



The City's Stormwater Division—Working hard to keep it clean... 'cause we're all downstream

The City's Stormwater Engineering Division's goal is to keep Loveland's waterways clean and free of pollutants and debris. Stormwater also maintains and upgrades infrastructure to help protect the community from water-related problems.

Read on to learn more about the Stormwater Division's mission to preserve Loveland's clean water, improve and sustain our urban and natural environments, and keep the community informed on important water and stormwater-related issues.



Keep your car and our waterways clean

Car washing impacts water quality

When a car is washed in a driveway or street, this water flows untreated directly into the storm drain, and then into the local waterways. Essentially, it's like washing the car in Lake Loveland, or the Big Thompson River. A study of the wastewater generated from fundraising car wash events was conducted in Federal Way, Wash. The study identified pollutants in the wastewater.

Wash your car on the grass or at a carwash

While it isn't illegal to wash your car in your driveway, as a resident, it isn't good.

- Washing the car on the lawn allows the water to be absorbed by grass.
- Commercial carwashes direct used carwash water to treatment systems, and in many cases, they recycle it.

Biodegradable soap

Unfortunately, using biodegradable soap doesn't solve the problem:

- Most pollutants found in the Washington study did not come from the soap.
- Biodegradable soap helps the treatment of wastewater, but it requires oxygen to break down in a waterbody.

You can make a difference

- Encourage your friends, family, and neighbors to wash their cars on the lawn or at a commercial carwash.
- Look for signs posted at commercial carwashes thanking customers for choosing to use a commercial carwash.
- If you're planning a carwash fundraiser, ask a local carwash if you can use one of their wash bays.

Mark Your Calendar

Children's Day Celebration
1-4 p.m., Wed., April 23

Loveland Children's Water Festival
8 a.m.-3 p.m., Thur., May 8

Public Works Day
9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tues., May 20

Annual Spring Waterway Clean-up
9 a.m.-noon, Sat., April 19

Door to door pick-up of household hazardous waste for senior and disabled citizens
Thur., May 1 and Fri., May 2
Thur., Oct. 2 and Fri., Oct. 3

For more information on the City's Stormwater Division and events call 962-2772, visit the Stormwater webpages, www.cityofloveland.org/Stormwater or find us on Facebook.



CLEAN WATER IS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US

It's up to all of us to make it happen. In recent years sources of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now, more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and gardens, and failing septic tanks. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water—and that adds up to a pollution solution!

Why do we need clean water?

Having clean water is of primary importance for our health and economy. Clean water provides recreation, commercial opportunities, fish habitat, drinking water, and adds beauty to our landscape. All of us benefit from clean water—and all of us have a role in getting and keeping our lakes, rivers, marine and ground waters clean.

What's the problem with car washing?

There's no problem with washing your car. It's just how and where you do it. Most soap contains phosphates and other chemicals that harm fish and water quality. The soap, along with the dirt and oil washed from your car, flows into nearby storm drains which run directly into lakes, rivers or local waterways. The phosphates from the soap can cause excess algae to grow, which harms water quality. As algae decay, the process uses up oxygen in the water that fish need.

This information is provided by the Water Quality Consortium, a group of public agencies working together to reduce nonpoint water pollution through education.

Partially funded by a Centennial Clean Water Fund grant from Washington State Department of Ecology.

Fact:

In 1989, the Exxon-Valdez spilled over 10 million gallons of oil.

and

More recently, the 150 million gallon British Petroleum spill in the Gulf of Mexico has become known as "the worst environmental disaster ever!"

is still less than

Home car washing's waste-water pours 230 million gallons of oily pollutants into our storm sewers and waterways **every year!*** So which is the worst disaster? You do the math. And then do the right thing: Wash your car at an environmentally-friendly, professional carwash.

* The Environmental Protection Agency

Follow these simple steps to help keep our waterways clean

Wash it on the lawn

By washing your car on the lawn or non-paved surface such as gravel the wastewater will soak into the ground so less of it reaches our local waterways, thus creating a natural filter for the wastewater.

Use soap sparingly

Most soap contains phosphates and other chemicals that degrade the water quality. The phosphates from the soap can cause excess algae to grow. Algae blooms look bad, smell bad, can change the taste of water, and can create health risks.

Use a nozzle on your hose

By placing a nozzle on the end of your hose you can help conserve water.

Properly dispose of wastewater

Pour your bucket of soapy water down the toilet or onto a vegetated area when you're done, NOT in the street!



THE LOVELAND City Update

February 2014

Volume 10 Number 2



Reclaiming Loveland's gems

Award-winning city parks hit hardest by 2013 Flood

Look at a map of any city and see how its parks, open spaces and golf courses wrap around lakes and ponds, and hug the banks of rivers and streams.

So it is in Loveland.

Strung along the course of the Big Thompson River, from west to east through the city, are the Morey Natural Area, Mariana Butte Golf Course, Namaqua Park, the Loveland

Recreation Trail, the River's Edge Natural Area and Centennial, Fairgrounds and Barnes parks.

All of them, to one degree or another, were damaged when the flooding Big Thompson River scoured out a broad swath through its Loveland corridor in mid-September.

The worst damage was not within the city at all, but at the city-owned Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park in

Loveland Natural Areas Coordinator Brian Hayes heads toward the devastated River's Edge Natural Area, ground zero for the 2013 Flood just two weeks prior to its grand opening.

the heart of Big Thompson Canyon between Loveland and Drake. The park will be closed throughout 2014.

The to-do list for Loveland's Parks & Recreation Department is almost endless, and the cost for crossing off its entries could be as high as \$9.7 million.

"It's not as if we didn't know where to start," Loveland Parks & Recreation Director Gary Havener said. "We did.

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Reclaiming Loveland's gems (continued from page 1)

We had to start everywhere.”

The Big Thompson was fed by a days-long deluge on the Front Range that weather experts called an event that would happen once in a thousand years.

When the river gushed out of its canyon west of Loveland Sept. 12, it spread through the city in braids, carving new channels as it jumped out of the one it belongs in.

Mariana Butte Golf Course, recognized as Colorado's best public golf course when it opened, was among the first targets, as was the adjacent Morey Open Space wildlife preserve just upstream.

The golf course holes flanking the river, Nos. 15, 16 and 17, took the brunt of the damage with greens, fairways, tee boxes and cart path bridges wiped away.

The fairway at the 16th hole, one of the course's most picturesque, became a new bed for the Big Thompson River.

But fast work in the days immediately following the flood, with golf course groundskeepers abandoning mowers in favor of Bobcat mini-earth-movers, are paying big dividends this spring.

“We got a lot done in the fall, and that's helping us now,” Loveland golf manager Steve Southard said.

What seemed impossible in the flood's aftermath – the reopening of all 18 holes at Mariana Butte for the 2014 season – is about to become a reality.

“April 30. That's our best guess,” Southard said.

Hole No. 16 will reopen as a par 3, but will be lengthened to its original par 5 length by the end of May, Southard estimates.

A heartbreaker for Parks & Recreation staff, and for Loveland residents who anticipated the opening

of River's Edge Natural Area, was the way the Big Thompson rushed through the new open space addition, wiping out roads, a parking lot, trails, fishing docks, benches and an amphitheater.

A grand opening of the \$1.6 million natural area had been scheduled for Sept. 28, just two weeks after the floodwaters hit.

River's Edge, along with all the other flooded park facilities, occupies a broad entry on a spreadsheet that the City is using to track the damage, the repair costs and ways to pay them.

A still-uncertain mix of private insurance, federal disaster relief funds and state and federal grant money likely will account for most costs.

The same is true for the damage to other Parks & Recreation holdings, including the Loveland Recreation Trail. Nearly a mile of the popular walking, running and biking pathway was obliterated by the flooding river.

Along the stretch between Wilson Avenue and Taft Avenue, most of the concrete trail was destroyed, and its underpinnings scoured away.

“The trouble is, there are areas where there is no land left,” Havener said at a flood recovery meeting in October. “There's nowhere to build yet.”

Nevertheless, Parks and Public Works crews, working in tandem as they have since Day One of the flood, have made huge strides in clearing debris from the trail and other parklands.

By February, most of the Wilson-to-Taft stretch of the trail will have been reopened, if only with a soft surface



The Parks & Recreation volunteer workforce got ballfields ready for play, and will be back at work this spring. Newcomers can register online at www.CityofLoveland.org/VolunteerEvents.

of gravel and aggregate to replace the concrete in some spots.

Already in use is the section of the trail between Taft Avenue and U.S. 287 (Lincoln Avenue), with work on the U.S. 287 underpass remaining to be completed to link the eastern and western portions of the Recreation Trail.

Thanks partly to an army of volunteers, Loveland residents with particular affinity for the City's parks, sports complexes at Centennial and Barnes parks that had been buried in silt and debris will be ready for spring play.

A longer recovery period is in store for the southern half of Fairgrounds Park, where the river cut new channels and carried much of the park's land downstream.

In all cases, but particularly Fairgrounds Park and River's Edge Natural Area, planning for reconstruction is being carried out with the river's potential behavior in mind.

“It was very apparent, it was obvious, where the river wants to go,” Parks & Recreation planner Janet Meisel-Burns said.

“It would be irresponsible for us to redesign these facilities without accounting for that.”

Efficiency Works makes being energy efficient easy and convenient

Platte River Power Authority, the city's wholesale power provider, and its owner municipalities of Loveland, Estes Park, Longmont and Fort Collins recently launched Efficiency Works—a new one-stop-shop for energy efficiency programs in northern Colorado.

Efficiency Works is designed to help residents save energy, water and money by participating in efficiency programs and taking advantage of cost-saving rebates and promotions, help area businesses save energy



Efficiency Works

Platte River Power Authority
Estes Park Light and Power
Fort Collins Utilities
Longmont Power & Communications
Loveland Water and Power

and money by implementing cost-effective efficiency upgrades, and help local efficiency contractors connect with companies that want to make efficiency upgrades.

Loveland Water and Power (LWP) will continue to provide all of its popular commercial programs like Building Tune Up, Efficiency Express and LightenUp, but now, applications and rebate paperwork will all be in one place on the new website for easier access. All of the rebates that were formerly available are still in place.

Customers can log on to www.encyciencyworks.co to:

- Sign up for a free facility assessment
- Apply for efficiency rebates
- Find an efficiency partner/contractor
- Learn how to become an Efficiency Works provider

Remembering Patty Goodwine donations reach \$6,000



Friends and family of Patty Goodwine, the Big Thompson Canyon Cedar Cove resident who lost her life in the September flooding, opened

an account at Home State Bank in Loveland after her death with the hope that enough money could be raised to commission a permanent memorial to be displayed at the Loveland Public Library.

Approximately \$6,200 has been deposited in the ‘Remembering Patty

Goodwine’ account. If enough money is collected a statue honoring Patty will be created and placed in a bed of red tulips just outside the Children's department at the library.

Patty was a 34-year employee of the library. Her passing created a hole in the hearts of many and the community wants to remember and honor her many contributions.

Contributions can be made at any Home State Bank location by requesting the deposit be made to the Remembering Patty Goodwine memorial account.

For more information contact Deborah Campbell, deborah.campbell.mlis@gmail.com, or 970.213.2057 or 970.613.1365.

Chilson Recreation Center

Spring Break Passes

Passes are good for **UNLIMITED** use of the Chilson Recreation Center during Spring Break: **March 29 - April 6**

The following rates apply: **Youth = \$11 Adult = \$16**

Call 970-962-2FUN for more information

Chilson Recreation Center 700 E 4th Street / Loveland, CO
970-962-2FUN / www.CityofLoveland.org

Sign on truck announces first Recyclebank Premier Partner

As Loveland Recyclebank's first Premier Partner, Loveland Aleworks' sign on a City recycling truck encourages the community to recycle, become a Recyclebank member and enjoy a free beer tasting session at their establishment.

The Recyclebank program encourages Loveland households to fill their blue recycling carts and earn points toward product and service rewards from local and national merchants. Earning Recyclebank points is similar to earning frequent-flyer miles. Points are awarded based on the amount of recyclables collected from a household's blue cart.

Recyclebank Premier Partners such as Loveland Aleworks offer grander-than-usual rewards to Loveland recyclers. With points earned with Recyclebank, members can sample Loveland Aleworks brews totally free.

Rewards from numerous local and national merchants are already available through Recyclebank. Additional Premier Partner participants will be announced soon.



Recycle and enjoy

A sign on a City recycling truck encourages residents to recycle, sign up for rewards at recyclebank.com and enjoy a free beer tasting. Loveland Aleworks is the first Premier Partner of the City's Recyclebank program that encourages residents to increase recycling of their household disposables.

More than 6,000 Loveland households have already signed up for the Recyclebank program. There is no cost to join the easy, online program at www.recyclebank.com.

Recyclebank rewards households for what they are already doing—recycling with the blue carts—and encourages greater recycling.

Here's how it works:

1. Discard your recyclables in your blue cart (You're already doing that)
2. Sign up with Recyclebank (It's free and easy at recyclebank.com)
3. Earn points for recycling (The weight of your blue cart determines points; the more you recycle, the more points you earn)
4. Cash in your points for rewards (Dining, entertainment, products, services; more than 100 rewards to choose from)

Recyclebank rewards members and neighborhoods for their collective recycling efforts. Members are rewarded with points based on the total weight of the recyclable materials collected by the truck. Points are awarded on a bi-weekly basis, plus additional

points can be earned with visits to recyclebank.com for participation in games, quizzes and other recycling-related online activities.

Join Recyclebank today and take advantage of money saving rewards from many vendors plus Loveland's Premier Partners. Cheers!

This month at the library

Just in time for spring, master gardeners from Colorado State University will present a series of informative discussions on all things gardening including pruning, use of mulch, trees and turf, growing vegetables and much more.

Presentations are from 1-2 p.m. every Wednesday in March.

Celtic finger style guitarist Jerry Barlow performs his unique brand of traditional jigs and spirited reels to soothe the soul, warm the heart and lift the spirit, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday,



March 18 at the library. Free to the public. For more information call 962-2401.

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, Tom.Hacker@cityofloveland.org. The City of Loveland is committed to providing an equal opportunity for citizens and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender. The City will make reasonable accommodations for citizens in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at Betty.Greenberg@cityofloveland.org or 962-3319.

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