City of Loveland CITY UPDATE VOLUME 20 | NUMBER 5 MAY 2024

Celebrate Historic Preservation Month

Historic Preservation Month is celebrated every May to promote historic places, instill community pride, promote heritage tourism, and show the social and economic benefits of historic preservation. Did you know the City of Loveland has a Historic Preservation Program that supports these efforts locally?

Loveland's Historic Preservation Program is part of the Development Services Department and in May the program hosts its annual Scavenger Hunt in celebration of Historic Preservation Month.

Participating in the hunt is easy! For information about the hunt, visit **lovgov.org/HistoricPreservation** and click on Scavenger Hunt. You can also pick up a Historic Walking Tour guide from the Loveland Development Center, 410 E. 5th St., open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

2024 Budget Update

The City of Loveland is facing a projected multi-milliondollar budget shortfall. Budget reprioritization may impact various services and programs. Learn more about Loveland's budget and its response by visiting **letstalkloveland.org/budget**.





Loveland homeless program benefits from grants and partner support

Over the last few years, the City of Loveland has worked with our community and nonprofit partners to support a continuum of programs that connects unsheltered residents with resources. Here's an update on more recent City of Loveland homeless program projects that are tied to outside financial support.

Through its Community Partnership Office, the City of Loveland operates two homeless shelters: the Loveland Resource Center and the South Railroad Facility. The City received an Emergency Solutions Grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs in 2023 and 2024, providing \$200,000 each year to aid shelter operations. Those who utilize Loveland's shelters are connected to a continuum of supportive service provided through nonprofit partners.

The City is also seeking a partner to launch a street outreach program aimed at connecting with homeless individuals who do not use City of Loveland's shelters. In 2023, the City received a \$595,000 Transformational Homelessness Response Grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, supporting the program for three years.

The street outreach program is also supported by funding received from a national opioid settlement. This year, that amounts to \$137,000. Additional settlement money is anticipated over the next few years.

By having a system in place, we continue to connect people to services and address homelessness in our community.

City staff also continue to seek grant funding to support these programs and continue to collaborate with community partners to explore future solutions in Loveland. While grants are used to support the City's homeless program and encampment removal efforts, the majority of funding comes from the General Fund.

To learn more about the City of Loveland's homeless response including frequently asked questions and information about shelters and resources, or to report an encampment or subscribe to the city's encampment dashboard, visit **lovgov.org/homelessness**.

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. City Update is also available on the City's website at 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.

Spring cleaning? Don't forget your digital home!

Spring is in the air! Time to open the windows, banish the dust bunnies, and give your home a fresh start. But have you considered spring cleaning your digital home?

A digital spring cleaning is just like a regular spring cleaning but for your digital life. By decluttering, organizing, and updating your devices and accounts, you can improve their performance, increase security, and save money.

Here are some things to include on your digital springcleaning checklist:

- □ **Update your apps and software.** Running the latest version can improve performance, enable new features, and improve security.
- Delete unused accounts and uninstall unused apps. This not only frees up storage space and improves performance but can help protect your privacy.
- □ **Cancel unused subscriptions.** Are you using all the subscriptions you pay for?
- □ **Clean up your downloads folder.** Don't let your downloads folder become a digital dumpster! Save the important files and delete the rest.

For more tips and digital decluttering inspiration, check out **PulseFiber.org/Spring-Clean**



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Public Works Capital Improvement Projects for 2024

The timing of projects may be dependent on variables such as weather, supply and demand, staffing and budget.



Garfield-Harrison: Spring 2024

The large-scale storm drain improvement project addresses the repeated drainage concerns caused by aging infrastructure in the west part of downtown Loveland. Phase 2c officially kicked off the first week of April and Phase 3 will start in July just north of 5th Street and Roosevelt Avenue. Visit **letstalkloveland.org/GarfieldHarrisonProject**.





Madison Avenue Project: Fall 2024 - Summer 2025 The project reconstructs Madison Avenue from a two-lane rural section to an urban roadway, improving safety for roadway users, including people walking and biking. The scope includes utility upgrades and a roundabout at Madison Avenue and 37th Street. Visit **lovgov.org/MadisonAvenue**.

HIP Streets: Fall 2024

The long-envisioned HIP Streets project is slated to break ground later this year. The project timeline has been prompted by the need to replace necessary utility infrastructure, including a 100-year-old water line and failing stormwater pipes. Once the utility improvements are completed, the project will focus on surface improvements determined by the streetscape design. Visit **letstalkloveland.org/HIPStreets.**

WATER AND POWER

Current utility news

Free sprinkler system evaluations

Our partner organization Resource Central is offering free sprinkler efficiency evaluations for residential properties as a part of their annual **Slow the Flow** program. These evaluations teach you about your system, give you a customized watering schedule and reduce water waste. To sign up visit **lovewp.org/save-water** or call Resource Central at **303-999-3824**. Evaluations are first come, first served, and begin in June.





2023 Water Quality Report available

Released each year in spring, our annual Drinking Water Quality Report comprehensively reviews the previous year's water quality, service quality and contaminant levels. We're proud to report that our water meets or exceeds established state and federal water quality standards. View it here: **lovewp.org/water-quality-reports**.

Sprinkler backflow: What you need to know before turning on irrigation

Backflow happens when contaminated water flows backward into clean water pipes, often due to pressure changes. This can be dangerous, especially with sprinkler systems. Colorado law requires backflow preventers on commercial and multi-family irrigation systems, and recommends them for single-family homes. The City of Loveland requires permits for sprinkler system work beyond normal maintenance to ensure proper installation and safety (see: **lovewp.org/sprinkler-permit**). View a list of certified sprinkler repair providers and backflow prevention testers in Northern Colorado at **lovewp.org/backflow**. For questions, call us at **970-962-3721**.



Double rebate for fridge or freezer recycling

Due to the efficiency of newer models, your old refrigerator could cost you an extra \$100 a year. We offer free refrigerator and freezer recycling to our customers, plus a \$35 rebate on your utility bill for participating. **During all of May and June, we're doubling this rebate to \$70!** After we pick up your old fridge or freezer we deliver your old clunker to a recycling facility where professionals safely dismantle the unit and repurpose the materials. Visit **lovewp.org/appliance-recycle** or call **970-962-3000** for details.

Our residential efficiency programs and rebates are in full swing!

See how you can save money and lower your utility bills: lovewp.org/resident.

Main switchboard 970-962-3000

Utility Billing **970-962-2111**

Website LovelandWaterAndPower.org



Flood season: stay safe and resilient against the forces of nature

Throughout its history, Loveland has weathered the devastating impact of two major floods – in 1976 and 2013. These catastrophic events wiped out roads, bridges, homes, and businesses and tragically claimed lives. The scars left behind are a solemn reminder of the immense toll flooding can take on our community. As we approach flood season again, every resident must be armed with knowledge and preparedness. The Stormwater Engineering Division would like to equip its residents with vital information to safeguard themselves, their loved ones, and their property when faced with the threat of flooding.



Wilson Avenue bridge during the 2013 flood.

How does the City monitor flood levels and community safety?

Each year, the City of Loveland monitors nine rain/stage gauges within City limits and on the Big Thompson River. With the data collected, City staff and emergency response personnel can monitor the rising water levels, deploy personnel to the most critical areas, and close all roadways before water levels rise over the top of the roadways, thus protecting residents from flooded waterways.

How can I prepare for flood season?



Make emergency supply kits

Gather supplies in case you must leave immediately. Consider each person's specific needs, including medication. For instructions on building an emergency supply kit, visit **ready.gov/kit**.

Have a plan and communicate

Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response, especially with children. Visit the City of Loveland's emergency communication outlets at **lovgov.org/emergency**.

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Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy

It typically takes up to 30 days for a policy to go into effect. Homeowner's policies usually do not cover flooding. Find flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) at **floodsmart.gov**.



Watch the skies

If flash flooding is a risk in your location, monitor potential signs such as heavy rain. Areas most susceptible to flash flooding are low-lying areas, storm drains, and mountain rivers.



Additional resources

- Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center at **fema.gov/flood-maps**.
- Visit the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio at noaa.gov/weather.

Register for Emergency Notifications

If we can't reach you, we can't alert you. Loveland's emergency notification system is called NoCo Alert. Subscribers can provide multiple addresses, including home, school, and work, and they can set language preferences. Register your family today by visiting **NoCoAlert.org**.