

Friday, July 21st, 8:30-9:30 am Topic: Economy/Poverty

Discussion of a new Colorado Health Foundation Poll showing that 40% of respondents say they are “just getting by” financially and one in ten describe themselves as “really struggling”. Featured guest: Austin Montoya, Senior Officer for Policy Advocacy Communications.

Tuesday, July 25th, 8:10-8:18 am Topic: Environment/Zero Waste

Shoe re-use and recycling*. A feature report discussing ways to prevent the billions of pairs of shoes produced every year from ending up in landfills. Examples included a used sneaker collection drive at a local elementary school, a third generation cobbler’s repair shop and an expert in sustainable fashion talking about the secondhand shoe market.

**Note: This report is part of a series made possible by a grant from Boulder County’s Zero Waste Funding Program.*

Wednesday, July 26th, 8:35-9:30 am Topic: Environment/Land Use

The future of Boulder’s airport. KGNU’s Climate and Environment Reporter and Report for America’s Jackie Sedley discusses the complicated, turbulent issues surrounding Boulder Municipal Airport. Bri Leihman, a member of the airport’s community working group in Boulder joined the discussion as well as several callers from throughout the county.

Tuesday, August 1st, 8:45-9:00 am Topic: Equity/Nutrition

Creighton Hofeditz, the Director of Permaculture and Perennials at nonprofit Denver Urban Gardens, explains how the group turns empty city lots into “food forests” — a type of agroforestry — for residents in the metro area. The program helps address the problem of “food deserts” —the lack of access to healthy food in low-income neighborhoods. The program also creates community gathering spaces.

Wednesday, August 2nd, 8:35-9:30 am Topic: Arts/Equity

An exploration of how the Chicano Murals of Colorado Project helps fight community erasure and preserves identity in Denver’s Sun Valley neighborhood. Featured guest: Lucha Martinez de Luna, Director of the [Chicano/Chicana/Chicanx Murals of Colorado Project](#) and multidisciplinary artist, [David Ocelotl Garcia](#) to discuss the past and present of Colorado’s Chicano Murals. Forty such murals were named to the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s 2022 list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

Tuesday, August 8th, 8:35-9:00 am Topic: Public Health

West Nile virus in Colorado. With cases starting to rise, state health officials are predicting a historically high season ahead for West Nile Virus. Panisara Jaijongkit explains the origins of mosquito borne diseases, how, even in Colorado, people have stories of tropical mosquito borne diseases, such as painful Dengue fever. She also explains how Colorado health experts track West Nile Virus and disease prevention.

Monday, August 14th, 8:10-8:18 am Topic: Consumer Affairs

On-line scams targeting teens. As teens and tweens grow up in digital spaces and join social media platforms, scammers are finding a new, younger audience. This program features teen victims of online scams and a spokesperson from Fairplay, a nonprofit that works to protect kids from harmful online practices.

Wednesday, August 30th, 8:35-9:30 am Topic: Environment

Wolf re-introduction in Colorado. By the end of 2023, gray wolves are supposed to be back in designated areas of Colorado's Western Slope. That is the mandate of [Proposition 114](#), approved by state voters back in 2020. With only a little over four months to go, will the Colorado Parks and Wildlife agency be able to bring them back in time? Wolf advocate Marc Bekoff, professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology at CU-Boulder offered details to help answer that question – as well as responses to questions from KGNU listeners.

Tuesday, September 5th, 8:10-8:18 am Topic: Water Quality/Zero Waste

Micro plastics in local waterways. Two local hydrologists discuss their newly released study on the movement of micro plastics through Boulder Creek and South Boulder Creek. Two water treatment specialists explain Boulder's filtration process for removing micro plastics and other contaminants from drinking water.

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Wednesday, September 6th, 8:35-9:00 am Topic: State History/Equity

On August 1, 2023, Dr. Claire Oberon Garcia, professor of English at Colorado College, began her tenure as Colorado's latest state historian. The interdisciplinary scholar talks about her efforts to bring a renewed focus on Black history in the state.

Friday, September 15th, 8:30-9:30 am Topic: Environment/Land Use

Boulder's Open Space Program. In 1967, Boulder became the first city in the US to tax itself for the acquisition, management and maintenance of open space. Over 50 years later, what impacts has the program had on the community? A roundtable discussion with Will Torr, Executive Director at Colorado Energy Office; Eric Budd, Boulder political

organizer and data director; Elise Jones, Executive Director at Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET); and William Shutkin, principal of Shutkin Sustainable Living and Teaching Associate Professor and Interim Faculty Director in the Masters of the Environment program at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Wednesday, September 20th, 8:35-9:30 am Topic: Homelessness

On this special edition of Black Talk, host Michele Simpson talks with Keyanna and Montii, whose last names we have reserved for the sake of privacy, about being a Black, unsheltered teen in Boulder. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, Black people make up less than 13 percent of the US but more than 40 percent of the unhoused population across the US.

Tuesday, September 26th, 8:35-9:00 am Topic: Environment

In the last 50 years, North American bird populations have dropped 30%. Light pollution draws many migrating birds to their death. We talk with [Kyle Horton](#), director of Colorado State University's AEROECO Lab, and a key member of [BirdCast](#), which is a collaboration with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Kyle Horton shares the history of "weather radar" use in bird forecasting, plus refinements and algorithms, that fine tune the forecasts.