



## Loveland Public Library Celebrates 120 Years of Community

The Loveland Public Library is marking a major milestone—120 years of enriching our community.

Check it out. On a little-known technicality, the library was first established in 1901. But, in 1905, the Loveland Town Board accepted responsibility for funding the library, making it an official Loveland service. The 1905 date is the one that marks this major milestone for our community's "best-read" resource.

### History at a Glance

The history of the library includes several "stories".

The original library was run out of the home of Anna Duffield, Loveland's first librarian. Through local fundraising and a donation from Andrew Carnegie, Loveland's first dedicated library building opened in 1908. The original building, at the corner of 6th Street and Cleveland Avenue, would serve our community for the next 60 years.

The Carnegie building was replaced with a larger, two-story facility in 1968 but then a "new chapter" began for the library. In September 1987, a new Loveland Public Library building was constructed at 300 N. Adams Ave., in the Civic Center Municipal Complex, east of downtown. It was the first building in the City of Loveland to receive LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council and it's the current location of the library.

### More Than Books

The Loveland Public Library is far from its humble

beginnings in borrowed space. It's "fully booked" with physical and digital collections and also offers eBooks, movies, music, and more. There are also public computers, Wi-Fi, 3D printing, and laptop/hotspot lending. Plus, the library is a key hub for true community connection, supporting a teen hangout, a monthly Veteran Meet Up, and services such as laundry through Homeward Alliance. There's also study and meeting rooms for community use and programs and events for all ages and stages.

As an effective steward of taxpayer resources, the library relies on the City's General Fund as its primary source of funding. It supports its budget by applying for and receiving grants when possible. In fact, the library received a sizeable grant from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment to develop a Digital Navigator Program, which helps people build skills with digital tools such as cell phones, internet, social media, and more. Additional support for the library comes from the Friends of the Loveland Public Library Foundation.

### Celebrating the Milestone

To celebrate 120 years, the library has released a limited-edition library card designed to resemble a vintage library due date card highlighting key dates in the library's history. If you haven't stopped by recently, it's an excellent excuse to make sure your library card is active or request a new card. "Check it out" today! For details about the library, visit [lovelandpubliclibrary.org](https://lovelandpubliclibrary.org) or call 970-962-BOOK (2665).

## Staying informed about the City's 2026 budget

Each year, City of Loveland staff develop a budget for the following fiscal year, prioritizing community goals and finding a reasonable balance between costs and services. The budget serves as a financial roadmap that allocates resources to provide essential public services like infrastructure, public safety, quality of life programs, and community development, while connecting day-to-day financial decisions to the City's broader long-term goals and vision for the future.

A balanced budget ensures that these services remain operational and accessible to residents.

Keep up with developing budget news, learn more about the process, see how your tax dollars are invested in our community, and join the conversation at [letstalkloveland.org/budget](https://letstalkloveland.org/budget).



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## Choosing a local internet provider matters

At Pulse, we are proud to be recognized nationally as the top overall internet service provider in the nation with customer satisfaction scores 17 times the national average. We're also proud of our Loveland roots.

### Why does supporting local matter?

**Faster, Personalized Support.** Local providers means faster response times and more personalized customer care. When you call Pulse, you're speaking with someone right here in Loveland—no endless phone trees or outsourced support. And if there's an issue, local technicians can be on-site quickly to get you back online.

**Invested in Our Community.** Local ISPs like Pulse are more than service providers—we're neighbors. We support local jobs, reinvest in community infrastructure, and sponsor events and initiatives that strengthen the places we call home. When you choose a local provider, your dollars stay in the community.

**Reliable, Secure Connections.** Because local providers focus solely on their regional networks, they can deliver more stable and reliable service. Plus, with smaller, localized systems, your data is less likely to be a target for large-scale cyberattacks, offering greater peace of mind.

**Transparent Pricing, Tailored Solutions.** Forget hidden fees, annoying contracts and one-size-fits-all packages. Local ISPs often offer competitive pricing with clear billing and flexible plans designed to meet your specific needs—whether you're a remote worker, a gamer, or a growing business.

Read more at [PulseFiber.org/local-matters](https://PulseFiber.org/local-matters).

## Snow response: What the City of Loveland does and what you can do

When snow is forecasted and road conditions become imminent, City crews begin de-icing operations, switching to plowing and anti-icing once accumulation reaches about one inch. To keep roads as safe as possible, staff from Public Works, Utilities, and Parks and Recreation work around the clock in two 12-hour shifts, striving to clear roads to bare asphalt. Motorists are reminded never to pass a snowplow during active operations for safety. In addition, City code requires residents to clear sidewalks within 24 hours after snowfall, though Parks and Recreation's Snow Squad program is available to assist those unable to shovel. Learn more at [lovgov.org/SnowSquad](https://lovgov.org/SnowSquad).

### Snow operations focuses on three Priority (P1, P2 and P3s) roadways:

**P1s** are plowed first because they carry the highest traffic volumes and provide continuous passage for all emergency personnel. Examples of these roads are 14th Street SW, Taft Avenue and US 287.

**P2s** are collector streets that are attached to residential neighborhoods. They are directly connected to our arterial streets (P1s). Examples of these roads are Carlisle Drive or Dotsero Drive.

**P3s** are the remaining residential streets. These streets are plowed only when the City Manager declares a snow emergency or the Public Works Director deems it necessary. The decision to plow P3s is not based solely on snowfall totals; it is based on many variables such as temperatures, resources, forecasts, and more.

For details about the City's snow operations, visit [lovgov.org/SnowOperations](https://lovgov.org/SnowOperations).



# Building a reliable grid: Platte River's bold energy transformation

In July of 2022, Loveland experienced a heat wave that included record-breaking temperatures of 106°F. Heatwaves have become significantly more frequent across Colorado, including Loveland, with some areas experiencing more heatwaves in two years than in entire decades of the 20th century.

Electric Utility Division Manager Adam Bromley said high temperatures can strain the power grid with increased power demand as more customers turn to air conditioners to beat the heat. "As loads on our system increase in high heat events, we monitor our system closely to reliably serve our customers and avoid equipment overloads that could lead to damage or failure," Bromley said.

With extreme weather, wildfires and other natural disasters on the rise, utilities across the country are reevaluating their energy strategies. Resiliency is top of mind for the City and Platte River Power Authority, Loveland's wholesale power provider.

"We are committed to meeting our communities' non-carbon energy goals by creating a more diversified, low-carbon energy portfolio," shared Melie Vincent, chief power supply officer for Platte River. She highlighted some sustainable initiatives Platte River is implementing for customers that will reduce carbon emissions and help balance the intermittency of renewable resources.



## Black Hollow Sun

The first phase of the largest solar project in Northern Colorado, Black Hollow Sun, is nearing commercial operation this fall and will add 150 megawatts (MW) of capacity to Platte River's resource mix, tripling their current solar portfolio.

The facility will provide about 350,000 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy annually — enough to power the equivalent of nearly 43,000 homes (based on the typical Colorado household annual electricity consumption of 8,300 kilowatt hours) and help replace the energy from retiring coal-fired stations.

Phase two will add another 107 MW of solar power and is estimated to be completed in the summer of 2026. Together, both phases will span nearly 1,400 acres in Severance, Colorado.



## Battery Storage

A new four-hour 100 MW energy storage system will be installed adjacent to Black Hollow Sun. Comprised of a collection of interconnected batteries, the system is designed to store excess energy generated, and release it into the grid as needed to help smooth fluctuations from solar and wind generation and alleviate congestion during peak demand.

In a tandem investment, Platte River and the owner communities are collaborating to develop a four-hour, 5 MW battery for a total of 20 MW added power. Whereas the larger 100 MW system will be located closer to the transmission side, these smaller units will be located "down the line" — closer to the distribution side for utilities to dispatch energy based on supply and demand.

Bromley said, "We're excited at the prospect of adding utility scale storage to Loveland's distribution system because we'll be able to make a significant impact to localized peak demand in areas where we need it most, as well as better support Platte River." Continue on page 4.

**\*Megawatt refers to power capacity — how quickly the system can provide energy, and megawatt-hour refers to energy consumed over time — how long it can operate.**



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## Virtual Power Plants

Platte River owner utilities are early adopters of a virtual power plant (VPP) — a system designed to organize, monitor and manage devices like rooftop solar panels, electric vehicles, small home batteries and smart thermostats. VPPs aggregate these devices, or “distributed energy resources (DERs),” to reduce energy demand and increase supply in response to grid needs.

Platte River is working with a preferred VPP program and software vendor to finalize a scope for this project — the first in a multi-step rollout of the VPP.

“Virtual power plants are a key part of maintaining the resiliency and reliability of our system as we decarbonize,” Vincent said. “The real ‘power’ of this technology is with customers who are willing to participate in these programs and help advance the energy transition.”

Interested customers can access educational resources, enroll in current programs and receive updates about future programs by visiting **EfficiencyWorks.org**.



The utility expects its renewable energy portfolio to grow to more than 300 million MWh by 2030 — a feat that is not without its challenges.

Unprecedented cost pressures for equipment and skilled labor, along with persistent supply chain delays and increased competition for technologies, are impacting electric utilities and their customers across the country. Still, Loveland and the other communities are committed to working together to create a resilient, reliable and economical power grid for future generations.

## BEWARE THE FATBERG!

### What's a fatberg?

Imagine a giant, slimy iceberg... but lurking underground in our sewer pipes. That's a fatberg—a massive clog made of flushed wipes, grease, food scraps, hair and other things that should never go down the drain.

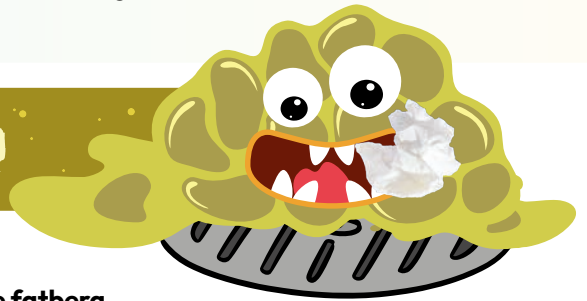
These monsters can grow bigger than a car, block entire pipes, cause messy backups and cost thousands of dollars to clean up.

### Don't feed the fatberg

- Wipes (even “flushable” ones)
- Paper towels, tissues and floss
- Hair, cotton balls and hygiene products
- Fats, oils and grease (they harden like concrete in pipes)

### Dispose the right way

- Toss wipes, floss and paper towels in the trash.
- Scrape food scraps into compost or trash, not the sink.
- Collect cooking grease in a can, let it cool, then throw it away.
- Quick tip: Think “Can it clog?” If yes, trash it.



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