



YAMPA VALLEY
SUSTAINABILITY
COUNCIL

2020 IMPACT REPORT

**BUILDING RESILIENCY,
TOGETHER**



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Connecting Science to Action

The effects of climate change are here now. Colorado, in just the past year, has been severely impacted by record temperatures, drought, and high-intensity wildfires. Recognizing that climate change is here is important because we can still take action to shift the trajectory of impacts ahead, as long as we act now to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increase adaptive capacity as quickly as possible.

1.1 OUR MISSION



Our mission at Yampa Valley Sustainability Council is to serve as a resource and catalyst for building a sustainable community in the Yampa Valley region.



1.2 LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



First, thank you for your support of Yampa Valley Sustainability Council (YVSC) in 2020. Your investment in our mission and work on the ground enabled us to continue building momentum across our programs, partnerships and education at a time of upheaval, distance and uncertainty.

2020 was an unprecedented year in the Yampa Valley, nationally and globally.

We entered the worst global pandemic since 1918, and the effects of COVID-19 have been pervasive, uneven and enduring. Our global economy was the weakest it has been since the Great Depression, and our local economy was fiercely tested. Across the nation, structural and interpersonal racism, class divides, political partisanship and inequity have been laid bare and challenged. We experienced the worst trends in global warming in our recorded history.

As an integrated environmental conservation and sustainability-focused organization in Routt and Moffat County, it is in our mission to identify how to best address the most pressing sustainability issues of our time in relation to our community's needs and conditions. As COVID-19 redefined our systems, we



became nimble and active and learned what Collaboration, Equity, Community, Climate Change and Resilience ought to mean moving forward. We share our reflections on these concepts throughout this report.

It is noteworthy that through the year's challenges, our community showed resilience and adaptive capacity. Community members, businesses, first responders, and local government worked tirelessly and did what it takes to keep a community like ours safe, informed, and prepared. Reciprocally, the community became practiced at facing uncertainty, identifying knowledge gaps, learning, monitoring and adjusting behaviors as needed for the well-being of others.

During such an unprecedented year, we at YVSC also underwent transition. I joined YVSC as our Executive Director in February 2020 – following Sarah Jones' foundational steerage from 2011 - 2019 – just before our Stay at Home orders took effect. My learning curve at YVSC was shaped by the urgency to advance climate action when so many forces were pushing it to the backburner. As businesses and schools closed and social services were strained, the effects of climate change escalated: August 2020 was the hottest, driest month in western Colorado's recorded history and autumn was defined by the three largest wildfires in Colorado's history.

As an organization we streamlined our operations

and made the strategic decision to develop a climate action program that advances both decarbonization and natural climate solutions. Decarbonization means transitioning towards low-carbon energy, transportation and waste systems. Natural climate solutions are investments in land and water conservation and restoration that can help reduce emission and build resilience to the impacts of climate change. With this two-pronged climate action agenda at our core, we began scoping our programs and path forward accordingly.

As we move forward in 2021, we are working to build our capacity and increase our technical expertise across five Priority Areas: Resilient Land and Water; Waste; Energy; Transportation; and Community Education and Engagement. These Priority Areas are united by their potential to reduce emissions and build resilience through programs, partnerships and education. Our approach is collaborative, systems-oriented and science-based and our goal is to make climate action something that capitalizes upon and safeguards the people and places of the Yampa Valley we cherish.

We look forward to partnering with you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Michelle O. Stewart, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Yampa Valley Sustainability Council



A Transformative Year

The challenges that our community, and the world at large, faced during this past year were unprecedented. Our community has been motivated to reflect on the past and reconsider the direction that we are headed. From this, a transformation at YVSC has taken place. We are building off the framework set by our predecessors by broadening our scope of work and reframing our impact.

In 2020 we....



Defined
Natural Climate
Solutions
as a priority

New to YVSC is our Natural Climate Solutions (NCS) Program. By naming NCS a priority area we are investing in land and water conservation and restoration practices that can help reduce greenhouse gases and build resilience to the impacts of climate change. In the development of this program, we have established the underlying principals that will shape this priority area for Tim Sullivan, our new NCS Program Director, to adopt and build off.



Engaged our
community,
safely

The COVID-19 pandemic introduced real challenges and obstacles to community engagement. Despite limitations to in-person gatherings, YVSC was able to connect with our community through 15 events, both virtual and in-person while adhering to protocols recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.



Advanced
safer and more
energy efficient
homes

YVSC helped 8 low-income households reduce health and safety hazards and increase energy efficiency with support of a US EPA Environmental Justice Small Grant (EPA EJSG), This included healthy homes evaluations, energy assessments, education and home safety and energy efficiency retrofits.



Planted
320 Cottonwood
Trees

This year we continued our work on the Yampa River Forest Restoration Project (YRFRP). Notably, we hosted our celebrated, community event, Retree, where 68 volunteers helped us plant narrowleaf cottonwood trees along the Yampa River.



Diverted
waste from our
landfills

Rural areas, such as the Yampa Valley, often face limitations in waste diversion opportunities if there is a shortfall in access to infrastructure to support diverting practices. YVSC continued to offer solutions to close this gap by supporting the diversion of organic waste through a partnership with Innovative Regeneration Colorado (IRC). In 2020, IRC diverted 40.42 tons of pre-consumer food waste to pigs and composted 5.658 tons of post consumer food waste. Additionally, YVSC safely hosted our annual Fall Recycling Drop-Off event for hard to recycle materials.



Sustained a
position against
single-use
plastic

In 2020, clean became the new green. Early on during the pandemic there was a huge concern that shared surfaces, such as grocery bags, could serve as a potential vector for transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Research evidence suggested that transmission was no more likely through paper versus plastic bags. With this support, YVSC suggested that the city maintain the plastic bag ban and wave the fee for paper bags. This suggestion was adopted, prioritizing the health and safety of our community without compromising our citywide position against single-use plastic bags.

2.1 RESILIENT LAND & WATER

Natural Climate Solutions

Natural Climate Solutions (NCS) are land management practices – conservation, restoration, and improved management – in our grasslands, forests and wetlands that increase carbon storage and resilience and reduce GHG emissions. We cannot meet our climate change goals either here in the Yampa Valley or at the global stage without increasing our investments in conserving nature.



Actions

1. Yampa River Forest Restoration Project

YVSC launched the Yampa River Forest Restoration Program (YRFRP) in 2019 in response to the City's 2018 Yampa River Health Assessment and Streamflow Management Plan, which found that the riparian forest along the Yampa River is degraded on the reach above the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area and through town to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Enhancing the quality of the vegetation, particularly the shading canopy cover, was identified as a top priority action in the plan to improve stream temperature and water quality on the Yampa River, over time. Reforestation will also help to restore aquatic and terrestrial habitat and stabilize the river channel, thus making it more resilient to floods, droughts and human impacts. One of the foundational projects that has played an integral role in the development of this program is the annual ReTree planting event that we have hosted over the past 11 years. 2020's ReTree planting event supported the second year of the sustainability council's YRFRP at the City of Steamboat Springs' Rotary Park.

YAMPA RIVER FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT



**COTTONWOOD
TREES
PLANTED**
through the YRFRP
in 2020



**POUNDS OF CO2
SEQUESTERED**
with the 2020
plantings over the
next 50 years



**VOLUNTEERS
SAFELY
ENGAGED**
at the ReTree
Event



**VOLUNTEERS
UNDER 18 YEARS
OLD**
at the ReTree Event

OPERATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- Colorado State Forest Service
- The Nature Conservancy
- US Forest Service
- Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes
- Colorado Mountain College
- Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Friends of the Yampa
- City of Steamboat Springs
- Routt County
- Yampa River Fund

““ I really enjoyed the overall feeling of the event.

It was also great to see other folks from my community lending a hand. I loved seeing how happy the whole event made my son. He is three and would not stop talking about it. Every person we ran into, including strangers on the street, he would explain the steps to planting a tree. ””

-Libby C., ReTree 2020 Participant

2. ReTree

Despite the challenges introduced to hosting in-person events over the past year, YVSC was grateful to have been able to convene volunteers for our celebrated, annual community event, ReTree, while adhering to COVID-19 safety protocols. 68 volunteers joined together to plant 320 narrowleaf cottonwood, *Populus angustifolia*, along the Yampa River as a part of YRFRP.

3. Wildfire Mitigation & Education

Wildfires are one of the ways that we know climate change here in the Yampa Valley. In 2020 we saw the three largest wildfires in Colorado's history. We see Wildfire Mitigation and Education as an essential role in the resiliency of our local landscapes. For this reason, YVSC has played an active role in creating the Routt County Wildfire Mitigation Council (RCWMC). Through this partnership, YVSC helps connect Yampa Valley residents and tourists with information and action plans to promote fire-safe behaviors, mitigated landscapes and defensible space. In 2020, YVSC helped with the continued development and launch of the RCWMC while also mentoring a CSU Intern that supported the RCWMC. Additionally, YVSC partnered with the U.S. Forest Service to reseed an area of forest lost to the Silver Creek Fire in 2019. In this collaboration, YVSC helped gather volunteers to spread 40 pounds of lodgepole pine seed in the Sarvis Creek area. As fires continue to burn across the state, participating in this kind of post-fire forest regeneration work is a timely and impactful way to restore our area and increase resilience to continued drying in the future.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Many of YVSC's events this year were centered around climate action, which included a presentation by Dr. Will Toor, Executive Director of the Colorado Energy Office on Colorado's Road Map to GHG Pollution Reduction. Through events like these we hope to bring the community into the dialogue of local climate change impacts and upcoming actions the community will be taking.



POUNDS OF LODGEPOLE PINE SEED SPREAD

for post-fire regeneration after the Silver Creek Fire with the USFS



ROCKY MOUNTAIN YOUTH CORPS VOLUNTEERS supported climate projects



2.2 WASTE DIVERSION

Supporting the road to 45% materials diverted from the landfill

Colorado's current municipal waste diversion rate is only 15%, far below the national average of 35%. Rural areas, like Routt County, fall even further below the Colorado waste diversion rate, coming in around 12%. The new goal for Colorado is 45% recovery by 2036.

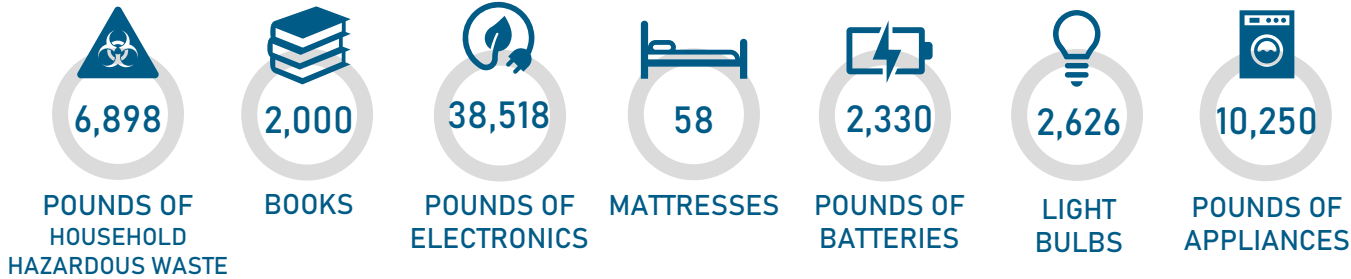
YVSC works with community members and partners to increase waste diversion and continue to scale successes through our implementation of the Waste Diversion Strategic Plan for Routt County.



TOTAL VOLUNTEERS
for waste diversion programming

PROMOTING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY BY DIVERTING

THE 2020 FALL RECYCLING DROP-OFF EVENT DIVERTED



OPERATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- Ecocycle
- Routt County
- City of Steamboat Springs
- Colorado Mountain College
- Steamboat Springs School District
- Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation
- LiftUp
- Recycle Colorado
- Innovative Regeneration Colorado
- Revolution Systems
- Twin Enviro
- Waste Management
- Blue Star
- Bright Ideas Bulb Recycling
- Pitkin County Landfill
- Vail Honey Wagon
- Summit County
- Spring Back Colorado
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Colorado Department of Health and Environment

Actions

1. New Opportunities for Organics

Through the work of the Organics Recycling Task Force, YVSC supported the launch of a local household composting option, which is administered and run by Innovative Regeneration Colorado. The IRC helped divert 40.42 tons of pre-consumer food waste to pigs and compost 5.66 tons of post-consumer food waste. The Task Force also organized a Pumpkins for Piggies event, which created an outlet for Halloween pumpkins to be used as animal feed or compost. This initiative diverted 1,996 pounds of pumpkins. YVSC also continues to oversee the use of three Earth Cubes within the community, which are in-vessel composting systems.

2. Promoting Reuse

Construction materials continue to be a top material going to landfills throughout Colorado, and the Yampa Valley is no exception. YVSC has created the Yampa Valley Construction Salvage Facebook page, which creates an opportunity for builders and community members to buy, sell, and give away construction materials that would otherwise be sent to the landfill.



3. Recycling Right

YVSC continued to promote the use of our Yampa Valley Recycles (YVR) app, the go-to source of information for all local recycling questions. We were also able to successfully and safely host our Fall Recycling Drop-Off amidst the COVID-19 pandemic with careful planning and consideration in order to ensure that recycling avenues were created for materials that cannot be recycled locally year-round.



TONS OF
POST-CONSUMER
FOOD WASTE
DIVERTED WITH IRC

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

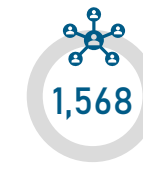
A key part of increasing the success of sustainable materials management is education. YVSC continues to support community confidence in recycling and decreases in contamination by serving as an information resource for community members. We produced the last edition of our print Recycling Guide, which aimed to increase more community-wide usage of the YVR app. We continue to post recycling tips in our monthly newsletter about frequently asked recycling questions, and we produced an educational video on the merits of composting. By working with our local haulers, YVSC creates a bridge of communication for recycling information and options.



YVR IMPACT



APP
DOWNLOADS



FIRST-TIME
USERS



MATERIAL
VIEWS

[Click here for a link to the YVR app](#)

Left Photo: Madison M. [left], YVSC Waste Diversion Director, and Catherine C. [right], YVSC volunteer, sit at a booth with instructional materials on local waste diversion

Right Photo: Young students pledged to recycle!

2.3 ENERGY & TRANSPORTATION

Promoting Low-Carbon Energy & Transportation in Routt & Moffat Counties

The power sector and transportation are the two largest producers of greenhouse gas emissions in Routt County and statewide, making them leading priorities and opportunities for “green economy” planning and action. Investing in well-planned, inclusive clean energy infrastructure and technology has the potential to increase economic growth while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. YVSC continues to support the move towards low-carbon energy and transportation futures in the Yampa Valley.



Actions

1. Improving Commercial & Residential Energy Efficiency

YVSC continues to facilitate commercial and residential energy assessments to help owners identify affordable and effective ways to save energy and improve efficiency; partner with local government to ensure that building energy codes are up to date; and work with residents and business owners to increase capacity for EV and renewable energy adoption.

2. Advancing Safer & More Energy Efficient Homes – EPA Environmental Justice Small Grant

Through healthy homes evaluations, energy assessments, home safety and energy efficiency retrofits, and education and coaching, YVSC helped low-income families reduce health and safety hazards and increase energy efficiency. In alignment with necessary COVID-19 precautions, YVSC completed 8 of 10 target low-income household retrofits. With support of a US EPA Environmental Justice Small Grant (EPA EJSG), YVSC helped low-income households reduce health and safety hazards and increase energy efficiency through healthy homes evaluations, energy assessments, education and home safety and energy efficiency retrofits. With necessary COVID-19 precautions in place, YVSC completed 8 of 10 target low-income household retrofits in 2020.

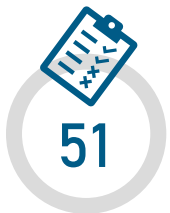
OUR ENERGY IMPACT



INCOME QUALIFIED
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS
served by YVSC



ATTENDEES
at energy related
events



ENERGY
ASSESSMENTS
administered



LOW-INCOME
HOUSEHOLDS
RETROFITTED
with support by the
EPA EJSG



3. Green Building Education

YVSC shifted its annual Sustainable Building Tour to a virtual format. The two-part webinar series showcased two homes in Routt County that have taken important measures to improve energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact. The webinars included a video walk-through of each home and a Q&A session with the builders afterwards, which created a great opportunity for open dialogue surrounding the intricacies of green building in the valley.

4. Low-Carbon Transportation

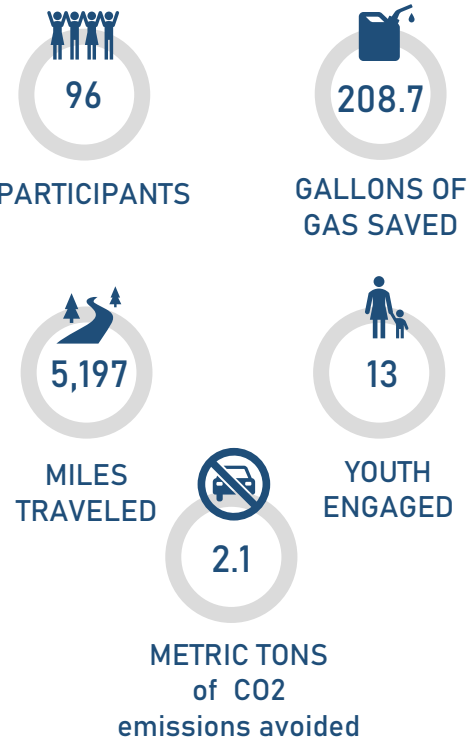
YVSC held its annual CARbon-Free Challenge (formerly the Commuter Challenge), during which participants log their miles travelled using alternative transportation as an individual, adult team, or family. Each year, the Challenge serves as an important instrument for collective community-based action and education surrounding the impact of conventional transportation.

“ Every year this event motivates me to bike to and from work. Plus, I enjoy sharing the challenge with my co-workers/team. ”
 - Chrissy L., Carbon Free Challenge Participant



“ Thanks for a fun challenge, it really did motivate me to jump on my bike for errands! ”
 - Amy J., Carbon Free Challenge Participant

CARBON FREE CHALLENGE IMPACTS



2.4 COMMUNITY EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Actions



Community Education and Engagement are central to what we do at YVSC and *why* we do it.

YVSC works to bring our valued community members and partners together to define and address sustainability challenges and ensure that our goals and outcomes both capitalize on and serve our unique Yampa Valley communities and landscape.

1. YVSC Monthly Community Meetings

In 2020 our monthly Community Meetings shifted online. The virtual format significantly increased participation: the number of attendees in 2019 averaged 10-12 attendees and in 2020 our attendees ranged from 28-52 each meeting. Our Community Meetings convene community partners and community members to discuss topical issues and are structured to have a featured guest speaker followed by a prompt-led roundtable discussion. We also host quarterly Partner Update Community Meetings, where YVSC and community partner organizations/entities provide updates on their programs, events and volunteer opportunities.

2. Sustainability Speaker Series

The Talking Green event series looked a bit different this year as a result of gathering restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. YVSC took this moment as a time to rethink and reshape how we approach this event series. We made the decision to rebrand the Talking Green Event Series into the Sustainability Speaker Series by formalizing a partnership between YVSC, Colorado Mountain College, and the Bud Werner Memorial Library to increase the reach of these events. Additionally, we shifted our monthly discussions to a quarterly event series to improve the quality of the events, bring in bigger speakers, and garner more participation. In 2020 we hosted two virtual events for the Sustainability Speaker Series.

Event Speakers & Topics

1. "Colorado's Roadmap to Greenhouse Gas Pollution Reduction" Will Toor, *Executive Director of the Colorado Energy Office*
2. "What's new with water conservation in Steamboat Springs and Colorado?" Kelly Romero-Heaney, *Water Resources Manager for the City of Steamboat Springs*, and Kevin Reidy, *State Water Conservation Specialist for the Colorado Water Conservation Board*

3. Youth Involvement in Conservation Education & Reforestation

Sustainability is anchored in enabling the lives of future generations to thrive. Integrating youth into the conservation education and activities of today not only serves to protect their future but can also cultivate a lifelong affinity and connection to their environment. In 2020 YVSC hosted Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC) service-learning groups at our YRFRP planting sites where they helped remove invasive plants.

4. Internships

Recognizing the value of providing professional development training opportunities for young sustainability professionals, YVSC continues to build its internship program for college students and young professionals. Interns Loren Keen, Nicole Pepper, and Ryan Messinger supported the YRFRP through various field work opportunities including irrigation and leading RMYC crews. At the end of the year, YVSC began formalizing a more robust internship program with four additional interns coming on board.

5. Volunteer Opportunities

Despite limitations amidst the pandemic, YVSC was able to successfully engage volunteers across various Priority Areas, through the Organics Recycling Task Force, our annual ReTree planting event, the Fall Recycling Drop-Off, the CARbon-Free Challenge and through a partnership with the U.S. Forest Service to reseed areas of forest lost to wildfire.



Photo Left: Volunteers at Recycle Drop-Off Event © Tai Juneau

““ The YVSC internship program gave me the opportunity, and the tools, to pursue my passion and to help make a difference for our environment. I gained skills in both the field and professional settings, and I feel like this was a momentous turning point in my career trajectory.

” -Ryan M., YVSC Intern



OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT



TOTAL EVENTS



TOTAL EVENT ATTENDEES



TOTAL VOLUNTEERS



TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

Photo Right: YVSC Intern, Ryan M. [right], and ReTree volunteer [left] work together to plant a young cottonwood tree at our ReTree 2020 event



Throughout the year and across programs, YVSC advocates for policies, decisions and actions that promote low-to-no carbon, resilient and sustainable futures in the Yampa Valley.



How do we know climate change here in the Yampa Valley?

6. Expressing Change Through Art

YVSC contributed an educational display to a plein air exhibit at the Steamboat Art Museum alongside Yampatika. Plein air is an important medium for capturing a moment in time amidst changing climates and environments. YVSC presented images and related data on how the Yampa Valley is experiencing climate change and how you can join YVSC and our community in taking climate action.

7. Advocacy for Action

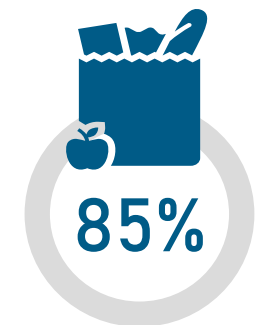
Through white papers, public comments, technical reviews of government planning documents and discussions, YVSC strives to bring relevant science, technology and policy research into the service of decision-making and sustainable action. Though YVSC does not endorse candidates, we are committed to increasing public understanding of issues and platforms that facilitate more sustainable futures and utilize our broad base of community supporters to rally for action. Advocacy for YVSC is nonpartisan, we are committed to pursuing decision making that simultaneously advances both environmental conservation and public health concerns.





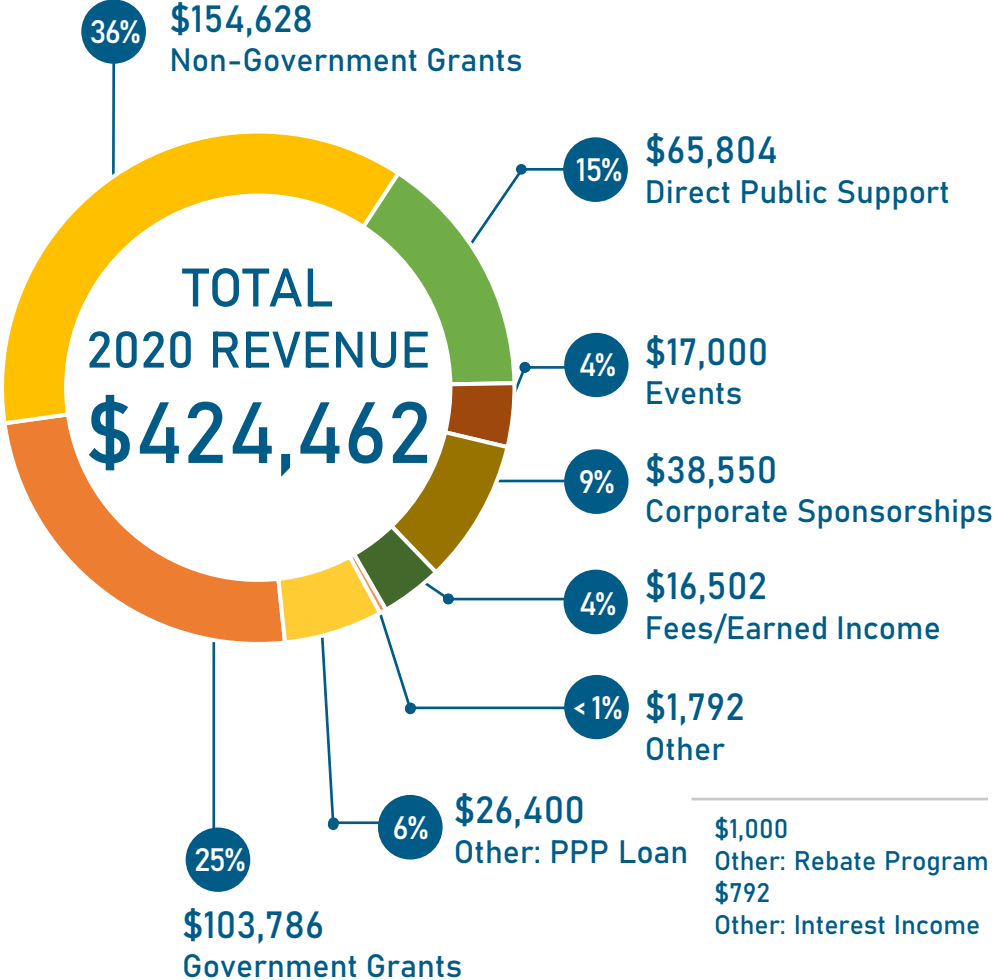
In March of 2020 the Governor of Colorado requested that all communities with a plastic bag ban temporarily rescind the ban and fee as part of COVID-19 efforts. During the midst of uncertainty regarding grocery bags as a potential vector for transmission, YVSC and community partners turned to relevant research to address the conflict as both an environmental and public health issue. With strong community support and research evidence suggesting that COVID-19 was no more likely to be transmitted by paper bags than plastic bags, YVSC submitted a white paper to City Council which recommended that Council follow the lead of surrounding mountain communities and retain the local plastic bag ban while waiving the bag fees on paper bags.

Community member interests joined with YVSC's recommendation and Council opted to retain the plastic ban bag and waive the bag fee on paper bags, thus attending to both public health and environmental concerns. This significant measure helped to maintain an 85% reduction in single-use plastic bags since 2019 and to sustain a consistent City position against single-use plastics. The estimated number of bags used during Oct. 2019-Oct. 2020 was 579,455. This is down from 3.8 million bags previously reported.



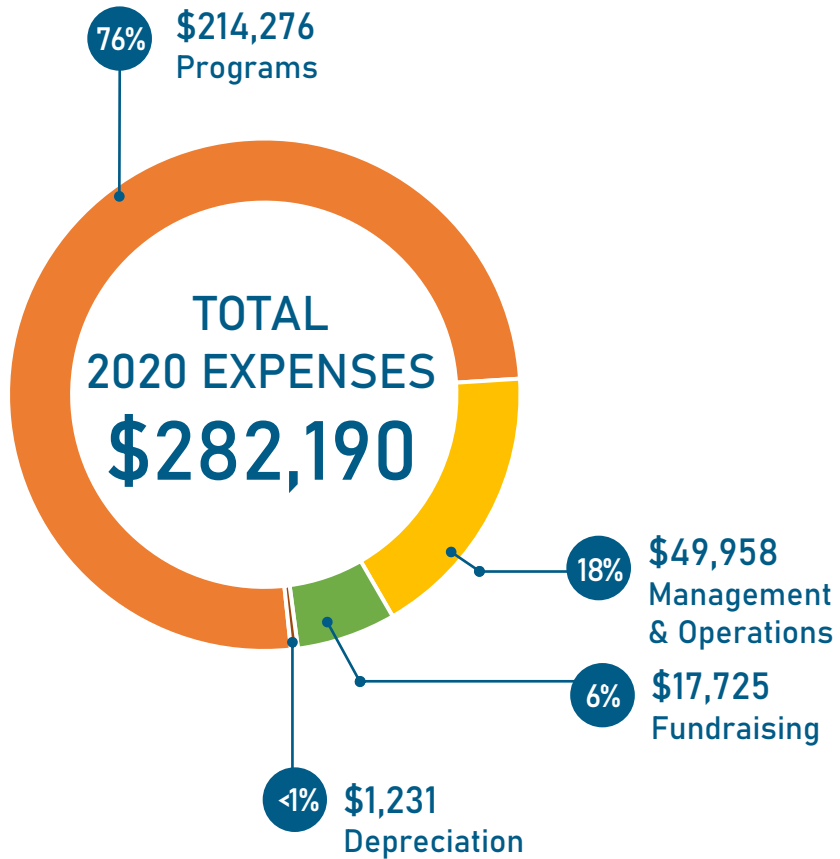
**REDUCTION IN
SINGLE-USE
PLASTIC BAGS
SINCE 2019**

3.1 2020 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT



REVENUE

	2020	2019
Government Grants	\$103,786	\$117,414
Nongovernment Grants	\$154,628	\$120,811
Direct Public Support	\$65,804	\$55,497
Events	\$17,000	\$21,533
Corporate Sponsorship	\$38,550	\$32,955
Fees/Earned Income	\$16,502	\$33,202
Other: Rebate Program & Interest	\$1,792	\$16,238
Other: PPP Loan Income	\$26,400	\$0
Total Revenue	\$424,462	\$397,650



EXPENSES

	2020	2019
Programs	\$214,276	\$308,979
Management & Operations	\$49,958	\$65,020
Fundraising	\$17,725	\$21,600
Depreciation	\$1,231	\$2,051
Total Expenses	\$282,190	\$397,650

Financial Position

12/31/20

Total Assets	\$320,170
Total Liabilities	\$5,351
Net Assets	\$314,756

Endowment

\$57,805

GIVING THANKS

4.1 PROGRAM PARTNERS



It takes partnerships to scale impact.

Alpine Bank

Atmos Energy

Bud Werner Memorial Library

Center for Western Weather & Water Extremes

City of Steamboat Springs

Colorado Mountain College

Colorado Parks & Wildlife

Colorado State Forest Service

CSU Extension Routt County

Community Agriculture Alliance

Community Budget Center

Conservation Colorado

Energy Outreach Colorado

Energy Smart Colorado

Fridays for Future

Friends of the Yampa

Glas Deffryn Ranch

Historic Routt County

Horizons

Integrated Community

LiftUp

Main Street Steamboat

Mount Werner Water & Sanitation District

Northern Colorado Clean Cities

Northwest Colorado Food Coalition

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

Partners in Routt County

Reaching Everyone Preventing Suicide

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

Routt County

Routt County Council on Aging

Routt County Human Resources Coalition

Routt County United Way

Solar United Neighbors

South Routt Recreation Association

Steamboat Builders' Association

Steamboat Springs Ski & Resort Corporation

Steamboat Springs Board of Realtors

Steamboat Springs Chamber

Steamboat Springs Economic Development Council

Tour de Steamboat

Trout Unlimited

US Environmental Protection Agency

US Forest Service

Walking Mountains

Yampa River Fund

Yampa Valley Electric Association

Yampatika



Left Photo: Madison, YWSC Waste Diversion Director, collects stream flow readings © Michelle Stewart



Right Photo: Jackie, recycling partner with Blue Star, assists a community member at our Recycling Drop-Off Event © Tai Juneau

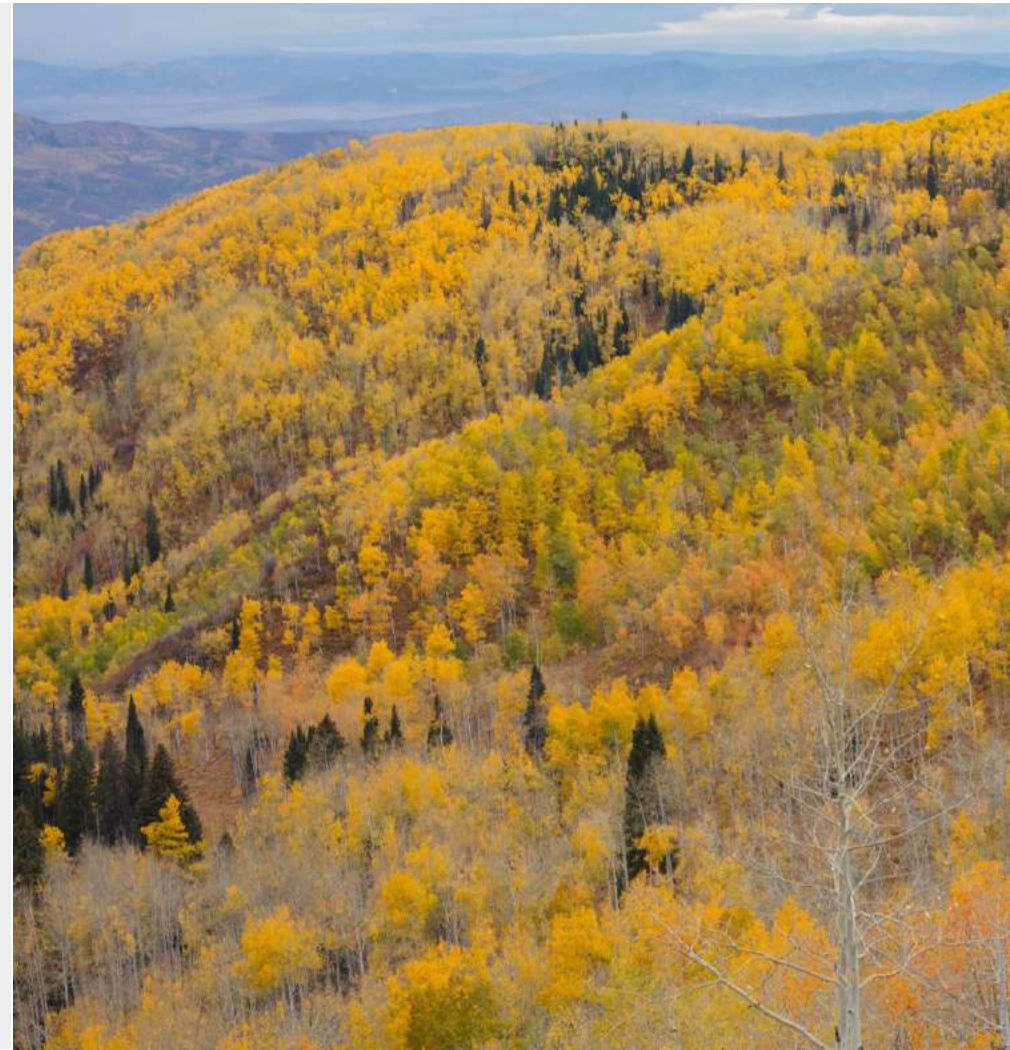
GIVING THANKS

4.2 PROGRAM SPONSORS

Thank you for supporting the success of our programs.



Alpine Bank
Member FDIC



4.3 IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

Thank you for investing your time & resources to help advance our programs.



4.4 THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Your generosity
is what makes
our work
possible.

Adrienne and Ben Stroock
Allen and Carol Fox
Allterrain Excavating
Amy Minotto
Andrew Baur
Anne and Benjamin Barbier
Anne Mudgett and Scott Fergusson
Annie Dore
Atmos Energy
Barb and Robert Dowski
Barbara and Mike Hughes
Barkley Robinson



Betsy and Geoff Blakestee
Bill and Barbara Sanders
Borden Endowment of the Yampa Valley
Brad Iversen
Brian Boos and Becca Brane
Brightside Solar
Bryan and Karen Bomberg
Byron Brocato
Cameron and Jill Boyd
Camille DiTrani
Campbell Family Fund
Carol and John Shikles
Carol and John Twitchell
Carol and Russell Atha
Carolina Manriquez
Catherine Carson
Charles and Laura Shifflett
Christi Herrick
Christina and Kerry Lynch
Christine and Milton Griggs
Christopher and Eileen Diamond
Chuck and Lynn Cerasoli
City of Steamboat Springs
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Colorado Department of Public Health
and Environment
Colorado Group Realty
Courtney Krause
Craig-Sheckman Family Foundation

Cynthia Wither
Dan and Cher Dooley
Daniel DelMar
Danielle and Robert Mohn
Dave and Cindy Kinnear
Davidson Tax Company
Deborah Gooding
Deborah Rose
Debra Mack
Deer Park Road
Denise Bohart Brown
Donald and Kathy Savory
Donald and Lauren McLaughlin
Donald Slavik
Donna Garth
Dylan Roberts
E.G.
Edith Lynn Hornik-Beer
Elizabeth and Bradley Christensen
Elizabeth Bassett and John Pane
Elizabeth Frick and Luther Wallace
Elizabeth Keeffe
Elizabeth Speare and David Schaller
Emily and Andrew Medlock
Emily Katzman
Environmental Protection Agency
Ernest and Quincee Cotton
Fair and Square Construction

Forster Family Giving Fund
Frances M. Jenkins
Fred and Evelyn Shvetz
Gail Garey
Gary Habertan
Gay A. Roane
George and Jane Romberg
George Danellis
Gigi and Johnny Walker
Glas Deffryn Ranch
Glenn and Barbara Lamoree
Go Alpine
Gregory and Kate Friedman
Gretchen and Peter Van De Carr
Harry and Lynn Zinn
Honey Stinger
Hope and Michael Cook
Ivars and Wendy Mikelsons
Jack Dysart and Carole Milligan
Jacquelin Buratovich
James and Katherine Curcio
James and Lori Steinberg
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Photo: Faith W., Adonna A., Betsy W., and Joni S. supporting YVSC at the community paper shredding event.

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OUR TEAM

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Jay Lambert
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Emily Medlock
Administrative Assistant, Steamboat Springs Police
Department



5.2 2020 STAFF & SUPPORT



STAFF

Michelle O. Stewart, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Michelle.stewart@yvsc.org

Scott Conner
Interim Executive Director
Sept. 2019–Feb. 2020

Kate Brocato
Communications & Program Manager
Kate@yvsc.org

Madison Muxworthy
Waste Diversion Director
Madison@yvsc.org

INTERNS

Ryan Messinger
Loren Keen
Nicole Pepper

CONTRACTED SUPPORT

Anne Mudgett
Communications & Development Director

Suzie Romig
Energy Outreach Director

Tully Miller
Confluence Resource Management

For an updated list of our Staff & Board Members please visit www.yvsc.org



6.1 SUPPORT US

Donate to YVSC & Make Your Impact

\$10 buys a tree for reforestation

\$25 buys 10 LED bulbs for energy-saving retrofits

\$100 enables us to plant a tree and sustain it within our reforestation site

\$250 buys a Zero Waste station to support composting and recycling at events

\$2500 pays for a YVSC Intern and helps a young professional gain training in sustainability

Become a YVSC Member

Join us in our mission and build community through sustainability by becoming a Member. Members sustain YVSC programs through regular giving and benefit from YVSC member-only merchandise/gifts, special offers and the rewards of being part of our work. Gift memberships are available.

Become a Corporate Sponsor

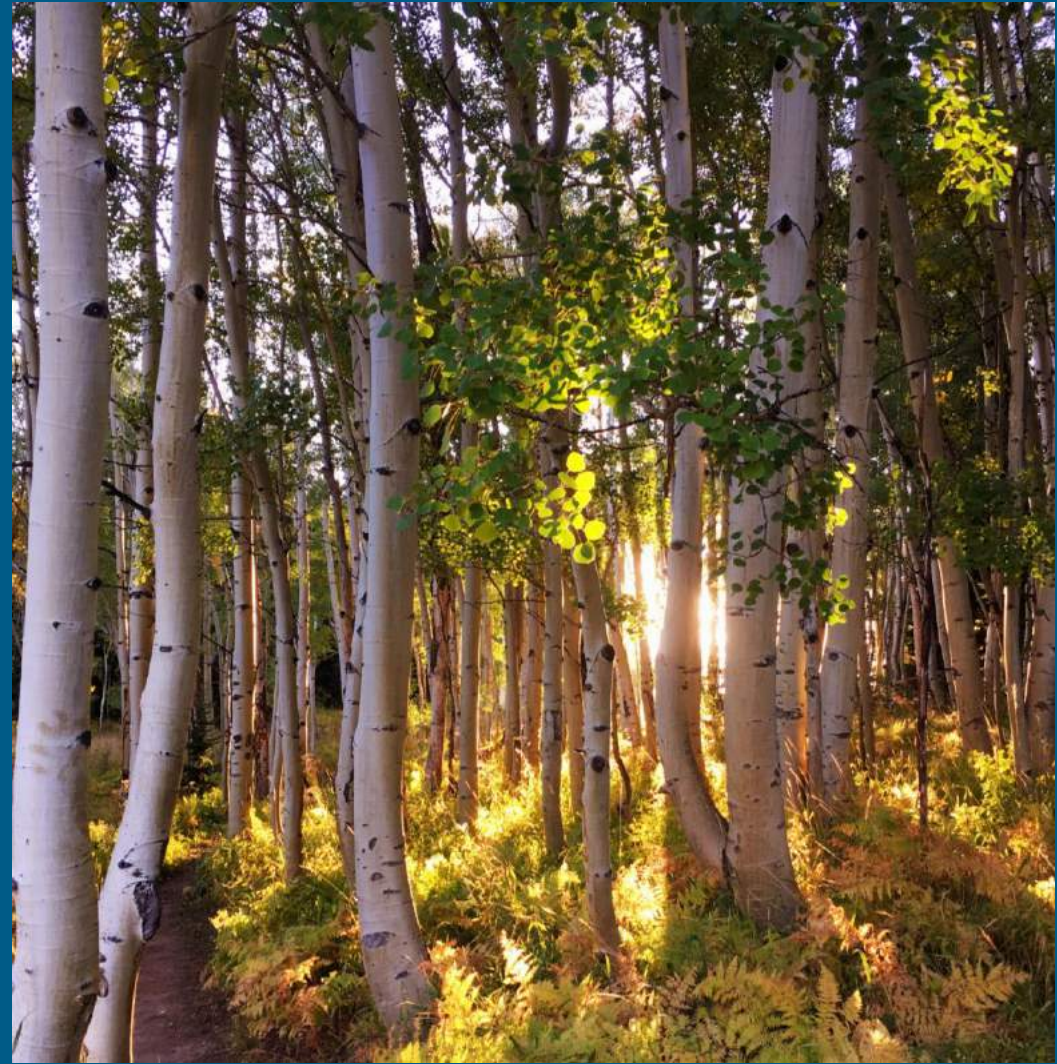
Our corporate partners span industries and geographies and are united in their shared commitment to support a resilient, just, equitable and sustainable Yampa Valley future. In-kind sponsorships are welcome!

Tribute Gift

Tribute Gifts support YVSC reforestation and youth integration into conservation activities. With a gift of \$50 or more, we will send a card to the person or family in whose name the donation was made along with a description of the reforestation and conservation efforts that are enabled through their support.



Make a sustainable Yampa Valley part of your life and legacy.





We take it as our mission to both define and address the pressing sustainability issues of our time through our programs, partnership and education pathways. This means continuously developing programs of impact that address the key drivers of change, at the time-scale that is needed. Our work, and our role, will only increase and gain importance into the future.

Making a donation, investing in our Endowment, or joining our Legacy Society ensures that YVSC remains at the decision-making table and alongside our community members as we press forward to build climate action, just energy transitions, resilient lands and water, successful waste diversion pathways and community initiatives that make sustainability a measure, and marker, of our Valley's success.

New ways to give to YVSC

Invest in our Endowment

Investing in YVSC now means stepping forward to support climate action at the time we need it most. The effects of climate change are known in the Yampa Valley and we at YVSC are a key collaborative force in our community for building the climate actions we need to sustain the people and places we cherish. YVSC is now accepting appreciated stocks. Donating appreciated stocks is a simple way to make a bigger impact by donating long-term appreciated securities, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to YVSC. Transferring stocks or other assets to our Endowment provides YVSC with long-term financial stability as the original gift continues to appreciate and adds capacity to deliver on our mission each year

Join our Legacy Society

Make a resilient and sustainable Yampa Valley part of your legacy. Our YVSC Legacy Society recognizes those generous individuals who have left a lasting charitable legacy in the Yampa Valley by including YVSC in their will, trust, or estate plan. Our Legacy Society Members receive special event invitations and gifts to honor their lasting contribution to YVSC and the Yampa Valley's resilience.



6.2 JOIN US

Join our Mailing List

Be informed about upcoming sustainability-related events, educational opportunities, and initiatives each month by signing up for our mailing list. As a member of our mailing list, you will receive our monthly YVSC Newsletter and timely communications connecting you with ways to be involved and support sustainability action.

Join our Next Generation Newsletter

Join our new monthly Next Generation Newsletter. This newsletter is designed with young adults in mind, from high school through college age. It will share sustainability tips, educational resources, and opportunities for youth to get involved in local climate action. Does this interest you or someone you know? Sign up and help us establish a coalition of local youth who want to help make a difference for our planet!

Volunteer

Throughout the year YVSC hosts a variety of volunteer opportunities. From planting trees with your fellow community members to supporting zero waste at the Steamboat Springs Farmers Market, among other opportunities. Whatever your passions and interests may be, we want you to be involved and help us build community through sustainability action.



Join us and build our sustainable community *as a* community.

From planting trees along the Yampa River to helping move climate action forward in your workplace or community as a leader in the Yampa Valley Climate Action Collaborative, there are numerous ways you can join and create community by getting involved with YVSC.





Yampa Valley Climate Crew

The Yampa Valley Climate Crew gives community members access to volunteer opportunities that address the climate threat facing our planet, so that they, too, can be a part of the climate action solution. These projects will include tree planting, wetland and riparian habitat restoration, and site maintenance, all of which increase carbon sequestration and resilience.

Intern

Our YVSC Internship program connects motivated students and young professionals with professional training and experience that puts them on track to sustainability professions and/or collaborations in the future. Paid and unpaid YVSC Internship positions are available.

Community Service

Does your business, team or organization want to perform your volunteer hours to support community sustainability? Or create a culture of climate action? Fulfill those valued community service hours together by supporting YVSC program activities on the ground. Reach out to us for ideas or come to us to brainstorm.

For more information on [how to get involved with YVSC](#) please visit www.yvsc.org.

BUILDING RESILIENCY, TOGETHER

2020 IMPACT REPORT



YAMPA VALLEY
SUSTAINABILITY
COUNCIL

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919 Oak Street
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487
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