



January-February 2025



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Upcoming COUNCIL MEETINGS

Join us for Thornton Council Meetings in the Council Chambers at 9500 Civic Center Dr.—everyone's welcome! Be part of the conversation and help shape our community's future.

January 14	January 28
February 11	February 25
March 25	April 8
April 22	May 13
May 27	June 10
July 8	July 22
August 12	August 26
September 9	September 23
October 14	October 28
December 2	December 16

Thornton's new Community Center and Anythink Library open and thriving



In 1974, when Thornton opened its first Community Center, Diane Salazar was just a kid—one who quickly found the Center to be a game-changer for her and her friends. Growing up in Thornton, they spent countless hours enjoying the programs and activities the Center offered. Its impact on Salazar's life was so strong that she returned as an adult to work there. Today, she's still at the heart of the community, working at the new Community Center and Anythink Library, which opened in October at 2211 Eppinger Blvd. "It warms my heart because I've met so many incredible people from all walks of life," Salazar shares. "I'm truly grateful for this experience."

Since opening its doors, the new Thornton Community Center and Anythink Library have become key resources for residents, offering a

variety of amenities and programs to promote health, education, and community connection. "It's been wonderful to see the community embrace the new center," says Thornton Recreation Administrator Jenny Dowdell. "We designed this space with input from residents, and it's already making a positive impact on the lives of those who use it."

Built on the site of the original 1974 community center, which was closed and demolished in 2022, the new building reflects a modern vision shaped by extensive community input. "Our residents played a huge role in the design of this facility, helping us understand their needs and dreams for this space," says Dowdell. For more information, visit goCOT.net/tcc.

Construction underway on the Anythink Nature Library: A transformative addition to Thornton's Aylor Open Lands

As 2025 kicks off, the construction of the highly anticipated Anythink Nature Library is underway at the Aylor Open Lands property, at 136th Avenue and Quebec Street. This marks a significant milestone for the project, which is poised to become a beacon of environmental education and community wellbeing in Adams County.

In June 2022, Anythink and Thornton entered into a lease agreement for 15 acres of the Aylor Open Lands property. This prime location will soon be home to a 33,000-square-foot nature library, while the remaining 140 acres of open space will be developed into trails and other natural areas dedicated to outdoor learning and exploration.

The Anythink Nature Library is designed to immerse visitors in the natural world, offering spaces, experiences, and collections that foster a deep connection with nature. The library will serve as a natural extension of the Aylor Open Lands, encouraging people of all ages to engage with the environment. The overarching goal is to cultivate a culture of environmental stewardship within the Thornton community.

The Anythink Nature Library is slated for completion by mid-2026, promising a transformative space where nature and learning converge to benefit the entire community.

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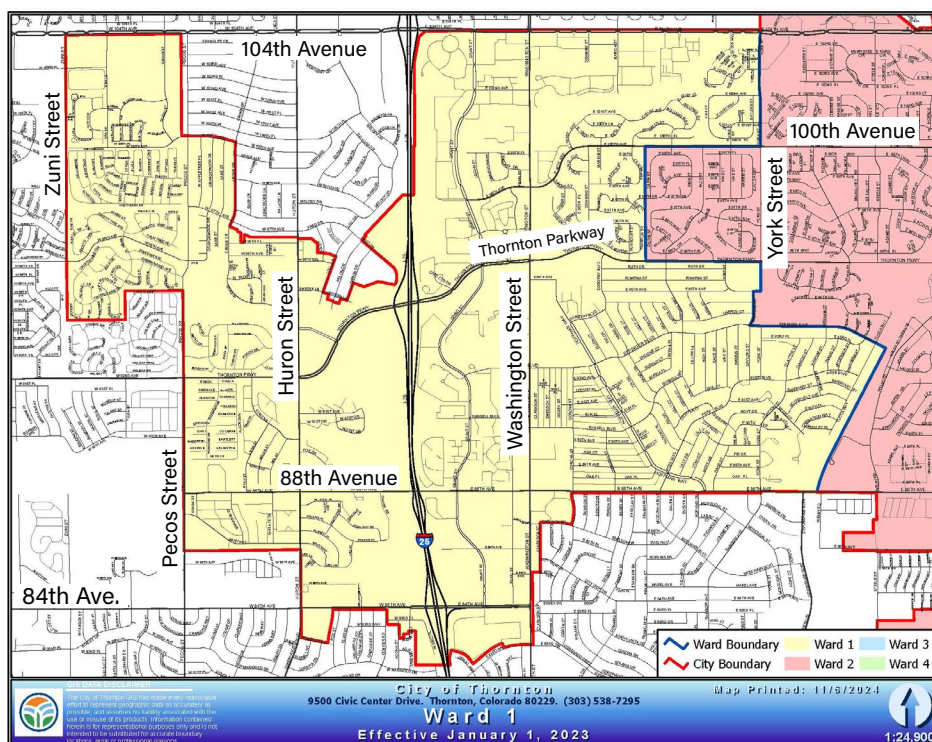
Ward 1 Special Election will fill vacant council seat

Voters in Ward 1 will be asked to fill a vacancy on Thornton City Council by special election to be held on March 25, 2025. This will be a mail-ballot election. The election was triggered after Kathy Henson, the former City Council Member elected to Ward 1 in 2021, was elected to serve as an Adams County Commissioner in the November 2024 election. Henson resigned from her City Council position on November 27, 2024 and council declared the vacancy at their December 17, 2024 meeting. Thornton voters recently passed a Charter Amendment which requires vacancies on City Council be filled no later than 120 days after the resignation of a council member if there is more than a year left in their term of office.



Henson is due to take office as Adams County Commissioner on January 14, 2025 and reflected on her time on Thornton City Council. "I'm honored that the residents of Ward 1 allowed me to represent them on the Thornton City Council. I am proud of the investments we made for the future including the Thornton Community Center, the Thornton Shopping Center Redevelopment, and the South Washington Corridor project, along with a myriad of policy, plans, and programs to address quality of life in Thornton. The work is not finished, but I wish the best for my colleagues on the City Council in their ongoing service and look forward to advancing the partnership and shared goals between the City and Adams County," said Henson.

This Special Election is only for voters in Thornton Ward 1.



Individuals interested in running for the vacant City Council position need to submit a candidate petition with voter signatures by January 13, 2025.

For more information about the election and candidate deadlines, contact the Thornton City Clerk's Office at **303-538-7230** or visit [goCOT.net/elections](https://www.thorntonco.gov/goCOT.net/elections).

Thornton City Council to include land acknowledgment in council meeting agendas

Thornton City Council voted to begin each meeting with a land acknowledgment, recognizing the Native tribes thought to originally inhabit the land where the Thornton is today. Council's intention with this change to council meetings is to honor Indigenous communities and highlight Thornton's commitment to fostering inclusion, respect, and historical recognition. By incorporating this acknowledgment,

Council aims to be mindful of the land's history and its ongoing significance to Colorado's Native peoples and reflects a growing trend among Colorado cities to honor the state's Indigenous heritage. To read the entire Land Acknowledgment, visit [goCOT.net/nativeland](https://www.thorntonco.gov/goCOT.net/nativeland).

New rules for residential driveways in Thornton

Thornton City Council recently updated residential driveway regulations to give homeowners more flexibility while maintaining neighborhood aesthetics and drainage standards. Here's a quick look at the changes if you're considering a driveway project:

Permit Process

Driveway permits are now handled by the Planning Division instead of Building Inspection, simplifying the application process.

Walkway Allowance

You can now add a 3-foot walkway next to your main driveway in front of your home's livable area. Additional pavement beyond this isn't allowed.

Updated Side Setbacks

- Between the street and the front of the house:
 - Homes with two-car garages or larger: Require a minimum 3-foot side setback.
 - Homes with one-car garages or no garage: Require a minimum 1-foot side setback.
- Behind the front plane of home: No side setback is required.

Drainage Requirements

Driveways within three feet of a side property line must have a six-inch curb or other drainage feature to prevent water from flowing onto neighboring properties.

Driveway Width

Maximum driveway width now depends on the walkway and setback requirements, replacing the previous 30-foot limit.

These changes aim to help homeowners improve their driveways while supporting neighborhood standards. Make sure to review the guidelines before starting any updates!

Need Help?

City Development staff are ready to assist with permit applications or answer questions. Contact the Planner of the Day at **303-538-7295**, email pod.info@ThorntonCO.gov, or visit [goCOT.net/BuildingInspections](https://www.thorntonco.gov/goCOT.net/BuildingInspections) for more details.

Increased water rates and connection fees support growing a resilient water system and meeting new water quality standards

Like many cities across the country, Thornton continues to see increases in the cost of maintaining and improving our water system. To continue providing our community with clean, reliable drinking water, Thornton City Council has approved a water rate increase for all customers and a connection fee increase for new development, effective January 1, 2025.

The impact of the water rate increase on your monthly bill may vary depending on the season. Typically, water usage is much higher during the summer as outdoor irrigation and water use surges. Individual bills are determined based on actual monthly usage.

Customer Type	Typical Winter Bill		Typical Summer Bill	
	Today	Starting 1/1/25	Today	Starting 1/1/25
Inside City Residential Customer	\$34.10	\$37.88	\$84.50	\$93.88

This rate increase is crucial to maintaining our diverse water system, investing in Thornton's infrastructure and water treatment technologies, and keeping up with rising costs due to inflation. This water rate increase will also support the utility's ongoing mitigation of PFAS contaminants to meet revised standards from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The increase in connection fees addresses inflation, rising water rights costs, and stricter regulations requiring the reduction of contaminants like PFAS. New fees for lots under 5,000 square feet reflect lower outdoor water use to help promote higher-density development and support housing affordability with lower connection fees. Multi-family unit fees are based on water use per dwelling unit, ensuring fair and proportionate costs compared to single-family homes.

These adjustments ensure Thornton can maintain a reliable and compliant water system. Being water-wise indoors and outdoors is the best way to reduce your water usage and, in turn, lower your water bill. Visit ThorntonWater.com for more information and to apply for available rebates and services. Income-qualified customers may be eligible for the Water Assistance Program, which helps individuals and families struggling to pay their water bills. Check if you are eligible and learn more about your water bill by visiting goCOT.net/billing, emailing UtilBilling@ThorntonCO.gov, or calling **303-538-7370**.

Thornton continues work to ensure water quality and safety in 2025 and beyond

Thornton's Water Utility is actively working to further reduce PFAS in the water supply. Current PFAS levels meet the EPA's standards, and Thornton plans to add specialized PFAS treatment at the Thornton Water Treatment Plant. This new treatment will



help ensure reliable PFAS removal, even during droughts when PFAS concentrations in rivers can increase, or when certain water sources are temporarily unavailable due to maintenance.

Three design teams have proposed plans for the project, which will include advanced Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters with a daily capacity of 30 million gallons. Team selection is anticipated for December. Design will take place in 2025, construction in 2026, with the project expected to be complete by 2027. For more information, visit goCOT.net/PFAS.

You may also have heard recently that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has introduced new regulations to reduce lead exposure in drinking water nationwide. Fortunately, Thornton is already ahead of the game; our water system has been thoroughly inspected, and no lead service lines have been found in the city.

In Thornton, we are proud to report that system-wide lead levels remain low. According to the 2024 Water Quality Report, the range of lead detected was 0-6.3 parts per billion (ppb), far below the EPA's action level of 15 ppb. In fact, 90% of our samples were below 1.7 ppb. You can find the Water Quality Report at goCOT.net/waterquality.

Keeping Thornton Water Safe: A Team Effort

While we're doing our part to keep lead out of the water delivered to your home, we also need your help. Although there are no lead service lines in Thornton's public water system, homes built before 1986 might have lead plumbing or fixtures inside. Over time, these can corrode and release lead into your water, especially when hot water runs through them.

If your home was built between 1983 and 1987, you may qualify for free lead testing as part of our annual water safety program. This is a great opportunity to ensure your drinking water is lead-free. To learn more or to register, email waterquality@ThorntonCO.gov or call **303-255-7770**.

If you have any questions about lead in water or want more information about Thornton's water quality, visit goCOT.net/qualitywater for resources, call **720-977-6600**, or email Water@ThorntonWater.com.

Thornton City Council

goCOT.net/council



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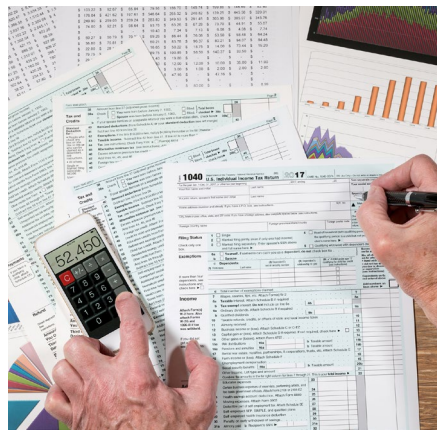
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FREE TAX PREPARATION

By IRS-Certified Volunteers

Thornton residents with an income limit of \$67,000/year can get free tax prep help this tax season. The service is provided by IRS certified volunteers on a first-come, first-served basis. Drop by Thornton Community Connections, 9471 Dorothy Blvd. between January 28 - April 10 on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. for tax assistance. No appointment is needed.



WATER BILL ASSISTANCE

Available

If you're struggling to pay your Thornton water bill, the Thornton Water Assistance Program is here to help. This program offers financial relief to individuals and families who need help paying their water bills.

The program is open to all Thornton Water customers, including both homeowners and renters. To qualify, applicants need to meet certain income requirements, ensuring that assistance reaches those who need it most. To find out if you qualify call **720-977-5815**, email assistance@ThorntonCO.gov or visit goCOT.net/WaterAssistance.

NEED HELP WITH YARD CODE VIOLATIONS?

Let CodeCAP help

The Code Compliance Assistance Program (CodeCAP) assists income-eligible homeowners to fix code violations in their yards. Eligible projects include removal of hazardous trees, trash, debris, vehicles, and fence repair or replacement. The program is free to qualifying residents.

If you're looking for a way to give back, keep an eye out for our next yard clean-up event. Volunteering is a great way to help your neighbors and make a difference in Thornton.

For more information on volunteering or to see if you're eligible for the CodeCAP assistance, contact Community Connections at **720-977-5800** or Housing@ThorntonCO.gov.

Thornton secures Adams County grants for recreation and infrastructure projects

Thornton will benefit from nearly \$2.9 million in grant funding awarded by the Adams County Board of Commissioners, supporting projects aimed at improving recreational facilities, infrastructure, and community access. The grants will fund three projects designed to enhance quality of life and expand opportunities for residents:

Extending the Reach of Grange Hall Creek Trail

A \$2,498,686 grant will fund the extension of Grange Hall Creek Trail, including new underpasses, trail crossings, and waterway improvements. The upgrades will boost flood resilience and provide underserved neighborhoods with better access to outdoor recreation and essential services.

Infield Dreams

Thornton Parks, Recreation, and Community

Programs will receive \$25,000 to improve maintenance on 26 baseball fields. The funding will be used to purchase an infield-specific groomer, which will enhance field quality, reduce staff labor, and free resources for other park maintenance needs.

Pickle and a Biscuit

A \$329,407 grant will support the design of eight new pickleball courts, with four slated for construction at Carpenter Park. The project also includes upgrades to the in-line hockey rink at Woodglen Brookshire Park, which will receive new sideboards, fencing, and baseboards.

These projects align with Thornton's commitment to improving recreational opportunities, bolstering community infrastructure, and fostering healthier, more connected neighborhoods.

Thornton recognized for delivering high-quality, safe drinking water

Thornton's commitment to providing the community with some of the safest and highest-quality drinking water earned the city the prestigious Gold Award for exceptional utility performance from the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA). This honor highlights Thornton's dedication to delivering water that meets the highest standards of safety and quality, reflecting excellence in the management and operation of its water utilities.

This focus on public health and safety further

solidifies Thornton's standing as a trusted water utility. Additionally, Thornton boasts one of the lowest residential water consumption rates on the Front Range, further demonstrating its leadership in water conservation and efficiency. This recognition reaffirms Thornton's unwavering commitment to providing residents with safe, high-quality water today and into the future.



Thornton Water Treatment Plant undergoes essential upgrades and maintenance

In late September, the Thornton Water Treatment Plant (TWTP) took a planned two-week hiatus for critical maintenance and upgrades to ensure our community continues receiving top-quality water. Normally running 24/7, the plant temporarily paused operations, allowing contractors to install new redundant chemical feed lines within the Chlorine Contact Chamber (CCC) – a step toward increased reliability in water processing.

The plant's biofiltration system, essential for purifying water, functions as a living microbial ecosystem, so the Operations team had to carefully refresh the filters every two days with dechlorinated water to maintain ideal oxygen levels. These beneficial bacteria are key in keeping Thornton's water clean and safe, so maintaining their health was a top priority during the shutdown.

The downtime further allowed Operations and Maintenance teams to access areas typically filled with water, to clean and inspect basins, and replace a broken sludge collector cable.

During this time, contractors working in the CCC uncovered nearly 100 broken or missing bolts and clamps used to secure critical sample and chemical lines. The team quickly replaced these parts with durable stainless steel to enhance future durability.

Restarting the plant after this extensive maintenance was a gradual, carefully coordinated process. First, the basins and equipment underwent thorough disinfection. Each part of the system was then brought back online one at a time, with chemical levels adjusted to match changing water conditions. To ensure the treated water met strict safety standards, the first run of water was discharged through the storm drain, fully dechlorinated with neutralizers on standby.

These essential upgrades and maintenance steps underscore our commitment to providing the community with safe, reliable, and high-quality water every day.

Thornton's Business Improvement Grant Program powers local business success

Thornton's Office of Economic Development is on a mission to empower local businesses to reach new heights, and the Business Improvement Grant (BIG) is a game-changer in that effort. This program provides financial support to help businesses make impactful upgrades, whether it's fresh signage, updated equipment, or major renovations—all of which add to Thornton's vibrant look and feel while sparking growth for our local economy.

Last year alone, 19 businesses, including favorites like Amplify Aesthetics, Davi Nails, A Cake Occasion, and Yonsei Sushi, used BIG grant funds to refresh their spaces and reinforce their presence in our community. These improvements are more than just aesthetics—they help create jobs, boost revenue, and inspire further investment right here in Thornton. If you are interested in taking your business to the next level, learning more about the program, or to apply, visit businessinthornton.com.

Your Thornton

TRASH & RECYCLE CALENDAR

City trash/recycling customers can access their 2025 collection calendar by visiting goCOT.net/trashrecycling where they can sign up to receive reminders, print a schedule, or embed it in their person iCal, Google Calendar, or Microsoft Outlook Calendar. Customers can also download the free mobile app City of Thornton Recycles which is available in the App Store and on Google Play.

For details about any of the programs listed below, visit goCOT.net/trashrecycling, email environmentalservices@ThorntonCO.gov or call 720-977-6200.

2025 Collection Schedule

New Year's Day

Trash/recycling collection service will be on a one day holiday delay beginning Wednesday, January 1.

Christmas Tree Curbside Pick Up

City trash/recycle customers may place their natural Christmas trees at the curb for pickup on their regular trash collection day from December 30 – January 10. Please do not wrap the trees in plastic and remove all ornaments and lights.

Christmas Tree Recycle Drop Off

Saturday, January 11, from 8 a.m. to noon. Thornton residents may bring their natural Christmas trees to the Infrastructure Maintenance Center, 12450 Washington St., for recycling. Proof of residency is required. Restrictions and limitations apply. Remove all ornaments and lights.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

City offices will be closed Monday, January 20, but there will be NO delay in trash/recycling collection service. Please place your containers at the curb on your regular pick up day by 7 a.m.

Presidents Day

City offices will be closed Monday, February 17, but there will be NO delay in trash/recycling collection service. Please place your containers at the curb on your regular pick up day by 7 a.m.

Adopt-A-Street

To find out more about this volunteer program and how you can help support litter control efforts along Thornton streets, please email environmentalservices@ThorntonCO.gov.



THORNTON LICENSED SUMMER CAMPS
Registration begins February 2025!

RESIDENT | Wednesday, February 5 | 8 a.m.
NONRESIDENT | Thursday, February 6 | 8 a.m.

Thornton offers full-day camp for ages 5-13 (having completed kindergarten) and partial-day camp for ages 2½-10. All camps are state-licensed and provide a safe fun-filled summer of activities.

For additional information, parent handbook and enrollment forms please visit goCOT.net/licensedcamps or call 720-977-5901.



New businesses bring fresh fun and flavor to Thornton

Thornton is buzzing with exciting new spots to eat, play, and shop, thanks to the work of Thornton Economic Development, which helps attract and support businesses that bring more enjoyment to residents.

In spring 2025, Chicken N Pickle will open at The Grove Shopping Center on I-25 & 144th Avenue, combining pickleball courts, signature chicken dishes, and a lively outdoor patio and beer garden for a truly unique experience. And for even



more neighborhood fun, Billy Birch will open this summer at 120th Avenue and Holly Street, offering a 4,000 sq. ft. beer garden.

Families can look forward to Malibu Jack's, an indoor theme park launching in January 2025 at the Thornton Town Center, and The Picklr, which will be located right next to SkyZone, will provide even more pickleball fun.

For local shopping, Gordon Food Service will fill the former Kmart at 1400 E. 104th Ave. Gordon is known for restaurant supplies and fresh groceries. This Colorado location will be its first in their 125-year history.

From entertainment to dining and shopping, Thornton's new businesses offer something for everyone and Thornton Economic Development is always working to bring more great options to our growing community.

Thornton businesses shine for innovation and sustainability

Thornton Economic Development is proud to see local businesses making waves statewide, winning awards for their innovation and commitment to sustainability.

At the Colorado Manufacturing Network Awards, Meati Foods took home the Emerging Manufacturer Award, while Liz Palmer of Allegro Coffee/Whole Foods was celebrated as Manufacturing Woman of the Year. Later, at the AC-Rep Gamechangers Event, Meati Foods won the Innovation Award, recognized for their impactful and scalable approach. Denver Premium Outlets received the Sustainability Award for their eco-conscious initiatives, including a pollinator garden with the Butterfly Pavilion and carbon-negative pavers developed with Prometheus.

Thornton Economic Development is dedicated to supporting and celebrating these remarkable local businesses as they continue to thrive.

Shopping carts belong in stores, not neighborhoods: help corral them

Abandoned shopping carts are not only unsightly, but also pose safety risks to pedestrians and motorists. Left unchecked, they can lead to more severe blight issues. That's why in May 2024, the Thornton City Council passed an ordinance to establish a comprehensive program for removing shopping carts from public areas. The program authorizes the city to charge retail owners for each cart retrieved.

Thornton Code Compliance has launched a new shopping cart retrieval program to ensure abandoned carts don't go unnoticed. Thornton has partnered with Kept Companies for a citywide shopping cart retrieval effort.

Here's how it works:

- Weekly Sweeps: Kept Companies conducts weekly sweeps in areas most affected by abandoned carts.
- On-Demand Pickups: In less affected areas, cart retrieval is done on a complaint basis. Coverage can be adjusted based on demand.
- Cart Disposal: Unidentifiable carts, or those not claimed by stores, will be disposed of by the city.

You can report abandoned shopping carts at keptcompanies.com/cart-report, use the **MyThornton app**, or call **1-800-847-3735**. For more information contact Thornton Code Compliance at **303-538-7517** or Code@ThorntonCO.gov.

Celebrate your favorite Thornton businesses: nominate them for the 2025 Business Awards

If you know of a Thornton business that always goes above and beyond, now's your chance to give them the recognition they deserve. Nominate your favorite local businesses for the 2025 Thornton Business Awards. Award Categories include the People's Choice, Community Spirit, Small Business of the Year, and Retailer of the Year.

Join Thornton Economic Development in applauding Thornton's top businesses to give them the spotlight they deserve. For more information and to cast your vote, visit businessinthornton.com.

Get ready to explore the Active Adult Sensory Walk

This project, nestled between the Thornton Active Adult Center (AAC) and the skatepark, is designed to offer a peaceful, engaging experience for all ages, connecting you with nature in a whole new way. The path, is accessible and easy to navigate, winding through a landscape filled with playful elements like carefully crafted boulders, stumps, and logs. These features aren't just for show—they create a series of low-balance challenges that are both fun and functional.

At the eastern end, near the AAC, you'll find a cozy concrete patio with a stenciled labyrinth, perfect for a moment of reflection or simply enjoying the view. Comfortable benches and a four-post shade structure make this spot ideal for relaxation. As you head west toward the skate park, the sensory walk culminates in a stump pyramid on a gentle knoll, complete with a three-post shade structure and informal seating for those who want to take in the scenery.

Throughout the walk, you'll discover colorful mini gardens, additional seating, and plenty of shade trees, making this a serene spot to unwind. The landscaping embraces the "Naturally Thornton" ethos, featuring low-water areas of grass and wildflowers that surround



the path and gardens, all kept lush and vibrant with full irrigation coverage.

Whether you're seeking a quiet place to meditate, a scenic route for a stroll, or a new way to connect with nature, the Active Adult Sensory Walk is sure to become a favorite destination in Thornton. For more information, visit goCOT.net/aac.

Let's keep our roads and walkways safe while doing our part to protect the environment this winter

Winter is here, and with it comes the 'joy' of snow shoveling and ice removal. While clearing snow really is no fun, many of us turn to deicers to make the job easier. However, the most common salt, sodium chloride (also known as halite), can have harmful effects on the environment. It can damage freshwater ecosystems, kill plants, break down concrete, and even leave stubborn stains on your carpets.

Luckily, there are greener alternatives that are just as effective. The Environmental Protection



Agency's (EPA) Safer Choice program recommends using products like acetates, potassium chloride, or magnesium chloride. These options are kinder to the environment while still helping you keep your sidewalks and driveways safe.

For more details on eco-friendly deicers, visit epa.gov. To learn more about stormwater quality and how to protect our water systems, visit goCOT.net/stormwater or email us at StormwaterQuality@ThorntonCO.gov.

ThorntonCO.gov wins prestigious Pinnacle Award for digital innovation

ThorntonCO.gov, the city's website, has been nationally recognized with the Pinnacle Award for Small/Medium Population Cities and Counties by the National Association of Government Web Professionals (NAGW). This honor highlights Thornton's innovative efforts to improve online services, enhance public engagement, and promote transparency.

"Our goal is to foster a deeper connection between residents and their local government," says Adriana Maldonado, Thornton's Digital Engagement Manager. "This award validates our commitment to creating a user-friendly platform where residents can easily access essential services and stay informed about city events."

ThorntonCO.gov stands out for its cutting-edge design, ease of navigation, and robust digital tools, including online bill payments, service requests, and permit applications. By emphasizing transparency, accessibility, and public engagement, the site has become a vital resource for the community.

"Digital engagement is about crafting an experience that makes residents feel connected and valued," adds Maldonado. "While we're proud of this recognition, we're focused on future innovations to better serve our community." Thornton's achievement underscores its dedication to leveraging technology for public service.

To explore our award-winning site, visit ThorntonCO.gov.

Community Connections is an Adams County Outreach Site

Community Connections is an Adams County Human Services Outreach Site where you can apply for, or have questions answered, regarding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, formerly referred to as food stamps, Medicaid, and cash assistance, and providing one-on-one with a caseworker.

Outreach Site services are available the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 8:30-11:30 a.m., at Thornton Community Connections, 9471 Dorothy Blvd.

For more information call **720-977-5800** or email Connections@ThorntonCO.gov.

When a disaster strikes, Thornton Fire is often part of the response

The rigorous training and dedication of Thornton Firefighters recently was on display in the national spotlight, as two Thornton Fire Department personnel took part in critical search and rescue operations in the aftermath of both Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton.

The two were part of FEMA's Colorado Task Force 1 (CO-TF1), one of the nation's elite Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams and provided support and relief efforts in Florida and North Carolina, where both hurricanes caused significant devastation. These firefighters played key roles in operations that involved not only water rescues but also structural assessments and medical care for survivors. Their experience in emergency response and disaster management was invaluable during the mission.



Fire Captain Alex Boday and Fire Lieutenant Danny Burela provided support for the aftermath of Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

Test your home for radon: free kits and mitigation assistance available

January is Radon Action Month in Colorado and across the nation. Radon, a leading cause of lung cancer, poses a serious risk in Colorado, where nearly half of homes have levels above the recommended limit.

Testing your home for radon is simple and vital—simply purchase a test kit and if high levels are detected, you can reduce radon with a mitigation system. For homeowners facing financial difficulties, Colorado's Low-Income Radon Mitigation Assistance program provides help through an easy application process, learn more at coloradoradon.info.

Divert more from landfills with Thornton trash/recycle services

City trash customers get recycling included with their monthly fee, so make the most of it! Place items like water bottles, cardboard, cans, and glass loosely (no bags) in the green bin. If you're regularly filling it up, you can request a second one for free at goCOT.net/trashrecycling.

If you don't have curbside recycling, drop-off bins are available at the Municipal Service Center (MSC), 88th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard, and the Infrastructure Maintenance Center (IMC), 126th Avenue & Washington Street, open weekdays 6 a.m.–5 p.m.

Recycling Options at the IMC:

- Scrap Metal & Appliances: Drop off old appliances and scrap metal for free, weekdays 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
- Mattresses: Drop off by appointment for \$30 per piece; call 720-977-6200 to schedule.
- Organics: Bring food scraps and yard waste (only 3-gallon compostable bags) on weekdays 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Stay updated on recycling events by visiting ThorntonCO.gov, subscribing to T-Alert Newsletters, downloading the "City of Thornton Recycles" app, and following us on Facebook. For more details, contact Environmental Services at environmentalservices@ThorntonCO.gov or 720-977-6200.

When it comes to speed,
even a little over
could mean
GAME OVER

NHTSA **SPEEDING CATCHES UP WITH YOU**

Play your part to keep
our streets safe

THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

What's happening in Thornton?

Visit the new ThorntonCO.gov for meetings and events.

Empowering Thornton: a new monthly expo for our unhoused community members



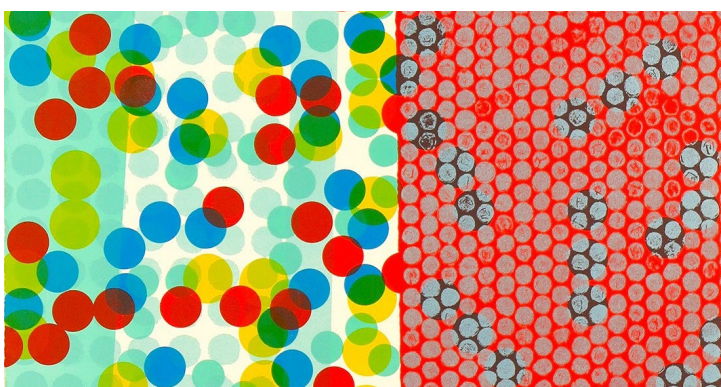
Thornton's Empowerment Expo promises a fresh start and new possibilities for members of our community experiencing homelessness. Launched in October, the Expo will be held every third Thursday of the month, 1-3 p.m., at Rock AG Church, 8891 Poze Blvd. This initiative is designed for Thornton residents who are experiencing homelessness. In its inaugural event, 18 adults and three children attended - each one connected to resources that empower their next steps forward.

The Expo is much more than a simple gathering. Every month, unhoused community members

can connect in one convenient location with vital resources such as employment services, health and wellness support and much more. The expo is designed to make navigating the complexities of securing support easier. From job training to medical aid and access to mental health and substance use counseling, the Empowerment Expo brings essential services to those who need them most.

For more information, email ThorntonHOT@ThorntonCO.gov or call Thornton Community Connections at **720-977-5900**.

Explore OMNICHROMATIC: A vibrant art exhibit at the Oz Gallery



Evan Colbert has been a fixture in the art world since 1992, exhibiting locally and nationally. With a foundation in photography, his artistic journey evolved into printmaking and painting. Colbert's works stand out for their vibrant use of color and inventive techniques, often incorporating unconventional materials like bubble wrap or the intricate patterns of security envelopes.

Celebrate the exhibit with the artist and fellow art enthusiasts on Friday, January 17, from 6-8 p.m. On Saturday, March 8, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., tap into your creative side with a hands-on workshop inspired by Colbert's techniques. For more information visit artsthornton.com.

This all happens at Thornton's Oz Gallery, 9209 Dorothy Blvd., Tuesday-Friday: 12-5 p.m., and Second Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission is free.



Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards

March 20 | 6 p.m.
ACMCYA Thornton Banquet
Trail Winds Recreation Center
13495 Holly St., Thornton 80602

Recognize youth in grades 6-12, up to 20 years old, who have overcome personal adversity to create positive change. For more information and to submit a nomination, visit <https://adcogov.org/adams-county-mayors-and-commissioners-youth-awards-1>.



City Facilities & Commonly Used Numbers

- Thornton City Hall
9500 Civic Center Dr., 80229
- Thornton Police Department
and Municipal Court
9551 Civic Center Dr., 80229
- Infrastructure Maintenance Center
12450 Washington St., 80241
- Margaret W. Carpenter
Recreation Center
11151 Colorado Blvd., 80233
- Thornton Community Center
2211 Eppinger Blvd., 80229
- Thornton Active Adult Center
11181 Colorado Blvd., 80233
- Thornton Arts & Culture Center
9209 Dorothy Blvd., 80229
- Trail Winds Recreation Center
13495 Holly St., 80602
- Thornton Community Connections
9471 Dorothy Blvd., 80229

- Active Adult Center 303-255-7850
- Alliance Business Assist. Center ... 720-674-3547
- Animal Control 720-977-5250
- Arts & Culture Center 720-977-5880
- Building Inspection 303-538-7250
- Building Permits 303-538-7250
- Business Assistance 303-538-7605
- Carpenter Recreation Center 303-255-7800
- City Clerk's Office 303-538-7230
- City Communications 303-538-7279
- City Council & Mayor 303-538-7002
- City Manager's Office 303-538-7002
- Code Compliance 303-538-7517
- Community Connections 720-977-5800
- Economic Development 303-538-7605
- Fire Department (non-emergency) ... 303-538-7602
- Human Resources 303-538-7245
- Municipal Court 720-977-5400
- Parks, Recreation &
Community Programs 303-255-7800
- Police (non-emergency) 720-977-5150
- Pothole Repair 720-977-6464
- Snow & Ice Control 720-977-6464
- Trail Winds Recreation Center 720-977-5700
- Trash & Recycling 720-977-6200
- Utilities (Water, Sewer) 720-977-6500
- Utility Billing 303-538-7370
- Volunteer Hotline 720-977-5760
- Voter Registration 303-538-7230
- Water Quality 303-255-7770

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