

# PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT



## Preventing Wildfires

To keep communities safe from destructive wildfires exacerbated by climate change, Colorado Democrats have championed legislation to reduce wildfire risks and improve preparedness. New laws reduce wildfire risks by encouraging the removal of dead plant material on private property ([HB25-1009](#)) and increasing prescribed burns ([SB25-007](#)). Additionally, Colorado communities will have localized, real-time updates on wildfire statuses, burning restrictions, and prescribed burn activities ([SB25-015](#)).

## Meeting our Climate Goals

We're committed to reducing pollution, improving air quality, and meeting our climate goals. New laws will make public transit more accessible, reliable and convenient ([SB25-030](#)), help RTD improve and expand transit to ease traffic, air pollution, and keep our drivers and riders safe ([HB25-1290](#))([SB25-161](#)). New construction policies will reduce climate impact by promoting low-carbon building materials, supporting Colorado businesses, and using existing incentives to meet our climate goals ([SB25-182](#)).

School districts will have more flexibility to build affordable housing and reduce energy costs through solar fields and energy storage systems ([HB25-1006](#)), and new consumer protections for EV charging stations will ensure drivers receive the energy they pay for ([HB25-1267](#)).





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## Preserving our Fresh Water Resources

From agriculture and recreation to household use, water is one of Colorado's most precious resources. We're protecting Colorado's water resources by updating how we measure and forecast our snowpack ([HB25-1115](#)), and by investing nearly \$69 million in funding for key water projects infrastructure ([SB25-283](#)). Additionally, we're taking steps to generate more funding for water conservation projects ([HB25-1311](#)), and studying the future of severance tax revenue to create a sustainable and reliable funding stream for water projects ([SB25-040](#)).

Expanding on 2024 legislation that encourages water-wise landscaping, new rules now apply to certain multi-family housing properties, limiting the use of artificial turf and invasive plant species ([HB25-1113](#)). We've also expanded access to clean drinking water and water pollution control projects across the state ([HJR25-1004](#)).

## Protecting our Public Lands

In a time when preserving our public lands is more important than ever, we're stepping up to protect the landscapes that make Colorado unique. The 2025-26 state budget invests \$52 million to protect critical habitats, maintain park facilities, and reinforce parks infrastructure, and \$6.6 million to support amenities and educational programming ([SB25-206](#)). Another law steps up to protect and conserve wildlife that is threatened or endangered, including native species in the upper Colorado River and across the state ([HB25-1318](#)). Colorado Democrats are also taking steps to reduce the environmental impact of essential infrastructure and uncover new opportunities to enhance conservation, agricultural operations, and outdoor recreation on state trust lands ([HB25-1292](#)) ([HB25-1332](#)).

