

Big changes at library this spring

To improve customer service and convenience for library patrons, the Loveland Public Library implemented some changes on April 1, 2007. Additional improvements will be rolled out over the next few months.

Based on patron use patterns the library now opens at 9 a.m. instead of 10 a.m., Monday through Saturday. Closing time Monday through Thursday evenings has changed from 9 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and open hours on Sunday are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Due to additional improvements, patrons will now be able to:

- Renew most library materials three times instead of two
- Place holds on new titles as soon as they're listed in the online catalog



- Download books and music from a cooperative inter-county library – go to <http://frontrange.lib.overdrive.com>
- Bring in their own wireless-enabled devices and use them in most areas of the library
- Easily access the library's DVD collection (children and adult) on new, easy-to-browse shelving

For more information call 962-2665 or go to www.cityofloveland.org. Please note that the library's annual Sunday closures begin May 27.

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Loveland Community Night Out strengthens neighborhoods

The fourth annual Loveland Community Night Out (LCNO) evening of block parties is Wed., June 20 from 6 to 10 p.m. Once again you and your neighbors will have the opportunity to get to know each other better, as well as meet Loveland police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, city council members, city staff and volunteers who work to keep Loveland a healthy and safe place to live.

The LCNO celebration strengthens neighborhoods and creates awareness and

partnerships between area residents and the public service providers who support them. To host or attend a block party in your neighborhood or for more information, contact Officer Dave Sloat, 962-2229.



Dispatchers serve as systems' eyes and ears

If you call to report a problem with your City water or power during business hours, chances are you'll speak to Karin or Cathy, Loveland Water and Power dispatchers.

They function as a central communication point for the public as well as utility employees: communicating problems with water and power service, ensuring the safety of both workers and the public, and keeping maps of the system up-to-date and accurate.

But that's not all. The dispatchers collect and report information about the water and power systems' reliability. They coordinate the flow of work tickets to

crews who make repairs and keep these filed, once the work is complete.

They work with water crews to coordinate hydrant flushing and other water-system procedures. They direct calls about water, sewer and storm-sewer problems to the right crews.

Safety is always top on the list and an important element of the dispatchers' jobs. When crews must work in a confined space – such as an underground vault – the dispatchers monitor the progress of the project, helping ensure that everyone who goes in, comes out safely.

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City venues perfect for your summer events

Summer is coming and that means lots of events, activities and get-togethers. The City makes meeting and public use space available for the convenience and benefit of the entire community. Indoor facilities including the Loveland Museum/Gallery, Chilson Recreation Center and Loveland Public Library, and outdoor facilities such as the Civic Center Foote Lagoon, Hammond Amphitheater and Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park can be reserved for conferences and special events such as weddings, company picnics and other private parties and events. For more information go to www.cityofloveland.org and click on Facility Rentals or call 962-2738.

Fifth Street Art Market highlights talent

The Loveland Museum/Gallery's Fifth Street Art Market, held in conjunction with the downtown gallery walk Night on the Town, is an opportunity for community members to view and purchase works from Loveland artists. The Art Market will be held 5:30-8:30 on Fridays, May 11, June 8 and July 13. For information or to display artwork, call 962-2410.

Efforts continue to minimize sewer plant odors

Odor-free sewer plants simply don't exist. Nor do quiet airports or highways without traffic accidents. Loveland's Wastewater Treatment Plant has and continues to spend a great deal of effort and money to minimize odors.

In areas surrounding the treatment plant, odors sometimes occur. Sometimes a sweet musty smell emerges, caused by the biological treatment process. While noticeable, it's typically not unpleasant. And sometimes, the odor of sewage is present as it enters the plant from underground pipes and is exposed to the air; often unpleasant.

Quantity of incoming wastewater, atmospheric pressure, outdoor temperature, wind direction and velocity, and other factors can affect whether odors occur and whether they are noticeable.

During the past five years, about \$10 million has been spent on plant expansion and improvement due to community growth and water quality requirements. Another \$6-10 million will be spent on plant projects during the next several years. Odor control is a consideration of every plant project, with some projects aimed exclusively at odor control. Upcoming odor control efforts include installation of a special biological filter at the flow convergence area where wastewater enters the plant plus a 2-stage chemical scrubbing system for use during the first treatment process. These upgrades should be in operation by summer, 2008.

Wastewater plant officials emphasize the operation's commitment to continued odor control. Odor frequency or intensity has not increased during recent years, despite the increased effluent from the City's growth. But odors tend to be more noticeable now due to new development nearer the treatment plant. The plant, originally constructed in 1960, is located at 920 S. Boise Ave.

Where does the water go? Welcome to "Wastewater 101."

You've turned off the faucet on your sink or pushed the lever on your toilet and your unwanted water disappears. Good riddance. You don't have to worry about it, it's gone. But do you really know where it goes and what happens to it?

In very simple fashion, let's follow the process and learn the basics. Welcome to "Wastewater 101."

1 Leaving your house

Regardless of their locations within your house, all the drains from your sinks and toilets funnel down to a main outlet in the basement or below your house. A pipe, usually 4 inches in diameter, carries the wastewater 12 inches or more below ground out to the street where it connects to the City's line, usually about 8 inches in diameter. Until reaching the main line connection, any leaks, blockages or other drainage issues are the property owner's problem, not the City's.

Heading toward treatment

The City's main sewer lines that run under streets are like the branches of a tree. The skinnier 8-inch lines collect the wastewater from hundreds of buildings, converging with other main lines and flowing into larger pipes. The pipes continue to converge and get larger until eventually feeding into five tree-trunk 30-33 inch interceptor lines that bring the water to the treatment plant at 920 S. Boise Avenue.

At the plant

As you'd expect, the process becomes far more complicated at the treatment plant. Basically, there are four stages; preliminary treatment, primary treatment, secondary treatment and disinfection.

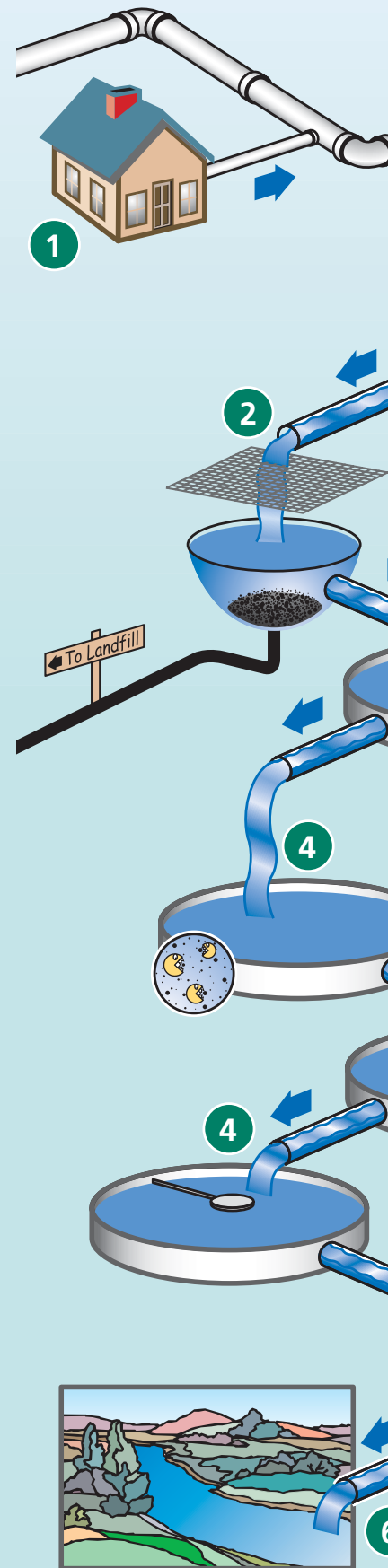
2 Preliminary Treatment

The arriving wastewater flows through screens and grinders to remove the solids that have arrived—rags, coins, marbles, Happy Meal toys and other items that find their way down the sink drain or into the toilet bowl. (Ever flushed a goldfish??). These solids are separated out, ground up and sent to a dumpster, eventually winding up in the county landfill with your household trash.

Small solid particles like sand and gravel are removed in an aeration tank. This grit settles to the bottom where it's collected, stored and dried before it too heads for the landfill. Removing the grit is critical not only for the water quality process but to prevent damage to the pumps and other equipment during the treatment process.

3 Primary Treatment

Next, the water flows into large, open concrete-walled



Is your child ready to handle money?

The next in Loveland Public Library's ongoing series, Money Talks, presents Parents, Kids, and Money, June 12, 1:30 p.m. in the Gertrude B. Scott room at the library. Credit card companies are targeting younger markets and before finishing college the average student racks up \$2,200 in credit card debt. Susan Linden, MBA, will discuss financial skills that children can and should learn at each stage of development from preschool on.

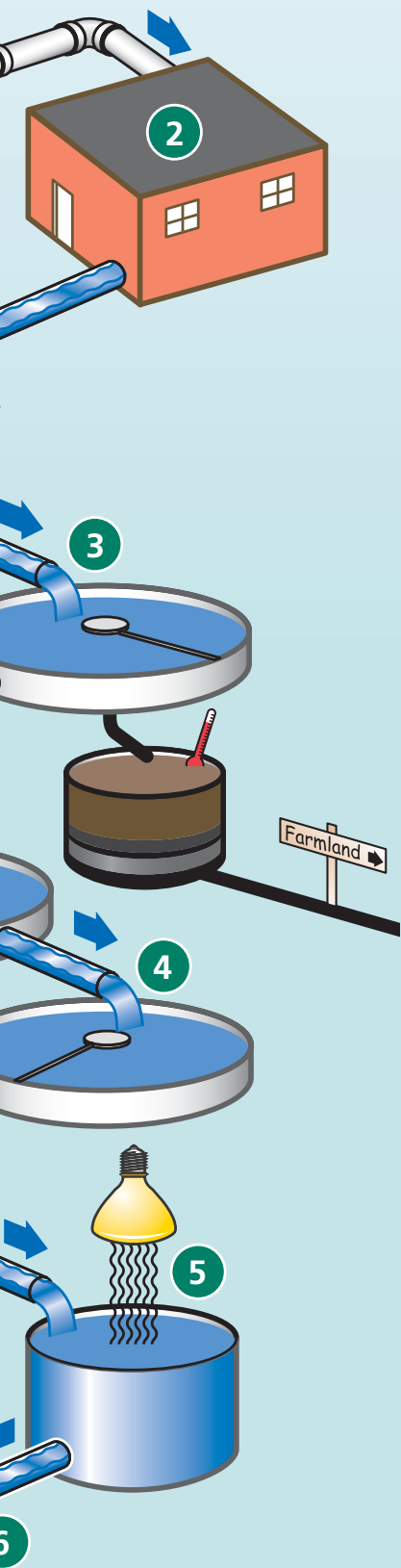
Mayor's Teen Recognition Award

This was the second year for the Mayors' Teen Recognition Awards. The award honors five youths from Loveland and five from Fort Collins. This award is designed to recognize teens who typically don't receive awards; youth who have overcome adversity or unique obstacles, while providing service to others and setting a positive example for their peers.



The 2007 award recipients are:

- Blas Estrada, senior - Mountain View High School
- Rena Clark, senior - Ferguson High School
- Amalia Ornelas, senior - Loveland High School
- Ruben Castillo, senior - Ferguson High School
- Caitlyn Adamson, senior - Thompson Valley High School



clarification basins. During its 3-hour visit there, more material will settle to the bottom of the tank while lighter material and non-water soluble liquids like cooking oil will float to the top. The bottom sludge moves into the anaerobic digestion tank where it is heated to about 95 degrees and remains for about a month while a biological process digests the organic material. It's then collected, hauled away and used as soil conditioner on farmland.

Meanwhile, a rotating arm at the top of the tank skims off and collects the floating materials and fluids. Then those materials also go to the digester.

4 Secondary Treatment

The cleaning process continues, with the water entering aeration basins. Here, it is exposed to hungry bacteria that digest and remove the unwanted organic pollutants. This biological process greatly accelerates the breakdown of the pollutants. After six or so hours of aeration, the mixture of bacteria and wastewater flow into two more clarifying basins. Eventually, the bacteria used to digest the pollutants becomes sludge, sinks to the bottom of that tank and joins the incoming sludge in the anaerobic digestion process and also becomes farmland conditioner.

5 UV Disinfection

At this point, the water has become pretty clean, having spent 6-8 hours going through the various processes. (Remember, this is “Wastewater 101”—just the basics and very simplified.) In the final step, the water flows down a concrete channel where it passes through several racks of submerged lights. The ultraviolet rays of the lights disinfect the water. This process replaces treatment by chlorine and eliminates the dangers and costs posed by storing large quantities of the gas.

6 And finally...

The treatment plant sits adjacent to the Big Thompson River. That's no coincidence. After flowing through the disinfection lights, the treated water flows about 50 yards and is returned to the river. Most of Loveland's fresh water originates from the Big Thompson northwest of town, where it enters a different type of treatment plant and is processed for your drinking pleasure.

Throughout the wastewater treatment process, the water must meet about two dozen quality tests. In every case, Loveland's wastewater treatment process exceeds the quality requirements before the water is returned to the river, about 5.5 million gallons a day.

Common sense shouldn't go down the drain

Common sense sometimes takes a brief timeout when it comes to materials that make their way into the sewer system. It's amazing what some people flush.

These items can clog your property's pipes, the City's pipes, damage treatment plant equipment and make meeting wastewater treatment quality requirements more difficult. The result is money out of your pocket, directly or indirectly.

Bottom line: If it's large, solid and isn't biodegradable, don't flush it. Here are some common items that should not go down the drain:

- Tampons
- Disposable diapers
- Nursing pads
- Mini- or maxi-pads
- Wipes of any kind
- Unused medications
- Bandage wrappers
- Condoms
- Cotton swabs
- Cotton balls
- Paper and cardboard
- Hair (in large amounts)
- Small toys
- Razor blades
- Needles
- Oil
- Grease
- Kitty litter
- Coffee grounds
- Egg shells
- Pesticides
- Insecticides
- Flammable or explosive liquids
- Paint or solvents

Do yourself and your wallet a favor—think twice before you flush.

Hook, Hammer & Hang

Loveland Community Open Art Exhibition June 2 – July 8

The Loveland Museum/Gallery is sponsoring a community-wide art exhibition. Hook, Hammer and Hang gives Loveland residents the chance to show a piece of their own art work at the Loveland Museum/Gallery. All ages are welcome. Artists should bring one piece of 2-D art to a hang-it-yourself kick-off event on Saturday, June 2 at 11 a.m. An opening reception will follow from 1 to 3 p.m. Art must be ready to hang. Hammer and picture hangers will be provided. Works must be no larger than 36" X 36". Art may be for sale with

35 percent of the sale going to the Museum's donations fund. The retail price limitation per piece is \$500. The art will be exhibited through July 8. For more information call 962-2410.



Fourth Annual Garden Tour

The fourth annual Loveland Garden Tour is Sat., June 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Partially sponsored by Loveland Water and Power, the tour demonstrates the beauty and benefits of water-wise gardening.

The 2007 tour features gardens in northwest Loveland, art for the garden and a silent auction of plant stands created by local artists. Proceeds benefit Loveland Youth Gardeners. Cost is \$12 per person – free for children six and younger.

For more information go to the Water and Power section of www.cityofloveland.org.

Tee Off for Kids Golf Tournament June 8

The Loveland Parks and Recreation Foundation and its community sponsors are holding their annual Loveland Tee Off for Kids Golf Tournament, Friday, June 8 at 1 p.m.



at the Mariana Butte Golf Course. Tee Off for Kids raises funds for the Loveland Parks and Recreation Foundation's Recreational Scholarship Program. This program allows financially-challenged children to participate in classes, lessons and activities listed in the Parks and Recreation quarterly brochure at no charge. Hundreds of youth benefit from

this program each year as a result of the profits from the Foundation's fundraising activities.

The tournament is organized in a two-person scramble format and will consist of friendly competition in three divisions of play; men's, women's and mixed. Teams from numerous organizations and businesses are encouraged to join in the fun for a great cause. Cost is \$170 per two-person team which includes range balls, cart, 18-hole round of golf, awards and dinner.

For more information about the tournament or to make a donation for youth recreation scholarships, call 962-2443.

ADVENTURE BOUND DAY CAMP



FOR
AGES
6-12

- Art
- Science
- Library
- Swimming
- Hiking/Biking
- Additional Enrichment
- 1-10 Staff Ratio
- Weekly Field Trips -
WaterWorld & Elitch has too!
- Before/After Care Included

Monday-Friday
7:30am-5:30pm
June 4th-August 17th

Register Now!
Day Camps Fill Quickly!

CHILSON RECREATION CENTER
700 E. FOURTH ST. - LOVELAND, CO
970-962-2443 WWW.CITYOFLOVELAND.ORG

Sign up now for summer athletics programs

Youth Gymnastic/Cheerleading

Who: Boys & Girls ages 4-16

Where: Chilson Center

When: Electronic registration begins May 7, walk-in May 10
Session I begins June 4

Cost: Varies per class

Cara Team Tennis

Who: Boys & Girls ages 8-18

Where: North Lake Park Tennis Courts

When: Electronic registration begins May 7, walk-in May 10
Classes begin June 5

Cost: \$94

Youth 3-on-3 Basketball

Who: Boys & Girls, grades 3-10

Where: LSP

When: Electronic registration begins May 7, walk-in May 10
League play begins June 4

Cost: \$75 per team or \$30 per individual thru 5/14
\$100 per team or \$40 per individual after 5/14

Youth Lacrosse

Who: Boys & Girls, ages 8-15

Where: Kroh Park

When: Electronic registration begins May 7, walk-in May 10
Class begins June 11

Cost: \$42 by 5/29 & \$52 after

Youth T-Ball/Baseball

Who: Boys & Girls ages 4-10

Where: Kroh or North Lake Athletic Fields

When: Electronic registration begins May 7, walk-in May 10
Classes begin June 5

Cost: Varies per class, range: \$45-62

Youth Softball

Who: Boys ages 8-12, Girls ages 8-15

Where: Local area athletic fields

When: Electronic registration begins May 7, walk-in May 10
Classes begin June 4

Cost: Varies per class, range: \$47-72

Winona Swim Lessons

Who: Parent/Infant-Level 6

Where: Winona Swimming Pool

When: Registration for Session 1 begins May 8 at 6pm
Session 1 runs 6/4-6/15

Registration for Session 2-5 begins the Wed. before that session starts

Session 2 runs 6/18-6/29

Session 3 runs 7/2-7/13

Session 4 runs 7/16-7/27

Session 5 runs 7/30-8/10

Cost: \$36 per session

Dispatchers serve as systems' eyes and ears (continued from page 1)

Should an outage occur, the dispatchers notify the appropriate person or department and set to work collecting information about the problem to make sure it is resolved in a safe and efficient manner. A computerized, room-sized map of the system helps dispatchers visualize and communicate what's happening.

The job becomes stressful when outages occur. The pace quickens as everyone on the team – from dispatchers to work crews – labors to restore power.

The two dispatchers find that good customer service is the best way to keep callers calm. Most callers are reasonable when the details of a situation are explained and contact is maintained

throughout the situation, Karin and Cathy say.

Karin and Cathy operate a specialized computer system with the nickname SCADA, which stands for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. With the SCADA system, Loveland Water and Power employees in the central control center within the City's Service Center can remotely control devices in substations located throughout the city. With this capability, dispatchers can help in restoring power during an outage and make routine power transfers.

To report a power outage, call 663-1043.

To report a water or sewer emergency, call 962-3456.

SUMMER @ CHILSON

3-Month Passes
Available May 14 to June 15, 2007

Youth \$75	Adult \$135
Senior \$80	Family \$195

Voted Best Health Club in Loveland:

- Full-service fitness & recreation facility
- State-of-the-art cardio & strength equipment
- Cutting edge fitness classes
- 8-lane pool, hot tubs, steam room
- Racquetball, basketball & volleyball
- Drop-in child care

For more information, call
Chilson at **970-962-2383**
700 E. 4th St., Loveland, CO 80537

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. Visit the City's website at www.cityofloveland.org.