

## Double your refrigerator and freezer recycling rebate in July

Three beautifully hand-painted refrigerators will call City of Loveland public buildings home this month when the newly adorned fridges are placed at the Chilson Center, the Library and the Service Center.

Local artist, Chris Bates, painted murals on each refrigerator, plucked from the recycling pile, to help bring awareness to the program, which encourages residents to recycle old, inefficient appliances. The new marketing campaign, modeled after the transformer box Transformation Program—turns a mundane object into a piece of public art that both beautifies its surroundings and serves as a reminder to properly recycling inefficient appliances.

Older refrigerators and freezers can use four times as much electricity as newer models resulting in more than \$150 annually in electric costs to keep them running. Disposing of old, inefficient appliances saves money and energy.

Since the Refrigerator and Freezer Recycling program began in early 2011

over 700 refrigerators and freezers have been recycled.

“The recycling program is one of our more popular programs. We’ll pick-up your unit for free, pay you \$35 (or \$70 in July) and help you lower your energy bill,” said Lindsey Bashline, customer relations specialist with Loveland Water and Power. “Many residents don’t realize how much energy these units really use, and these units are often in the garage just cooling sodas or leftovers.”

Loveland residents can dispose of old or unused refrigerators and freezers and receive a \$35 utility bill credit through



the new Refrigerator and Freezer Recycling Program. Free pick up of old, but still working units is included.

Guidelines for participation:

- Must be a Loveland residential electric utility customer
- Unit must be in working condition at time of pick up and be plugged in and cooling
- Unit must be placed outside where City personnel can easily access it (if the unit has a locking latch please be sure to break it off and tape the top of the door shut)
- Must be between 10 to 30 cubic feet in size
- Limit of two rebates per account

To receive the \$35 rebate, people who qualify just need to schedule a pick up by filling out a rebate form online at [cityofloveland.org/rebates](http://cityofloveland.org/rebates) or by calling 962-3000.

If you have a non-working unit, please contact the Public Works Department at 962-2529 to schedule a pick-up.

## LWP's Kids' Corner



Glo says: "See if you can find all 15 water-related words. Different words may share some letters and some words might be backwards."

1. Big Thompson
2. Treatment
3. Lake
4. Water
5. Pipes
6. Filter
7. Stream
8. Ditch
9. Basin
10. Snow
11. Rainfall
12. Pump
13. Grand Lake
14. Wastewater
15. Pond

B	T	K	F	T	N	L	I	M	W	N	X
G	R	A	N	D	L	A	K	E	O	G	D
S	A	D	M	A	E	R	T	S	N	O	W
J	I	S	R	D	N	O	P	I	P	E	S
M	N	F	C	L	T	M	U	Z	W	S	F
B	F	G	B	J	O	P	M	C	A	A	I
Q	A	K	R	H	C	L	P	A	T	G	L
O	L	N	T	R	E	A	T	M	E	N	T
U	L	G	U	M	I	K	K	J	R	D	E
D	I	T	C	H	S	E	L	E	F	M	R
B	A	S	I	N	T	B	O	I	Q	S	N
A	X	R	E	T	A	W	E	T	S	A	W

## Quite a show but this plant must go

Attractive yet invasive and illegal, Myrtle Spurge has been designated for statewide eradication to prevent it from invading sensitive ecosystems, out-competing native plants and spreading into open lands where it is difficult to manage.

Once in bloom, seeds can be projected up to 15 feet and may be able to produce new plants for eight years. Hand pulling or digging is a viable option for eliminating

small infestations but care must be taken to avoid contact with the toxic milky sap. Gloves and eye protection should be worn when handling these poisonous plants. All plant waste must be disposed of in the trash—never composted.

For more information, or to report a sighting of this weed call 962-2506. Go to [larimer.org/weeds/weedlist.htm#lista](http://larimer.org/weeds/weedlist.htm#lista) for more information.



## Free computer classes offered at the library



The Loveland Public Library's iLearn Technology program offers a variety of free computer classes to community members, monthly. For those who are new to computers these introductory classes are a great first step.

The classes introduce students to Windows 7 and gently ease learners into the world of computers. Microsoft Office based software programs including Word, Excel and PowerPoint are covered. Internet tips and tricks plus an introduction to using Gmail are also included.

For questions or to register for a class call 962-2599 or visit [www.lovelandpubliclibrary.eventbrite.com](http://www.lovelandpubliclibrary.eventbrite.com).

Classes are offered in conjunction with the Education Life Training Center and are sponsored by The Friends of the Library Foundation.

## City partners with Truscott to support safe walking

(continued from page 4)

[uniteforliteracy.com](http://uniteforliteracy.com) or by scanning the QR code.

“We were so happy to be part of this very positive effort to help kids be safer walking to school or anywhere else they go on foot or bike,” said Shelley Aschenbrenner, staff engineer with the City of Loveland. “Through SRTS we were able to sponsor producing the booklet with the goal of distributing one to every child in Larimer County. Now we need to secure new sponsors who can continue to produce the booklet for future classes.”

For more information on *Left-right-left: Our Safe Walk* or SRTS, contact Amy Hoeven at 970-227-7878, or [Amy.Hoeven@uniteforliteracy.com](mailto:Amy.Hoeven@uniteforliteracy.com) or go to [uniteforliteracy.com](http://uniteforliteracy.com).



# THE LOVELAND City Update

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## LOVELAND'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

# CITIZEN-DRIVEN

## Public process will yield new plan for City's future

Karin Wright, a recent immigrant to Loveland from Kirkland, Wash., is in the midst of an unsettling adaptation.

Her former home was in a lush neighborhood near the shores of Lake Washington, the body of water that separates Seattle from its eastern suburbs.

Outside her door were walking trails lined with wild rhododendrons, ferns and giant fir trees. Now a resident of the Northern Colorado high desert, Wright's first adjustment was to a new geography.

“I know the climate is a lot different,” she said. “I get that. But there are some places in Loveland,

especially along the bigger streets, where there's just paving and cement and ugly buildings and not one green, growing thing anywhere. That's what I'm having the most trouble adapting to.”

Undaunted, Wright is bent on making the most of her move. Along with her two children and husband, whose too-good-to-refuse job offer brought them, she arrived with a personal history of community involvement.

She hit Loveland at just the right time to put it to work.

The City is engaged in a once-a-decade overhaul of its comprehensive plan – the guiding framework that

About 60 Loveland residents in mid-June gathered at tables and huddled over maps to begin the City's 2015 Comprehensive Plan.

will determine in major ways how Loveland will look, feel and live for many more decades to come.

The plan will help guide development of new housing, neighborhoods and places where we shop and work. It will determine partly how future elected boards make decisions on transportation, business development, utility service and other civic necessities.

### Quality of life

All of those ingredients go into the package that planners say determine “quality of life” in a city. During two workshops on consecutive evenings in mid-June that launched the year-long comprehensive plan's public process,

(continued on page 2)

**SLOW the FLOW COLORADO**

**Free SPRINKLER INSPECTION PROGRAM**

*Save water and improve the health of your lawn with this free personal service.*

- Learn easy, practical do-it-yourself sprinkler maintenance!
- Learn how to improve the performance of your system!
- Do your part to conserve Colorado's water!

If you are operating an underground irrigation system visit... [WWW.CONSERVATIONCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.CONSERVATIONCENTER.ORG) or call 303-999-3820 EXT 217

**Working on your sprinkler system this spring?**

**Don't forget to get your Lawn Sprinkler Permit.**

If you are planning to install a new sprinkler system, repair, expand or modify your present sprinkler system, you must meet the requirements of the Loveland Municipal Code and the Colorado Cross-Connection laws. Permits are free and required for all homeowners and contractors.

To obtain a permit or for more information visit: [www.cityofloveland.org/Backflow](http://www.cityofloveland.org/Backflow) or call: (970)-962-3721

Properly owners can perform normal maintenance activities on their sprinkler systems including replacing sprinkler heads, repairing a leak or adding additional zones without obtaining a permit.

**Citizen-Driven** (continued from page 1)

about 60 Loveland residents, Wright included, gathered at three tables in the Bill Reed Middle School cafeteria to talk quality of life.

City planners and their consultants listened, mostly, as the citizen-driven process began to unfold.

“We learned that Lovelanders are very passionate about their community,” said Loveland Senior Planner Karl Barton, who is managing the comprehensive plan process.

“Generally, people are pleased with where they live. They want Loveland to be an inclusive community, one that provides a high quality of life for a variety of people.”

The challenge will be how to make that happen in the face of growth pressure that few other places in the nation face. Consider these demographic realities:

- Loveland’s population grew 39 percent between 2000 and 2012, from 50,608 to 70,214. That rate was nearly double Colorado’s 21 percent growth rate.

- Projections indicate that the city’s population by 2040 will double, to more than 140,000.

Those bare facts underscore the urgency of comprehensive planning. Barton said the process is a way to stay in front of the inevitable forces that will drive the city’s growth.

“The point is that as we grow, we have choices to make,” Barton said. “Where should new growth happen? How should it look and feel? How could we use growth to improve and revitalize those areas that are already developed?”

Downtown Loveland, for example, has already moved ahead with new development including the newly opened Gallery Flats apartments and the under-construction Arspace Loveland Lofts that the new

Comprehensive Plan might take cues from.

**Don’t ‘Californicate’**

“The people who realize the city needs to expand, and I think that’s nearly everyone, want to see it happen carefully. They don’t want to see the region ‘Californicated.’”

*“Lovelanders are very passionate about their community.”*

Karl Barton,  
Loveland Senior Planner

Wright said she doesn’t want to see it “Seattle-ized.”

She cited the paralyzing traffic that metro-Seattle is nearly as famous for as it is the Space Needle or Puget Sound. She said she doesn’t miss the hours spent “either getting to a bridge, being on a bridge or getting off a bridge” in order to get from one place to another.

Barton and the City’s consulting team from Logan Simpson Design began their 2015 Comprehensive Plan project with 55 interviews with representatives of community groups, businesses, regional agencies and City departments.

What the team learned, in setting the table for future work by citizens directly, includes:

- A consensus that new growth will balance “smart” development of the City’s perimeter, beginning on the northwest fringe, and higher-density infill development closer to the city’s core.
- Belief that keeping housing affordable for a diverse population should be a key element of the plan.
- Recognition that open space is one of the City’s prime ingredients in the

crucial “quality of life” recipe.

- Growing demand for public transportation options and features that make Loveland more bike- and pedestrian-friendly than it is today.

Most of those considerations are on Wright’s list, she said, as she gears up for more work with fellow residents on the planning process. Along the way she said she’ll be prepared to offer “how-not-to” advice to her colleagues.

“There was always so much pressure in Kirkland, as there is all over the Seattle area,” she said. “People need to realize that these big decisions about how things are going to go in a community have to be made sooner rather than later. When things go bad, it happens faster than people ever believe it will.”

**Help shape the City plan**



Citizens have plenty of opportunities to put their stamp on Loveland’s Comprehensive Plan in during the year ahead.

Two Internet portals, both easy to use and access, offer ways to weigh in on the Comprehensive Plan’s development process.

Create Loveland, [www.createloveland.com](http://www.createloveland.com), is the official website for the plan, hosted by the City’s consulting partner in the process, Logan Simpson Design. Visitors will find general information about the plan, schedules of public events, links to documents and maps, and ways to comment online.

In addition, residents can pass through Loveland’s new digital doorway at [www.cityofloveland.org/OpenCityHall](http://www.cityofloveland.org/OpenCityHall) for focused discussion topics related to the plan. Look for new Comprehensive Plan topics, get email notification of when they appear and view what your neighbors are saying about Loveland’s future.

**The City offers lots of great ways to help you learn to play golf**

Summertime is prime season for golf and the City golf courses offer an array of methods that can help anyone from age 5 to 95 learn to play and enjoy golf.

Some easy and fun ways to learn include:

- Mini-Course at Cattail Creek – aka SNAG. The mini-course is an intimidation-free method of learning to play. Designed to be completed in approximately 40 minutes, the course uses specialized equipment to teach basic concepts of golf on a fun playing field.
- Driving Range – The driving range is the traditional way to learn to strike a golf ball. Instead of seeing how far you can hit the ball, take aim at the new targets added to the driving ranges. New golfers can be

introduced to the sport using fun games that teach distance control like playing 21 or H.O.R.S.E. on the driving range.

- Appetizers on the Range – The Mariana Butte clubhouse offers some of the best views of the Front Range. Now, enjoy the million dollar view while eating appetizers and enjoying your favorite beverage on the range tee. Every level of golfer will enjoy the beautiful setting while launching range balls off the elevated tees.

- Play 3 at Cattail Creek – Not sure you want to try all nine? Then play the first three holes at Cattail Creek for just \$4. This is an ideal way to gain your first experience on a golf course. The first three holes at Cattail Creek are free of water hazards and easily enjoyed by all.



- Lesson Programs – The golf division offers many different lesson programs and individual golf lessons. Lessons are available at all three golf courses and are tailored to the individual learner.

For more information on City courses, lessons or anything-golf, visit [GolfLoveland.com](http://GolfLoveland.com).

**River’s Edge Natural Area interim opening weekend of July 4**

The temporary opening of River’s Edge Natural Area, located at 960 W. First St., is planned for the weekend of July 4. Trails, pond access points, a fishing dock, new restrooms and a bridge to Jayhawker Ponds will be open for use.



Fishing will be allowed in accordance with Colorado Parks & Wildlife fishing regulations. Float tube fishing will be permitted, but all other boating and swimming activities are prohibited (a complete set of site rules and regulations is available on the city’s website at [cityofloveland.org/riversedge](http://cityofloveland.org/riversedge)).

Parking will be available at Centennial Park with walk-in access to River’s Edge via the Recreation Trail underpass at First Street. Walk-in access will also be available from the Thompson School District parking lot at 800 S. Taft Ave.

Damaged trails will be identified with signage – visitors should proceed with caution in these areas. Temporary fencing has been installed around the core area (picnic pavilions and boardwalk), which

will remain closed until permanent repairs are completed for safety.

River’s Edge will be open for approximately six months while engineering and re-design of the parking lot and core area take place. Permanent repairs will be completed during winter/spring 2015, requiring a full site closure during that time.

Funds from a Great Outdoors Colorado Flood Recovery Grant as well as FEMA flood recovery dollars will help pay for reconstruction of damaged trails, pond access points and wetlands.

River’s Edge was scheduled to open last September but due to extensive damage from the 2013 flood, had to remain closed to undergo repairs. A grand re-opening is planned for summer 2015.

**Like orange pylons? You’ll love Loveland even more**

For those who rarely venture out of the house, this might be news. For the rest of us, it’s obvious – repairs and improvements on area roadways are well underway.

According to Justin Stone, civil engineer with the City’s Traffic Division, this upswing in activity is due in part to the Traffic Division receiving a number of grants, many of which materialized around the same time.

“It’s great but it means our crews and contractors are going to be very busy for a while,” said Stone.

Current projects include:

Project	Purpose	Location	Impact	Timeline
Loveland Fiber Optics Interconnect	Improves traffic flow and efficiency	Throughout town	Minimal impact on traffic – most work near sidewalks	Summer 2014 through end of the year
US 34/Boyd Lake Avenue intersection improvements	Improves traffic flow and efficiency	Intersection of US 34 and Boyd Lake Avenue	Some delays at intersection due to lane closures	Summer 2014 through Summer 2015
I-25 Area Variable Message Sign installation	Improves information on roadway and traffic flow	US 34 East of Centerra (median)	Mostly shoulder and median work	Summer 2014 through Summer 2015
Loveland ITS – Roadway & Weather Information System Expansion/Upgrade	Improves information on roadway conditions/ weather	City-wide	Minimal impact on traffic	Summer 2014 through Summer 2015

In addition to the above, the City’s Project Engineering Division will be doing asphalt repairs around the City all summer. Residents in impacted areas will be notified with door hangers just before the work starts.

While these kinds of projects generally present some minor, temporary inconveniences, the benefits of improved signal timing, road safety and traffic flow should prove well worth it.

For more information call 962-2535. To view the entire list of projects, go to the ‘Streets’ webpage at [cityofloveland.org](http://cityofloveland.org).

**City partners with Truscott to support safe walking**

The City of Loveland in partnership with the Truscott Elementary Parent Teacher Organization and librarian Resa Mai recently produced a book entitled *Left-right-left: Our Safe Walk*. Mai wrote the 18-page book illustrating how children can walk safely to school and other locations by knowing how to use crosswalks, understanding and observing stop signs, stoplights and traffic laws, and

knowing how to stay safe around traffic.

The book follows a yearly walking field trip from Truscott to the Loveland Public Library where all



Truscott students practice their skills and are then tested on the safety lessons learned along the way.

The City sponsored the books through it Safe Routes to School program (SRTS). With additional support from the Truscott PTO, 300 booklets were distributed during the walking library field trip. The book is also available digitally for free at

(continued on page 6)

*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](http://www.cityofloveland.org). Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, [Tom.Hacker@cityofloveland.org](mailto: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](mailto:Betty.Greenberg@cityofloveland.org) or 962-3319.

