

CALENDAR

Holiday Craft Fair

Sat. and Sun., Nov. 28-29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Senior Center

Gift items galore at this annual holiday extravaganza. Shop for that perfect gift and get ideas on great arts and crafts projects. 221.6644.

Poinsettias and Holiday Gift Sale

Sat., Dec. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Gardens at Spring Creek

Unique gifts, festive poinsettias, and refreshments. Visit evenings throughout December to view our outdoor holiday garden lights. fcgov.com/gardens

Christmas at The Farm

Dec. 12-13 and 19-20, 4-7 p.m.
The Farm at Lee Martinez Park

It's time for some old-fashioned holiday fun on The Farm. This family-friendly event features crafts, snacks, hot chocolate, hay rides and a visit from Santa. 221.6665

2008 Business Environmental Program Series

Café Columbine and Bakery, 802 W. Drake Rd.
221-6700 or fcgov.com/business-eps

Water-Smart Landscapes

Tues., Nov. 18, 9 a.m.-noon
Learn how new technologies can help make landscapes more efficient.

FortZED: Leading the Way to Net Zero Energy Use

Tues., Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-noon
Learn more about FortZED, Fort Collins' Zero Energy District.

Due to the billing cycle, events may take place before you receive your monthly newsletter. Visit fcgov.com for timely event info.

Character Quality of the Month "Obedience"

Quickly and cheerfully carrying out the direction of those who are responsible for me

For more information about Character Fort Collins, visit characterfortcollins.org or call 266-2671.

NOVEMBER 2008



news



SPOTLIGHT:
HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS,
SHOP FORT COLLINS FIRST

OTHER FEATURES:

- NISP: Real Impact on Fort Collins
- Sales Tax Rebate
- Utilities Environmental Leadership
- Brighten Up the Holidays
- Culture Corner
- Calendar



CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER

Doug Hutchinson, Mayor
Kelly Ohlson, Mayor Pro Tem, District 5
Ben Manvel, District 1
Wade Troxell, District 4
Lisa Poppaw, District 2
David Roy, District 6
Diggs Brown, District 3
Darin Atteberry, City Manager

CITY HALL

300 LaPorte Ave. • P.O. Box 580 • Fort Collins, CO 80522-0580
221-6505 • TDD: 224-6001 • fcgov.com

This publication is available in large print, audio and on the web.

CLIP AND KEEP

home for the holidays, Shop Fort Collins First



OCTOBER 15-NOVEMBER 15

The Giving Spree/Foothills Mall & Online
www.TheGivingSpree.com

NOVEMBER 7

First Friday Gallery Walk, 6-9 p.m. - Downtown
Lighting of Downtown Ceremony, 6-7 p.m. - Oak Street Plaza

NOVEMBER 22

Harvest Marketplace, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Opera Galleria,
123 N. College Ave.
Old Town Ice Skating Rink Opens - Old Town Square
Santa arrives Downtown, noon - Old Town Square

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 24

Santa's Workshop open, noon - 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday -
Old Town Square

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 31

Free weekend parking in garages - Downtown

NOVEMBER 29

Gift Giving Advisors, 1-4 p.m. - Foothills Mall

DECEMBER 5

First Friday Gallery Walk, 6-9 p.m. - Downtown
Girls' Night Out Shopping Event, 4-8 p.m. - Downtown
Carolfest, 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Opera Galleria, 123 N. College Ave

DECEMBER 6

Kids' Christmas, noon-3 p.m. - Old Town Square
Gift Giving Advisors, 1-4 p.m. - Foothills Mall

DECEMBER 13

Holiday Marketplace 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Opera Galleria,
123 N. College Ave.
A Family Holiday featuring TUBA Christmas noon-3 p.m. - Downtown

DECEMBER 13

Gift Giving Advisors, 1-4 p.m. - Foothills Mall

DECEMBER 20

Gift Giving Advisors, 1-4 p.m. - Foothills Mall

DECEMBER 31

First Night Fort Collins 2009 - Downtown

THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING IN FORT COLLINS

Chamber of Commerce, City of Fort Collins, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Downtown Business Association, Foothills Mall, Front Range Village, and Uniquely Fort Collins.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE A SPECIAL TIME FOR FAMILY and friends. If your traditions include exchanging gifts, shop in Fort Collins for all your gift-giving needs.

What's spent in Fort Collins stays in Fort Collins!

As residents, we know that shopping in Fort Collins strengthens the local economy, creates local jobs, and supports local services. In fact, for every \$100 spent at a local shop, \$45 remains in the community.

We can all agree that parks, road improvements, and police services are important services. They keep Fort Collins among the most desirable places to live.

These services are funded by a 3 percent City sales and use tax. That means that for every \$100 spent in Fort Collins, \$3 goes to support City services.

But what is it really costing you?

Have you ever wondered exactly where those tax dollars are going? Here's a quick summary of the cost of some of the City's most common services and what it costs you as an individual.

- City Park maintenance = \$3.18 per resident per year
- One Police officer, equipment, and vehicle = \$2.04 per household per year
- Road maintenance = \$9.35 per household per year
- Senior Center = \$5.80 per resident per year

Why Shop in Fort Collins?

Shopping in Fort Collins makes economic sense, but it is also common sense. Here are a few more reasons why you might want to choose to do your holiday shopping in town.

- Covered, inexpensive parking in Old Town
- No travel on I-25—save gas and wear & tear on your car
- Run errands before or after work or between family activities
- Order the wrong thing online? Need to wait days for the new product to arrive? Not a problem when shopping in your hometown.

CLIP HERE AND HANG THIS GUIDE ON THE FRIDGE

Sales Tax Rebate

Apply now to receive a rebate for sales tax paid on groceries; you could receive \$40 for each person in your household. It is easy to apply and no receipts are needed. Simply fill out an application, provide proof of your income for 2007, and a copy of your Colorado driver's license.

To be eligible, you must currently live within Fort Collins city limits and lived within city limits for all of 2007. You also must have had a household income of less than:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 PERSON | \$26,250 | 4 PEOPLE | \$37,500 |
| 2 PEOPLE | \$30,000 | 5 PEOPLE | \$40,500 |
| 3 PEOPLE | \$33,750 | 6 PEOPLE | \$43,400 |

There are additional property tax or rent and utility rebates for seniors or persons with disabilities who:

1. Lived in the Fort Collins City limits for all of 2007 and still live here.
2. Are 65 or older OR have a household member with a disability.
3. Earned a total 2007 household income of less than:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 PERSON | \$15,750 | 3 PEOPLE | \$20,250 |
| 2 PEOPLE | \$18,000 | 4 PEOPLE | \$22,500 |

Apply online at fcgov.com/rebate or call 416-2304. The deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2008.

Utilities' Environmental Leadership

Fort Collins Utilities has received its second Bronze Environmental Achievement Award from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). This year's award honors the Water Treatment Facility for its energy optimization accomplishments, resulting in substantial natural gas savings.

This award also recognizes employees for their excellent work and systematic evaluations of how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It also signifies the importance the Utilities places on the environment and its resources.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

NISP: REAL IMPACT ON FORT COLLINS

THE PROPOSED NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY Project (NISP) affects Fort Collins' drinking water supply, our wastewater treatment facilities, and impacts the Poudre River through town.

NISP is a collaborative project between the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and 12 municipalities and water districts to increase regional water supply in Northern Colorado. Although the City of Fort Collins is not one of these 12 municipalities, we are impacted.

The City's review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (authored by the Army Corps of Engineers [the Corps], revealed substantial shortcomings in the Corps' analysis of the project's effect on drinking water, wastewater treatment, and the Poudre River. Further, the City identified a number of issues that could cause profound financial and environmental harm to the City.

NISP could force the City to spend tens of millions of dollars...

For example, the Corps' analysis of potential wastewater impacts completely excludes the City's largest facility, the Drake Wastewater Reclamation Plant. The City believes that the substantial reductions to Poudre River flows attributable to NISP could force the City to spend tens of millions of dollars on new wastewater treatment facilities.

Another issue of concern is that water pumped into the NISP project reservoir, known as Glade Reservoir, will sit on top of a plume of contaminated groundwater at a former nuclear missile silo. This could force contaminated water into the Poudre River.

The City is concerned about protecting the cleanliness of our water supply. Much of the City's drinking water comes from Horsetooth Reservoir. It is likely that water from Glade Reservoir will be pumped into Horsetooth. Unfortunately, water from Glade will contain organic matter that is difficult and expensive to treat. During treatment, this organic matter can form carcinogenic by-products.



And then there is the impact on the Poudre River corridor, undoubtedly one of our greatest natural and recreational resources. The City believes that reducing Poudre River flows by up to 71 percent during spring runoff will have negative consequences for wildlife, vegetation, and recreation values. The Corps' analysis of these impacts was not sufficient, nor did the Corps propose any binding methods for avoiding or mitigating these impacts.

Because of these shortcomings and potential impacts, the City has asked the Army Corps to prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The City is not alone in expressing concern to the Corps. The City of Greeley submitted comments detailing substantial concerns about its drinking water supplies and treatment facilities. The State of Colorado's Water Quality Control Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency also have expressed strong concerns.

The Corps is currently reviewing comments from Fort Collins and others, as it decides how to proceed. The City hopes that the Corps will take a serious look at these issues and propose collaborative, science-based strategies for dealing with them.

Stay up-to-date, and read the complete text of the City's complete comments on the Corps' analysis at fcgov.com/nispreview.

Brighten Up the Holidays

The use of LED (light emitting diodes) holiday lights is increasing as more people find the shimmering colors and energy savings appealing. LED light strings operate much more efficiently than traditional holiday lights and provide several benefits:

- Energy savings: Save 90-98 percent of the energy used by conventional strings.
- Long life: Rated lifetimes are much longer and sturdy epoxy bulbs are built to last.
- Safety: LEDs stay cool to the touch, no matter how long they're on.
- Variety: Bright strings are available in many styles and colors.

Fort Collins Utilities is partnering with four local retailers to provide \$2 discounts on LED holiday light strings No. 1 - Dec. 15. An additional discount of \$2/string will be given to customers who turn in their working traditional light strings (C7, C9 or mini lights, up to five strings per customer) at the special events listed below. As an added bonus, the traditional holiday light strings turned in at these events will be recycled.

- Saturday, Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
 - Drake Hardware & Lumber
 - The Light Center
- Saturday, Nov. 22, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
 - Clay's Ace Hardware
 - Downtown Ace Hardware

Visit fcgov.com/utilities or call 221-6700.

Culture Corner

Movin' Out

November 12-15
Tickets: \$44 center, \$42 sides
fcgov.com/lctix

From Tony Award-winners Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp, *Movin' Out* turns the Billy Joel songs you'll always remember into a musical you'll never forget. It all adds up to Time Magazine's "#1 Musical of the Year!"