

Wanted: Many good men and women

It's the government of your City. Your involvement is encouraged and there are numerous ways to become involved—often or infrequent, in depth or just a bit, formal or informal.

Hundreds of Loveland citizens are actively involved—serving on a committee, helping out at an event, assisting at a City facility, etc. Thousands are passively involved by simply staying informed about their community—scanning a local newspaper, viewing a display at the library, reading this newsletter, etc.

The elected officials and the staff of your city government actively encourage your participation in your local government. The greater the involvement, the more your local



government is of, by and for its citizens.

Get involved, play a role, offer your opinion, provide your expertise. Turn the page to learn some of the many opportunities for becoming more involved with your city government.

More about Getting Involved inside

Utility increases begin Jan. 1

Beginning Jan. 1, 2009, Loveland utility customers will notice a slight increase in their utility bills. Several factors have brought about the increase.

Platte River Power Authority (PRPA), Loveland's power supplier, is experiencing significant cost increases that it is passing along to Loveland and the three other municipalities it serves: Fort Collins, Longmont, and Estes Park.

In addition, the cost for materials needed to keep Loveland's electrical system running at optimum efficiency, have also dramatically increased. According to Jim Lees, Utility Accounting Manager, the cost for basic electrical materials



such as cable, conduit and transformers has risen anywhere from 22 to 186 percent over the last four years, resulting in a near tripling in price in some cases.

Fortunately, what most utility customers will actually experience in terms of a rate increase will be fairly minimal. For example, residents using 700 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity per month (an average

(continued on page 2)

Snow fleet grows; priorities remain

A new truck with a snowplow and spreader has been added to the city's snow removal fleet for this winter, bringing the total number of snowplow-equipped vehicles for clearing Loveland's roadways to 15.

When there's snow in the forecast, plows and spreaders are mounted to the trucks, chemicals are loaded and the snowfighting team awaits their call, day or night.

The thorough training and well-established route assignments of the City's Snow and Ice Control Plan are put to work. Anti-icing, plowing, de-icing and other efforts take place depending on the many challenges and



variables Mother Nature provides.

The teams go to work in each of the six segments of the city spelled out in the snow plan, each following specific routes in accordance with snow control priorities. The nature, duration and intensity of the storm and

(continued on page 4)

INSIDE

Get involved – join a City Board or Commission

Page 2

Additional volunteer opportunities at the City

Page 3

Wanted: Your involvement

Page 3

Help recycle more glass

Page 2

Sculptures of "Water and Power"

Page 3

2009 Holiday Trash Collection

Page 4

BillPay is fast and easy

Loveland area residents can now pay their utility bills online with a Visa, Mastercard or Discover credit/debit card. Cash, checks or money orders may still be used for payment. A \$3 convenience fee per transaction applies to card use. Customers without Internet access can pay their bills by phone with a credit/debit card—962-2111.

For more information about BillPay, click on Pay/View Utility Bill from the Online Services button at www.cityofloveland.org or call 962-2111.

"Money Talks"

Weather the financial storm

In a storm, sailors trim the sails and batten down the hatches. In economically challenging times, you need to do the same. On January 13, from noon to 1 p.m., Laurel Kubin, Director of Larimer County Extension, will share tips on how to trim expenses, cut spending and stay within your budget.

This program is part of the free, monthly Money Talks series presented by the Loveland Public Library. Money Talks is held in the Gertrude B. Scott room of the library. Beverages are provided and attendees may bring their lunch.

Get involved – join a City Board or Commission

More than 200 Loveland citizens actively participate as members of the City's 22 official boards and commissions. In general, these groups provide assistance in the form of research, discussion, evaluation and recommendations to Loveland City Council and City staff. Members are appointed to boards and commissions by City Council typically for three-year terms and receive no pay. The following gives a brief overview of the responsibilities of each of the City's Boards and Commissions:

The Affordable Housing Commission (9 voting members)– is involved with all matters pertaining to affordable housing in Loveland including reviewing policy, grant applications, developing specific strategies to preserve and increase affordable housing, and making recommendations to City Council.

Citizens' Finance Advisory Commission (9 voting members)– reviews the City's budget, financial reports and policies and makes recommendations to City Council.

The Communications Technologies Commission (9 voting members)– advises City Council on all matters pertaining to telecommunication issues including compliance, franchise agreements, proposals and public access channels.

The Construction Advisory Board (11 voting members)– serves as the Board of Appeals for building codes as well as advising City Council on building codes, subdivision improvement requirements and development standards.

The Cultural Services Board (7 voting members)– oversees the Loveland Museum/Gallery and Rialto Theater and makes recommendations for programs, policies and events at both facilities.

The Disabilities Advisory Commission (12 members)– makes recommendations to City Council on all matters pertaining to handicapped persons and their interaction in the community as well as reviewing building and development plans and advising City Council on handicapped accessibility issues.

The Board of Retirement (5 voting members)– oversees City employee pension plans (except for Fire and Police employees) and policy decisions relating to the plan's administration and design, and makes recommendations to City Council.

The Fire and Rescue Advisory Commission (9 voting members)– serves as an advisory body to City Council and the Fire Chief on issues relating to fire protection, emergency management, the Fire and Rescue Department and the Fire Protection Master Plan. The commission also hears requests on Fire Code issues.

The Golf Advisory Board (9 voting members)– advises and assists the Department of Parks and Recreation and the City Council on matters pertaining to golf, the City's golf courses and the golfing public.

The Historic Preservation Commission (7 voting members)– reviews nominations for historic landmarks/districts and advises City Council on all matters related to historic preservation including renovation, reuse, public education programs, preservation-related programs, and amendments to the City of Loveland Historic Preservation Plan.

The Loveland Housing Authority (5 voting members)– is an independent, self-governed body that

addresses the problems of unsanitary and unsafe dwelling accommodations for persons of low income. It helps provide publicly owned housing and low-income housing programs.

The Human Services Commission (11 voting members)– acts as a sounding board for social concerns, reviews all grant applications made to the City for Community Development Block Grant funds and Human Relations Commission grant program funds, makes funding recommendations to City Council on grant funding allocation and provides citizen input on consolidated planning documents.

The Library Board (7 voting members)– advises the City Manager and City Council on all matters pertaining to the management of the municipal library including directorship, budget and finance issues, staffing, technology, collections and materials, and providing for citizen input on library policies and services.

The Loveland Utilities Commission (9 voting members)– advises the City Council on all matters pertaining to rates, fees and charges for electric, water and sewer utility services as well as approving construction contracts and fees or charges as approved by the resolution of City Council.

The Open Lands Advisory Commission (9 voting members)– advises City Council on all matters pertaining to the use and management of open land areas, open space, natural areas and wildlife habitat as well as making recommendations to City Council on revenue share to the City of county open space sales and use tax, and use of any funds designated by the City for open lands purposes.

(continued on page 4)

Help recycle more glass

Loveland now has three drop-off locations for glass recycling.



The City recently learned that only 30 percent of the glass bottles and jars collected from curbside bins are actually recycled due to breakage in hauling off the glass. The broken

glass ends up going to landfills instead of being recycled.

However, if Loveland residents take their glass to a drop-off center, 100 percent of the glass will be recycled

back into new bottles and jars. The glass drop-off locations are:

- The City of Loveland Recycling Center, 400 N. Wilson Ave.
- Wal-Mart, 1325 N. Denver Ave. (bin in NW corner of parking lot)
- Kroh Park, 5200 N. Garfield Ave. (bin in parking lot next to Habitat for Humanity)

All glass containers should be rinsed. Remove caps and lids. Please, no ceramics, bake-ware, Pyrex, drinking glasses, windows, mirrors or light bulbs.

Glass will continue to be accepted at the curb; however, only 30 percent of this glass actually gets recycled. For more information, please contact the Solid Waste Division at 962-2529.

Utility increases begin Jan. 1

(continued from page 1)

residential monthly usage), will see their monthly electric bill increase by about \$1.43. Some of Loveland's larger commercial customers will see a larger monthly increase, but it is still not expected to be dramatic.

Water bills are also going up slightly. Commercial and residential customers will see a 1 percent increase for water. Proceeds from that increase will be used to pay for future water resources projects.

These proposed utility increases are subject to approval by City Council, which will do a final review of the proposal in December. For more information on Loveland Water & Power, please visit the Water & Power web pages at www.cityofloveland.org or call 962-3000.

Additional volunteer opportunities at the City

The City's Volunteer Program provides numerous volunteer opportunities throughout the City. Working in a variety of areas of specific interest, these volunteers provide thousands of hours of direct assistance to Loveland citizens, visitors and City staff.

Administrative – Volunteers are utilized throughout City offices to help answer phones, work at reception desks and assist with basic clerical duties. Departments that actively use administrative volunteers include Fire & Rescue, Water & Power, the Loveland Museum/Gallery and the Senior Center.

Bailiff for Municipal Court – Court Bailiffs check-in defendants and advise them on basic court procedures. Bailiffs also assist with paperwork and other tasks.

Civics Students – Students needing to fulfill their academic community service requirement can do so through volunteering with various City departments.

Fire & Rescue Department – Volunteer firefighters are an integral part of the City's fire suppression team. Volunteer firefighters must complete the City's Volunteer Firefighter Academy. Fire and Rescue also has administrative volunteers.

Internship/Work-study – Contact the City's Volunteer Program for available opportunities; 962-2376 or email; volunteers@ci.loveland.co.us.

Library – Library volunteers help sort and shelve books, repair book bindings and other tasks at the library. Volunteers can also assist in the Library's outreach program that helps homebound citizens access library materials.

Museum – Museum volunteers greet visitors, take class registrations, serve as guides, answer the phone, and help with exhibits and collections. Additional opportunities to assist with after-school programs are available as are intern and work-study programs.

Park Host and Instructors – Morey Wildlife Reserve Trail Hosts welcome visitors and answer questions about the reserve. This is a year-round position and requires a 2-hour training. Environmental Education volunteers work with 4th and 5th graders at the Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park Environmental Education Center. This program is seasonal and training is required.

Parks & Recreation – Parks & Rec accepts volunteers to coach youth athletics, serve as train operators at North Lake Park and assist as swim aids at Winona Pool during the summer.

Police Department – The Police Department has a number of different volunteer opportunities. Contact the Volunteer Program for more information; 962-2376 or email; volunteers@ci.loveland.co.us.

Rialto Theater – The Rialto Theater would not be able to operate without the assistance of its many dedicated volunteers who help in the ticket booth, concession stand, and with ushering. The Rialto also uses volunteers who have experience running a movie projector and working with sound equipment.

Senior Center – Volunteers help out at the reception desk welcoming guests and taking phone calls. They also assist with attendance and set up for special

(continued on page 4)

Many ways to become involved

There are many ways of becoming involved with your City government. A wide range of frequency, level and type of involvement opportunities is offered. Your participation in any or several is very welcome and very much appreciated.

Involvement: Often, In-depth, formal

- Become a Board or Commission member
- Attend Board or Commission meetings
- Attend City Council meetings
- Participate in official Public Hearings
- Attend Open House gatherings
- Attend neighborhood meetings
- Invite City officials to speak to your group
- Become a City employee
- Participate in an ongoing volunteer program
- Sign up to help at a City event

Involvement: Infrequent, just a bit, informal

- Watch City meetings on TV channel 16
- Watch "Loveland's Talking" on TV channel 16
- Enjoy an exhibit at the Museum/Gallery
- Read about the City in the newspaper
- Stroll through a City park
- Enroll in a City recreation activity
- Visit the library
- Work out at the Chilson Recreation Center
- Participate in a City focus group
- Offer suggestions to City departments
- Participate in Adopt-A-Roadway/Waterway clean-up
- Respond to community surveys
- Sign up for Partnering with Power
- Use the City Recycling Center
- Promote community involvement
- Participate in a Senior Center event
- Explore www.cityofloveland.org
- View informational displays in City buildings
- Tune in to 1610 AM radio
- Read *City Update*

Sculptures of "Water and Power" make purpose unmistakable

Visitors to Loveland should have no trouble figuring out what happens at the offices of Loveland Water & Power at 200 N. Wilson, thanks to the recently-installed sculptures by Loveland-born artist, Mark Leichter.

"Water & Power" are two, twenty-five foot, steel sculptures marking the main entrance to the Service Center and conveying the clear message that this institution's purpose is to provide our community with two of the most recognized and valued features of modern civilization – high-quality drinking water and electricity.

The sculptures were funded through the Art in Public Places fund which allocates monies for art on City property to be enjoyed by the entire community. In addition to the artist and his team who constructed the



sculptures, landscapers, irrigation specialists and masons were integral to

creating the elaborate foundation upon which the sculptures stand.

"We are thrilled with the new installations," said Suzanne Janssen, public art and business services manager for the City of Loveland. "These sculptures are a wonderful addition to our public art and will be enjoyed and admired throughout the northern Colorado community."

"Water & Power" were officially dedicated to their new home at a public celebration last month. For more information on the Art in Public Places program, go to the Cultural Services web pages at www.cityofloveland.org. For more information on Loveland Water & Power, go to the Water & Power web pages at www.cityofloveland.org, or call 962-3000.

Get involved – join a City Board or Commission (continued from page 2)

The Parks and Recreation Commission (9 voting members)– advises the City Council and City staff with regard to the maintenance, administration, expansion and development of the City’s parks and recreation programs.

The Planning Commission (9 voting members)– reviews maps, plats, zoning ordinances, subdivision ordinances, and planning matters and makes recommendations to City Council. It also serves as the ex-officio Zoning Board of Adjustment for the City regarding Title 18 – Zoning. The Planning Commission is involved in revising and updating the Master Plan, the Sign Code, Development Standards, Landscaping Standards and other development matters.

The Police Department Citizen Advisory Board (9 voting members)– serves in an advisory capacity to the Police Department and City Council concerning police related issues such as the Police Master Plan, policies and procedures and to support communication and education between the community and the Loveland Police Department.

The Senior Advisory Board (15 voting members)– serves as a coordinating agency for all matters concerning senior services and activities as well as planning, developing and encouraging new senior citizen programs as needs indicate, as well as establishing and maintaining communications with local, state and federal government agencies concerning senior citizen issues.

The Transportation Advisory Board (7 voting members)– advises City Council on all matters pertaining

to modes of transportation and makes recommendations on the Transportation Master Plan, transportation policies, budget and capital improvement plans for the City’s Engineering, Streets and Transit divisions.

The Visual Arts Commission (9 voting members)– oversees the City’s Arts in Public Places Program and makes purchases for and maintains the City’s art collection.

The Youth Advisory Commission (12 voting members)– serves as a link between City Council and the youth of Loveland, lobbies for youth interests and makes recommendations to City Council on programs and activities, ordinances and amendments for youth-related issues.

Hundreds receive sales tax rebates

Almost \$125,000 was rebated to Loveland residents for the 2008 Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Program. 761 local families received rebates averaging \$163 per household.

The rebates totaling \$124,357 included \$93,917 for food sales tax rebates plus \$30,440 for utility rebates. The 2007 total was \$95,100 distributed among 666 households.

The annual Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Program issues rebates to low-income individuals and families who qualify according to HUD income guidelines and policies set by the City Council.

Snow fleet grows; priorities remain

(continued from page 1)

snowfall all affect the priority of efforts.

Priority One-

The four-lane arterials that carry the most traffic, plus important two-lane thoroughfares. This includes state highways 34, 287 and 402 plus Loveland’s other main streets such as 29th, 1st, Taft, Wilson, Madison and 14th St. SW. Roads to hospitals, fire stations, and police stations are kept open.

Priority Two-

Collector streets and school bus routes, and streets which serve commercial/ industrial zones. Examples are 18th, 22nd, Van Buren, 8th, 10th, Dotsero, Colorado, Duffield, Carlisle and Silver Leaf.

Priority Three-

All remaining streets, including residential, are not routinely plowed and de-iced because their lower traffic volumes and traffic speeds do not typically warrant the expense. However, when snow accumulations are such that residents will have difficulty driving to the nearest designated plowed route, City crews or private contractors may be deployed to clear a path down the center of each street. Snow depths, daytime temperatures and the time of year will be factored into the decision to plow or not plow residential streets. Residents are always responsible for opening up their own driveways.

Additional volunteer opportunities

(continued from page 3)

events and senior day trips.

Shelter Attendants – Shelter Attendants oversee and monitor a temporary severe weather shelter for homeless citizens. Training is provided and schedules are flexible.

Snow Squad – Volunteers shovel walks for physically disabled and low-income residents after a significant snow fall (3+ inches). Snow squad volunteers are very much appreciated by their residents.

Special Events – City events including the Cherry Pie Festival, Colorado Children’s Day, the Halloween Family Fun Festival and the Independence Day celebration require lots of volunteer assistance.

For more information on the City’s many volunteer opportunities, go to www.cityofloveland.org and click on *Volunteers* from the Quick Links menu to the left of the page, or call 962-2376.

City of Loveland, Public Works Department, Solid Waste Division
2009 HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

HOLIDAY / EVENT	DATE	SERVICE SCHEDULE
Christmas Day, 2008	Thursday, 12/25/2008	Closed...Thursday's collection will be on Friday
New Year's Day, 2009	Thursday, 01/01/2009	Closed...Thursday's collection will be on Friday
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Monday, 01/19/2009	Collection will be normal for week
Presidents' Day	Monday, 02/16/2009	Collection will be normal for week
Start of weekly yard waste collection service	Monday, 03/30/2009	Subscription yard waste cart service begins. Have cart in street by 7:00 a.m.
Memorial Day	Monday, 05/25/2009	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Independence Day	Friday, 07/03/2009	Collection will be normal for week
Labor Day	Monday, 09/07/2009	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Monday's collection on Tuesday, etc.)
Columbus Day	Monday, 10/12/2009	Collection will be normal for week
Veterans' Day	Wednesday, 11/11/2009	Closed ...Collections will run one day late (Wednesday's collection on Thursday, etc.)
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, 11/26/2009	Closed...Thursday's collection will be on Friday
End of weekly yard waste collection service	Friday, 12/03/2009	Subscription yard waste cart service ends. Keep cart during winter. Monthly service fee to be discontinued until April 2010.
Christmas Day, 2009	Friday, 12/25/2009	Collection will be normal for week
New Year's Day, 2010	Friday, 01/01/2010	Collection will be normal for week

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.