



www.cityofloveland.org

# THE LOVELAND City Update

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## Traffic encouraged at this location

When people think about high traffic areas in Loveland, they usually think about Hwy. 34, Taft Avenue, 29th Street or the like. There's another high-use area in Loveland where large traffic numbers are common but very welcome—[www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org).

Loveland's official city government website was visited more than 2 million times last year. And not surprisingly, the traffic level continues to increase.

Loveland is working diligently to make the City website a one-stop-shopping source for City information and services. The City doesn't claim that its website is the biggest and boldest with all sorts of state-of-the-art bells and whistles, but it does contain more than 90,000 files providing page after page of information plus several interactive services. Tending to business and enjoying Loveland is simpler and easier thanks to the City website.

This month's City Update takes readers to some—hardly all—of the frequently used information sources and online services offered at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org). Turn the page and likely be surprised at all that website visitors can see and do with just a couple of clicks. And like all technology these days, additional content and services are ahead at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org).



[More City of Loveland website info inside](#)

## Grab your galoshes – it's time for fire hydrant flushing

Every spring Loveland Water and Power's Water Division conducts the annual fire hydrant flushing program. Flushing keeps the interior of the pipes clean, ensures the hydrants are operating properly and helps maintain excellent water quality.

During the process, some water discoloration, which usually clears up in a few hours, is possible. The discolored water is safe to drink but doing laundry when the hydrants are flushed in your area is not recommended.

### 2008 Flushing Schedule:

- April 14 – NW Loveland - north of Hwy. 34 and west of Colorado Ave.
- April 21 – SW Loveland - south of Hwy. 34 and west of Colorado Ave.
- April 28 – NE Loveland - north of Hwy. 34 and east of Colorado Ave.
- May 5 – SE Loveland - south of Hwy. 34 and east of Colorado Ave. (this includes downtown; flushing occurs over night)
- May 12 – Denver Ave. east to Centerra

For questions about hydrant flushing call Loveland Water and Power at 962-3720.



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## Friends of the Library book sale May 16-18

The Friends of the Loveland Public Library Foundation's spring book sale will be May 16-18 at the First National Bank West Exhibition Hall at the Ranch.



The Members' Preview Sale will be 4-8 p.m. May 16. Memberships will be available at the door or in advance at the library. The general sale is 9 a.m.– 4 p.m. May 15 and the \$4 Bag Sale is 11 a.m.-3 p.m. May 18.

A wide variety of book and non-book items will be available at reasonable prices. Proceeds support the library. Donations for the sale are not accepted the week before the sale. For more information call 962-2712.

## What's on the Web

### **Home Page**

Loveland's home page is designed to provide easy, efficient access to information and services users are seeking from the 90,000+ files that comprise the City's website.

The main buttons are linked to pages most commonly viewed by residents, businesses, those seeking information on local leisure activities, official government proceedings and more. Links to the main pages of each of the City's departments are also provided.

A list of "Quick Links" brings users directly to the most popular pages. These include links to City job opportunities, the library's online search and renewal feature, Loveland's golf courses, the Rialto Theater, bus service info and more.

The center section links focus on current items of interest. These listings often include entertainment and governmental events, official reports, seasonal info, registration opportunities and informational videos. A link to an area events and entertainment calendar by Engaging Loveland is also a popular link.

### **Search from home**

The Loveland Public Library's online catalog is one of the website's most visited locations. Wondering if a book, CD or other item is in the library's collection? Want to reserve it? Want to renew an item? Want to be reminded when an item is overdue? All these services are available without leaving home from the library's web catalog.

### **Next week and years past**

What's ahead for City Council? Interested parties—residents, businesses, consultants, etc.—can view the agenda and supporting documents for upcoming City Council meetings or study sessions via the website. Items scheduled for

future meetings are also posted, plus actions taken by Loveland City Council during the past several years are also listed.

### **Muni code**

A click on the City Government button will bring the user to Loveland's Municipal Code—the collection of all city laws and regulations. The 900-page document is indexed by major category. A click or two will bring users to legal information about animals, annexation, health, safety, buildings, streets, vehicles, water, zoning and more.

### **Best before**

To help ensure not becoming part of the data on emergency calls, residents should visit the City's Fire and Rescue fire prevention pages. These pages contain important information for every household including the necessity of smoke alarms and the dangers of carbon monoxide.

### **Taking care of business**

Major enhancements to the Business Development section of the Loveland website make it even more valuable to existing and potential businesses. Information about the area's workforce, major employers, business costs and Loveland's demographics are available. Also listed are links to all of the region's business assistance partners, GIS mapping and Loveland profile data.

### **Online box office**

Loveland's historic Rialto Theater now offers an easy online ticket purchasing system, making it possible to buy tickets anytime. Just click on the Rialto's link from the City's home page Quick Links list for information about upcoming shows and a link to online ticket purchasing for concerts, comedy shows, dance performances, films and more.

### **Money matters**

The Finance Department section of the City's website includes detailed information about Loveland's budget, financial reports, performance measurements, sales tax data, purchasing procedures and the financial master plan.

### **Most popular**

The most frequently viewed section of the City's website is the City jobs listing. At the Recruiting Center viewers can read about open jobs with just a click. Overviews of the hiring processes and employee benefits are also available. Users can also complete an application and send a resume...all online.

### **Woof or meow**

Have a dog or cat? Pets need licenses. Planning a bingo or raffle fund raiser? A permit is required. Licenses or permits are also required for contractors, games of skill, handbills, soliciting and tree trimmers. Details are available on the Licenses & Permits pages in the City Clerks section of the City website.

### **Council and more**

Loveland City Council meetings are broadcast live and then rebroadcast on cable TV Channel 16. A broadcast schedule of meetings and other Channel 16 programs is available from the Community Channel 16 link on the Living in Loveland button located on the home page.

### **Preparedness pages**

The fire department has recently updated and expanded its Emergency Management web pages. Links and information are offered regarding emergency preparedness for individuals and businesses. Loveland's 100+ page Emergency Operations Plan may be downloaded.

### **Other resources**

The City of Loveland website helps users

## Affordable housing at home in Loveland

Whether in the form of ownership or rental, affordable housing is vital to the stability of the community and serves families, seniors and people with disabilities. Provided by private builders, developers and non-profit agencies, as well as the public sector via the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, affordable housing has a home in Loveland.

The City of Loveland addresses affordable housing in a variety of ways. Incentives offered to builders in exchange for renting or selling units at a lower cost have resulted in more than 600 affordable housing units locally. Incentives include tax credits, reduced development and building fees, and modified development standards.



Other resources provided by the City are grant funds available to organizations that rehabilitate rental units and purchase property for housing construction. Additionally, foreclosure prevention is provided by local housing and credit counseling agencies and is supported through city grant dollars.

Deed restrictions placed on housing created or rehabilitated with public dollars or incentives protect the investment of City resources. Housing must remain affordable for a minimum of 20 years, or the cost of the incentive or grant must be refunded to the city.

Affordable housing serves a wide range of income levels. Rents for affordable housing in Loveland vary greatly

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find other information and resources not originated by the City. For example, in the Water and Power section, users can find links for the Resource Efficiency Program, energy audits, weather-stripping and insulation, energy savings, xeriscaping and more.

### **Creative enrichment**

The Cultural Services section of the City website contains a wealth of information on Loveland's vibrant, cultural events. The pages provide information on the extensive public art collection, art and history exhibits, special events, educational programs, as well as concerts and performances at the Loveland Museum/Gallery and Rialto Theater.

### **Snooze or sweat**

The Parks and Recreation section is jam-packed with information on how to relax or work up a sweat. Programs for kids and adults through the Chilson Recreation Center and Senior center are listed. Plus info on golf, parks maps and reserving park shelters is also available.

### **Plus tax**

Forms, applications, regulations and sales tax reports are available to businesses and individuals in the Finance section of the City website. Answers to common questions plus an e-mail link to a City sales tax expert are available.

### **Services and stats**

The Police department website provides information on numerous police services as well as pertinent facts and statistics. Links to Loveland's most-wanted, registered sex offenders, interactive maps showing locations and number of calls for service, press releases, recruiting, school resource info, traffic school zones, crime prevention tips, community programs, event permits, and police FAQs are all listed.

### **Trash online**

Information about trash pickup and recycling is in the Solid Waste section under the Public Works department of the City website. Info on the yard waste

### **Most frequently visited pages**

1. Home page
2. Open jobs
3. Library main page
4. Rialto main page
5. Chilson/Parks & Rec/  
Athletics pages
6. Police main page
7. Golf courses
8. GIS Mapping
9. Water and Power main page
10. Fire main page

pickup service, materials accepted at the Loveland Recycling Center and a schedule showing holiday trash pickup changes are available.

### **All aboard**

Bus routes, schedules, fares, plus info on bikes and wheelchairs are all addressed in the City of Loveland Transit (COLT) portion of the Public Works section. Also offered are details about the Paratransit service for seniors and disabled.

### **Info and times**

Golfers can learn about Loveland's three courses, lessons, coupons, and more in the golf section of the Parks and Recreation pages. Tee times can be reserved eight days in advance online.

### **Giving back**

Numerous opportunities for volunteering in Loveland are outlined on the Volunteer Program pages of the City website. Opportunities such as helping in a courtroom, on a golf course, at the Rialto or shoveling a neighbor's sidewalk are among the many possibilities to consider.

### **Permit fees estimator**

Individuals and construction firms considering a new project can learn the approximate cost of the building permit by inputting the project's statistics into

an online form. A click of a button will provide a permit fee estimate. The link to the building permit fee estimator program can be found at the Online Services button on the home page.

### **Databases aplenty**

The Loveland Public Library web section hosts a number of online databases on a variety of topics. A simple click will provide the opportunity to practice taking the SAT or a military exam, offer tutoring, trace a family tree or review mutual fund reports. Other databases provide information on teen health, art, literature, newspapers, magazines and more.

### **What does it cost?**

Want an estimate of your total electric bill for the month? Want to know what it costs to run your refrigerator or air conditioner? Looking for a listing of rates, charges or fees for electric, water or wastewater services provided by the City? It's all available in the Water and Power Section of [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org).

### **Recreational clicking**

The City of Loveland's WebTrac feature enables online registration for hundreds of recreation and athletic programs. Whether it's throwing pottery or a softball, it's easy to register for fun and rewarding activities by using the WebTrac link in the Parks and Recreation section of the website.

### **Film at 11**

The News Desk link from the home page's Quick Links brings users to a variety of information aimed at Loveland residents. Press releases, City newsletters, online videos on City services including the Two Minutes Max informational videos, can all be viewed from the News Desk link. Major City reports and publications can also be accessed through the News Desk as well as the originating department's web pages.

## **Celebrate Earth Day - join GreenSwitch**

Loveland customers have purchased more than 6 million kilowatt-hours (kWhs) of clean wind energy since GreenSwitch began. On the 28th anniversary of Earth Day, consider joining the 449 residential and 22 business customers who purchase renewable energy from Loveland Water and Power by making the switch to GreenSwitch.

The GreenSwitch program enables Loveland power customers to get energy in a more environmentally-friendly way. In Loveland, wind energy is currently the primary source for renewable energy. All renewable energy purchases are made in conjunction with Platte River Power Authority (PRPA), the City's wholesale power generator.

GreenSwitch is green-e certified. Green-e®

is the nation's leading independent renewable energy certification and verification. This certification assures consumers that the renewable energy they purchase meets stringent environmental and consumer protection standards. Loveland customers can feel good

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## **Yard waste cart service begins**

Yard waste cart service for the 2008 growing season has begun. Subscribers can set out yard waste carts for weekly collection along with recyclable materials and household trash on their regular collection day.

Cost for the yard waste service is \$7.50 per month. Service runs through the end of November.



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## Fifth Annual Public Works Day May 21

Residents are invited to celebrate Loveland's 5th annual Public Works Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wed. May 21 at Centennial Park.

The event includes an equipment show, educational display booths, games, food and various contests. More than 2,000 visitors attended last year.

Elementary school children can take part in coloring and drawing contests. Prizes will be awarded. Middle-schoolers from participating schools will create banners

announcing Public Works Week and the best banners will be hung throughout town in upcoming years. Home-schoolers of all ages are also welcome.

For more information call 962-2627.



## Governor's art show at Museum/Gallery

The 17th Annual Colorado Governor's Invitational Art Show & Sale April 13-May 18 features more than 50 of Colorado's finest painters and sculptors.

Proceeds from the show provide art and academic scholarships, support local agencies such as the Boys and Girls Club of Larimer County and fund numerous other Rotary projects including the International Rotary Youth Exchange Program.

## Celebrate Earth Day - join GreenSwitch

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knowing that their renewable energy purchase meets these standards.

GreenSwitch is sold in 100 kWh blocks. A small \$1.50 premium, in addition to standard charges associated with electricity service and use is added to a resident's or business's monthly utility bill for each 100 kWh block of GreenSwitch energy purchased. Customers are able to purchase as many or as few blocks as they like and they only need to commit for a minimum of one year.

The average northern Colorado home uses 700 kWh of electricity per month based on an annual survey by PRPA. To purchase seven blocks of GreenSwitch, a Loveland resident would pay an extra \$10.50 per month in addition to their standard electricity service and use charges.

Rayno and Patti Seaser, owners of The Egg and I restaurant in Loveland, signed up soon after GreenSwitch became available. "We were very excited when we learned we could power our business with clean wind energy," said Seaser. "Patti and I believe it's our responsibility as business owners and citizens, to do whatever we can to preserve the environment. The increase in our bills is almost imperceptible and the payoff for the planet and future generations is immeasurable."

Signing up for GreenSwitch is quick and easy. Visit the City's Water and Power webpage from [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org), select GreenSwitch from the drop-down menu on the power tab and fill out the online application. Or, for more information call Loveland Water and Power at 962-3000.

## Yard waste cart service begins

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Subscribers should observe the following guidelines for acceptable/unacceptable materials:

### Acceptable Yard Waste:

- Grass clippings, leaves, garden trimmings and branches (cut to fit into cart)
- Loaded cart must weigh less than 250 pounds
- Cart lid must close

### Unacceptable Yard Waste:

- Sod or soil
- Food waste
- Pet waste
- Plastic bags
- Trash, rocks or metal
- Ashes (hot or cold)
- Oversized branches, stumps or lumber

For more information call 962-2529, or to sign up call 962-2111.

## "Money Talks"

### Have an investment strategy?

Designing an investment portfolio in today's market can be tricky. Doing research before investing can save time, money and frustration.

Doug Rechkemmer of Edward Jones in Loveland will talk about how to find the right investments for individual situations as well as provide some tips on how to analyze portfolios. He will also discuss research tools that are available and free to the public through the library including the Morningstar Investment Research Center and Value Line.

*Researching Your Investments* is part of the library's free monthly series, Money Talks. The program will be held at noon, Tues., May 13 in the Gertrude B. Scott room at the Loveland Public Library. Beverages will be provided. For more information call 962-2402.

## Affordable housing at home in Loveland

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depending on the income of the tenants. Affordable rent means paying no more than 30 percent of monthly income for housing. For example, a 2-person household earning \$18,000 would pay no more than \$450 a month, and if that same household earned \$30,000, they would pay \$750 a month.

Regarding home ownership, a family of three earning \$43,000 could qualify to purchase a home under the City's incentives. Units available for sale under the affordable housing program generally range in price from \$156,000 to \$239,000.

For more information on current availability, please contact one of the organizations below.

### Affordable Units Available:

Enchantment Ridge . . . . .532-5900  
Mirasol Senior Housing . . . . .635-5931  
Neighbor to Neighbor . . . . .484-7498

### Foreclosure Prevention:

Colorado Foreclosure Hotline  
. . . . .1-877-601-HOPE  
Consumer Credit Counseling . .229-0695  
Neighbor to Neighbor . . . . .484-7498

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update on various dates throughout the month depending on their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' bill distribution schedule. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, [hillea@ci.loveland.co.us](mailto:hillea@ci.loveland.co.us). Visit the City's website at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org).