

SNAG a fun round of golf at the new family-friendly course

For more than 22 years, a piece of land adjoining the parking lot of the City's Cattail Creek golf course sat vacant. That picture is no longer true. This month, a 9-hole mini-course is opening.

The new facility is a hybrid of a 9-hole putting course and 9-holes of SNAG (Starting New at Golf)-friendly golf. Golf ranks high on the list of popular sports that can be played throughout a lifetime. In fact, more than 26 million Americans play golf every year. But golf can be a difficult sport to learn to play. The new facility changes all that.

SNAG is similar to golf but uses playing equipment modified to allow early success. Loveland has become a national leader by adapting SNAG learning equipment to a dedicated 9-hole facility that makes learning golf fun and easy.



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[More about the new SNAG golf course inside](#)

Rate structure change on utility bills begins July 1

Loveland Water and Power's (LWP) mission is to add value by serving the community's utility needs through providing quality customer service and reliable power at a competitive rate. Every year LWP reviews its rate structure to ensure that it accurately reflects the cost of providing service. Beginning July 1, residential and commercial electric bills will be compiled based on a seasonal rate structure. This new billing structure is due to the increased costs from Loveland's wholesale power provider Platte River Power Authority.

Utility rate changes were approved by Loveland City Council in 2011. Rate changes are made on an annual basis. For more information on utility rates, visit www.cityofloveland.org/utilityrates or call 962-3000.



Cost per kWh rates calculated as follows:

	Average Home Use (kWh)	Cost per kWh*	Total kWh Charge
Winter (Jan.-June, Oct.-Dec.)	700	\$ 0.071	\$49.36
Summer (July-Sept.)	700	\$ 0.075	\$52.49

As a result, rates will increase during the peak months of power usage; July, August and September. Customers will most likely begin to notice changes on their July or August bills.

The residential seasonal rate will raise the cost per kilowatt-hour (kWh) from July 1-September 30 from about 7 cents per kWh to about 7.5 cents per kWh used. This increase will result in an approximate increase on a utility bill of \$2-3 per month.

LWP offers a number of energy efficiency and conservation services to help customers manage their electric bills. More information about these programs can be found at www.cityofloveland.org/conservation.

The Home Energy Audit Program
offered by 

Call today to schedule.
1-866-973-9268
\$70 Home Energy Audit

Includes:

- Whole-house visual inspection
- Blower door test
- Infrared camera scan
- FREE installation of energy and water saving products
- Up to \$500 in REBATES

 More Information and Eligibility Available at:
www.cityofloveland.org/audits



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Enjoy Cherry Pie gala Sat., July 21

Cherry Pie Celebration & Street Dance

Loveland Museum/Gallery,
503 N. Lincoln Ave.

Sat., July 21 - FREE

3 p.m. - Loveland Cherry History program

4-8 p.m. - Pie and Dance

Paper cartons can now be recycled

Loveland residents can now add one more material to their recycling bins—paper cartons. Starting immediately, many of these food and beverage cartons can be recycled in curbside recycling bins and in the commingled container bins at the City of Loveland Recycling Center, 400 N. Wilson Ave.



Examples of cartons that can be recycled include shelf-stable cartons such as juice, individual juice boxes, milk, soy milk, tofu, soup, broth, wine and refrigerated cartons including milk, juice, soy milk, cream and egg substitutes.

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SNAG a fun round of golf at the new family-friendly course (continued from page 1)

The ball is designed like a tennis ball, increasing the safety and limiting the flight distance of the ball. The clubs—just two—are oversized and the correct length and weight for all ages.

“Learning to play golf with SNAG equipment makes the first time golf experience fun,” said Jim Darjis, head golf professional at Cattail Creek.

“Playing SNAG teaches players more quickly to pitch, chip and putt than beating balls on the driving range.

“SNAG is a proven method to teach the game of golf that has been used by national education programs such as The First Tee for years,” Darjis said.

Steve Southard, golf operations manager for the City of Loveland, is excited. “The new mini-course is going to be great. It offers something for everyone; golfers and non-golfers alike.

“It is going to be a perfect place for families. The cross-design of the putting course and the SNAG-friendly course allows putting course players and SNAG players to play the course at the same time and even in the same group. Some may choose to



SNAGging some lessons

Some young golfers are enjoying some lessons at the new SNAG golf course at Cattail Creek. SNAG equipment is used to introduce non-golfers/beginners to the sport of golf.

play SNAG while others may choose to putt,” Southard said.

The cost to play a round of either is a very affordable \$5 per player. SNAG equipment rental will be available from the pro shop for an additional

\$2 per player. Lessons with the new SNAG equipment are now available at Cattail Creek.

The course is expected to open by mid-July. More information can be found at www.GolfLoveland.com.

Car-sharing technology ahead for City's motor pool

Through a creative combination of alternatives to ownership and technology, the City of Loveland will soon be reducing its fleet of vehicles without reducing vehicle availability for the employees that use them. A total of about 40 aging sedans, pickups and vans from the City fleet will be replaced by 15 shared vehicles leased from Enterprise Fleet Management and equipped with the same automated rental technology used in Enterprise Rent-A-Car's popular car-sharing program, WeCar by Enterprise.

A hardware/software/online technology will enable staffers to reserve and drive motor pool vehicles stationed near their workplaces at four locations in the City. The new strategy and technology will fulfill employees' workday transportation needs and save the City more than \$300,000 a year.

The City's Fleet Management division has identified a number of low-use vehicles; cars, pickups and vans needed by staff but typically driven less than 5,000 miles per year. Thanks to the new technology, the cars may be reserved online for a few hours or a few days, the keys made available and the vehicle accessed from a parking place adjacent to the employee's building. In addition, the system automatically charges the employee's budget for

the vehicle's use, based on time and/or mileage. It's all accomplished without a paid staffer handling the paperwork or the keys.

The intended driver swipes a special membership identification card across the windshield. The sensor recognizes the card, records the day and time, opens the door and allows access to the car's ignition key in the car's interior. When the driver no longer needs the vehicle, it is returned to its parking space, the driver relocates the key inside the car, exits and again swipes the card in front of the sensor. The sensor locks the car and records the duration and mileage of the use.

The user's departmental budget is charged accordingly and those monies are applied toward the car's overall lease payment. The charge-back to the user will range from \$25-60 per day depending on the type of vehicle used. Enterprise Fleet Management is a full-



Card being swiped past in-car sensor

service fleet management business for governmental entities and companies with medium-sized fleets. The City of Loveland selected Enterprise because of its technical capability, experience, business and financial strength to establish, manage, develop and grow a shared motor pool program.

“The program will enable greater and more efficient use of fewer vehicles,” said Steve Kibler, fleet manager for the City of Loveland. “Our shared motor pool will enable us to reduce overhead, maintenance and insurance expenses while providing safe, reliable and fuel efficient transportation for the City employees who use these vehicles. All maintenance and repairs are performed

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Grants awarded to local non-profit, service agencies

The City of Loveland recently awarded more than \$685,000 in grant monies, in conjunction with the federal government, to area non-profit and human service agencies. This year, the City received 55 grant applications requesting a total of \$1.1 million.

The City provided \$450,000 in City general funds for the Human Services Grant Program. An additional \$288,239 comes to Loveland via the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Human Services Grant recipients are:

Alliance for Suicide Prevention	\$ 2,590
Alternatives to Violence – Transitional Living Center	\$ 13,862
Alternatives to Violence – Victim Services Program	\$ 25,045
Boys & Girls Club	\$ 28,255
Center for Adult Learning	\$ 21,083
Care-A-Van /SAINT	\$ 6,260
Court Appointed Special Advocates – CASA Program	\$ 5,849
Court Appointed Special Advocates – Harmony House	\$ 7,736
Community Kitchen	\$ 6,577
Crossroads Safehouse	\$ 18,035
Disabled Resource Services	\$ 14,598
Elderhaus	\$ 13,792
Food Bank for Larimer County	\$ 23,414
House of Neighborly Service – Emergency Services	\$ 26,487
House of Neighborly Service –Food Program	\$ 27,609
Larimer County Partners	\$ 5,212
Larimer Center for Mental Health	\$ 24,503
Larimer Center for Mental Health & Loveland Community Health Center	\$ 10,000
Matthews House	\$ 21,335
Meals on Wheels	\$ 29,895
Northern CO AIDS Project	\$ 5,711
Project Self-Sufficiency	\$ 12,648
Respite Care	\$ 12,071
Rehabilitation & Visiting Nurses Association	\$ 15,253

Forty-one individual grants totaling \$680,592 were awarded to about 31 local agencies that provide services and assistance to low-income households.

Grant applications are reviewed by the Human Services Commission and the Affordable Housing Commission. The commissioners make funding recommendations to Loveland City Council for final approval.

Human Services Grant recipients (continued)

Thompson R2-J – First Steps Nursery	\$ 7,875
Turning Point Center	\$ 14,334
Thompson Valley Preschool	\$ 10,829
United Way 211	\$ 3,056
WINGS	\$ 10,471
Women’s Resource Center – Dental Connections	\$ 11,392
Women’s Resource Center - Health Care	\$ 14,223
TOTAL:	\$450,000

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Services Grant go to:

Crossroads Safehouse	\$ 2,827
House of Neighborly Service – Homeless Connect	\$ 21,233
Neighbor to Neighbor – Housing Counseling & Rent Assistance	\$ 19,175
TOTAL:	\$43,235

The CDBG Bricks and Mortar go to:

Art Space: Land Purchase	\$35,000
Habitat for Humanity: Land Purchase	\$24,977
Housing Authority: Larimer Home Improvement Program	\$35,000
Housing Authority: Larimer Home Improvement Program Emergencies	\$20,000
Housing Authority: Larimer Home Ownership Program	\$30,000
Housing Authority: Sidewalk Replacement	\$25,580
Volunteers of America: Handyman Program	\$16,800
TOTAL:	\$187,357

Home repair funding increases

Applications are now being accepted for a local home repair program that now has more money to lend and at a lower interest rate.

The Larimer Home Improvement Program (LHIP) provides low interest rate loans to low and moderate income homeowners to do home repairs. The LHIP program is administered by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland and services all of Larimer County.

The program focuses on health, safety and energy efficient updates. The program has been in operation for more than 17 years and helped many families improve and update their homes.

The interest rates have recently been reduced while funding available for loans has increased. The new loan rate ranges from 1-3 percent based upon the applicant’s income. The maximum loan amount is \$24,999.

The program is funded in combination by the local City of Loveland CDBG program, the City of Fort Collins affordable housing fund and the Colorado State Division of Housing.

The LHIP program also provides an emergency fund to help families with incomes below 50 percent of the area median income, or \$38,850 for a family of 4, with urgent emergency needs such as no hot water, burst pipes, leaking gas, etc.

Both programs are accepting applications now.

To receive applications, call Amy at 635-5931 or visit www.lovelandhsg.org.

Emergency Information Sources

— Keep this list handy —

Some or all of these sources may be utilized during an emergency or special situation. The nature of the situation will dictate what sources will be utilized. Setup and staffing for some resources will not occur immediately.

City of Loveland Info Sources:

www.cityofloveland.org	Official City website
1610 AM radio	City’s AM radio station
Phone 962-2020	Info line/call center
Phone 911	Emergency police/fire (non-emergency: 667-2151)
Channel 16 cable TV	City cable TV channel
Emergency Notification	Phone calls, e-mails Signup at www.LETA911.org

Emergency Alert System (EAS)

Emergency messages on TV & radio

City of Loveland Twitter Brief messages

City of Loveland Facebook Brief messages

Other sources:

www.larimer.org	Larimer County
Phone 211	Assistance agencies
www.firstcall211.org	211 website

FLEX bus route faces uncertain future

The FLEX bus route has more than proven its value in the two years since it began providing service from north Fort Collins through Loveland to the Main Street terminal in Longmont. But now it faces an uncertain future.

The \$800,000 annual federal grant that enabled FLEX to hit the road will be expiring in less than a year. Unless the communities that jointly run and benefit from FLEX can locate alternative funding, this popular route could come to an end.

Since FLEX started operating, ridership has been robust and continues to increase. Since FLEX replaced the shorter regional Foxtrot route, which only traveled between Loveland and Fort Collins, regional ridership has increased by 52 percent (111,228 in 2009 to 168,609 in 2011). In April, FLEX passed the transit industry's productivity benchmark of 20 passengers per hour—a notable accomplishment for a 30 mile long regional route.

Lose Denver connection?

The introduction of the FLEX route provided a long awaited means for bus riders in Fort Collins and Loveland to get to the Regional Transportation District (RTD) transit system in Longmont, which connects riders to the entire Denver-metro area.

"We were very excited to receive the federal grant that started FLEX because it

enabled us to fill a gap we'd been trying to fill for years," said Marcy Abreo, transit manager for City of Loveland Transit. "If we don't find a way to fund FLEX, those riders who are depending on it to get to Denver will have to find another way.

"We are also very concerned about riders who ride FLEX to commute to jobs between Fort Collins and Longmont," Abreo said.



FLEX

Funding options

According to Emma McArdle, transit planner with Fort Collins' Transfort bus system, each city's transit providers are in discussions but have not come to a consensus on where to go from here. "State and federal grants are out there but they all involve a competitive selection process. Hopefully when it comes down to applying for grants, the funding agencies will see the success of FLEX and choose to help fund service beyond the June, 2013 federal grant expiration date."

Car-sharing technology ahead for City's motor pool

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by Enterprise Fleet Management's local independent contractors so no additional City personnel are needed to perform this overhead expense.

"The motor pool program is one of our efforts to make city government more efficient and effective, both economically and environmentally," said Kibler. Future expansion of the program to add hybrid and zero emission plug-in vehicles is likely.

"In addition to having the purchasing power to obtain vehicles at the best possible prices and terms, the leasing agreement with Enterprise offers maintenance management, risk management, and vehicle registration and reporting, as well as a fuel card program that automatically monitors fuel purchases and mileage for each vehicle," said Kibler.

Development review process refined leading to faster, less costly results

Loveland's Planning Division has been deeply involved in a restructuring process to make the procedures for new real estate developments smoother and more efficient. The improved process saves time, money and effort for the benefit of the developers, City staff and the community at large.

The overall changes involve better communication and collaboration and stronger problem solving efforts, especially during the earlier portions of the process that help speed up the review process.

Overall, the process for moving from conceptual design to a finished project involves four steps. Two involve the site and two involve the structure.

The process begins with meetings and then a formal application. The overall concept for the building—or buildings—is presented showing location on the site along with street, parking, sidewalk, landscaping on the grounds plus a plan for utilities, usually underground.

As part of the efficiency efforts, all the plans are submitted and reviewed electronically. Gone are the dozen or more sets of large, rolled printed plans with each set often more than a dozen pages each.

The conceptual plans then become far more detailed and finely-tuned leading toward permits for the actual work on the site. The planning and permitting process has undergone revision to better synchronize with the actual development sequence.

As the site work progresses, the structure process begins. Plans for the actual building are submitted and reviewed. The structural plans must indicate meeting or exceeding building code standards for plumbing, electrical, heating/cooling and more before a building permit is issued.

When construction begins inspectors review the construction work to ensure that it follows the plans and complies with building code requirements. The process concludes with a final inspection leading to a Certificate of Occupancy that allows the building to be inhabited and used as intended.

Paper cartons can now be recycled (continued from page 1)

Paper cartons with or without aluminum linings can be recycled.

Cartons should be rinsed and caps and straws removed prior to recycling. There is no need to cut out the plastic spouts that are part of the cartons.

Ice cream containers and paper cups are made from different materials and cannot be recycled.

The paper fiber from the recycled cartons is used to make new products such as recycled office paper and tissues. The aluminum/plastic combination left over from the shelf-ready cartons and the plastic left over from refrigerated cartons are used by some mills for generating energy or sold to plastic manufacturers to make plastic lumber board-like materials.

For more information, visit www.cityofloveland.org/SolidWaste or call 962-2529.

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update according to their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' billing schedule. City Update is also available around the first of every month on the City's website at www.cityofloveland.org. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, Andy.Hiller@cityofloveland.org.