

Loveland services about \$5 per day

A little more than five bucks a day, about the cost of a large latte. That's the cost of being one of Loveland's citizens. What do you get for your money?

Using basic math and simplified figures from the City's budget, below is a list of many of the services and facilities provided to Loveland residents for the approximate per person cost of about \$5.18 per day.

The \$5.18 figure used here is an average number. It is based on the total taxes received and user fees paid by all households and businesses within the city. The actual costs to members of a Loveland household may be significantly less or more than the \$5.18 figure.

For example, if a resident doesn't use much water, electricity, make major purchases or participate in City fee based activities, that resident's daily cost is actually less than \$5.18 per day.

On the other hand, if a resident pays property tax, makes sizable purchases, has lawns to water, runs a large air conditioner, plays golf at the Loveland courses, works out at the Chilson Recreation Center and has children enrolled in City recreation programs or art classes, that resident probably contributes more than the \$5.18 average.

\$5.18? Here's the math: $(\$121,127,000 / 64,000) / 365 = \5.18

Where does the average \$5.18 figure come from? Here's the math: Loveland residents pay sales tax, property tax and user fees. User fees include electricity, water, sewer, stormwater and other City services and programs.

These annual revenues total \$121,127,000. Loveland's population is about 64,000. By dividing the annual revenue by population and then dividing by 365, the result is about \$5.18 per person per day.

More or Less

Loveland's city government provides every Loveland citizen with services that make us comfortable and secure for about \$5.18 per day. That number also includes many amenities for our leisure and recreation. The \$5.18 is an overall average; some pay less, some pay more.

Everyone receives:

Safe city; Fire protection; Library use; Reliable power; Clean water; Sewer service; Public art; Museum/Gallery visits; Smooth, clean roads; Safe traffic control; Concerts, festivals; Stormwater drainage; Picnics in the park; Days at the beach; Shooting hoops, tennis; Playground swinging; Landing a Cessna; Recycling services; Open space scenery; Rec trail walking, biking

Some pay more:

Watering large lawns; Recreation, art classes; Air conditioning power; Property owner's tax; Playing golf; Speeding tickets; Major purchases; Rec center workouts; Pool swims; Senior Center activities

About \$5.18 per day; Here are some of the things you get for your money:

Top quality water

Loveland residents enjoy high-quality, great-tasting water at an affordable cost through a highly-reliable delivery system. The City participates with regional entities like the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the Big Thompson Watershed Forum to monitor the treated water system 24-hours-a-day from snowy mountain caps to Loveland's taps, ensuring residents' health and safety.

Play ball

Loveland residents have access to numerous playgrounds, picnic areas, athletic fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, restrooms, grassy areas and more within the city's 28 public parks. This includes the new 55-acre Loveland Sports Park opened last year as well as the popular Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park in Big Thompson Canyon.

On the road

For a small city, Loveland has plenty of pavement for citizens to use and the City to maintain. Within city limits, Loveland has 310 centerline miles of streets; about 1,100 lane miles.

Every day, every hour

Some of Loveland's 95 police officers are always on the job to keep our community safe. The police department received almost 67,000 calls for service last year. Officers were involved in 90 situations requiring the use of force or unusual occurrences—down about 10 percent from 2005.

Ready to assist

Suppressing and preventing fires is the work of the 65-person fire department. In addition, about 45 volunteers can be called upon when needed. Thirty fire fighting vehicles are in service.

Busy place

Last year, people visited the Loveland Public Library more than 400,000 times, relaxing with a magazine, visiting a website, enjoying story readings with their children, selecting a book to take home or many other services. More than 680,000 times, books, CDs, movies, magazines and other items were borrowed by 41,192 card-bearing library patrons.

Plenty of juice

The \$5.18 per day includes electricity delivered to your home. The City owns and maintains 535 miles of power lines connected to 27,000 residential and 3,800 commercial customers. Loveland's electricity fees are among the lowest in Colorado.

All aboard

About 110,000 times a year, people ride a City of Loveland Transit (COLT) bus. Two fixed routes serve the main corridors from Wilson Ave. on the west into the Promenade Shops east of I-25. With a transfer at the Orchards Shopping Center, riders can catch the Fox Trot bus to Fort Collins. A bus link into Greeley will begin soon. Three Paratransit buses serve the elderly and disabled with door-to-door service.

Winter work

The \$5.18 helps keep traffic rolling during the winter. Last year, 14 City trucks with snowplows, spreaders and tanks put down 167,000 gallons of liquid de-icer and 1,600 tons of granular de-icer on snowy Loveland streets. Road clearing required more than 5,000 staff hours plus \$99,000 worth of additional work by outside contractors. Since winter, the Streets Division has filled 2,112 potholes.

Phones keep ringing

Loveland's 18 public safety dispatchers in the Emergency Communications Center answered 171,250 calls last year. These included about 32,000 emergency and 911 calls plus non-emergency calls for police, fire, ambulance and internal services. More than 77,000 calls resulted in a response by police, fire or ambulance.

Food Tax Rebate

For some Loveland residents, the \$5.18 per day can be a bit tough on their finances. The City offers a program for qualifying customers to rebate the sales taxes they paid on food purchases as well as a utility rebate. Last year a total of \$107,000 was rebated to 744 households.

Public Art

Loveland has an international reputation as an art town due to the large number of artists who live and work here as well as the City's renowned public art collection. Residents and visitors can view and enjoy the \$6 million worth of artwork displayed in Loveland's public buildings, parks and elsewhere. Most of the 269 public works of art were donated.

Clean streets

Loveland streets stay clean thanks to the City's street sweepers. Almost 1,000 cubic yards of debris were removed from City streets last year and sent to the landfill. Patient equipment operators made multiple trips up and down Loveland streets totaling 4,220 miles of sweeping...all at about 5 mph.

More than beauty

Loveland's public and nonprofit art and cultural endeavors are beneficial not only to resident's eyes and ears, but also account for almost \$10 million of the community's economy, according to the Americans for the Arts Economic Prosperity Survey.

Leave the light on

Safety and security for Loveland motorists and neighborhoods shine brightly. So far this year, crews from the City's Power Division have replaced or installed more than 500 streetlights.

Clicking, not driving

More than 235,000 times, people have paid a virtual visit to the Loveland Public Library to check on an item's availability, reserve it, renew it, or more. The ability to access the library online through the City's website has become very popular, with online use almost doubling last year.

Black and white

More than \$3 million will be spent this year to keep Loveland's streets, curbs, gutters and sidewalks functional, safe and long-lasting. Roadwork—including reconstruction, repaving or chip seal will total 21.1 centerline miles. Concrete work will include the repair of wheelchair ramps, curbs, gutters and sidewalks at approximately 435 locations including a concrete alley reconstruction and several repairs done to curbs, gutters and sidewalks along Hwy. 34.

Helping others

Many others in Loveland benefit from your \$5.18. Your money contributes to the \$400,000 in grants from Loveland City Council to about 40 local non-profit agencies that assist residents in need.

Six location service

Usually within five minutes, help arrives at the door when the fire department is needed. Staffed 24/7 from six stations located throughout the city, firefighters responded more than 5,300 times last year, including 2,500 medical calls.

Future security

Thanks to long-term planning and investments in new reservoirs, residents can rest assured that their water supply will be secure. Planning for future demands for domestic water, including for growth and drought, involves looking ahead at least 30 years to determine needs for storage, acquisition of water rights, and treatment and conveyance facilities.

Stop and go

Residents receive curbside service four days a week as six trash trucks and five recycling trucks move from house to house collecting waste materials. From April to December, two more trucks serve households by picking up yard waste. Other specialty waste vehicles also serve the community.

Investigations productive

The Loveland Police Department cleared 79 percent of 507 felony cases that couldn't be resolved at the patrol level. Special successes included apprehending a bank robber, returning \$45,000 from a fraud case to an elderly victim, recovery of \$90,000 in stolen property, arrest of a suspect for multiple commercial burglaries and working with North Carolina law enforcement for arrests and recovery of \$2 million in stolen jewelry and other items.

'Fore' times three

More than 135,000 rounds of golf are played every year at the City's three public golf courses. Located in the center of town are the 9-hole, par 3 Cattail Creek course and the full-scale 18-hole Loveland Old Course. Along the river and the hills at the west edge of Loveland is the very scenic, challenging and widely popular Mariana Butte course.

House calls

Individuals living in group homes and residents unable to leave home received 1,100 deliveries of more than 6,000 items from the Loveland Public Library. Eight volunteers and one part-time librarian delivered books, movies, CDs and more to these homebound Loveland citizens.

Critters, not cars

Scenic vistas, quiet and wildlife are nearby thanks to 1,900 acres of open lands in and around Loveland. The open lands are the direct result of the City's portion of the .25 percent Larimer County open lands sales tax.

Broaden your horizons

Local history and international art can be viewed and enjoyed six days a week with a visit to the Loveland Museum/Gallery. The museum offers a glimpse into Loveland's past while the gallery offers continually changing exhibits of diverse styles of artwork.

Cemetery

Loveland's 47-acre cemetery facilities are open to visitors every day from dawn until dusk. The 115 year-old cemetery has been operated by the City since 1919. Burial and cremation plots remain available for purchase.

Proper disposal

Clean up your property and prolong the landfill's lifespan by bringing items to the Loveland Recycling Center. Lumber, appliances, autumn leaves and much more can be recycled. Tires and TVs are also accepted for a small fee.

WWTP upgrades

Loveland's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) has undergone a series of upgrades over the last five years and will undergo some more in the fall. Already completed improvements cost \$3 million. The next series of improvements will focus on odor mitigation and will cost \$5.5 million. The average increase to customers' water bills, which will help fund the next series of improvements, will only amount to about \$1.60 per year over the next two years.

Entertainment galore

A variety of free concerts and festivals are enjoyed every year by thousands of community members and visitors.

Flow tools

Loveland's motorists benefit from signals, signs and markings that keep traffic moving safely. Within Loveland, 82 intersections are controlled by traffic lights and in 24 school zones flasher lights denote 20 mph speed limits. About 1,000 street signs were manufactured last year, 150 sign posts recycled and more than 7,000 gallons of white and yellow paint were applied to Loveland's traffic lanes.

Tickets aplenty

Loveland police officers issued citations for 12,671 traffic violations last year, including almost 4,000 by the 6-person traffic unit. The traffic unit was also active in the "Click It or Ticket" campaign and DUI enforcement.

More than half

In 2006, Loveland residents set out 50.14 percent of their waste materials to be recycled or composted. This resulted in 19,752 tons diverted from the landfill. Last year, curbside recycling was expanded to include corrugated cardboard, paperboard and phone books.

Airport

While most residents rarely visit the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport, the facility provides both direct and indirect benefits to residents. The almost-daily airline service to Las Vegas makes the facility eligible for about \$1 million a year in federal funds for maintenance and safety equipment. The businesses surrounding the airport provide jobs to area residents. A 2002 study showed \$14.2 million in wages for 619 jobs, and back then, those figures didn't include the airline service.

Take a swim

Residents of all ages enjoy taking a dip in one of three City swimming areas. The indoor pool at the Chilson Recreation Center gets year-round use. Swimmers can improve their backstroke and sun tan during the summer at the Winona Pool or the swim beach at North Lake Park. Swim lessons and competitions also take place at City pools.

Rubbing shoulders

Residents, police and city officials enjoyed each other's company at 21 neighborhood parties one evening last June. The annual Loveland Community Night Out helps build strong relationships between residents and City staff.

It's showtime

Music, magic, movies and much more are available throughout the year at Loveland's Rialto Theater. The theater offers a wide variety of shows sponsored by the City, community groups and entertainment firms. Ticket prices tend to be modest for fine entertainment in an intimate setting.

Bad news, good news

Unfortunately, fires and in and around Loveland caused about \$1.4 million worth of loss and damage. However, response by Loveland Fire and Rescue saved more than \$6 million in losses.

Cold weather, warm hearts

For 11 days this winter, homeless persons in Loveland had a warm place to be. The Pulliam Building served as a daytime shelter during last winter's severe cold and snow.

Art for kids

Involvement with the arts on an appreciative and hands-on basis is offered to children of all ages through the City's Cultural Services Department. Low-cost classes, workshops and special events are available for local kids, from tots to teens.

Xeriscape

The xeriscape garden in front of the City Service Center and the Jeff Peterson Xeriscape garden at Washington and First Street are great examples of how xeriscaping can beautify the landscape in a water-efficient way. Both gardens have corresponding guides listing all plants used. These guides are free and available through Loveland Water and Power.

Better than hoses

Prevention is the best firefighting tool. Loveland's 7-person fire prevention staff made almost 4,000 visits for inspection, construction reviews, service calls and educational programs.

Ours or yours

More than 50,000 times last year, patrons used the Loveland Public Library's two dozen computer systems for word processing and Internet access. In addition, the library's new wireless Internet system allows visitors to bring their own devices for use anywhere in the facility.

Info to you

Loveland City staffers work hard to keep residents informed. A variety of information media is used, including press releases to the newspaper, cable TV broadcasts, space purchased in newspapers, online information and services, 1610 AM radio, public hearings, open house meetings, e-mails, brochures and newsletters.

