

Runners Roost

Splash

Annual Report

2024

2/21/24



Runners Roost
COLORADO

Splash
This phosphorus-free green makes for happy streams.
SmartStormwater.org

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Splash Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

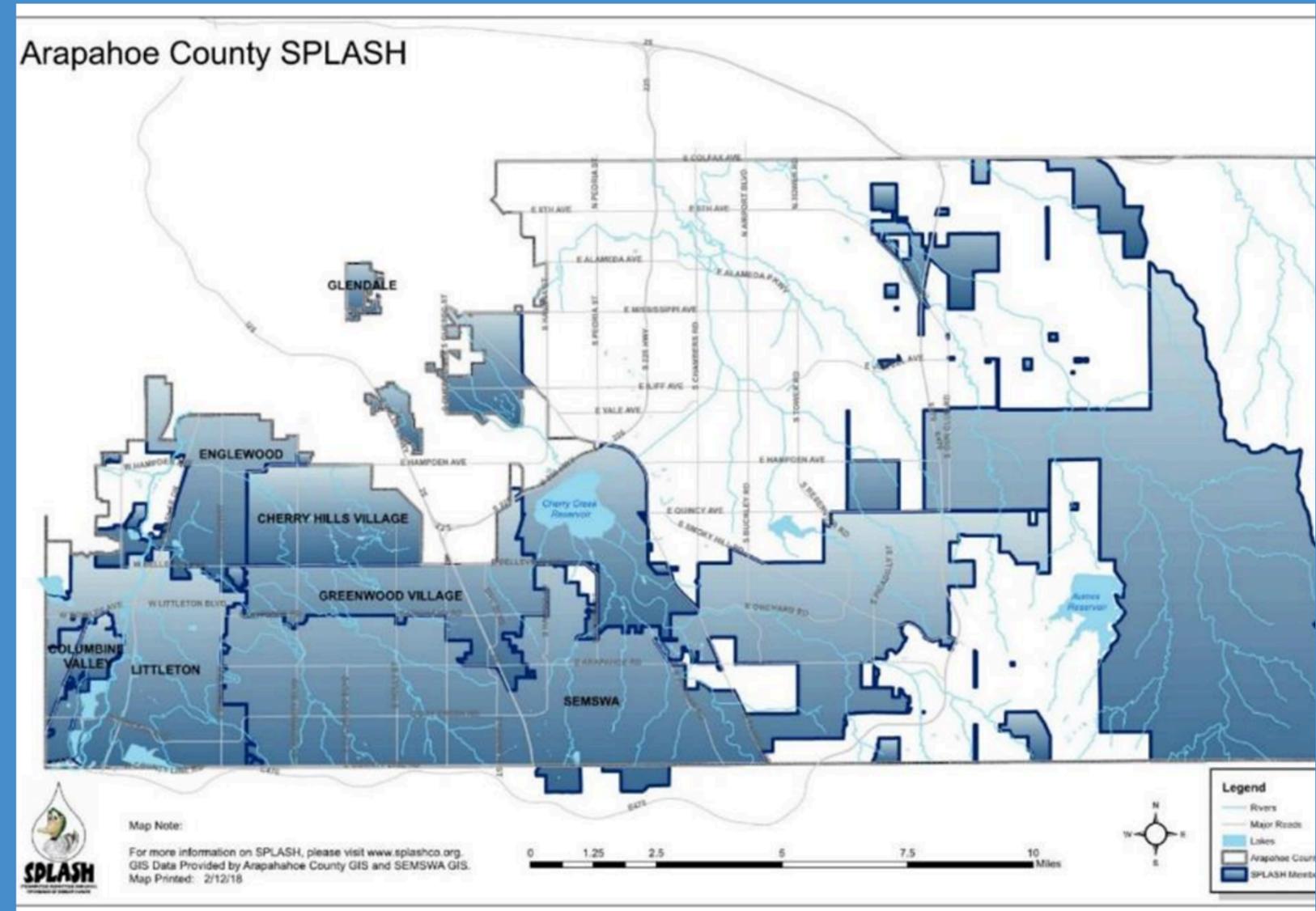
The Cooperation Agreement signed by SPLASH members outlines an understanding between governmental and quasi-governmental entities within Arapahoe County to coordinate on water quality activities associated with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit. MS4 permit holders must implement programs including: Education and Outreach; Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE); Construction Sites; Post-Construction; and Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Municipal Operations. SPLASH members coordinate efforts to participate in the following activities to leverage resources to help meet individual MS4 permit requirements:

- 1. Annual outreach activities
- 2. Annual education materials
- 3. Annual education activities
- 4. SPLASH Organization web site
- 5. Operation manuals, program development, standard operating procedures, and training materials

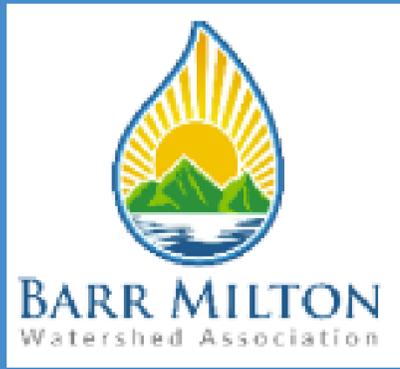
Although not specified in the MOU, SPLASH members collaborate, as necessary, on the Construction and Post-construction Programs. Each jurisdiction is expected to review the MS4 Permit requirements and individually determine whether the SPLASH collaborative efforts have met their permit requirements or whether additional enhanced activities are necessary to meet permit requirements.

Splash 2024 Permittee Members

1. Arapahoe County: Lisa Knerr
2. City of Cherry Hills Village: Madison Martin
3. City of Glendale: Willow Hassel, Carolyn Macek (RESPEC)
4. City of Littleton: Sarah White, Anthony Young
5. City of Englewood: Sebastian Donner
6. Cherry Creek State Park: John Bayman
7. Colorado Dept of Transportation: Michael Prado
8. Town of Columbine Valley: Jeremy Hayden
9. E-470 Authority: Wanda DeVargas
10. Goldsmith Metro District: Riley Nedved
11. Greenwood Village: Matt Adams, Justin Williams
12. Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority: James Linden



Collaborative Efforts



SPLASH members worked in partnership with the following organizations:

- Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners
- Barr-Milton Watershed Association
- Arapahoe County Public health
- Douglas County Stormwater Co-op Group (DC CLEAR)
- Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority
- Colorado Stormwater Council
- Colorado Stormwater Training Center



Splash 2024 Meeting Dates

Splash meetings were held for members during the following dates in 2024:

January 9th

March 12th

May 14th

July 9th

September 10th

November 19th

Splash 2024

Operations & Finances

Splash Member	Dues Amount
Greenwood Village	\$350.00
Goldsmith Metropolitan District	\$350.00
CPW for CCSP	\$350.00
City of Cherry Hills Village	\$350.00
Columbine Valley	\$350.00
Glendale	\$350.00
Littleton	\$750.00
Englewood	\$750.00
E-470	\$750.00
Arapahoe County	\$1,500.00
SEMSWA	\$2,500.00
CDOT	\$2,500.00

2024 REVENUES:

2024 Member dues paid: \$10,850.00

Carry over from 2023: \$18,403.00

Total Revenues: \$16,656.00

2024 Expenses:

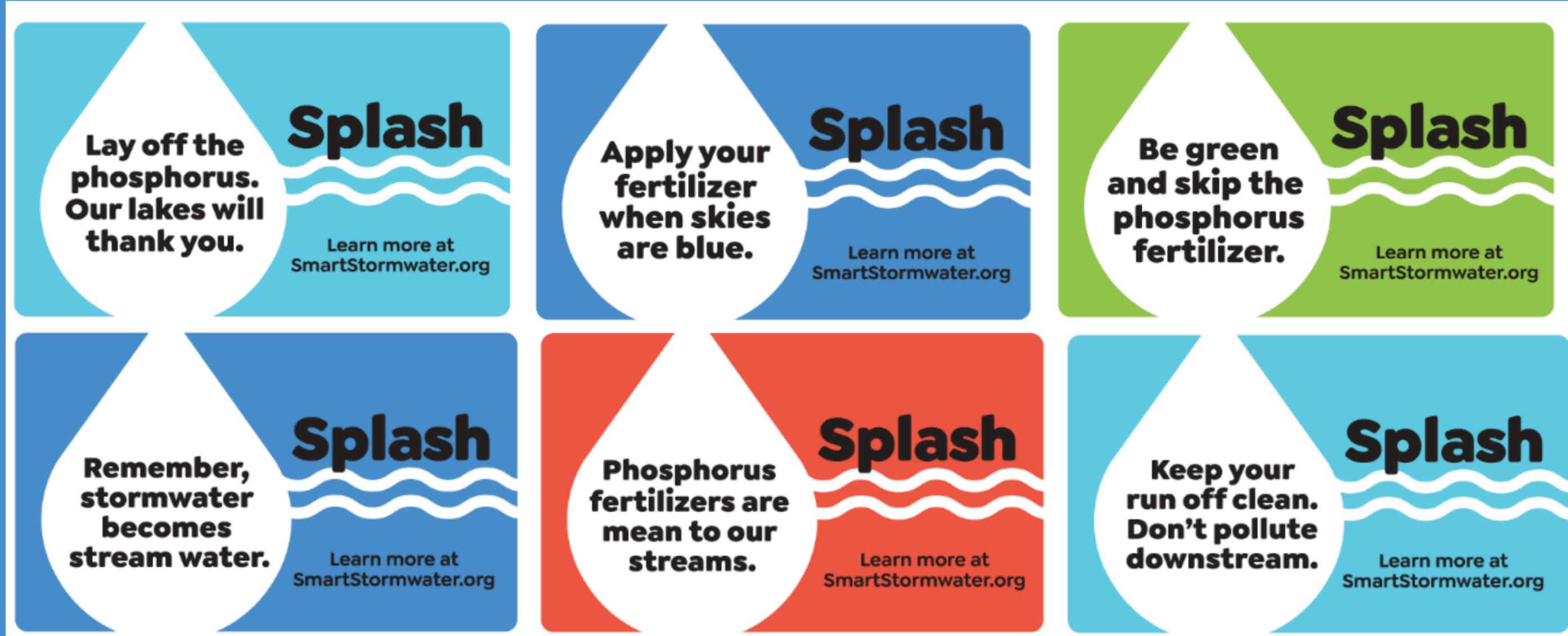
Total: \$14,831.00

Carry over to 2025: \$20,229.00

2024 Outreach Activities

- 1.2/27: Runyon Elementary School Stormwater Lesson (SEMSWA)
- 2.4/25: Enviroscape Activity at E-470 Bring Your Kids to Work Day (E-470)
- 3.4/26: Rain Barrel Workshop #1 at E-470 (SEMSWA, Arapahoe County, CDOT, E-470)
- 4.4/27: Englewood Earth Day Event (Englewood)
- 5.5/4: Greenwood Village Fishing Derby (Greenwood Village)
- 6.5/4: Dog-A-Palooza at Cherry Creek Dog Park (SEMSWA, Colorado Parks and Wildlife)
- 7.5/9: EPIC Campus Class Lesson and Infiltration Activity on High Line Canal (SEMSWA)
- 8.5/13: Enviroscape Activity at Southeast Christian School (SEMSWA)
- 9.5/16: Aurora Youth Water Festival (SEMSWA, Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners)
- 10.5/16: Rain Barrel Workshop #2 at Greenwood Village (2-4 pm)
- 11.5/18: Cherry Creek Dam Safety Event (SEMSWA, Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners, CDOT)
- 12.5/20: CenCON presentation (SEMSWA)
- 13.5/22: Centennial National Public Works Week at Smoky Hill Library (SEMSWA, Goldsmith Gulch)
- 14.6/7: Arapahoe County Play Date (Arapahoe County)
- 15.6/10: Glendale Movie Night (City of Glendale, RESPEC)
- 16.7/8: Glendale Movie Night (City of Glendale, RESPEC)
- 17.7/13: Race for the Watershed (SEMSWA, E-470, Arapahoe County)
- 18.7/20: Lake Appreciation Day (Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners)
- 19.8/9: Rain Barrel Workshop #3 at E-470 (E-470, Arapahoe County, SEMSWA)
- 20.8/15: Walnut Hills National Night Out (SEMSWA)
- 21.10/12: Lunch and Learn Water Quality Training at E-470 (E-470, CDOT, Goldsmith Gulch)
- 22.10/13: Touch-a-Truck (SEMSWA)

2024 E&O Strategy



2024 E&O Strategy Implementation

New Tactics Included:

- Printed Messaging Strategies
- Social Media Posts
- Promoting P-Free at Rain Barrel Workshops and HOA meetings



Splash Rain Barrel Workshop at E-470, April 2024

2024 Phosphorus Free Campaign

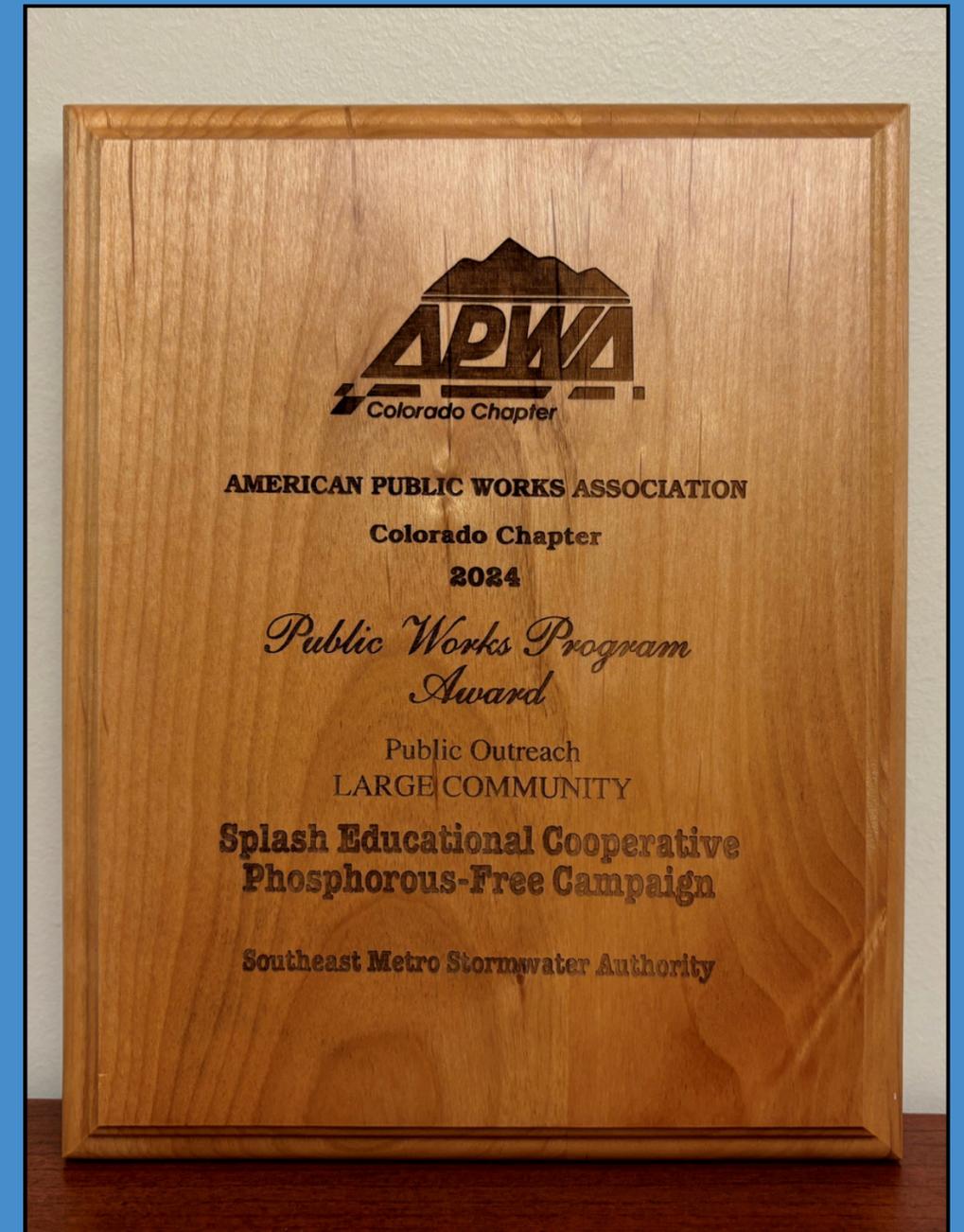
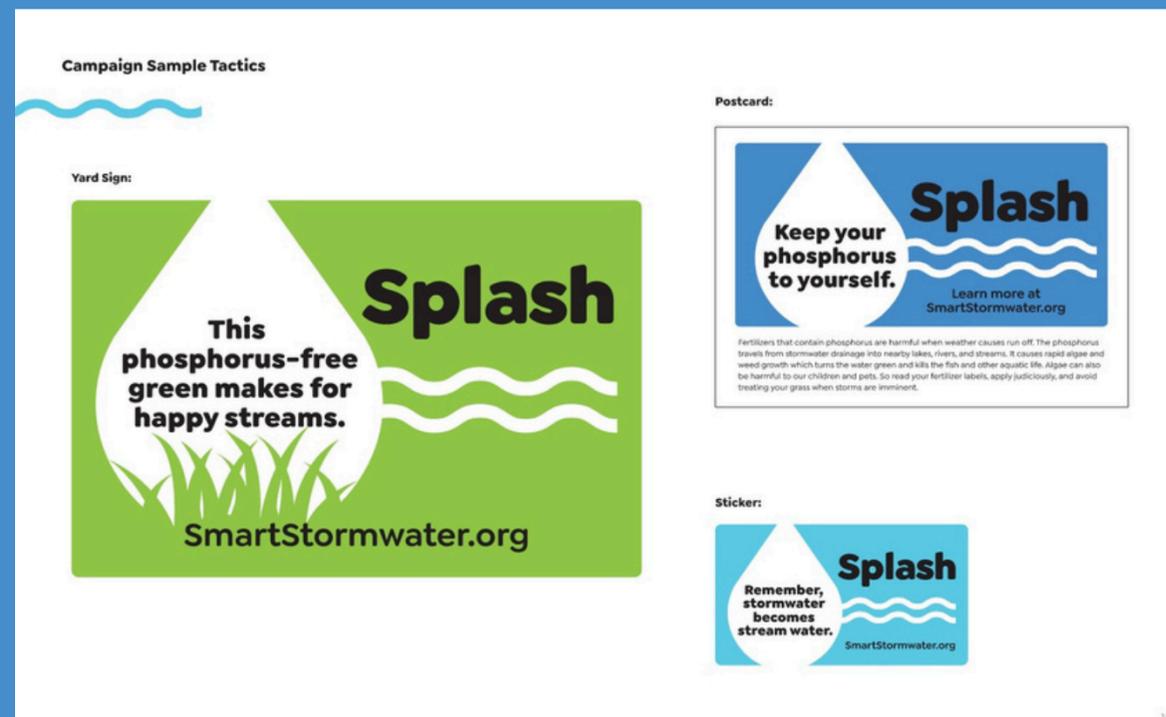
“P-Free” Campaign Highlights

- Splash promoted P-free messaging at all of our outreach events and on social media
- New graphics from Launch Advertising and Lotus Sustainability gave our messaging a modern look
- Over 1,000 postcards printed
- Over 1,000 stickers printed
- 65 yard signs printed
- In October 2024, Splash’s P-free Campaign won the Colorado Chapter APWA Award for Education and Outreach!



Phosphorus-Free Campaign

Splash's new Phosphorus free, or "P-Free" campaign, aims to spread the message that phosphorus containing fertilizers are often unnecessary for maintaining typical residential lawns, and that we should instead opt for the use of phosphorus-free fertilizer. Splash's P-Free campaign has culminated in a catchy grassroots message that "too much phosphorus is preposterous" with various and similar messaging on residential yard signs, stickers handed out at booth events, presentations to HOA representatives, and focused postings on our new social media accounts.



The Splash group was awarded its second consecutive APWA Award in October 2024 for Large Community Public Outreach for implementation of the Phosphorus-Free campaign!

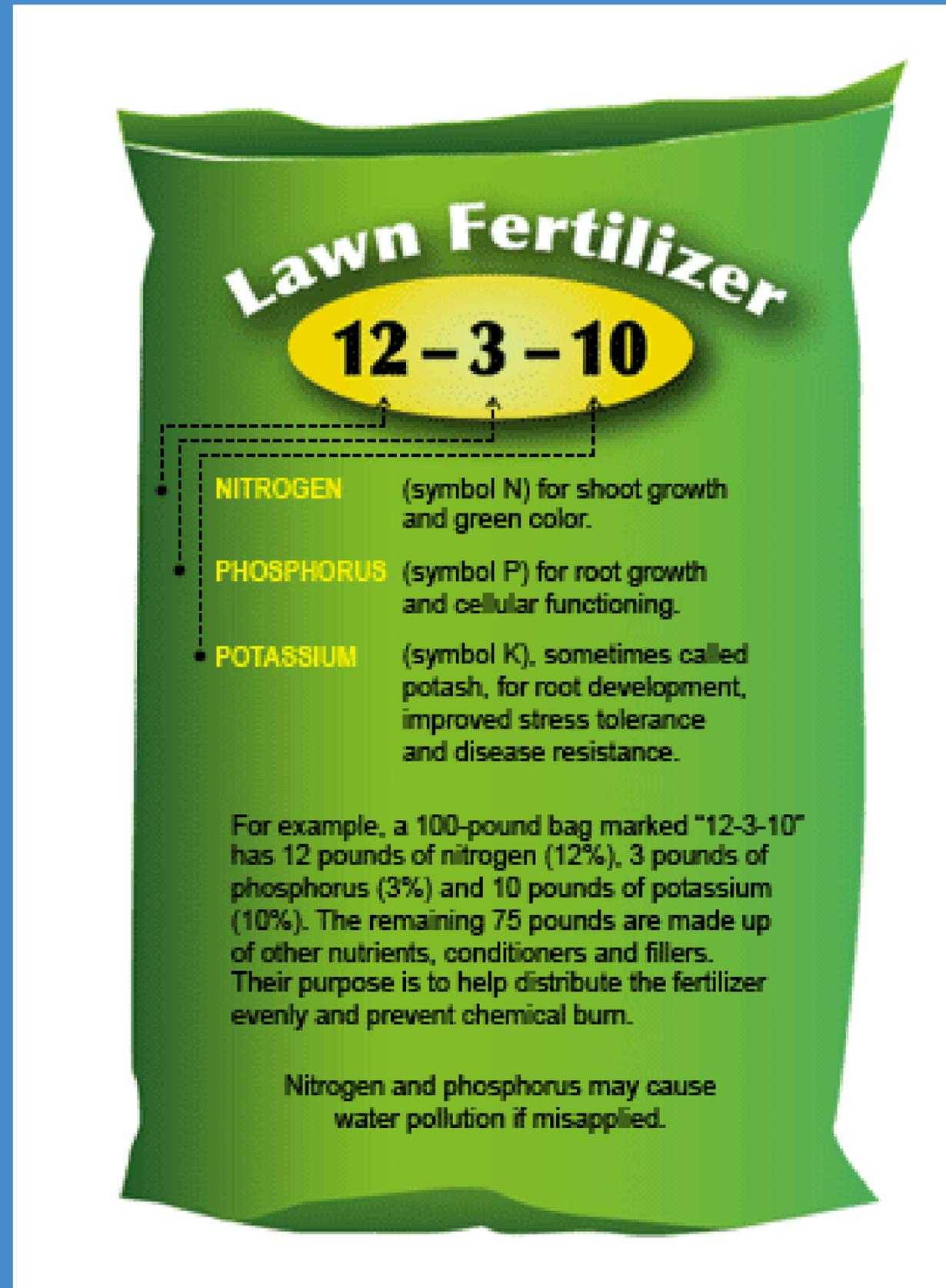
Go P-Free!

How to read a fertilizer label

N: Nitrogen

P: Phosphorus

K: Potassium



Splash Social Media

**Splash is now active on
Social Media**

**Help us get the P-Free message
out there and follow us!**



@splashcolorado



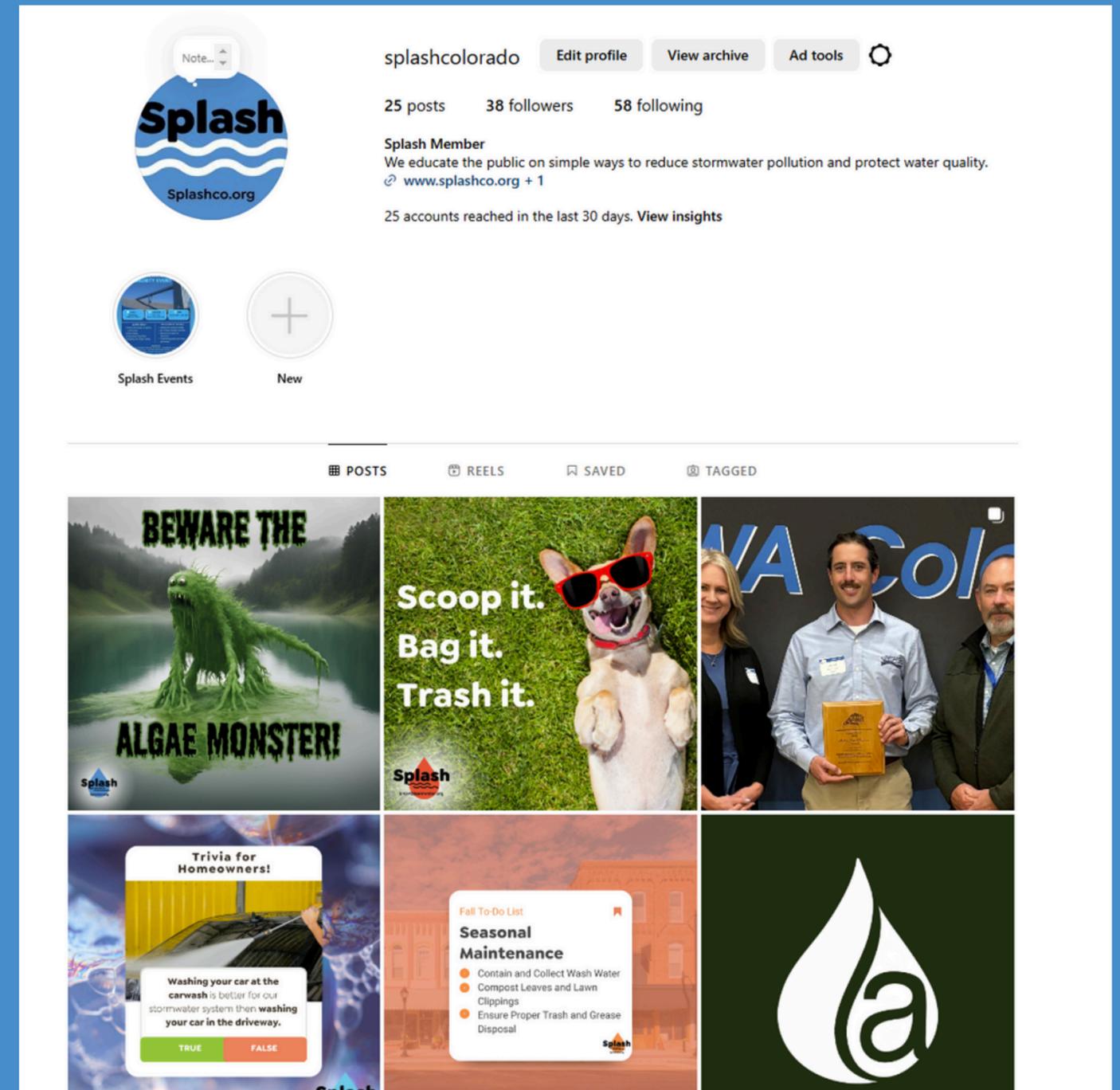
@Splash Stormwater
Education and Outreach



@splashcolorado



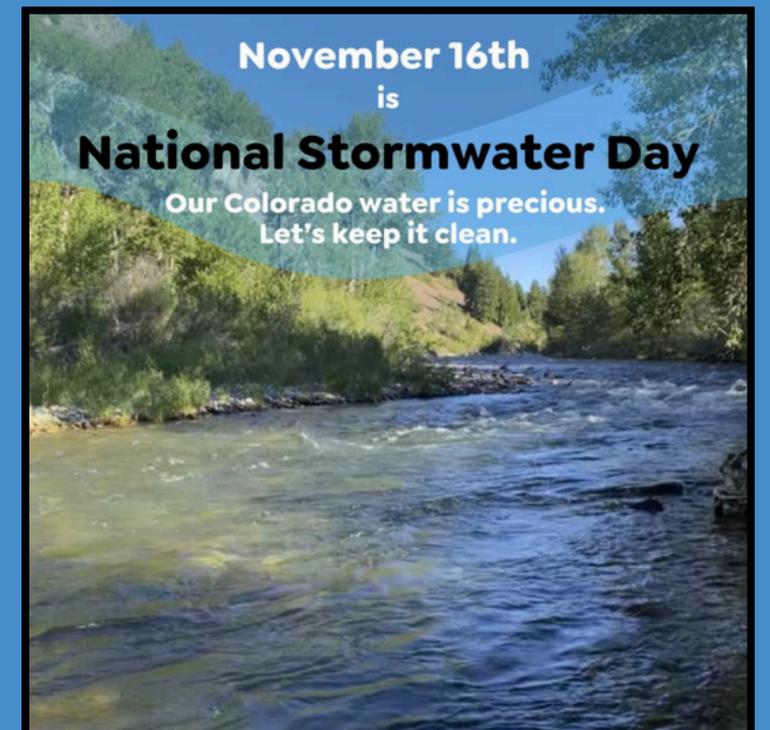
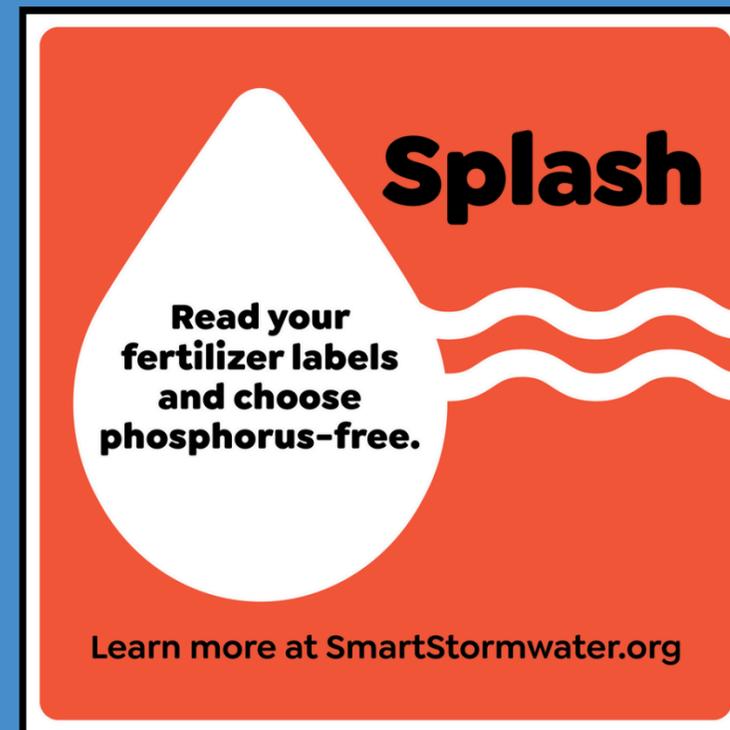
@Splash Stormwater
Education and Outreach



Splash Social Media

Social media content includes:

- Tips to reduce your stormwater pollution
- How to go P-free
- Rain Barrel Workshop and Booth Event promotion
- Other Splash and stormwater news



2024 Rain Barrel Workshops



PARTNERS

- COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
 - ONE WATER SOLUTIONS INSTITUTE
 - COLORADO STORMWATER CENTER (STORMWATERCENTER.COLOSTATE.EDU)
- SPLASH (STORMWATER PERMITTEES FOR LOCAL AWARENESS OF STREAM HEALTH, SPLASHCO.ORG)
 - SOUTHWEST METRO STORMWATER AUTHORITY
 - ARAPAHO COUNTY
- CHERRY CREEK STEWARDSHIP PARTNERS/COLORADO WATERSHED ASSEMBLY



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Rain Barrel Workshops

In continuation of our efforts to provide valuable, meaningful engagement with our target audience of local residents and homeowners, Splash hosted three rain barrel workshops in 2024. Our workshops teach participants how to install a rain barrel at home, and provide a valuable opportunity to educate our citizens about basic principles of water quality and pollution prevention. All participants are supplied with a 55-gallon rain barrel and installation kit to take home and connect to their downspout!



Lisa Knerr (Arapahoe County) leads the Rain Barrel Workshop at E-470 on April 26th, 2024.

Rain Barrel Workshops



What do participants get from workshops?

- 55-gallon rain barrel
- Colorado Rain Catcher Installation kit (pictured top right)
- Giveaways including dog waste cannisters, home lawn care fact sheets, and snacks
- A chance to win prizes such as garden buckets, soil test kits, and dual spigots
- Most importantly, an education in residential water quality!

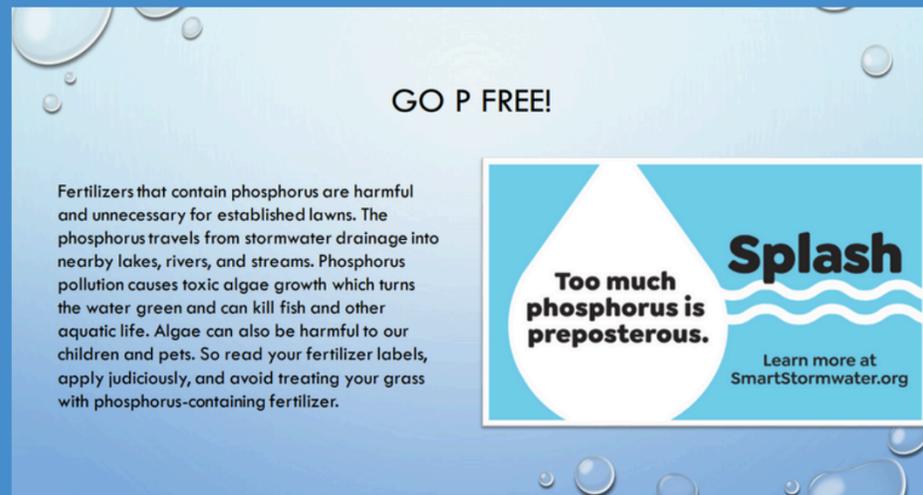


Rain Barrel Workshops

Topics Discussed at Workshops

Include:

- Splash and MS4 background
- Water quality 101
- Impacts of phosphorus pollution and choosing phosphorus-free fertilizer
- Colorado rain barrel regulations
- How to install your rain barrel



Splash members present to workshop participants at E-470's Headquarter Facility on September 22nd, 2023

2024 Booth Events



Greenwood Village Fishing Derby, 4/29

This event, conveniently located at the Tommy Davis Park's fishing pond in Greenwood Village, allowed Splash to engage directly with kids and residents who attended the Greenwood Village Fishing Derby, and offered the unique opportunity of educating passersby about stormwater and water quality during their interaction with our local waterways.



Kids attending the Greenwood Village Fishing Derby stop by the Splash booth to spin the prize wheel and earn a prize.

Aurora Youth Water Festival, 5/16



SEMSWA and ICON Engineering partnered to attend the Aurora Youth Water Festival in which hundreds of students were given the opportunity to stop by our booth and engage in fun activities relating to stormwater and floodplain management.



ICON's "Hydro" flood table educates students about basic principles of floodplain management and water quality.

Cherry Creek Dam Safety Outreach Event, 5/18



Splash hosted our booth at the Cherry Creek Dam Safety Event in advance of the US Army Corps of Engineers scheduled dam flush that occurred on May 22, 2024. This event served to promote flood control safety and the value of protecting water quality in the Cherry Creek reservoir and beyond.

Splash member James Linden (SEMSWA) hosts the booth at Cherry Creek State Park,

Glendale Movie Nights, 6/10 and 7/8

For two evenings this Summer, RESPEC had the Splash booth and educational material on display for Glendale's movie nights, in which our booth was extremely popular and volunteers reported hundreds of visits per hour!



Splash booth volunteers display our Enviroscape and prize wheel, along with P-free messaging to provide an interactive education for residents about stormwater pollution.

Touch-A-Truck Events, 5/22 and 10/12



Citizens of Centennial discuss simple practices that can be taken on an individual level to reduce stormwater pollution to the MS4 and local waterways.

SEMSWA attended the City of Centennial and Trails Recreation Center's Touch-A-Truck Events in May and October to give kids (and adults) a fun opportunity to check out SEMSWA's maintenance camera van and learn about how stormwater infrastructure maintenance is vital to protect our waterways from pollution.



Cherry Creek Race for the Watershed 2024



SEMSWA and Splash worked with several industry partners, municipalities, and other outreach groups in the stormwater community to bring back the Race for the Watershed tradition in 2024. This year's race took place on July 13th, 2024 in a new form as a 5k walk/fun run!

The race consisted of two loops through the Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space area along Cherry Creek and adjacent to Tagawa Gardens. The race was an extraordinarily fun teambuilding event that also raised awareness for water quality. We can't wait to participate in the Race again in 2025!

Cherry Creek Race for the Watershed 2024



2024 Race Photos:

[2024 run for the Watershed - Google Photos](#)

2024 Race Results:

<https://www.athlinks.com/event/387611/results/Event/1083857/Course/2486434/Results>



2024 Giveaways and Educational Material Interactive Enviroscape Model

In 2024, Splash members invested in an Enviroscape watershed model as an interactive tool to simulate the effects of stormwater pollution in urban and residential landscape. The model offers a repeatable, illustrative, and fun tool to educate local kids about the importance of water quality. The Enviroscape was utilized for booth events, “Bring Your Kid to Work” days at E-470 and SEMSWA, and multiple in-class lessons at local schools throughout Splash’s communities. We plan to incorporate the Enviroscape as a key tool for future educational campaigns in the years ahead!



(Top): Splash dog waste cannisters; (Bottom left): Splash guidance for lawn care; (Bottom right): Splash duck prizes awarded with prize wheel participation.

Other Interactive Displays

- Wheel of Water aka the Water Prize Wheel:
- Spin the wheel, answer a question, and get a prize (promotional items distributed included rubber ducks or dog waste bag cannisters with hang tag).
- Questions on the Prize Wheel include:
 - What's one action you can take to protect water quality in our community?
 - Excess nitrogen and phosphorus in stormwater can cause an algae bloom. TRUE or FALSE
 - Over applying lawn fertilizers can lead to excess algae growth in streams and lakes. TRUE or FALSE
 - Can you name one type of water pollution?
 - Stormwater is treated by a wastewater treatment plant. TRUE or FALSE
 - Rain water that drains into storm inlets goes directly to the creek. TRUE or FALSE



High Line Canal Conservancy Sponsorship

In 2024, SEMSWA continued our sponsorship of the High Line Canal Conservancy's Independent Cleanup Program. Some highlights of the 2023 Independent Canal Cleanup program included:

- **5,603** pounds of trash removed from the Canal corridor
- **123.2** cumulative miles of the Canal cleaned (with many areas cleaned multiple times)
- Engaged **565** volunteers for a sum of **1,243** volunteering hours during **68** cleanups along all **71** miles



Strategy Implementation Documentation for MS4 Permit

- Splash updated the COR070000 Non-standard MS4 Permit Program Description Document (PDD) to reflect 2024 activities
- This document will be made available for all Splash members and posted on the Splash website at www.splashco.org.
- Additional documentation resources associated with the strategy document including meeting minutes, flyers, and screenshots of other outreach methods will also be posted as appendices to the 2024 Splash Annual Report on the website, and are available via the Google Drive Link Below:
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12QLhPhcs2cluyxTK_NBEkZJWFNPGhgzM?usp=drive_link

What's to Come in 2025

In the year ahead, Splash plans to focus our efforts on the following five programs:

**Splash social
media**

**P-free
Campaign**

**Rain Barrel
Workshops**

**Schools
Outreach
Program**

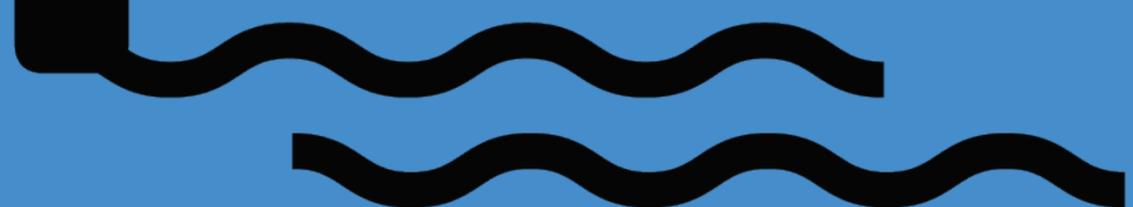
Booth Events

Contact us and learn more or get involved at:
[splashco.org](https://www.splashco.org)

Thanks for reading the
2024 Annual Report!

Our Colorado water is precious. Let's keep it clean.

Splash

A stylized splash graphic consisting of two horizontal, wavy lines positioned below the word "Splash". The top line is longer and starts under the 'p', while the bottom line is shorter and starts under the 'l'.