



City Line

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Two Opportunities to Dispose of Unwanted Items

Household Chemical Drop Day

Public Works Solid Waste Operations will host a Household Chemical Drop Day on Saturday, September 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Public Works Maintenance Facility, 375 Airport Road. Longmont residents can bring unwanted cleaners, solvents, pesticides, aerosol cans, paint, oil in see-through plastic jugs, antifreeze and other household chemical wastes for disposal at no charge. Please bring a utility bill to the Household Chemical Drop, as the program is only available to City refuse collection customers.

Chemists will be on-site to identify and properly dispose of many types of household hazardous chemicals. Members of the Longmont Bomb Squad will be available to accept explosives, ammunition and fireworks. These items will be accepted with "no questions asked."

The City will NOT accept: commercially generated wastes, biological/medical wastes, expired medicines, radioactive materials, compressed gas cylinders (propane, butane), PCBs, dioxins, herbicides

or wood preservatives containing pentachlorophenol. If you need further information or have questions, call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416.

Landfill Drop Day

Do you need to do a little cleaning before winter? Public Works Solid Waste Operations wants to help customers get rid of their bulky items and debris by sponsoring the second Landfill Drop Day of 2005.

During a Landfill Drop Day, customers can take items to the Republic Services Front Range Landfill located approximately 4.5 miles south of Highway 52 on the east side of Weld County Road 5. Customers can dispose of one level pickup bed full of refuse on Saturday, September 10, from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at no charge. Additional refuse will be charged accordingly. Loads must be covered and secured for transport and customers must bring a utility bill to verify City Refuse Collection Services. Some restrictions apply.

For more information about landfill hours or rates, call the Front Range Landfill at 303-828-9400.

Call to Change Trash Service

September is open enrollment time when customers have an opportunity to change their level of refuse collection service for the year. During the entire month of September, customers can request a change to the full container (96 gallons of refuse per week) or the smaller Volume Buster level of service (40 gallons of refuse per week).

Requests for service level changes will be taken in September and all containers will be delivered by October 31. In addition to September, there will be another open enrollment period for service level changes in March of 2006.

Residents can also request an additional container for extra grass and summer cleaning for an additional fee of \$10.14 per month for a 96-gallon container or \$6.60 per month for a 40 gallon container. A six-month minimum rental is required.

If you are interested in changing your level of refuse collection service or would like an additional container, call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416. Your current level will not change unless you request it. If you have any questions about any of the City's Solid Waste programs, call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416.



A Message from
Mayor Julia Pirnack



Longmont Awarded National Grant

In 2003, the National League of Cities challenged cities throughout the nation to focus on strengthening families by initiating early childhood programs. Why is this issue so important to the National League of Cities and to us? Studies show that development during a child's first five years of life has an enormous impact on their future potential.

Quality care and education during these formative years can increase a child's capacity for success exponentially. We know there are substantial economic and social benefits for those who have access to quality school readiness education and child care.

Working parents depend upon child care and employers recognize that reliable, affordable care is important to families being able to work, to retaining skilled employees and recruiting the best possible employees. Quality early care pays dividends in decreased incidences of crime and problems later in life. We also recognize the need to support our local school district and teachers who increasingly carry the burden of working with children who are unprepared to learn or who bring social and emotional adjustment issues into the classroom.

When we speak of school readiness, we are not just referring to cognitive development — learning the "ABCs." Adequate readiness for school includes social development, language development, health and wellness — all factors that help a child to be ready and able to learn when they start school. This is why we say it really takes the entire community to help each child to be "ready to learn and ready for life."

We accepted the National League of Cities challenge by organizing an ad hoc group of representatives from the City of Longmont, the St. Vrain Valley School District and several Longmont and Boulder County health, human service and children's service agencies to discuss ways that our community could work together to expand and improve child care and early education opportunities for Longmont children.

This group, known as Bright EYES (Early Years Education Stewards), will work with parents, families and the whole community to bring together resources that result in young children being ready to learn and ready for life. The overall goals for this effort include: **1)** increase the availability of comprehensive school readiness programs, **2)** enhance community awareness around the importance of early care and education, **3)** provide enrichment activities for families and their young children; **4)** provide opportunities for parental and community engagement, **5)** enhance

awareness and opportunities for children to develop cognitive and language skill development, and **6)** improve the social/emotional development and health of young children so they are ready to learn when entering school.

I am very pleased to announce that the City of Longmont has recently received two grant awards that will assist Bright EYES to continue its work. First, the National League of Cities awarded the City a technical assistance grant to help Bright EYES to develop its community awareness campaign and with its efforts to enhance parent engagement.

Second, the City was awarded a State Tony Gramscas grant that will bring the "Incredible Years" program to Longmont Head Start classrooms and to St. Vrain Valley School District preschool classrooms. In addition, the City of Longmont has funded two capital projects to renovate its Meeker Center (839 Meeker Street) and former Fire Station #3 (next to Centennial Park) facilities that will house additional programs and services to Longmont children, youth and families. The Meeker Center will be transformed into a Family Resource Center that will offer additional comprehensive school readiness programs as well as resources and other activities for the Kensington neighborhood.

The former Fire Station #3 "living quarters" will be remodeled into flexible space to accommodate a variety of activities for children, youth, families and adults living in the surrounding neighborhood. Both of these projects began in 2005 and will involve ongoing community input.

Quality early care and education for our children is a responsibility for each of us — not just a family issue or a government issue. Everyone benefits from children who are prepared for and succeed in school. Businesses benefit from a larger pool of educated, higher achieving young people and from parents that can commit to stable hours; our "safety net" and public safety service providers become less burdened; our residents more self-sufficient, successful and contributing members of society; our students higher achieving.

Investing in children makes good long term sense — both from a heart and a head point of view. I invite you to learn more about the Bright EYES initiative and to become a steward of this community-wide effort to ensure that all Longmont children are ready to learn and ready for life. For more information, contact Amy Ogilvie, Children and Youth Resources Manager at 303.651.8580.

Julia Pirnack

Citizens Rate Satisfaction with Electric Service

Longmont Power & Communications (LPC) completed its annual residential electric service customer satisfaction survey in May. An independent research firm conducted the survey, which was mailed to 1,000 randomly selected Longmont homes. Customers returned 347 completed surveys. Here are selected 2005 survey results compared to previous years. Complete results are available from LPC or on the City web site at www.ci.longmont.co.us/lpc.



Rate your overall opinion of LPC: (scale: 0 = very unfavorable, 10 = very favorable)

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Mean score	8.55	8.62	8.66

Would you say the price you pay for electricity is:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Low	18%	22%	20%
Reasonable	51%	49%	53%
A little too high	23%	22%	20%
Much too high	5%	4%	3%

Rate the overall value of electric service:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Excellent	38%	40%	38%
Good	53%	50%	50%
Fair	7%	8%	10%
Poor	0.3%	1%	0.4%

Satisfaction with service quality – lack of power surges, flickers and brief interruptions:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Very satisfied	75%	78%	73%
Somewhat satisfied	21%	20%	21%
Somewhat dissatisfied	3%	2%	4%
Very dissatisfied	1%	1%	1%

Satisfaction with service reliability – lack of complete power outages 5 minutes or longer:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Very satisfied	81%	85%	79%
Somewhat satisfied	13%	10%	16%
Somewhat dissatisfied	2%	1%	2%
Very dissatisfied	4%	3%	3%

When an outage does occur, rate how quickly LPC restores power:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Excellent	47%	46%	50%
Good	31%	33%	32%
Fair	4%	4%	3%
Poor	0%	0.5%	0.2%
Never had one	18%	17%	14%

Rate how well LPC does responding quickly to customer questions/problems:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Excellent	41%	42%	43%
Good	47%	47%	45%
Fair	5%	4%	6%
Poor	1%	1%	0.2%

Given a choice, how likely are you to continue buying your electricity from LPC?

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Very likely	76%	79%	74%
Somewhat likely	19%	18%	23%
Not too likely	4%	0.5%	2%
Not at all likely	0.3%	1%	0.4%



The Front Porch

Residents Deliberate Longmont's Future

On two Saturdays in July, Longmont citizens gathered at the Longmont Senior Center to discuss our community's future. They discussed how to build a future where there are adequate resources to sustain the quality of life residents want to enjoy for decades or even generations into the future.

The citizens participated in a process called a deliberative forum, which was developed by the National Issues Forums to help diverse groups of citizens work together on challenging issues.

Participants considered the benefits and downsides of the following four potential Directions for the Future:

Direction for the Future 1: Enrich the Experience of Living in Longmont. This Direction for the Future says we should preserve Longmont's "small town feel" while giving it more "big city appeal," which includes promoting the arts and celebrating our cultural richness and variety.

Direction for the Future 2: Enhance the Environment, Natural and Built. This Direction for the Future says that we should ensure that we continue to live in a place where the landscape is open and pleasing to look at, and where everything that is built on it—houses, stores, office buildings, schools—preserves and even accentuates its beauty.

Direction for the Future 3: Expand Prosperity through

Innovation, Efficiency, and Education. This Direction for the Future says that we should emphasize efficiency and innovation in both business and government, and by ensuring that all our young people graduate from high school with the knowledge and skills they will need to become productive adults.

Direction for the Future 4: Extend the Principles of Cooperation and Shared Responsibility throughout the Community. This Direction for the Future says that we should focus on improving the ability and willingness of citizens and city government to work together in partnership, and of citizens to work constructively and productively with each other.

Community members who were unable to participate in these deliberative forums and would still like to share their ideas and priorities about these potential directions for Longmont's future, can do so by visiting the City's website (go to www.ci.longmont.co.us

and click on the Focus on Longmont button). You can review detailed descriptions for each direction for the future and make your comments online.

Findings from these deliberative forums will provide the foundation for crafting strategic policies that will help Longmont remain a distinct community with adequate resources to sustain the kind of

life residents want to enjoy after reaching build-out of our planning boundaries.

For more information about the Focus on Longmont strategic plan, contact Karen Roney at 303.651.8633, Dale Rademacher at 303.651.8355, or Carmen Ramirez at 303.651.8445.



City Line

City Line is a monthly informational newsletter published by the City of Longmont for its residents. For questions about this publication call 303-651-8840

¿Le gustaría a usted recibir las noticias de Ciudad de Longmont *City Line* en español? Llame a la oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad al número 303-651-8601.