

LED lights are just as festive and a safer alternative for holiday lighting

For many, the holidays are as much about the decorations as the gifts, cookies and fudge, and holiday parties. But decorating, especially when it comes to holiday lighting, must be done with care. Improper placement and use of lights can create dangerous hazards if not done properly.

Make sure to follow these tips to be safe this holiday season:

- Make sure electrical decorations are approved by a nationally recognized certification organization.
- Make sure decorations used outdoors are marked for outdoor use.
- Inspect light strings for dangerous bare wires, loose connections, cracked bulbs and frayed wiring. Throw out

- compromised, faulty strings.
- When using strings of lights that plug into each other, never attach more than three strands together.
- Ensure that extension cords and power strips are not placed in water or snow.



- Look for light-emitting diode (LED) lights. They pull so little electricity that they are unlikely to overload circuit breakers or fuses like conventional lights can.
- Keep lights away from carpeting,

furniture, drapes and other flammable materials.

- Never place lights closer than 10 feet from outdoor power lines, and always be aware of power lines while hanging lights.
- Use wooden or fiberglass ladders when decorating outdoors as metal ladders conduct electricity.
- Always inspect the ladder to ensure it is safe.
- Be sure that electrical cords are not plugged in at an angle or positioned where they can be pinched, such as in windows.

- Use zip cords instead of metal staples, tack or nails to hang lights.
- Always unplug decorative lights when leaving home and before bed.

For more information call Loveland Water and Power at 962-3000.

Suss out the big energy users with a watt reader

Find out just how efficient appliances and electronics in your home really are with a Watt Reader Kit.

A watt reader is a handy device that allows you to individually monitor the electric use and assist in identifying those appliances that are big energy users.

Thanks to a collaborative effort between the Loveland Public Library and Loveland Water and Power, residents can check out watt readers to take home. The Library currently has five Watt Reader Kits available

for customer use.

The Watt Reader Kits include a Kill-A-Watt power meter with instructions, and an Energy Guide booklet with information about

electricity usage and helpful tips to reduce energy consumption.

For more information call Loveland Water and Power at 962-3000.



Fight F.O.G. this Holiday Season!



Keep **Fats, Oils and Grease** out of your drain to prevent clogs and backups.

Cool it, Can it, Trash it!
970-962-3000
www.cityofloveland.org/Pretreatment
www.facebook.com/LovelandWaterandPower

Keep the swimming pool in the backyard this winter - not the basement

Just like a soda pop can left in the freezer overnight, pipes exposed to freezing temperatures for too long are subject to freezing and possibly bursting.

Pipes that freeze most frequently are those exposed to severe cold like outdoor hoses, swimming pool supply lines, sprinkler systems, and water supply pipes in unheated interior areas such as basements and garages. Pipes that run against exterior walls that have little or no insulation are also vulnerable.

More often than not, the ice blockage that forms in a pipe is not usually responsible for causing the pipe to burst. What more commonly occurs is that as ice continues to form in the pipe, water pressure inside the pipe increases between the location of the frozen blockage and the faucet. This increased water pressure is usually the cause of an actual burst and the break is often in a different location than the ice blockage.

Once a pipe has failed a lot of inconvenience to the homeowner usually follows. Frozen pipes can cause floods within the home, damage to carpet and furniture and headaches for homeowners stuck with the clean up. But there are ways to protect pipes from freezing.

Inside the home:

- In the event of very cold weather, allow indoor faucets to drip, but

only drip—anything more than a drip or faint trickle wastes water.



- If you're going to be gone all day or for an extended period of time, set the thermostat at a minimum of 55 degrees. Interior temperatures below 55 could be problematic for the home's pipes.

- Make sure there is warm air circulating near vulnerable pipes. Opening cabinet doors under the sinks in the kitchen and bathrooms can help keep pipes from freezing by letting warmer air from the room, in.

Outside the home:

- Drain sprinkler system supply lines and pool circulation systems and have them winterized.



- Protect faucets, outdoor pipes and pipes in unheated areas by wrapping them with covers designed to protect outdoor faucets from freezing. These covers are available at hardware stores and home improvement stores.

- Cover faucets with insulated foam covers, cut off water to exterior faucets and open faucets to drain pipes, or install exterior faucets that cut water supply off inside foundation walls.

If a pipe freezes and bursts:

- Shut off water at the main valve. Most likely this valve will be located on the inside basement wall closest to the street. It is generally located near the water softener. The valve itself will usually be large, metal and have a sturdy handle.

- Call a plumber. Keep their phone number handy for quick access in emergencies.

- If floors and especially carpet are saturated with water, remove as much as possible with mops and shop vacs. Companies that specialize in water damage restoration can also be called.

While winter temperatures and weather pose many challenges, keeping pipes open and operating is doable with the right tools and knowledge.

For more info call Loveland Water and Power at 962-3000.



THE LOVELAND

CITY UPDATE

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Public art graces new City projects

Loveland's west side comes alive with three big art installations

Public art is as much a foundation of Loveland's brand as valentines and cherries.

Proliferation of sculpture, murals and other prominent artworks throughout the City, even extending to no-longer-mundane electrical transformer boxes, defines the City for residents and visitors alike.

Building projects on Loveland's west side this fall have raised the art profile even higher, with the sudden appearance of monumental sculpture pieces at three public construction sites.

"For me, public art – the very words – explain that it is art that you encounter on a daily basis," said Loveland Cultural Services Director Susan Ison, who laid the foundation for the City's public art program three decades ago.

"Museums and galleries are great places to visit to see art, but these are pieces that people encounter in their daily routines. They beautify. They enhance."

Three big statements

Entry to the new Public Works Administration Building on West First Street at the Loveland Service Center takes visitors past "Interconnections," a work



Sculptor Robert Tully stands behind newly installed "Compass," the centerpiece of his three-part Overland Trail tribute that are featured artworks at Mehaffey Park, opening on Loveland's west side in Summer 2015.

signifying unity in buff sandstone and steel by Denver sculptor Andy Dufford.

Mehaffey Park, the emerging jewel of the City's park system on its western edge, will feature a trilogy of pieces by Louisville sculptor Robert Tully, each

reflecting on the history of the Overland Trail that flanked Loveland's foothills.

At the Oct. 25 dedication of Fire Station No. 2, Pueblo ceramic artist Ken Williams publicly introduced "Reflections," a monumental work inspired partly by the remembrance (continued on page 2)

Public art (from page 1)

of firefighters who died Sept. 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center.

The three artists created and installed the works for a total cost of just under \$200,000, paid for under provisions of the Art in Public Places program that City Councilors enacted in 1985. The ordinance steers 1 percent of the cost of City building projects valued at \$50,000 or more to purchase and maintain public art.

The “One Percent for the Arts” ordinance also established the Visual Arts Commission, a nine-member citizen board that administers the program. While Loveland pioneered the set-aside for art, many other Colorado cities have replicated it.

“Loveland stands out as a town that appreciates art,” said Visual Arts Commission Chairwoman Margie Rossborough. “There’s art for everybody. There’s all sorts of art here. These are the kinds of things that people notice when they visit us: ‘Oh, look at these public buildings. Every one of them has art.’”

Rossborough, a St. Louis native and retired Coyote Ridge Elementary School teacher, said the City’s public art collection, besides adding aesthetic value, is a wise investment.

“It’s a valuable art collection for our city,” she said. “It’s not depreciating. It’s appreciating. Each piece of art we add to our collection just further enhances Loveland’s position as the art city.”

To learn more, log on:

www.cityofloveland.org/

PublicArt.



“Overland Trail Series,”
Robert Tully

On a tour of the rolling west Loveland landscape that next summer will open as Mehaffey Park, Loveland Parks & Recreation planners told sculptor Robert Tully that the Overland Trail likely meandered through the area.

The trail is where Tully’s quest for inspiration began, and a compass helped him find his way.

“I searched everything I could find about the Overland Trail,” Tully said. I was afraid of using something hackneyed, like a stage-

coach, or a wheel. Then I found a picture of a compass, an older brass compass, in a case. I was excited to find something that was going to be different, and something that was evocative.”

“Elements,” above, also Tully’s creation, is a segmented mosaic wall, 16 feet long and 6 feet high.

“Interconnections,”
Andy Dufford

Stone sculptor Andy Dufford is a frequent visitor to Arkins Park, a quarry northwest of Loveland on Larimer County Road 27. He is also a loyal customer, making the occasional purchase of a multi-ton block of Colorado Buff sandstone to make monumental.

Dufford pointed out that two of the three 10-foot-tall sandstone columns that are the basis of “Interconnections,” his sculpture that graces the entrance to the \$15 million Public Works Administration Building, were once one.

“You can see where the pattern continues,” he said. “That was a single block when I got it. Sixteen tons.”

Dufford has told his clients, ranging from the Kansas City Zoo to Grand Canyon National Park, that “rocks have the best ideas.” In Loveland, he let the rock tell him the form it should take to tell a story of “connection and common purpose for staff at the facility, as well as the community at large.”



“Reflection,”
Ken Williams

Ceramic artist Ken Williams said an acknowledgment of the 9-11 losses has long been on his wish list. His understated interpretation is now set in stone at Fire Station No. 2 on West 29th Street.

Outlines of the twin towers of the World Trade Center are etched in tan, against a foreground of vivid color. Floating beside are the numbers 343, the number of New York City firefighters who died Sept. 11, 2001.

“I’ve had that concept in mind for several years, the idea of acknowledging the twin tower disaster,” said Williams, whose wife, Judith, and daughter, Gwen, collaborated on the project. “Instead of it being a blatant representation, we wanted to make this a subtle statement, a ghost image.”

Not shown here is the monumental sculpture in brick and ceramic overlay, two columns and a heavy capstone over a curved bench, at the fire station’s entrance.

Following these home-safety tips will help keep the season safe and merry

The holidays are the peak season for home fires. To ensure a safe holiday season, follow these important safety tips:

In the kitchen:

- Keep pot handles turned inward.
- Keep combustibles away from stove tops and other heat sources.
- Maintain a 3-foot no-play-zone around the oven and stove.
- Never leave the stove unattended.
- “Put a lid on it” to extinguish cooking fires.

Throughout the house:

- Keep space heaters three feet away from combustible materials.
- Keep candles in non-tip holders and away from children and pets.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- Make sure the smoke alarm is in working order with fresh batteries.
- Make sure to have a working carbon monoxide detector.

- Have the chimney inspected and cleaned by a professional at least once a year.

- Don’t overload electrical outlets and ensure all cords are free of damage.

- Keep a working fire extinguisher on-hand and know how to use it.

- Make sure all members of the household know how to dial 911 in case of an emergency.

For more information contact Loveland Fire & Rescue at 962-2537 or visit the LFRA webpages.

 SOLID WASTE DIVISION 2015 HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE	
HOLIDAY/EVENT/DATE	SERVICE SCHEDULE
New Year’s Day - Thurs. Jan. 1	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Thursday’s collection on Friday, etc.)
MLK Jr. Day -Mon. Jan. 19	Collection will be normal for the week
Presidents’ Day -Mon. Feb. 16	Collection will be normal for the week
Yard debris collection begins -Mon. Mar. 30	Place yard debris cart curbside by 7:00 a.m.
Memorial Day -Mon. May 25	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Monday’s collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Independence Day -Sat. July 4	Collection will be normal for the week
Labor Day -Mon. Sept. 7	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Monday’s collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Columbus Day -Mon. Oct. 12	Collection will be normal for the week
Veterans’ Day -Wed. Nov. 11	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Wednesday’s collection on Thursday, etc.)
Thanksgiving -Thurs. Nov. 26	Closed ...Thursday’s collection will be on Friday
Yard debris service ends -Thurs. Dec. 03	Keep cart during winter (monthly service fee discontinued until April 2016)
Christmas Day -Fri. Dec. 25	Collection will be normal for the week
2016	
New Year’s Day 2016 -Fri. Jan. 1	Collection will be normal for the week

The City’s yard debris cart service ends for the season the week of November 24th.

Carts may be kept December through March at no charge.

Collection resumes the week of March 30, 2015.

For more information call 962-2529.

New Year, New You!

Chilson Winter Break Passes
On sale December 1-31, 2014

The Winter Break Pass is good for UNLIMITED USE of the Chilson Recreation Center from Dec 20, 2014 - Jan 5, 2015

Youth: \$16 • Adult: \$21
College Students: \$32 (3 wks)
(with Student ID) **\$42** (4 wks)

Call 970-962-2FUN for more information

Chilson Recreation Center
700 E 4th Street, Loveland, CO
970-962-2FUN
www.CityofLoveland.org

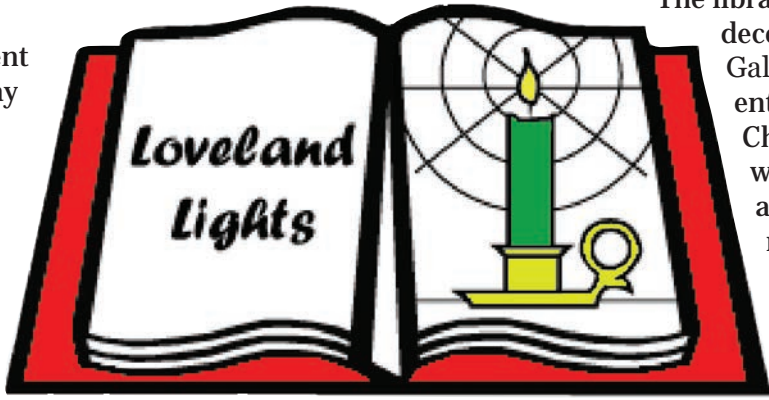
Loveland Lights provides weekend of family-friendly holiday activities

This year’s Loveland Lights, December 6-7, is a weekend of fun holiday activities for the whole family. This year’s event celebrates a perennial holiday favorite—the Nutcracker.

Saturday’s activities include a presentation by naturalist Kevin Cook, kid’s and teen’s gingerbread workshops, a holiday food and gift-giving venue and a computer lab class on greeting cards.

On Sunday, children can make gingerbread houses and teens can make ‘DIY’ holiday projects.

Throughout the weekend children



‘Find the Nutcracker’ contest.

The library will be adorned with decorated holiday trees, the Galleria will be filled with entries for the Gingerbread Challenge, plus attendees will enjoy a holiday book and bake sale, a model railroad, nutcracker displays and music. All activities are free.

Loveland Lights is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

For a schedule of events go to friendsofthelovelandlibrary.org.

can search the library’s stacks looking for nutcrackers for the

All-ages winter reading program begins Dec. 1

The Loveland Public Library will host a winter reading program from Dec. 1 through Jan. 4 for elementary, teen and adult readers.

Each week, readers will receive incentives as well as raffle tickets for a chance to win tickets to a Colorado Eagles hockey game.

This will be the third year that the library has worked with the Friends of the Library and Colorado Eagles Hockey team to offer a winter reading program. This is the first year that adults are included.

Everyone is welcome at the program kick-off event at the library on Saturday, Dec. 6. For more information call 962-2587 for the children’s program; 962-2548 for the teen program, and 962-2402 for the adult program.

Annual holiday tree lighting rings in season

Bundle up and head downtown for the annual holiday tree lighting, 4:30–6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the Civic Center, 3rd and Washington.

Attendees will enjoy music by the Original Dickens’ Carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides by Wolf Thunder Run Draft Horses, photos with Santa, face painting and food and treat vendors.

City Manager Bill Cahill and Mayor Cecil Gutierrez will relay their holiday wishes as the holiday tree is lighted. This year will also feature the inaugural City of Loveland department holiday tree decorating contest.

This event is free. Food and treats are for purchase. For more information call 962-2410.

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. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, or 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 962-3319 or Bettie.Greenberg@cityofloveland.org.

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