

Quiet sirens a Prevention Bureau goal

Making Loveland a safe place to live, visit, work and play. That description describes the efforts of many of the City's departments, but perhaps none more than the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Its staff works to ensure the well being of the community's people and property, and



to minimize the hands-on efforts of their colleagues in the Fire Suppression Division. The prevention staff's work is far less obvious, without the red lights and sirens. They help to keep those lights dark and sirens quiet.

They contend with blueprints and paperwork, not hoses and helmets. They meet, work with and review the plans of developers and contractors to make sure a new building will be as safe as possible for all those under its roof and nearby.

Making certain that existing buildings and situations continue to remain safe is another important part of their jobs, as is informing and educating people of all ages on fire and life safety considerations. And if a fire occurs, they may also be involved in after-the-fact investigation of how and where it started and what can be done to prevent reoccurrences.

Being a fire safe community involves tools, training, teaching, technology and tenacious efforts, all traits of the Fire Prevention Bureau.

More Fire Prevention information pages 2-3

Businesses can save with LIGHTENUP!

Are your lights flickering or buzzing? This may be the result of an old and inefficient lighting system in your building. The City of Loveland Water and Power Department and Platte River Power Authority have teamed up to offer business customers cash incentives to update their lighting and save money.

Through LIGHTENUP, business customers of Loveland Water and Power can replace their old lighting with new high-efficiency lighting equipment. A typical lighting upgrade can result in 30- 50 percent savings in lighting energy use and up to 15 percent savings on electric bills.

In addition to lowering electricity costs, many of the already participating business customers have noted other benefits from installing new high efficiency lighting systems, including:

- Better light levels
- Better comfort of occupants
- Better operation and maintenance savings



How do you know if you have inefficient lighting?

If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions, you may have inefficient lighting:

1. Are your fluorescent light fixtures humming, buzzing, or flickering?
2. Do your fluorescent lights make people look pale and pasty?
3. Are you replacing ballasts and fixtures more often these days?
4. Do you have regular incandescent light bulbs that burn out all the time?
5. Do you leave the lights on all day because they take too long to warm up when turned back on?
6. Are there places where lights are on all the time and do not need to be?
7. Was the lighting installed so long ago you don't remember when?

How to get started

Contact Loveland Water and Power at 962-3566 or visit www.prpa.org/lightenup.htm for a list of lighting vendors and contractors who are familiar with LIGHTENUP and can help you get started.

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Library introduces wireless network

The Loveland Public Library now offers patrons an in-house wireless network. Library patrons can now bring in their own laptop computers, personal data assistants (PDAs) and other wireless devices and instantly access the Internet through the wireless network.

People appreciate being able to use their own equipment and having their own documents and applications as close as their fingertips, said Shane Adamson, media coordinator. "Installing a wireless network is always something we've wanted to do. It was just a matter of having the right equipment."

In addition to providing patrons the convenience of using their own

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Plan review a major fire prevention focus

Reviewing plans for new projects is a major responsibility of the Fire Prevention Bureau. Whether it's an expansion to an existing building, a single new building, a shopping center or residential subdivision, the bureau is involved in the planning process.

The plan review process involves both the land and the structures.

The bureau assesses the roadway and water resources for the development. They ensure that the plans provide for enough water to supply hydrants and sprinkler systems. The roadway plans are evaluated to determine if access and turning areas meet requirements for large firefighting trucks.

The project must also meet requirements during construction, when fire danger can be greater than after the development is complete.

For commercial and industrial buildings, meeting fire code standards is required based on a variety of factors including the building's size, intended use and occupancy numbers. Those factors help determine design of exits, alarm requirements and sprinkler system needs.

Oversight of fire safety for these public buildings at the planning stage is just the beginning. Complete inspection of the building to ensure all requirements have been met and are operational occurs before actual occupancy is permitted.

Fire prevention efforts continue for the life of the building. Public buildings undergo an annual inspection by the bureau to ensure that safety requirements continue. The bureau may find blocked or cluttered exit passages, overloaded electrical circuits, dangerous heating units, flammable material issues and other concerns that the business must correct.

With nearly 4,000 businesses in Loveland, the fire inspection team is always very busy.



All these efforts are aimed at making buildings as fire safe as possible for the workers, visitors and residents of Loveland.

Firefighting tool uses no water

Education can be a better fire safety tool than a hose. When education efforts are successful, they can prevent a fire or reduce unwelcome consequences if a fire should occur. Fire safety education is a Fire Prevention Bureau priority with a special focus on education for children.

The scope of the tools used in the bureau's education efforts is unusual, ranging from a house that sits on a tabletop to a firefighter who is 10 feet tall.

Sparky's Hazard House is an interactive, three-dimensional model of a home used to teach children about hazards and safety issues present in many residences. Fire Prevention Bureau staffers use the model house for presentations dealing with safety issues such as home fire

hazards, electrocution hazards, poisons and hazardous materials, carbon monoxide, gun safety, cooking safety, the consequences of fire-play, and more. The presentation, offered to all Loveland 3rd grade classrooms, includes emphasis on installing and maintaining home smoke detectors.

The Loveland Fire Safety Trailer is a mobile teaching tool used to make fire safety education more tangible and realistic for children. The trailer includes a living room, kitchen, and bedroom, which are all used to educate children about fire hazards, cooking safety, home escape plans, and more.

Kids learn that they should know two ways out of every room, to "stay low and go" to avoid smoke and heat, and to call

911 to report emergencies. Participants then take part in a fire drill in the trailer involving smoke alarms, a heated bedroom door, and simulated smoke.

It's hard to miss Safety Sam, the newest addition to the fire department's public safety awareness program. Safety Sam is a 10 foot tall inflatable firefighter used to call attention to fire safety.

Safety Sam has made appearances at a variety of community events including Colorado Chill basketball games, public safety awareness events at IHOP, Lowes, and Wal-mart, children's fairs, parades, and more.

To schedule a fire safety presentation or public education event, please contact Deputy Fire Marshal Scott Pringle at 962-2614.

COLT celebrates ridership record

At 3:20 p.m., Nov. 14, Aaron Hennen, a regular rider of the City bus system, was honored as the 100,000th rider this year. Never before has the City of Loveland Transit (COLT) system been as popular.

COLT expects to total more than 110,000 riders by year's end, up significantly from about 80,000 last year.

The increase in ridership is due to increased community-wide transit interest plus major revisions to the COLT route system made in March. The revisions included route

expansions, bus stop location changes, additional transfer points and other system modifications. The record-level ridership was realized despite some fare increases.

COLT also recently celebrated being named the 2006 Small Transit System of the Year by the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies.

Aaron Hennen, a Loveland High School student and regular COLT rider was all smiles when he learned of being honored as the bus system's 100,000th rider this year. Hennen received a celebratory sweatshirt and gift pack and all others on the bus received T-shirts.



Detectors provide early warning 24/7

Smoke detectors save lives and property. They are easy to use, inexpensive (sometimes free—keep reading) and simple to maintain. Every residence should have at least one on every level of the home.

The good news is that every new Loveland residence has them; home, apartment, mobile home, hotel room, etc. Properly operating detectors are required before occupancy is permitted in new buildings.

The bad news is that many older homes don't have them plus many existing smoke detectors need replacement or maintenance. This is where the Fire Prevention Bureau is concentrating its efforts.

The bureau highly recommends replacing the entire unit if it's at least 10 years old. A decade's normal dust and dirt can alter the device's sensitivity and reliability. And today's technology brings additional benefits.

Regardless of age, all units should be tested periodically and replacement batteries installed twice a year. The beginning or end of Daylight Saving

Time is a good reminder for battery replacement.

Although smoke from pan-seared steak or other items cooking in the kitchen can occasionally set off the alarm, it should never be disconnected. Simply use a fan or open a window to clear the smoke.

Fire Prevention Bureau personnel can be contacted to arrange a free inspection and test of your household's smoke detector. They can even provide a free detector or batteries if needed. Call 962-2537 to schedule an inspection.

As part of its focus on smoke detectors, the bureau recently has teamed with local pizza delivery firms to provide random detector checks at local homes. The inspection results in either free detectors or free pizzas.



Safety awareness is high priority

Earlier this year, Loveland Fire & Rescue obtained Safety Sam, a 10 foot tall inflatable firefighter costume for use at various programs and events. Safety Sam's primary function is to generate public awareness of the fire department and its efforts to promote fire safety and education in our community.

Public reaction to Safety Sam has been overwhelmingly positive. Children and adults have had the opportunity to interact with him at several community events and public safety fairs. He also made an appearance at the annual Colorado Children's Day festival.

Deputy Fire Marshal Scott Pringle says he really enjoys performing in public as Safety Sam and hopes to continue developing interesting and entertaining routines for the character. "Safety Sam has made promoting fire safety education to community members easy and a lot of fun," he said.



Self-inspection program for small businesses

Loveland's Fire Prevention Bureau has instituted a Self-Inspection Program for some smaller, low-hazard business locations. The self-inspections enable small businesses to identify and correct fire safety issues and violations by examining their property and responding to about two dozen specific questions noted on a safety check list form.

"The Self Inspection Program allows us to provide fire safety and code enforcement direction to businesses that we might otherwise not be able to have contact with due to our staffing limitations," said Deputy Fire Marshal

Scott Pringle.

The program causes a business to take a time-out from normal day-to-day operations and focus on fire safety and code compliance. "If necessary or if requested by the business owner, we still have the option of doing an on-site inspection, but in most cases violations are identified and corrected by the business without us having to visit the location in person," Pringle said.

The program results in increased awareness and safety efforts by the businesses plus time and expense savings for the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Fire prevention can be very tasty

The Loveland Fire & Rescue department has formed a partnership with local pizza restaurants to jointly promote home smoke alarm use and maintenance. Free Pizzas for Fire Safety combines smoke detector inspection and pizza delivery.

On a random basis several times each month, fire department staffers will accompany local pizza delivery drivers. The firefighters can then inspect the customer's home for properly working smoke alarms. If the home has working smoke alarms, the customer's pizza order is free.

If smoke alarms are not present or are not functioning, the firefighters will

install new batteries or new smoke alarms for that customer for free. Either way, the customer wins—free pizza or free alarms and batteries.

Awareness of the importance of home smoke alarms and properly maintained smoke alarms are the program's goals. For more information about how to obtain assistance acquiring, maintaining or installing smoke alarms, contact the Loveland Fire Prevention Bureau at 962-2536.



New snow plow trucks have wings

The City of Loveland Streets Division is ready to handle Mother Nature's best effort this winter. With the recent addition of two brand new 15-ton carrying capacity dump trucks, the City has the necessary tools to help keep our streets safe and driver-friendly.

The two new trucks are equipped with new snow plows and wing plows which are mounted to the front and side of the trucks. These 9-foot plows enable one truck to push a lot more snow than trucks with standard front-end plows. "These are a great addition to our fleet," said Danny Robinett, streets maintenance superintendent. "With these new wing

plows one truck can almost do the work of two."

While the City will do its best to keep streets clear, it is up to residents to shovel and clear sidewalks adjacent to their homes for the safety of pedestrians.

For information on snow removal please call the Streets Division at 962-2529.



Gift ideas from the City

Item	Description	Cost	Place to purchase
Smoke detectors	Free for those who can't afford them.	Can be free	Fire Station #1
Address signs	Reflective, highly visible	\$14	
Art and education	Books, DVDs, cards, games, mugs, more	\$5 - \$50	Loveland Museum/Gallery
Fine art	Original artwork – sculpture, painting, etc.	\$240 - \$4,500	
Ornament	Annual Loveland tree ornament	\$15	
Calendar	Free 2007 Energy Savers Calendar -	Free	Utility Billing Office
Thrifty Lights	Long-lasting, low-energy usage bulbs	\$4	
GreenSwitch	Sign up for GreenSwitch	\$1.50/month	
Fat Trappers	Cooking oil containers	\$3	
Utility Fees	Gift certificates for utility bills	Any amount	
Recreation	Gift certificates for Senior Center, Chilson Center, Golf Courses	Any amount	Senior/Chilson Ctr, Courses
Rialto Theater	Gift certificates for shows	Any amount	Rialto Theater

Check vehicle law before buying

The holiday season is approaching. Before purchasing a motorized bike, scooter, or skateboard it is important to understand the laws surrounding these vehicles. They can be a bit complex and confusing.

Basically, three general types of vehicles are discussed here; a motor scooter, motorized bicycle (mo-ped) and motorized toys.

Motorized toys such as roller skates, minibikes, "pocket" bikes and stand-up scooters may not be used on any public street or sidewalk.

A motorized bicycle—gas or electric—is intended not to exceed a maximum flat-surface speed of 30 miles per hour.

A driver's license is required and the vehicle must be registered with the state. Insurance may also be required. Riding requirements are similar to those of a bicycle; only in bike lanes or the far right portion of a street, not on sidewalks, etc.

If the vehicle is intended to exceed 30 mph, it is then considered a motor scooter and insurance is required in addition to a driver's license. It has the same on-road rights and regulations as a car or motorcycle.

Vehicle tire size and motor size may also be involved in legal definitions. Again, when considering purchasing one of these vehicles—especially for a youngster—learn the laws specific to that vehicle.



More detailed information can be found in the Traffic portion of the Police section of www.cityofloveland.org.

Library introduces wireless network (continued from page 1)

equipment and not being subject to time limits, this will help free up the library's computers for other patrons, reducing occasional waits.

Currently the wireless signal is available in the media section of the library but will expand to include adult services sometime in mid-2007.

For more information, visit the library section of www.cityofloveland.org or call 962-2665.

City Of Loveland Public Works Department Solid Waste Division Holiday Trash Collection Schedule Christmas 2006 – Christmas 2007

DATE	HOLIDAY/EVENT	SERVICE SCHEDULE
Thursday, 11/30/2006	End of weekly yard waste collection service	Subscription yard waste cart service ends. Keep cart during winter. Monthly service fee discontinued until April 2007.
Monday, 12/25/2006	Christmas Day, 2006	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Monday, 01/01/2007	New Year's Day, 2007	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Monday, 01/15/2007	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (Observed)	Collection will be normal for the week
Monday, 02/19/2007	Presidents' Day	Collection will be normal for the week
Monday, 04/02/2007	Start of weekly yard waste collection service	Subscription yard waste cart service begins. Have cart in street by 7:00 a.m.
Monday, 05/28/2007	Memorial Day	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Wed., 07/04/2007	Independence Day	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Wednesday's collection on Thursday, etc.)
Monday, 09/03/2007	Labor Day	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Monday, 10/08/2007	Columbus Day	Collection will be normal for the week
Monday, 11/12/2007	Veterans' Day (Observed)	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Thursday, 11/22/2007	Thanksgiving Day	Closed ... Thursday's collection will be on Friday
Thursday, 11/29/2007	End of weekly yard waste collection service	Subscription yard waste cart service ends. Keep cart during winter. Monthly service fee discontinued until April 2008.
Tuesday, 12/25/2007	Christmas Day 2007	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Tuesday's collection on Wednesday, etc.)
Tuesday, 01/01/2008	New Year's Day 2008	Closed ... Collections will run one day late (Tuesday's collection on Wednesday, etc.)

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.