

Global changes spur local action



Blue recycling carts line Loveland's streets on collection days for recycling, with many of them larger than the gray trash carts that residents use under the City's "pay as you throw" program that provides incentive to recycle.

Help needed to save Loveland's record as state recycling champ

Loveland has an enviable reputation as Colorado's most engaged community when it comes to recycling.

In fact, residents have such a strong reuse ethic that year-after-year about 60 percent of the total solid waste they generate is steered away from the county landfill and toward recycled commodity markets.

However, the global market for cast-off paper, plastics, steel and aluminum is undergoing big changes, and Loveland residents will need to respond with even smarter recycling practices than they have already demonstrated.

"We want to continue being a leader," said Internal Services Manager Mick Mercer, who has spent more than two decades making Loveland the reigning champion among Colorado municipalities. "That means we have to get better. We have to recycle correctly."

Loveland is not alone in facing new challenges for recyclers. Over the past few years, and with

greater speed during this summer, a barrier called the "green fence" has cut off recycling programs nationwide from their largest global market.

China's 'green fence'

China for many years had been the destination for most American recycled waste, carried on trans-Pacific cargo ships to Chinese ports for processing and reuse by manufacturers.

While the flow had been slowed over the course of a decade, it stopped almost completely this summer with plans for an outright ban by China on recycled commodity imports by 2020.

(see **Recycling** page 2)

The Chinese economy simply does not need them any longer, and the cast-offs are literally more trouble than they are worth.

As the green fence went up, the rules for domestic processing of recycled material got tougher, too. The recycling center operated by Waste Management Inc. at the Larimer County Landfill today has much more stringent regulations on contaminated loads of recycled products. Too often they arrive in plastic bags that have no value and that clog machinery.

'Clean stream' solution

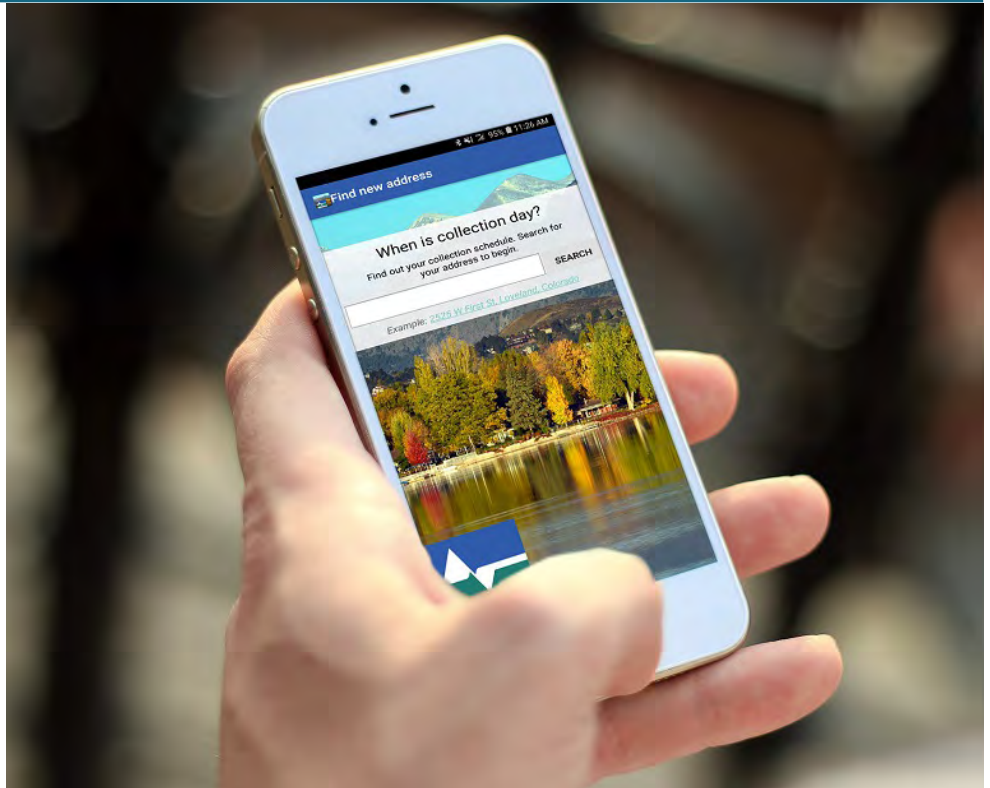
"We've had full truckloads of recycled material rejected because of contamination," said Jodi Lessman, technical business manager at the Loveland Public Works Department. "When that happens, it goes to the landfill."

Mercer said he was confident that Loveland residents, as committed as they are to the art of reuse, will adjust their practices to make sure recycling does what it is intended to do – keep waste out of the landfill. That means a "clean-stream" approach to recycling.

Loveland Public Works offers this simple list of steps that can easily become second nature for residents:

- Don't bag recycling. Save yourself the trouble, and just drop loose recyclables into the cart.
- Don't include any Styrofoam in recycling. It belongs in the trash.
- Do rinse cans, plastic tubs and other food containers.
- Don't ever put plastic bags in recycling bins.

"People need to know that plastic grocery bags are not recyclable," Mercer said. "At the recycling center they get wrapped around machinery parts, and it has to be shut down to remove them." Plastic bags can be taken to the City's Recycling Center on Wilson Avenue for processing.



Never miss a recycling or trash pickup date, know what to recycle and how, and get lots of useful solid waste information with the City of Loveland's Recollect mobile app for phones, tablets and laptops. Download information at CityofLoveland.org/recycle.

Despite tighter restrictions and new global challenges, the nation's recyclers are learning that clean streams find ready markets. Here's a touch of international irony: A company that processes recycled plastic containers into factory-ready pellets is moving from China to Illinois to be closer to the

commodity source.

Loveland's advantage in achieving its status as the No. 1 Colorado recycler is the practice of recycling yard waste that Mercer instituted 25 years ago. It's a service that few other communities offer, but one that Larimer County planners are thinking of adding as a mandatory step toward further reducing the landfill load.

"We don't think we should bury material that still has value," Mercer said. The commodity value of recycled yard waste, with food waste included, has been well established by buyers, and markets for other recycled commodities that will open as clean-streaming becomes more widespread, he predicted.

"We have to take the long view," he said. "If China's not buying any more, then sooner or later someone in the U.S. will see an opportunity."

Learn more online

Visit www.CityofLoveland.org/recycle for more information on the City's recycling services.

Learn about Larimer County's recycling center, operated under contract with Waste Management Inc., at www.larimer.org/solidwaste.

Information there also describes the work of the North Front Range Wasteshed Regional Planning group, a broad coalition that is examining ways to cope with future challenges.

Drivers reminded to adhere to state law at crosswalks with flashing beacons

Colorado law is specific in safeguarding the rights of pedestrians. Red-and-yellow signs spell it out succinctly for drivers: "STATE LAW – YIELD to pedestrians in crosswalk."

But compliance rates with the law are lower than low. Fewer than one out of five drivers follow its letter, yielding to pedestrians who step into a marked crosswalk.

That is why Loveland has installed devices called Rectangular Rapid-Flash Beacons (RRFBs) in eleven locations around the city.

The yellow, flashing LED lights are activated by pedestrians at the push of a button, alerting motorists with attention-demanding light and color.

And they work. Federal

Highway Administration safety studies show that the rate at which drivers yield climbed from only 17 percent to a far safer 81 percent.

In other words, four out of five drivers yield to crossing pedestrians at the beacons. That means drivers, and pedestrians and cyclists using the crossings, still have more work to do.

For drivers: Be alert, stop for pedestrians when the beacons flash, and proceed only when the crosswalk is clear.

For pedestrians: Be wary, and wait until all traffic stops before crossing. Do not assume pushing the button that starts the flashers will automatically stop traffic flow.

Loveland has RRFBs at the following locations:

Boyd Lake/Frank • Boyd Lake/ Lost Creek
Boyd Lake/CR20E • Boise/Rec Trail
7th/Rec Trail • Washington/1st
Dotsero/1st • Namaqua/Rec Trail
Rossum/Rec Trail • Mehaffey Park/22nd
Georgetown/50th.



Flashing beacons at 22nd Street flash when pedestrians or cyclists push a button.

Loveland Connect event helps Loveland residents access needed services

The seventh annual Loveland Connect event – a one-stop shop for the homeless or near homeless – will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday, Oct. 12, at Truscott Elementary, 211 W. Sixth St. in Loveland.

This unique community event offers attendees access to a wide variety of free services, including information on housing, eyeglasses assistance, medical screenings, bike repair, veterinary checks for pets, haircuts and much more.

Volunteers are needed to

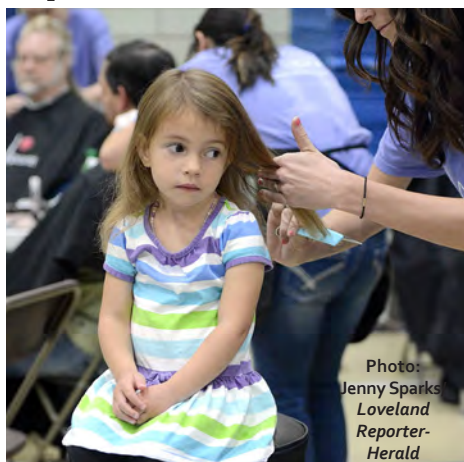


Photo:
Jenny Sparks
Loveland
Reporter-
Herald

A young attendee receives a free haircut at a previous Loveland Connect event.

partner with clients to act as guides. The goal of this pairing is to have volunteers help clients throughout the event, starting with breakfast together, and then accessing the various services clients need most.

Loveland Connect is based on a program called Project Homeless Connect, which has been replicated in over 260 communities across the country.

For more information or to volunteer, call 962-2517 or go to www.lifecenternoco.org/serve/loveland-connect.

Presentations on Medicare, world history and brewing beer on tap at the LPL

Crafting a Business: What's on Tap?

5:30-7 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 5

Gertrude Scott Room

Whether you're a beer connoisseur or interested

in starting your own brewery business, learn from some of the finest brewmasters/business owners in Loveland while tasting some of their taproom products.



Money Matters: Medicare Planning

6-8 p.m., Tues., Oct. 16
Erion Room

For those on the cusp of enrolling in Medicare and even for those already enrolled, this class will help you better understand Medicare, including Parts A, B, C and D. This program will also cover Medicare supplemental insurance plans.



World History on One Page with Jim Found, 1-3 p.m.

Wed., Oct. 24

Gertrude Scott Room

Did you know that the Roman Empire laid the foundation for many of our modern-day country boundaries? Educator Jim Found takes you on a tour of the last 4,000 years of global history in two hours and on one page.



Image Credit: Dominik Sythe

Open Lands & Trails October Programs & Activities

- 10/6 Guided Bird Walk
- 10/7 Volunteer Trail Host Training
- 10/7 Astronomy Night
- 10/18 Preschool Environmental Education (PEEPs)
- 10/20 Critter Scene Investigation



Sign up on Offero!
offer0.cityofloveland.org

RIALTO PRESENTS



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

COLLIN RAYE

OCT 06

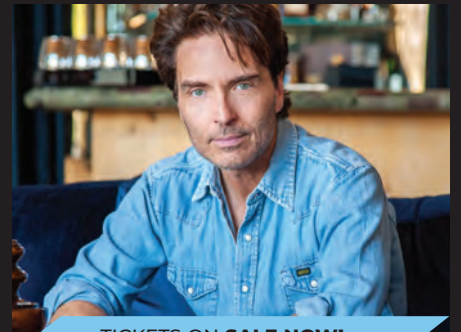
WITH SPECIAL GUEST JENN BOSTIC

7:30 PM

RIALTO THEATER CENTER

228 East Fourth Street • Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 962-2120 • rialtotheatercenter.org

RIALTO PRESENTS



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

RICHARD MARX

OCT 18

7:30 PM

RIALTO THEATER CENTER

228 East Fourth Street • Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 962-2120 • rialtotheatercenter.org



BE A BALLER

IT'S BASKETBALL SEASON!

ITTY BITTY BALLERS

GRADE: K - 1ST

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

GRADE: 2 - 5

VIEW FULL LISTINGS AT
CITYOFLOVELAND.ORG/ACTIVITYGUIDE

REGISTER AT

CITYOFLOVELAND.ORG/WEBTRAC



Fall Outdoor Movie Festival

FREE!

Sat, 10/27

Double Feature!

Silver Lake Park
711 Madrone Dr.



Hotel Transylvania
7:00 pm



Ghostbusters
9:30 pm

Mobile Recreation Trailer plus other fall fun!



970.962.2446
for more info.

cityofloveland.org/parksrecreation

BETTY WOODMEN

Gestural Interactions



September 29 – December 30, 2018



503 N. Lincoln Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537

(970) 962-2410

www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org

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 welcome. Please call 962-2302, or email Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org. The City of Loveland is committed to providing 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.

Follow us on
Facebook,
Twitter
and
YouTube



OCTOBER 7TH -13TH IS PUBLIC POWER WEEK... AND WE HAVE REASON TO CELEBRATE!



Like more than 2,000 utilities across the country, we are powered by a community-owned, not-for-profit public power utility.

To learn how you can get involved in the celebration stay connected with us!

Check out our website, social media pages, videos and e-news.

    visit us online... cityofloveland.org/LWP


During Public Power Week, we celebrate the benefits of living in a public power community, including:

-  Low rates
-  High reliability
-  Customer responsiveness
-  Community focus
-  Economic development
-  Local control

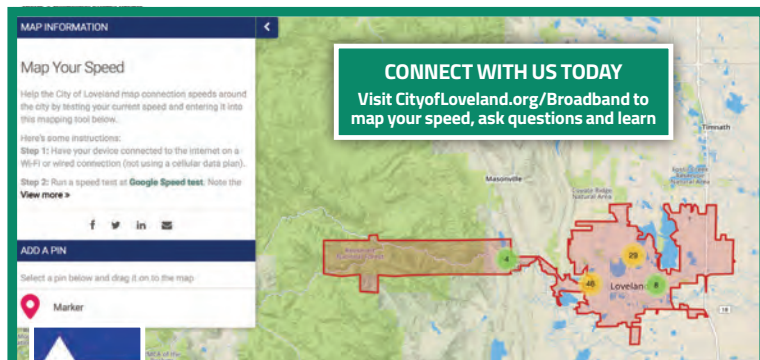
LET'S TALK BROADBAND



Have a Say in Loveland's Broadband Future

The City of Loveland will soon make a decision to bring broadband (or high-speed internet) to the community. Now is the time to engage with us, ask questions and learn more. 

Join us at an upcoming meeting, event or the Oct. 4 Town Hall



Email: Broadband@cityofloveland.org • Call: 970-962-2010

DID YOU KNOW?

Public power is one of the oldest forms of electric utility ownership in the U.S. and is supported by customer revenues, not taxes.



MAIN SWITCHBOARD
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING
970-962-2111

visit us online...
cityofloveland.org/LWP



WANT TO HELP PLAN LOVELAND'S ENERGY FUTURE?

Share your thoughts with Platte River.

As your non-profit electricity generation and transmission provider, Platte River Power Authority is seeking your input to help shape northern Colorado's energy future.

Together with Loveland Water and Power, Platte River will host a town hall meeting in Loveland this fall to answer your questions and take feedback about the energy resources you want to power your homes and businesses. The information collected will help shape Platte River's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) which serves as a roadmap to meet energy demand for years to come. Platte River continues to diversify the

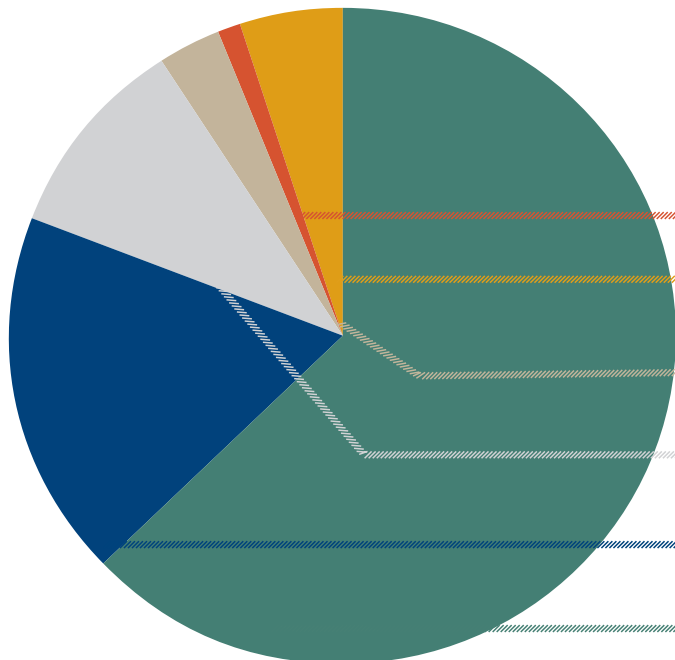
energy resources that serve the four owner communities – Estes Park, Fort Collins, Longmont and Loveland – including the addition of 150 megawatts of new wind power, 20 megawatts of new solar capacity and the first investment in battery storage technology. After this additional wind and solar are installed in 2020 and 2019, respectively, about 50 percent of the energy Platte River provides to its owner communities will come from carbon-free resources. As we look toward the future, your feedback



will be crucial to developing an IRP that accurately reflects the interests of our owner communities.

A specific date and location will be announced later this fall. Please follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for the latest updates, including the launch of a website with more detailed information.

Projected Sources of Energy in 2018



DID YOU KNOW?

About 31 percent of the energy delivered to Loveland customers in 2018 is expected to come from non-carbon emitting sources.

To learn more visit www.cityofloveland.org/Renewables.

- 1% NATURAL GAS
- 5% PURCHASES
- 3% SOLAR
- 10% WIND
- 18% HYDROPOWER
- 63% COAL