the Clear Creek and Upper South Platte watersheds that supply water to our community remains at record low levels, just 59% of normal for this time of year – critically low as the end of winter nears.



As of March 16, Colorado's snowpack "snow water equivalent" is at only 59% of the median for this time of year (median indicated in green). Current levels (indicated with a black line) are on track to match the lowest recorded snowpack since 2002.

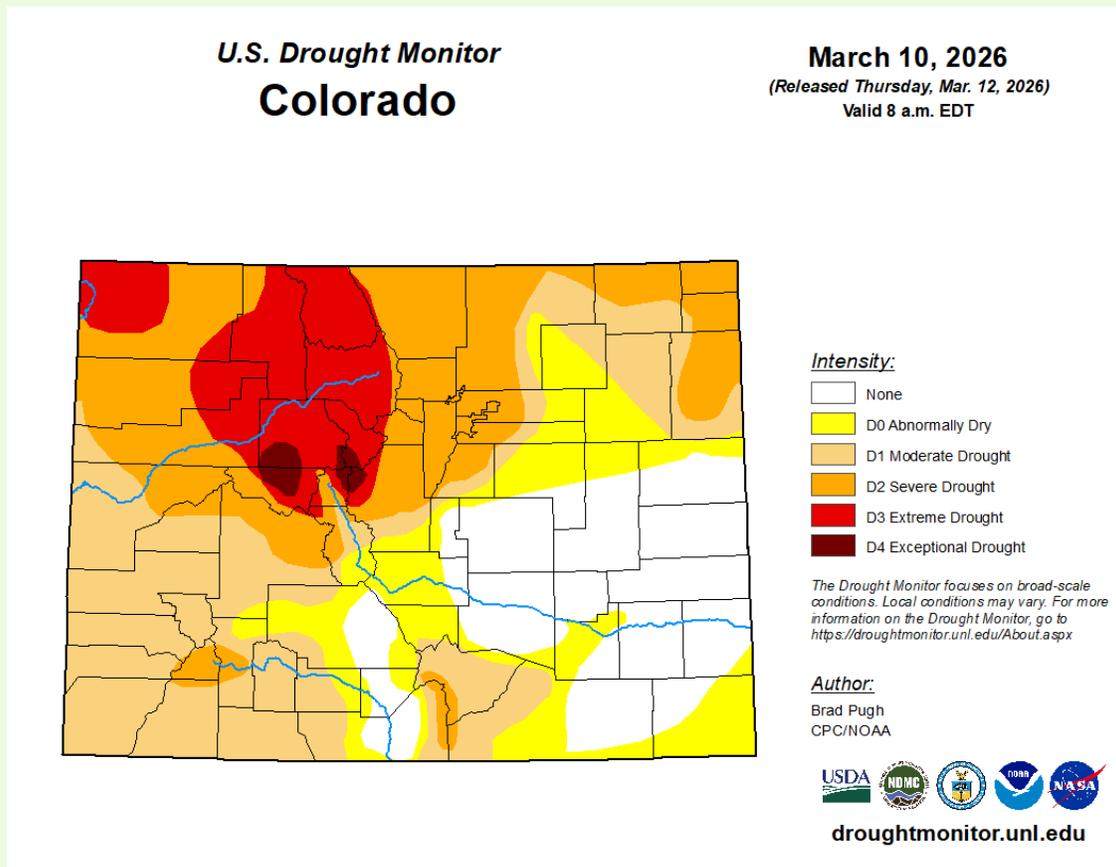
In addition to snowpack, Thornton Water Resources staff monitor many other variables to predict water storage levels for the future needs of our community. We are modeling

not only storage levels for July 2026, but also projecting storage levels out to July 2027. This is achieved using current levels, anticipated customer demand, predicted stream flows, and weather forecasts and trends to closely monitor this precious resource.

Thornton has set an overall 10% water reduction goal for 2026 and is asking all customers to partner with Thornton to reduce water usage. All Thornton Water customers can do their part to save water by:

- Waiting to turn on sprinkler systems until May.
- Limiting outdoor turf watering to no more than two days per week and not watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. At this time, to provide flexibility, customers can choose their two watering days.
 - Trees, shrubs, perennials, and gardens may be watered as needed.
- Logging-in to [WaterSmart](#), Thornton's water usage portal, to sign up for leak alerts for your home or business.
- Participating in Thornton's [residential](#), [HOA/Multifamily](#), or [commercial](#) water efficiency rebate programs and services.

For more information on Thornton's drought response, visit the [restrictions and drought page](#) or read Thornton's comprehensive [drought management plan](#).



Drought monitor map of Colorado, updated March 10, 2026.

Garden In A Box Kits On Sale Now!

Ready to get started on your spring garden plans? Let the experts help you transform your yard into a drought-resilient oasis with [Resource Central's Garden In A Box kits](#).

Choose from a variety of water-wise garden kits, which include starter plants specially selected for a variety of different light conditions, locations, and styles to fit your needs, and a printed plant care guide to set you up for success. Thornton water customers can receive a \$25 discount on full-size Garden In A Box kits while supplies last.



Garden In A Box kits take the guesswork out of selecting plants for your garden, with many varieties of beautiful and vibrant low-water shrubs and flowers.

Ready to get started? [Purchase your Garden In A Box kit today!](#)

Thornton Water Impact Spotlight

The Thornton Water team helps customers find new resources and tools to save water daily. We offer AZr landscape H2Overhauls and assist with finding leaks through the WaterSmart portal and our [fixing leaks checklist](#). We love helping our customers—here are a couple of our favorite examples of helping them save water over the last year!

“Your notice was most helpful! It is because of it that I could take care of the leak so quickly. Thank you very much!!!”

- Anna, leak notification recipient.

“Holy cow, that's a lot of data! It's just what I was looking for. The WaterSmart program is a terrific tool for targeting and reducing water usage. So much better than the old system of logging usage in the 1000s of gallons. I really appreciate your help!”

– Donna, WaterSmart portal user.

Fix a Leak Week – March 16-22

Fixing sneaky water leaks in your home, neighborhood, or business just got easier. In celebration of the [EPA's “Fix a Leak Week,”](#) here are our favorite resources on [ThorntonWater.com](#) to help you catch water leaks in your home, before they cause spikes in your water bill or require costly repairs.

- [Residential finding and fixing leaks guide](#): a step-by-step walkthrough to help residential customers identify problem spots in their indoor plumbing or outdoor irrigation system.
- [Commercial finding and fixing leaks guide](#): an expanded step-by-step checklist to help commercial businesses fix leaks according to their facility type.
- [WaterSmart portal](#): Under the "take action" tab, customers can find tips to save water and videos that walk them through fixing indoor and outdoor leaks.

Visit the [Saving Indoors](#) or [Saving Outdoors](#) pages for more ways to save water this spring.

Find and Fix in 5 Minutes:

Put your toilet to the test.



Take 5 minutes over 5 days to be leak-free!

www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week

Toilets can be a major source of indoor water waste. To test for a toilet leak, place five to ten drops of food coloring in the tank and wait five minutes. If color seeps into the bowl, you have a leak.

Water-Wise Garden of the Month

Have you used Thornton Water's rebate programs to transform your yard into a water-wise garden? We want to hear from you! Email water@thorntonwater.com with before-and-after photos of your lawn transformation project, and you could be featured in our next newsletter. If you haven't ditched the turf, now is your chance to start a spring lawn conversion project! Sign up for the [2026 Resource Central lawn replacement interest list](#), order your [Garden In A Box](#) from Resource Central, or visit ThorntonWater.com/H2Overhaul to start planning today!



Before and after lawn transformation in Thornton, complete with stones, mulch, and water-wise plants of all shapes and sizes.

Water Quality Corner

Custom Tools for Clean Water

Thornton Water fosters innovation and resourcefulness to deliver clean water to homes and businesses. One example of Thornton's in-house innovation is John Meyers, a senior water treatment specialist at the Thornton Water Treatment plant, who is putting his skills to work designing custom 3D-printed parts for the plant. His latest cost-saving creations include custom devices for collecting bacteria samples and other measurement tools. [Watch the video](#) to learn how treatment plant staff innovate water treatment every day.



Thornton staff are putting 3D printed tools to the test at the Thornton Water Treatment Plant.

Utility Billing Update

Pay Bills In-Person With CheckFreePay

One less stop: pay your bills where you shop. The City of Thornton Utility Billing Division is pleased to announce a new in-person payment option for utility customers. Payments can now be made at Walmart and King Soopers locations through [CheckFreePay](#), a nationwide walk-in bill payment service. Hours of availability vary by location; however, in-person payments are generally accepted seven days a week until 9 p.m.



Payments must be made using cash or a debit card and will be credited to the city on the following business day. A transaction fee will be assessed by the retailer for use of this service. Customers must present their 13-digit account number and the 9-digit biller ZIP code, 802294326 (no dash), when making a payment.

Questions? Give us a call!

[Utility Billing](#): 303-538-7370

[Water Quality](#): 303-255-7770

[Water Efficiency Programs](#) and WaterSmart customer portal: 720-977-6600

WITHOUT WATER *life would be* PRETTY DRY

THORNTONWATER.COM



City of Thornton | 9500 Civic Center Drive | Thornton, CO 80229 US

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