



# Partnerships show we're all in this together

## *City of Loveland works to plug holes in social safety net*

City governments focused on trimming budgets to cope with shrinking revenue in the age of COVID may not seem the most likely sources for aid to their communities.

However, the City of Loveland is finding ways to ensure that help is available even as the COVID-19 pandemic saps its fiscal health.

The City's Community Partnership Office, and two City volunteer boards that advise City Council on human service and affordable housing needs, are ready to recommend allocation of \$225,000 in federal grant money to service agencies and projects that will work to feed, house and provide comfort to Loveland's most vulnerable residents.

"The task now is to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19," Community Partnership Manager Alison Hade said as she was looking ahead to a June 2 City Council presentation that will describe possible avenues for directing aid to agencies serving the city's most basic needs.

"Food, rent, utilities – those are some of the things that will be coming up."

Applicants for shares of the federal COVID relief package will surely include KidsPak, a



**Rey and Debra Espinosa**, left, receive bags of perishable food from volunteer **Liz Simon**, right, at a KidsPak distribution site at Bill Reed Middle School.  
Photo: Timothy Hurst, City of Loveland

collaboration of Loveland Rotary members and the Food Bank for Larimer County.

Founded in 2009 by Loveland residents Tom and Corinne Carrigan, KidsPak began as a gap-filling weekend food program for Thompson School District students in need.

With the school year cut short by the pandemic and the economic slowdown driving higher demand, the program has stepped up to ensure that food bags, each containing five meals, are distributed to those who need them most.

Hundreds of KidsPak volunteers will pack and distribute

the perishable food throughout the summer months and into the fall.

The group in 2019 provided 20,043 bags – or 100,215 meals – to TSD students at distribution points throughout Loveland.

Last month KidsPak was gearing up to shoulder an even bigger load.

"On Friday, we'll have 500 bags spread out at 13 locations," Tom Carrigan said May 18.

### **Learn about KidsPak**

For more information about KidsPak and its many volunteers, visit [www.LovelandRotaryKidsPak.org](http://www.LovelandRotaryKidsPak.org)

# Pulse in progress: What to know about locates as Pulse construction continues

As the weather gets warmer and yard work begins, it is important to learn about locates and the role they play in Pulse construction efforts. For the community's safety and to keep all your existing utilities operating smoothly, please take a moment to educate yourself about these important construction tools.

- Locates are installed by professional locator crews and need to remain in place. It may seem harmless to remove a locate flag to mow your lawn, but if these are gone it could mean a power outage, water line leak or more issues.

- Each color on a locate identifies a different utility line. For example, orange is for a communications line, yellow is for a natural gas line, red is for an electric line and blue is for a water line. Additional colors and meanings can be found in our Locate FAQs.

- Spray paint marks will fade naturally and our teams will remove flags when the project has been completed.

Please – do not remove locates. Protecting locates is the first step toward protecting you, utility workers and other critical utility lines from harm.

Construction began in November 2019 and will take three to four years to complete. Read more about locates and other important construction information at [LovelandPulse.com/PulseinProgress](http://LovelandPulse.com/PulseinProgress). Contact Colorado 811 at [Colorado811.org](http://Colorado811.org) with specific questions about locates.



## Loveland Public Library offers Summer of Discovery and much much more

This June and July, Loveland Public Library invites everyone to join the virtual Summer Learning Program: *Summer of Discovery*—to be inspired, ask questions and discover something new.

Participants are encouraged to define their own summer experience by completing activities like reading, crafts and exploring, all safely at home. With an extra-long span of time since kids and teens have been in the classroom,

summer learning is more important than ever!

The Library is providing virtual learning programs for kids and adults, program-to-go kits for



teens, suggestions for summer reading, and the chance to win prizes that support some of our favorite local businesses. The program is free and runs from June 1 to July 31.

To learn more and to sign up, visit <http://loveland.readsquared.com>, and for more learning and recreation opportunities such as computer classes, book clubs, crafts and special presentations, go to [www.LovelandPublicLibrary.org](http://www.LovelandPublicLibrary.org).

### Loveland Public Library's Virtual Summer Learning Program

June 1 – July 31

Reading!

Activities!

Prizes!

Learning!

[www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org](http://www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org)



Jeans too tight?

Our new round of virtual fitness classes will have you liking your middle again in no time.

Just \$6/week  
for unlimited online classes!

**CHILSON**  
Recreation & Senior Center

Sign up today at  
[cityofloveland.org/webtrac](http://cityofloveland.org/webtrac)

City of Loveland

## Farmers Market

### Sundays

June 7-Sept 27 | 9A-1P

Fairgrounds Park, 700 S. Railroad Ave.

Preorder and no-contact pick up available  
DETAILS: [cityofloveland.org/farmersmarket](http://cityofloveland.org/farmersmarket)

SNAP & DUFBA accepted





## SUMMER UTILITY BILLS

Summer temperatures bring the heat but unfortunately, summer also brings higher utility bills. Smart utility customers know that you can beat the heat by taking a few small steps to save energy and keep a little more cash in your pocket.

### SUMMER ELECTRIC RATES

From July to October, Loveland Water and Power bills electricity on the summer rate, which is 1.7 cents higher than the nonsummer electric rate. This seasonal increase in electric rates is necessary to meet the demand for electricity when thousands of air conditioning units kick on. As we pull more electricity to cool our homes and offices, the power plant works harder to supply it. Sometimes the power plant can't produce enough electricity to meet demand and we turn to alternative electricity sources or buy electricity from other companies. That's why you pay more for electricity during the summer than you do at other times in the year.

A few simple changes can help you cut back on electricity use during these critical months. We recommend cooking on the grill or in a toaster oven instead of using the oven. Ovens heat your

home in addition to your food, creating extra work your cooling system. We also suggest closing your blinds during the day to keep the sun's warmth out and cool air inside your home.

### TEMPERATURES

Last summer saw record high temperatures; experts are predicting another scalding season. Air cooling costs can account for up to half of your summer electric bill. To cut back on cooling costs, turn your thermostat up before you leave the house or invest in a smart thermostat to slow your air conditioner while you are out but ensure your house is comfortable when you return.

Higher temperatures can also mean thirstier lawns. Irrigation accounts for up to 30% of your summer water bill. Get smart about your outdoor water use with a FREE sprinkler assessment through Slow the Flow.

Loveland Water and Power offers programs to help you lower your energy and water use at all times of the year. Visit our website at [cityofloveland.org/Efficiency](http://cityofloveland.org/Efficiency) to learn more.



## WORKING ON YOUR SPRINKLER SYSTEM?

## DON'T FORGET YOUR LAWN SPRINKLER PERMIT.

To obtain a permit or for more information visit: [cityofloveland.org/Backflow](http://cityofloveland.org/Backflow) or call: (970) 962 3721

If you are planning to install a new sprinkler system, repair, expand or modify your present sprinkler system, you must meet the requirements of the Loveland Municipal Code and the Colorado Cross-Connection laws. **Permits are free and required for all homeowners and contractors.**

Property owners can perform normal maintenance activities on their sprinkler systems including replacing sprinkler heads or repairing a leak without obtaining a permit.

## Slow the Flow

Solve your Sprinklers.

Maintain a beautiful landscape while saving water with a FREE sprinkler consultation!



[ResourceCentral.org/sprinklers](http://ResourceCentral.org/sprinklers)  
303-999-3824  
Sign up for your free consult today!

RESOURCE  
central  
CONSERVATION MADE EASY



**FREE  
SPRINKLER  
CHECK-UP**

\* Limited number of appointments available

## UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD  
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING  
970-962-2111

visit us online...  
[cityofloveland.org/LWP](http://cityofloveland.org/LWP)



## BACKFLOW PREVENTION



Water supply systems must contain a certain level of pressure so that when someone turns a faucet or flushes a toilet, the water flows as intended. The flow reverses if there is a major drop in pressure, which can happen if a pipe freezes or bursts unexpectedly. Without a valve to prevent backflow, foreign substances enter the clean water supply. Responsible water users protect their clean water supply with proper backflow assembly on sprinkler systems.

### WHAT IS AN "APPROVED BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY?"

The Colorado Water Quality Division identified approved backflow assemblies that assure effective backflow prevention methods. Assemblies must be ASSE or USC approved.

### HOW CAN SPRINKLER SYSTEM OWNERS PREVENT BACKFLOW?

**New Installations and Repairs:** Permits are required for installing new sprinkler systems or if a system is repaired, expanded or modified. A sprinkler permit assures proper installation of the backflow assembly on a sprinkler system.

**Current Sprinkler Systems:** Sprinkler systems installed before regulations were developed, unapproved installations and simple wear-and-tear of backflow assemblies all pose serious risks to our drinking water. Commercial, multi-family and dedicated irrigation backflows are required by Colorado Law to have annual backflow prevention testing.

Single-family homeowners are also encouraged to have backflow prevention assemblies tested annually. For a list of certified backflow prevention testers in Northern Colorado approved by the Backflow Prevention Education Council of Colorado, go to [bpecc.us/find-a-tester.html](http://bpecc.us/find-a-tester.html). Learn more about Backflow prevention at [cityofloveland.org/Backflow](http://cityofloveland.org/Backflow)

## PUBLIC NOTICE: METER ESTIMATES

You may have heard that some power providers are opting to estimate power bills instead of sending a meter reader to each location.

**Loveland Water and Power has not changed the way your usage has always been calculated.**

Loveland Water and Power meter readers record water and electric consumption from each meter to ensure customers are billed for their measured usage. In rare circumstances, if a meter is physically inaccessible to a meter reader, an estimation may be recorded. Rest assured that if an estimation must be made, we will record your real usage the following month and credit the difference on your next bill. You can be confident that the usage on your bill is your actual consumption. If you have questions about how your utility meters are read, please give us a call at 970-962-3000. Information about rates, charges, and fees can be found at [cityofloveland.org/UtilityRates](http://cityofloveland.org/UtilityRates).

Applying for rebates just got easier!

New for 2020! Purchase qualifying water or energy saving products from the retailer of your choice and submit a copy of your receipt online.



Learn more at  
[cityofloveland.org/Rebates](http://cityofloveland.org/Rebates)

