



SPIRIT OF ARBOR DAY TREE SALE

Enter the lottery by calling 303-774-4700 or online at bit.ly/arbor-day-trees

Longmont's annual community tree sale runs March 4-10. Coordinated by City of Longmont Forestry Services, the sale offers a variety of trees for just \$45 each (below wholesale cost). Due to the sale's popularity, it is conducted as a lottery.

The sale is limited to Longmont residents. There is a limit of one tree per transaction and one tree per person, with lottery entrants allowed to select up to two alternates. Residents who get a tree through the lottery are notified on Monday, March 11 via email. Individuals who do not get a tree will receive a refund. Registration for any remaining trees reverts to first-come, first-served at midnight on March 12. Tree delivery takes place the week of April 22.



NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP SERIES

Register for 2024 NLS classes now

Free; reservations encouraged at longmontcolorado.gov/nls

The City's Community and Neighborhood Resources Division invites you to check out the 2024 Neighborhood Leadership series schedule.

Leadership is crucial in creating positive community change, improving quality of life, and facilitating a stronger sense of community. The Neighborhood Leadership Series (NLS) supports Longmont's current and aspiring community leaders with opportunities to enhance their leadership and community organizing skills through targeted training sessions.

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A Message from Mayor Peck

Nextlight turns 10!

February is a great month for celebrating the things we love. And in Longmont, that includes one of our best services: our community-owned NextLight fiber-optic internet.

I could speak on the importance of providing affordable and transparent utilities, especially during crises like the pandemic, all day. For this quarter’s column, I want to talk about how NextLight has embodied the spirit of Longmont for the last decade.

In true Longmont fashion, NextLight began with a community need and some ingenuity. Having already installed fiber to connect a ring of electric substations around Longmont, City employees and officials began to ask (as far back as the 1990s!) if this high-tech equipment and system could be used residentially for this new craze called “the Web” or “the internet.” It faced some opposition, but eventually the community rallied around this innovative new service. NextLight launched after a vote of the people, allowing the City to offer a municipal internet option in 2014, the first in Colorado.

The name “NextLight” itself reaches back to Longmont history. In 1911, Longmont voted to provide its first light: a municipal electric service that began connecting the community in 1912. Fast-forward 100 years to 2011 and Longmont voters again came together in support of a community service, this time to provide the light of high-speed fiber-optic internet. And this “next light” has been transformational.

Since its launch, NextLight has become used to being the first: the first municipal internet provider in the state, the first to offer a gig internet service,

and recently ranking among the nation’s fastest ISPs and THE most highly rated by customers, according to PC Magazine. This means that we have a world-class product made by Longmont, for Longmont.

City staff and the community saw the importance of access to information and the power of the internet from the beginning. We were unafraid to try something new in the hopes it would benefit all our homes and businesses. More than that, NextLight has continually strived to improve and better itself and Longmont as a whole.

It’s hard to believe NextLight has already been providing our city with fiber fast internet for 10 years now. It’s easy to see the impact as NextLight has been helping weave the fabric of the Longmont community with its fiber. The nation’s best internet, for the nation’s best city.

Longmont City Council

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HAVE COFFEE WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS

9-10 am March 16: Council members Aren Rodriguez and Diane Crist at Lashley Street Station, 1200 Lashley St.

9-10 am April 27: Mayor Joan Peck and Council Member Sean McCoy at the Longmont Museum, 400 Quail Road.

View the 2024 schedule at LongmontColorado.gov/City_Council.

Efficiency Works Business offering bonus on rebates

Do you own a business in Longmont? Efficiency Works Business is now offering a 25 percent bonus on rebates for efficiency upgrades in the following categories: lighting, food service, grocery, building envelope, cooling, and VFDs.

Eligible water incentives include items such as ice machines, commercial dishwashers, and electric steamers.

To qualify for the bonus efficiency incentives, upgrades must be completed and submitted for payment by Nov. 15, 2024. Funding for the bonus is subject to availability and standard rebate caps. For additional details on eligibility requirements visit EfficiencyWorks.org.

Upcoming classes include fostering community leadership

NLS continued from PAGE 1

All classes are free, open to the public, and are hosted in person on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Longmont Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Ave., or conducted virtually via Zoom if noted on the event registration.



UPCOMING CLASSES

- March 13: Fostering Community Leadership: Intro to the Neighborhood Group Leaders Association
- March 27: Basic HOA Board Powers

Schedule subject to change; for more information and register for classes, visit longmontcolorado.gov/nls.

Questions? Email cnr@longmontcolorado.gov or call 303-651-8556.

Registration opens for summer camps



Recreation Services Summer Day Camp and Specialty Camps
longmontcolorado.gov/summerdaycamp
303-774-4700

Registration for the City of Longmont's state-licensed summer day camp and expedition-based programming begins in February and is ongoing. Save money and register by April 15. Also offered throughout the summer is a wide variety of single and multi-day contracted camps with various themes. Registration for specialty camps begins Friday, March 1. View the winter/spring activities brochure at longmontcolorado.gov/recreation.



Summer Camp at the Longmont Museum
June - July, ages 5-13
longmontmuseum.org
303-651-8374

Summer Camp at the Longmont Museum is filled with adventure and fun! Join us this summer to discover history, art, music, culture, science and more in these hands-on camps. Sign up for a half day program or stack two camps together with our free Lunch Bunch in between for a full day experience. Registration opens in February.

NIWOT HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF '74 REUNION

Spread the words to your Niwot High School friends Class of '74! It's been 50 years!

NHS first graduating class is having its 50th reunion on Sept. 20 and 21, 2024 in Longmont.

Please confirm your contact information ASAP to Elyse Grinnell at elysegrinnell@hotmail.com and include info you may have for other '74 Niwot alums.

The organizing team will get in touch with you!

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS FEATURE: EL SABOR DE PUEBLA

The City of Longmont's Sustainable Business Program (SBP) would like to recognize El Sabor de Puebla, a new 2023 Silver level certified member. El Sabor de Puebla is a food truck serving authentic Mexican fare located at 1380 S. Main St. The owner specializes in food from the city of Puebla, Mexico, with Tlacoyos being a crowd favorite.

In 2022, along with Boulder County Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE), the SBP spearheaded a free recyclable takeout container program. El Sabor de Puebla participated in that program and decided to transition from using Styrofoam™ containers to using recyclable aluminum containers. The owner also requested a free recycling bin from the SBP for diners who want to eat at the food truck. Plus, she even sorts the



waste herself at the end of the night!

“I didn’t want to produce so much waste,” the owner said. “When the wind blew, it would carry trash into the trees, and I didn’t want to contribute to that.”

El Sabor de Puebla’s customers have supported the changes, with many saying the food tastes better and stays warmer in the aluminum containers. With the statewide Styrofoam™ food container and cup ban recently taking effect, El Sabor de Puebla is setting an early example of sustainability for other restaurants and

food trucks. Many thanks to El Sabor de Puebla for their outstanding efforts related to waste diversion.

If you are a business owner interested in joining the SBP, email sbp@longmontcolorado.gov call 303-651-8416 or visit longmontcolorado.gov (search “sustainable business”).

Recreation Events & Updates

Spend your Spring Break with Recreation Services

rec.ci.longmont.co.us (keyword “noschool”)

303-774-4700

Recreation offers fun spring break options for all ages including sports camps, LEGO® and Snapology clinics, history tours at Sandstone Ranch and certification classes including lifeguard and babysitting training to prepare you for a summer job! View the Winter/Spring activities brochure at longmontcolorado.gov/rec.

Sandstone Ranch Visitors & Learning Center

longmontcolorado.gov/SandstoneEvents | **303-651-8404**

It’s almost spring at the Ranch! The Sandstone Ranch Visitors & Learning Center, 3001 Sandstone Drive, features nature programs for the whole family, outdoor concerts, group tours by appointment and free, bi-monthly Saturday public visiting hours beginning March 9. Upcoming special events include a volunteer social and history tour of the property. Most programs have a suggested donation of \$4 per person.

Underwater Easter Egg Hunt

rec.ci.longmont.co.us (keyword “Easter”)

303-774-4700

Calling Egg Hunters of all abilities! Put on your swimsuit and search for Easter eggs at 5 pm or 6:30 pm on Saturday, March 30 at the Recreation Center, 310 Quail Road. Eggs will be distributed throughout the leisure and lap pools during this great family activity for all ages. Registration opens March 1.



TEENS: EXPLORE THE LIFE SKILLS FAIR

noon–2 pm, Saturday, March 30

**Boulder County Fairgrounds,
9595 Nelson Road, Longmont
bit.ly/life-skills-longmont**

303-651-8580

The City of Longmont’s Children, Youth and Families division is hosting a Life Skills Fair! Youth ages 11-17 are invited to gain skills, discover career paths and enjoy music and giveaways. Exhibits will include practical skill instruction, interactive games and access to City resources and job opportunities. Admission is free, but registration is requested.

WORK FOR RECREATION!

bit.ly/longmontrecjobs

303-774-4700

Recreation hires for both year-round and seasonal positions. Make friends and enjoy flexible hours, discount Recreation Center passes, and a chance to build lifelong career skills. With jobs available for individuals as young as 15 and for older adults in their retirement years, see current openings and apply today!