



CITY LINE

August 2020 Volume 31 Number 8

Water from Ralph Price Reservoir flows over Longmont Dam on its way to the Nelson-Flanders Water Treatment Plant.



No PFAS Found in Longmont's Water

The City of Longmont recently participated in voluntary sampling and testing of our drinking water supply for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Results of the study, conducted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), detected no PFAS in Longmont's drinking water or raw water supplies.

PFAS are a family of human-made chemicals that are found in a wide range of products used by consumers and industry. They resist heat, oil, stains, grease and water. Examples of these products are stain resistant carpets, nonstick pans, water repellent and fire retardant clothing, food packaging, and high temperature fire-fighting foam.

The CDPHE project tested Longmont's drinking water for 18 PFAS compounds. To ensure the safety and reliability of our drinking water, the City took the additional step of sending raw water supplies to be tested. Longmont is fortunate to have a high-quality water supply derived primarily from mountain snowmelt.

The PFAS test is capable of very low detection limits in parts per trillion (ppt) or nanogram per liter (ng/L). One ppt or ng/L is equivalent to 1 penny in \$10 million or 1 second in 31.7 years.

There is ongoing research regarding the effects of PFAS on human health and the environment, and Longmont will continue to monitor this progress. More information on the statewide 2020 PFAS Sampling Project and test results can be found on the CDPHE website at bit.ly/2020-PFAS.

To view Longmont's annual drinking water quality report, which includes the most recent testing results, visit bit.ly/drinking-water-longmont or call 303-651-8416.



A Message from Mayor Bagley

Let's Hear Your Budget Ideas

I don't have to tell you that the economy has been devastated by the COVID-19 epidemic.

You don't have to look very far to see the damage to our local restaurants, retail stores and service centers. I commend the Longmont Downtown Development Authority, the Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Longmont Economic Development Partnership for providing creative approaches to helping the local economy.

However, we all know that many of our friends and neighbors have suffered tremendous losses. Some have gone out of business, and many people have lost their jobs. We'll continue to do everything we can to support our community.

Just like the many businesses that have had to make tough choices, we at the City of Longmont also have to make some tough financial decisions for 2021 and beyond. We are in the process of reviewing budget recommendations from all City departments. No City service is off limits. We must balance our budget while maintaining the services that the community has come to expect.

The public plays a vital role in the budget process, and I urge you to let us hear your voices. What is important

to you and your family? What can we live without? What is vitally essential? You will help us make those difficult choices.

Public budget hearings are scheduled in September and early October before we adopt a final budget proposal in October. This is the most important work we do, and it is especially important this year as we learn to live under harsh economic conditions.

There are numerous ways to contact us, your local elected officials. Start by visiting the city council contact page at bit.ly/Contact-Council. This is where you'll find email addresses, phone numbers, and an online contact form. Don't forget that you also can talk to us directly during Tuesday night council meetings, and there will be time allocated at those meetings for you to present your budget priorities.

We look forward to hearing your ideas.

Longmont City Council

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Find City Council meeting agendas and minutes at LongmontColorado.gov/City_Council

Make a Plan to Pay Overdue Utility Bills

The COVID-19 shutdowns were hard on many Longmont families. The City urges residents with overdue payments for electricity, water and waste services to call the City's Utility Billing office at 303-651-8664 immediately to make payment arrangements. If you need to make arrangements for paying your NextLight bill, please call 303-774-4494. We are glad to work with customers on plans for catching up with missed payments.

Get help if you've fallen behind on paying your home energy bills:

- If your family already receives assistance from any of a number of programs including LEAP, SNAP, WIC, and USDA free lunch, you might be eligible for rebates through LongmontCAREs. Visit LongmontColorado.gov/LongmontCares for more information and to apply.
- There also are several organizations that offer assistance with utility payments for Boulder County residents. For a list visit bit.ly/Longmont-utility-help.

Have Fun and Help Longmont Spruce Up!

CLEAN-UP, GREEN-UP September 19 - October 10

Businesses, civic groups, schools, neighborhoods, families and individuals are invited to help spruce up the city.

Volunteers can pick a park, greenway, street, alley or open space to clean up, or an area of need can be assigned. The Grand Kick-Off for the month-long campaign is from **7:30 to 10:30 am on Saturday, September 19**, at Sunset Campus, 7 South Sunset Street.

Register at JoinUs.LongmontColorado.gov/Calendar. If you can't participate on kick-off day, you can help "Clean-up, Green-up" through October 10.

For more information, visit bit.ly/cleanup-greenup, call 303-651-8955 or email Lore.Blattner@LongmontColorado.gov.



Stay Safe Out There

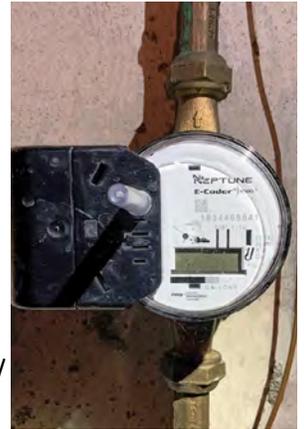
Being in nature and moving your body might be the best - and cheapest - mental health break you can have. But when you're outside enjoying fresh air and getting exercise, be sure to follow these basic guidelines:

- Take a face covering for when you meet people on a crowded trail.
- Carry a water bottle or two.
- Pile on the sunscreen.
- Take a snack if you'll be gone for more than a couple of hours.
- Say "hello" to passersby – no one can see that big smile under your mask.
- Go out at "off" times to avoid crowds.
- Got tunes? Be sure you can hear cars approaching, bells ringing and dogs barking.
- Enjoy!



Water Meter Maintenance Program

The City of Longmont conducts an annual maintenance program to replace water meters in homes on a scheduled cycle. These replacements ensure measuring accuracy and are completed at no cost to the property owner.



When a meter inside a home is due for replacement, the owner/tenant will receive a letter with directions for scheduling a maintenance appointment with the City. The City's contractor, Utility Sales and Service, will arrive at the appointment to complete the work.

For meters located in a pit outside the home, the owner/tenant will be informed that a City technician will be on the property. Residents do not need to be home for replacement work done in outside pits; however, technicians will knock on the door before beginning work to announce who they are and why they're on the property.

For more information, visit LongmontColorado.gov/water or call 303-651-8416.

SUSTAINABILITY TIP: Get 'Er Done in One Trip!

Fewer car trips saves money and reduces air pollution.



Find more simple money-saving sustainability tips at bit.ly/sustainability-longmont.



THRIVE Today and Tomorrow

Commit to Time Outside for Kids

Time outside is critical to the physical and mental well-being of our children – in rain, shine and even snow. The City of Longmont's Parks, Open Space and Trails division is joining other organizations to participate in the Outside Every Day Challenge. Visit OutsideEveryDayChallenge.org to sign the pledge, and join us by agreeing to try your best to get the children you care for outside every day! New challenges are posted each week. Ideas for August are below, but you can do them anytime! And share your activities with others. Post your photos online, and use #OutsideEveryDay.

M	T	W	Th	F	S	Su
AUGUST			#OutsideEveryDay		1 Make a shelter out of sticks	2 Read a book under a tree
3 Sit quietly in nature	4 Play I SPY outside	5 Go on a bug hunt	6 Make a bird's nest	7 Find something outside that is purple	8 See what's hiding under a rock	9 Eat dinner outside
10 Mimic your favorite animal	11 Find the track of an animal	12 Make words or pictures using items from nature	13 Make a mud pie	14 Find the scat of an animal	15 Eat lunch outside	16 Find a neat rock
17 Say "thank you" to 5 things outside	18 Watch the sun set	19 Roll down a hill	20 Find something in nature that makes you smile	21 Find something spikey	22 Walk outside barefoot	23 Use a compass to find your way
24 Find something outside that is red	25 Make a tiny home for an insect	26 Find something outside that is soft	27 Chase a butterfly	28 Find a stick, what could it transform into?	29 Make a musical instrument using materials from nature	30 Brew sun tea
						31 Dance outside

Visit Beautiful Sandstone Ranch



The Sandstone Ranch Visitors & Learning Center, 3001 Sandstone Drive, offers a variety of family-friendly programs throughout the year. Preregistration for each person attending is required, either online or by phone at 303-651-8404. Suggested donations of \$2/child and \$4/adult are collected at the event.

Visit LongmontColorado.gov/SandstoneEvents for Visitors Center public hours and upcoming programs.

All City of Longmont events, programs, classes, facility use, and sports programs will be held in accordance with COVID-19 guidance in effect at the time. Programs featured here may be modified based on current recommendations.

Visit LongmontColorado.gov to check schedules. You also can call 303-651-8404 for current Recreation offerings.



SAVE MONEY & GREEN YOUR HOME!

SOLL Provides:

Free safety, sanitation and eco-upgrades
Access to cost-saving City Services
Education in Sustainable Lifestyles

Visit: bit.ly/longmontsoll | Call: 303-774-3540
Email: SOLL@longmontcolorado.gov



Sustainable Business Program



Support Sustainable Businesses

Learn more at bit.ly/sbp-longmont

Open House at CALLAHAN

The Historic Callahan House & Garden at 312 Terry Street, pictured on page 1, will host an Open House with tours from 4 to 8 pm on Saturday, September 19, as part of ArtWalk.

Admire works created by local artists while you enjoy music in the garden. Admission is free and the public is welcome.

For more information about the Callahan House, including rental options for weddings, special events and parties, visit LongmontColorado.gov/Callahan.