Planning for fire

Why the city conducts prescribed burns and how it plans to protect drinking water in the event of a wildfire

Turn to pages 6 & 7 to read all about it
More than 900 community members completed questionnaires this spring to inform City Council whether they feel they are able to meet their basic shopping needs in Boulder. The responses will be summarized in a report expected this summer.

Participants of all income levels and from a variety of backgrounds were asked in both English and Spanish if they can meet their needs for basic goods and services within Boulder, what types of retail they wanted to see more of and what factors influence where and how they shop, among other questions.

In a separate questionnaire, retail business operators were asked what factors most significantly impact their ability to thrive in Boulder. The results of this data collection phase, along with an analysis completed by a consultant to benchmark Boulder’s retail performance against neighboring communities in Colorado and peer communities nationwide, are scheduled to be presented to City Council at their regular meeting on May 21.

The study also examines the accessibility of existing retail in Boulder relative to our population density, transportation network, affordable housing and the city’s employment centers. The results of the Citywide Retail Study will be used to inform a Citywide Retail Strategy as the city pursues the retail-related goals of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan: to maintain affordable commercial space in the city and to support a vibrant retail base.

“Boulder’s mix of retail businesses is as unique as the character of our community, representing both an important foundation to our economy and a delightful element of what makes Boulder special, while meeting important service needs,” said John Tayer, president of the Boulder Chamber. “The Boulder Chamber has been proud to work with the City of Boulder on this Retail Study in order to make sure we support our local retail businesses and continue to cultivate the attractive and functional character of our retail environment.”

Other local organizations aiding in the data collection include Boulder County, Boulder Convention and Visitors Bureau, Boulder Housing Partners, the Boulder Independent Business Alliance, the Downtown Boulder Partnership (DBP), the Emergency Family Assistance Association, Families & Educators Together, The Hill Boulder merchants association, the Boulder Small Business Development Center and the University of Colorado.
For so many reasons, Boulder is a special place. We are surrounded by beauty, not only the iconic Flatirons and seemingly endless open space and hiking trails, but also by the people who live, work and visit our city. Some members of our community who deserve a bit of extra recognition are our dedicated and selfless volunteers. And there’s no better time to highlight this group than now.

For the 17th year in a row, hundreds of volunteers have offered their time and skills to give Boulder a refreshing spring cleaning during May’s Community Cleanup effort.

These community members have spread out across the city to take part in dozens of projects, including picking up trash along Boulder Creek, planting trees in Columbia Cemetery, clearing debris in a variety of parks, dusting off shelves and books in our libraries, and so much more. It is truly a Herculean effort, and the entire city could not be more grateful.

Even more amazing, Boulder’s tireless volunteers don’t just come together during this one month. They give of themselves all year round. The Volunteer Cooperative — a group of city staff members across a range of departments who organize these volunteer projects — recently crunched the numbers, and they are incredible.

In 2018, a total of 6,649 community members contributed 79,877 volunteer hours. That equates to an economic impact of $2.14 million. And it wasn’t just last year. We have seen similar numbers for many years now.

We make an effort to let our volunteers know how valued they are during the national Volunteer Appreciation Week each year by offering a variety of community tours and fun talks from some of our experts in the field. Somehow it doesn’t feel like enough, so I’d like to add a personal and sincere thank you to all. Your work is invaluable, and you make a positive difference in all our lives by your selfless efforts.

Thank you for all you do!!

For those who haven’t volunteered in Boulder but have an interest, there are many ways to get in on the fun. Community members of all ages and backgrounds can help improve hiking trails, serve on one of the city’s many boards and commissions, or take part in one of the many engagement opportunities — there are multiple ways to start or continue your volunteerism. We encourage you to get involved and stay involved.

If you’d like to learn more about Boulder’s volunteer efforts, visit bouldercolorado.gov/volunteer.
How to keep our dogs cool this summer

Remember that dogs can get overheated just like us! Here are some precautions to keep your dogs safe from the dangers of hot weather.

Exercise Dogs During the Cool Hours of the Day

Dogs will be happiest going out in early morning or late evening when it’s cooler. On very hot days, keep your pup in the shade to avoid dehydration and heatstroke.

Sidewalks can be too hot for paws and a short or light colored coat can attract a sunburn in the middle of the day. Give your pet a run in the grass, in the shade to protect from burns.

Some dogs will keep going even if they have had enough! Keep an eye on your pup’s play and make them take a time-out if they are having trouble breathing, or are exhibiting signs of dehydration or heatstroke.

Proper Grooming Is Especially Important in the Summer

If you have a dog with a thick coat, their fur can act as sun and heat protection. They don’t need to be shaved in the summer months. Their undercoat can insulate against the heat and regulate temperature. But if it’s not maintained it can prevent air flow. Frequent brushing helps keep your pet’s coat healthy and comfortable.

Don’t Leave Your Dog In a Hot Car

Everyone should know this by now, but it always bears repeating! Even if you are just popping into a store for a few moments, you should never leave your dog in a hot parked car – even with the windows open.

Summer is the best season for spending time outside in Boulder! Let your pets enjoy the weather while keeping them safe!

KEEP YOUR FURRY FRIEND SAFE THIS SUMMER

Did you know that 1 in 3 pets go missing in their lifetime? Scary, right? That’s why the City of Boulder has partnered with DocuPet to give Boulder dog guardians access to features like the HomeSafe™ Lost Pet Service when you register your pups.

Here’s what comes with your DocuPet Membership:

- Free HomeSafe™ Lost Pet Service
- Perks for Pet Guardians: Get Deals on Pet Products
- Beautiful Tags linked to a secure online profile
- Regular Pet Safety Tips and Advice
- Your official City of Boulder Dog License

Get your membership online today at http://boulder.docupet.com or call 1 (855) 249-1370
The situation could have turned out much differently. And it’s one example why community CPR is so important and valuable. It’s sobering to learn that more than 350,000 people suffer cardiac arrest each year in the United States — and only a little more than 12% survive.

The silver lining is that statistics show that more lives can be saved if more people learn CPR. Immediate action, as was the case with Oclassen and the life-saving staff at the tennis club, can double or even triple a victim’s chances of survival.

Thanks to the quick thinking of club staff and bystanders, their knowledge of CPR and access to an automated external defibrillator (AED), Oclassen was one of the lucky ones. He has rebounded and happily rejoined the community at the tennis club.

I would also like to recognize several people who took action and did save a life. The following people responded quickly and calmly to help Oclassen when he collapsed on the tennis courts: Janet Fletcher, who has been CPR certified for 25 years; Vickie Koury; Chad Tsuda; Lauren Anderson; Ann Roth; and Christ Cartwright. Without them, along with critical assistance from the AED, that February day could have ended much differently.

A couple of minutes can make all the difference in the world. This was the case for Doug Oclassen, who collapsed from a heart attack while playing tennis at the Meadows Swim & Tennis Club in February.

Public education and training are important to the mission of Boulder Fire-Rescue. Widespread community CPR training can make all the difference in the world, and there are a number of opportunities to learn about the importance of and how to perform CPR. There are also online classes available through the Red Cross. I encourage everyone to learn CPR — you could save a life.

WHAT IS AN AED?
An automated external defibrillator, or AED, is currently the only way to restore a regular heart rhythm during cardiac arrest. The medical device provides visual and audio instructions and guiding the responder along the way. AEDs are located in nearly every City of Boulder facility. Take a moment to find out if there’s an AED in the locations where you spend much of your time.

National Night Out
National Night Out is a tremendous opportunity to enhance relationships between neighbors, law enforcement and fire services while bringing back a true sense of community.

Be sure to mark Tuesday, Aug. 6, on your calendar! Visit bouldercolorado.gov/neighborhood-services/national-night-out to get your night out started.
The risk of wildfires to homes and structures is well known in the Front Range, but the risk to Boulder’s water resources – and ultimately, the community’s drinking water supply – may be less well known.

One of Boulder’s primary sources if drinking water originates in the mountains in the Middle Boulder Creek Watershed, which flows into Barker Reservoir before it makes its way down to the Betasso Water Treatment Plant. The city has been working with the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute on a plan to protect Barker Reservoir and other drinking water supplies in the event of a severe fire.

ASSESSING THE RISK
Large wildfires wipe out trees and other vegetation that usually keep soil in place. If a fire is followed by rain, this soil, as well as debris and other material, can be flushed downhill into streams and creeks. If this worst-case scenario were to happen in Middle Boulder Creek, a large amount of soil and other material could be deposited into Barker Reservoir, potentially impacting water quality and increasing water treatment costs.

“We’re fortunate in Boulder to have multiple water sources,” says Kate Dunlap, Source Water Quality program coordinator, “so we would likely not have to use a fire-impacted drinking water source during or immediately after a rain event, until soil levels decrease and stabilize. But ultimately, that could be costly and decrease the city’s resilience in terms of water supply.”

OVERCOMING UNIQUE CHALLENGES
Most efforts to prevent and contain wildfires focus on forest thinning. But large-scale forest thinning in the Middle Boulder Creek Watershed is challenging, because much of the watershed is federally designated wilderness area prohibiting the use of motorized equipment. Thinning also involves lengthy permitting processes, and it is expensive, requiring a lot of human power and treatment every five to seven years.

Knowing these challenges and the unlikelihood of effectively preventing wildfires at a large scale in the watershed, at least in the short-term, Dunlap wondered if it would be possible to more effectively intervene to protect water resources in the period of time between when a wildfire occurs and a subsequent large rain event.

A quick intervention of this type would require three main steps: knowing where soil movement into creeks and streams is most likely to occur, knowing what type of treatment would be needed to stabilize soils, and determining in advance what resources would be needed to mobilize and get the work done.

PREDICTING RUN-OFF ISSUES
To predict where and what type of treatment is likely to be needed, Dunlap enlisted the help of the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute. Using information including soil types, hill slopes, the effects of wildfires on soil and how water flows into Barker Reservoir, staff at the institute developed a computer model that simulates wildfires and storms to predict where in the watershed there is likely to be a large amount of run-off into Middle Boulder Creek.

In fact, the computer model – called WESTT (Wildfire Erosion and Sediment Transport Tool) – is simulating 10,000 wildfires of varying sizes, location and intensity. For
Why conduct prescribed burns?

The City of Boulder periodically conducts prescribed burns on open space and wildland areas. The goal is simple – to help reduce fire danger for the community and improve open space forest ecosystem health. Conducting a prescribed burn, however, is quite challenging, from the planning and supervision to monitoring weather conditions and informing the public.

Prescribed burns are taken very seriously, for good reason. A recent burn of approximately 17 acres at Shanahan Ridge saw more than 50 firefighters and seven wildland fire engines participate. Not only that, there already had been multiple years of prescribed burning, tree-thinning and vegetation removal to help create the necessary conditions for a safe and successful prescribed burn.

Here’s a quick, high-level look what goes into a prescribed burn:

- **Planning:** Every prescribed burn goes through an extensive planning process to consider ecological goals, the resources required, potential fire and smoke behavior, crew logistics, and desired weather and fuel moisture conditions.

- **Notifying the community:** A wide range of efforts are made to inform the public about planned burns in advance of any ignitions through social media updates, a press release to local media and notification on the city website.

- **How are areas chosen for a prescribed burn?** Burn selection is always a balance between risk and benefit. The highest priority is public safety.

Other major considerations include fuel type, topography and the ability to maintain perimeter lines.

Managed safely and properly, fire is an essential tool for maintaining irrigation ditches and ensuring water flows throughout the system. It also can be used to clear fields, control weeds and improve forage for grazing. Burning also cycles nutrients back into the soil, and results in more dense and diverse native vegetation. Regular burning can also remove small trees that create competition for larger, mature trees in a forest.

For more about planned burns, visit plannedburns.org.

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**Story continued from PAGE 6**

Each simulated fire, WESTT estimates the amount of soil likely to reach Barker Reservoir and then recommends a specific treatment plan for the impacted areas.

When a fire occurs, WESTT will use the actual (not modeled) burn extent and severity to estimate soil transport and recommend a treatment plan.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANNING**

Treatment plans could include dropping packets of wood or straw mulch on burned areas from a plane or helicopter, or installing rolls of compacted straw (called “wattles”) along hillslopes. Mulch would stabilize the soil and prevent it from flowing downhill into Middle Boulder Creek when it rains.

Determining who will do this work is another challenge. Recognizing that the city does not own land in the Middle Boulder Creek watershed, Dunlap is collaborating and sharing WESTT results with a variety of wildfire partners, including the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Geological Survey and Boulder County.

“The city is fortunate to have a drinking water supply that comes primarily from forested and minimally impacted watersheds,” said Dunlap. “But this also means that we could have a wildfire, and we want to be prepared to immediately team up with our local, federal and state partners to implement soil stabilization strategies that will be effective in protecting the water supply.”

To learn more about the city’s water supply, visit boulder-colorado.gov/water.
Taking care of Boulder’s water

Boulder’s homes and businesses put an average of 13 million gallons of water and waste down the drain each day. That water and waste ends up at the Boulder Water Resource Recovery Facility, which was recently renamed from the 75th Street Wastewater Treatment Facility to better reflect its function.

The facility recovers nutrients that are used as fertilizer, methane that is used as fuel, and returns treated water to Boulder Creek that supports aquatic ecosystems and serves domestic and agricultural users downstream.

Over the last few decades, the facility has integrated innovative technologies to better serve the community and protect the environment. This includes leading-edge efforts such as a partnership with Avery Brewing to beneficially reuse byproducts of the brewing process to enhance treatment.

A project is currently underway at the facility to deliver natural gas produced in the treatment process to Western Disposal for use as fleet fuel.

Interested in learning more about the city’s Water Resource Recovery Facility? Sign up for a tour at bouldercolorado.gov/water/wastewater-treatment-facility-tours.

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Summer fun

**Those looooong summer days will be here soon!**

*Boulder Parks and Recreation has an expansive summer camp program to provide children with a safe and nurturing environment that allows them to challenge and test themselves.*

*Discounted pricing for residents.*

**Some Offerings:**

- An award-winning “goat” camp
- Rock climbing
- Swimming
- Water sports
- Group games
- Dance/Gymnastics
- Biking
- Arts

Spots are filling up fast! We don’t want you to miss out on the fun. For more information and to register, please visit: bouldercolorado.gov/parks-rec/camps.
A school teacher, a dental hygienist, a police officer. For people working in middle-income jobs like these, the idea of owning a home in Boulder and being able to walk or bike to work may sometimes seem like an unaffordable and impossible dream.

HELPING MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES
The City of Boulder Housing and Human Services Department is working to make homeownership a reality for more community members by preserving and creating opportunities for middle-income earners.

Boulder City Council recently increased the city’s Affordable Housing goal to 15% of all homes by 2035, including a goal to have 1,000 middle-income homes. There currently are around 110 homes in this program. Building options for middle-income households means that more people who work in and support this community can afford to live here and enjoy all Boulder has to offer.

WHAT DOES ‘AFFORDABLE’ MEAN?
Affordable housing is defined as households where the member(s) spend less than 42% of their income on housing and other debt. The city calculates the original affordable sales price of each home in order to be affordable for various income levels. Individuals and households qualify based on their income in comparison to the area median income, a federal metric that uses census data. Households must be below certain income limits, asset limits and meet other program requirements.

FIND OUT IF YOU QUALIFY
Opportunities are limited and there are specific requirements and restrictions for participation.
To see if you qualify, visit bouldercolorado.gov/homeownership/eligibility-status-calculator. For information on the city’s affordable programs, visit bouldercolorado.gov/homeownership or call 303-441-3157, option 2.

PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPMENT
City staff is working to expand affordable housing options available in the community, with several programs in development in 2019. These include a pilot program for financial assistance for middle-income homebuyers and a new manufactured housing strategy to support the affordability of mobile homes in Boulder.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS
Seven boards and commissions are still open for recruitment ... join the team to be a voice for the community! Options include the Downtown Management Commission, University Hill Commercial Area Management Commission, Boulder Urban Renewal Authority, Design Advisory Board and more. More details can be found online by visiting bouldercolorado.gov/boards-commissions.
Local Power is the city’s effort to create a local electric utility to support the city’s goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2030, increased local control and reinvestment in the community. The city is planning to ask voters in a future election whether to proceed with the creation of the utility. Before that vote, the city is focused on determining the potential costs of this endeavor.

In this edition of the community newsletter, we’re digging into the city’s electrical engineering work.

Boulder’s electric grid is a modern marvel. It moves electricity from wind turbines spinning on the eastern plains, over transmission lines, through substations and switchboxes and eventually into homes and businesses. And for many, it’s something that is taken for granted.

As the city plans for a future electric utility, however, it is diving into the details of the electric grid.

If the city began operating its own electric utility, it would own the poles, wires, meters and substations that feed power to customers in Boulder. Before this stage in the process come a few essential steps, including one in progress right now: engineering an updated electric system that separates Boulder’s future grid from Xcel’s.

In 2017, state regulators told the city that it could only serve customers that are within city limits and Xcel would reserve the right to serve customers in the county. This would result in one system that would serve Boulder’s customers within the city limits and the other would serve Xcel’s customers in the county. Thanks to a well-defined urban boundary, engineering a separate system is achievable, but still complicated.

The city is currently working with Xcel engineers as well as other firms to design the infrastructure necessary to separate the grid into two distinct systems that maintain or improve reliability for all customers, whether the city’s or Xcel’s.

This detailed design effort will help the city estimate the total construction costs and begin to plan for this reconfiguration.

The parties are also working through some of the technical challenges to building a system that allows Xcel to continue to serve customers in enclaves, or parts of unincorporated Boulder County that are surrounded by the city, as well as customers on the city’s edges outside city limits.

Learn more about Local Power and the city’s engineering work at BoulderColorado.gov/Local-Power.
Power Move

Boulder’s Climate Commitment calls for an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 2050. Currently, transportation accounts for nearly one-third of all GHGs in Boulder.

Plug-in electric vehicles (EVs) reduce GHGs by 50% compared to the average unleaded or diesel vehicle and are a key part of a holistic approach to achieve the community’s Climate Commitment transportation goals. This approach also includes making multi-modal options — transit, carpooling, biking and walking — easy and accessible.

How far can an EV go on a single charge?
No need for range anxiety. Many new EV models have a range of 200 miles or more.

Do I need a special charger at home?
In many homes, you can charge an EV with no upgrade to your electrical system with a standard 120-volt electrical outlet.

Where can I charge my EV?
There are more than 100 charging stations in and around Boulder, in addition to a growing regional and national network.

New and used EVs are available for a variety of budgets and needs, from driving a family of four around town in a minivan to taking a solo trip through the mountains. Benefits of purchasing an EV include:

- On average, EV drivers save 50% or more on fuel compared to conventional vehicles.*
- EVs have lower maintenance costs, with fewer parts to repair or replace.
- EVs have zero tailpipe emissions, meaning you’re not contributing to local air pollution.
- EVs have fast acceleration, run quiet and are fun to drive.
- Potential tax savings can be significant, including a $5,000 Colorado state tax credit and up to $7,500 federal income tax credit, depending on the make/model of EV and how much you owe in federal income taxes.

Purchasing or leasing an EV has never been easier. The City of Boulder and Boulder County have partnered, via EnergySmart, to answer all your questions and help choose an EV that’s right for you. Dealerships and electric utilities occasionally offer additional discounts, so be sure to check on those before you buy. And you can make your EV even greener by purchasing electricity from renewable sources, such as solar and wind.

* Source: www.energy.gov. Estimated savings are based on home charging at current residential electricity rates. Public charging rates may vary.
Below is an update on several current and upcoming City of Boulder construction projects that may affect traffic and parking in the city. For the latest updates on these and other construction projects, be sure to check BoulderConeZones.net.

### SAFETY TIP:
For your safety and that of the construction crews, and to ensure that work can be completed on time, please observe all detours and do not enter the work zone – marked by cones, barrels, barricades and fencing.

#### Foothills Parkway Bicycle and Pedestrian Underpass Project
**Duration:** August through fall 2020  
**Description:** Replacement of bridge, which is nearing the end of its service life, with a new underpass that meets Americans with Disabilities Act standards and improves connections to adjacent bicycle and pedestrian facilities.  
**Impact:** A bicycle and pedestrian detour of the overpass bridge crossing will be in place. Vehicle lanes on Foothills Parkway will remain open with occasional off-peak lane closures.

#### Railroad Quiet Zones: Pearl Street, 47th Street and at 63rd Street
**Duration:** Work is scheduled to begin May 2019. BNSF is scheduling the work at the Pearl St. Crossing, which will likely begin later this year.  
**Description:** Railroad crossing improvements so that train engineers do not have to sound the train horn at the crossing, funded through a grant with the Denver Regional Council of Governments. Improvements may also be made at the 55th Street crossing north of Arapahoe Avenue.  
**Impact:** Traffic impacts will vary by location. Visit bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/rrqz for up-to-date information.

#### Boulder Creek and Arapahoe Underpass near 13th Street
**Duration:** Expected to be substantially completed by June 2019 with final landscaping and project finish items through fall 2019.  
**Description:** The new underpass will address conflict zones at the south entrance, improve sight lines entering and exiting, and meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.  
**Impact:** The underpass is closed, with detours for cyclists and pedestrians traveling along Boulder Creek. Portions of Central Park are closed off for staging.

#### Treated Water Distribution Program
- **Norwood (Broadway to 17th); Lehigh (Table Mesa to Tincup Circle); Yale Road and Drexel Road (Table Mesa to Emerson)**  
**Duration:** May through November 2019  
**Description:** Water main replacement program on residential streets.  
**Impact:** Residents and businesses will be notified in advance of short-term water outages.

#### Annual Pavement Management Program
Prioritized work across the city – please visit bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/street-maintenance for 2019 map.  
**Duration:** Spring through fall 2019  
**Description:** The Transportation Division prioritizes the pavement maintenance for Boulder’s 300-mile street system, from sealing cracks to complete reconstruction.  
**Impact:** Residents and businesses will be notified in advance of short-term traffic and parking restrictions, as well as short-term indoor water use restrictions.
Many community members invested in cooling for their homes during one of the hottest summers on record last year. With another potentially record-setting summer of high temperatures around the corner, residents and business can stay cool, save money on utility bills and reduce their carbon footprint through smart cooling choices.

YOUR CHOICE MATTERS
In a warming world, most people will need to cool their homes. It’s vital to choose cooling options that don’t worsen the climate crisis. While there is a long way to go to reach the ultimate goal of an 80% emissions reduction, the community has already achieved its 2020 goal for greenhouse gas reductions, thanks in part to efforts funded by the city’s Climate Action Plan Tax (CAP Tax). While Boulder remains committed to further minimizing its impact on the planet, the climate is changing, and the community must adapt to the urgent consequences.

DON’T THROW MONEY AWAY
Making smart cooling choices isn’t just about avoiding emissions, it’s also about saving money. Whether a cooling system is already in place or not at your home or business, there are many steps you can take to stay comfortable without wasting money.

- Consider an all-electric heat pump, which can save money on cooling in the summer and also heat a home in the winter. Heat pumps are a great choice for improving comfort, eliminating combustible and toxic fuels from a home and reducing your carbon footprint.
- Keep the system performing optimally: Make sure that the cooling system is regularly maintained and that coolant levels are properly charged. Keep ducts clean and have them checked for leaks. More than 25% of cooling capacity can be lost due a poor performing system.
- Use a smart or programmable thermostat: Make sure to use cooling only when needed.
- Get an energy audit: An audit will help to understand if the system is properly sized and will identify other opportunities to reduce wasted energy.

IT’S NOT JUST ABOUT BUILDINGS
It is not just homes and businesses that have to work harder during summer. So do cars. The fuel economy of vehicles declines dramatically due to summer heat. This, too, eats away at the pocketbook and adds to greenhouse gas emissions.

- Consider public/shared transportation: Why cool a car when one is already cooled and ready?
- Combine trips: Try to reduce the number of trips in a personal vehicle and the amount of time cooling it by combining errands.
- Consider an electric vehicle: Go the extra mile in reducing emissions and saving money on fuel costs with an electric vehicle.

Sun shines brightest when temperatures are highest
Adding more local solar is an important part of the city’s goals. It reduces emissions, saves residents and businesses money, and helps create local jobs. Consider adding solar to a home or business. This ensures the cleanest energy for cooling and often saves money when combined with electric heat pumps and electric vehicles.

NEED HELP?
The city, in partnership with Boulder County, has experts available to help assess a home or business, connect with the right contractor and help access financing and rebate programs:

Residential Advising
EnergySmart: energysmartyes.com or 303-544-1000.

Business Advising
Partners for a Clean Environment: pacepartners.com or 303-786-7223.

- Air seal and insulate: Good insulation and proper sealing of doors, windows, vents and outlets can reduce cooling needs by 10% to 20%.
¡Esté atento a los osos!

A medida que las temperaturas bajan y el verano se acerca, no solo los seres humanos quieren sacudirse el invierno y salir a disfrutar del sol. Los osos salen de su hibernación y ya se ha sido visto más de uno en Boulder.

Tenga presente que un aumento en la presencia de los osos en la ciudad.

Una de las mejores medidas que los miembros de la comunidad pueden tomar es estar atentos y controlar que los recipientes de basura estén cerrados, según lo indicado por la ordenanza municipal.

Los osos que son atraídos a la ciudad por la disponibilidad de alimentos son más propensos a quedarse y una vez en la ciudad, corren el riesgo de ser atropellados por los vehículos, de ser electrocutados en los postes de electricidad, de ingerir productos químicos y de perder su temor natural a las personas, lo que puede ocasionar que los agentes de fauna silvestre deban sacrificarlos para proteger la seguridad pública.

La municipalidad establece que se deben utilizar contenedores que los osos no puedan abrir al oeste de Broadway, al sur de Sumac Avenue y en todas las áreas de la ciudad donde la basura y el compost se sacan la noche anterior a su recolección. Los contenedores deben estar en buenas condiciones.

Los clientes de Western Disposal pueden llamar al 303-444-2037 y solicitar un contenedor nuevo si el actual está roto; por lo general, los contenedores los reemplazan en 24 horas. Si es cliente de One-Way Trash o de Republic y su contenedor es suyo, es responsabilidad suya repararlo o reemplazarlo.

Con el aumento de actividad de los osos que se ha reportado al este de Broadway en los últimos años, en particular al norte de Alpine Avenue y al oeste de la Calle 30, se recomienda a los miembros de la comunidad usar contenedores resistentes a los osos y que se comuniquen con su servicio de recolección de basura para solicitar dichos contenedores.

Los miembros de la comunidad deben estar conscientes de que el ganado también puede atraer a los osos. En los últimos dos años, ha habido un aumento en la cantidad de cabras atacadas por osos. Mantenga las cabras, gallinas y abejas en lugares seguros y protegidos de los osos.

¿SABÍA USTED QUE?

Colorado ha sido el hogar de los osos desde que sus primeros ancestros cruzaron el estrecho de Bering. Estos animales grandes y poderosos desempeñan una importante función en el ecosistema. Todos los osos de la zona de Boulder son osos negros americanos, aunque su pelaje no siempre sea negro. Se pueden encontrar osos con pelaje marrón, canela o, incluso, rubio. Hoy en día, una cantidad creciente de personas vive y juega cotidianamente en lo que era el hábitat natural de osos.

Para muchos, ver un oso es raro y es un hecho destacado en cualquier experiencia al aire libre. Aprender sobre los osos y tener presente cuáles son sus hábitos, le ayudará a apreciar a estos animales fascinantes a plenitud, así como el hábitat en el que viven. Cuando esté en una zona de osos, conozca las áreas que pueden utilizar los osos durante las diferentes estaciones del año; observe las señales que indican su presencia (huellas y excremento); sea consciente de su entorno; y trate de determinar si hay osos rondando por el área.

Para obtener más información, visite bouldercolorado.gov/wildlife.
Be bear aware!

As summer approaches, it’s not just humans who are excited to shake off the winter months and get out in the sun. Bears have come out of hibernation and more than one has already been spotted in Boulder.

Please beware of increased bear activity in and around the city.

One of the best steps community members can take is to be vigilant and ensure trash containers are locked, per city ordinance. Bears that are drawn to town by available food are more likely to stay.

Bears in the city are at risk of being hit by vehicles, being electrocuted on power poles, ingesting chemicals and losing their natural fear of people, which may end up getting them killed by wildlife officers to protect public safety.

The city requires bear-resistant containers west of Broadway and south of Sumac Avenue, and everywhere in the city if trash and compost are put out the night before pickup. Containers must be in working condition.

Western Disposal customers may call 303-444-2037 and request a replacement cart if their container is broken; carts are generally replaced within 24 hours. If you are a One-Way Trash or Republic customer and you purchased your cart, you are responsible for the repairs or replacement.

With increased bear activity reported east of Broadway in recent years, particularly north of Alpine Avenue and west of 30th street, community members are encouraged to use bear-resistant containers and may contact their waste hauler for a bear-resistant cart.

Community members should also be aware that livestock can attract bears. In the past two years, there has been an increase in the number of goats preyed upon by bears. Please keep goats, chickens and bees in secure, safe locations that are protected from bears.

To learn more about co-existing with bears, visit bouldercolorado.gov/wildlife.

DID YOU KNOW?

Colorado has been home to bears since their earliest ancestors crossed the Bering Land Bridge. These large, powerful animals play an important role in the ecosystem. All bears in the Boulder area are American black bears, even though some may not have black fur. It’s not unusual for black bears to possess brown, cinnamon-colored or even blond fur. Today, increasing numbers of people routinely live and play in bear country.

For many people, seeing a bear is rare and the highlight of an outdoor experience. Learning about bears and being aware of their habits will help to fully appreciate these unique animals and the habitat in which they live. When you are in bear country, know what areas a bear may use during different seasons. Watch for bear sign (tracks and droppings). Be aware of your surroundings and try to determine if bears may be present.

If you see a bear, stay calm and follow these tips:

- Never run. Running can make a bear chase you.
- Keep your distance. Back slowly away facing the bear. Avoid direct eye contact.
- Slowly and calmly leave the area. Talk aloud so the bear will become aware of you.
Community conversation over a cup of soup

It takes courage to engage in conversations about differing opinions. Building Bridges is a collaboration between the city and community designed to do just that: provide a space to connect and engage in conversations about what impacts our lives.

Civic Soup is a new program initiated through Building Bridges where the community is invited to stop by Boulder Public Library and chat with each other during a communal soup meal.

The informal drop-in events will be held every other month. Each happening has a different theme to give the conversations a starting point.

In July, join the Office of Arts + Culture to talk about holidays. If you could create a holiday what would it be? We'll chat about what celebrations we, as a community, want to dream up.

Conversación comunitaria sobre una taza de sopa

Se necesita coraje para participar en conversaciones donde hay opiniones diferentes. Building Bridges (Construyendo Puentes) es un programa de colaboración entre la ciudad y la comunidad que proporciona un espacio para conectarse y participar en conversaciones sobre lo que afecta a nuestras vidas.

El nuevo programa initiado por Building Bridges se llama Civic Soup (Sopa cívica), y tiene lugar cada dos meses en la sede principal de la Biblioteca Pública de Boulder.

Durante estas reuniones informales, los miembros de la comunidad están invitados a participar y a conversar mientras comparten un plato de sopa. Cada reunión tiene un tema diferente para iniciar la conversación.

En julio, acompañémonos en la Oficina de Artes y Cultura para hablar sobre los días festivos. Si pudiera crear un día festivo, ¿cuál sería? Conversaremos sobre las celebraciones que nosotros, como comunidad, soñamos con tener.

The Boulder Public Library is the city's center for community and culture. Free access to meeting rooms, ideas, information, events and educational opportunities. Visit boulderlibrary.org to see all that available to you.
NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE HOURS

The City of Boulder wants to help you find what you need, and Neighborhood Liaison Brenda Ritenour is taking her office to neighborhoods all across the city. Whether you need guidance navigating city departments, are looking for information about projects and issues of interest, or would like to build a stronger sense of community in your neighborhood, Brenda can help.

Check out the dates below to see when Brenda will be holding office hours in your neighborhood. And be sure to visit bouldercolorado.gov/neighborhoods for the most current dates, times and locations.

MAY
Wednesday, May 15: Brewing Market, 1918 13th St., 2 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 21: Meadows Branch Library, 4800 Baseline Road, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, May 29: Lucky’s Market in South Boulder, 695 S. Broadway, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

JUNE
Wednesday, June 5: Heifer and the Hen, 5290 Arapahoe Ave., 1 to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, June 12: Aperitivo in Gunbarrel, 5530 Spine Road, 9:30 a.m. to noon
Tuesday, June 18: Amante Coffee in Central Boulder, 1035 Walnut St., 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday, June 25: Melody Park, 16th and Kingwood 9 to 11 am

JULY
Wednesday, July 10: Aperitivo in Gunbarrel, 5530 Spine Road, 9 a.m. to noon
Tuesday, July 16: Rayback Collective, 2775 Valmont Road, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, July 24: Tantra Park, Hanover Avenue and S. 46th Street, 10 a.m. to noon
Tuesday, July 30: East Boulder Community Park, 5660 Sioux Dr., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Make connections with neighborhood grants

There are many ways to bring neighbors together, get creative and enhance our community. The City of Boulder wants to help guide the way by offering Neighborhood Connection Grants that can beautify, amplify and refresh the many places where we connect. The grant program has been popular this year and many projects have already been funded. It’s not too late to get in on the fun!

Connections grants are available to residents for block parties to inspire neighbors to gather and connect. All community members are encouraged to apply.

To get started, it helps to understand that successful grant proposals address one of the following goals:

• Increase opportunities for neighbors to meet and get to know each other
• Provide community-building resources to under-resourced neighborhoods
• Enhance community resilience through personal connections

Visit bouldercolorado.gov/neighborhoods to learn about all of the available grant opportunities and read about the grant projects from last year. Here are some examples to help get you excited:

• **Block Party Funds** are not only fun, but they are an easy way to get better acquainted with your neighbors in a casual, relaxed setting. Funds up to $500 are available.

• **National Night Out** combines the feel of a block party with meaningful engagement with Boulder’s Police and Fire Departments. To cover expenses, $300 reimbursements are available.
What is community court?

Q&A with Linda Cooke, presiding judge for Boulder’s Municipal Court

How would you describe the current practices of the Boulder Municipal Court?

The Boulder Municipal Court is a problem-solving court. We attempt to address the underlying issues that led to a person being charged in our court, with the hope that we can prevent the individual from coming back to court with a new case. We use a variety of tools in this regard, including referral to substance use treatment, restorative justice, and assistance in navigating homelessness services.

How would community court be different compared to the current system?

Problem-solving courts do not necessarily engage the local community. A community court model can continue problem-solving, but it will also find an appropriate way to engage the local community in the program.

What role does the community play in a community court?

The answer to this question is unique to each community. Examples include being part of an advisory group during the planning period, being involved in community service performed by court participants, participating in restorative justice panels, and facilitating delivery of various types of programming at the court or to court participants.

How can community members engage in a meaningful way?

Right now, community members can engage by completing the survey that accompanies this article so that we have their input as we design a community court model for Boulder. We anticipate that there will be other opportunities for engagement in the future.

What would tell us that the community court model is working?

In the criminal justice system, the temptation is always to look at recidivism as a measure of success. What makes more sense is to look at what individual court participants accomplish, such as obtaining substance use treatment, acquiring a photo ID and social security card, performing community service, or understanding the impacts of their actions on the surrounding community.

What benefits have other communities seen by using the community court model?

This varies greatly and is largely dependent on the goals for the particular community. A common theme is the use of community service and social service sanctions, resulting in much lower utilization of local jails, as well as more robust use of social services by eligible individuals.
Conserving resources to fight climate change

The City of Boulder is working to address many components of climate change, but a new effort this year will focus specifically on topics related to materials, food and water. The city has dubbed 2019 the Climate Commitment Year of Resources to reflect this focus area.

Climate change is taking place faster than originally projected and the window within which actions can be taken to avert large-scale impacts has shrunk to less than two decades, so this work across many action areas is more important than ever.

Projects the city will focus on this year related to resources include:
- Wasted food
- Sustainable food choices
- Site design for a reuse-focused innovation hub at 6400 Arapahoe Ave.
- How to foster a circular economy in Boulder
- Strategies for addressing single-use plastic waste
- Composting, recycling and reuse
- City organization procurement choices
- Water supply modeling updates, including the effects of climate change
- Update the city’s drought plan

Learn more about these topics and related information at bouldercolorado.gov/climate/resources.

The city kicked off its Year of Resources by sponsoring the annual Trash the Runway event, where young designers presented couture made entirely of recycled and found materials.

Forty-two participants from local middle and high schools made fashionable outfits from materials like discarded dog food bags, old bubble wrap and wallpaper samples.

The event promotes innovative ways to repurpose trash into something that is not only usable but beautiful. It was a great way to start off the resources theme by highlighting reuse and other zero waste topics.
This community newsletter is created by the City of Boulder to share local government news, information, initiatives and events with residents.

It will be printed and distributed to every address within city limits quarterly through 2019.

We welcome your feedback!

If you have suggestions for future stories you’d like to read, please email them to communitynewsletter@bouldercolorado.gov.

In keeping with Boulder’s sustainability values, the paper used for this newsletter contains recycled content and the printer is FSC certified, which means they follow standards required by the Forest Stewardship Council. Please recycle this newsletter after use.