

Larimer County Conservation Corps helps local residents save energy

This month the Larimer County Conservation Corps (LCCC) will be back in Loveland offering the Water and Energy Program for Loveland Water and Power (LWP) customers. Through a partnership that is now in its fifth season, LWP, Larimer County Workforce, Platte River Power Authority and Fort Collins Utilities will be providing these free home efficiency assessments in Loveland through mid-May.

Through this program, corps members conduct a visual inspection of the refrigerator, water heater, heating/cooling system and home insulation. They offer tips, information on rebates, and resources. Crews install energy and water efficient products such as compact florescent light bulbs (CFLs), programmable thermostats and low-flow showerheads.

“We have a technical audit program for homeowners who

want to make home improvements but this program really helps those that need low-cost, simple solutions,” said Lindsey Bashline, customer relations specialist with LWP. “While any LWP water or power customer may participate in LCCC, this is a great option for renters and residents in multi-family complexes,” Bashline added.

Benefits flow both ways:

Corps members are young adults with diverse work history and educational backgrounds. They all have an interest in conservation and working in their community. The Conservation Corps provides paid jobs, real-life work experience and lessons of conservation to the young adults who participate.

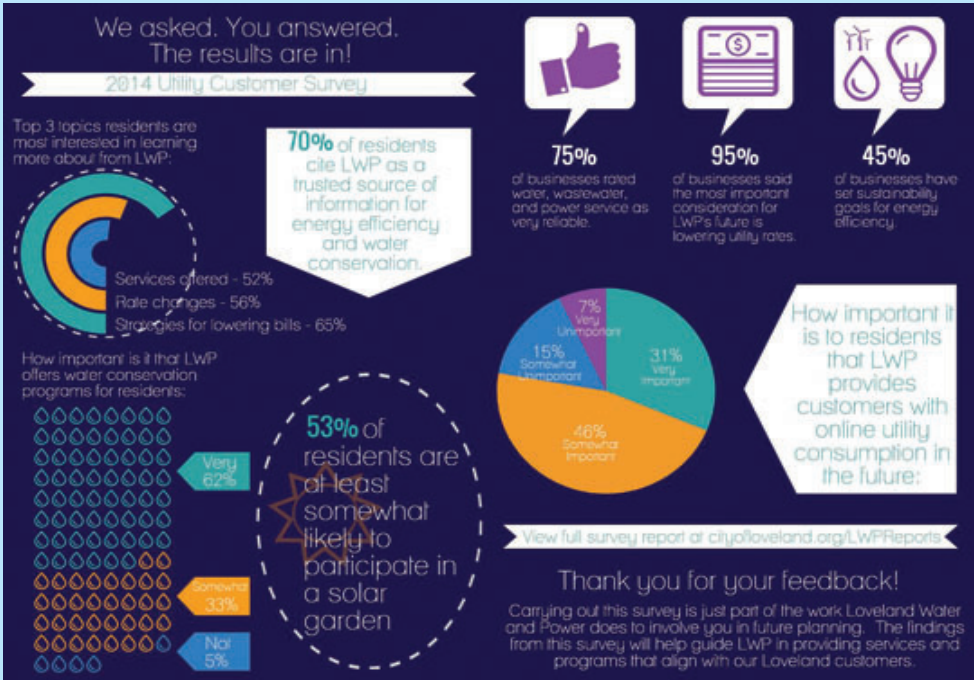
“We’d like all of the corps members to emerge with new technical skills, a job, and a stronger sense of leadership, teamwork and communication,” said Megan Butler, water and energy program

coordinator with LCCC.

Corps members learn about building science, sustainability, water and energy throughout the season. They are able to engage with the community and learn about water and energy-related topics through presentations and tours. Some of this season’s tours will include the Rawhide Energy Station to learn about how electricity is generated, the New Belgium Brewery to learn about green building techniques and sustainable business practices, and the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy district to learn about how water flows from the rivers to faucets.

Since the program started in 2011, 915 homes have been assessed in Loveland.

For more information on the Energy and Water Program, visit larimerworkforce.org/energy or call 619-4669.



Home Efficiency Audits

Schedule a Home Efficiency Audit with Loveland Water and Power now through the end of the year for only \$50 (\$10 OFF!).

- Home Efficiency Audit
- Free Energy Advising
- Assistance with Contractors
- Rebates for Upgrades

Call 303-446-7913 or visit efficiencyworks.co to speak with an Efficiency advisor and schedule a home audit.

Live like you love it - new program encourages valuing precious resource

Colorado water is very popular. A lot of people need it and a lot of people depend on it every day.

The snow that falls in the Colorado Rockies not only provides water to about 5 million Coloradans, but also to people living in 18 other states. Colorado is the only state other than Hawaii where water flows out of its borders, but doesn’t flow in.

Not only is Colorado water popular, but it’s valuable. Snow provides the swoosh for Colorado skiing and rivers provide the splash for white water rafting. Water keeps us alive, grows our food and keeps our landscapes healthy. We need it to run our businesses, as well as for sanitation and safety. The environment—wildlife, trees and plants—depends on it, too.

Because Colorado water is such an important natural resource and one that must be valued and conserved, a number of agencies including Loveland Water and Power, Colorado WaterWise, and other Colorado cities and water organizations have come together with the message of *Colorado Water - Live Like You Love It*. All the water we have—and will ever have—is already on the planet.

So, how can you Live Like You Love It?

Conserve - Conserving water and using water efficiently must be our way of life, not just a response to

drought. Everyone who uses water, including farmers, consumers, businesses and recreators, has reasons to use water efficiently. Small changes in our daily lives can lead to significant savings.



Care - Because we live in the state where our water originates, Coloradans enjoy some of the best water in the country. Let’s keep it that way. Whatever you put on your lawn, driveway or park can end up in our water supply. Simple measures like picking up after pets, and using pesticides and fertilizers sparingly, help preserve our water quality.

Commit - Compared to other expenses such as mobile phones, cable television and food, Colorado water is a pretty good deal. Most consumers only pay around a half of penny per gallon for the water coming out of their tap. However, aging infrastructure, rising energy costs, climate change and the need for new water projects to meet a growing population will all contribute to the water costs increasing. As demand for water increases, solutions to complex

water issues will need to be developed.

Commit to learning more about your community’s water supply at cityofloveland.org/LWP.

To join in and share how you

Live Like You Love It, ‘Like’ Love Colorado Water on Facebook or follow it on Twitter at @LoveCOWater.

To find out more about the toolkit, visit Colorado WaterWise at coloradowaterwise.org.

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

Buy an EV before the end of the year and get \$13,500 in tax credits

In the market for a new car? Thought about an EV?

Plug-in Electric Vehicles are eligible for up to \$13,500 in state and federal tax credits, making this the perfect time to go electric.

Save money. Save the planet. Reduce oil use. Drive Electric.

For more information on available vehicles and credits visit: DriveElectricNoco.org/taxcredits

DRIVE electric NORTHERN COLORADO

Let's Change Our Community! DriveElectricNoco.org

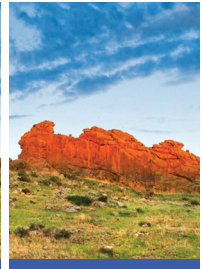


THE LOVELAND

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Downtown development torch passes



Loveland downtown Team gives way to new structure

A way with words almost always serves him well, but Loveland Mayor Cecil Gutierrez borrows a saying from City Economic Development Manager Mike Scholl to describe in a regional context Loveland’s efforts to revitalize its downtown district.

“Mike has this quote, ‘It took 30 years to make Old Town in Fort Collins an overnight success,’” the mayor said. “We continually faced, and still face, constant comparisons to Old Town Square in Fort Collins and the Pearl Street Mall in Boulder. But those things took a lot of time – decades.”

Fourth Street energy was on display last December during the holiday season, with the Rialto Theater Center sparkling.

The long road to making downtown Loveland a vibrant place where a rising number of City residents live, work, shop and play has tested patience. A critical junction along the way was the formation nearly eight years ago of the Loveland Downtown Team.

The collaborative group of City officials and private-sector downtown backers huddled in monthly meetings to build a foundation for a renewed, lively and economically successful downtown district.

Their work is finished.

The record of their achievement is recorded on a lengthy spreadsheet that uses gold stars to mark milestones: Plans developed,

studies conducted, partnerships forged, building projects completed. **Structure in place**

2015 will begin with a new push toward revitalization, and a new framework to move it forward. City Councilors in October endorsed the formation of the Loveland Downtown Partnership, a non-profit group to direct downtown revitalization.

In November, the City Council set a Feb. 10 election date to establish a Downtown Development Authority that could serve, if voters approve, as a financial tool for continued redevelopment within an elongated, north-south downtown district.

None of those steps could happen without the seven-year effort of the

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