

Stakeholder Connection

Your news source on the Institute for Environmental Solutions projects and progress



Volume 11, Number 4, November 2018

Please donate to IES on (or before) Colorado Gives Day, December 4, 2018!

Donate now to IES by credit card at: www.ColoradoGives.org/i4es. Schedule your donation for Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, December 4, 2018. Your contribution will be boosted by the matching FirstBank incentive fund. Your donation at www.coloradogives.org/i4es is safe, secure, and tax-deductible.

We need your help to continue our work! We are counting on you - someone who cares about scientific objectivity and respect for diverse perspectives - to support our innovative projects. Your donation will improve Colorado's environment and communities!

GIVE
where you
LIVE
DEC. 4

COLORADO COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION
GIVES DAY.
12.04.18

1STBANK
Corporate Partner

DONATE TUES., DEC. 4 | ColoradoGivesDay.org

Please support IES so that we can continue implementing effective and affordable environmental solutions. *Our mission is cleaner air, purer water, and healthier lives.* We are a volunteer based non-profit that depends on your financial support. Please contribute to our efforts to create more environmentally sound and healthy communities by donating today.

- Fifty dollars will bring the Communities for Clean Water program to a new neighborhood.
- A \$250 donation will teach a class of students about ways to improve local water quality.
- A \$500 donation will purchase, plant and maintain two additional native trees to reduce storm water runoff and mitigate global climate disruption.
- A \$1,500 donation will support and train one graduate intern for one academic quarter.

Please donate to IES now. IES is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

- Mail a check to: IES, 761 Newport Street, Denver, CO 80220.
- Become a Tree Steward or Water Steward! Sign up at www.ColoradoGives.org/i4es to donate \$10, \$25, or \$50 a month.
- Be a Giving Champion! Schedule your credit card donation at www.ColoradoGives.org/i4es for **Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, December 5.**

Sheridan Quincy Trail Project a Success Thanks to Students and Stakeholders

A job well done by students in the Fort Logan Northgate School Leadership Class for the successful fall 2018 Sheridan Quincy Trail (SQT) project! Students wrapped up the fourth year of involvement in the SQT as they improved a local trail and community space while strengthening their leadership skills through environmental stewardship. Students participated in classroom workshops on September 25 and November 6, including round table discussions with SQT project partners, how to safely use tools, habitat for local wildlife, project banner design, and how rain gardens work. During the community space building day on October 26, students applied what they learned in the first workshop to build a rain garden with the help of IES team members and volunteers. Students installed new planters and wooden steps for the trail on school property, and planted 80 new native trees and shrubs. Students demonstrated great teamwork and leadership as they visited the site every Tuesday during the fall to water and weed plants on site.



A special thank you to community volunteers for donating their valuable time during the Xcel Energy Day of Service on September 8, and to the Sheridan Blue Crew from Groundwork Denver for spending their Saturday morning, October 6, preparing the site for the community space building day. Our work would not be possible without the help of our project stakeholders and dedicated Tree Stewards, along with generous financial support from the Xcel Energy Foundation and the Colorado Health Foundation. More information, Kelly O'Toole kelly@i4es.org.

Chemical Footprint Project “Reduce Your Chemical Footprint” video now on YouTube

The IES Chemical Footprint Project team created an explanatory video that breaks down the complex issue of contaminants of emerging concern (CECs), harmful chemicals found in common household cleaning and personal care products that are polluting our water. The “Reduce Your Chemical Footprint” video shows just how simple it can be to reduce and prevent CEC exposure in your everyday life. You may be astonished to learn how many everyday products contain CECs, even toothpaste! Our video explains why we should be concerned about CECs and the harmful effects they have on human and environmental health, such as increased likelihood of certain types of cancer and developmental effects on the nervous system in children. This new



video shows simple, affordable, and effective ways to reduce our exposure and keep CECs from entering the water system. Easy behavior changes such as using fewer products with CECs or making your own CEC-free products at home can go a long way. The video demonstrates how to easily reduce your chemical footprint and prevent water pollution. Check out the "Reduce Your Chemical Footprint" video on the IES website and on IES's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vy6FvWSOobs). More information: Tim Smith, Tim@i4es.org

Thank you to our terrific Tree Stewards!

Another summer of tree watering has ended and IES thanks all of our terrific Tree Stewards for their hard work! Our Tree Stewards cared for over 1,000 native trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses along the Quincy Trail in Sheridan and in the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt. Their many hours of hard work included watering, weeding, and mulching plants. Thanks to their dedication, IES maintains high survival rates on our tree planting restoration and improvement sites. Tree Stewards also supported IES project events by working with students in Sheridan and Wheat Ridge during our planting days. IES also thanks Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Department, South Suburban Parks and Recreation District, and Sheridan School District No. 2 for providing materials and support for our Tree Stewards throughout the summer. You can make a real difference for the environment and get some great free exercise and fresh air. Become a Tree Steward in Sheridan or Wheat Ridge! Please contact IES for more information. To all our current terrific stewards, we look forward to working with you again starting early in 2019 to continue to provide wonderful care for our planting sites! More information: John Kelly, IES Tree Project Manager, john@i4es.org.



IES hosts the CREEC Fall Meeting



IES's Chemical Footprint (CFP) Project team proudly hosted the Consortium for Research and Education on Emerging Contaminants' (CREEC) fall meeting in collaboration with our partners: Clean Label Project, Ocean First Institute, and The Endocrine Disruption Exchange (TEDX). CREEC is a non-profit organization in Denver comprised of scientists and professional personnel from regulatory, policy, and public health agencies, drinking water providers, and water treatment facilities.

IES presented an update on our Communities for Clean Water Initiative pilot program. We demonstrated easy tips on how to reduce your chemical footprint by inviting participants to make their own CEC-free all-purpose cleaner during our presentation. We also aired our Reduce Your Chemical Footprint video.

Jackie Bowen, Executive Director of the Clean Label Project, spoke about current food and consumer product safety policy, including the long-term adverse health effects associated with exposure to industrial, agricultural, large-scale food production contaminants. Clean Label Project analyzes environmental contaminants in consumer products (www.cleanlabelproject.org).

Dr. Mikki McComb-Kobza, Executive Director of Ocean First Institute (www.oceanfirstinstitute.org), spoke about community efforts to advance ocean conservation. She discussed the need for community awareness and how simple behaviors can affect ocean health, even in landlocked locations such as Colorado. She passed around samples of microplastics collected from the Pacific garbage patch, and waste samples littered with plastics collected from an ocean living bird species, the albatross.

Kim Schultz, Oil and Gas Program Coordinator of the Endocrine Disruption Exchange, spoke about harmful chemicals that interfere with healthy hormone function and provided scientific tools to educate and spread awareness of the issue. She described emerging contaminants associated with hydraulic fracturing and other concerns that affect local communities in Colorado. You can stay updated with TEDX's podcast "Fracking and Health: Ask an Expert" (<https://endocrinedisruption.org/audio-and-video/oil-and-gas>). More information: Samantha Grant, Samantha@i4es.org

Thanks, Keith! Tree Project Team Bids Farewell to Keith Wood



After 16 years with the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) as the Urban and Community Forestry Manager, Colorado's greatest tree champion, Keith Wood, is joining the staff of the National Association of State Foresters Urban & Community Forestry Committee. Keith has also stepped down from his role on the IES Tree Project Steering Committee, where he was the longest serving IES Steering Committee member (14 years). He was also a leader in the Colorado Tree Coalition and the Front Range Urban Forestry Council. The IES Tree Project is deeply grateful for the guidance and support Keith has provided over the years to create sustainable urban tree planting projects and identify potential funding sources. Keith's advocacy for community-based urban forestry

has made a lasting positive impact in communities throughout Colorado. We are sad to see him leave the CSFS and hope his new adventure will make good use of his skills and expertise in urban forestry and community partnerships. IES wishes Keith success in this exciting new chapter as he continues to advance local urban forestry initiatives across the country! More information: Sabrina Kleinman, sabrina@i4es.org.

Chemical Footprint Project Team Presents at the South Platte Forum

The South Platte Forum is a regional conference initiated in 1989 to provide an avenue for a timely, multi-disciplinary exchange of information and ideas important to resource management in the South Platte River Basin. Its goal is to promote the interchange of ideas among disciplines to increase awareness and understanding of South Platte River Basin issues and public values.

IES's Chemical Footprint Project was invited to present a report on our Communities for Clean Water Initiative (CCWI) at this year's conference in October in Loveland. This was an excellent opportunity for IES to present information about CECs and how we tackle them as a human and environmental health issue. Our presentation to an audience of approximately 150 participants was well received. IES provided an overview of our project and the pilot CCWI, and showed the world premiere of the IES Reduce Your Chemical Footprint video. We asked the audience to actually make a commitment to reduce their chemical footprints. The audience response was inspiring with more than half the participants raising their hands. We were amazed by how many attendees gathered around IES members after the presentation wanting to help us further our mission, understand the free phone apps and products labels we discussed during our presentation, and ask



further questions. The IES team enjoyed the other presentations and panels at the conference on a wide range of topics of concern to the South Platte River Basin. More information: Helen McGrath, helen@i4es.org

IES Institute News

The IES Board is pleased to announce our 2018-2019 officers:

Michael Verdone, President

Kel Rayens, Vice President

Kathy Thaxton, Treasurer

Allison Robinette, Secretary

IES is excited to welcome three new team members: Jennifer Cowan has a BA in Geography and Environmental Science from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. Jen spent 15 years in the U.S. Air Force as a medical technician.

Aaren Morrell earned a BS in Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism at Colorado State University. She worked in the Pulliam Scholars Environmental Education Program in Fort Collins.

Liana McIsaac completed a BA in Spanish and International Studies, Minor in Environmental Science, at the University of Denver. She has experience in nature education and restoration.

IES Opportunities

IES is seeking motivated **volunteers and graduate interns** who are passionate about protecting the environment to join our project teams. We have openings for project, development, social media, and fundraising volunteers and interns. Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Solutions@i4es.org.

IES is looking for an energetic professional who wants to ensure the application of sound scientific solutions to our pressing environmental challenges to join the **IES Board of Directors**. Please contact IES at Solutions@i4es.org for a position description and application.

We need a **Tree Steward Coordinator** to organize our team of dedication tree stewards to care for our trees in Wheat Ridge and Sheridan. This position is flexible and comes with lots of free outdoor exercise and occasional pizza. Please email Solutions@i4es.org if you are interested.

Shop at Smile.Amazon.com and benefit IES!



Support IES by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your purchases to IES! AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know: same products, same prices, same service, no cost and no fees. Designate your donations to go to The Institute for Environmental Solutions. *Always start at "smile.amazon.com."* Please SHARE this information at Facebook and Linked In, and tell your friends.

IES participates in 1% for the Planet, Amazon Smile, ColoradoGives, and the Colorado Combined Campaign (#1346). IES is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contributions are tax-deductible.

If this e-mail was forwarded to you and you wish to subscribe, please e-mail Newsletter@i4es.org. IES does not sell, rent, exchange, or give away any contact information. To unsubscribe, please e-mail Newsletter@i4es.org with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



IES is on
[Facebook!](#)



Link to IES on
[LinkedIn!](#)



Follow us on
[Twitter!](#)



Visit us on
[Instagram!](#)

