



# Chimney Hollow project caps stellar career



**Loveland Water Resources** Manager Larry Howard stands on the snow-swept prairie Dec. 17, 2020, near the location that a 350-foot-tall dam will be built to contain Chimney Hollow Reservoir southwest of Loveland, a water storage project that has been in the planning stage for nearly 20 years.

**R**epresentatives of 12 Northern Colorado water providers – cities, towns and water districts – gathered in a conference room in Berthoud on Dec. 8 to pay tribute to Larry Howard as his retirement drew near.

Howard, Loveland's Water Resources Manager, was honored for his service as chairman of the group that will own shares in the \$500 million Chimney Hollow Reservoir, a water-storage project that lies just over a sandstone hogback to the west of Carter Lake, southwest of Loveland.

The ceremony took place at Northern Water, the agency that owns and distributes water from the Colorado Big Thompson system to more than 30 cities and towns and nearly 700,000 acres of Colorado farmland.

The Berthoud event, in and of itself, is worthy of mention. But consider this list of reasons City Update readers find this story on the front of the January 2021 edition:

- A U.S. District Court judge two days later, on Dec. 10, turned aside a lawsuit seeking to block construction of Chimney Hollow.
- Howard concludes more than 33 years of distinguished service to Loveland and Northern Colorado upon his retirement on Jan. 4.
- Last, and most importantly, Northern Colorado is gripped in the most prolonged drought in recent history – a 20-year drought, Howard said. It is just the kind of water shortage that the 90,000-acre-foot Chimney Hollow Reservoir is designed to mitigate.

"Sometimes the right people line up with just the right projects to make a really big contribution to Northern Colorado's history," Loveland City Manager Steve Adams said in December.

"That's how it is with Larry and Chimney Hollow. For his stewardship and organizational backing of that project, he will deserve the gratitude of water users region-wide for generations to come."

Adams also highlighted a distinction that Howard shares with very few other engineers in the water supply field. While most engineers are lucky to have one major reservoir project in their careers, Chimney Hollow marks two for Howard.

The Green Ridge Glade reservoir that stores water just north of the Loveland Water Treatment Plant was the first.

"I was very fortunate to be able to participate in that," Howard said. "I spent 19 years on that one, in planning, design, financing. It was a very exciting project, one that provides Loveland with much greater protection from conditions like droughts and floods."

Howard's career is long enough, and his knowledge so widely respected, that he has held leadership positions on many of Colorado's most important water resource agencies, where his voice has spoken not just for Loveland but for all of Northern Colorado.

For more than two decades, he has led Loveland's partnership in the Windy Gap Firming Project, a trans-mountain diversion that will greatly expand the region's water supply, and is the source for water that will fill the Chimney Hollow Reservoir.

While Chimney Hollow's permits could still face a challenge in the form of an appeal to the U.S. District Court ruling, its backers are confident the construction will proceed this year.

"Projects like Windy Gap and this one, Chimney Hollow, are so needed," Howard said. "It's so satisfying to be a part of that."

# Loveland Pulse celebrates 2020 milestones, looks ahead to 2021

We started 2020 with high expectations, solid plans, and a whole lot of tenacity. Launching a brand-new utility from the ground up is never simple. Doing so during a once-in-a-century pandemic added an unpredictable layer to this unique process. That said, we are proud to announce that our project is on time, on budget, and our team has met or exceeded the goals set for the first year. More importantly, 2020 has proven that fast, affordable, high-speed internet service is essential to our community.

**2020 Hindsight:** Looking back, construction kicked-off during what turned out to be a record-setting, historic November snowfall in our region. We built the crucial core components of our network, allowing connection to the greater World Wide Web, and began transmission of our very first bits and bytes. Our operations platform was brought to life, and over three dozen city team members were trained to use it. We launched residential and business services, allowing our first customers to benefit from our 100% fiber-optic network. Our subscriber rate (or take rate) since our launch is exceeding our goals in the business plan, and we are off to a great start. View our monthly Fiber to the Premise reports at [LovelandPulse.com/PulseInProgress](http://LovelandPulse.com/PulseInProgress) for details.

In addition to construction and service, we also sponsored free public WiFi outside the Loveland Public Library, launched a local support center for customers to enjoy 24/7/365 technical assistance, established connectivity for the underserved Big Thompson Elementary School, and started an outreach program for Homeowners' Associations to help educate about Colorado 811 laws and protect private infrastructure during construction.

**What does 2021 hold?** Heading into year two of a four-year construction project, we will continue to work as quickly, efficiently, and safely as we can to serve you. Additionally, we are happy to share that we will be offering PulseTV service in 2021. With PulseTV, you will be able to stream and watch your favorite programming from sports and entertainment to local-only channels and more - live. It's a viewing experience Loveland has never had before. Sign up at [LovelandPulse.com/EarlyInterest](http://LovelandPulse.com/EarlyInterest) if you want us to email you when details come available.

As always, we encourage you to stay connected with us at [LovelandPulse.com](http://LovelandPulse.com) and on social media.

We are proud to be your trusted, local communications utility. On behalf of the entire Pulse team, thank you for your continued support. We are excited about what 2021 will bring!



Passes are good for **UNLIMITED USE** of the Chilson Recreation Center during Spring Break: March 13 - 21

Youth - \$14 | Adult - \$19

PURCHASE at the Chilson Center front desk or online: [cityofloveland.org/webtrac](http://cityofloveland.org/webtrac)

**brainfuse**  
ignite your mind

**FREE ONLINE HELP FROM A LIVE TUTOR OR JOB COACH**  
every day from  
2pm - 11pm

TO ACCESS, VISIT:  
[lovelandpubliclibrary.org/brainfuse](http://lovelandpubliclibrary.org/brainfuse)



## BEYOND THE MIRROR

LOVELAND MUSEUM

A Studio Art Quilt Associates  
Global Exhibition Premiere  
JANUARY 23 - MAY 8



Becoming One With The Night,  
Bobbi Baugh



City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. City Update is also available on the City's website at [www.lov.gov.org](http://www.lov.gov.org). Your comments are welcome. Please call (970) 962-2302, or email [Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org](mailto:Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org). The City of Loveland is committed to providing equal opportunity 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 ADA. For more information, please call (970) 962-3319.





# NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

**Resolve to keep your family safe and your utility bills under control all year long with Loveland Water and Power New Year's resolutions.**

### ✓ Sign up for the LWP Newsletter

Sign up for the Loveland Water and Power newsletter to stay in the loop about utility happenings and efficiency programs. Visit [lovelandwaterandpower.org/Resident](http://lovelandwaterandpower.org/Resident) to sign up.

### ✓ Power Outage Preparedness

While power outages are rare in Loveland, they are more likely to occur during the winter and early spring. Be ready for an outage by taking a few simple steps.

1. Have a land line telephone or a fully charged cell phone for communication.
2. If you are on oxygen, keep spare tanks or portable units and extra batteries on hand.
3. Be sure you have emergency supplies in stock including flashlights and batteries.
4. Trim trees near power lines to prevent branches from falling into lines during storms.

### ✓ Check out LWP Efficiency Programs & Rebates

LWP offers rebates and programs for numerous water and power efficiency improvements.

Visit [lovelandwaterandpower.org/SaveWater](http://lovelandwaterandpower.org/SaveWater) to learn about opportunities and incentives for saving on your water bill. Similarly, check out [lovelandwaterandpower.org/SaveEnergy](http://lovelandwaterandpower.org/SaveEnergy) to see programs for saving energy.

### ✓ Take the online Home Efficiency Assessment

Find custom tips for reducing your water and energy use by taking the online Home Efficiency Assessment (HEA). Completing the HEA will not only help you develop a plan for tackling efficiency projects in your home, but it will also improve the accuracy of your Home Utility Report data. Customers who create an account and complete the assessment will receive rewards for their commitment to efficiency. Visit [lovelandwaterandpower.org/HUR](http://lovelandwaterandpower.org/HUR)

### ✓ Sign up for a Virtual Assessment

In response to COVID-19, we developed a safe, remote option for home energy advising. While in-person assessments are not wise, LWP offers a free virtual option to customers seek advice about water and energy efficiency. Customers who chose the virtual option will receive a full report containing

simple measures they can implement to save money on their utility bill. Learn more at [lovelandwaterandpower.org/SaveEnergy](http://lovelandwaterandpower.org/SaveEnergy)

### ✓ Sign up for NOCOAlert with LETA 911

Formerly known as LETA 911, NOCOAlert is Larimer County's emergency alert system. Stay in the know about public emergencies by signing up at [nocoalert.org](http://nocoalert.org).

## INTRODUCING: HOME UTILITY REPORTS

Electric customers who have been wondering where their home energy reports disappeared to will be happy to know that a new, more comprehensive home utility report could be arriving in their mailbox after the first of the year. The Loveland Water and Power home utility report has been completely reimagined. The new reports can help thousands of Loveland households save money and reduce energy and water use through dynamic new experiences, bold designs and new energy insights.

- Water customers will receive information about water use as well as energy use
- Customers can earn gift cards by accomplishing simple tasks like registering for an online account and taking the Home Efficiency Assessment. Learn more by visiting [lovelandwaterandpower.org/HUR](http://lovelandwaterandpower.org/HUR)
- Customers receive access an extensive list of rebates, efficient home upgrades and money-saving ideas

Research shows that home utility reports help customers achieve meaningful savings on their utility bills. If you've opted not to receive Home Energy Reports in the past, don't worry. You won't be receiving a new one. If you previously opted out and are interested in receiving a report now, please email [efficiency@cityofloveland.org](mailto:efficiency@cityofloveland.org).



## UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD  
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING  
970-962-2111



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



## LARIMER COUNTY CONSERVATION CORPS

For ten years running, Loveland Water and Power (LWP) and the Larimer County Conservation Corps (LCCC) provided LWP customers with a residential energy and water assessment program. LCCC provides energy and water saving assistance while enhancing the professional development of corps members through service to environment and community. LCCC empowers corps members to become environmental stewards while developing workforce skills. Larimer County Economic and Workforce Development directs the LCCC program.

During a home assessment, a team of corps members will:

- **Conduct an inspection** of home insulation, appliances, windows, toilets and heating/cooling system.
- **Install efficiency measures** based on a home's needs including, LED light bulbs, water-efficient showerheads, smart thermostats and high-efficiency toilets.
- **Educate customers** about water and energy efficiency practices and services.



*Program availability subject to change based on local COVID-19 status and restrictions.*

## FREE energy advising that's 100% socially distant

Virtually meet with an energy advisor and learn how to improve your home's efficiency. You'll also receive a free energy efficiency kit that can help you save on your energy bill!



Learn more at  
[EfficiencyWorks.org/Homes/Efficiency-Audits](http://EfficiencyWorks.org/Homes/Efficiency-Audits).

## What Larimer County Conservation Corps customers are saying...

*"They were very friendly and professional. They explained what they were doing and why. They let me observe what they were doing and answered all my questions. They were efficient."*

*"They were both polite, well spoken and really delightful to work with."*

*"I am beyond pleased with this program. It went above and beyond what I expected. Having our toilet replaced is seriously amazing. Thank you for offering this program to us."*

## LARIMER COUNTY CONSERVATION CORPS

VISIT [LARIMERWORKFORCE.ORG/ENERGY](http://LARIMERWORKFORCE.ORG/ENERGY) OR CALL 970-498-6660 | 200 WEST OAK STREET, SUITE 5000 | FORT COLLINS, CO 80521