

**Colorado Ag Water Alliance
Looking to the Future for Irrigated Agriculture in Colorado
Regional Workshops**

The Colorado Water Plan aims to address the water needs of cities, agriculture and the environment in light of projected shortages. Agriculture is a focus; all the basin roundtables and the IBCC expressed that while water for other needs will come partly from agriculture, we must guard against large scale dry-up. Instead, the Plan promotes alternative transfer methods as an alternative.

What does this emphasis on alternative transfer methods mean? What's the motivation for farmers and ranchers to participate in leasing or to improve irrigation efficiency? What are the barriers? Colorado Ag Water Alliance is hosting a series of workshops throughout the state to share information and foster dialogue among agricultural producers.

Brief, highly focused presentations and panel dialogue will cover the basics, followed by opportunity for Ag producers to ask questions and engage in dialogue about what they see as opportunities and barriers—and how those barriers and opportunities might best be addressed.

Tentative Agenda

South Platte and Metro Workshop
July 13, 2016
Morgan County Fairgrounds
Brush, Colorado

10:00 Welcome from CAWA

What is CAWA? What Does the Colorado Water Plan Say about Agriculture?
Gene Manuelo, CAWA VP, South Platte Basin ag producer

10:15 What Does the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan Say about

Agriculture? What Does that Mean for Ag producers? —*Joe Frank, South Platte Basin Roundtable, Lower South Platte Conservancy District*

10:30 What is the Future for Storage? Permitting status of proposed projects, underground storage experimentation, opportunities for refurbishing existing storage —*Mike Applegate, Applegate Group, Inc., Northern Water Board*

10:45 What Are Some of the Motivations for Ag Producers to Use Their Water Differently? —*MaryLou Smith, Colorado Water Institute, Colorado State University*

10:55 **What Do Colorado Ag Producers Think about Ag Water Leasing?** Survey Results— *Phil Brink, Colorado Cattlemen’s Association*

11:10 **“Use it or Lose It”—Perception or Reality?** *Dick Wolfe, State Engineer, Colorado Division of Water Resources*

11:30 **Break/Sandwich Buffet/Program Continues over Lunch**

11:50 **What’s Happening in the Arkansas Basin with the Super Ditch?**
Caitlin Leasing Pilot Project—*John Schweizer, Super Ditch Board, Arkansas Basin Ag Producer*

12:10 **Ag/Urban/Environmental Water Cooperation —Stories and Opportunities**
----*Greg Kernohan, Ducks Unlimited, CO Ag Water Protection Act (Flex Bill)*
----*Todd Doherty, Western Water Partnerships, SP Ag/Urban Pilot Project*
----*Chris Kraft, Fort Morgan Ditch Co Ag/Energy Lease*
----*Gerald Knapp, City of Aurora, Conceptualizing a Slightly Different*

Approach

1:00 **What Do YOU (Ag producers here today) think about what you have heard?**
What barriers do you see? Opportunities? Questions/Opinions/Ideas
Dialogue facilitated by MaryLou Smith and Greg Peterson

2:00 **Adjourn**