

---

**AWRA 2011 ANNUAL WATER RESOURCES CONFERENCE**  
**Albuquerque, New Mexico**

**November 7-10, 2011**

**Copyright © 2011 AWRA**

---

**CURRENT PROGRAMS IN WATER CONSERVATION EDUCATION**

Paul W. Lander\*, Laurel Brown

**ABSTRACT:** Training and Education opportunities for Water Conservation Professionals is an on-going concern. This paper will present current activities in Florida and Colorado that, while addressing regional needs, begin to create learning opportunities for all conservation professionals. Both efforts are designed to include traditional, in-class offerings, and web-based learning modules. The Florida example represents a model of working through a University Extension, while the Colorado example is a volunteer-driven effort through professional networks. Panelists will share successes and challenges of each approach. Florida In the spring of 2009 the University of Florida Center for Training, Research and Education for Environmental Occupations, (UF/TREEO), convened a planning committee comprised of representatives from area water utilities and industry consultants to develop a water conservation training series. UF/TREEO made the decision to develop the program after conducting a needs assessment which included an email survey of four hundred utility, water conservation and district professionals in the state of Florida, and from discussions with members of the Conserve Florida Water Clearinghouse. The University of Florida certificate program model was decided upon to recognize and give validity to the individuals that complete the entire series of eight courses and pass the competencies associated with each course. Colorado The Rocky Mt. Section of AWWA (RMS) has been working over the past year to develop appropriate training and education materials for professionals. Currently, RMS representatives are working with PNW reps to update the materials developed by the PNW section of AWWA, with the goal to purchase the PNW framework, add regionally appropriate material, and begin offering educational opportunities on a more regular basis.

---

\* Principal, ASLA/Univ. of Colorado, 312 Mapleton Avenue, Boulder, CO 80304 USA, Phone: 303-717-5268, Email: paul.dakotaridge@gmail.com