How can we mitigate the impacts of drought?

Imagine you are currently in a drought, and you worked for the local water utility, or a board member on the local water conservation board. Put together a social media post, including a photo and a short description (no more than 280 characters) to advertise a drought resilience strategy you plan to implement.

Example:

@localwaterutility



Save water and beautify your front yard! Apply for a grant today to rip out your lawn and xeriscape. #waterconservation

Choose from the list of strategies below, and find resources to learn more about the strategy beneath each strategy.

Resilience Strategies

- Educational outreach to farmers/ranchers on improving soil health
 - o USDA Soil Health Practices
 - Sustaining Farming in the Arid West: Stories of Young Farmers, Water and Resilience
- Establish a drought planning board to recommend policies for water reduction
 - Colorado Water Conservation Board Municipal Drought Management Plan
 Guidance Document, page 15-17 (Drought Planning Committee Section)
- Increase forest management to remove dead brush and trees







Student Handout High School

Hazard Lesson: Drought

- Managing Forests in the Face of Drought There is Help!
- Improve water infrastructure such as replacing leaking pipes and inefficient sewers
 - Water Audits and Water Loss Control for Public Water Systems
- Build a new wastewater recycling facility
 - o Basics of Water Reuse
- Public health and mental stress awareness campaign
 - o The Human Element: Weathering Tough Times in Drought
- Build a new water storage reservoir
 - Storing and Moving Water
- Campaign to promote water-efficient crops
 - Seasonal Water Needs and Opportunities for Limited Irrigation for Colorado Crops Fact Sheet
- Direct economic incentives to reduce water use in homes/businesses
 - Watering a Home Landscape During Drought Fact Sheet
 - o Water Conservation In and Around the Home Fact Sheet
- Grants to farmers/ranchers who encounter drought conditions
 - Southern Colorado farmers and ranchers eligible for drought assistance
 - USDA Disaster Assistance Programs
- Grants for water-saving measures such as rain barrels and low-water landscaping
 - o Xeriscaping: Creative Landscaping Fact Sheet
- Develop integrated pest-management, irrigation and fertilization plans for farms and rangelands
 - o Sample Drought Plans





