



# CITY LINE

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## Utility Rate Changes Take Effect

Don't forget, residential and commercial users will see new rates for electric, water and wastewater in February utility bills. For a typical household, the new rates will mean an additional \$7.41 per month in electric, water and wastewater costs. For commercial customers, electric rate changes are between 2.6% and 8%, with a 9% water rate change. The 2% wastewater rate change is the final increase in a three-year schedule that began in 2018.

For Longmont Power & Communications electric customers, this is the first rate change since 2017. LPC also will add a seasonal rate to better align with the summer wholesale rates from Platte River Power Authority.

Visit [LongmontColorado.gov/RateChanges](http://LongmontColorado.gov/RateChanges), for more information as well as income-qualified options to help keep bills low, such as Longmont CAREs, Efficiency Works, and Colorado's Affordable Residential Energy Program (CARE). Or, call 303-651-8664.

Service	Average Residential Use	Average Monthly Cost		\$ Increase	% Increase
		2019	2020		
Electric	700 kWh	\$65.25	\$68.36	\$3.11	4.8%
Water	9,000 gallons	\$38.71	\$42.21	\$3.50	9.0%
Wastewater	5,000 gallons	\$37.60	\$38.40	\$0.80	2.1%
Waste Services	96-gallon container	\$26.96	\$26.96	\$0	0%
Storm Drainage		\$13.05	\$13.05	\$0	0%
Park & Greenway Maintenance		\$2.00	\$2.00	\$0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$183.57</b>	<b>\$190.98</b>	<b>\$7.41</b>	<b>4.1%</b>

## SPIRIT OF ARBOR DAY TREE SALE

In honor of Colorado Arbor Day on April 17, Forestry Services is coordinating a tree sale for the community. With the discovery of emerald ash borer in Longmont, planting new trees is more important than ever.

The 2020 Tree Sale will be by reserved purchase only. From March 16 through April 10, residents can view options and reserve trees online at [LongmontColorado.gov/Forestry](http://LongmontColorado.gov/Forestry) or by calling 303-651-8416. A variety of trees will be available at the below-wholesale cost of \$80 each. The tree sale is limited to Longmont residents with a two-tree limit per person. Tree pick-up will be at the City's Sunset Campus, 7 South Sunset Street, on Saturday, April 18. There will be no onsite sales. Forestry staff will be on hand to answer questions about planting, pruning, pests and more.



## SPRING FISHING EVENT FOR KIDS

The 18th annual Chick Clark Kids' Fishing Program kickoff event will be held on Saturday, March 21, at Izaak Walton Park, 18 S. Sunset Street.

The Chick Clark Fishing Program provides a special opportunity for Longmont youth ages 15 and younger to learn how to fish, participate in fun outdoor activities, and catch their own fish, year-round. The March 21 kickoff event includes a free kids' fishing clinic (preregistration required), free lunch and free fishing for children. Parents can get more information and register at [bit.ly/kidsfishlongmont](http://bit.ly/kidsfishlongmont). Registration opens February 18.



## A Message from Mayor Bagley

# Everyone Counts in Longmont

It's no joke. April 1, 2020, is National Census Day, and I'm encouraging everyone in Longmont to stand up and be counted.

The census is more than just a simple head count of people living in Longmont. An accurate population count has many ramifications:

- Data collected during the census is used to apportion representatives to Congress.
- It also is how the federal government allocates \$675 billion in federal funding to states and communities.
- A portion of that federal funding comes to Longmont to support schools, housing, businesses, hospitals, roads, public works, and other vital programs.
- Census data also provide general demographic information that is used by the City in a variety of ways.
- Each person counted in Longmont on Census Day brings approximately \$1,500 per year to Longmont – that's almost \$15,000 over the course of a decade. Or, put another way, for every person who isn't counted, we lose about \$15,000 over the next decade. If we miss just 100 residents, Longmont could lose almost \$1.5 million of dollars in federal funding!

You can see how important it is for us to have a complete and accurate count. And it's easier than ever to participate in the census.

- It takes less than 10 minutes to complete the census form, and you can complete it a number of ways. For the first time, you can even respond to the census via the internet.
- It's easy to respond by phone or on the paper form that will be mailed to every household. Census forms are available in Spanish and several other languages.
- It's safe. Your responses are protected by law, and confidentiality is guaranteed. Responses are used only to produce statistics; the Census Bureau does not disclose any personal information.
- It's required. The law mandates that everyone living in the U.S. participate in the census.

For more information about Longmont's census efforts, visit [LongmontColorado.gov/census](http://LongmontColorado.gov/census). And please spread the word about the importance and safety of the census to ensure that everyone counts in Longmont!

## Longmont City Council

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Find City Council meeting agendas and minutes at [LongmontColorado.gov/City\\_Council](http://LongmontColorado.gov/City_Council)

## Ice Pavilion Season to End

Celebrate the end of winter at the annual March Meltdown party from 1:30 to 3:30 pm on Sunday, March 8, at the Longmont Ice Pavilion, 725 8th Avenue. Regular admission fees apply. The last day for open skating is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, weather permitting.

The annual Puck O' the Irish adult hockey tournament follows from March 12 through 15, and the public is invited to watch a fast-paced weekend of exciting 4-on-4 hockey games! No entrance fee for spectators. Teams can register at [LongmontColorado.gov/rec](http://LongmontColorado.gov/rec) or 303-774-4777.

## Holiday Schedules

Longmont city government observes the Presidents Day holiday on Monday, February 17. Most City facilities are closed except the Longmont Museum and all Recreation facilities, which will be open regular hours. Trash, recycling and composting will be collected one day later than usual throughout the week.

## 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 February, Coffee with Council will be from 9 to 10 am on Saturday, February 29, at the Lashley Street Station, 1200 Lashley Street. In March Coffee with Council will be on March 28 at Twin Peaks Golf Course, 1200 Cornell Drive.

## SUSTAINABILITY: It Just Takes the Flip of a Switch

Contributing to Longmont's sustainability isn't complicated. Simple changes can really benefit your wallet, the community, and the environment.

### SUSTAINABILITY TIP:

Turn off overhead lights and floor and tabletop lamps when not in use.



**It's that simple to be sustainable!**

Learn more at: [bit.ly/sustainability-longmont](http://bit.ly/sustainability-longmont)



**THRIVE** Today and Tomorrow

## What is the 3-foot Law? And what does it mean to you?

Colorado law requires motorists to provide at least a three-foot space when passing a bicyclist. Three feet is measured from the outer edge of your right rearview mirror to the nearest point of the bicycle, which is usually the handlebars unless the bike has a mirror, trailer or other accessories that protrude farther to the left.

Cyclists should ride as far to the right as is safe and practical, but in the event of debris, glass, grates, ice, snow, or trash cans, the cyclist may move into the



vehicular traffic lane to avoid such hazards. If there isn't a bike lane, the cyclist should ride as far to the right as is practical but may move left within the lane to turn left, to avoid hazards, or to pass other bicyclists.

When a car or truck traveling at 25 mph passes a cyclist allowing a three-foot space,

the cyclist likely remains within their comfort zone. When a car traveling at 55-60 mph allows a three-foot space, it can feel very scary and much closer. If you've ever waited for a pedestrian signal at a crosswalk where cars are passing at 50 mph or more, you have some idea of how it feels to be almost blown over by the speed of passing vehicles.

If you'd like to learn more, attend a free Bicycle Friendly Driver class in late March. Email [Lauren.Greenfield@LongmontColorado.gov](mailto:Lauren.Greenfield@LongmontColorado.gov) for class dates and locations.

## Improve Your Tech Skills in Small Bites

**Free library program for beginners and those with questions about tech devices**

Technology occasionally stumps even the most tech-savvy of us. For those with limited skills or a recently acquired device, it can be just plain daunting. Fortunately, the Library at 409 4th Avenue is here to help with a new program for technology beginners and those with specific questions about technology use. "Tech Café" meets in the Library's first floor computer lab from 10 to 11 am on the second Monday of each month through May.

Led by the Library's digital services librarian, each Tech Café features a short instruction period covering an aspect of software or hardware use followed by plenty of time for questions. Participants of all ages and technology skill levels are encouraged to bring their devices and questions on everything, including smartphones, laptops, tablets, PCs, operating systems, and other software.



Spanish speakers should mark their calendars for Monday, March 16, from 6 to 7 pm, for the Spanish-language version of Tech Café called "Technoguía @ la Biblioteca." This program will follow the same format and content as Tech Café but will be conducted in Spanish. It will meet from 6 to 7 pm on the third Monday of the month through May.

Continuation of these programs through the summer and beyond will depend on their popularity. Both programs are free, no registration is necessary, and each meeting is a stand-alone session allowing participants to attend one or all of the sessions.

Don't get stressed over your technology – get help at the Library!

## Summer Camp Registration Begins March 1

Longmont Recreation & Golf Services offers a wide variety of single-day and multiday contracted camps with various themes that meet throughout the summer. Registration begins March 1. Visit [LongmontColorado.gov/SummerDayCamp](http://LongmontColorado.gov/SummerDayCamp) for camp descriptions and locations.

Registration for the City of Longmont's state-licensed summer day care program began in February and is ongoing. Save money and register prior to April 15 at [LongmontColorado.gov/rec](http://LongmontColorado.gov/rec) (search keyword "summer").

## Sign Up for Athletics

### YOUTH SPORTS

Recreation Services offers organized youth team programs that emphasize fun and participation. Times, days and practice locations depend on coach's availability. Spring leagues with an early March registration deadline include CARA lacrosse, K-2nd grade basketball, girls' fastpitch softball, and volleyball.

### ADULT SPORTS LEAGUES

The spring adult softball league begins the week of March 9. Team and individual free agent registrations are accepted through the end of March for spring basketball and flag football. Register at [LongmontColorado.gov/Leagues](http://LongmontColorado.gov/Leagues).

## Spend Spring Break with Recreation Services

Keep your children active with Recreation Services' spring break sports, leisure and educational camps and clinics, including lifeguard and swim instructor classes to prepare them for a summer job.

Activities may also include swimming, gym time, climbing wall, crafts, basketball, t-ball, softball, soccer, volleyball, flag football, tennis and kickball.

Visit [LongmontColorado.gov/rec](http://LongmontColorado.gov/rec) and search activity keyword "noschool" or call 303-651-8404 for a list of no-school day classes.



## Activities at Sandstone Ranch Visitors Center

Programs at the Visitors Center, 3001 Sandstone Drive, have limited seating. Preregistration is encouraged, either online at [LongmontColorado.gov/rec](http://LongmontColorado.gov/rec) (keyword SSRVLC) or by calling 303-651-8404. There is a \$2/child and \$4/adult suggested donation collected at the events unless otherwise noted.

### Amazing Astronomy

6:30 to 8:30 pm  
Friday, March 27

Come for an informative beginners' astronomy lecture indoors then, weather permitting, head outside to view the night sky. Presented by the Longmont Astronomical Society. All ages welcome. Dress for the weather.

### Guided History Tours

10:30 am and 12:30 pm  
Saturday, March 28

Enjoy a 90-minute guided walking tour inside and, weather permitting, outside the historic Coffin family home. Learn about the Morse Coffin family and what life was like when they homesteaded here in the 1800s, about the major renovation to the house in the 1900s, and about all that Sandstone Ranch offers our community now. All ages welcome.

### Free Volunteer Opportunities Social

8:30 to 10 am  
Saturday, March 28

If you like nature, Longmont history, wildlife, people, crafting with kids, or just being at Sandstone Ranch, join us for snacks while we talk about the joys of volunteering at the Visitors & Learning Center.

If you can't attend the social but would like to learn more about volunteer needs, contact Robin at 303-774-4692.