



WHY WE VOLUNTEER



Loveland resident **Cheri Orwig** spends warmer months as a trail host at Loveland's natural areas, including Morey Wildlife Reserve.

Loveland's natural areas, open spaces offer lots of non-monetary rewards for small army of volunteers

Cold, grey midwinter days in Loveland often stir thoughts of warmer, greener times and places.

February seems the perfect time to capitalize on that summer-lust.

That is when the Loveland Parks and Recreation Department draws residents into the corps of volunteers who play key roles in making the city's natural areas and trails Meccas for spring and summer hikes, rides and fishing expeditions.

This year, it happens on Feb. 25, when the Open Lands Division staff host a Volunteer Open House for prospective participants. Find details on page 2.

"Our wonderful volunteers make all of our school programs, public events and natural area explorations



Volunteer Eldon Grimm hands out art supplies to children during an August environmental education program session at Fairgrounds Park in Loveland.

"It is the volunteers who we lean on to help us engage the public in all variety of activities. We could not do what we do without them."

City of Loveland videographer Timothy Hurst shadowed three of the volunteers in August 2019 as they went about their duties.

His four-minute video, “Why We Volunteer,” offers a scenic view of why Loveland’s open lands and natural areas are such magnets for people who devote a measure of their time to helping others enjoy them.

Over the course of a week, Timothy accompanied Wayne Callaway, Eldon Grimm, Cheri Orwig and Margaret Royale on their outdoor rounds.

All had been through the Parks & Recreation training programs for volunteers. The first convenes each March, with an environmental education emphasis. The free training acquaints them with the plants, animals and geology of the Loveland area and, especially, the Big Thompson River corridor.

They take this knowledge into the field, conducting field trips for grade school children leading special programs for pre-schoolers and their parents.

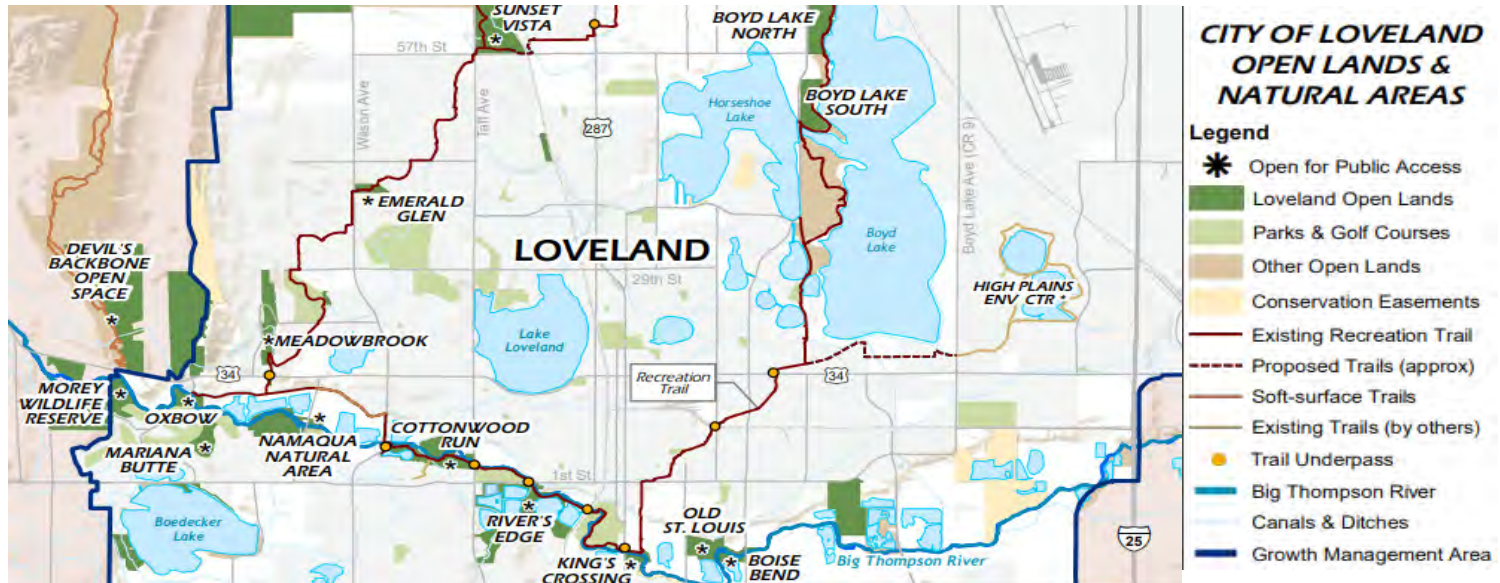
On May 15-16 this year, volunteer Trail Hosts will learn how they can turn their passion for walking and wildlife watching toward helping other visitors to trails and natural areas. They also serve as eyes and ears for



Trail Host Wayne Callaway greets visitors on the trail at River’s Edge Natural Area during an August 2019 outing.

Parks staff, relaying informatin about conditions and needs in the open spaces.

In June, and throughout the summer, residents are recruited for trail-building, planting and watering as stewardship volunteers.



Loveland’s many open lands and natural areas provide ample opportunity for volunteers and residents alike to get out and enjoy the great outdoors.

In their words

Excerpts from volunteers featured in a City of Loveland video:

“I feel like I’m doing my part to save the planet, and teaching people what I’ve learned, drawing them into loving nature and taking care of our planet.”

– Margaret Royale

“I love the little kids and their appreciation of nature. They always have questions.”

– Wayne Callaway

“The more that Trail Hosts can do, the more it makes staff available to do other things. If we keep the trail picked up, they’re free to do much more meaningful things.”

– Cheri Orwig

Get involved

The Loveland Parks and Open Lands Division staff will host an Open House for prospective volunteers from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, at the Parks & Recreation offices at 500 E. Third St., Suite 200.

Learn more at the City’s online volunteer portal, Offero.CityofLoveland.org. There you will also find a video tour of volunteer opportunities, “Why We Volunteer.”

Light the Lagoon was labor of love for artists - festive visual treat for residents

Foote Lagoon, the heart of the Loveland Civic Center complex, seems almost tailor-made for holiday decorating. A meandering footpath encircles it, and its waters reflect light beautifully.

Yet 2019-2020 is the first season in anyone's memory in which Foote Lagoon was decked out in holiday splendor.

And, what a successful debut it was.

"It was a great idea to get more people involved at that location," said Scott Clinebell, the prime organizer of the all-volunteer Winter Holiday Council's "Light the Lagoon" displays.

The group had been struggling financially for the past several years. Costs to replace a deteriorating stock of holiday decorations were unmet.

Expenses for storing them mounted. The core organizers also experienced declining interest in, and funding for, their activities.

"The lack of support, the lack of funding, had us sitting in a place that was unsustainable," Clinebell said. "We needed to have a goal of becoming self-sustaining."

Supported by \$10,000 in City Council-approved funding, the Light the Lagoon proposal hatched last summer. A few among Loveland's population of community-minded artists answered a request for proposals to design displays at Foote Lagoon, and at 5 p.m. on Nov. 22 they came to brilliant life.

"We had four artists who were very happy with the way things worked out, and our ornament sales were up substantially,"

Clinebell said. "We hope to stay self-supporting next year. We're going to be doing a pretty big push for volunteers."

The 2020-2021 season will also renew an emphasis on lighting displays on the south shore of Lake Loveland, a time-honored holiday tradition.

To help keep the Winter Holiday Council moving ahead, arrange to donate or volunteer by calling Scott Clinebell at 970-290-6462 or emailing WinterHolidayCouncil@gmail.com.



Spring at the library will offer programs for lil' sprouts and everyone else too

See what's blooming this spring at the Loveland Public Library. To start, little sprouts and their families are invited to attend the annual Be Ready Family Fun & Preschool Fair for preschoolers. There will be local preschools on-hand as well as 'Touch-a-Truck,' bucket rides, free burritos and much more - March 7.

Then on March 10, the CSU Master Gardeners 2020 Series begins. Included this season will be beautiful ground covers that prevent weeds, tips on how to grow awesome tomatoes, and a poppy primer - their history, varieties and how to grow them.

On March 16, the Library will launch a brand new Seed Library. Residents will be able to check out packets of vegetable, flower and herb seeds, just as they would books and other materials, except there's no due date. Burgeoning

gardeners may select up to five varieties of seed to take home to plant. If they let some of the resulting harvest run to seed, they can collect and return those seeds to the library for others to enjoy.

Saving seeds as a community helps create local seed stocks that are better acclimated to our unique mountain desert climate, which supports an abundant and



genetically diverse landscape.

To coincide with the launch of the Seed Library, the Library will offer children and teens the opportunity to make their own seed tapes and seed row markers. Patrons can also obtain a seedling watering spout printed on the Library's 3D printer.

The seed collection will depend on donations and seasonality. Residents are welcome to donate unopened seed packets they're not using. As part of the launch, the Library will present the documentary film, *Seed. The Untold Story*.

Finally, don't miss the visit from the CSU Bug Zoo, coming to the Children's department on March 18, complete with live animals.

For more information on all the above, check out the Library's online event calendar at www.LovelandPublicLibrary.org/events.

Volunteer Training

Environmental Education



FREE!

March 10-13* | 8:30A-1:00P

Teach kids to LOVE nature!

Help teach outdoor sessions about Colorado wildlife, native plants and urban wild areas. Trained volunteers assist with school field trip programs during spring and fall. **No experience necessary.**

*not all sessions required

River's Edge Natural Area, 960 W. First St.

REGISTER offero.cityofloveland.org



Info: 970.962.2643

SPRING BREAK YOUTH CAMPS

AT CHILSON



PRESCHOOL Mini-Camps

Age 2.5 - 6 years

M/W or Th/F, 3/16 - 3/20 (times vary)

cityofloveland.org/SmallFries

SCHOOL-AGE Day Camps

Grades K - 5

M - F (7:30A - 5:30P), 3/16 - 3/20

cityofloveland.org/ABDC



Questions?
970.962.2FUN



RIALTO PRESENTS



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

ON A WINTER'S NIGHT

MAR
27
7:30 PM

RIALTO THEATER CENTER

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

SHE BENDS
JANUARY 25 - APRIL 12



LOVELAND MUSEUM
Admission: \$7

503 N. Lincoln Ave.
(970) 962-2410

www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org



TEMPLE GRANDIN



DISCUSSION, Q & A,
AND BOOK SIGNING

MARCH 28

2:00PM

LOVELAND

PUBLIC

LIBRARY



RIALTO PRESENTS



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

JOHN JORGENSEN

BLUEGRASS BAND

MAR
07
7:30 PM

RIALTO THEATER CENTER

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

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STORMWATER ENGINEERING - KEEPING STORMW

The City's Stormwater Engineering Division's goals is to keep Loveland's waterways clean and free of pollutants and debris while maintaining and upgrading infrastructure to protect our community from water-related problems such as flooding.

REAL TIME EARLY FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

The City of Loveland has nine rain/stage gauges located within the City of Loveland and on the Big Thompson River. These rain/stage gauges continuously monitor rain levels, flow rates, depth of waterways and send real time data back to the Stormwater Engineers within the City of Loveland. With this data the City Engineers, City Public Works crews and Emergency Response personnel are able to monitor the rising water levels, deploy personnel to the areas that are most critical, and close all roadways before the waters over top the roadways, thus protecting the citizens of Loveland from flooded waterways.

**FLOODING AHEAD
TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN**

Flood Preparedness

WEATHER THE STORM DOWNLOAD THE FEMA APP



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND HOME

Know types of flood risk in your area. Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center for information. Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

If flash flooding is a risk in your location, then monitor potential signs, such as heavy rain.

Have a plan and communicate. Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response especially with children.

Gather supplies in case you have to leave immediately, or if services are cut off. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Obtain extra batteries and charging devices for phones and other critical equipment.

Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy. It typically takes up to 30 days for a policy to go into effect and can protect the life you've built. Homeowner's policies do not cover flooding. Get flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Keep important documents in a waterproof container.



Make An Emergency Plan For Pets And Livestock!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE
CITY OF LOVELAND'S
STORMWATER DIVISION:
970-962-2771

THE COST OF
**FLOOD
INSURANCE**
IS A DROP IN
THE BUCKET
COMPARED TO
THE COST OF
**FLOOD
DAMAGE**

\$700/YEAR
AVERAGE FLOOD
INSURANCE POLICY

\$43,000
AVERAGE FLOOD
INSURANCE CLAIM



4/14/11

WATER CLEAN, "CAUSE WE'RE ALL DOWNSTREAM"

COLORADO WATER LIVE LIKE YOU LOVE IT

COLORADO WATER IS VERY POPULAR • That's because a lot of people depend on it. 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.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO LIVE LIKE YOU LOVE IT?

USE FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES SPARINGLY

Over application of fertilizers and pesticides can result in runoff that carries toxic levels of chemicals or excessive nutrients into our waterways. Nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen encourage excess algae growth and water quality decline.

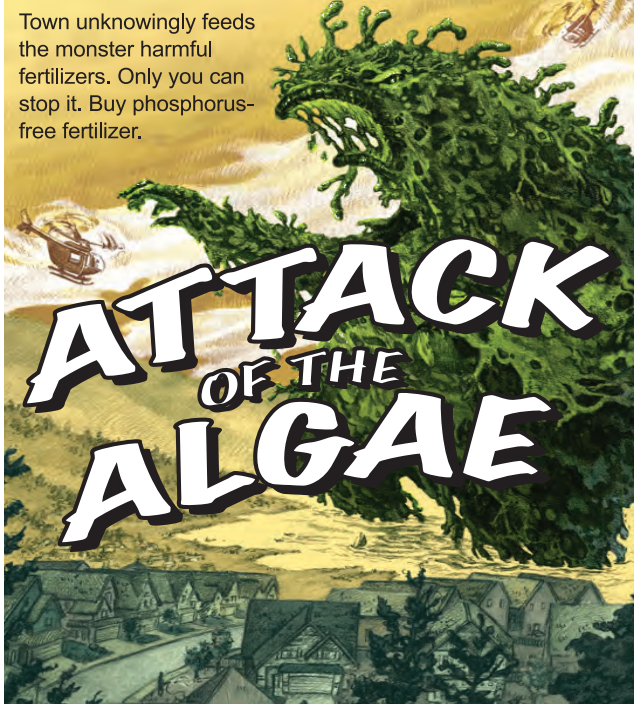
- **FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.** Read labels on lawn chemicals carefully and always apply products sparingly.
- **GO NATURAL.** Consider compost or natural lawn chemical alternatives. Composting creates natural, slow-release fertilizer and soil-enhancing material.
- **BE AWARE WHERE YOU FERTILIZE.** Use caution on slopes and lawn edges so fertilizer will not wash into nearby storm sewers or waterways.
- **LET FERTILIZERS DRY PROPERLY.** Allow proper drying time for liquid chemicals, and never use lawn chemicals before a heavy rainfall is expected.

USE A COMMERCIAL CAR WASH

When a car is washed in a driveway or street, this is essentially like washing the car in a local creek. Though not illegal, this practice is not the best for water quality as car wash water can contain fluids from engines, heavy metals from brake wear, and phosphorous from the soap and dirt. Ideally, cars should be washed at a commercial carwash where the water is sometimes reused and is always discharged to a treatment system. If you or someone you know is planning a carwash fundraiser, ask a local carwash if you can use one of their wash bays. Encourage your friends, family and neighbors to wash their cars at commercial car washes.

DON'T FEED STORM DRAINS


Discharging materials such as soaps, oil, trash, sand, yard clippings, paint, or other materials into the storm sewer system, roadways or drainage ditches, is considered an illicit discharge. Pollutants that flow through storm drains into the storm sewer system go directly into streams and waterways without being treated. This negatively impacts aquatic life, wildlife and people who recreate and fish. Report illicit dischargers to 970-962-2761.



Town unknowingly feeds the monster harmful fertilizers. Only you can stop it. Buy phosphorus-free fertilizer.

ATTACK OF THE ALGAE

Rainwater can quickly wash phosphorus from fertilizer into our water system. Phosphorus is like junk food for algae, causing it to grow out of control, turning our waters green, lowering water quality and even killing fish. Use phosphorus-free lawn fertilizers to keep it clean.



KEEP IT CLEAN

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE
CITY OF LOVELAND'S STORMWATER DIVISION:
970-962-2775

