



Loveland Recreation Trail earns Starburst Award

On Sept. 10, the City of Loveland hosted the Loveland Trails Day Celebration to receive the Starburst Award from Lottery officials in front of staff, elected officials, community partners and Loveland residents with whom the trail was designed to benefit.

The Starburst award recognizes excellence in the use of Lottery funds for community and conservation projects and is awarded based on the creativity of the project, and economic and social impact to the community. Lottery proceeds are distributed statewide through several grants, including the Conservation Trust Fund.

Over the years, the City of Loveland has received \$19 million in lottery disbursements with \$15 million used for building and maintaining trails. The \$850,000 contributed from the Conservation Trust Fund last year was used for the half-mile stretch of paved trail near Sunset Vista Natural Area, including a railroad crossing and bridge over the site's wetlands.

"City of Loveland residents have demonstrated that they enjoy getting outdoors for health and wellness opportunities, and to enjoy our beautiful city," said Marilyn Hilgenberg, the City's Open Lands & Trails Division manager. "The Loveland Recreation Trail is about connecting the community and helping our residents achieve their wellness goals. This award is a perfect opportunity to recognize how Loveland is putting Colorado lottery dollars to use in our own backyard."

The recreation trail loop project was more than three decades in the making and began in the 1990s with the construction of the Big Thompson River Trail.

Hilgenberg credits the entire open lands and planning team for their dedication to bringing the project



City of Loveland and Colorado Lottery staff and elected officials gather at the Sept. 10, 2022 award ceremony in Loveland where the City's Open Lands & Trails Division received the Colorado Lottery's Starburst Award for the Loveland Recreation Trail.

to life.

"We truly have a group of talented, passionate and experienced employees working hard to help our community connect through trails and open space," said Hilgenberg.

Loveland Trail Resources

- City of Loveland Trails webpage – lovgov.org/trails
- Download the free Colorado Trail Explorer (COTREX) app on any smart phone or visit trails.colorado.gov.
- Pick up a Loveland Bikeways & Trails map

Loveland 2022 National Community Survey results available

This summer, the City conducted its first community-wide survey since 2018. The City is now using The National Community Survey (NCS) conducted by National Research Center/Polco. The survey was conducted in two parts: the Random Sample Survey sent to 4,000 randomly selected households with 680 people (18%) responding; and the Open Participation Survey available to all Loveland residents was open from June 29 - July 13, 2022 online and in-person. 1,315 Lovelanders responded.

The following key takeaways were identified by our survey partner, The National Research Center/Polco.

1. Community members appreciate the local services provided by Loveland and have identified growth opportunities for governance.
2. Loveland residents praise their overall quality of life, though some aspects of equity and inclusion indicate an opportunity for growth.
3. The economy is a priority for Loveland, and residents show concern about general affordability and their own economic outlook.
4. City parks and the natural environment are community assets.

See the complete survey report, next steps and more information at lovgov.org/communitysurvey, or call 970-962-2302.

Loveland's internet, Pulse, launches ACP supplement to expand access for underserved

Pulse's 100% fiber-optic internet, voice, and television network is being installed to serve Lovelanders now and for generations to come. With this utility in place, our residents will be guaranteed to have access to high-quality internet that will stand up to the data demands of the future.

To increase access to high-quality connectivity today, Pulse has launched an Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) supplemental expansion. The ACP is a federal program to help the underserved stay connected with up to \$30 per month of assistance. Pulse has pledged an additional \$14.95 per month for ACP-qualifying households.

Residents in Pulse-serviceable areas that qualify for ACP will now receive a total of \$44.95 per month in connectivity assistance. With this amount, customers using the Starter package will have an end-bill of \$0 per month for their internet



"Ensuring that all Lovelanders have access to the highest quality connectivity to work, study, access health care, and play is the reason Pulse exists. We are proud to be able to help make this critical resource even more accessible for our most vulnerable community members."

— BRIEANA REED-HARMEL
Fiber Manager

service, and homes using the My Gig package will enjoy a full symmetrical gigabit of connectivity for only \$30 per month.

Check to see if Pulse is ready for you at: LovelandPulse.com/CanISignUpNow, and learn more about how to qualify for the ACP program at: www.AffordableConnectivity.gov/Do-I-Qualify.



Learn About Pulse's ACP Supplement at LovelandPulse.com/ACP

- 1 See if you are in a Pulse serviceable area: LovelandPulse.com/CanISignUpNow
- 2 Check if you qualify for the ACP: ACPBenefit.org/Do-I-Qualify
- 3 Apply through FCC: ACPBenefit.org/How-to-Apply
- 4 When application is approved, enroll with Pulse: 970-541-4990



Reliability. Fair Rates. Excellent, Locally Based Customer Service.
Visit LovelandPulse.com or call 970-541-4990



**SOLID
WASTE**

Dear Customer,

As an added convenience, we will soon begin collecting extra bags of trash placed outside of your cart without need of Trash Stamps.

Effective January 2, 2023, you will have the option of setting up to five 32-gallon/50-pound or smaller bags of trash next to your cart for collection. A fee of \$3.50 per bag will then be automatically assessed to your next utility bill. Our drivers will use an onboard computer and camera system to ensure accurate charges and documentation. No additional customer action is required to participate.

We will continue honoring Trash Stamps after January 2, 2023. However, these stamps will no longer be available for purchase at local grocery stores, once existing supplies run out.

Reminder, the trash cart must have the lid closed, bags need to be set on the ground next to the cart. If items cannot be placed in a trash bag, please contact Solid Waste for special pickup.

If you would like to opt out of this program, or have any questions, please contact our customer service team at (970) 962-2529.

Respectfully,
Solid Waste Division



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT lovgov.org/solidwaste

TRADUCCIÓN AL ESPAÑOL DISPONIBLE Para más información sobre la no discriminación o para asistencia en traducción, favor contacte al Coordinador Título VI de la Ciudad al TitleSix@cityofloveland.org o al 970.962.2372 2021 © City of Loveland



"NEVERMORE"



Beware of drain nightmares and scary repair costs...

Don't find yourself in the dark. Keep your eyes peeled for fats, oils and grease (AKA F.O.G.) and other monsters that cause plumbing woes for the pipes in your home and your community.



F.O.G. emanates from meats, butters and sauces whether you prepare the food or purchase it ready-made. Don't believe the lore that using hot water or soap will clear up your F.O.G. problems. The truth is that as soon as F.O.G. hits cooler underground pipes, it sticks and causes buildup that forms blockages. The best way to fight F.O.G. is to follow these tips:

- Scrape all food waste into a lined garbage can.
- After it has cooled and solidified, place waste oil and grease from pots and pans into a suitable container and dispose of it in the trash.
- Use a strainer in the sink to capture solids rather than relying on a garbage disposal. Disposals require lots of water and misuse can cause smelly backups.
- Use paper towels to wipe small amounts of leftover oil and grease from pots, pans and utensils.
- Recycle cooking oil (i.e. from fryers) at the Loveland Recycling Center.

Packaging that markets anything other than toilet paper as "flushable" gives us goosebumps. We are terrified by how customers are led astray with this misleading information. Just because something "can" be flushed does not mean it should be flushed. In fact, sanitary wipes are one of the common causes of clogs that will haunt your pipes! Flushing bandages, cotton swabs, dental floss, diapers, hair, feminine hygiene products, wrappers and packaging should also be avoided.



Not only can flushing unwanted items cause damage to pipes, it can also damage the environment. The Water Reclamation Facility recycles wastewater from our homes and community and returns it to the Big Thompson River. While the water purification process is extensive, contaminants like medications or hazardous materials complicate the process and damage the system. Flushed pharmaceuticals have also been shown to harm fish and aquatic life.

Dispose of hazardous waste at the Loveland Recycling Center and return unused medications to an approved drug take-back drop-off site. The next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is October 29, 2022. Law enforcement often hosts additional collection sites that day to encourage safe disposal.

Hear a tapping, rapping or banging behind the walls? Those spooky sounds could be the telltale beats of failing plumbing. Clogged sewer lines can result in unsightly and unsanitary conditions as well as bleak and costly repair bills for homeowners. Responsible disposal of F.O.G. and household waste will reduce the need for sewer maintenance and ease the burden of the Water Reclamation Facility, benefiting the community economically, environmentally and financially.



"Only this, and nothing more..."

Make a pledge to forevermore avoid risking anything down the drain or pipes that doesn't belong. You don't want your home or business to become a haunting tale of costly repairs.



UTILITY NEWS

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970-962-3000

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NEXT PHASE OF ELECTRIC METERS COMING TO LOVELAND RESIDENTS

It's never been more important for utility providers to maintain efficiency, functionality and safety on the grid. Utilities throughout the country have been using Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) for decades to enhance efficiency, improve billing accuracy and provide customers access to more information and control over their utility bill.

Loveland Water and Power (LWP) launched an AMI solution city-wide after carefully planning and testing this technology since 2014. Advanced metering infrastructure is a system of meters, communications networks and software that provides wireless delivery of meter information and service alerts directly to LWP. AMI technology automatically collects consumption data from electric and water meters and transfers the data over a secure network to a central database. The collected data is used for billing, analyzing usage trends and providing customers with advanced outage and leak notifications.

Electric and water utilities like LWP become more efficient and responsive when they upgrade to advanced metering infrastructure. AMI meters provide real-time data on utility consumption for more efficient billing. The meters also identify issues before they become costly problems because they reduce diagnostic and response time by immediately notifying LWP crews about leaks or other issues. AMI can also verify power outages and perform remote-service disconnects and reconnects.

The new technology does not negatively affect health or privacy. In fact, overall health will be improved and privacy enhanced by replacing vehicles and manual visits to homes with environmentally clean radio communication. The wireless portions of the system operate according to Federal Communications Commission rules and do not interfere with other radio frequencies in the area.

AMI metering saves customers money by providing detailed consumption information on electricity and water. AMI can report leaks or service issues to the customer and utility automatically.

All of the data gathered by advanced metering infrastructures are made available in real time resulting in improved operations and better customer experience. It's our goal to continually improve operational efficiencies and provide customers the service and reliability they need. AMI is a next step in advancing both of those initiatives.

Want more information on phasing AMI meters into Loveland?
Find updates at lovelandwaterandpower.org/AMI.

Energy Exposure Compared to New Meters

LISTED IN
INCREASING
EXPOSURE



METER



MICROWAVE
28x Higher



LAPTOP
74x Higher



SMARTPHONE
28,800x Higher

*Measured in milliwatts per square centimeter

**Sources: Radio-Frequency Exposure Levels from Smart Meters: A Case Study of One Model. Electric Power Research Institute and Light Advanced Meter Infrastructure & Distribution Automation: RF Exposure Survey, Arlington Virginia: Site Safe



OCTOBER SPOTLIGHT

INSTANT REBATE ALERTS
efficiencyworksstore.com

Fall air is known for its fresh crisp feel. Let the inside of your home be a haven for clean air as well. Check out \$100 instant rebates on select large-room air purifiers while supplies last.



More interested in keeping those swinging fall temperatures under control? Check out smart thermostat options and rebates.



Starting your holiday season? October 31st, LED string lighting will also appear at great rebate prices.