



Kayaking in Boulder Creek downstream of the Boulder Public Library.

Annual Report 2021





Tubing down Boulder Creek in Eben G. Fine Park.

Opening Letter

In 2021 our staff, partners, and stakeholders continued adapting our work to virtual settings. School programs used video presentations and educational materials were distributed through email newsletters and social media. Training and workshops were hosted on Zoom, allowing for hundreds of stormwater professionals from around Colorado to attend.

We worked throughout the year to finish an important project: developing a new website for the Keep it Clean Partnership. The new website is easier to navigate, mobile friendly, and is full of updated content. In developing the website, we wanted to make sure it could help anyone searching for information about watersheds and water quality. We also wanted a robust section to serve as a central hub for water quality data, reports, and issues in the Boulder St. Vrain Watershed. We hope this website will make it easy and accessible for anyone looking to learn more about watersheds, stormwater, and ways they can take action to protect water quality.

We are excited to be entering 2022 with a brand-new website and updated resident resources, all of which are available in both English and Spanish. Throughout the year we will add even more resources and information to learn about water quality metrics and issues in the Boulder St. Vrain Watershed. You can explore the new website and get updates on what we are doing at www.keepitcleanpartnership.org.

Lastly, at the end of 2021 our community had to respond to another tragedy: the Marshall fire that impacted hundreds of homes and businesses in Superior, Louisville, and Boulder County. The long road to recovery will involve monitoring for post-fire impacts to our watershed, mitigating the effects of burned areas and debris to our stormwater system, and rebuilding with water quality pollution prevention in mind. We are coordinating with the impacted communities to provide our support in whatever ways we can.

About Us

The Keep it Clean Partnership (KICP) is a collaborative program based in Boulder County with participation from our local municipalities. These communities originally came together over 20 years ago to collaborate on stormwater management, and in the years since we have expanded our work to include broader watershed level efforts.

Our staff facilitate collaboration on water quality issues between our partner communities and with other organizations with the goal of improving watershed health. We coordinate training events for stormwater professionals and perform watershed outreach on behalf of our partner communities. By working together with local governments and other organizations throughout the Boulder St. Vrain basin, we can increase our impact and make progress towards a healthier watershed.



Kevin Peterson, *Coordinator*

Kevin Peterson has served as the Coordinator for the KICP since the start of 2018, managing the organization's activities and working to better understand and protect our watershed.



Cristina Ramírez, *Outreach Specialist*

Cristina Ramírez joined the KICP in October 2019 to serve as the Outreach Specialist. She leads the KICP partners in working towards Education and Outreach objectives and coordinates training opportunities for the Stormwater Program.



KICP Staff at Left Hand Watershed Days Celebration at Lavern M Johnson Park.

Stormwater

Our stormwater program provides opportunities for staff from the Keep it Clean Partnership communities to coordinate watershed-wide programs and training opportunities. In 2021 training events and workshops were offered in a virtual format, allowing us to provide professional development opportunities to 326 people from 99 communities and organizations.



State Construction Stormwater Permit

March 30, 2021 | 141 participants

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment presented on and answered questions about recent changes to the State Construction Stormwater Permit.



Low Impact Development Workshop

November 15, 2021 | 20 participants

This workshop explored different types of LID systems with an overview of key design elements, how they work, and operation and maintenance for each type of system.



Working in Waterways

November 17, 2021 | 165 participants

An experienced construction manager from the Mile High Flood District reflected on lessons learned from over 35 years of working in waterways.

Watershed

Our watershed program coordinates water quality sampling throughout the Boulder St. Vrain watershed and continues to support various efforts to monitor and improve water quality.

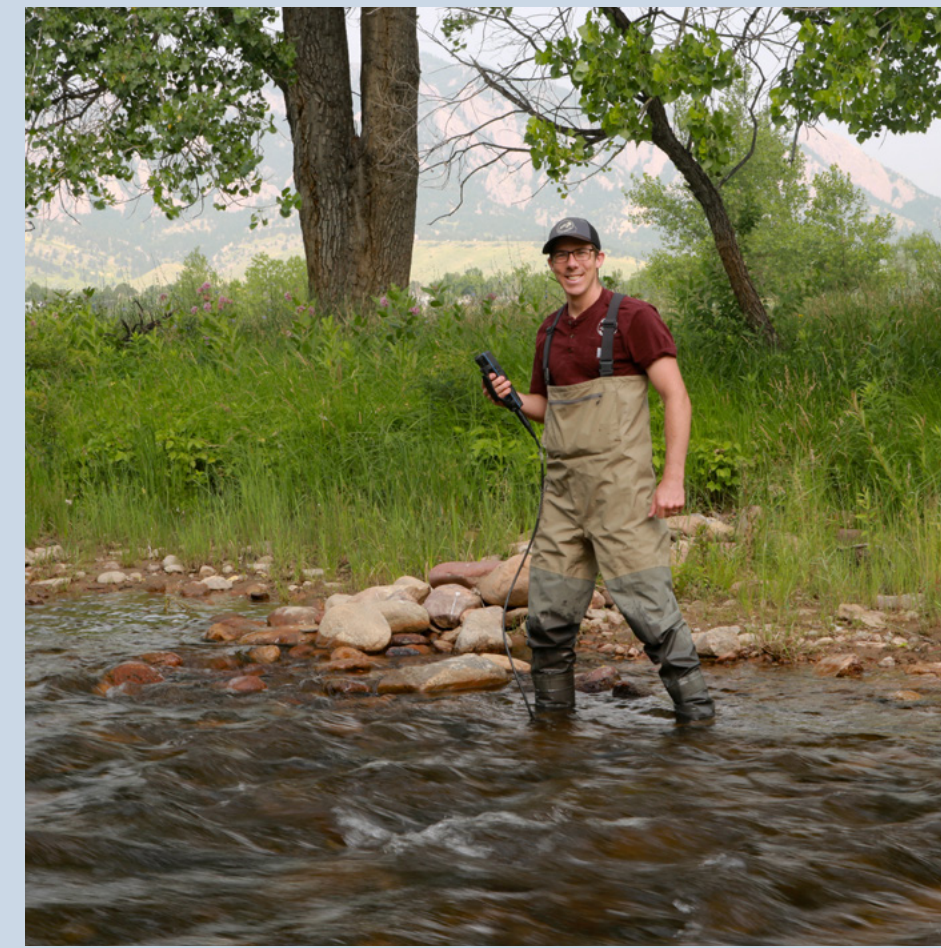
We are serving as a key partner in Left Hand Watershed Center's Adaptive Management at Scale project, which seeks to assist with management decisions and track progress toward watershed health goals throughout the basin. In 2021, we've facilitated data sharing and provided guidance on watershed health indicators and monitoring sites.

Looking forward into 2022, we are working to provide technical support and additional monitoring for the areas impacted by the Marshall Fire in Superior, Louisville, and unincorporated Boulder County. Our efforts will improve our understanding of fire-related impacts to water quality and support our waterways and communities in recovering from this tragic event.

KICP monitoring program quick facts:

- Data collected by 6 municipal partners monthly
- Over 40 monitoring sites sampled
- Over 17 water quality parameters measured

City of Boulder staff samples water quality in South Boulder Creek (right).



Education & Outreach

In 2021 the Keep it Clean Partnership made many exciting moves to improve and expand our education efforts. A highlight for the year was completing the new [Keep it Clean Partnership website](#), which will serve as a central hub for watershed and stormwater information in the Boulder St. Vrain Watershed. We held photo shoots with community members at recognizable spots throughout Boulder County to ensure our outreach materials and website reflect our watershed and the diverse communities who live within it.

Our community partners continued providing watershed education to students in the Boulder Valley and St. Vrain Valley School Districts. Eco-Cycle provided programming to 466 students through a combination of outdoor in-person and virtual presentations. Thorne Nature Experience brought 723 second graders on field trips and made a virtual field trip available to over 3,330 students.

The Keep it Clean Partnership also held the first [Boulder St. Vrain Watershed Art Contest](#). Students from across the watershed submitted artwork responding to the prompt, "How does water connect everyone in the Boulder St. Vrain watershed?" Winning entries were shared throughout the partner communities and featured on the new website.

We developed message tool kits to make sharing stormwater messages easy and accessible. The new system of sharing ready to share messages resulted in stormwater protection being featured 24 times in partner newsletters and 40 times across partner social media platforms.

People recreating throughout the Boulder St. Vrain Watershed (right).



Learn

Our Watershed

Resources

About

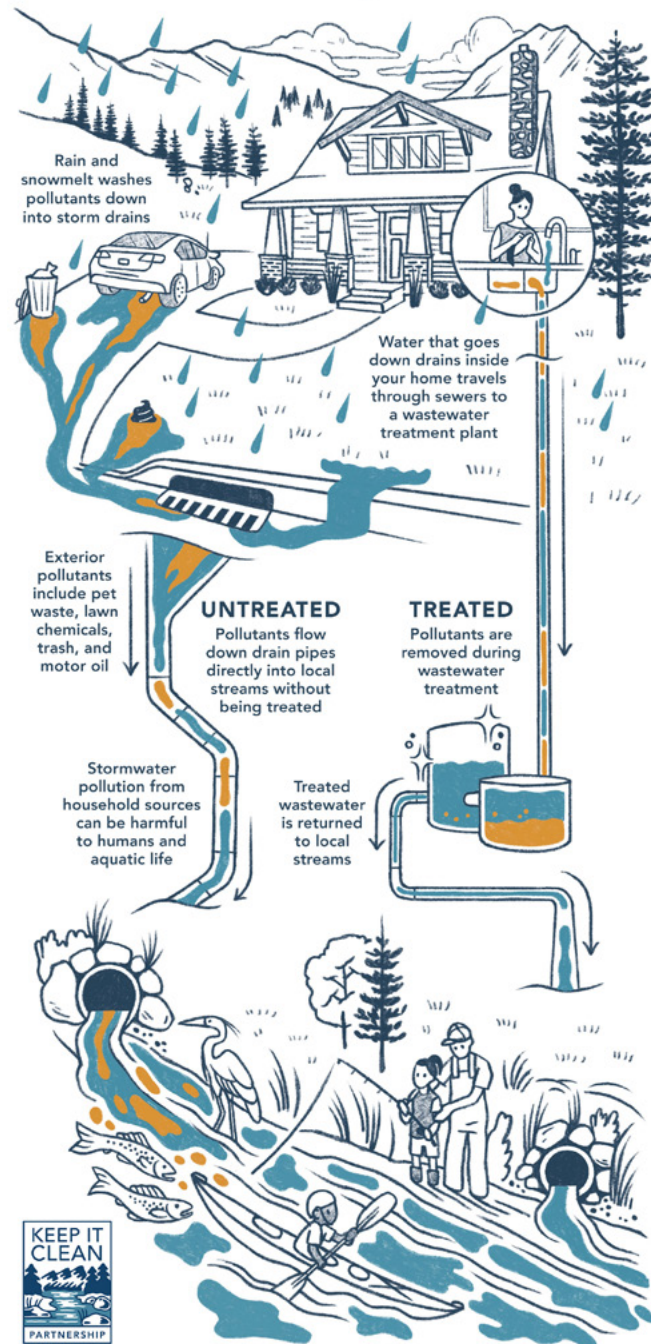
Get Involved

Report Pollution



Stormwater vs. Wastewater Infographic

Where Does My Water Go?



Resident Resources in English and Spanish

In 2021 the KICP published brochures on 7 stormwater protection topics in English and Spanish:

- Water Protection Guide Brochure
- Guía para la protección del agua
- Pet Waste Brochure
- Desechos de mascotas
- Lawn and Garden Guide Brochure
- Jardín y césped
- Car Washing and Maintenance Brochure
- Lavado y mantenimiento de coches
- Locations to Properly Dispose of Used Auto Fluids
- Draining Pools Spas and Fountains Brochure
- Drenaje de piscinas, fuentes y spas
- Painting Brochure
- Pintura
- Home Improvement Projects Brochure
- Proyectos de mejora de la vivienda

New resources, graphics, and activities developed in 2021 are now featured on the updated Keep it Clean Partnership website.

Winners of the Boulder St. Vrain Watershed Art Contest



Finances

In 2021 we granted our members a one-time reduction in annual contributions as they continued to deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. By using reserve funds that had been saved in previous years we were able to continue our existing services.

2021 Revenue

Local Government Contributions:	\$94,000
Funds from KICP Reserve:	\$114,710
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Total:	\$208,710

2021 Expenses

Staff Salaries:	\$162,000
Operating Costs:	\$1,569
Outreach Activities:	\$25,577
Website Redesign:	\$19,500
Training Events:	\$65
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Total:	\$208,711

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Keep it Clean Partnership Coordinator
kpeterson@bouldercounty.org

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cramirez@bouldercounty.org

Learn more at www.keepitcleanpartnership.org