





2019 ANNUAL REPORT

LOVELAND PARKS & RECREATION

ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Consider for a moment Loveland's vision statement: A vibrant community, surrounded by natural beauty, where you belong.

That statement is fully ingrained in the work of our Parks & Recreation Department. Without Parks & Recreation, Loveland residents and visitors would not be able to enjoy the open space, trails, parks and recreation opportunities that have become Loveland's trademarks.

Take a look at these facts from the 2019 National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) Engagement With Parks Report:

- 85% of people consider high-quality park and recreation amenities important factors when choosing a place to live
- 93% of U.S. residents believe it's important for their local government to acquire, construct and maintain local parks, trails and green spaces near bodies of water to protect natural resources in their community
- People visit their local park and recreation facilities twice a month, on average, with 1 in 10 visiting weekly, if not daily.

Loveland Parks & Recreation provides crucial health and wellness opportunities for all ages in our community. As our nation continues to face the epidemic of chronic illness, sedentary lifestyles and poor nutrition habits, Parks & Recreation is a vital resource that offers a variety of affordable and accessible ways to combat these problems.

As we age, social connections and a sense of place become even more important to our mental and physical health. Just walk into the Chilson Senior Center, and you'll see that it's a community hub and helps people stay active and connected.

Parks & Recreation has something for everyone and enhances a quality of life that, of all other things, offers the most to love about Loveland.

Steve Adams

City Manager, City of Loveland



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is with great pleasure we present the 2019 annual report for the City of Loveland Parks & Recreation Department. We are extremely proud of and take very seriously our vision statement: to provide a sustainable system of diverse parks, trails, natural areas and facilities that connect people with the natural environment, support good health and offer outstanding community experiences while balancing recreation opportunities with the protection of natural and cultural resources.

The department continues to play a leading role in the quality of life and character of Loveland. Our facilities and creative programs offer residents and visitors wide-ranging opportunities for social, cultural, educational and physical fitness activities. We had another momentous year in 2019, and we will continue to work hard to provide a model parks and recreation system that is a source of pride and enjoyment for all Loveland citizens through our efforts of collaboration, partnerships and dedicated staff.

I would like to sincerely thank the Loveland City Council and the citizens of Loveland. Without their continued and unwavering support, these accomplishments would not have been possible. In 2020, allow your Parks & Recreation professionals to help you reach your goals, discover new adventures, increase your knowledge and most of all, have FUN doing it!

Elizabeth R. Kayl, CPM, CPRPDirector, City of Loveland Parks & Recreation



LEADING LOVELAND

TO IMPROVED HEALTH & WELLNESS

Parks & Recreation may not be top of mind for everyone when thinking about essential services in a city.

But for us, we live and breathe public service every day. We're always asking ourselves, *How can we bring value to Loveland and create opportunities for everyone to live their best lives?* In this year's annual report, you'll see how.

Here's a sneak peek: a man defies a medical diagnosis thanks to yoga at Chilson Recreation Center. A national award is presented to Loveland and is the first in the state to have this type of facility. Citizens can now better find their way thanks to barriers being removed. Stories like ours are the heartbeat of our city. Our department unites people and creates a sense of community along the way. Each time you participate in a recreation activity, use our recreation trail, play in a park, explore open lands or swing a club at one of our golf courses, you are part of our community.

Our vision is to provide a sustainable system of diverse parks, trails, natural areas and facilities that connect people with the natural environment, support good health and offer outstanding community experiences while balancing recreation opportunities with the protection of natural and cultural resources.

We have something for everyone, and we're here to serve. Thanks for being part of our community.



The Loveland Parks & Recreation Management Team
Back row: Administrative Business Manager Molly Elder,
Parks Manager Dan Willadsen; Middle Row: Open Lands
& Trails Manager Marilyn Hilgenberg, Golf Manager
Mark Esoda, Parks & Recreation Director Elizabeth R. Kayl,
Recreation Manager LeAnn Williams;
Bottom row: Planning Manager Bryan Harding

THREE PILLARS OF PARKS & RECREATION



HEALTH & WELLNESS - IMPROVING HEALTH, ENHANCING LIFE

Our staff are leaders in recreation, sports and nutrition and offer fitness, sports and nutrition lifestyle classes for people of all ages and abilities. They seek to reduce obesity, physical inactivity and poor nutrition while strengthening skills that enrich body, mind and attitude.



CONSERVATION - PRESERVING NATURAL RESOURCES

Oftentimes, parks and recreation agencies are the only voice for ensuring that open space is protected, our youth have access to nature-related areas and that services and outdoor education are available. These have quantifiable economic benefits to our community.



SOCIAL EQUITY - ACCESS AND INCLUSION FOR ALL

We strive to be a catalyst for ensuring all residents have equal access to our resources and services. We offer opportunities that transcend barriers of income through outreach activities such as our mobile recreation trailer and movies in the park. We also provide scholarships via our Parks & Recreation Foundation.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Boards and Commissions serve in an advisory capacity to the Parks & Recreation Department and City Council. They provide input on the primary policy topics critical to the operation of Loveland City Government. Members are appointed by City Council based on their personal and professional backgrounds relevant to the policy topic. Their structure provides an excellent opportunity for community participation in policy making at the City of Loveland.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Jess Arnold Shane McWatters, Vice Chair
John Bradley Keller Taylor

Wendi Cudmore, *Chair* Kevin Turvey

Katie Davis Richard Ball, City Council Liaison

Brett Dowgin Steve Olson, Alternate
Laura Leah Flores-Olsen Elizabeth Kayl, Staff Liaison
Jim Haynes

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Linda Aron Jason Morgan
Anne Brown Danita Nixon
Carmen Cisneros, *Chair* Karol Stroschein

Julie Demaree Patti Welfare, Vice Chair

Donita Fogle Richard Zlamany

Mary Ann Goldsmith Jacki Marsh, City Council Liaison

Richard Hansen Kathi Wright, *Alternate*Dixie Huff Elaine Brush, *Staff Liaison*

OPEN LANDS ADVISORY COMMISSION

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Rick Brent Jean Whittaker
Michael Hinterberg William Zawacki

Scott James Don Overcash, City Council Liaison

Poss Livingston Kathi Wright Alternate

Ross Livingston Kathi Wright, *Alternate*

Darren Pape Marilyn Hilgenberg, Staff Liaison
Jim Roode, Vice Chair

GOLF ADVISORY BOARD

Karen Markel

Charlie Dyer Robert Walkowicz, *Chair*Joe Lopo Chuck Weirauch

Julie Nelson, *Vice Chair* Jim Whitenight

Rex Lamoreaux Don Overcash, City Council Liaison

Beth Soderquist Greg Oehmen, Alternate Jack Stringer Mark Esoda, Staff Liaison

PARKS & RECREATION FOUNDATION

Chad Brent Dennis Newberry
Marie DeWolf Denise Rhoades
Greg Guest, Chair Howard Wigert
Ryan Lundquist, Treasurer Scott Wilson, Vice

Ryan Lundquist, *Treasurer* Scott Wilson, *Vice Chair* Rose McQueen Molly Elder, *Staff Liaison*



The 2019 Chilson Senior Advisory Committee (CSAC)

DEPARTMENT WORK GROUPS

The Parks & Recreation Department is comprised of six divisions. These work teams provide comprehensive year-round support and programming for all ages at a number of facilities throughout the City of Loveland.

ADMINISTRATION

Division managers and support staff oversee programming, operations, marketing, communications and graphic design.

PLANNING

The backbone of Parks & Recreation, Planning is responsible for laying the framework for projects within our department. Planning is comprised of landscape architects and designers.

PARKS

32 city parks with 18 park shelters are available for reservation; facilities with multiple sports fields; two cemetery/burial parks

RECREATION

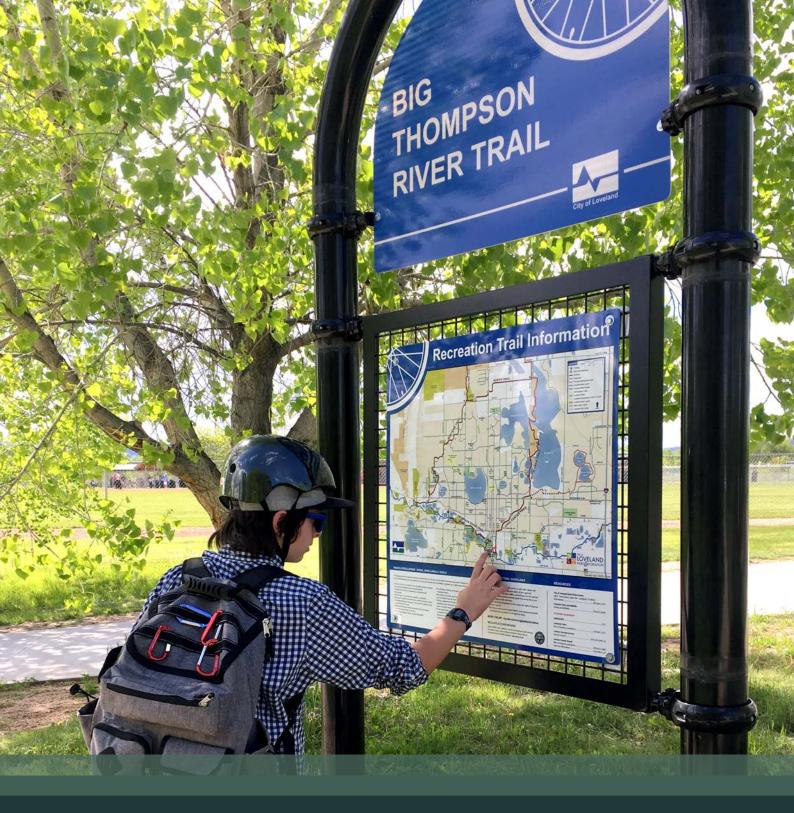
Facilities such as the Chilson Recreation & Senior Center, Lake Loveland Swim Beach and Winona Outdoor Pool; programming including athletics, fitness and more

OPEN LANDS & TRAILS

30 natural areas/open spaces, 23 miles of paved recreation trail and 20 miles of unpaved trails

GOLF

Three golf courses and one mini-course



HELPING TRAIL USERS FIND THEIR WAY

Better Community Connections Now Possible Through New Wayfinding Signage

Each year, more than one million people use the Loveland recreation trail, a 23-mile paved trail system in Loveland. Built over 30 years, the trail has been constructed section by section, resulting in some segments of the trail being harder to navigate than others. To remedy this, the Open Lands & Trails Division created new wayfinding signage to better connect the community and help trail users find where they need to go.

GOAL 1: SAFETY OF TRAIL USERS

One goal of the wayfinding project is the safety of trail users and implementing features that improve safety communication through the trail system. Meeting MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) standards, hundreds of new features were installed including directional signage, pavement markings, gates and mirrors and regulatory signage to warn or guide pedestrian and bikeway traffic. Mileage markers also were added throughout the system to not only allow users to measure distance but to provide unique location points for emergency services that are synced to the City's Emergency Communication System. For the safety of trail users, regulatory and etiquette information was added to trail kiosks, signage and the bikeways and trails guide. Better communication regarding regulations and best practices to accommodate multiuse has resulted in improved compliance and better cooperation between user groups.

GOAL 2: UNDERSTANDING TRAIL LOCATIONS

The second goal of the wayfinding project was to better communicate with users on locations, i.e., where they are, where they want to get and where they can go. We revamped the City's bikeways and trails map, which is now available online, in 24 kiosks along the trail system and in a Loveland bikeways and trails map and guide. New wayfinding throughout the 23-mile trail system provides directional, location and distance signage to help users navigate their way and explore new areas of town.

GOAL 3: REMOVE BARRIERS TO CONNECTIONS

The final goal was to remove barriers to having a connected system of bikeways and trails that connect our citizens, locations and neighborhoods. Loveland's recreation trail loop encircles the town and connects 14 parks and open land areas throughout the community. The signage reinforces the geographical areas of Loveland and the area's defining landmarks. The new blue color and unique bike spoke logo let the community know they are connected to the Loveland trail system. Etiquette and share-the-trail signs communicate the message that the trail is for everyone and is multiuse.

Loveland's recreation trail is highly valued by the community and positively contributes to the quality of life locally and in the greater Northern Colorado region. The recreation trail is free of charge and allows for social equity since it is available to all regardless of physical ability or socioeconomic status. The wayfinding project through kiosk and signage invites users to safely utilize this amazing community asset that has been funded over a 30-year period with Colorado Lottery dollars.

NEW RECREATION TRAIL NAMES

- Big Thompson River Trail (Rossum Avenue to South Highway 287)
- Civic Center Trail (South Highway 287 to Denver Avenue)
- Boyd Lake Trail (Denver Avenue to County Road 11C)
- North Trail (County Road 11C to Taft Avenue)
- Westside Trail
 (Taft Avenue to West Highway 34)
- Front Range Trail (County Road 11C north to County Road 60)
- Long View Trail
 (57th Street & Taft north to Trilby Road Fort Collins)







Distance signage make it easy for users to explore

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Loveland Parks & Recreation is committed to partnerships that align with our overall mission and provide benefits to the community. We are thankful for the partnerships below that allow us to further our goal of providing quality recreation opportunities to all members of the community regardless of age or financial status. 2019 community partnerships include:

ATHLETIC ORGANIZATIONS

- Colorado National Softball Association (NSA)
- Colorado Senior Volleyball Association (CSVA)
- Loveland Tennis Association (LTA)
- National Adult Baseball Association (NABA)
- Skyhawks Sports Academy
- Steele Athletics
- Thompson R2J High School Softball & Baseball
- Thompson Soccer Association (TSA)
- United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA)
- Youth Sports Camps British Soccer



- Banner Health
- Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
- Colorado Addicted Trailbuilders Society (CATS)
- Colorado Avian Research & Rehabilitation Institute
- Colorado Native Plant Society
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado State University (CSU)
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Economic Development Department
- Foothills Audubon
- Front Range Community College
- Group Publishing "Week of Hope"
- High Plains Arts Council
- High Plains Environmental Center
- I Love Loveland
- Larimer County Youth Conservation Corps
- Loveland Concert Band
- Loveland Downtown Partnership
- Loveland Housing Authority
- Loveland Lions Club
- Loveland Municipal Court
- Loveland Parks & Recreation Foundation
- Rialto Theater
- · Sweetheart Racing
- Thompson School District Summer Meals
- UCHealth
- Visit Loveland
- Youth Conservation Corps (YCC)



SENIOR ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES

- AARP
- Alzheimer's Association
- Chilson Senior Advisory Committee (CSAC)
- Ensight Skills Center
- Hearing Rehab Center
- Kaiser Permanente
- Kiwanis
- Larimer County Health District
- Loveland Fishing Club
- Loveland High School National Honor Society
- Loveland Pickleball Club
- Loveland Reporter-Herald
- McKee Medical Center The Seasons Club
- Mountain View High School National Honor Society
- National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE)
- UCHealth Aspen Club
- Volunteers of America (VOA) Meal Program
- Walmart

GOLF CLUBS | LEAGUES

- Girls' Golf at The Olde Course with LPGA & USGA
- Loveland Men's Golf Association
- Loveland Women's Golf Association
- Mariana Butte Men's & Ladies Golf Associations

PLANNING

Connecting Vision to Reality

The Planning Team is responsible for capital project planning, design and construction within the Parks & Recreation Department. The team currently is comprised of 2.5 full-time equivalent employees each with advanced degrees in landscape architecture, planning and architecture as well as significant professional experience ranging from large-scale private sector design and planning work to significant public sector experience. We provide professional expertise in the fields of landscape architecture, urban and regional planning, environmental planning, horticulture, geography, public administration and project management.

Staff serve as the department's internal project managers, overseeing the planning, design, implementation and construction of capital projects and depreciation projects. The Planning Team also serve as both a department and citywide resource for professional expertise in the fields of planning, design and landscape architecture and serve on the city's Development Review Team, providing oversight and review capacity for new development projects both citywide and in the region.

ADA TRANSITION PLAN

2019 saw the second phase of implementation of the department's ADA Transition Plan, a 10-year plan aimed at updates and renovations to over 1,600 Parks & Recreation assets to achieve Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. With a budget of \$300,000, this phase of work focused primarily on concrete grinding to eliminate trip hazards and non-compliant transitions between concrete surfaces, new sign installation and parking lot improvements for handicap accessibility. In the coming years, the department plans to request additional funding to further improve ADA accessibility for our community.

OTHER 2019 PLANNING PROJECTS

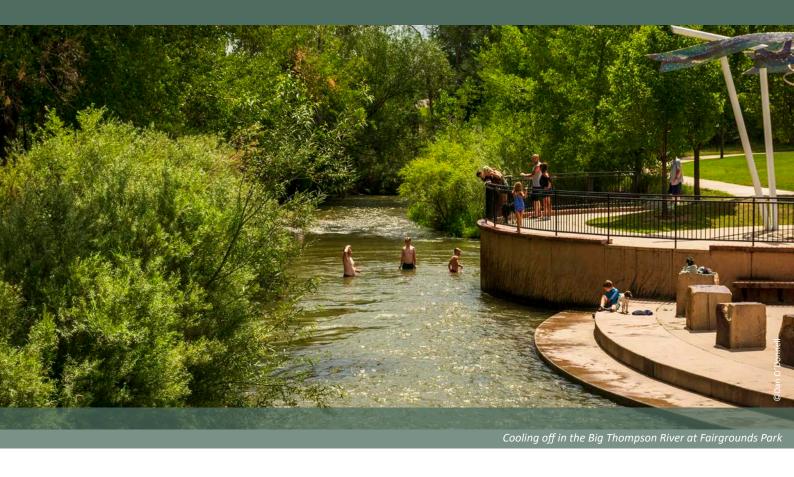
- Parks & Recreation Design Standards Manual development
- Derby Hill Park drainage improvements design
- Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park
 - o Phase III improvements planning
 - o Nature Exploration Zone design
- Willow Bend ADA accessible fishing dock design
- Benson Pond dredging and 29th St. culvert improvements
- · Mehaffey land annexation and zoning
- Prairie Ridge Natural Area planning and construction
- Copper Ridge Connector Trail design
- Madison to Old St. Louis trail design and construction
- Denver to Boyd Lake Ave. trail design
- Namaqua Ave. to Wilson Ave. trail design
- · Cattail Creek golf cart storage facility design
- Bridge design and installation at
 - o Boedecker Bluff Natural Area
 - o Skyline Natural Area/Louden Ditch
 - o Madison to Old St. Louis Natural Area

PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

In accordance with the Parks & Recreation
Department's Depreciation Plan, the Planning
Team oversaw the replacement of the Namaqua
Park playground and the Dwayne Webster Veterans
Park playground. Both projects included the solicitation
of bids from playground manufacturers and installers
with a focus on innovative play equipment including
sensory and tactile play options.

The new Namaqua Park playground features ADA accessible components and a nature-based theme capitalizing on its location next to the Big Thompson River and the beautiful natural areas surrounding the site. The new Dwayne Webster Veterans Park playground includes two connected sections of equipment for children ages 2-5 and 5-12 with a number of ADA accessible features. The new playground includes monkey bars, climbing walls, slides and swings as well as sensory play equipment like two large xylophones.





PARKS

Getting Loveland Outdoors

In 2019, the Parks Division continued with their tradition of providing safe, high-quality park shelters, restrooms, playgrounds, hardcourt facilities, sports fields and non-programmed park space for citizens of and visitors to Loveland.

BUILDING NEW SMILES

The City of Loveland is committed to maintaining safe public play areas. Namaqua Park and Dwayne Webster Veterans Park were the recipients of new playground structures this year. Each year, the City evaluates and replaces aging play equipment for user safety and maintainability. Playground equipment wears out and gets damaged over time by exposure to sun, weather and sometimes by users.

Most play equipment has an expected lifespan of 10-15 years. The City has a depreciation schedule that includes replacing equipment in all of the 30+ playgrounds every 10 years to stay ahead of major damage and safety hazards. In 2020, the City plans to refurbish the Derby Hill and Silver Lake playgrounds.



Play all day at the new playground at Dwayne Webster Veterans Park

COMPLETION OF LOVELAND SPORTS PARK (LSP)

This year, a 20+ acre community park expansion was completed at LSP in east Loveland, including a mixed-use building, corporate shelter, increased parking to over 800 spaces and enough natural grass area for four full-size soccer fields. This expansion helps to meet the rising demand for sports fields in Loveland.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The Parks Division continued their maintenance to meet the 2010 ADA standard. The park restroom at North Lake Park near the tennis courts was remodeled and expanded to serve larger group activities.

The pond at Benson Sculpture Garden near North Lake Park was dredged in the fall. Dredging allowed us to remove the cattails that were quickly overgrowing in the pond. Not an easy process by any means, staff worked diligently with equipment that moves at a snail's pace to thoroughly clear the pond. This cleanup effort promotes a positive display for Art in Public Places as well as the High Plains Arts Council, ensuring that art placed at Benson has a pristine backdrop.

Improvements to Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park have been ongoing since the reopening of the park in the spring. Structural, safety and ADA accessibility to the historic buildings and park features continues.

LOVELAND'S TREE CANOPY

Loveland celebrated its 30th year as a Tree City USA recipient as recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation. With this designation, Loveland celebrates the importance of an urban tree canopy and creates a better community through trees. An urban forest canopy can reduce energy consumption by up to 25 percent, boost property values across the community and build stronger ties to people and their neighborhoods. The City takes great pride in this accomplishment and celebrated by planting 30 trees at Mehaffey Park.

THE PEST THAT WON'T GO AWAY

The Parks Division has been tracking the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), which recently was identified in a tree approximately 6.5 miles southwest of the City limits. EAB is an invasive, highly destructive tree pest. An estimated 15 percent or more of all urban and community trees in Colorado are ash species susceptible to being killed by EAB — and a majority of these trees are on private land. EAB attacks and kills both stressed and healthy ash trees and is so aggressive that trees typically die within two to four years after becoming infested. Many Front Range and Larimer County communities have been managing for EAB before its arrival, including Berthoud, Fort Collins, Loveland and Windsor.



New field turf at Loveland Sports Park



Clearing cattails from Benson pond



May the forest be with you - Arbor Day 2019



Loveland and area communities manage for EAB

BRINGING A NEW SPARK TO JULY 4TH

Independence Day in Loveland got a little more spark this year. The Recreation Division was tasked with planning the July 4th festival in 2019, so we decided to make it an all-day event with something for everyone.



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

With the growing popularity of this sport, this was a natural fit for the July 4th event. Participants have already requested an amateur and competitive category in 2020 with larger cash prizes.



Located near the train featuring the mobile recreation trailer, climbing wall, face painting, ice cream, kettle corn and more. We also featured vendors, sponsors and food trucks.





BEER GARDEN

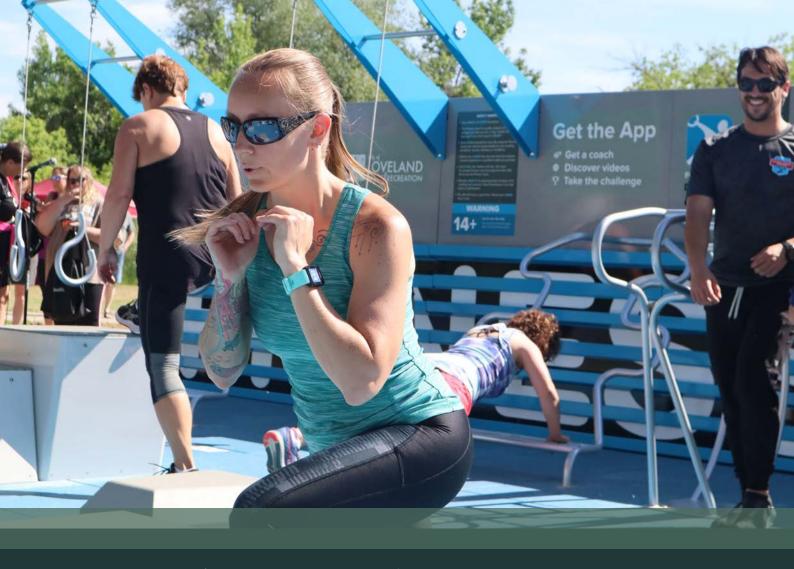
The beer garden was strategically placed so guests could watch the stage and participate in the cornhole tournament.

CHILDREN'S BIKE PARADE Dozens of kids came out to show off their red, white & blue with a ride around the Benson Sculpture Garden. In 2020, watch for judging and prizes!

BATTLE OF THE BANDS & LIVE MUSIC

Thanks to the guidance and partnership of the Rialto Theater, we hosted a Battle of the Bands competition and recruited larger, well-known regional bands for the main stage opening and headlining bands. The Rialto provided all the AV equipment and manpower.





FREE FITNESS FOR ALL

New Outdoor Fitness Court® at Fairgrounds Park Provides Inclusive Access and Opportunity

In June 2019, the City of Loveland was the first in the state of Colorado to install an outdoor Fitness Court®. Created by the National Fitness Campaign and partially funded by the generous support of our partner, UCHealth, the new court is an outdoor bodyweight circuit training facility designed to transform public spaces into community fitness hubs.

The best part? It's free to use.

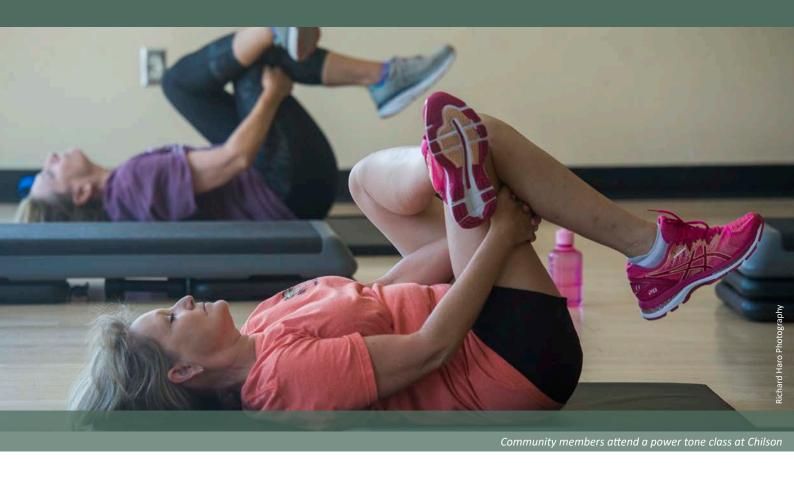
"Exercise is one of the most powerful tools we have when it comes to health. It can help prevent and treat so many chronic diseases, and it's good for your spirit and mind, too," said Dr. Peter Smith, a UCHealth internal medicine physician in Loveland. "We are thrilled to be a part of this project because it's going to inspire more people and families to move more and to have fun doing it."

UCHealth along with our own recreation coordinators led free fitness classes at the court. Our combined efforts burned approximately 671,440 calories.

We also received the National Healthy Community Award for Programming Excellence presented by the National Fitness Campaign.



The Fitness Court® has been a valuable addition to Loveland



RECREATION

Innovative Programs and Excellent Service

Whether you come to us or we come to you, the Recreation Division improves the quality of life for residents of and visitors to Loveland. Recreation is part of the community fabric that intertwines and brings life to Loveland.

CHILSON RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

Chilson Recreation & Senior Center celebrated its 32nd anniversary this year, and while Loveland's population has more than doubled since we constructed the facility, we're doing our best to continue to meet the needs of what the public wants in a community recreation center. A new facility is needed to continue to meet the needs of a growing population.

What we do at Chilson is so much more than fitness. Did you know physically active kids are less likely to be obese, more likely to get a college degree, less likely to suffer chronic illnesses and more likely to be active as adults? We serve clients ranging in age from infants to seniors. Our Senior Center is a major hub of the community; we continue to provide opportunities for our aging population including social and physical outings as well as a warm and welcoming place for those who want to socialize and avoid isolation. Our aging population is diverse in its needs, and Chilson is the leader in meeting those needs.



2019 Annual Report

SPECIAL EVENTS

Our special events had a record-breaking year. The farmers market expanded and added some fun festivals on key weekends to increase gross revenue to \$290K. The inaugural Honey Festival in September was a sweet success and drew crowds from all over Northern Colorado. We have created new and innovative programs for the community along with expanding and improving long-time community favorites like the Ski & Sports Swap, which boasted \$79K in gross revenue and allowed us to donate \$11K to the Parks & Recreation Foundation. All of these things were done without adding to the general fund operations and maintenance budget. Our programs, services and facilities directly impact the health of our residents and the health of our economy.

We continue to take our mobile recreation trailer to those who don't have the means to access our regular programming or facilities. The rec trailer was out all summer visiting the Loveland Housing Authority, Thompson School District Summer Meals, Boys and Girls Club, downtown Loveland for the free summer movies at the Rialto Theater and many other local community events. As a result, we saw almost triple the number of participants during the 200 hours our trailer hit the road.

TIME TO UPGRADE

For the first time ever, we closed Chilson Recreation Center for a week to complete scheduled maintenance and facility upgrades, thereby minimizing shorter closures throughout the year. As part of shutdown week, guests could use Windsor Community Recreation Center while we were busy installing a new HVAC system, a new ADA lift in the Chilson pool, upgrading the AV equipment and paging system and getting new furniture in the Senior Center. We also have brand new state-of-the-art Stages Cycling bikes in the cycling room.

SMALL FRIES PRESCHOOL EARNS TOP RATING

In October 2019, Small Fries Preschool was awarded a level 5 rating with Colorado Shines, a quality rating and improvement system for licensed childcare programs in Colorado. Level 5 is the highest rating a program can receive, and Small Fries joins only three other facilities in Larimer County that currently possess this prestigious rating.

Colorado Shines connects families with quality programs and helps programs improve their quality level. The staff of Small Fries Preschool began as a level 1 in 2016 and have since completed several capital improvement projects and hundreds of hours of staff training; they've also received thousands of dollars in grant-funded curriculum materials and equipment in order to increase their rating level. Staff dedication to quality improvement demonstrates our commitment to supporting the health and safety of Loveland's children, ensuring staff are well-trained and effective educators and helping families be active in their children's learning.



Fresh faces at the farmers market



First in line for the Ski & Sports Swap



Chilson staff help keep the pool clean



Small Fries Preschool earns coveted level 5 rating

2019 BY THE NUMBERS



PARKS

Shelter reservations = 856
Buckhorn Railroad train rides = 23,880
Dog waste bags used = 140,000
New trees planted = 275
Annual flowers & bulbs planted = 14,514
Acres of grass mowed = 13,570
Number of years as a Tree City USA recipient = 30

OPEN LANDS & TRAILS

New trail marker signs = 350

Volunteer hours = 7,050

New open lands acres added = 161

Total open lands acres = 8,247

Total trail miles = 42



SENIOR CENTER

SilverSneakers® total visits = 118,820 SilverSneakers® new enrollments = 1,124 Senior sports & league enrollments = 221 Senior day trip enrollments = 1,495 Senior special event enrollments = 2,153 Total senior center attendance = 50,779



Adult general interest class enrollments = 1,534

Outdoor recreation enrollments = 701

Adapted recreation enrollments | attendance = 426

Adapted recreation accomodations = 93

Recreation division volunteer hours = 14,175





SPECIAL EVENTS & MOBILE RECREATION TRAILER

Loveland farmers market visitors = 23,884 Visitors to the mobile recreation trailer = 3,243 Movies in the park attendance = 4,968 Total value of event sponsorships = \$36,200

ATHLETICS & COURT FIELD UTILIZATION

Adult athletics teams = 377
Youth athletics participants = 6,420
Pickleball & tennis court reservations = 4,004
Racquetball court reservations = 9,333
LSP championship field reservations = 354
LSP field reservation revenue = \$46,539
Total athletic field reservations = 9,026



CHILSON RECREATION CENTER

Chilson paid visits = 405,517
Chilson visitors = 614,000
Fitness class attendance = 62,708
Personal training visits = 2,830
Chilson facility rentals = 435
Childcare visits = 6.918

YOUTH & DAY CAMP

Tot programming enrollments = 1,005
Programming enrollments = 1,935
Day camp total daily attendance = 4,200
Day camp waitlist = 25
Day camp revenue increase since 2018 = 27%
Kids Night Out attendance = 7,759

AQUATICS

Winona paid visits = 28,570 Winona rentals = 31 Winona lesson enrollments = 478 Chilson lesson enrollments = 2,075

GOLF

Tax dollars used to support golf operations* = 0

New point of sale system purchased and installed = 1

Acres of land, beautifully maintained golf course properties = 330

Rounds of golf played by youth 18 years and under = 3,430

Total golf rounds played = 106,016

Tournament rounds hosted by three golf courses = 4,709

Times carts went out for a spin on the golf courses = 40,850

Range balls that were sent soaring by golfers = 1,814,660

^{*}Golf is not subsidized by the City of Loveland as a recreational opportunity

DEFYING MEDICAL ODDS

THROUGH YOGA

Will King was told by doctors he might eventually end up unable to walk. But thanks in part to his yoga practice at Chilson Recreation Center, he's defying the odds.

For eight years, Will King was told by doctors he'd eventually end up unable to walk. After a terrible fall in the basement of a school where he taught in Windsor, things really took a turn for the worst. Will was diagnosed with a condition closely akin to Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP) with chronic, relapsing drop foot in both legs.

His health continued to decline. He became dependent on a walker to move around, and he was nearly housebound for two years. Feeling like a bird perched in a nest observing life rather than living it, Will became further withdrawn. He felt like he had no other treatment options besides the opioid pain medications he was prescribed.



But after seeing a new doctor who suggested alternatives to opioid medication, Will signed up for yoga classes at Chilson. After eight months of regular sessions, he tossed aside the walker that had become an extension of his body. As Will's strength improved, so did his outlook on life. He noticed that the best days of his week were the ones spent at Chilson in his yoga nidra class. Something was working. Will became a different person.

66 It was in yoga class that I first found the courage to build trust and confidence in myself again. I began to shed the terrible catastrophizing thoughts that kept me sick. ??



Chilson yoga instructor Linda Bestor works with Will

"How yoga has improved his life makes it so rewarding for me as his instructor," says Linda Bestor, part-time personal trainer and yoga instructor at Chilson. Linda truly impacts people's lives, and on a cellular level, no less. She teaches people how to tune into their bodies, stop their racing minds and remember how to breathe into whatever life throws at them. The work she does inside the walls of Chilson Recreation Center ripples outward into the community of Loveland, as evidenced by Will's strength and determination to keep walking.

Will has learned to step into the present moment, fully relax and move his body in ways that help him to heal and become stronger. How did he learn to do that? With the care, compassion and deep yoga knowledge bestowed upon him by Linda.

If you talk to Will today, he will tell you he had to stop thinking of himself as a sick person who was only getting sicker. While he couldn't change his diagnosis, he could change the future he accepted for himself. He took his new doctor's advice to be as active as possible for as long as possible. Through Chilson yoga, Will's perception of himself changed. He dropped the "sick" image he had of himself and was able to heal from the effects he experienced from prescribed opioid medication.

After being in such a dark place for so long in just about every aspect of his life, a colorful array of possibilities appeared. Yoga was living! No longer in the nest, Will has spread his wings and is flying once again.

Watch Will's story and learn more about wellness classes at cityofloveland.org/yoga

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

The Loveland Parks & Recreation Department is fortunate to have the dedicated support of hundreds of local volunteers. These volunteers assist with community education, coaching, special events, open lands maintenance and clean up and program facilitation and tracking. Our volunteers are invaluable and crucial to the success of many programs.

CHILSON SENIOR CENTER •

214 VOLUNTEERS 5,605 HOURS

Thousands of hours of volunteer support are donated here; over 3,500 hours are generated from the 25 volunteers who work the front desk and assist with meeting and greeting guests, answering phone calls, providing information and resource materials including housing, food, transportation and medical help; they provide facility tours and guest education regarding new programs, attendance tracking and so much more; the remaining 2,100 volunteer hours are from events such as the Pancake Breakfast, Harvest Bazaar, Ugly Sweater Luncheon, Veterans Day, St. Patrick's Day and the tea and fashion show, and facilitating programs including table tennis, bunco, volleyball, AARP safe driving, meditation and blackjack/gambling.



433 VOLUNTEERS 7,050 HOURS

433 volunteers donated 7,050 hours

of their time to environmental education programs, trail hosting, stewardship and interpretive guided walks such as native plant, orienteering, local geology and history; volunteers also helped us with large community events including astronomy nights, Smokey the Bear's 75th birthday party and storytelling.

LOVELAND LIONS CLUB •

45 VOLUNTEERS 1,536 HOURS

Loveland Lions Club operates the Buckhorn Northern Railroad, an 18-gauge miniature train located at North Lake Park; forty-five club members provided 1,536 volunteer hours and gave 23,880 people train rides between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

SMALL FRIES PRESCHOOL •

43 VOLUNTEERS 125 HOURS

Volunteers assist classroom teachers with snack preparation, reading stories, playground and field trip supervision and assistance with classroom activities.

ATHLETICS •

219 VOLUNTEERS 8,241 HOURS

These volunteers coach youth athletic teams, plan practices and invest in character and skill development of our youth.

SPECIAL EVENTS •

30 VOLUNTEERS 204 HOURS

Over 30 volunteers worked both the farmers market and Ski & Sports Swap for equipment check-in, assisting cashiers, providing door security, sorting merchandise tags and general event set-up and tear-down.



Senior Center front desk volunteers ready to help



Open Lands & Trails volunteer engages children

We are grateful to our dedicated volunteers who selflessly donate their time, talents and energy. Their hard work and commitment makes a meaningful contribution to the betterment of the Loveland community. Although figures place the value of the contributions provided by these volunteers at over \$500,000, we could never place a monetary value on the work of community members doing extraordinary things. Loveland Parks & Recreation volunteers are priceless!





Newly acquired open land parcel along the East Big Thompson River

OPEN LANDS & TRAILS

More to Explore and Preserve

The Open Lands & Trails Division successfully purchased two key open land parcels encompassing 159 acres along the east Big Thompson River corridor. As development continues to move toward I-25, the acquisition of these pieces of land ensures these valuable natural areas are preserved along the Big Thompson River, which is a top open lands priority area for Loveland. These sites will be preserved in their current state until a Management Plan is developed including public input. The long-term vision is for Loveland and Johnstown to connect a trail system via this scenic river route.

RESTORING THE BIG THOMPSON RIVER CORRIDOR

As a result of collaboration with the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC), significant restoration along the river corridor occurred in 2019, improving river hydrology, fish habitat, flood sustainability and corridor vegetation. More than \$5 million in grant-funded projects were completed from the Wild Natural Area to Wilson Avenue. Several areas of the Big Thompson River were rechanneled to create sustainable water flows, improve fish habitat, reduce flooding and erosion and return to more natural vegetation and benches along the river corridor.

At Wild Natural Area, the river channel was realigned to allow for future public fishing from this open land area. In addition, river banks were stabilized and revegetated to improve the sustainability of the corridor. At Oxbow Natural Area, rails were added to the existing river bridge, an overflow channel was constructed and revegetation was done on areas destroyed by the 2013 Big Thompson Flood. At Medina's Crossing Natural Area, the old ditch diversion structure was removed and replaced with a smaller profile diversion, significant river work completed, a new irrigation diversion and pump station installed and restoration of areas on both sides of the river. At Namaqua Avenue, the City partnered with Larimer County Engineering Department on a project to replace the street bridge over the Big Thompson River, improving river flows and safety and adding a pedestrian underpass for future connection between Namaqua Park and Medina's Crossing Natural Area. Lastly, improvements to the river corridor at Wilson Avenue improved the ability for this area to convey high water flows in a flood event and added two new parking areas for recreation trail users.

For a comprehensive look at Open Lands & Trails achievements, please read the 2019 Open Lands & Trails annual report.

STEWARDSHIP & WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Stewardship and wildlife protection are some of the key focus areas for the Open Lands & Trails Division. In 2019, those efforts included restoration to native vegetation at Sunset Vista, fish stocking and Colorado Native Plant Society demonstration gardens at River's Edge Natural Area, test fire burn areas at Boise Bend Natural Area and a raptor monitor program for data collection.

The division placed great importance on wildlife protection and preservation at numerous open lands sites including active management of osprey nest platforms, active bald eagle and golden eagle nests and a wide variety of other wild species. Additionally, the Colorado Avian Research and Rehabilitation Institute (CARRI), in partnership with the City of Loveland, hosts kestrel and owl nesting boxes on Loveland open lands properties. CARRI staff band the owls and kestrels yearly to aid in research and habitat improvement for these raptors. Additionally, cameras placed in the boxes and streamed live on the City website provide the greater community with an up-close, behind-the-scenes look at these amazing creatures.

Thanks to an extensive Open Lands volunteer network, in addition to groups of stewardship volunteers throughout the year, stewardship projects were completed on all of Loveland's open lands including weed management, litter and debris removal, plantings, removal of invasive tree species, restoring wildlife habitat, trail building and more.

AWARD-WINNING WORK

The City of Loveland Open Lands & Trails Division was selected by the Colorado Open Space Alliance for the 2019 Blue Grama Award for Outstanding Achievement by an Organization. The award was presented at the annual Colorado Open Space Alliance Conference to recognize Loveland's significant contributions to the conservation of Colorado's open spaces, community engagement and conservation policy. The award recognizes Loveland's outstanding leadership, achievement through acquisition, land management actions, community engagement and public policy. The impact of Loveland's open lands work extends beyond Loveland to include Northern Colorado and has lasting implications to open space conservation throughout the state. Loveland is proud of its dedicated staff who have worked diligently over the last five years to grow their program and make a meaningful difference in our community today and for generations to come.



Kestrel banding to track nesting & movement



Loveland wildlife sightings are always a treat



Youth volunteers get their hands dirty



Open Lands & Trails Manager Marilyn Hilgenberg poses with several 2019 awards

The Loveland Parks & Recreation Department was honored to receive the **Starburst Award for Long View Trail.** This award from the Colorado Lottery recognizes our partnership with Larimer County and the City of Fort Collins on the construction of Long View Trail. This unique award recognizes excellence in the use of Lottery proceeds for community and conservation projects. Winners are chosen based on the creativity of the project, the economic and social impact on the community and whether the project achieved its goal. The 4.4-mile Long View Trail spans through four regional natural areas/open lands providing regional multimodal connectivity between Fort Collins and Loveland.

NEW TRAIL CONNECTION IN EAST LOVELAND

A new paved trail connection is now open in east Loveland and provides access to Old St. Louis Natural Area from neighborhoods to the north. This new connection lies north of the Farmers Irrigation Ditch at 705 S. Madison Avenue and was made possible by donations, partnership funding, land deeded by Larimer County and a grant from the Colorado Health Foundation. This new trail connection provides safe, off-street access to Old St. Louis for residents from the Mirasol Senior Community, students from Winona Elementary School and surrounding neighborhoods.

The new quarter-mile paved-surface trail is ADA accessible to allow users of all abilities an opportunity to enjoy access for nature exploration and wildlife viewing, including views of a nearby heron rookery (communal nesting area). Old St. Louis is a refuge for birds and mammals including songbirds, raptors, wild turkey, mink and white-tailed deer. In 2020, upgrades will include additional storm water, river and trail improvements that will enhance water quality and provide additional trail access to the Big Thompson River west of Boise Avenue.



Prairie Ridge Natural Area trail is under construction and should be open for public use in spring 2020. This project includes the construction of a northbound turn lane on Wilson Avenue, parking lot and trailhead, 1.5 miles of new ADA accessible soft-surface trail and a new 1.8 mile trail connection north to Coyote Ridge Natural Area in Fort Collins.

COMPLETING MISSING LINKS AND PLANNING FOR FUTURE TRAIL CONNECTIONS

Staff made significant strides on closing the last recreation trail gap at 57th Street and the Burlington Northern Railroad. The **Copper Ridge Development** on the east side of the railroad tracks has completed a paved trail through the subdivision, and Loveland will construct a paved trail from the **Sunset Vista Natural Area** parking lot to the railroad tracks in spring 2020. The BNSF Railroad will complete the final connection over the railroad tracks as early as summer 2020 to complete this last missing trail connection.

Another trail area where Loveland has a paved trail gap is along the Barnes Ditch between Wilson and Namaqua Avenues. This section of trail is currently soft-surface trail, but staff are moving forward with designs to add pavement along this trail segment in the future if proper approvals are secured from the Greeley-Loveland Irrigation Company.



New Madison Avenue bridge and trail



Old St. Louis Natural Area



Prairie Ridge Natural Area trail opens spring 2020



A Chipping Sparrow at River's Edge Natural Area

Staff is also working with Centerra, City of Greeley, Greeley-Loveland Irrigation Company and the State of Colorado to secure lands and begin design for a new recreation trail connection from the existing trail on Denver Avenue to a new pedestrian underpass at Boyd Lake Avenue. For the first time, this section will give users the opportunity to connect the Centerra trail system with Loveland's recreation trail system.

GRANTS HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN

Grants are essential to the Open Lands & Trails Division and enable us to stretch available dollars to not only improve but expand Loveland open land sites and trails. In 2019, over \$5.4 million in grant funding was either awarded or in progress for the Open Lands & Trails Division!



- STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS FOR RIVER RESTORATION- \$4,000,000
 Through Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
 Big Thompson River Restoration Projects at Wild, Oxbow, Medina and Namaqua Natural Areas and private lands
- TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT \$600,000
 Namaqua Avenue Trail Connections
- GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO (GOCO) LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT \$260,000
 Prairie Ridge Trail
- LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) TRAIL GRANT \$200,000
 Prairie Ridge Trail
- COLORADO HEALTH FOUNDATION INTERGENERATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT \$129,000
 Madison Avenue Trail Connection to Old St. Louis
- OPEN LANDS PRIVATE DONATION \$100,000
 Skyline Natural Area trail and land acquisitions
- GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO (GOCO) RESTORATION GRANT \$84,300
 Medina's Crossing Natural Area Habitat Restoration
- NORTHERN WATER GRANT \$50,000
 Medina's Crossing Natural Area
- COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE (CPW) | FISHING IS FUN GRANT \$30,000 Willow Bend Natural Area fishing dock
- GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO (GOCO) YOUTH CORPS \$19,000
 Boise Bend and Willow Bend Natural Areas invasive species removal
- GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO (GOCO) YOUTH CORPS \$19,000
 Wagner invasive species removal
- COLORADO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY | LARIMER COUNTY SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM \$10,000 River's Edge Natural Area two native plant gardens



GOLF

All Ages and Abilities Can Take a Swing in Loveland

Loveland is home to three municipal golf courses: Cattail Creek, The Olde Course at Loveland and Mariana Butte. We also have the only mini-course for Starting New at Golf (SNAG) in the nation. Golf is no longer just a sport for an elite few. Golf Loveland saw some incredible community engagement in 2019 as a variety of ages and abilities made their way to the grass.

COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

A new cart storage building is being constructed at Cattail Creek Golf Course with completion in 2020. This new facility will make operations safer, as staff will not have to move carts across 29th Street from The Olde Course. Carts will be readily available for golfers and reduce wait times since staff won't have to transport them from one course to the other multiple times per day.

Staff have been focusing on course details such as traffic control, painting bridges, new signs and leveling tees. Their efforts will continue in 2020 and beyond to enhance playing conditions and the overall golf experience.



Rendering of the new cart storage building at Cattail Creek

FEES AND POLICIES

The staff and Golf Advisory Board spent many hours working through new pricing that would drive enough revenue to support capital obligations. Months of effort and meetings culminated with City Council approval. This review of new fees and access policies will continue well into the future with ongoing communication to stakeholders and leadership within the City of Loveland.

SPREADING THE LOVE OF GOLF

Thanks to several internal collaboration efforts with other divisions in Parks & Recreation, Lovelanders are being exposed to new recreation opportunities on the golf course. The Golf Division hosted movies in the park at Cattail Creek over the summer, and families enjoyed playing SNAG and using the driving range before it got dark enough for popcorn and a movie. Our golf regulars discovered yoga can improve their golf game; they improved both their flexibility and their mindset with a yoga for golfers class, two important skills when out on the course. We also introduced the game of golf to kids during Children's Day.

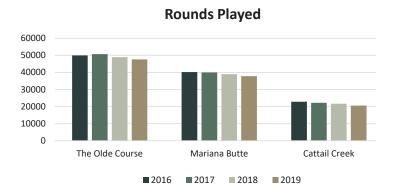
The Division kicked off a new radio advertising initiative with New Country 99.1 FM to promote entry level golf, SNAG and Cattail Creek golf opportunities. Make sure to visit our website to watch radio DJ Jordan from the *Jordan and Michael Show* take her first few swings in Loveland while broadcasting live from the course.



A new point of sale and online tee time system was implemented in quarter four of 2019. This new system provides a user-friendly experience with enhanced features for both the public and staff. Customers can now enjoy same-day tee time booking online. Our staff will be able to view data on the back end of this new software to guide future financial decisions and department goals.

OLDE COURSE, NEW CLUBHOUSE

This year the Golf Division has moved closer to the rebuild of the clubhouse at The Olde Course. With the Financial Feasibility Study and engineering assessment complete, the Architects Studio designed a concept that the Golf Advisory Board approved. The next steps will be the engineering and design of a new building and identification of funding for the project.





Kids swing big at Children's Day



DJ Jordan learns to play golf at Cattail Creek



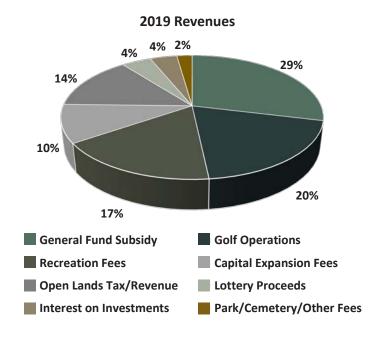
Learning the new point of sale system



Mowing the greens

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Financial accountability has long been the standard for the Parks & Recreation Department. In conjunction with the City's financial policies, we worked proactively in 2018 to contain costs while increasing program offerings, participation and facility use.



2019 Operating Expenditures 5% 2% 2% 2% 7% 29% Recreation Golf Operations Administration Planning Recreation Trail Cemetery

Revenue*	2019			
General Fund Subsidy	\$5,830,189			
Golf Operations	\$3,944,433			
Open Lands County Tax	\$2,681,229			
Capital Expansion Fees	\$2,031,630			
Chilson Center	\$1,940,903			
Lottery Proceeds	\$879,796			
Interest on Investments	\$799,828			
Athletics	\$624,210			
Grants	\$506,620			
Recreation Programs	\$490,860			
Special Recreation	\$285,019			
Park Fees/Revenue	\$189,835			
Cemetery	\$165,550			
Open Lands Leases/Donations	\$162,156			
Outdoor Aquatics	\$137,912			
Perpetual Care Fees	\$97,295			
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$20,749,465			

Expenditures*	2019		
OPERATING EXPENDITURES			
Parks Maint/Grounds/Planning	\$4,066,232		
Golf Operations	\$3,269,119		
Chilson Center	\$2,160,150		
Open Lands	\$962,119		
Administration	\$735,852		
Recreation Programs	\$717,082		
Athletics	\$593,868		
Special Recreation	\$400,224		
Recreation Trail	\$298,295		
Cemetery	\$236,273		
Outdoor Aquatics	\$168,751		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$13,143,961		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES			
Equipment/Tools/Projects	\$1,207,074		
Golf Projects/Equipment	\$54,553		
Cemetery & Parks Projects	\$3,945,193		
Trails Projects	\$228,261		
Open Lands	\$194,979		
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENSES	\$5,630,060		
TOTAL DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	\$22,683,273		

*2019 unaudited year-end figures

In addition to the City's General Operating Fund, the Parks & Recreation Department relied on several Special Revenue Funds to accomplish Department priorities not funded by the General Fund.

Capital Expansion Fund: Fees assessed on new development to assist in providing infrastructure necessitated by growth. Fees are collected for parks, recreation, open lands and trails.

Parks Improvement Fund: Fees collected before Capital Expansion Fees were initiated in 1984. Revenues are generated from park shelter reservations. Fund is restricted to park improvements and infrastructure repairs at existing parks.

Perpetual Care Fund: This fiduciary fund provides for the future operations, maintenance and capital requirements of the Loveland Cemetery and Burial Park once all burial spaces are sold.

Open Space Tax Fund: Fund to purchase and maintain open land areas in and around Loveland. Revenues are generated from a Larimer County Open Space Sales Tax, used for acquisitions, development and operations.

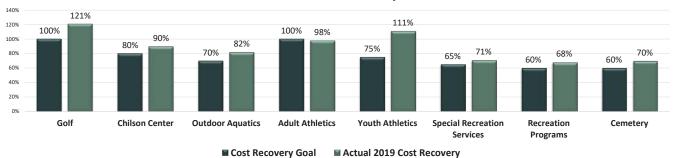
Conservation Trust Fund: Revenues derived from state Lottery games. Funds are restricted to recreation sites, facilities and projects. This is the funding source for Loveland's Recreation Trail construction and maintenance.

Golf Fund: Government enterprise fund to account for the operations, maintenance and capital improvements of golf courses and facilities owned by the City.

Fund	Balance 1.1.2019	Revenues	Expenditures	Net Change	Balance 12.31.19*
Capital Expansion Funds	\$15,931,574	\$2,367,358	\$4,169,663	-\$1,802,305	\$14,129,270
Parks Improvement Fund	\$1,677,773	\$125,633	\$341,722	-\$216,089	\$1,461,684
Conservation Trust Fund	\$4,302,692	\$1,481,386	\$528,876	\$952,509	\$5,255,201
Open Space Tax Fund	\$9,595,157	\$3,023,135	\$2,838,140	\$184,995	\$9,780,152
Golf Enterprise Fund	\$4,203,970	\$3,944,433	\$3,335,895	\$608,538	\$4,812,508
Perpetual Care Fund	\$3,049,927	\$153,612	\$0	\$153,612	\$3,203,539
respectatione ratio	75,0 15,521	Ψ133,012	Ų.	Ç133,012	\$3,203,33

^{*2019} unaudited year-end figures. Figures include capital expenditures and investment income.

2019 Cost Recovery





Namaqua Park gets a creative new playground

CITY OF LOVELAND PARKS & RECREATION

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cityofloveland.org/parksrecreation

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