

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



## Vision for a More Vibrant Boulder

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Flood commemoration

Winter holiday event guide

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Servicios humanos en acción

Ahorre dinero y energía este invierno

La seguridad en la cocina empieza con usted

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## Q & A WITH CITY MANAGER NURIA RIVERA-VANDERMYDE



**NURIA RIVERA-VANDERMYDE**  
CITY MANAGER

**> It's just days after the 2023 election, and we're getting several new City Council members. As you look back on the past two years, what council actions are you most proud of?**

This council has been extraordinary. In 2022, they advocated for significant initiatives that recognized many of Boulder's most pressing needs. Collectively, the council approved a Core Arterial Network strategy to address road safety; allocated dollars to address unsanctioned camping with compassion and access to services; called for a homelessness day services center; and initiated a comprehensive review of city code to support more affordable housing.

In this past year, the council continued to support these priorities while also adopting important new ordinances. These included increasing the number of people in a home, allowing electric bikes on some paths and trails, exempting feminine products from sales tax, adopting a leading-edge Reimagine Policing plan, and revamping police oversight to reflect best practices.

**> As city manager, you oversee the general operations of the city, as well as its workforce. Obviously, staff members played a big role in advancing council's priorities, but much of what the organization does occurs behind the scenes. Are there a few accomplishments you'd like to call out?**

Absolutely. There are too many to share them all, but I'm proud of the continued delivery of core services, like drinking water, emergency response, upkeep of our parks and open space, and critical support to social service organizations. For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, all the city's outdoor pools were open this summer. We produced a thoughtful budget that honors our commitments to programs and services our community depends upon. The city renegotiated fair contracts with its unions and reinvigorated a wellness program that seeks to support staff holistically. We demonstrated our commitment to climate action and firefighter safety by purchasing our first electric fire engine. We've continued deep work to advance racial equity and strengthen relationships with federally recognized Tribal Nations. We shored up cross-departmental partnerships and began planning for more collaborative and impactful wildfire mitigation measures. We supported the opening of a residential treatment home for those struggling with methamphetamine. We experimented with repurposing streets for community gatherings. We launched a youth-led process to make Boulder a more child friendly city. And we improved road safety for all as demonstrated by the recent installation of the beautifully painted and first-in-the-nation tall curbs along Baseline Road.

**> Phew, that's quite a year! 2023 was also your second year as city manager and as a community member. What has your experience living in Boulder been like so far?**

This is such a beautiful place – both in terms of our surroundings and our community's commitment to each other. I'm honored to be able to raise my family here. We took a big step this spring, purchasing a home in central Boulder. My mom recently moved here from Puerto Rico and my sister is joining us this month, as she too will be making Boulder her new home. My son continues to thrive at school, and my adult stepdaughter visits frequently (we're trying hard to get her to move here too!). I can't say enough about how much I appreciate the continued support this community gives to us.

**> What are you most excited for about the coming year?**

I'm thrilled that the cover article features some of the noteworthy projects that are underway. We have big issues ahead of us in 2024. These include important conversations about minimum wage; exploration of additional strategies to address homelessness; coordinated planning to enhance our downtown; implementation of our Reimagine Policing commitments; work to leverage our new fiber backbone to support accessible Internet for all; and new ideas for how to fund our beloved recreation centers.

Even in the face of challenges, Boulder continues to flourish. We'll lean into core values of innovation, equity, and collaboration as we work together to support this amazing community.

**Connect with us. Find the City of Boulder on social media.**

Get the latest news, information and videos about what's happening in our community.



**Facebook**



**X**



**Nextdoor**



**Instagram**



**Threads**



**Vimeo**



**YouTube**



# Six tips to travel safely this winter

Winter is here, and with snow comes slippery streets. On average, 5% of crashes in the city happen in winter conditions. Whether you plan on walking, biking or driving, here are six reminders to help you travel safely this winter.

## Get a Grip

Winterize your gear, and check for traction on tires and shoes. Tread will help cut through ice and snow, and give you a better grip to get to your destination safely.



## Ready Your Route

Plan your travel path! Check out our live traffic cameras to view real-time conditions, and our interactive snow removal map to know which streets, sidewalks and multi-use paths to travel on. Snow crews work to clear routes 24/7 while prioritizing key emergency routes.

## Stay Seen

Turn your lights on and use reflective gear to stand out in the storm. Low visibility during longer winter nights makes it extra important to help others see where you are, whether you're traveling on roads, sidewalks or multi-use paths.

## Take Your Time

Sun glare, slippery conditions and unpredictable weather are a recipe for danger. Clear the snow off your ride, check the forecast, and budget a few extra minutes for your route so you can arrive safely.

## Expect Weather

Even while snow staff work 24/7 during blizzards to keep paths and roadways clear, ice and snow can still cause big delays. Stay home if you can, but if you decide to head out, be prepared for the conditions. During winter weather, find updates on the Snow and Ice Response webpage at [bldr.fyi/snowresponse](https://bldr.fyi/snowresponse).

## Be Boulder

Help your neighbors travel safely!

- Adopt a transit stop to clear and protect people from slips and falls.
- Volunteer to clear sidewalks for community members who are unable to do so.
- Shovel sidewalks to keep people safe and help us all move around. Anyone who lives on or owns private property is required to clear adjacent sidewalks within 24 hours after it stops snowing.

Stay warm with the community spirit and be safe on your travels this winter! Learn more and find volunteer information at [bldr.fyi/wintertraveltips](https://bldr.fyi/wintertraveltips).

2023-2024

# Snow and Ice Response Program



The City of Boulder strives to provide timely information and support safety for all modes of travel during winter storms. Our snow crews prioritize clearing emergency routes, primary and secondary streets, on-street bike lanes, streets with steep slopes, multi-use paths and designated bus stops. Like most Front Range communities, city property owners are required to keep sidewalks, curb ramps and curb extensions next to their property clear of snow and ice within 24 hours after snowfall stops.

## BOULDER SNOW CREWS CLEAR:

**300+**  
miles of roads and paths

**52%+**  
of streets

**70+**  
miles of multi-use paths

**24/7**  
during storms

**STAY CONNECTED**

**GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION AND INTERACTIVE SNOW ROUTE MAP**

[bldr.fyi/snowresponse](http://bldr.fyi/snowresponse)

**REPORT AN ICY STREET, PATH OR SIDEWALK BY PHONE**

303-441-3200  
303-413-7109\*  
\*during snowstorms only

**REPORT AN ICY STREET, PATH OR SIDEWALK ONLINE**

[InquireBoulder.com](http://InquireBoulder.com)

**VOLUNTEER TO SHOVEL A BUS STOP TO INCREASE SAFE ACCESS FOR ALL TRAVELERS**

[bldr.fyi/shovel-a-stop](http://bldr.fyi/shovel-a-stop)

**CHECK ROAD CONDITIONS**

303-442-4382  
or [COtrip.org](http://COtrip.org)





# Save Our Soil

Hey Boulder, We're counting on composters like you to help us make healthy soils full of life and nutrients for our local ecosystem. Healthy soil holds onto water, absorbs carbon, increases biodiversity and supports our food systems. These are all things we need to fight climate change.

But ... we have a problem.

## COMPOST BREAKDOWN

Our region's only commercial compost processor has been finding tons (literally) of non-compostable items in our residential and commercial compost. Without a way to sort compostable materials from non-compostable ones, they are sending compost trucks straight to the landfill.

So here's the plan. We've streamlined guidelines to help people compost correctly. Only food and plants should go in your bin. Are you in?



## Can You Compost It?

As of September 2023

### YES



All Food Scraps



Plant and Yard Trimmings

### NO



Compostable Packaging and Products



Paper Products



Coffee Filters and Tea Bags



Diapers and Menstrual Products



Produce Stickers, Rubber Bands and Twist Ties

## Get More Dirt



# Cooking safety starts with you!

Did you know that cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home injuries? Every year, the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) takes a week to highlight fire safety. This year's theme? Pay Attention to Fire Prevention—Cooking Safety Starts with You!



Whether you're cooking on a grill, in the microwave, on the stove or in the oven, safety should be a top priority when using heated appliances. Below are some easy ways you can improve safety in your kitchen for your next meal.

- When using the stovetop, make sure the handle of your pot or pan is facing into the stove top and not reaching out over the floor. Doing this will help you avoid accidentally pulling/knocking the pan off the burner.
- Make sure any grill is at least 3.5 feet away from a children's play area and far away from awnings or materials that could easily catch fire.
- Microwaved foods cook unevenly and can produce hot steam when a heated-up package is opened. Open microwaved food away from your face or other people to avoid being scalded by the steam.
- Leaving the kitchen? Turn the stove or burner off.
- Keep a lid on hand to smother a small fire that may start on the stove.
- If a fire starts in the oven or microwave, keep the door closed.



And, as always, if there's a fire and you have doubt that you can handle it, get out and call 911.

Every week, and especially during Fire Prevention Week, Boulder Fire-Rescue aims to help keep kids and adults safe with lifesaving education. Cooking Safety Starts with You!

# Boulder Public Library transitions to Boulder Public Library District

Boulder County voters passed District Ballot Measure Resolution No. 2022-059 in the Nov. 8, 2022, general election. The resolution forms a Boulder Public Library District, which expands beyond city boundaries to encompass an additional 25,000 community members. The ballot measure imposes an ad valorem tax on properties within the district to fund facilities and services. This tax will provide sustainable funding, allowing the library to continue to address the 2018 Boulder Public Library Master Plan goals. The Boulder Public Library will officially transition to the Boulder Public Library District on Jan. 1, 2024.

District formation will help fulfill the following ballot promises:

- Restore and improve literacy programs, including partnerships with schools to reach underserved students and students who fell behind during the pandemic
- Provide additional free and safe public spaces for community meetings, workshops and programs
- Update and improve collections of books and materials, including bilingual materials and downloading of e-books, movies and music
- Extend hours at all existing libraries, and create a new branch library in Gunbarrel
- Expand access to STEAM programs, maker spaces and free internet for young people, underserved communities and seniors
- Improve maintenance, cleanliness, safety and security at all library facilities

There will be no change in how patrons use or request library materials following the Jan. 1 district transition. Library patrons will continue to use their Boulder Public Library cards. Find the Boulder Public Library District on social media @boulderlibrary and at [boulderlibrary.org](https://www.boulderlibrary.org).





# Hometown heroes: Shovel-a Stop



## Clearing snow to warm the heart

It's a snowy winter day, and while many are at home staying warm, a local youth chooses to step outside into the cold long before most are awake. Brady, 16, takes to the street with his trusty red and black snow shovel, heading to a bus stop near a local elementary school.

"I clear the stop whenever it snows," Brady shares. "My goal is to help keep the bus stops safe and accessible for everyone in our community."

Brady began volunteering once he was old enough to walk to the bus stop by himself, determined to find a way to contribute to the community even while busy with sports and school.



“ Every time I shovel the bus stop, I know that I am making somebody's day a little bit easier.

—Brady, 16

"I like that my volunteer work helps to encourage public transportation and helps people with mobility challenges," he says.

Support from volunteers like Brady keeps our community safe. Shoveling snow at bus stops and sidewalks helps prevent slips and falls, increasing safety and accessibility for people of all ages and abilities.

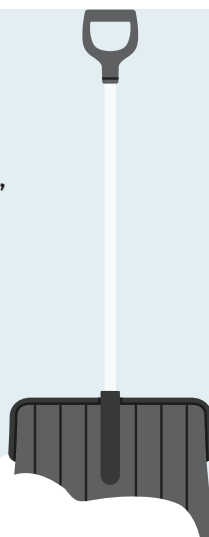
Some Shovel-a-Stop volunteers work full-time; some are kids; and some have lived in Boulder their whole life, while others are new to town. What they all have in common is their desire to look out for their community. This winter, consider taking a little time out of your day to surprise and support your neighbors with an act of kindness.

### Help clear snow at bus stops!

Make a difference with a helping hand and snow shovel! The program is a great opportunity for individuals, families, neighborhood groups and community organizations. Visit [bldr.fyi/shovel-a-stop](http://bldr.fyi/shovel-a-stop) to learn more.



SCAN ME



### Want to clear more than bus stops?

The city is hiring snowplow drivers. Steer snowplows like Frostasaurus, Snowba Fett or one of our other community-named snowplows this season! To learn more, visit [bldr.fyi/transportationjobs](http://bldr.fyi/transportationjobs).



SCAN ME



# Vision for a more vibrant Boulder

## 2023-2024 citywide project updates

The City of Boulder is hard at work on several projects, with goals like enhancing our downtown area; improving access and transportation; improving flood safety; elevating recreational activities and more. Our goal is to keep you informed and involved as we make improvements to serve our community now and into the future. Visit [bouldercolorado.gov/projects](https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects) to learn more about these and other city initiatives.

### Downtown Projects: Civic Area Phase 2 Reimagining and Proposed Historic District

The heart of downtown is the Civic Area, and we're looking to reimagine this space. We're starting a project called Civic Area Phase 2 Reimagining that will unify the existing Civic Park, Central Park, 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Arboretum Path, and the East and West bookends. It will be a place for recreation, business and connection.

We will engage with you on this project in 2024 and find out what you think this vital green space in the heart of downtown should look like in 10 years. Watch for opportunities to share your vision with us.

The city is also exploring a proposal to designate part of the Civic Area as a historic



district. If approved, the designation would recognize the area's history, which would inform how it changes over time.

As we bring our findings to City Council for its decision, we are looking into the history of the area. Learn more and share your thoughts on the proposed historic district as well as your memories of the Civic Area with us at [bldr.fyi/3qSdp3K](https://bldr.fyi/3qSdp3K).

Find updates about projects like the Civic Area Phase 2 Reimagining and proposed Civic Area Historic District, and learn more about what's going on downtown at [bldr.fyi/DowntownProjects](https://bldr.fyi/DowntownProjects).

### South Boulder Creek Flood Mitigation

The South Boulder Creek Flood Mitigation project is part of the City of Boulder's efforts to minimize the damaging effects of a major flood. Along with the University of Colorado-Boulder, Open Space and Mountain Parks, the Mile High Flood District and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), city staff has worked to identify the best flood mitigation option.

The design for the South Boulder Creek Flood Mitigation project is over halfway complete. We are continuing our work with the Open Space Board of Trustees and other stakeholders, and aim to have a complete design by winter 2024. Construction is targeted to begin in early 2025. Stay updated by visiting [southbouldercreek.com](https://southbouldercreek.com).



### Core Arterial Network (CAN)

In January 2022, the city began prioritizing improvements on a Core Arterial Network (CAN). The CAN is the connected system of protected bicycle lanes, intersection enhancements, pedestrian facilities and transit facility upgrades that will help reduce the potential for severe crashes and make it more comfortable and convenient for people to travel on Boulder's main corridors. Since prioritizing the CAN, staff

have acquired grant funding and made progress toward the planning, design and construction of improvements to 10 of the 13 CAN corridors. Learn more at [bldr.fyi/CAN](https://bldr.fyi/CAN).

### Vision Zero

Vision Zero is the Boulder community's goal to end traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries. As part of this effort, the city has completed the Vision Zero Action Plan update. Informed by data and your feedback, this plan will improve transportation safety over the next five years. The city has started implementing action items, including seven new restrictions on right-hand turns at red lights. Learn more at [bldr.fyi/VZAP](https://bldr.fyi/VZAP).

### 30<sup>th</sup> and Colorado Protected Intersection and Underpass

This project improves safety, convenience and comfort through a new protected intersection and underpass at one of the busiest intersections in Boulder—which is also a top crash location in the city. The protected intersection provides physical separation between vehicles and people walking, rolling and biking up to and through the intersection, while making it easier for all travelers to see and be seen by drivers. Below ground, the new pedestrian and bike underpass is fully separated from vehicles and connects three corners of the intersection. Learn more at [bldr.fyi/30CO](https://bldr.fyi/30CO).

### The Future of Recreation Centers

Boulder's three recreation centers are aging. To keep them in good shape for the long term, they will need significant investment in the





coming years. The city is looking both inside and outside these important buildings. Future actions for the East Boulder Community Center, North Boulder Recreation Center and South Boulder Recreation Center will range from continued investment in the buildings, to significant renovation and retrofit work.

Thanks for your feedback in 2023 as we envision the future of these buildings and our high-quality recreation system! Your passion for our recreation centers matches our own, so we will continue to work together as we plan.

In 2024, we'll engage with you again about potential recreation center plans as we manage our indoor recreation activities across Boulder for the next 25 years.

Learn more at [bouldercolorado.gov/projects/future-recreation-centers](https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/future-recreation-centers).

### Tennis and Pickleball Court System Plan

BPR manages 28 total courts for tennis and pickleball use throughout the city. The demand for court times for these two growing sports has increased dramatically, so this plan will provide recommendations to balance their use; plan for their management; and inform short and long-range investment strategies.

The city has talked with the community about their ideas, which it will use to provide recommendations for future court use.

Learn more at [bouldercolorado.gov/projects/court-system-plan](https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/court-system-plan).



**Our team is growing!  
The City of Boulder is hiring**



**Explore career opportunities at:  
[bldr.fyi/city-jobs](https://bldr.fyi/city-jobs)**

# City models sustainable deconstruction

## in Alpine-Balsam project

The City of Boulder recently finished carefully dismantling the former Boulder Community Health Hospital to make way for redevelopment on its Alpine-Balsam property. This process, called sustainable deconstruction, allowed for reuse and recycling of almost 94% of the hospital's building materials instead of entombing them in landfills. By weight, steel, concrete and wood were the top three materials diverted. Final waste diversion rates were provided by Ameresco, a general contractor the city hired to manage deconstruction at the site.

Deconstruction is climate action with a big impact. Building materials are among the worst contributors to greenhouse gas emissions and drive overconsumption of natural resources. Globally, building materials account for nearly one-third of all material consumption, 10% of all waste and around 11% of emissions. Every sustainably deconstructed building is a step closer to the city's circular economy vision and climate targets.

Deconstruction of the hospital was broken into two phases: interior and exterior. During interior deconstruction, doors; light fixtures; sinks; mechanical and electric equipment; and other indoor items were auctioned and given a new home. In the exterior phase, the city focused on taking apart and directly reusing the hospital's structural steel. Several city projects are finding a new life for the steel, including the new Fire Station 3, and rebuilding at the Alpine-Balsam site, where the hospital once stood. The hospital's concrete and brick were crushed and used to fill the hole created by the absence of the hospital.



The two primary uses on the Alpine-Balsam site will be the new Western City Campus, a city-led project, and housing from Boulder Housing Partners. The city is working toward necessary flood mitigation on the site, which is planned to begin in 2024 before further development.

### Western City Campus

The city's new Western City Campus will transform the eastern portion of the former Boulder Community Hospital site into a vibrant and sustainable hub for community and city services.

This project is an exciting opportunity to repurpose an existing site and create a place that will address the needs of community members for generations. Redevelopment plans encompass the adaptive reuse of several existing buildings, and the creation of new public spaces including indoor and outdoor areas; enhanced infrastructure and buildings with sustainable solutions; increased tree canopy; flood conveyance; and convenient transportation options with parking for personal vehicles and bicycles alike.

Learn more about what's next for Alpine-Balsam and the new Western City Campus, and stay up to date on engagement opportunities at [bldr.fyi/AlpineBalsam](https://bldr.fyi/AlpineBalsam).



*Play Your Part, Change the World! mural by George F. Baker III on eTown Hall, 1535 Spruce St. Installed by Street Wise Boulder. Photo by Peter Kowalchuk.*

## The arts mean business in Boulder

Boulder is a magnet for creative people. According to the National Endowment for the Arts, Boulder is ranked third in the country for population of working artists per capita—and that’s for every city of any size, coming in behind only Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Los Angeles.

Such a large and dynamic population of artists has a direct impact on the city, its businesses and the people who live here. The economic impact of Boulder’s cultural nonprofits is over \$115 million, which is four times that for other cities our size, according to the Americans for the Arts Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 study. The city’s museums, venues, galleries, dance troupes, theatrical companies, maker spaces and artist collaboratives support 2,451 jobs.



*Butterfly Lovers Concerto, Frequent Flyers Aerial Dance Professional Company with The Boulder Philharmonic. Photo by Scott Redheffer.*

Much of that economic activity comes from the millions of visitors attracted to the scene. In 2022, guests visited our arts and culture institutions over 1.8 million times—an indicator of Boulder’s robust cultural participation. That includes 660,000 visits by “cultural tourists”—guests from around the state and the world—who had an enormous economic impact. The money they spend travels through our community, as restaurants, transportation, retail and hotels all see culture-driven revenue. All that activity is good business for state and local government, too. Boulder’s cultural sector generated more than \$21.9 million in local, state and federal tax revenue last year. So, funding the arts turns out to be a good return on investment.

For more information on the Arts and Economic Prosperity 6 research, the city’s efforts to support the arts and more, visit [boulderarts.org](https://boulderarts.org).



## Economic impact

- The nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$115.1 million industry in Boulder—over four times that for other cities our size.
- Excluding the price of admission, event-related spending by attendees totaled \$61.6 million—more than double other cities our size.
- Direct spending, audience spending and the arts workforce in Boulder generated \$21.9 million in local, state and federal government revenues, with more than \$4 million of that returned to city and county coffers.

## Workforce

- The arts industry in Boulder supports 2,451 jobs, versus a median of 593 in other cities our size.
- During 2022, a total of 4,333 volunteers donated 152,746 hours to the nonprofit arts and cultural organizations that participated in the AEP6 study about Boulder. This donation of time has an estimated value of \$5.2 million. In-kind contributions represent an estimated value of over \$1.9 million. These donations of time and energy demonstrate a deep engagement with the city’s arts and culture.

## Cultural tourism

- People attending cultural events spend an average of \$33.28 per person, not including the cost of admission. For example, they may pay for parking, eat dinner at a restaurant, shop nearby or pay a babysitter. Out-of-town visitors spend even more, averaging \$46.97 per event, which typically includes a hotel stay. Our community attracts “cultural tourists,” which harnesses significant economic rewards.



*Boulder Opera Company, Opera in the Park at the Boulder Bandshell. Photo by Alexi Molden.*

- 87.9% of cultural tourists report the primary reason for their trip was “specifically to attend the performance, event, exhibit, venue or facility.”
- 55% of cultural tourists report that if the event where they were surveyed had not occurred, they would have traveled to a different community to attend a similar cultural event.
- Conclusion: If Boulder fails to invest in a variety of artistic and cultural experiences, not only will we fail to attract cultural tourists, but we will also lose the interest and income from our own community members.



AEP6 demonstrated the importance of the arts in other ways as well: Arts and culture programming builds more livable communities; improves well-being; and builds empathy and understanding.

The research demonstrated that, nationally:

- 86% of Americans say arts and culture are important to their community's quality of life and livability.
- 72% of Americans believe "The arts provide shared experiences with people of different races, ethnicities, ages, beliefs and identities (gender, political, national origin)."

AEP6 also demonstrated the social impact of the arts in Boulder, and the important role they play in supporting the well-being of Boulder's residents and guests. Among event attendees:

- 87% agree that "This activity or venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community."
- 85% agree that "I would feel a great sense of loss if this activity or venue were no longer available."
- 82% agree that "My attendance is my way of ensuring that this activity or venue is preserved for future generations."
- 78% agree that "This venue or facility is an important pillar for me within my community."

*A child pressing on one of artist Claire Ashley's "Squishies," while attendees watch the interactive performance at the opening reception for Claire Ashley: Plump, Pucker, Squish, part of Boulder Museum of Contemporary Arts's Present Box exhibition series.*





# Meet your independent police monitor



My name is Sherry Daun, and I am your new independent police monitor with the City of Boulder. I began my role in August 2023. As part of the City Manager's Office, I support transparency, accountability, community engagement and best practices in policing. My position receives and reviews complaints, and works with the police oversight panel, the Boulder Police Department and other city leadership to improve the performance of Boulder police.

To learn more about police oversight in Boulder, including upcoming recruitment of potential police oversight panelists, visit [bouldercolorado.gov/policeoversight](https://bouldercolorado.gov/policeoversight).

After 23 years in Chicago, I'm excited to live in a smaller community where so many people are engaged and working together with their local government. The dedication and energy of the people of Boulder shines through. Boulder is committed to effective, constitutional policing that is respectful to community members and visitors alike. Outside of my work advancing police oversight, I absolutely love the bicycle infrastructure and culture of Boulder and cannot wait to enjoy more free time to hike.



## Sign up for Boulder County's Emergency Alert System

One of the best ways to prepare for an emergency is to sign up to receive notifications for emergencies in your area. If you haven't signed up already, now is the time to register for emergency notifications for your home address. You can also register to receive notifications about events affecting other addresses including your workplace, family's schools, etc.

Boulder County's emergency alert notification system is run by Everbridge. You can sign up for any Boulder County address at: [boco911alert.com](https://boco911alert.com)

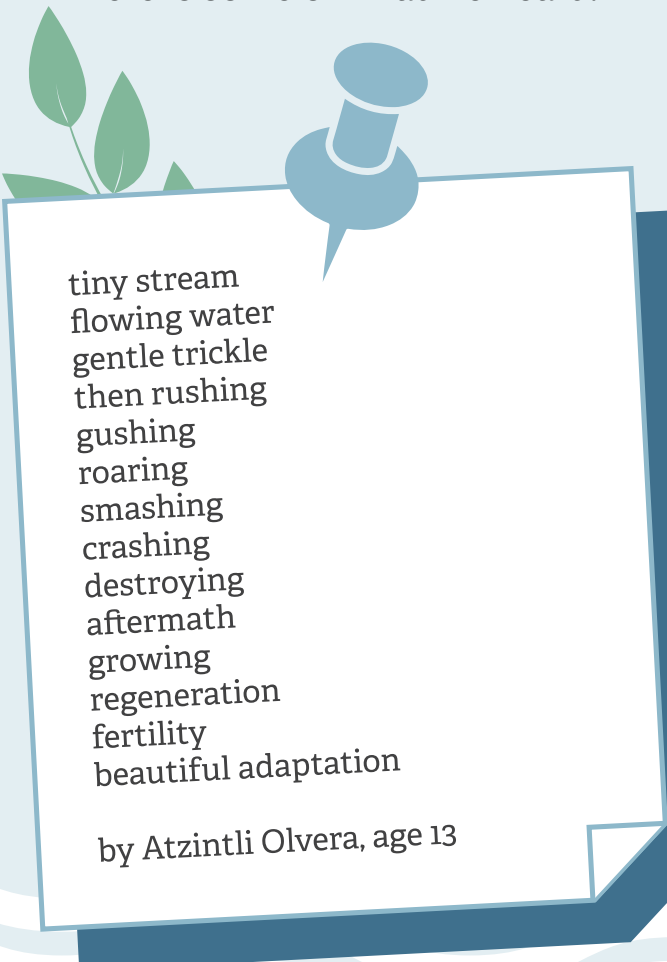
Download the ReachWell App for Translated Emergency Alerts! Receive emergency alerts without sharing your location. Visit [reachwellapp.com](https://reachwellapp.com) or scan the QR code here.



# 2013 FLOOD 10 YEARS LATER

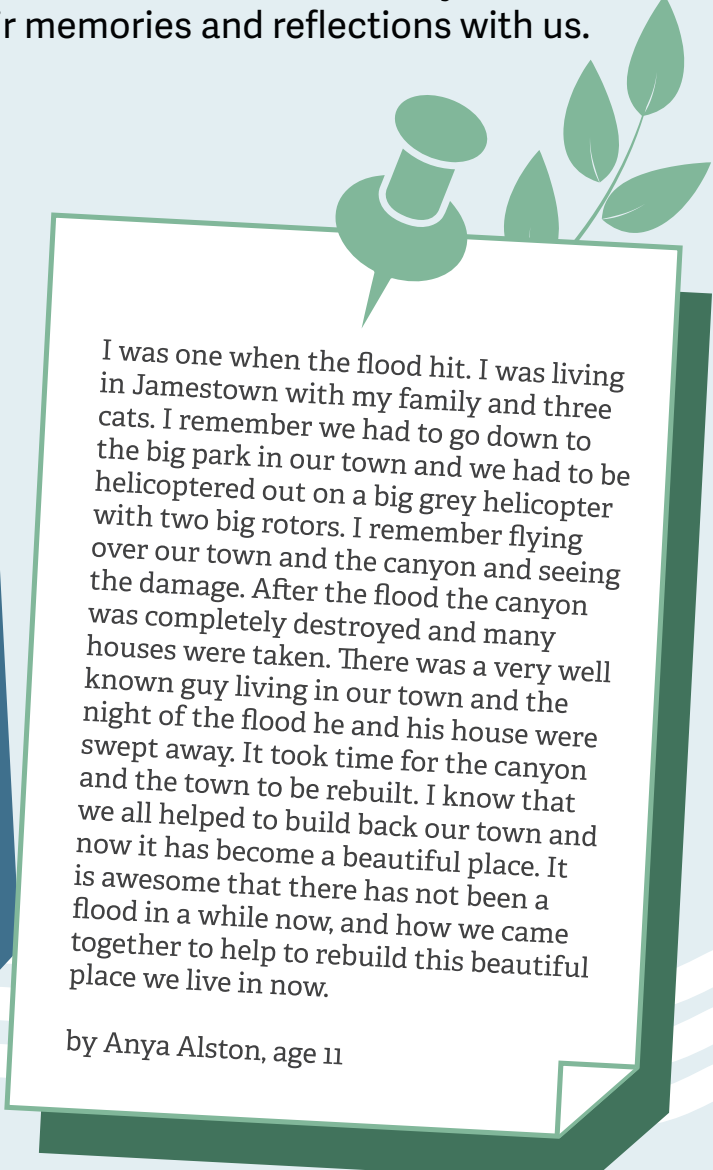
From Sept. 11 through 15, 2013, the Front Range experienced significant rainfall, causing flooding, loss of life and widespread damage. More than 18 inches of rain fell, causing 25- to 100-year flooding along Boulder's 16 drainageways. Communities across the area were impacted.

To commemorate the flood 10 years later, we invited community members across the Front Range to share their memories and reflections with us. Here is some of what we heard.




tiny stream  
flowing water  
gentle trickle  
then rushing  
gushing  
roaring  
smashing  
crashing  
destroying  
aftermath  
growing  
regeneration  
fertility  
beautiful adaptation

by Atzintli Olvera, age 13



I was one when the flood hit. I was living in Jamestown with my family and three cats. I remember we had to go down to the big park in our town and we had to be helicoptered out on a big grey helicopter with two big rotors. I remember flying over our town and the canyon and seeing the damage. After the flood the canyon was completely destroyed and many houses were taken. There was a very well known guy living in our town and the night of the flood he and his house were swept away. It took time for the canyon and the town to be rebuilt. I know that we all helped to build back our town and now it has become a beautiful place. It is awesome that there has not been a flood in a while now, and how we came together to help to rebuild this beautiful place we live in now.

by Anya Alston, age 11




A deer was munching when a rumbling came a-coming, and I ran. The rain thundered down on the trees and me while I galloped to higher ground. The animals awaited me at the top of the mountain. I tried to climb the last cliff, but I couldn't.

"I can't make it!" I cried. But then they reached down and helped me up. We went into a cave and we were safe. The rain dumped and the lightning flashed, but we were safe.

The next morning everything was destroyed. Rocks were everywhere. Logs were gone, trees were knocked over, and there was water everywhere. But we were safe and that was what mattered.


by Mara Kammersell, age 10



snap crackle pop  
I feel the world shaking beneath me  
I am the ranger who lives amongst the rivers  
the rivers flowing out of control  
shifting rocks  
trees pounding  
waters moving everything-  
anything in sight  
Mother Nature's voice in full force  
I am in awe of this beautiful phenomenon  
no need for transportation  
or civilization  
but I wonder  
what lies below me

the damage it is creating where there are  
roads, humans, structure-  
how does Mother Nature speak to all the  
manmade creatures?

by LeiLani Lemley



The endless rat-a-tat of the rain- like a frenzied drummer on our roof- became a nightmare. Would it ever stop? Watching the floodwaters rise on time lapse, except it's real time. Where is the sun? The current of tension is in the air. Roads closed, helicopter rescues, no power, falling trees, boulders moved from their long-lived homes. Water flowing and destroying. The earth said, "Enough!" but no one listened. Land changed, lives changed, and a blunt reminder of the force of nature we could not stop.

by Kathy Kawulok

Thank you to everyone who shared with us. To share your reflections and learn more about the flood and work we've done to repair and prepare since, visit [bldr.fyi/2013FloodCommemoration](https://bldr.fyi/2013FloodCommemoration) or scan the QR code here.





# Guide to winter events



## **St. Nick on the Bricks, Friday, Nov. 24, and every Saturday from Nov. 25 through Dec. 23**

*Downtown Boulder Visitor Information Center*

Kids of all ages can visit with Santa outside at the Downtown Boulder Visitor Information Center for free. Bring your list and a camera to capture priceless holiday memories. Tired of waiting in line? Take a free ride on the 100% Electric Tebo Train, aka Snowflake Express. Children ages 10 and under (along with accompanying adults) will chug along Pearl Street in this one-of-a-kind experience. The Snowflake Express boards in front of Wells Fargo (1242 Pearl St). The last train leaves the station at 2 p.m.



## **Snow Much Fun: holiday lights, Augmented Reality experiences, and events, through Jan. 31**

*West End of the Civic Area*

Enjoy the holidays this season with two in-person events on Friday, Dec. 1 and Saturday, Dec. 16 from 4-6 p.m. We'll have entertainers, a trackless train, kids' activities, and warm beverages.

On your own, enjoy and play with our augmented reality experiences using QR codes with Instagram filters. Meet morphing snowflakes, a spinning ice skater, a friendly nARwhal, and a winter forest! Share and tag us @boulderparksrec. And explore holiday lighting displays in the East End, Pearl Street Mall, West End to the Civic Area, and at the library. Enjoy colorful lights, tree wraps, Frozen-themed lights, and starbursts in the trees. [bldr.fyi/Snow-Much-Fun](https://bldr.fyi/Snow-Much-Fun)



**Lights of December Parade, Saturday, Dec. 2**

*6 p.m. parade starts at 15<sup>th</sup> and Walnut streets and heads west to Broadway*  
Spectators are invited to enjoy floats created and decorated by local businesses, churches, schools, community groups and nonprofits. The grand finale includes an appearance by the jolly old man himself - Santa Claus!



**Freezie Fest, Saturday, Dec. 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

*Pearl Street Mall and beyond*

A celebration of winter and all things snowmen! This snowman extravaganza includes free train rides (weather permitting), visits with Santa and Reindeer Games (crafts and other activities) for all.



**Colorado Chautauqua WinterFest, Dec. 8-10**

The Colorado Chautauqua presents a weekend of holiday festivities in Boulder's most magical setting. Events include the WinterFest a tree lighting ceremony, horse-drawn carriage ride, Santa's Cottage, a historic cottage tour, festive market, guided hikes and more! [chautauqua.com/winterfest-23](http://chautauqua.com/winterfest-23)



**Chanukah on Pearl, Monday, Dec. 11, from 5:30-7 p.m.**

*1300 block of Pearl Street*

This annual outdoor event on the 1300 block of Pearl Street Mall is open to the entire community and has become a holiday ritual for many local families. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. and include a Menorah lighting, music, traditional food, hot chocolate and Chanukah favors. This event is co-sponsored by the Boulder Jewish Community Center and the Boulder County Center for Judaism.



For more information about Boulder events, visit [boulderdowntown.com](http://boulderdowntown.com) and [bouldercolorado.gov/events](http://bouldercolorado.gov/events)



## YOUR eco-holiday handbook

Consumer culture encourages us to buy more than we need during the holidays. But what we buy and how often we purchase new things has a big impact on the well-being of our planet.

Everything we buy has a climate impact before it arrives on a store shelf or doorstep. Climate-warming greenhouse gas emissions are created throughout the lifecycle of the things we buy — from the process of extracting natural resources, to manufacturing and transporting products.

These emissions, from the things we consume, called “embodied emissions,” are greater than our community’s emissions from electricity, transportation and natural gas combined. This means that what we buy has a bigger environmental impact than how we get around and power our lives. Each of us plays an important role in curbing these emissions and keeping waste out of our landfills. Deck the halls with sustainability this holiday season:

### At the table:

- Use online meal planning calculators to determine how much food to buy for holiday gatherings.
- Prepare meals with local ingredients, making use of what's in season in Colorado and reducing the transportation impact of your food.
- Buy ingredients in bulk when possible. Bring refillable bags and containers with you to the grocery store.
- Set the table with reusable plates, glasses, utensils and cloth napkins.
- Get creative with leftovers, then compost food scraps in your backyard or curbside compost bin.



## On and under the tree:

- Use energy-efficient LED holiday lights to decorate your tree and home. Remember to unplug lights when not in use to save energy.
- Wrap gifts in reusable materials, like newspaper, fabric and gift bags. Avoid shiny, glittery and metallic papers; these are not recyclable.
- Repurpose old holiday cards, calendars and scrap paper for gift tags and cards.
- Swap decorations with friends and family, make your own, or buy used décor at thrift stores and consignment shops.



## Greener gift giving:

- Buy gifts from thrift stores, local shops or artisan markets.
- Give memories instead of stuff. Gift experiences like museum tickets, art classes or dinner at a local restaurant.
- Share your skills. Bake sweet treats, knit a hat or take someone to a show.



## Dispose of holiday decorations the right way.

- Eco-Cycle's Holiday Guide ([bldr.fyi/eco-cycle-holiday-guide](http://bldr.fyi/eco-cycle-holiday-guide)) can help you find the best place to dispose of holiday leftovers — or better yet, ways to give them new life.

Common holiday leftovers and where they go:

- Compost natural Christmas trees in your curbside bin or drop them off at Western Disposal. If your tree is longer than 6 feet, please cut off the top so it fits in your compost bin.
- Bring holiday lights and extension cords to Eco-Cycle's Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials (CHaRM). Attached light bulbs are OK. Please bundle cords and tie with the loose end so they don't get caught in machinery.
- Recycle paper shopping bags, cardboard boxes and other paper in your curbside bin. Staples and shiny graphics are OK. Please remove non-paper handles and any metal.



★ Wrapping paper is not accepted in curbside recycling or compost. Please put it in the trash.

For a limited time (Dec. 26 through Jan. 31), wrapping paper can be recycled at the Boulder County Recycling Drop-Off Center.



# Bundle up your budget: save money and energy this winter

Saving energy means saving money, especially during colder months. From efficiency improvements to free advice, we've compiled ways to keep your energy bills down while making your home more comfortable.

## **Are you worried about energy costs? Energy assistance programs can help.**

Access to affordable heating is necessary as temperatures drop. Energy bills can be too expensive for some, even after efficiency upgrades. Several programs can help you afford your bills.

Through Xcel, qualified customers can spread their bills over time, get help paying for efficiency improvements and receive discounts. Visit Xcel Energy's website for more information on these tools: [bldr.fyi/xcel-energy-assistance](https://bldr.fyi/xcel-energy-assistance).

The state also helps families, seniors and individuals pay a portion of home heating costs through Energy Outreach Colorado's bill payment assistance. The state determines eligibility based on income level. Learn more on Energy Outreach Colorado's website, [energyoutreach.org/bill-payment](https://energyoutreach.org/bill-payment) or at [bldr.fyi/bill-payment-assistance](https://bldr.fyi/bill-payment-assistance).

## **Simple steps to make your home more efficient**

Efficiency upgrades save money and curb your energy use. They also make your home cozier on cold nights. Here are some simple steps to cut back:

- Use a programmable thermostat: Unlike traditional thermostats, programmable thermostats make it easy to adjust the temperature of your home while you're away or sleeping. They can help you save more than \$150 per year!



- Turn down your thermostat and bundle up: It's not just up to your furnace to keep you warm. Dressing in layers or throwing on a blanket can keep you warm.
- Turn down your water heater: Heating water can drive up energy costs. While many heaters allow higher temperatures, 120 degrees offers enough heat while cutting down on energy use.
- Avoid using hot water unless you need it: Cold water works fine for washing most clothing. Running your dishwasher daily, instead of hand washing your dishes, can save both energy and water.
- Maintain your furnace: Have a professional check your furnace to ensure it's running efficiently. Change filters as recommended; clogged filters make your furnace work harder and use more natural gas.
- Keep air flowing in your home: Keep interior doors open to help air circulate freely and run a ceiling fan clockwise to push warm air down.
- Harness sunshine: Open south-facing shades or blinds during the day to receive heat from the sun. Close shades or blinds at night to better insulate windows.
- Seal cracks in windows, doors and baseboards: Heat moves from hot to cold, so ensure warm air stays in your home by sealing drafty areas.

### Go further with energy upgrades and advising

- Connect with EnergySmart: EnergySmart advisors can help with various home-energy projects, such as upgrades to electric appliances, insulation and air sealing, or understanding electric vehicle options.
- Add insulation: Investing in high-quality insulation in attics and crawlspaces can keep temperatures comfortable, and lower costs year-round.
- Install better windows: Heat loss occurs through windows, but multipane options with gas between keep heat in and cold out.

### Looking to make an energy upgrade?

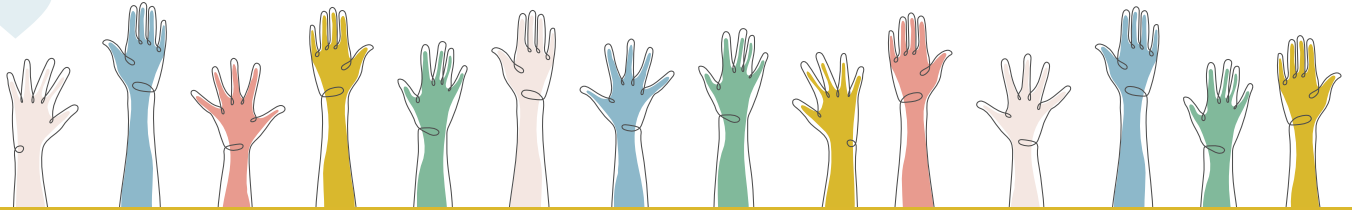
Explore our new web guide to local, state and federal energy rebates and resources at [bldr.fyi/energy-rebates-resources](https://bldr.fyi/energy-rebates-resources) or scan the QR code here.



### The climate will thank you, too

- Cutting back on natural gas use not only saves money, but it also helps the planet. Our electricity has been getting cleaner, and 2022 was the first year that emissions from residential electricity use dropped below those from residential natural gas use. This underscores the importance of shifting away from natural gas use in our homes.

# City of Boulder volunteer spotlight: Q&A with Nancy Lindo



## Where is your favorite place on OSMP to take photos/monitor?

I am partial to Mallory Cave after hiking there over 90 times. Every time is a different experience. We have been fortunate to have seen lots of wildlife on that hike, including lots and lots of bats!

## What brings you back to our one-day volunteer projects during your busy workday?

FOMO. Seriously, these are such incredible experiences with the most amazing people. It is a privilege to be involved with each of these projects.

## Is there anything you've learned from volunteering for us?

YES! I am continuing to learn all the ways OSMP is dedicated to maintaining a balance between people and our lands.

## What else would you like to share?

I would highly recommend each person who enjoys recreating on OSMP land spend a few hours a year giving back to these areas that we love. The more involved we are, the more care we will take to preserve these areas for future generations.



# Three winter hikes to check out during the colder months



We are moving into the season of chillier outdoor adventures. With appropriate hiking gear, winter can be a wonderful time to experience many of the 155 miles of trails Boulder offers.

## **Flagstaff Summit**

Hike the Ute, Boy Scout, Tenderfoot and Chapman trails, and the Sensory Trail, where you can explore nature without using your eyes. Every snowstorm changes the summit road and parking areas into a cross-country ski experience with gentle grades, no cars — and lots of beauty.

## **Enchanted Mesa/Kohler Mesa Loops**

Enchanted Mesa provides a variety of trails winding among ponderosa pine forests and small meadows, while providing stunning views of the Flatirons. The adjacent Kohler Mesa offers many options to lengthen your hike. These trails are relatively flat, and many are usually free from slippery ice — but take strap-on boot traction, like Yaktrax or MICROspikes, just in case.

Winter hiking can present challenges. Here are a few tips to keep in mind before hitting the trail.

- Always practice responsible recreation.
- Wear proper footwear. Trails can be slick from snow and ice during the winter months. To avoid an accident on the trail, use strap-on boot chains for extra traction.
- Get muddy: When trails are muddy or icy, walk right through the mud without leaving the trail. Off-trail detours to avoid muddy spots causes enormous damage to the trails and plants that grow alongside.
- Announce yourself when passing others from behind.
- Remove your trash and pick up after your dog.

# Meeting needs, changing lives: Human services in action



The city is dedicated to creating a just, inclusive and equitable community. From preventing evictions and funding child care, to mediation and financial support, we're here to support you in times of need and help you thrive.

## Community Mediation and Resolution Center (CMRC)

This center helps community members mediate conflicts; provides resources for tenants and landlords; and offers legal and financial assistance to prevent evictions.

In 2022, CMRC received 880 inquiries and mediated 75 cases. The Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance Services (EPRAS) program served 534 tenants and distributed \$452,184 in rental assistance to 214 households.

The demand for rental assistance has continued this year. Through Oct. 13, EPRAS worked with 568 tenants and distributed \$327,025 to 161 households in rental assistance.

Learn more CMRC at [bldr.fyi/CMRC](https://bldr.fyi/CMRC).

## Youth and Family Services

These provide financial assistance for child care; promotes youth civic engagement and leadership development; and places case managers in Boulder schools to connect families with a broad array of academic support, plus prevention and early-intervention services.

In 2022, Youth and Family Services provided more than \$381,000 in financial assistance and support services for essential needs including child care subsidies; housing; physical, mental and dental health; transportation; and food to 113 families living with lower incomes.

This summer, the Youth Opportunities Program relaunched summer internships for city high schoolers, and 10 interns joined city staff to support various departments.

Learn more at [bldr.fyi/family-services](https://bldr.fyi/family-services).

### Food Tax Rebate

Each spring, the city provides rebates to help compensate residents with lower incomes for the city sales tax they pay on food.

Rebates for 2023 were \$99 for individuals and \$302 for families. A total of \$162,408 was distributed to 1,093 households.

Learn more about the city's Food Tax Rebate at [bldr.fyi/food-tax](https://bldr.fyi/food-tax).



Visit [bldr.fyi/hhs-services](https://bldr.fyi/hhs-services) or scan the QR code here to learn more about how the city can support you.

## New homeownership support for middle-income earners

The city is committed to supporting our community's health, environment and well-being. One way we do this is through affordable housing. Our goal is for 15% of all housing units to be affordable for low-, moderate- and middle-income households by 2035.

### What is Middle Income?

In the City of Boulder, middle income refers to households earning up to 120% of the area median income. Area median income, commonly referred to as AMI, is the midpoint of a specific area's income distribution. In any given location, half of households make less than 100% of area median income, and half make more. Income limits for renting or owning affordable housing are determined by the AMI and the number of people, including children, living in the home.

The current maximum gross incomes for the city's home-ownership programs are:

1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people
\$111,600	\$127,560	\$143,520	\$159,360	\$172,200	\$184,920

The city has launched a new program to help middle-income community members in Boulder purchase a market-rate home. The program is intended to help preserve economic diversity in Boulder.

### Middle-income down payment assistance

The Middle-Income Down Payment Assistance Pilot Program offers middle-income households a zero-interest second mortgage up to \$200,000 or 30% of the home's sale price, whichever is less. In exchange for this assistance, the home will become permanently affordable.

Applicants must complete the city's orientation and homebuyer education class, and:

- Income qualify
- Purchase a market-rate home in the City of Boulder. Home price limits apply.
- Occupy the home. Short-term rentals are not permitted.
- Agree to deed-restrict the property as permanently affordable. Resale appreciation is limited to an annual cap of 3% to 5.5%.
- Repay the loan after 15 years or upon sale of the home.

### Other assistance programs

The city has multiple programs and policies to increase access to affordable housing, and ensure families and individuals have safe and affordable places to live in Boulder. Learn more about home-ownership programs at [bldr.fyi/homeownership](https://bldr.fyi/homeownership).



For more details about this new pilot program, visit [bldr.fyi/down-payment-assistance](https://bldr.fyi/down-payment-assistance) or scan the QR code here.

## When weather brings down tree limbs, who cleans them up?

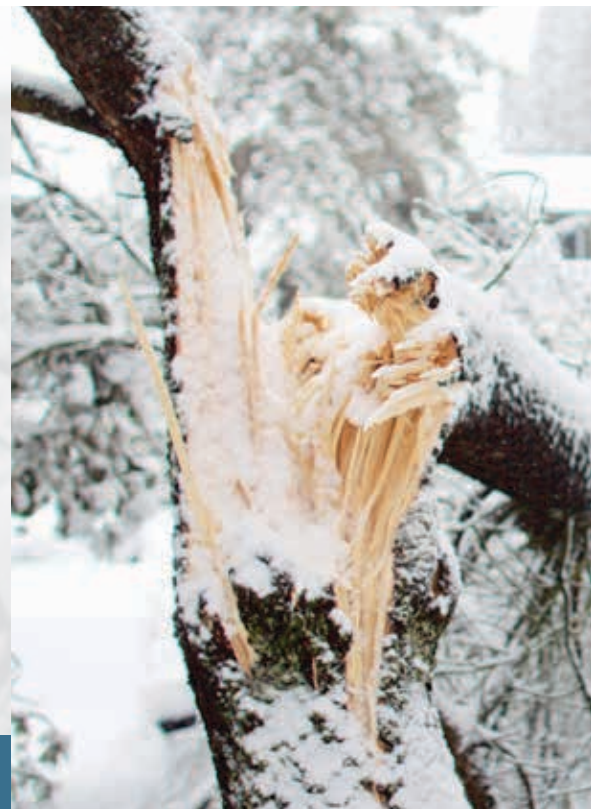
25% of the trees in the city are publicly owned, so we rely on property owners to dispose of the branches from both public and private trees on their property.

### Who's responsible for what?

- The city removes fallen limbs from public property trees that are 10 inches in diameter and larger.
- Community members manage limbs less than 10 inches in diameter
- Report a fallen tree or a large diameter limb on the ground via Inquire Boulder at [bouldercolorado.gov/report-issue](https://bouldercolorado.gov/report-issue)



City of Boulder  
Parks & Recreation





# Ramp up your parking game

Here's an insider tip: you can save time, gas, and emissions by going straight to one of the city's five convenient downtown BoulderPark garages.

Find easy parking without the hassle of lost tickets, broken gates, and long lines. Powered by Metropolis, we make parking as simple as a welcome text when you arrive and a thank you text when you depart. Register for a Metropolis account at [app.metropolis.io](https://app.metropolis.io) or by scanning the QR code below.

## Parking rates:\*

Hour	Rate
1st hour	\$1.75
2nd-6th hour	\$1.25/hr.
6-12 hours	\$15.99 flat
3 p.m. to 3 a.m.**	\$3.00 flat
Weekends & City Holidays	FREE

\*Rates are inclusive of fees. \*\*\$3 flat rate only applies if you enter and exit between 3 p.m. and 3 a.m.



## Claim \$3 off parking in the BoulderPark garages!

\$3 off parking in City of Boulder parking garages through Dec. 31, 2024. To claim this discount, log into your Metropolis account at [app.metropolis.io](https://app.metropolis.io) and enter promo code **3OFFBOULDER24**

Promo code valid for one use only.



metropolis



[BoulderParking.com](https://BoulderParking.com)

# Young people lead the way on Boulder's Child Friendly City Initiative



Have you heard the news that the City of Boulder is working with UNICEF USA and Growing Up Boulder to become a Child Friendly City? This means we want to make the city a better place for children and youth, especially those from historically marginalized backgrounds.

This Child Friendly City Initiative began in April of this year and will take two to three years. This fall, we are studying how children are doing in Boulder, talking to over 450 kids, parents and service providers. The city is also looking at government data about our young people: For example, do they have enough nutritious food; how is their mental health; and do they feel they have opportunities to contribute to their community? This research will help create a plan in 2024 to improve children's well-being in Boulder. Boulder is fortunate to have \$2 million from the sale of the Broncos stadium to support the plan's priorities.

Many people are involved in this project, including youth leaders; city and county staff; Growing Up Boulder; and community partners like nonprofits; healthcare providers; and businesses. We are all working together to make things better for kids in Boulder.

As this project goes on, we will keep the community informed and offer you opportunities to share your thoughts. We know feedback from kids, parents and caregivers will help make Boulder an even better place for children. You can learn more at [bouldercolorado.gov/projects/unicef-child-friendly-cities-initiative](https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/unicef-child-friendly-cities-initiative) and get involved through Be Heard Boulder. A survey for young people, caregivers, and services providers will be available on Be Heard Boulder from December 6 to December 20.





# Letter from Utilities Director Joe Taddeucci

Dear community members,

I'm writing to address one of the projects on tap for design activities starting in 2024 – Goose Creek Flood Mitigation. Some of you have received information from neighbors with concerns about this work, and I'd like to share a city staff perspective.

Our city has the highest flood risk in Colorado, and Boulder's flood mitigation team works tirelessly to reduce the potential for considerable harm. This group approaches their mission with compassion and expertise, designing solutions to support life safety and the environment.

This work is critically important, but it is rarely without tension. Projects like these seek to protect a large portion of Boulder's population, especially those who live in vulnerable areas downstream, or east, of our many waterways. Channeling water differently usually involves disruptions and impacts that are experienced most acutely by those who live closest to the origin of the flood risk.

Such is the case for Goose Creek. Several neighbors with homes that back to the creek along Edgewood Drive are opposing this work. They've made five requests, outlined in postcards mailed to residents across the city.

As your local government, we welcome feedback and questions about any of our flood mitigation plans. Hearing from community often makes our designs stronger, smarter and more responsive to the kind of balance that works best in Boulder.

We're taking this input seriously. Our staff will honor all five requests – most notably those that relate to looking at alternative

designs and ensuring we'll do all we can to protect this important habitat. Boulder's watersheds are home to many incredible species, and every city flood project includes a commitment to restore and enhance impacted corridors. This includes planting new trees and re-establishing the riparian conditions that are essential for wildlife to survive and thrive.

This fall, we hired a new staff member, Angela Urrego, to assist us in connecting with community earlier and more often for all mitigation work. She is seeking to strengthen relationships with individuals directly along the Goose Creek corridor as well as with residents in impacted areas east, which include several Boulder Housing and manufactured home communities.

As this conversation continues, my team and I are committed to engaging in active listening and empathy while also relying upon our scientific training and the guiding principles of the city's recently adopted Flood and Stormwater Master Plan.

You can learn more about this project on the city's website at <https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/goose-creek-and-twomile-canyon-creek-flood-mitigation>. If you have questions, please reach out to Angela Urrego as our primary point of contact at [urrego@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:urrego@bouldercolorado.gov). She can arrange staff presentations and other forms of engagement.

Sincerely,



Joe Taddeucci  
[taddeucci@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:taddeucci@bouldercolorado.gov)



# Ensuring public spaces are safe and available to all

Public spaces should be safe and accessible to all community members, but unsanctioned camping excludes some members of the community from enjoying these public spaces. Unsanctioned camping creates serious health and safety risks, for those staying within campsites and the broader community; increases wildfire risks; and can negatively impact and endanger wetlands or other sensitive and ecologically important natural areas.

To address these concerns, the City of Boulder leverages a multi-department team that uses a formula for prioritizing which areas get cleaned up and follows strict notification protocols and procedures. Our Safe and Managed Public Spaces (SAMPS) team – comprised of leadership in Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Police, Housing and Human Services, Community Vitality, and the City Attorney’s Office – has developed a prioritization protocol that guides our efforts. The protocol strives to balance the need for safe and clean public spaces with efforts to connect individuals experiencing homelessness with a coordinated system of services. Particular prioritization and attention are given to public spaces near schools, parks with playground equipment, and in floodways.

The removal of an unsanctioned campground is the last step of a long, coordinated process. Such cleanup efforts also have legal and resource constraints that impact frequency of abatement as well as guide us on the legal requirements of prior notice. The cleanup of unsanctioned campsites is done as a last resort when the occupants are resistant to services and refuse to vacate.

We are committed to a compassionate approach to engagement with all people living in encampments and our outreach workers connect with people in advance of a formal notice to vacate. This engagement includes assistance with personal item storage and connection to sheltering, mental health, treatment, and outreach services. We recognize that in some cases mental health and substance abuse issues may contribute to aggressive behavior and resistance to services, but our outreach workers continue to use all opportunities to engage with individuals in the hope that over time it will lead to a better outcome.

The Downtown Boulder Ambassador Program supports City of Boulder staff efforts to keep streets clean by removing trash and debris, pulling weeds, cleaning graffiti and supporting other programs of the Downtown Boulder Business Improvement District to beautify downtown and keep it clean, safe and welcoming. The Downtown Boulder Ambassador Program is a partnership between the City of Boulder and Downtown Boulder Partnership (DBP).

Many dynamics make this work challenging. While the city alone does not have all the tools to fully address this national crisis, we will continue to work to address this issue from a variety of angles.



Report unsanctioned camping:  
[bldr.fyi/report-issues](https://bldr.fyi/report-issues)

SAMPS data dashboard:  
[bldr.fyi/samps-dashboard](https://bldr.fyi/samps-dashboard)



# More Boulder news

Check out these articles that didn't make it to print. For even more Boulder news, visit [bouldercolorado.gov/news](https://bouldercolorado.gov/news)



City of Boulder guides  
[bldr.fyi/guidepages](https://bldr.fyi/guidepages)



City and state designate new "natural area" on open space  
[bldr.fyi/news-2](https://bldr.fyi/news-2)



A holistic look at climate action through stories and data  
[bldr.fyi/news-3](https://bldr.fyi/news-3)



Free outdoor exercise opportunities at new North Boulder Park fitness court  
[bldr.fyi/fitness-court](https://bldr.fyi/fitness-court)



**SOMOS  
BOULDER**  
UN PÓDCAST SOBRE TU CIUDAD

Somos Boulder es un pódcast en español para los residentes de la ciudad de Boulder. Cada mes, Jhocelyn Avendaño y Manuela Sifuentes entrevistan a personas hispanohablantes de nuestra comunidad sobre una gran variedad de temas de interés, como salud y bienestar, programas de verano para jóvenes, o cómo prepararnos para una emergencia. Nos pueden encontrar en Spotify, Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts o Amazon Audible, o en nuestra página web: [bouldercolorado.gov/somos-boulder](https://bouldercolorado.gov/somos-boulder)

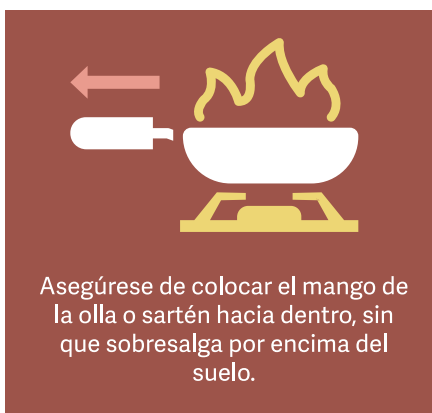
# ¡La seguridad en la cocina empieza con usted!

¿Sabía usted que los incendios en la cocina son la principal causa de heridas y fuegos domésticos? Todos los años, la Asociación Nacional de Prevención de Incendios (NFPA) dedica una semana a la seguridad contra incendios. ¿El tema de este año? ¡La seguridad en la cocina empieza con usted!



Tanto si utiliza una parrilla, un microondas, los fogones de la cocina o el horno, su seguridad mientras usa electrodomésticos a altas temperaturas es de máxima importancia. A continuación, encontrará algunas medidas sencillas con las que prevenir riesgos en la cocina.

- Cuando use los hornillos o fogones, asegúrese de colocar el mango de la olla o sartén hacia dentro, sin que sobresalga por encima del suelo. De esta manera, evitará golpearlo accidentalmente y hacer que caiga la olla o sartén.
- Cuando ase alimentos, asegúrese de que la parrilla esté a, como mínimo, 3.5 pies de cualquier zona de juegos infantiles y alejada de toldos o materiales que puedan prenderse fácilmente.
- En el microondas, los paquetes de alimentos no se cocinan uniformemente y, en el momento de abrirlas, pueden desprender un vapor muy caliente. Ábralos lejos de otras personas y de su cara para evitar escaldaduras.
- ¿Va a alejarse de la cocina? Apague el hornillo.
- Tenga siempre a mano una tapa para sofocar cualquier pequeño incendio que pudiera desencadenarse.
- Si se prendiera fuego dentro del horno o del microondas, mantenga cerrada la puerta de estos electrodomésticos.



Y, en cualquier caso, si cree que no puede manejar la situación, salga de la casa y llame al 911.

Todas las semanas y, sobre todo, durante la Semana de Prevención de Incendios, el objetivo de Boulder Fire-Rescue es proteger a niños y adultos mediante actividades educativas de salvamento. ¡La seguridad en la cocina empieza con usted!

# Satisfacemos necesidades, cambiamos vidas: servicios humanos en acción

El gobierno municipal está comprometido con la creación de una comunidad justa, integradora y equitativa. Desde prevenir desalojos hasta suministrar fondos para cuidados infantiles, pasando por ofrecer procesos de mediación y ayudas económicas, estamos aquí para brindar apoyo en tiempos difíciles y ayudarles a prosperar.

## Centro Comunitario de Mediación y Resolución de Conflictos (CMRC)

Este centro ayuda a mediar conflictos entre los miembros de la comunidad; proporciona recursos para inquilinos y propietarios; y ofrece asistencia legal y financiera para prevenir desalojos.

En 2022, el CMRC recibió 880 consultas y medió en 75 casos. El programa de Servicios de Ayuda al Alquiler y Prevención de Desalojos (EPRAS) atendió a 534 inquilinos y distribuyó \$452,184 en ayudas para el pago de la renta de 214 hogares.

La demanda de ayudas para el pago de la renta no se ha interrumpido este año. Según datos actualizados el pasado 13 de octubre, EPRAS había trabajado con 568 inquilinos y distribuido \$327,025 en ayudas para el pago de la renta a 161 hogares.

Para más información sobre el CMRC, diríjase a [bldr.fyi/CMRC](https://bldr.fyi/CMRC).

## Servicios para la Juventud y la Familia

Se trata de servicios que proporcionan ayudas financieras para el cuidado infantil; fomentan la participación cívica juvenil y el desarrollo de liderazgo; y colocan coordinadores en escuelas de Boulder que conectan a las

familias con un amplio abanico de servicios de apoyo académico, intervenciones tempranas y de prevención.

En 2022, los Servicios para la Juventud y la Familia proporcionaron más de \$381,000 en ayudas económicas y servicios de apoyo para necesidades esenciales; entre ellas, subvenciones para servicios de guardería, renta, gastos dentales, de salud física y mental, transporte y alimentos para 113 familias de bajos ingresos.

Este verano, el Programa de Oportunidades Juveniles relanzó los periodos de prácticas para estudiantes de preparatoria de la ciudad y 10 de estos se sumaron a los representantes municipales de varios departamentos del gobierno local.

Para más información, diríjase a [bldr.fyi/family-services](https://bldr.fyi/family-services).

## Reembolso del impuesto sobre alimentos

Todas las primaveras, el gobierno de la ciudad reembolsa a residentes de bajos ingresos el impuesto municipal que pagan cuando adquieren alimentos.

Los reembolsos de 2023 fueron de \$99 para individuos y \$302 para familias. Se distribuyeron un total de \$162,408 a 1,903 hogares.

Para más información sobre estos reembolsos, visite [bldr.fyi/food-tax](https://bldr.fyi/food-tax).

Visite [bldr.fyi/hhs-services](https://bldr.fyi/hhs-services) para informarse sobre cómo puede echarle una mano el gobierno de la ciudad.





# Arrope su presupuesto: ahorre dinero y energía este invierno

Ahorrar energía significa ahorrar dinero, sobre todo durante los meses más fríos. Hemos configurado una lista de estrategias para aumentar el confort de su hogar sin que sus facturas de gas y electricidad se disparen.

**¿Le preocupan sus costos de gas y electricidad? Hay programas de asistencia que pueden ayudarle.**

A medida que las temperaturas bajan, calentar el hogar de manera asequible es fundamental. Las facturas de gas y electricidad pueden resultar prohibitivas, incluso después de haber hecho cambios en el hogar para incrementar la eficiencia energética. Algunos programas pueden ayudarle a costear sus cargos.

Con Xcel, determinados clientes pueden pagar sus facturas a plazos, conseguir ayuda para mejorar la eficacia de sus instalaciones y recibir descuentos. Para más información sobre estas iniciativas, visite el sitio web de Xcel: [bldr.fyi/xcel-energy-assistance](https://bldr.fyi/xcel-energy-assistance).

El estado de Colorado también ayuda a familias, personas mayores e individuos pagando una parte de los costos de calefacción mediante el programa de ayudas para el pago de facturas Energy Outreach Colorado. El estado determina la elegibilidad según el nivel de ingresos. Para más información, visite el sitio web de Energy Outreach Colorado, [energyoutreach.org/bill-payment](https://energyoutreach.org/bill-payment) o en [bldr.fyi/bill-payment-assistance](https://bldr.fyi/bill-payment-assistance).

## Medidas sencillas para lograr un hogar más eficiente

Las mejoras en eficiencia energética ayudan a ahorrar dinero y a frenar el consumo de energía. También hacen que se encuentre más a gusto en su casa durante las noches frías. Aquí tiene algunas medidas sencillas para recortar gastos:

- Use un termostato programable: A diferencia de los termostatos tradicionales, los programables facilitan el ajuste de la temperatura mientras duerme o cuando está fuera de casa. ¡Pueden ayudarle a ahorrar más de \$150 al año!
- Baje el termostato y abríguese: Su calefacción no es la única responsable de mantenerlo caliente. Llevar varias capas de ropa o añadir una cobija pueden ayudarle a conservar el calor.
- Baje la temperatura del calentador del agua: Calentar el agua puede disparar la factura del gas o la electricidad. Aunque muchos calentadores son capaces de suministrar temperaturas muy altas, un nivel de 120 grados ofrece suficiente calor sin exacerbar el consumo de energía.
- Evite usar agua caliente si no es necesario: Para el lavado de la mayoría de prendas, el agua fría funciona perfectamente. Usar el lavavajillas a diario, en vez de lavar a mano, puede reducir tanto el consumo de agua como de energía.
- Haga que revisen su caldera: Haga que un profesional revise su caldera para asegurarse de que funciona de manera eficaz. Cambie los filtros de acuerdo con las instrucciones; unos filtros atascados hacen que la caldera trabaje más y use más gas.
- Haga que circule el aire dentro de casa: Deje abiertas las puertas de dentro de casa para que el aire circule y utilice ventiladores de techo para empujar el aire caliente hacia abajo.
- Aproveche los rayos del sol: Suba persianas y descorra cortinas durante el día para recibir el calor del sol. Bájelas por la noche para aislar mejor las ventanas.
- Repare grietas en ventanas, puertas y rodapiés: El calor viaja de los lugares calientes a los fríos. Asegúrese de que el aire caliente se quede dentro de casa eliminando fugas de aire.

### **Dé un paso más con mejoras y consejos adicionales**

- Conéctese con EnergySmart: Los asesores de EnergySmart pueden ayudarle con proyectos energéticos de la casa, como electrodomésticos más eficientes, aislamiento térmico y eliminación de fugas de aire, u opciones en cuanto a vehículos eléctricos.
- Añada aislamiento térmico: Invertir en aislantes térmicos de alta calidad en áticos y sótanos de poca altura ayuda a mantener una temperatura agradable en el hogar y a reducir el gasto energético anual.
- Instale ventanas mejores: A través de las ventanas se pierde calor, pero existen opciones de ventanas con varias hojas y relleno de gas que mantienen el calor dentro y dejan el frío fuera.

#### **¿Está pensando en llevar a cabo alguna mejora energética?**

Explore nuestra nueva guía sobre recursos y reembolsos de costos energéticos a nivel local, estatal y federal:

**[bldr.fyi/energy-rebates-resources](https://bldr.fyi/energy-rebates-resources)**



### **El clima también se lo agradecerá**

- Reducir el consumo de gas natural no solo ahorra dinero, sino que ayuda también al planeta. Nuestra electricidad se ha vuelto más limpia. El 2022 fue el primer año que las emisiones procedentes del consumo de electricidad residencial cayeron por debajo de las de gas natural. Esto subraya la importancia de reemplazar el consumo de gas natural en nuestros hogares.



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This community newsletter is created by the City of Boulder to share local government news, information, initiatives and events with community members.

**We welcome your feedback!**

If you have suggestions, please email us at:

**communitynewsletter@  
 bouldercolorado.gov**



**Important City of Boulder  
 Phone Numbers**

Non-emergency  
 dispatch line

**303-441-3333**

Emergency

**911**

City Operator

**303-441-3388**