



# Looking@Lakewood

## Lakewood invests in parks

It's getting better and better to play and recreate in Lakewood. The Community Resources Department has several projects underway or completed that are bringing improvements to the city's parks, playgrounds and open spaces. Check out all the work.

- **Addenbrooke Park:** rehabilitation of the pond edge and irrigation upgrades to be completed by late summer. New trees planted for Arbor Day, which were part of about 100 trees the department plants each year in public spaces.
- **Bear Creek Greenbelt:** Bear Creek Trail improvements, bridge replacement, addition of a soft surface trail parallel to the concrete trail and new restrooms underway, with completion expected by fall 2023.
- **Carmody Park:** trail improvements underway; construction of six new pickleball courts designed with residents' feedback to begin in the fall.
- **James E. Harrison Park:** new site plan completed for improvements including a new playground, with construction expected to begin in the fall.

- **Lakewood Park Tennis Center:** remodel including court replacement and new, more efficient lighting completed.
- **Morse Park:** new playground and parks maintenance facility completed.
- **O'Kane House:** grant funding for restoration of historic farmhouse awarded, with rehabilitation set to begin in 2023.
- **Peak View Park:** site plan completed, with access, trailhead, accessible concrete trail and soft-surface trail loops under construction.
- **Quail Street Park:** new playground completed.
- **Taft Park:** new site plan for improvements completed, with park improvements and a new playground to be installed by end of year.
- **Tennis courts:** replacements underway at Lasley, O'Kane and Westborough parks.
- **Two Creeks Park:** new site plan completed for park improvements and playground replacement, with construction expected to begin in 2023.



Quail Street Park

- **Walker-Branch Park:** draft community master plan for improvements completed. Phase one, including a neighborhood dog park, funded for construction in 2023.
- **William F. Hayden Park on Green Mountain:** trails improved.
- **Bear Creek Lake Park:** trails improved.
- **Wright Park:** draft community master plan for future improvements completed, including a neighborhood dog park and new playground; funded for construction in 2023.

The Community Resources Department manages 113 parks, 240 miles of trails and 80 playgrounds, and one-quarter of the land in the

city is devoted to parks, open space and trails, which amounts to more than 7,400 acres. A 2022 arts, parks and recreation survey of Lakewood residents, performed to ensure the results were statistically valid, showed that parks, trails and open spaces are a top priority for residents.

Thanks to a decision by Lakewood voters to lift the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) limits on the city's budget beginning in 2017, the city also has been able to purchase more than 100 acres of new parkland. Removing the TABOR limits allowed the city to use funds that would have been refunded to property owners for park purchases and improvements.

See **LAKEWOOD PARKS** page 7

## Lakewood becoming more sustainable, greener city

Lakewood is taking steps to become a greener city, and they involve much more than plants and shrubs. Updates to the city's sustainable development standards that City Council recently approved will create more opportunities for new projects to achieve the community's adopted vision and goals for greenhouse gas emissions, waste diversion and community benefits.

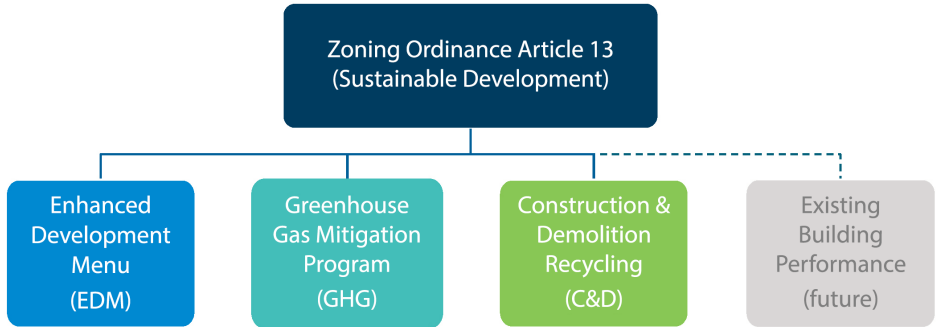
The changes, which went into effect on Aug. 1, align with the community's vision as outlined in Lakewood's Sustainability and Comprehensive

plans. Residents have said they want safe and attractive places to live, work and travel through, with multiple ways to get around the city and to access the needs of daily life. They also want better air quality and natural ecosystem health and to embrace local resiliency and self-reliance through technology as well as local economic options to support community gardening and small businesses. They simply want neighbors helping neighbors because it takes a village to accomplish all of these goals.

"Implementing these options will enhance the design and build of residential structures and will provide the residents with added beauty, will reduce energy and water use and will add to the cityscape, thus benefiting all Lakewood residents," said Ward 4 resident Linda Stopp.

For over a year, Sustainability Planning staff collaborated with Lakewood community members, technical experts and other city departments to draft requirements to fit the context of the city and further the city's commitments to mitigate climate change. The community was able to participate and follow the work at [LakewoodTogether.org/sustainable-development-standards](https://lakewoodtogether.org/sustainable-development-standards). The resulting standards

### Overall Framework



will bring the benefits of new investment into the community while ensuring that new projects reflect Lakewood's adopted goals and values.

Sustainable development standards were first included in the building code in 2018 and in the Zoning Ordinance in 2019. Those standards have ensured that new homes and other buildings have the ability to add solar panels and electric vehicle charging equipment more easily and affordably. They also started the process to reduce waste during the construction process. These have resulted in installation of more public EV charging stations in Lakewood and the addition of community amenities to new developments.

The updates approved in June expand the existing zoning standards by updating the Enhanced Development Menu, incorporating a new Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program, and adding standards to support implementation of the existing construction and demolition waste recycling requirements in the building code. These three parts of the sustainable development standards are designed to work together to create maximum benefits for moderate cost, to provide incentives to builders to make sustainable investments in Lakewood and to complement other city goals.

See **SUSTAINABILITY** page 8

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MAYOR



Adam Paul

I hope you are having a fantastic summer, enjoying all the wonderful things Lakewood has to offer. Get out and wander around one of our incredible parks, walk the 40 West ArtLine, check out Belmar, take a stroll in Colorado Mills and support the thousands of restaurants and small businesses that are part of this great city.

There’s been no summer break for City Council, which has been working to address issues important to you. I have written in the past about our annual planning retreat, which sets the work plan for the year. The goals for 2022 focus on affordable housing, homelessness, sustainability, crime prevention and economic development. I’m proud of the hard and thoughtful work of council, staff and our active residents. Recently we enacted a Safe Parking ordinance, adopted our first Code of Ethics, addressed new sustainability standards for development, lifted barriers for affordable housing, and as a first, prioritized development of affordable for-sale units while honoring the restrictions of the voter-approved growth limitations. We also have engaged with the proposal to expand Bear Creek

Reservoir. Council supported a proclamation that expresses the council’s support for Save Bear Creek Lake Park and for limiting the impacts to the park. Read the proclamation and learn more at [Lakewood.org/BCreservoir](https://Lakewood.org/BCreservoir). For the remainder of the year, council will continue to tackle important community issues like urban renewal; enhanced homeless response and sheltering; neighborhood watch 2.0; policies to address vacant, abandoned and dilapidated commercial properties as well as the presentation and adoption of the budget. We offer many opportunities for you to engage and make your voice heard. Your participation, feedback and ideas are critical. Please go to [LakewoodSpeaks.org](https://LakewoodSpeaks.org) and [LakewoodTogether.org](https://LakewoodTogether.org) to stay up to date.

We continue to live in challenging times. Many are struggling with their mental health, and now there is an even easier way to reach out for help. Anyone can use the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline with the new three-digit number of 988 to call (multiple languages available), text or chat (English only) to connect to compassionate, accessible care and support for mental health–related needs. It’s okay to ask for help, and it’s one step closer.



**Adam Paul**  
303-987-7040  
[apaul@lakewood.org](mailto:apaul@lakewood.org)

We are building an inclusive community.

WARD 1



Charley Able

Residential group homes, an issue City Council confronted more than a decade ago, continues to cause concern in Lakewood, most recently among community members living near a proposed “Adult Recovery” group home for addiction treatment at 3084 Routt Circle. Nearby residents have contacted City Hall with concerns about a number of issues, including the close proximity of another group

home about 500 feet away. The proposed sober-living home site also is across from the Applewood Knolls Swim and Tennis Club, stoking concerns about increased traffic and associated safety and parking issues. These concerns arise from Lakewood’s 2006 ordinance regulating such facilities. The state of Colorado licenses such facilities and regulates their operation. Both entities are guided by the federal Fair Housing Act of 1988. Lakewood’s ordinance is less restrictive than federal law, in many ways, including the number of residents. Please contact me ([cable@lakewood.org](mailto:cable@lakewood.org)) if you have questions or need further information.

**Charley Able**  
303-233-7275  
[cable@lakewood.org](mailto:cable@lakewood.org)



Jeslin Shahrezaei

The revised Colorado Water Plan (CWP) is expected to be released in early 2023. The plan underscores the need for collaborative action to occur at every level and reinforces that the need for action has never been more urgent than now. One of CWP’s four major values is “an informed public with creative, forward-thinking solutions that are sustainable and resilient to changing conditions and result in

strong, equitable communities that can adapt and thrive in the face of adversity.” Learn about the plan at [cwcb.colorado.gov/Colorado-water-plan](https://cwcb.colorado.gov/Colorado-water-plan). City Council will continue to invest in important measures to ensure we are prepared to meet water challenges now and in the future. **We simply have no other choice but to act.** I look forward to conversations on turf replacement and other water-wise considerations. Please feel empowered to share your ideas on this topic. There is not just one solution to the complex water challenges we face, and community input and participation will be critical.

**Jeslin Shahrezaei**  
303-987-7728  
[jshahrezaei@lakewood.org](mailto:jshahrezaei@lakewood.org)

WARD 2



Sharon Vincent



Sophia Mayott-Guerrero

Council recently passed the Safe Parking Initiative, which allows for private properties to volunteer to let those living in their passenger cars to park in their parking lots. We are thrilled to see our own Lakewood United Methodist Church leading this effort and serving as an example as the first Safe Parking Lot. Additional good news is the improved Enhanced Development Menu (see story on page 1). This is a big step toward reducing climate change, lowering water usage, and increasing energy efficiency in new buildings in Lakewood. We are experiencing an increase in calls and emails about trash and camps along several highway or public transportation corridors. These can include issues not only on Lakewood property, but also Colorado Department of Transportation and Regional

Transportation District properties, making a response complex and difficult. Our Community Action Team within Lakewood Police cannot solely deal with these issues without getting others involved since these other agencies are responsible for some of this property. We hope that more intergovernmental collaboration, new approaches from Lakewood, and increased resources and additional options for the unhoused will help address these challenges over time. Another question we often get asked is how something is allowed to be built where it is. There are multiple reasons why something can be located where it is, and zoning has the greatest impact. There are allowed uses under the zoning for private property throughout the city, and these allowed uses do not

have to come to City Council for approval. These projects, however, still go through an extensive review with the city’s engineering and planning staff and are required to meet numerous regulations. One way to get information on what is occurring is to go to [Lakewood.org/PlanningCasesMap](https://Lakewood.org/PlanningCasesMap). The zoning in the city was authorized after multiple months of residents’ input. There will be another review of zoning coming up, and residents will again be offered a chance to participate. On a lighter note, we are looking forward to the reopening of Casa Bonita and all that will bring.

**Sharon Vincent**  
720-979-1449  
[svincent@lakewood.org](mailto:svincent@lakewood.org)

**Sophia Mayott-Guerrero**  
303-987-7738  
[sguerrero@lakewood.org](mailto:sguerrero@lakewood.org)



WARD 3



Anita Springsteen

An illegal “ethics code” that appears to deny attorneys the right to serve on Lakewood City Council recently passed, attempting to further dumb representative government down.

Almost simultaneously, Lakewood was losing a critical argument at the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. In the groundbreaking case, *Irizarry v. Yehia*, No. 21-1247, the 10th Circuit

recognized the clearly established First Amendment right to film police activity in public—following six other federal circuits in denying qualified immunity when police unreasonably interfere with this right. The United States Department of Justice and National Police Accountability Institute participated to push our circuit to recognize this right, given the increasing importance of bystander video.

Meanwhile, my recent motion to involve City Council in the selection of the new police chief was met with resistance. It is time for change when the Department of Justice stands against Lakewood policies. Our police deserve support, attention, and mature leadership.

**Anita Springsteen**  
303-987-7743  
aspringsteen@lakewood.org



Rebekah Stewart

Happy summer! As we grapple with weather patterns that continue to trend hotter and drier, I want you to know that we continue to work toward solutions that both adapt to and combat these climate-related issues. Recently, City Council passed updates to our Enhanced Development Menu and sustainability standards and added greenhouse gas mitigation

requirements on new development (see story on page 1).

The Sustainability Division and the Lakewood Advisory Commission are working together to create a water-wise landscaping program to help people voluntarily reduce their residential landscaping water usage.

I also want to make our community aware that the Regional Transportation District’s buses, light rail and other services are fare-free for the entire month of August to encourage people to reduce single-passenger car usage and emissions. Learn more at [rtd-denver.com/ZeroFare](https://rtd-denver.com/ZeroFare).

Let’s continue to work together on innovative ways to preserve our clean air and water in Lakewood!

**Rebekah Stewart**  
303-987-7740  
rstewart@lakewood.org

WARD 4



Barb Franks

Each year by Nov. 1, City Council is responsible for reviewing and approving the annual budget.

City staff, under Finance Department coordination, undertake an extensive process to evaluate projected versus actual revenue and expenses, service and infrastructure needs, and council priorities to prepare a draft budget.

The draft is presented to the Budget and Audit Board of three council members and three residents

appointed by council to obtain feedback prior to all of City Council and the public receiving the budget for public hearings.

Interested in learning more about the process and how your tax dollars, including Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) dollars, are spent? Keep an eye on [Lakewood.org/CityMeetings](https://Lakewood.org/CityMeetings) for the posted board meetings. You can also find past budgets at [Lakewood.org/Budgets](https://Lakewood.org/Budgets) and archived council meeting videos at [Lakewood.org/CouncilVideos](https://Lakewood.org/CouncilVideos).

Projects paid for by TABOR dollars are outlined at [Lakewood.org/TABORprojects](https://Lakewood.org/TABORprojects), and [Ledger](https://Lakewood.org/Ledger). [Lakewood.org](https://Lakewood.org) is a great resource to see how Lakewood spends taxpayer funds by expense types, departments, funds and vendors.

**Barb Franks**  
720-515-6501  
bfranks@lakewood.org



Rich Olver

The August Ward 4 meeting is canceled. I tried to schedule a meeting in Bear Creek Lake Park for Aug. 24, with the primary topic to be the possible flooding of the area so water can be sent to the Brighton area.

My preliminary work was to ask if a meeting was logistically possible.

Turns out BCLP has several outdoor sites to host groups. Plus, Lakewood has waived the entrance fee in the past for Lakewood events.

Armed with that, I got the Denver Astronomical Society to agree to come and provide planet gazing after dark via telescope.

We looked to be good to go. Then I went through proper channels to get the blessings of the city bosses.

That’s a no go. They have put the kibosh on it. Their excuses are extremely lame, so it’s likely that they just don’t want Ward 4 residents to understand what’s going on in BCLP.

**Rich Olver**  
303-987-7748  
rolver@lakewood.org

WARD 5



Wendi Strom

In the first summer of my elected position, I’ve enjoyed getting out to spend time with and learn more about Lakewood and our residents. With so many event options this year (especially at the refreshed Belmar), there has been no shortage of opportunities to get outside.

Now we’re in August, the month of block parties. Many of our residents have expressed the desire for more

ways to truly build community. If your block doesn’t have an event on the calendar yet, I encourage you to get one scheduled. Though National Night Out may be behind us, the Colorado weather is still great for driveway barbecues! Block parties help build relationships with our neighbors, reduce isolation, help prevent crime and ultimately go a long way in creating a true sense of community. That at-home, community feel doesn’t just happen. We need to build it. I encourage you to foster those relationships now to see what a difference they make for you and your neighbors. Here’s to block parties!

**Wendi Strom**  
303-987-7767  
wstrom@lakewood.org



Mary Janssen

Recent changes in state law lowered some crimes to a misdemeanor. Aggravated auto theft and retail shoplifting have dramatically increased. It’s unknown what steps our own local state representatives will take to address and perhaps correct the

issues when the legislative session convenes in January.

It’s time for a Lakewood community discussion so we can determine achievable goals and action plans to decelerate the crime rates. Please join us Sunday, Sept. 25 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Belmar Library meeting room located at 555 S. Allison Parkway. We’ll discuss options and potential remedies that exist at the city level and what legal remedies would need to be made to state law. Water and light snacks will be provided.

**Mary Janssen**  
303-987-7776  
mjanssen@lakewood.org



## New Lakewood Economic Development Programs

**T**he Lakewood Economic Development team assists new and existing businesses and works to support the overall economic vitality of our community. We are excited to announce three new programs to support existing businesses in Lakewood and encourage entrepreneurs in our community.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Lunch & Chat



#### Lunch and Chats

Are you a Lakewood business owner or employee who would enjoy having lunch with the Economic Development team and other like-minded members of our business community? If so, you can sign up for Lunch and Chats beginning in the fall. Attendees will make valuable connections and share common experiences from the last few years.

We invite you to take advantage of this opportunity because we want to hear what is going right, what may be challenging for you, and what solutions your business has implemented to overcome those challenges. Lunches will be industry specific and tailored toward different areas of business within Lakewood. Topics will include manufacturing, technology, real estate, construction, medical, hospitality and entrepreneurialism. We can't wait to hear from you. Take advantage of this opportunity to help other businesses and have them help you!



#### Mingle with a Mentor

Lakewood's experienced veteran business owners have invaluable wisdom to share with new



**Economic Development team: (From left) Laura Moody, Katie Faltys, Robert Smith, Eric Scott and Isabella Nunez.**

entrepreneurs as they begin their journey. Mingle with a Mentor will assist our women- and minority-owned business owners to do just that. Women or minority business owners who have been in business for at least two years are invited to participate as mentors. Women or minority business owners who have recently opened their businesses or have been in business for less than a year are invited to join the program as mentees. Monthly events will include one-on-one discussions around topics like writing a business plan; creating a marketing strategy; attracting and retaining customers; obtaining financing and funding; managing employees; managing growth; and more. If you are interested in participating in the Mingle with a Mentor program as a

mentor or a mentee, please reach out to the Economic Development team for more information.



#### Jumpstart Lakewood

Are you an entrepreneur with an idea for the next great business? Have you just started a business and are looking for funding to expand into new markets? Jumpstart Lakewood is for you. This contest will be open to all entrepreneurs in Lakewood who have yet to start a business or recently started a business and have generated less than \$25,000 in revenue. Applicants will have the opportunity to pitch to a panel of judges and compete for cash prizes to fund their business creation or expansion. Applications will include business plans and how the business will be funded or expanded with the prize money. Once the application period is completed, applicants will attend an in-person interview and pitch prep, a workshop where they can hone their pitching skills. Finally, the big day for the actual pitch will be in November!

To learn more about our staff or our programs for 2022, be sure to reach out to us at 303-987-7730 or [ED@lakewood.org](mailto:ED@lakewood.org). You can also subscribe to our weekly newsletter ([Lakewood.org/newsletters](https://lakewood.org/newsletters)) or follow us on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn) for the most up-to-date information.



**We are thrilled to welcome these new businesses to Lakewood that have opened in 2022.**

**0801 Designs**  
1400 S. Saulsbury St., Unit C  
[0801designs.com](http://0801designs.com)

**40 West Arts Creative District HUB**  
6501 W. Colfax Ave.  
[40WestArts.org](http://40WestArts.org)

**Boot Barn**  
5396 S. Wadsworth Blvd.  
[Bootbarn.com](http://Bootbarn.com)

**Buy Buy Baby**  
5134 S. Wadsworth Blvd.  
[BuyBuybaby.com](http://BuyBuybaby.com)

**Cadence Assisted Living and Memory Care**  
3151 S. Wadsworth Blvd.  
[Cadencesl.com/communities/cadence-lakewood](http://Cadencesl.com/communities/cadence-lakewood)

**Colorado Pain Care**  
12596 W. Bayaud Ave., Suite 350  
[ColoradoPainCare.com/pain-clinic/lakewood-pain-clinic](http://ColoradoPainCare.com/pain-clinic/lakewood-pain-clinic)

**Crimson Cat Studios**  
1360 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 110  
[CrimsonCatstudios.com](http://CrimsonCatstudios.com)

**Gallery Sportsmen Club and Range**  
1350 Colorado Mills Parkway  
[TheGallerySportsmansClub.com](http://TheGallerySportsmansClub.com)

**Garage Sale Vintage**  
390 S. Teller St.  
[GarageSaleVintage.com](http://GarageSaleVintage.com)

**GQ BBQ**  
7085 W. Alaska Dr.  
[GQuebbq.com/locations/lakewood](http://GQuebbq.com/locations/lakewood)

**Heaven Creamery**  
7181 W. Alaska Dr.  
[HeavenCreamery.com](http://HeavenCreamery.com)

**Mesa Labs Building Renovation**  
12100 W. Sixth Ave.  
[MesaLabs.com](http://MesaLabs.com)

**Pitbull Accounting Services**  
6655 W. Jewell Ave., Suite 213

**Raising Cane's**  
5060 S. Wadsworth Blvd.  
[RaisingCanes.com](http://RaisingCanes.com)

**Roca's Pizza and Pasta Restaurant**  
13795 W. Jewell Ave.  
[RocasPizzaAndPasta.com](http://RocasPizzaAndPasta.com)

**Slick City Denver West**  
14500 W. Colfax Dr., Suite 610  
[SlickCity.com/DenverWest](http://SlickCity.com/DenverWest)

**Wetzel's Pretzels**  
14500 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 262  
(inside Colorado Mills in Neighborhood 2)  
[Wetzels.com](http://Wetzels.com)

**WOWZA Media Systems**  
7171 W. Alaska Dr.  
[Wowza.com](http://Wowza.com)

To submit a listing, visit [Lakewood.org/GrandOpenings](https://Lakewood.org/GrandOpenings).



**Lakewood**  
Full of Possibilities.

**City Manager**  
Kathy Hodgson

Looking@Lakewood is a newsletter published by the City of Lakewood, 480 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80226.

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**Editor**  
Stacie Oulton, 303-987-7050

**Designer**  
Betsy Russell

[Lakewood.org](https://Lakewood.org)



# ARTS, PARKS & Recreation

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### AUGUST

**FREE! Fitness in the Park**  
Saturday mornings through August.  
Varying locations, times and classes.  
[Lakewood.org/SummerFitness](https://Lakewood.org/SummerFitness)

**FREE! Coffee with the Curator**  
August 18, 9-10 a.m.  
(Monthly on third Thursdays)  
Drop-in conversation highlighting museum collection.  
Caretaker's Cottage at Heritage Lakewood  
[Lakewood.org/Collection](https://Lakewood.org/Collection)



**Pressed Fest Hard Cider Tasting**  
August 20, 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.  
Colorado's largest hard cider tasting event!  
\$40 tasting package  
Hurry, tickets sell out!  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/HardCider](https://Lakewood.org/HardCider)



### SEPTEMBER

**Cliburn Competition Pianist**  
September 29, 7:30 p.m.  
Bold, poetic performance by award-winning pianist.  
Lakewood Cultural Center  
[Lakewood.org/LCCPresents](https://Lakewood.org/LCCPresents)



**Car 25 Open House**  
September 17, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Take a FREE ride on a historic trolley.  
Denver Federal Center  
[Lakewood.org/HistoricTransit](https://Lakewood.org/HistoricTransit)

**Trail Running Series**  
Wednesdays in September  
Four races, varying distances from 4 to 8 miles.  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/TrailRunning](https://Lakewood.org/TrailRunning)

**National Public Lands Day**  
September 24, 8 a.m.-noon  
National day of volunteer service dedicated to public lands.  
Bear Creek Greenbelt  
[Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents](https://Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents)



### OCTOBER

**Cider Days**  
October 1 and 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Apple pressing, themed foods, kids amusements.  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/CiderDays](https://Lakewood.org/CiderDays)

**Cider Pressing**  
October 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Use traditional wooden presses to squeeze your own apples.  
\$15 Advance group reservations  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/CiderPressing](https://Lakewood.org/CiderPressing)

**FREE! BODYPUMP Release**  
October 9, 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.  
Test the new release of this popular fitness program.  
Carmody Recreation Center  
[Lakewood.org/Strength](https://Lakewood.org/Strength)

**Kings Return**  
October 15, 7:30 p.m.  
A cappella quartet sings gospel, jazz, and soul.  
Lakewood Cultural Center  
[Lakewood.org/LCCPresents](https://Lakewood.org/LCCPresents)

**SALT Contemporary Dance**  
October 29, 7:30 p.m.  
Contemporary dance by renowned choreographers.  
Lakewood Cultural Center  
[Lakewood.org/LCCPresents](https://Lakewood.org/LCCPresents)



### NOVEMBER

**Festive Fall and Winter Classes**  
Workshops on apple pie making, watercolor, baking treats and more.  
[Lakewood.org/Programs](https://Lakewood.org/Programs)

**Marooned without a Compass**  
November 6, 5-6 p.m.  
Weeklong family scavenger hunt.  
Bear Creek Lake Park; \$5 cost  
**Register: 303-697-6159**

**Duplessy & The Violins of the World**  
November 12, 7:30 p.m.  
Cross-cultural quartet from China, Mongolia and France.  
Lakewood Cultural Center  
[Lakewood.org/LCCPresents](https://Lakewood.org/LCCPresents)

**Mayor's Tree Lighting**  
November 15, 5-8 p.m.  
Debut of Camp Christmas experience.  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/TreeLighting](https://Lakewood.org/TreeLighting)

**Weightlifting Competition**  
November 19, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Compete for title of "Strongest in Lakewood."  
\$20; Registration opens Sept. 1.  
Charles Whitlock Recreation Center  
[Lakewood.org/Strength](https://Lakewood.org/Strength)

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARKS!



**National Public Lands Day**  
September 24  
8 a.m.-noon  
Bear Creek Greenbelt

Sign up to volunteer at:  
[Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents](https://Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents)

## Help us Imagine Tomorrow!

The Community Resources Department is embarking on a yearlong planning process to create a bold vision for the future of Lakewood arts, parks and recreation.

**Imagine Tomorrow!**  
Arts, Parks and Recreation for All will engage the community, evaluate trends and determine future priorities.

**IMAGINE TOMORROW**  
Arts, Parks & Recreation for All



**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Visit  
**[LakewoodTogether.org/ImagineTomorrow](https://LakewoodTogether.org/ImagineTomorrow)**  
to join the conversation, view survey results and subscribe for updates.





“This project is a great example of why Westword magazine calls this stretch of West Colfax part of ‘the coolest three miles in Colorado.’”  
— *Bill Marino, director of the Lakewood-West Colfax BID and chairman of the 40 West Arts District*

Volunteers helped build and plant the raised planters known as gabions that are part of the new sculpture walk at Wadsworth Boulevard and West Colfax Avenue.

# Sculpture walk transforms historic Colfax corner

If you’ve driven by Wadsworth Boulevard and West Colfax Avenue recently, you may have noticed the southwest corner looking a little different. The highly visible parcel of land has been revitalized from a dirt-filled corner to an urban sculpture walk oasis and gathering space thanks to the support of a city grant program, local businesses and volunteers.

The West Colfax Sculpture Walk has been in progress for over two years with pauses due to COVID-19. The project came to life because of the city’s Neighborhood Participation Program. This long-running grant program encourages neighborhood organizations to apply to receive funding for projects they believe will make a difference in improving their neighborhoods. The West Colfax Community Association and the Lakewood-West Colfax Business Improvement District took the lead on the grant and had support from 40 West Arts District and residents from the Two Creeks, Eiber and Morse Park neighborhoods.

More than 40 volunteers recently came together over two weekends, often on hot, 100-degree days to transform this iconic corner of the Lakewood community. The new space consists of raised gabion planters, boulders for seating and ambient lighting. The centerpiece of the walk will be a large, 28-foot-tall permanent art installation called “Evertrees,” which will be installed in August.

“Colfax is an iconic street, and at its intersection with Wadsworth Boulevard, a very prominent and visible corner,” said Nestor Fedak, landscape architect for the City of Lakewood who created the design for the sculpture walk as well as the “Evertrees” sculpture. “This was an opportunity to turn a forgotten space into a ‘people place’ and a source of civic pride. As a landscape architect, my challenge was to meet this expectation while designing

a welcoming space that would be long-lasting and easy to maintain. As an artist, I saw an opportunity to place an iconic sculpture on the corner to catch the attention of over 100,000 vehicles passing by every day and to convert this corner into a memorable public landmark.”

Volunteers hauled river rock in five-gallon buckets to fill the gabion planter walls, planted flowers, shrubs and trees, and topped the planters off with cedar mulch. There’s a total of seven planters, four sculpture pad/ planters and 36 tons of cobblestone on-site. The sculpture planters were partially filled by a front-end loader, leaving about 25 tons of cobblestone that was moved and placed by hand by volunteers.

“This project will enhance one of the most traveled areas in Lakewood,” said Maddie Nichols, one of the project volunteers from the Two Creeks neighborhood. “We had very hot weather and had to move a lot of rock, but it was great to see the variety of ages and abilities of everyone who pitched in.”

The sculpture walk is a great example of how people can come together to make meaningful progress.

“By working together, we transformed an unpleasant space into something special — a real public asset, a people place with multiple art installations at one of our busiest intersections in the city,” said Bill Marino, director of

the Lakewood-West Colfax BID and chairman of the 40 West Arts District. “This project is a great example of why Westword magazine calls this stretch of West Colfax part of ‘the coolest three miles in Colorado.’”

A celebration of the new space will occur in the fall. Stay tuned to the city’s social media and [Lakewood.org](#) for more information.

## FUN FACTS



25 volunteers carried and placed over 20 tons of cobblestone to build the planter walls.



Over 200 perennials and shrubs, 12 trees and 12 cubic yards of mulch were installed by 23 volunteers in 1-1/2 days during 100-degree temperatures.



Because the city addressed a drainage problem for CenturyLink (now Lumen) who owns the property to the south, CenturyLink is providing water to irrigate the planters at no cost to the city.



Also included in the design are two light poles with six flood lights to illuminate the central sculpture and three pads for sculptures to be selected and installed on a rotating basis.

## More good news to share

**Floating islands set sail**  
Drifting slightly with the summer breezes, an odd archipelago of square islands floats on Horseshoe Pond near the Stone House in Lakewood’s Bear Creek Greenbelt. These islands are a unique pilot project that aims to improve water quality and wildlife habitat. Visit the city’s blog at [Lakewood.org/GoodNews](#) to watch a video to see how the islands work while also providing a haven for fish, birds and the occasional snapping turtle.

**Tree canopy assessment**  
Have you ever given much thought to the trees in your neighborhood or nearby park? Lakewood has, and a recently completed assessment of the city’s publicly and privately owned tree canopy provides some interesting and important information. The city’s tree canopy creates an ecosystem that covers 4,509 acres and has about 22 trees per acres, which amounts to about four trees per resident. Residents can get real-time access to the city’s tree data and view tree canopies by city ward, ZIP code and more by using the TreePlotter™ tree canopy map. Learn more about the city’s tree canopy at [Lakewood.org/TreeMap](#).



# Brief City Updates

## New program available for neighborhood get-togethers

Lakewood has launched a new grant program for registered community organizations to support neighborhood get-togethers. These small grants, ranging from \$100 to \$500, will support projects or events that bring neighbors together around a shared purpose or activity. Block parties, tree plantings and cleanups are just a few of the ideas that would be eligible for funding. Learn more at [Lakewood.org/GTgrant](https://Lakewood.org/GTgrant).

## Volunteers wanted

Do you want to help your neighbors with questions about city services, special events and other goings-on in Lakewood? The City Clerk's Office needs some friendly folks to help answer phone calls, direct walk-in visitors and assist with other administrative tasks. The hours and days are flexible, with half-day and full-day shifts available Monday through Friday. Interested residents can call 303-987-7080 or send an email to [cityclerksoffice@lakewood.org](mailto:cityclerksoffice@lakewood.org).

## Shot Spot clinic for pets

Give your pets the protection they need by bringing them to the Shot Spot vaccination and dog licensing clinic. All friendly, leashed dogs and their families are welcome at the next clinic, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 10 at the Calving Barn at Heritage Lakewood, 801 S. Yarrow St. Several low-cost vaccinations will be available. Learn more at [Lakewood.org/ShotSpot](https://Lakewood.org/ShotSpot).



## Drop by to recycle

The Quail Street Recycling Center is open for drop-in recycling from 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and 1:15 to 4 p.m., Monday-Saturday. No appointment is necessary. Visit the center at 1068 Quail St. to recycle cardboard, scrap metal, glass bottles and jars, aluminum beverage cans, paper and plastic bottles. For a full list of what can be recycled at the center, visit [Lakewood.org/recycling](https://Lakewood.org/recycling).

## West Metro Veterans Fair

Save the date! The 2022 West Metro Veterans Fair will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 20 at Elks Lakewood Lodge #1777, 1455 Newland St. This annual event gives military veterans and their families a chance to connect with dozens of support and service organizations. Lunch will be provided. Check the list of vendors at [Lakewood.org/VeteransFair](https://Lakewood.org/VeteransFair).

# Lakewood Parks continued from page 1



The department's 2019 Strategic Acquisition Study has identified priority areas for purchasing parkland, particularly for areas in Lakewood

lacking in parks. In Ward 1, 7.7 acres were purchased and will become Porter Park. In Ward 2, a 0.61 acre parcel was added to Two Creeks Park. Other parkland purchases have also included 13 acres added to the popular and heavily visited Bear Creek Greenbelt, and a 36-acre purchase expanded Bear Creek Lake Park next to the popular Big Soda Lake, with the swim beach and marina.

Aside from TABOR funding, park improvements are typically paid for with the city's Open Space Fund, which receives revenue from the city's attributable share of the one-half percent open space sales tax in Jefferson County approved by voters in 1972. Playground replacement

is also supported by the Open Space Fund, and the department's replacement schedule directs the timing of replacing existing playgrounds and building new ones.

Lakewood residents have a chance to provide their ideas and thoughts for developing parks, creating playgrounds or making improvements. Through the city's digital engagement platform called [LakewoodTogether.org](https://LakewoodTogether.org),

public meetings and community engagement events, residents can provide their feedback on specific projects so the city can create resident-derived plans. Join the conversation and learn more about Lakewood's investment in parks by visiting [LakewoodTogether.org](https://LakewoodTogether.org) and sign up to receive updates on projects. An ongoing list of the department's projects is also available at [Lakewood.org/projects](https://Lakewood.org/projects).

# CLEANUP DAY

## OCTOBER 15 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

### Jeffco Stadium • 500 Kipling St.

Some exclusions apply. See website for a list of accepted items.

**\$25, cash only, for all televisions, computers and computer monitors.**

MORE INFORMATION:

303.987.7193

[CleanUp@Lakewood.org](mailto:CleanUp@Lakewood.org)

**FREE for Lakewood residents.**

Bring proof of residency.



**Lakewood**  
Full of Possibilities.



**3R TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS**

# Lakewood.org/CleanUp



**Lakewood**  
Community Resources

# Parks & PLAY for all!

All residents should have access to the City of Lakewood's programs and facilities, regardless of income.



[Lakewood.org/PossibilitiesFund](https://Lakewood.org/PossibilitiesFund)



# Council in action

Lakewood City Council has taken several actions in recent months to address a range of community issues, and these are listed below.

### Code of Ethics for local government officials

This new Code of Ethics applies to council members and city board members. It establishes basic rules of conduct. Generally, the new code prohibits council members from using their official duties as a way to gain economic benefit for themselves, their business or their place of employment. The new code recognizes that actions resulting in a direct monetary benefit to a council or board member or gifts valued at \$100 or more create a conflict of interest between the member and the city. Finally, the code outlines the complaint and investigative processes as well as a penalty or discipline process. If a complaint alleging a violation of the code is filed with the city clerk, an independent ethics officer will follow an established process, which may include a public hearing, to make a ruling on the complaint.

### Massage business licensing

The City Council updated the city's massage business licensing rules to make it more difficult for enterprises to use the cover of operating as a massage business as a front for illicit activity. The new licensing regulations outline prohibited activities, create a way to revoke a license and close a business and require background checks on owners, managers and employees. These new regulations are designed to make it easier to recognize illicit massage businesses associated with human trafficking, exploitation of adults, criminal

activity against vulnerable people and disruptions to neighborhoods. Cities such as Aurora have seen a significant decrease in these kinds of illicit businesses after similar licensing regulations were instituted.

### Sustainable development standards updates

These updates to the city's sustainable development standards will create more opportunities for new projects to achieve the community's adopted vision and goals for greenhouse gas emissions, waste diversion and community benefits. See the story on page 1.

### Safe Parking Initiative

The city is working collaboratively with the Colorado Safe Parking Initiative to create a pilot program for addressing homelessness by allowing those living in their passenger vehicles to park overnight in specific parking lots approved through the Colorado Safe Parking Initiative. The new program allows five organizations in Lakewood, such as churches, to open their lots to serve as a short-term housing option to provide a safe and established location for individuals experiencing homelessness to park overnight. Each organization must submit an operating plan for the site they manage to the Colorado Safe Parking Initiative and to Lakewood, and the plan must outline how restrooms, trash service and policies governing pets and other issues will

be handled. Organizations will also submit quarterly reports to the city, and the City Council will review this pilot program at a public meeting within nine months of its creation to assess its effectiveness.

### Bear Creek Lake Park proclamation

Federal and state officials are studying the feasibility of expanding Bear Creek Reservoir, which could significantly change Bear Creek Lake Park. The City Council passed a proclamation calling for the governmental agencies studying this proposal to give substantial weight to alternatives other than expanding the reservoir. The proclamation also expressed support for Save Bear Creek Lake Park, a citizen group opposed to the reservoir expansion.

### Entertainment districts

Regulations for these districts were created because the districts can serve as an economic development tool. The regulations allow commercial entities that serve alcoholic beverages to partner with neighboring businesses that serve food to create identified outdoor dining spaces called common consumption areas where food and beverages from any or all of the attached food or beverage retailers can be lawfully consumed. Specific areas such as the Belmar shopping district must apply to become an entertainment district to create common consumption areas.

2023 ANNUAL BUDGET MEETINGS		
7 p.m.	Sept. 19	Virtual study session
7 p.m.	Oct. 3	Special Meeting, with in-person and virtual options
7 p.m.	Oct. 17	Special Meeting, with in-person and virtual options



## Sustainability continued from page 1

The standards also include flexibility to adapt to the evolving future and a financial mechanism to allow the city to implement the community's vision when developers can't.

The Enhanced Development Menu is a points-based system of sustainable development options ranging from renewable energy to public art. Developments must achieve a required number of points

based on the project's square footage. The updates include broader applicability of the menu to multifamily and nonresidential developments, an improved point structure that is tied to the size of the project, the addition of a limited option to pay fees to earn a portion of points and many new menu options for greater flexibility and adaptability to the context of a specific development site.

The Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program sets the maximum allowed annual emissions for a project, known as the performance standard, which can be achieved through mitigation measures such as all-electric buildings, solar energy systems, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and recycling/composting services. Developers have a limited option to pay a fee in lieu of including these sustainable items as a way to comply with the new standards, and those funds will be used as outlined below.

The additional construction and demolition waste recycling standards now require more comprehensive waste management planning and reporting as part of the permitting process and use a deposit and refund system to create an incentive

for developers to comply with the existing building code requirements.

Any fees paid in lieu of meeting the sustainable standards, along with forfeited construction recycling deposits, will fund a Climate Protection and Sustainability Program that allows Lakewood to offset the impacts of new development by funding sustainability projects and measures elsewhere.

Roger Freeman, a resident who serves on the Lakewood Advisory Commission, helped research and provide recommendations to City Council, particularly for ways to increase renewable energy in new construction and fund energy-efficiency improvements for existing homes.


"We [the LAC] had four recommendations. ... Each one of them has been integrated and advanced strongly in a way that has gone beyond the original program and really looked hard at what do we do to try to mitigate carbon in our community," Freeman told the City Council at the June 27 meeting when the updates received approval.

The estimated costs to implement the sustainable development standards average around 2% of the total construction cost for a

single-family home and around 2.5% of the total construction costs for multifamily and nonresidential buildings. The actual costs will vary depending on the specific choices made by the developer or builder. For example, renewable energy has a larger upfront investment but results in net savings in utility bills over the life of a system, in addition to tax and property value benefits.

For Stopp, the costs of the program present an economic development opportunity. "I want Lakewood to attract the best developers in the state. I want those developers who build in Lakewood to positively contribute to the aesthetics of our cityscape and add value to our environment," she said.

More information about these new requirements, including a more detailed analysis of the various costs and benefits that staff evaluated, the actual language of the standards, and the draft technical manual that identifies the data sources and methodology referenced in the changes, is available at [Lakewood.org/SustainableDevelopment](https://lakewood.org/SustainableDevelopment). For questions about the recent updates, please email [sustainability@lakewood.org](mailto:sustainability@lakewood.org).



"I want Lakewood to attract the best developers in the state. I want those developers who build in Lakewood to positively contribute to the aesthetics of our cityscape and add value to our environment."

— Linda Stopp, Ward 4 resident