

INCOME TAX *and* REBATE Preparation

INCOME TAX: State and Federal

Two sites in Longmont provide free income tax preparation and e-filing for low- to moderate-income residents, senior citizens, and disabled taxpayers. Both sites are IRS sponsored and are staffed by fully trained and certified volunteers who can prepare Colorado state and federal income tax returns.

- TCE (Tax Counseling for the Elderly) is an AARP-sponsored program focusing on those who are age 60 and older and disabled persons.
- VITA provides tax returns for those with income up to \$54,000.



Meet
Colorado Authors
at the Library's
7th Annual



OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, February 9
1 to 3:30 pm
No registration required

 **LONGMONT
PUBLIC LIBRARY**
A Division of Community Services
409 4th Avenue

TCE at the Longmont Senior Center

910 Longs Peak Avenue

February 5 - April 11

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 1 pm

Income tax return preparation is by appointment only. Beginning January 22 you can make an appointment online at COTaxAide.org. Or, call the appointment line at 303-774-4429. You will hear a recorded message and can leave your name and phone number so that a volunteer can return your call. Make your appointment early as they fill quickly. If you have broker statements (Form 1099-B or Schedule K-1) we recommend that you request a March appointment to be sure you've received those statements.

VITA Longmont

2050 Terry Street, Suite 101 (please do not disturb other building occupants)

January 30 - April 13

Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 8:30 pm; Saturdays, 9 am to 1 pm

Walk-ins only; no appointments are taken.

For information on tax preparation sites outside of Longmont, or for more information on the VITA program, visit ColoradoVITA.org. Longmont residents can visit any site in Colorado.

REBATES: State of Colorado and City of Longmont

Assistance completing both City and state rebate forms is available at the Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Avenue, **from 8:30 to 11 am on Thursdays only, February 7 through April 11.** No appointment is necessary.



A MESSAGE FROM Mayor Bagley

Survey Says: Residents Love Their Quality of Life

It's no surprise that a large majority of Longmont residents say that their quality of life is good or excellent according to the 2018 Longmont Customer Satisfaction survey. Almost 9 in 10 respondents (87%) give positive reviews to the overall quality of life in the city.

The City of Longmont contracts with the National Research Center, Inc., every two years to conduct a survey of opinion about quality of life, community amenities, local government performance, service quality and community priorities.

The survey gives residents the opportunity to provide feedback on what's working well and what isn't and to communicate their priorities for community planning.

Respondents applaud the quality of City services. For the second time in a row, 91% of residents feel that the overall quality of City services is excellent or good, and this is higher than national and Front Range benchmarks. Of 37 specific City services, firefighting and rescue services, library services, electric service, NextLight broadband service, trash and recycling collection, sewer services, and composting top the list, with about 9 in 10 residents reporting these are excellent or good.

Moreover, at least three-quarters of respondents, give positive evaluations for Longmont City employees, including for treating residents with respect, employee knowledge, and the ease of getting in touch with staff.

Of course, no city is perfect and that includes Longmont. About 4 in 10 residents cited traffic; transportation and parking; and population growth and planning as three of the biggest challenges facing Longmont in the next five years. More than 3 in 10 listed affordable housing and the housing market as a future problem. Traffic congestion and too much growth are believed to be at least a minor problem by 9 in 10 respondents.

Most residents (71%) think that the speed of population growth is too fast, 27% think that it's about right, and about 2% said it's too slow. However, a majority of residents think that growth of the physical size of the city is about right (63%), and only about one-quarter feel that it has been too fast.

Overall, the biennial survey indicates that Longmont is a great place to live, an idyllic place to raise a family, a fantastic place to work, and a perfect community for retirees. We already know this, but it's nice to see it confirmed with scientific analysis.

To see complete results of the 2018 survey visit LongmontColorado.gov/community/customer-satisfaction-surveys.

LONGMONT CITY COUNCIL



Standing, left to right: **Tim Waters, Marcia Martin, Joan Peck, Aren Rodriguez**
Seated, left to right: **Polly Christensen, Mayor Brian J. Bagley, Bonnie Finley**

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AT-LARGE: Joan Peck
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Find City Council meeting agendas and minutes at LongmontColorado.gov/city_council

CITY MANAGER: Harold Dominguez
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CITY LINE EDITOR: Rigo Leal
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Holiday Schedules

Longmont city government observes these holidays:

- * **Monday, January 21**
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- * **Monday, February 18**
Presidents Day

On both days most City facilities are closed **except Recreation facilities**, which will be open regular hours. The Longmont Museum will be **open** on January 21.

Trash, recycling and composting will be collected one day later than usual throughout the week.

Downtown Longmont Winter Music Showcase

Throughout the afternoon and evening of Saturday, February 2, Downtown Longmont will host local artists and bands at venues throughout the district. Visit DowntownLongmont.com for details and schedules and to purchase tickets.



Annual Tree Pruning and Removal Underway

The City of Longmont's Forestry Services contracts annually with licensed tree contractors to prune and remove City-owned trees as necessary to maintain the health and manage the safety of our urban forest. The program begins in January and is expected to be complete by May 1.

Pruning is performed as needed, primarily on large trees in old town Longmont, along greenways, and along primary streets. Trees are removed when they're dead, diseased, decayed, hazardous or structurally unsound. Some ash trees will be removed as part of Forestry's Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan.

This work is performed by licensed tree contractors through a competitive bid process. "No Parking" signs and door hangers are commonly used to notify residents when work will be performed near their homes or if parking areas are to be left open for tree work.

For general forestry information visit LongmontColorado.gov/forestry. For specific information about the annual tree pruning and removal program, call 303-651-8416.

Library Series Examines the Experience of War

War may be hell, but coming home isn't easy either. Returning home presents a unique set of challenges for which many are ill-prepared and raises questions about whether we are doing enough to understand and support those struggles.

The Longmont Public Library at 409 4th Avenue, in partnership with Colorado Humanities, is offering a series of facilitated conversations in February entitled "Still Coming Home: Conversations About the Experience of War." Participants are encouraged to read works by Denver veterans in the anthology "Still Coming Home" and talk with the authors and others about their experiences of war and challenges since returning to civilian life.

The series of three conversations is meant to be a deeper experience for those who attend all three, but participants are welcome to come to one or two. Copies of the anthology will be provided.

This program is for ages 13 and older and is limited to 35 participants. Registration is required at bit.ly/LibPrograms. No email? Call 303-651-8472 to register.



2019 Utility Rate Adjustments

New water and wastewater rates are in effect as of January 1 and will be reflected on your February utility bill.

In general, the increases are 9% for water and 2% for wastewater. Money generated from utility fees and charges is used to keep up with the costs of providing service, which includes capital investments needed to maintain the reliability of aging infrastructure and to fund essential improvements that often are dictated by federal regulations.

All rate adjustments are adopted by the Longmont City Council before becoming law in the City's municipal code. Longmont is proud to offer high quality services at rates that continue to be among the more economical in the region.

For more details about rates, visit LongmontColorado.gov/utilities or call 303-651-8664. On the website, you also can find information about reducing your utility costs through conservation.

The City recognizes that for some, increased costs may be burdensome. Please visit the website or call us for information on utility bill payment assistance programs.

Talk to your representatives at Coffee With Council

At Coffee with Council you can talk with two council members on any topic of your choice, and the coffee's on us!

In January, Coffee with Council will be from 9 to 10 am on Saturday, January 26, at the Longmont Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Avenue. Council members Christensen and Rodriguez are scheduled to attend. **In February** Coffee with Council will be on February 23 at the Lashley Street Station, 1200 Lashley Street.

For information about city council meetings, visit LongmontColorado.gov/city_council or call 303-651-8649.

Take a Sustainability Step Toward Clean Indoor Air

Our indoor air is very important to our health. Radon, an invisible, odorless gas, can cause lung cancer in houses that are not properly ventilated. You can check your house's radon levels by checking out a monitor from the Longmont Public Library. To learn more about radon and how to check out monitors, visit bit.ly/longmont-radon.

And coming soon: carbon dioxide monitors that you can check out from the library!



WINDOWS TO WELLNESS Health Fair

Keep your New Year's resolutions going! Join Recreation Services at the Windows to Wellness Fair from **9 am to 2 pm on Saturday, February 9, at the Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Avenue.**

This annual fair boasts a variety of vendors to give you the latest information on your health and nutritional needs. Admission is free, and free fitness classes and workshops will take place throughout the day. You can sign up for 10-minute sessions for \$5 each (cash only; please bring small bills) with alternative wellness practitioners and holistic healers.

For details, visit LongmontColorado.gov/rec.



Longmont Summer Day Camps

Registration begins February 1 and is accepted on an ongoing, space-available basis. Visit LongmontColorado.gov/rec for more information and to register.



YOUTH CAMP

Longmont Recreation Services offers state-licensed summer day care for youth ages 5 to 13 (5-year-olds must have completed kindergarten). This is an activity-based traditional summer camp with swimming twice a week and weekly field trips to parks throughout Longmont. Optional add-on enrichment activities are available for an additional fee.

TWEEN LOCO

Tween LOCO is an experiential summer camp for tweens age 11 to 13 that uses opportunities within and surrounding downtown Longmont. Wraparound care before and after is available.

SCOPE THERAPEUTIC

ADULT RECREATION CAMP

SCOPE is a non-licensed recreation program for adults ages 18 and older with special needs. Campers experience a wide variety of activities, including swimming, crafts, life skills, and social and educational outings. SCOPE camps are recreation programs, not day care programs.

SCOPE TEEN CAMP, licensed through the state of Colorado, is for those ages 13 to 17.

Hiring for Spring and Summer Recreation Staff Begins in February

You can work for Recreation & Golf Services! Adult softball and flag football officials and field supervisors are hired in February. Are you more of a water person? Get your Lifeguard, WSI, or LSI certification now to secure your summer job. Recreation hires year-round, and interviews for summer begin in February. To apply, visit LongmontColorado.gov/jobs. Don't wait until it's too late!



PLAY BALL!

with Recreation Services

LongmontColorado.gov/leagues

Adult Sports Leagues

Spring adult sports leagues are gearing up! Register for men's, women's and coed adult softball through February 18 for the early bird discount. Want to play but not on a team? Adults can register as free agents for all City of Longmont adult sports leagues.

Middle School Soccer

Players and coaches wanted!

Recreation's middle school soccer program is for girls and boys in grades 6 - 8 at participating schools. Practice begins in early March and starts immediately after school two to three times per week and lasts up to two hours each day. Practices are school specific and scheduled by coaches. Discounted participation fees are available for those on the SVVSD free and reduced meal plan. **Register in person by the end of February** at the Longmont Recreation Center, 310 Quail Road, or online at LongmontColorado.gov/rec, keyword "soccer."

The full-price resident fee is \$90. If you're interested in coaching, call 303-651-8398.



Preschool Sports

Children ages 3 - 5 will stay active in these monthly ongoing morning classes that focus on game basics. Indoor February classes include basketball and goal sports – soccer, lacrosse and hockey. Adults: enjoy a workout while your tot burns some energy (regular admission fees apply).

If you attend fitness classes at the St. Vrain Memorial Building, check LongmontColorado.gov/rec before you go. HVAC maintenance will affect some classes during February.