

August 30, 2018

Hello Water Literate Leaders Class,

Once again, a hearty welcome to each of you as we launch this year's class of Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado! This email will fill you in on details to help you prepare for our first session, in just two weeks, September 13.

Website/2018-2019 Class List

We will soon be getting our website up to date to be a resource for you in terms of agendas, homework assignments, copies of presentations you can refer back to, and so on. The class list will appear on our website, but without contact information. With your permission at the first session, we can provide you with a list of email addresses so you can easily communicate with one another outside the sessions.

Meeting hours, location, and food

Community Foundation of Northern Colorado is located at 4745 Wheaton Drive, Fort Collins, 80525. Please arrive fifteen minutes early to grab a cup of coffee so we can begin at **8am sharp**. Our lunches will be a key time for dialogue, so please do not think of them as optional. We will be in session **until 1pm** each time. If you have special dietary restrictions, please let MaryLou know now.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is somewhat fluid so that we can take advantage of opportunities and your input as we go. However, you will receive a draft curriculum outline for the full year at our September session. Our curriculum reflects the areas of emphasis we will be concentrating on and likely expert resources we will engage. We aim for sessions to be about one third relay of key information critical to each area of emphasis, and about two thirds opportunity for you to engage in dialogue with our expert resources and with each other. We will supplement session presentation material by providing you with links to pertinent resource materials from time to time. Each class member will have an opportunity to assist in the facilitation of one of the sessions, to be discussed at our first session.

Reading List/ Reading/Reporting Homework

No one ever has enough time to read everything they would like on the subject of water! However, we will be providing a list of recommended materials for get you started. Over the course of the nine months we have together, each of you should choose a book or other selection from the reading list or some other source, pertinent to our course, to read and report to the class about. These reports should include 3-4 bullets capturing the subject of the chosen book or selection and then you should engage the class in discussion about a question you pose based on the reading. We will provide the list and discuss this at our September session.

Connecting You to Outside Information/Opportunities

From time to time, as we become aware of opportunities you may want to take advantage of, we will send you links via email. We know most of you do not have time

to take advantage of the myriad of opportunities, but we want you to know about them so you can pick and choose as you wish.

October field trip

As an extra bonus, we are planning a half day field trip in early October and another in April. We will set the date for the October field trip at our first session, to meet the schedules of the most participants, so please be ready to weigh in on dates that work for you.

Two-Part Homework for September Session

Part 1: Watch the film *The Great Divide*.

Be ready to participate in dialogue about the film with key regional water leaders. Send in your answers to these questions by September 10

- What did you learn from the film that encouraged you?
- What did you learn from the film that discouraged you?
- What did you learn from the film that surprised you?
- What did you learn from the film that you want to know more about?
- Was there anything in the film that captured your attention to the extent that you could see yourself engaging in it further—to study it further, to play a leadership role in bringing it to the attention of others?

About The Great Divide “Tens of millions of people, billions of dollars of agricultural production, and an enormous amount of economic activity across a vast swath of America from California to the Mississippi River are all dependent on rivers born in the mountains of Colorado. In a time of mounting demand and limited supply, the need for all citizens to better understand and participate in decisions affecting this critical resource is paramount. The Great Divide, a feature length documentary film from the Emmy award winning team of Havey Productions, in association with Colorado Humanities, illustrates the timeless influence of water in both connecting and dividing an arid state and region. From Ancient Puebloan cultures and the gold rush origins of Colorado water law to agriculture, dams, diversions and conservation; the film reveals today’s critical need to cross “the great divide,” replacing conflict with cooperation. The Great Divide raises public understanding and appreciation of Colorado’s water heritage while inspiring personal responsibility and informed discussion concerning the vital challenge confronting the state and region with increasing urgency — forging collaborative solutions for managing this most precious resource for a prosperous and sustainable future.”

We have purchased for each of you electronic access to *The Great Divide*.

Here is the link and code:

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/thegreatdivide>

Coupon code - waterinstitute

Go to the payment information on the site and then enter this coupon code which will bring the balance due to zero

Part 2: Prepare a 3 minute introduction of yourself to give the class a key to who you are. We especially want to hear what you are doing in your life at this point that makes you keen to learn more about water. You will be presenting this at our first session and you will be timed!

Required Monthly Post-Session Homework

Each class member is required to send an email to MaryLou within one week after each session answering the questions below. Your answers will be compiled and shared with the class, and provide opportunity for follow up clarification.

Questions:

- What did you learn today that encouraged you?
- What did you learn today that discouraged you?
- What did you learn today that surprised you?
- What did you learn today that you want to know more about?
- Was there anything today that captured your attention to the extent that you could see yourself engaging in it further—to study it further, to play a leadership role in bringing it to the attention of others?

Fee

Please write a check to Community Foundation of Northern Colorado for \$150 with a notation in the memo line: Water Literate Leaders. You can bring the check to the first class or mail it to:

Community Foundation of Northern Colorado
4745 Wheaton Dr., Fort Collins, 80525.

If your fee will be paid by someone other than you, please be sure they include your name and that they follow these directions exactly to help us keep the accounting straight. (Our fee is kept low thanks to program contributions from City of Greeley, City of Fort Collins, City of Loveland, and Town of Windsor—thanks!)