

### THE LOVELAND

# CITY UPDATE

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# Loveland's snow season is nearly upon us

Being prepared and knowing what to expect helps us all weather the storm a little better

A fter a record-breaking hot summer, it's hard to imagine, but snow could fall any time.

In Loveland, snow usually makes its first appearance by the end of October, and residents need to be aware of the City's snow plan, so they are prepared.

Before a storm arrives, the City's Public Works Department will place de-icer on the roadways. Once more than an inch of snow has accumulated, plows are dispatched.

The City's Snow Plan was designed to make the best use of resources to accommodate snow accumulation. Winter snowfall totals in Loveland typically measure in manageable inches rather than staggering feet. During any snowstorm, most of Public Work's resources – drivers, snowplows, and de-icing chemicals – are initially devoted to making arterial roads, called 'Priority 1 Routes' in our snow plan, passable. Since those roads carry the greatest number of travelers driving at the highest speeds, they need to be as safe as possible and ensure access for emergency vehicles.

The goal is to continue working until roadways are mostly bare across all travel lanes. At that point, crews begin to focus on collector or 'Priority 2' routes. These streets connect to main Priority 1 routes and include roads to schools.

During typical snowstorms, the City focuses on Priority 1 and 2 roadways and relies on traffic and natural melting to clear residential streets. In the case of an extreme storm like the one last March, the city manager and/or public works director can declare a snow emergency. When this happens, the City enlists trash truck crews to help plow one lane on Priority 3 residential streets to accommodate emergency vehicles and provide residential access. Loveland is the only Front Range City that helps plow residential streets during

## **Public Works Traffic Study**

Roadway safety matters; the impact of traffic crashes touches every aspect of the Loveland community. The City is undertaking a Citywide Traffic Safety Study to analyze data, prioritize locations, and systematically identify strategies for reducing the number and severity of crashes.

We need your help! Provide your input at letstalkloveland.org/trafficsafetystudy.



**On March 15, 2021,** Loveland was blanketed with a record-setting 29.6 inches of snow. City snowplow crews worked around the clock for days following the storm to clear Loveland's roadways.

extreme storms. Plows do create windrows that can block driveways, but to clear over 30,000 driveways would consume more City resources than are available.

Per City code, clearing sidewalks following snowstorms is always the responsibility of the home or property owner. Residents are asked to clear snow from sidewalks as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after snow has stopped falling. This prevents snow from turning into an icy hazard for pedestrians. Crews will remove snow from sidewalks along Priority 1 routes since plowing operations cover them with snow. However, this only happens once the plow crews are done. The same staff that plows the streets does sidewalk snow removal.

Residents should always shovel snow into the yard and never into the street or gutter — which is illegal and hazardous for snowplows. Snow pushed into streets creates hazards, including freezing and slick conditions, which could impede traffic or cause accidents. If plows or other vehicles hit a pile of snow and ice in the street or gutter, they can be pushed back or sideways into traffic lanes and potentially hit passing or parked cars.

View the City's snow plan at lovgov.org/snowplan.

## **Garfield/Harrison Storm Drainage Project**

This three-year, four-phase project will improve drainage issues in the Garfield/Harrison outfall area. As storm pipes are installed, a number of aging water mains will be replaced. Residents are invited to attend an open house, 4 to 7 p.m., Nov. 8, at 2525 W. 1st St.

Residents may also learn about the project at letstalkloveland.org/garfieldharrisonproject.

# Pulse explains how to work on getting an Access Agreement in place

Pulse is Loveland's community-owned, 100% fiberoptic internet, voice, and (coming soon!) TV utility. While core infrastructure is being constructed in utility easements and public rights-of-way, and does not require individual homeowner permissions to install, an apartment complex or a complex larger than a fourplex, will need something called an Access Agreement before residents can sign up for service.

An Access Agreement is written permission from the property owner, allowing Pulse to install Pulse services to the building.

In order to serve these homes, Pulse will need permission from the building's owner, property management agency, or other organization that has the ability to sign legal documents on behalf of the property.

We need your help! We've created the following website with information about how to express interest in Pulse to a landlord or property manager - including a "draft" version of a letter that you (and other tenants in your area) can copy, paste, and customize to send: LovelandPulse.com/AccessRequest.

For more information, you can contact us by phone: 970-962-2111, or email Pulse@LovelandPulse.com



## Coordinated election is Nov. 2

The City of Loveland is participating in the coordinated election with Larimer County on Nov. 2, 2021. Ballots will be mailed the week of October 11 and can be returned by mail (must be mailed by Monday, Oct. 25) or dropped off at a ballot drop-box, open 24 hours.

In-person voting is available on Election Day at the Loveland Police & Courts Building, 810 E. 10th St.

Citizens can register to vote, or check their voter status at govotecolorado.com or by contacting Larimer County at elections@co.larimer.co.us, or 970-498-7820. Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Nov. 2.

For a list of drop box locations, registration information, ADA-accessible voting, replacement ballots and more, go to lovgov.org/city-government/elections, or call the City Clerk, 970-962-2000.



# What does 'FNL' stand for?

FNL is the airport identifier for the Northern Colorado Regional Airport, one of 12 commercial service airports in the state. Many great things are taking place at FNL including a new airline terminal facility, arriving in 2024, which will provide expanded commercial air service options, community and economic benefits.

Beginning Oct. 6, Avelo Airlines will provide flights twice weekly to Hollywood-Burbank Airport (BUR) located in Southern California. This is in addition to the existing "Wingless Flight" United Airlines connection to Denver International Airport. United provides a

seamless multi-modal airline service, using a luxury bus that is operated just like a flight. Visit fly-fnl.com to learn more!









City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. City Update is also available on the City's website at www.lovgov.org/cityupdate. Your comments are welcome. Please call (970) 962-2302, or email oce@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 questions, please call (970) 962-3319.



# **LWP HAUNTED HOUSE**

Come on in. The LWP Haunted House awaits! There's no need to be afraid of what horrors lie inside. With our fall tips, you'll be safe and prepared for whatever ghosts and ghouls you meet



# **ENERGY VAMPIRES**

No blood sucking vampires here. Energy vampires can still cost you more than \$100 a year! Energy vampires are devices that continue to use power even when they're turned off. Common culprits include home entertainment equipment, coffee makers, wall chargers or anything that turns on instantly with a remote control. Either unplug them when not in use or plug them into power strips and make sure you turn the power strip off when not in use.

# HOME UTILITY REPORTS: NO TRICKS, JUST TREATS!

The Home Utility Report is designed to help you save money on your utility bill by providing insights about your water and energy usage. If you register your Home Utility Report at lovelandwaterandpower. org/HUR, we'll let you pick out a \$5 gift card! Additional treats can be earned by taking the online Home Assessment or completing items on your efficiency action plan. What could be sweeter than that?

# **IRRIGATION BLOWOUTS**

Is that a ghost in the wall? Probably not. If you forget to blow out your irrigation system, it could be a burst pipe! Contact a landscape professional to ensure your system is properly winterized by November 1st or sooner to help avoid costly repairs.

# **RECYCLE YOUR FRANKEN-FRIDGE**

Is your fridge looking a little gruesome these days? Do you mistake it for a monster at night? Old refrigerators are not only a little scary and smelly, they also use a lot more energy than newer models. LWP will help you recycle your old (but still working) fridge or freezer for FREE and give you a double (\$70) rebate on your utility bill. Double rebates are a limited-time offer! Visit lovelandwaterandpower.org/RFR or call 970-962-3000 to schedule a pickup.

# **UTILITY NEWS**



MAIN SWITCHBOARD 970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING 970-962-2111







visit us online... lovelandwaterandpower.org

### **NEW HORSESHOE SUBSTATION IN LOVELAND**



Providing safe and reliable utility service is more than a mission at Loveland Water and Power (LWP). It's a calling. During the dog days of this summer. LWP replaced a 40-year-old power transformer at Horseshoe Substation on Taft Avenue that carried a price tag of \$1.5M. The project also added enhanced protection and control equipment to monitor safety and maintain power load balance using electrical input data from the grid.

Replacing an 18-foot tall, 120,000-pound transformer requires months of planning, weeks of assembly and countless days of installation and testing. LWP power operations engineers created the conceptual design of the project in-house. Those same engineers worked with local contractors and crafts people to develop details for installation which was originally scheduled for early spring when the power load is typically lighter. Covid-19 held up installation as equipment manufacturers struggled to manage equipment production with fewer workers on factory floors.

Installation and testing required the transformer to go offline, forcing LWP engineers to carefully monitor load balance until the project was finished. Taking precautions against overload was critical but LWP's eight substations are well-positioned in a ring around the city so that even a catastrophic failure of an entire substation would not crash the system.

LWP staff spent three weeks testing and verifying components and systems were properly calibrated and functioning as designed. The new equipment contains advanced computer management capabilities that constantly monitor the grid for disturbances and imbalances and can automatically shut off "unhealthy" pathways, improving power reliability. The system is also smart enough to accommodate the tracking of two-way energy flow which becomes more important as customers engage with emerging distributed electrical resource technologies like solar panels that distribute energy back on the grid.

With the transformer up and running, LWP will turn their attention to further system upgrades that align with their mission to provide the most reliable, safe and responsible utility service to our community.

## **POWER OUTAGE PREPAREDNESS**

As temperatures drop, chances of winter snowstorms rise. In the rare event that the power goes out, are you prepared?

#### WHAT TO HAVE ON HAND...

**LIGHT SOURCES:** More than one flashlight and extra batteries are essential as they are much safer than candles and can be handled by children. A battery-powered camping lantern is also useful.

**COMMUNICATION:** A battery-operated radio or cell phone charger allows you to communicate with others. If you have a landline, remember that cordless phones won't work during a power outage.

**EMERGENCY FOOD:** Keep food items that don't require cooking such as canned goods, cereal, crackers, cookies, shelf-safe milk and bottled water in your cupboard. Don't forget a manual can opener.

**MEDICAL SUPPLIES:** If you depend on electricity to power life support equipment, consider buying a generator or make arrangements for backup power. If you use oxygen, keep spare tanks or portable units and batteries on hand.

### OH NO, THE POWER IS OUT... NOW WHAT?

Steps to Report a Power Outage

Check to see if others are without power. If you are the only one without electricity, check your circuit breaker panel or fuse box.

If others are also without power, call Loveland Water and Power at (970) 663-1043.

Once you have reported an outage, rest assured that crews are on their way. LWP crews will restore your power as soon as possible.

### STAY CONNECTED

MAIN SWITCHBOARD (NON-EMERGENCIES) (970) 962-3000

EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES (970) 663-1043

REPORT A WATER/SEWER BREAK During business hours: (970) 962-3720 After-hours & holidays: (970) 962-3456

TO REPORT A LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

LETA - Reverse 911 - Sign up to receive notifications for major emergencies outside of power outages. Register at leta911.org or call (970) 962-2170.

