

2008 went over and above...again

Like the customer who comes to a restaurant and orders “the usual” every visit, the City of Loveland provides its customers “the usual” every year...plus more.

During 2008—as in previous years—Loveland citizens received the usual high levels of service: police and fire protection, safe streets, transit services, clean water and reliable electricity,

snow removal, recreation opportunities aplenty, award-winning cultural services, golf, library, etc.

But wait, there’s more. In addition to the customary services, the City again has gone over and above the norm. This month’s *City Update* offers brief summaries of 2008 accomplishments that went beyond the ordinary.

More about the City’s accomplishments inside

“Business by the numbers” from your City government

Loveland has a lot to show for 2008. There were improvements to the infrastructure, advancements in public safety practices, greater leisure opportunities, business expansions and more in addition to “normal” levels of service. The numbers below offer a look at the day-to-day services to residents and businesses.

67,000+ Loveland residents received City services in 2008!

(Numbers may include projected approximations for services through Dec. 31.)

4.4 billion	gallons of water were processed for citizens’ use
634 million	kilowatts purchased by Loveland electric customers
\$174,744,180	in City budget net revenue
6 million	kilowatt hours of renewable energy purchased
2.1 million	visits to the City website— www.cityofloveland.org
\$685,266	in grants to 37 local not-for-profit agencies
408,000	<i>City Update</i> newsletters sent to residents
400,000	visits to the library
364,000	online library catalog queries
315,000	visits to the Chilson Recreation Center
310,000	Athletic Program participants
182,402	calls to public safety dispatchers
130,000	rounds of golf played on City courses
100,000	landings/takeoffs at the airport
75,426	police responses to calls for service
67,000	Senior and Adaptive Recreation participants
45,600	seats filled at Rialto Theater events
39,000	tons of discards collected from Loveland households
24,600	weekly stops by trash collectors
18,340	feet of stormwater pipes cleaned
17,081	building inspections performed
13,650	Museum-sponsored Foote Lagoon concert-goers
5,200	responses to calls by Fire Department
2,718	fire hydrants in City system
2,395	potholes filled
1,800	Partnering with Power participants
1,574	building division plan reviews
1,423	building permits issued
1,083	active code enforcement cases
957	fire safety inspections at Loveland businesses
722	full and part-time benefit-eligible City employees
413	drainage catch basins inspected/cleaned
307	indoor and outdoor public artworks
99.992	percent reliability of electric power to customers
62	smoke alarms donated to low income families
52	percent citywide recycling rate
24	years since the City sales tax rate has changed
1	homicide in Loveland (suspect arrested)
0	fire-related fatalities
0	police officers killed or seriously injured

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Happy New Year: Got resolutions?

Have you made a resolution? Making progress? Consider the degree of difficulty of these:

Work out at the gym	<i>Tiring</i>
Quit smoking	<i>Stressful</i>
Lose weight	<i>Difficult</i>
LETA signup	<i>Piece of cake!!</i>

You can cross the last one off your list in 10 minutes.



LETA is the Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority where you can sign up for free, fast notifications of possible threatening situations like floods, toxic spills, severe weather and more. You can receive the alerts on your home phone, cell phone, via text message and e-mail.

More than 20,000 Larimer County households have signed up so far. And, yes, it’s free.

Just go to www.LETA911.org. It only takes a few minutes. Then you can cross that resolution off your list and add *Paint the House*.

“Money Talks”

On Feb. 10 at noon, Bill Brandt will discuss what you need to know before planning your estate. This program is part of the free, monthly Money Talks series presented by the Loveland Public Library. It will be held in the Gertrude B. Scott Room at the library. Beverages are provided and attendees are welcome to bring their lunches.

2008 City Accomplishments

Fairgrounds Park opens

More leisure activities are available for people and pooches at the new 48-acre Fairgrounds Park that opened in September. The park includes four new ball fields, a basketball court, skate park, picnic areas and pavilions, playgrounds, Big Thompson River access, and Loveland's first dog park.

Chasteens tank

Construction is now complete on a 4 million gallon treated water storage tank near the City's water treatment plant at Chasteens Grove. The tank cost was \$4.7 million and will support the growing demands of Loveland.

Continuity Counts

If there's a local disaster or special situation, minimizing disruptions can be crucial. Loveland has begun a Continuity of Operations Plan outlining how the City will recover from a disaster and continue to provide critical services such as water and power.

Your words, not ours

A new online *Get Connected* feature helps get folks to the City office or staffer they are seeking. By entering a keyword, users can find the phone number, e-mail address or web page without having to know the City's terminology. Click on 'Contact Us' at www.cityofloveland.org.

Drills and classes

Loveland Emergency Management staffers participated in drills related to the local airport and influenza pandemics. They also conducted disaster preparedness classes for local businesses.

All-in-one



Cart-based recycling may become available throughout Loveland thanks to a pilot program conducted last year. Putting all recyclables in a wheeled, lidded

cart means no sorting, lugging of bins or wind-blown litter.

Accreditation received

The Loveland Police Department Communication Center has been certified as an Accredited Center of Excellence for its certification to provide life saving first aid instructions over the telephone whenever a medical emergency is reported. Only 116 public safety dispatch centers in the world have received this recognition.

Cleaner Big T

On a cold and rainy October Saturday,



53 hardy Loveland citizens removed a dumpster full of trash from within and along the banks of the Big Thompson River here in town. The removal of about a ton of trash was the focus of the Fall Waterway Clean-Up sponsored by the City's Stormwater Division and the Big Thompson Watershed Forum.

Emergency Alerts

Loveland's Public Information office has been actively involved in a countywide effort to inform the community of the ability to sign up for free emergency alerts sent to cell phones and via text message and e-mail in addition to home phones. To sign up, visit www.LETA911.org, the Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority site.

Greater acceptance

Practically all plastic containers can now be placed in your recycling bin. Plastic container types #1-7 are now accepted, saving space in the trash container and more importantly, not winding up in the landfill.

Helping hands

The City, along with federal housing grants, provided more than \$670,000 to local not-for-profit Loveland organizations. These agencies help people stay in their homes with rent assistance, help feed Loveland families through the Food Bank, provide shelter to homeless, deliver meals to seniors and help in many other ways during difficult times.



Surfing at the park

Visitors can now have wireless Internet connection while visiting the Loveland Sports Park. This feature comes in handy for parents trying to get a little work done while their kids are hard at play on a ball field.

Working together

Law enforcement agencies in Larimer and Weld counties have agreed to share lab equipment and resources to collect and analyze evidence related to criminal cases. The long range goal of the agreement is the construction of a northern Colorado crime lab with specialized staff and equipment.

10 to 1 ratio

\$1.3 million in City economic development incentives led to more than \$13 million in private sector investment in Loveland plus many new jobs. More than 170 full-time and 50 part-time jobs were created by these new employers.

More power

A new electrical generator at the City's water treatment plant can handle all the plant's operations if necessary, providing greater functionality. The plant can now switch to the generator during electric peak load situations, reducing online power demands and saving the City money.

Better understanding

Four Loveland police officers spent a week in Spanish language immersion training hosted in Estes Park. The purpose of the training was to better equip Loveland officers to effectively communicate with Spanish speaking residents.

Direct encounters

City Council and its economic development subcommittee met numerous times with numerous major Loveland employers in setting priorities for activities that support quality jobs and business in Loveland. Partnerships in achieving grants, scheduling, providing information and training opportunities were established.

Loveland's roots

More local history resources are now available through the Loveland Public Library. The Zethyl Gates Archive of local history documents is now available, plus the 1892-1893 *Loveland Leader* newspapers have been digitized and are available on the Colorado Historical Newspapers Collection website.

Pipeline placement

A major mile-long sanitary sewer line rehabilitation project was completed this year. This work is part of a larger plan to proactively rehabilitate or replace aging water and sewer lines within the City service territories.

Better prepared

City staffers from several departments have concentrated on improving emergency communication planning. During a crisis or special situation,

information will travel more efficiently both to the community and among City staffers.

Advance purchase

The Power Division bought two new transformers for the City's East and Crossroads electric substations. These transformers are not in service yet but will be ready when loads increase in those areas.

Want to park?

A downtown parking study found that: there are 2,309 public parking spaces; 25 percent of Fourth Street parkers violate the two-hour limit; up to 480 new spaces would be needed if redevelopment occurs during the next five years. Read more at www.cityofloveland.org.

E-waste added

Computer equipment along with appliances, hardbound books, plastic bags and large plastic items can now be dropped off at the Loveland Recycling Center.



Most computer components contain toxic substances that can contaminate groundwater near landfills. Recycling is the most environmentally responsible method for managing e-waste.

Almost done

Construction is almost finished on \$6.6 million in projects at the City Wastewater Treatment Plant. The improvements will help keep pace with anticipated growth as well as EPA and State of Colorado mandated regulations.

From the Governor

Governor Bill Ritter presented the Governor's Arts Award at a Museum/Gallery ceremony to recognize Loveland for effectively employing the arts to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of the community. Loveland's longtime commitment to the arts, the thriving local artist community and the Art in Public Places program were a few of the reasons cited for this recognition.

Air and ground

On-the-ground improvements were made at the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport for the benefit of both pilots and visitors. New runway/taxiway snow removal equipment was acquired, security fencing and gates were installed, and 33 new aircraft storage hangers were built.

Historic activity

Several historic preservation projects moved forward in 2008. These included 14 Historic Preservation Month events, 5 new buildings designated to the Loveland Historic Register and almost \$64,000 in grants including one for the now-open Timberline Farm Museum.

Less juice use

In partnership with some local retailers, the Water and Power Department has reduced the price to local consumers for compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs. This Lighting with a Twist buy-down program promotes purchase and use of CFLs, which last 10 times longer and use 90 percent less energy than regular light bulbs.

Amazing sound

The historic Rialto Theater now has state-of-the-art sound. The Rialto has long been recognized as a wonderful venue for enjoying the performing arts. Now, with the new 48 channel sound console and upgraded equipment installed during 2008, the theater is among the finest acoustically in the region.

Full circle

Three locations in Loveland now have bins for drop-offs of glass bottles and jars to be recycled at a bottle-making plant. All of the glass collected at the drop-off sites is recycled, compared to only about 30 percent from curbside bins.

Job preservation

Retention and expansion efforts of local businesses remains a major goal of Loveland City Council. Council adopted an official Economic Development Policy that establishes minimum standards for companies requesting incentives from the City.

Standards set

A new set of Minimum Standards for businesses operating at the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport is now in place. The standards improve the level of service and safety to both the general public and airport patrons.

Literacy efforts

The library received a federal grant for *Loveland Kids Love to Read*, a literacy outreach program for children living at Loveland Housing Authority complexes. The grant helps bring



school age children to the library and also takes literacy programs to meeting rooms at the apartment complexes.

View and save

A new web-based, real-time electric and water load monitoring system allows businesses to actively view and manage their electric and water usage. The data collected helps businesses make better operational decisions to save energy, water and costs.

Downtown investments

More than \$9.1 million is going toward downtown restoration and new buildings. The projects include restoration of the 1905 Lincoln Hotel façade, rehab of the 1908 Buggy Top building into engineering offices, the new Park Place Plaza with condos and offices, Blue Ribbon Automotive, Friendly Pawn, Anthology/Workforce, and Mercury Plaza.

About parking

The City Council has adopted updated parking standards that more appropriately reflect the needs of business and multi-family residential developments. The new standards provide flexibility while offering protection from problems caused by time-limit parking violators and neighborhood encroachment.

Plants and water

A new comprehensive brochure for commercial property owners summarizes City policy landscaping options. The brochure includes updated standards and also addresses water efficiency programs.

Demand savings

More than 1,800 Loveland households are participating so far in the Partnering with Power program. Offered by the Loveland Water and Power



Department, the program helps reduce peak power demands caused by air conditioners during the summer. Peak power reductions help save money for the whole community.

New occupants

In 2008, the City of Loveland reviewed, inspected and issued Certificates of Occupancy for a wide variety of major new projects including hotels, senior housing, a medical building, church, City park and a dog spa.

Make a difference without feeling a difference – Partnering with Power

Though temperatures are cold now, it won't be long before we're turning on our air conditioners (A/C) again. It is precisely that knowledge that helps Lorie and Warren, Loveland Water and Power (W&P) conservation specialists, brave the cold as they walk through Loveland's neighborhoods talking to residents about Partnering with Power (PWP).



PWP is a free, voluntary, energy efficiency program that helps W&P save energy on the hottest days of the summer by managing high costs associated with peak power.

Residents' participation in PWP helps the City to avoid these higher electrical fees. That savings then gets passed along to customers and helps keep Loveland's electrical rates among the lowest in the state. In addition, PWP helps ensure reliable transmission of electricity, reduces the need to build additional power

plants in the future and lowers the City's overall emission of greenhouse gasses.

Once a resident signs up, City technicians attach a small cycling unit on the home's A/C. There is absolutely no charge to the homeowner nor any effect on the A/C's manufacturer's warranty. The more people who sign up, the greater the energy savings and potential for continued competitive rates for everyone. "That's one of the main points we're trying to get across during our visits," said Warren. "This is a collectively beneficial program – if everyone on your block signs up, that results in more energy and cost savings. If everyone in your neighborhood signs up, the collective savings is that much more dramatic."

To date, more than 1,800 units have already been installed, resulting in a savings of \$106,000 during 2007-08.

"The participation is making a real difference in the City's ability to provide reliable power at very competitive rates," said Anne Haueter, City resource efficiency coordinator. "Our goal is to have 7,000 residents signed up over the next three to five years."

For more information, call 962-3000.

Give your Christmas tree a second life

Your Christmas tree can be turned into natural mulch for City parks. Last year, more than 5,000 Christmas trees were recycled.

Residents can take their trees for recycling to:

- South Loveland: Centennial Park at West 1st and Taft (in the parking lot North of First Street, West of Swift Field)
- West Loveland: Loveland

Recycling Center (1st Street & Wilson Ave.)

- North Loveland: Kroh Park at North 287 and 52nd St. (adjacent to the Habitat for Humanity office)

Please remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, nails, screws, wire, tree stands and bags before dropping off your tree. The service is free and drop-off sites are open daily from sun up to sun down through Jan. 31.

Loveland companies share enthusiasm for energy efficiency

Recently, some of Loveland Water and Power's (W&P) largest commercial customers met with W&P personnel and representatives from Platte River Power Authority to share ways in which they are currently saving energy and resources, and to discuss ideas on how to do so even more effectively in the future.

Anne Haueter, the City's resource conservation coordinator, initiated the gathering to learn first-hand about the energy concerns and

challenges these large companies face as well as provide a forum for participants to collectively brainstorm on how the City can best support their companies' in-house efforts to be as energy efficient as possible. "We see this as an excellent opportunity to support our large business customers in their efforts to save energy," said Haueter.

Some of the ideas exchanged included switching to more efficient lighting, shifting load to off-peak hours to save electricity,

Valentine's Day activities

Library's Sweet Night

Friends of the Loveland Public Library present the 7th Annual Sweet Night celebration, Fri., Feb. 6 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Chilson Center.

Entertainment includes an appearance by Miss Loveland Valentine, the Kings of Swing, a performance/dance lesson by Dave Arns "the Dancing Guy," a short reading by the "Storyteller in the Park," and music by Rex Berg.

Gourmet desserts and appetizers with select wines and coffees will be served and guests can bid on literary-themed silent auction items donated by Loveland businesses and individuals.

Tickets are \$15 per person and are available at the library in advance and at the door. For more information call 962-2712.

Senior Center Valentine's Dance

The Chilson Senior Center will be sponsoring a Valentine's Day Dance with the Mountain View High School Honor Society on Wed., Feb. 11 from 2 to 5 p.m. The Colorado Sunshine Band will perform. Cost is \$4 or \$3.50 with a Senior Activity Card. Refreshments will be served. For more information call 962-2783.

Valentine's Concert at the Rialto

The Rialto Theater presents Uncommon Bonds: Three musical paths, four exceptional musicians, one unique musical experience, Sat., Feb. 14 at 8 p.m.

The evening has something for everyone including Chicago blues, sugar coated with virtuoso finger style guitar, gathered in a ribbon of Celtic charm from Southern Colorado artists Willson & McKee, Jaquie Gipson & Ken Saydak.

Tickets are \$15. For more information call 962-2120.