



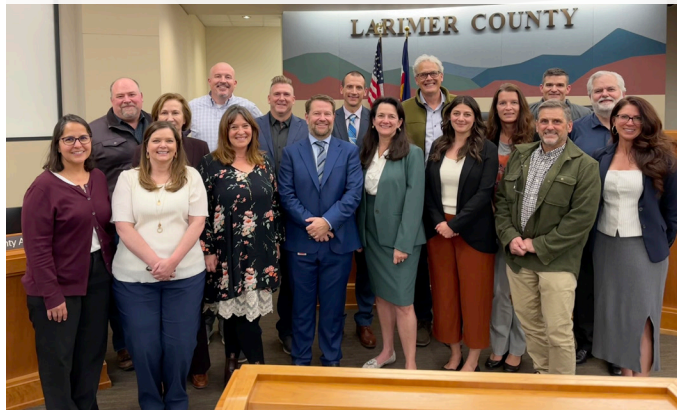
July-August 2024

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Para leer el periódico de la ciudad de Thornton "City Voice" en español, escanee este código con su teléfono.

Thornton Water Project Update

*THE TEAM: Front row L to R: Robin Ruybal Huffman, Jody Henry, Emily Hunt, Todd Barnes, Carolynne White, Courtney Marne, Patty Johnsen, John Himyak, Claire Havelda
Back row: Chuck Seest, Tami Yellico, Tony Stout, Cody Wertz, Brett Henry, Mike Dino, Michael Welker, Gerald Simpson.*



Want to CONNECT?

We invite you to attend a ward or community meeting to find out what's happening in the city and talk with City Council representatives.

Ward 4 Meeting
Wednesday, July 31, 6 p.m.
Thorncreek Golf Course
13555 Washington St.

Community Meeting
Thursday, August 8, 6 p.m.
Community Connections
9471 Dorothy Blvd.

Ward 2 Meeting
Thursday, September 12, 6 p.m.
Active Adult Center
11181 Colorado Blvd.

Ward 3 Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 6 p.m.
Trail Winds Recreation Center
13495 Holly St.

What started with a lot of foresight and careful planning by Thornton leaders back in the mid-1980s, finally took an important step closer to reality for the biggest project ever undertaken by the city of Thornton. On May 8, 2024, the Thornton Water Project overcame its last significant hurdle when Larimer County Commissioners unanimously approved a permit for the construction of a pipeline and pump station in their county. This was Thornton's second attempt to get Larimer County approval to build the initial 10.6-mile segment of a 70-mile pipeline that will transport water Thornton owns from reservoirs in the northern part of that county. Larimer County Commissioners denied Thornton's first permit application back in 2019. Since that time, Thornton attempted to get approval for the project in the courts but failed. The court cases did succeed, however, in providing some parameters for the project which Thornton integrated into a new application for a permit which was filed in late 2023.

Thornton's staff and consultants worked for years developing the new permit application so that it met a recently revised set of criteria for Land Use Projects in Larimer County. Coming in at around 3,000 pages, the application was evaluated by Larimer County staff and their Planning Commission, both of which recommended approval.

The Thornton Water Project (TWP) will bring up to 14,000 acre-feet of high-quality water owned in the Water Supply and Storage Company (WSSC) system. The water Thornton owns has been diverted out of the Cache La Poudre River in the same location for over 130 years. No new diversions were needed for the project. Opponents of the Thornton Water Project incorrectly claimed that the pipeline project would further diminish water levels in the Poudre River. In fact, Thornton is one of a few municipalities participating in the only viable plan to augment water levels in the river. Despite this, opponents wanted Thornton to return its drinking water from the reservoirs back to the river to run through the city of Fort Collins in a perceived effort to increase water flows in the river. This proposal was not viable and inappropriate for many reasons, but primarily because it would have dangerously contaminated the water as it passed urban runoff and three wastewater treatment plants that put effluent out into the river. The Colorado Court of Appeals made it clear this was not something Larimer County could require of Thornton.

Collaboration with the Larimer County community prior to final designs for the final alignment of the pipeline and location for the pump station was a key factor for success for the permit process. Thornton conducted a large survey with residents in the project vicinity to understand their concerns about the potential impacts of the construction process and any perceived long-term implications. Thornton also held two open houses in Larimer County to give Larimer County residents a chance to come speak with TWP team members and express any concerns. This process led to Thornton moving the proposed pump station two miles north and onto property owned by WSSC. This move created a half a mile buffer between the pump station and the nearest residence. The input also reduced the impact of the pipeline construction to just 17 property owners.

"Throughout this process, we have engaged in open and constructive dialogues with the local community, demonstrating our commitment to transparency and mutual respect," said Thornton Interim City Manager Brett Henry. Our approach has always been to not just meet but exceed regulatory and community outreach requirements, ensuring that our plans align with the broader goals of Larimer County and serve as a beacon for how communities can unite over significant projects, including water projects."

Several segments of the TWP are in design and in construction at this time in Adams and Weld Counties. The current estimate for when the pipeline will be operational and delivering water to Thornton is the second quarter of 2028.

Psirt Std
 US Postage
 PAID
 Denver, CO
 Permit No. 331

City of Thornton
 9500 Civic Center Dr.
 Thornton CO 80229

BEACON OF SAFETY

Flashing lights revolutionize crosswalk safety for STEM Launch students

Imagine a crosswalk where, with just a push of a button, flashing lights spring into action, warning drivers in real-time when pedestrians are crossing or about to cross. These aren't just any ordinary lights—they're called Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons, or RRFBs for short.

You might have seen them around town, stationed on both sides of a crosswalk just beneath the pedestrian crossing sign. "When someone hits the button, the lights start flashing, catching drivers' attention and urging them to slow down and yield," says Thornton Senior Civil Engineer Marta Junyent. "Studies show that these flashy lights can make a big difference, encouraging more drivers to yield to pedestrians and ultimately reducing the chances of crashes."

Recently, these innovative lights were set at the crosswalk on Pecos Street, right by the STEM Launch school. The goal? To make the crosswalk safer and more visible, especially during busy times when students are crossing the street. This project came about through collaboration with the Adams 12 School District and the staff at STEM Launch.

YARDBUSTERS:

Let's team up and make Thornton's neighborhoods beautiful, one yard at a time!

Yardbusters is a brand-new assistance program designed to alleviate the hassle of yard work for residents who are over 62 and could use a bit of extra support, or those living with a disability. Program volunteers assist with mowing lawns, banishing weeds, and getting your greenery back in tip-top shape so you can enjoy your outdoor space. If you need Yardbuster assistance, reach out to Active Adult Program Manager Jessie Romito at **720-977-5851** for an application. Become a Yardbuster volunteer and make a real difference in our community! Volunteers are needed to provide this service from June to October. If you are interested in volunteering, reach out to Volunteer & Administrative Coordinator Belia Dameron at **303-255-7831**.

HEALTHY FARMERS MARKETS RETURN

Thornton, Adams County Human Services, Adams County Health Department, and the American Heart Association are hosting Farmers Markets June 25 - October 3. Find fresh, locally-grown produce, community resources and activities. WIC and SNAP are accepted. Community members in need will receive \$25 vouchers for produce. For specific dates, times, and locations, visit [goCOT.net/healthyfarmersmarkets](https://www.thorntonwater.com/goCOT.net/healthyfarmersmarkets), call **720-977-5800**, or email Connections@ThorntonCO.gov.

You can watch Thornton City Council Planning Sessions live from the comfort of your home!

To keep residents informed and engaged, Thornton City Council approved the installation of cameras into the room where their Planning Sessions are conducted. Planning Sessions are held every other Tuesday and are an opportunity for Council to study and discuss in-depth issues of importance to the city, which Council may provide direction to staff on, but does not formally vote on.

You can find the Zoom link at [goCOT.net/councilmeetings](https://www.thorntonwater.com/goCOT.net/councilmeetings) to watch the discussions and presentations that shape our community.

Stay informed and engaged with the decisions that impact our city and get an inside look at how Thornton policy and progress is being planned and developed.

Thornton secures \$2.3 million in grants to enhance drinking water safety against PFAS contaminants

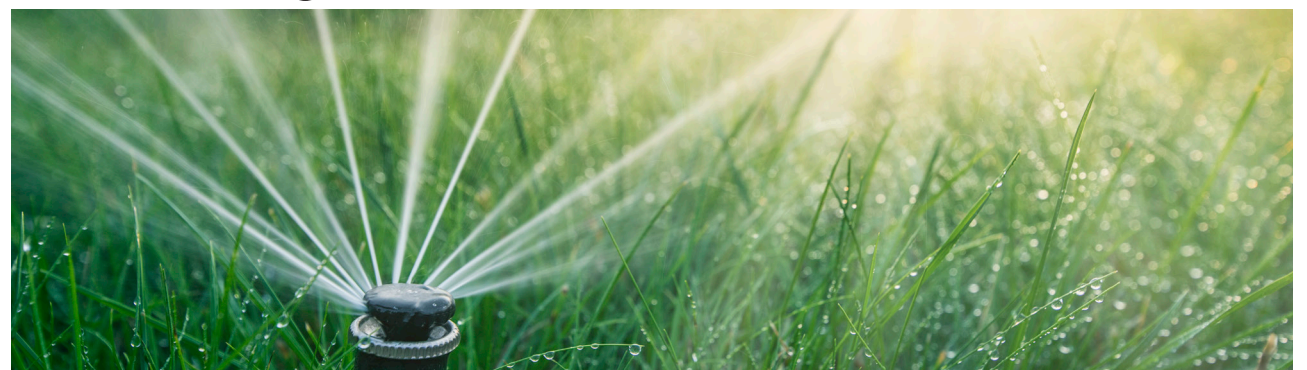
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has provided Thornton with money from its PFAS Grant Program to help address efforts to clean "forever chemicals" from Thornton's raw water. With the recent release of the final regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency for PFAS substances, Thornton has begun plans to implement new treatment processes to remove those compounds from the water.

City staff is pursuing multiple funding opportunities to limit the impact these needed improvements have on customer rates. At the end of April, Thornton received notice of award of \$2.338 million in funding from CDPHE. A grant of \$308,000 allows the city to purchase additional Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC) to dose at the Wes Brown Water Treatment Plant (WBWTP); PAC is a water treatment chemical that acts like a sponge to soak up and reduce PFAS concentrations in the water. Since the COVID-19

pandemic, the city has sometimes struggled with supply-chain issues for some of its water treatment chemicals.

To increase Thornton's operational resiliency, staff received another grant for \$1,030,000 that funds the design and construction of additional PAC storage facilities at a treatment plant to ensure Thornton always has enough PAC on site to meet the drinking water regulations. At the Thornton Water Treatment Plant (TTP), the city's current method to reduce PFAS concentrations is through blending of lower PFAS concentration source waters. To ensure drought resiliency and long-term compliance with the drinking water regulations, Thornton will be implementing new treatment technologies to meet those regulations. The final grant received from CDPHE is a \$1,000,000 grant that will be used for engineering design services for PFAS removal at TTP.

Dive into a greener, lusher summer!



If you're looking to transform your lawn while saving water, Thornton Water has some savvy irrigation strategies that nurture your lawn and conserve our most precious resource:

Cycle & Soak Technique: Split your watering sessions into three short cycles, spaced an hour apart. This trick helps the soil soak up the water more effectively.

Limit Lawn Watering: Keep your lawn on a healthy regimen by watering no more than three days a week. It's the golden rule for a thriving, resilient turf.

Taller Grass, Stronger Roots: Consider mowing your lawn less often and keeping the grass a bit taller. Because taller grass means more shade and protection for the soil, which equals less water needed to keep it happy.

Monthly Watering Adjustments: Just like your favorite playlist, your watering schedule needs a shake-up now and then. Check out the recommended watering guide and adjust your

watering times accordingly each month.

Leak Patrol: Even a tiny leak can waste gallons of water over time! Regularly inspect your sprinkler system for any signs of leaks. Fixing them pronto saves water and keeps your lawn happy.

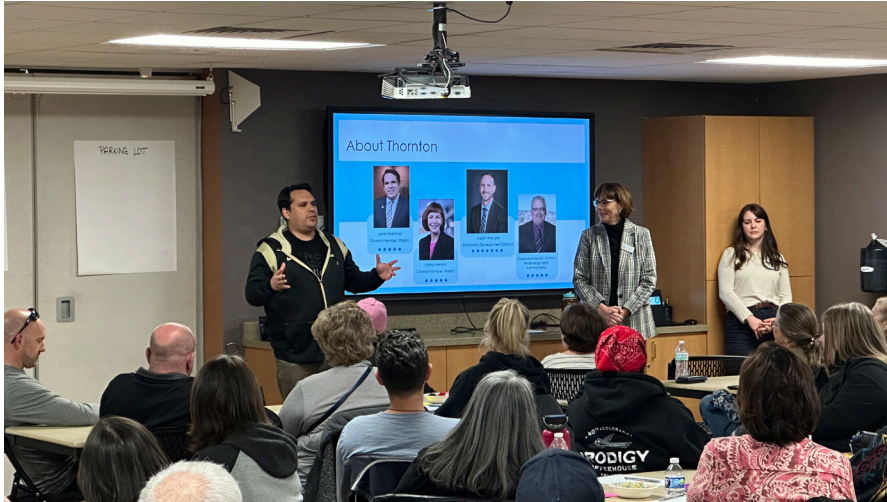
Smart Irrigation Solutions: Ever heard of a smart irrigation controller? It's like having a personal assistant for your lawn! Install one with a rain sensor, and you could even snag a rebate of up to \$200.

For more tips on smart irrigation and outdoor water-saving tricks, swing by [thorntonwater.com](https://www.thorntonwater.com), contact Thornton Water at **720-977-6600** or at water@thorntonwater.com.

For instant access to more water-saving wisdom scan the QR code. With these tips you can keep your lawns lush and our water bills low!



Thornton Shopping Center revitalization will bring community vision for prime location



Earlier this year, more than 100 people attended a community Reuse Visioning Session for the Thornton Shopping Center. Facilitators guided the community through engaging and spirited analysis and reuse visioning exercises. "The next step in the community input process is to complete a Highest and Best Use Analysis, a smaller stakeholder meeting and another large community meeting," says Thornton Economic Development Director Adam Krueger. "This renewal isn't just about sprucing up the place; it's about creating a hub where residents can come together and enjoy all that Thornton has to offer." While the transformation is in the planning process, a new and improved Thornton Shopping Center will begin to take shape, paving the way for a great addition to our vibrant community.

Your Thornton

TRASH & RECYCLE CALENDAR

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

Independence Day - NO DELAY in collection service the week of July 4. Please place containers at the curb by 7 a.m. on your regular pickup day.

Tree Branch/Compost Drop-Off - July 13, August 10, IMC, 12450 Washington Street, 8 a.m. - noon, proof of residency required, restrictions apply

Landfill Day - August 24, 7 a.m.-2 p.m., Republic Services Tower Landfill, 19260 E. 88th Ave., Commerce City. One truck or carload only. Proof of residency is required and restrictions apply. There is an additional \$34 fee for mattresses and box springs.

Can I place yard waste in my green recycle container? Please keep yard waste out of the green container! Grass clippings, tree branches, etc., do not belong in the recycle container and have the potential to contaminate an entire load of recyclables. Consider mulching your grass clippings or bring them and your branches to the IMC on the next drop-off date.

City of Thornton trash/recycling customers can download the City of Thornton Recycles mobile app to their cellphone or tablet. Look for it in the App Store and on Google Play.

**4th of July
IN THORNTON**
JULY 4
PARTY STARTS AT NOON!
CARPENTER PARK FIELDS | 108th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard
Food ♦ Beer Gardens ♦ Entertainment
Parachutists Jump | 9:30 p.m.
followed by "Red, White & BOOM!" FANTABULOUS Fireworks

Visit goCOT.net/july4 or call 303-255-7800 for more information.
PLEASE CONSIDER ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION TO THIS EVENT!
CARPOOLING RECOMMENDED. NO RECREATIONAL VEHICLES (RVs) ALLOWED.
Be sure to "LIKE" us on Facebook: facebook.com/cotevents.

amazon E-470 Ent Credit Union Cane's MOTHER TUCKER S THORNTON

Community Connections provides back-to-school resources

Donate new and gently used backpacks, new crayons, and markers, #2 pencils, glue sticks, highlighters, college- and wide-ruled loose-leaf paper, 3-ring binders of all sizes, spiral notebooks, blue and black ink pens, scissors, rulers, and protractors. Drop off non-perishable food and school supply donations during regular business hours at: all Fire Stations, Trail Winds Recreation Center, Margaret Carpenter Recreation Center, the Active Adult Center, and Community Connections. For more information, call 720-977-5800 or email Connections@ThorntonCO.gov. Food donations will be given to a local food bank that serves Thornton residents. School supplies will be distributed during our Back-to-School Event, (while supplies last) on Saturday, August 10, at 9471 Dorothy Blvd., 9 a.m. - noon, to help students and families prepare for the school year. There will be fun activities and community resources. For more information, call 720-977-5800 or email Connections@ThorntonCO.gov.

CITY OF THORNTON
COMMUNITY MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8
6-7:30 P.M.
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS | 9471 DOROTHY BLVD.

Thornton residents are invited to meet City Council Members and Thornton city staff at this fun and engaging social community gathering.

For more information and a list of future 2024 meetings, visit goCOT.net/CommunityMeetings.

Thornton City Council

goCOT.net/council



Mayor

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303-538-7531 - City
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Jan.Kulmann@ThorntonCO.gov



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Kathy.Henson@ThorntonCO.gov



Ward 1

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Ward 2

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Ward 3

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Ward 4

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720-400-6278 - Cell
Chris.Russell@ThorntonCO.gov



**Mayor Pro Tem
Karen Bigelow**
303-538-7201 - City
720-899-7811 - Cell
Karen.Bigelow@ThorntonCO.gov

What's happening in Thornton?

All events listed below are subject to change. Visit ThorntonCO.gov for calendar updates.

Thursday, July 4
Independence Day, City offices closed

Thursday, July 4, 12 p.m.
Fourth of July Celebration
Carpenter Park Fields, 11000 Colorado Blvd.

Tuesday, July 9, 5:45 p.m.
City Council Update

Tuesday, July 9, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Thursday, July 11, 7 p.m.
Ward 2 Ice Cream Social & Concert
Woodglen Brookshire Park
11551 Madison St.

Saturday, July 13, 8 a.m.
Tree Branch/Compost Drop-off
IMC, 12450 Washington St.

Saturday, July 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Homebuyer Workshop

Thursday, July 18, 7 p.m.
Ward 3 Ice Cream Social & Concert
Riverdale Park, 13210 Locust St.

Friday, July 19, 6 p.m.
TPD Cinema - Elf
Cherry Park Pavillion, 11500 Birch Dr.

Saturday, July 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Homebuyer Workshop

Tuesday, July 23, 5:45 p.m.
City Council Update

Tuesday, July 23, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 25, 5:30 p.m.
Concert & Arts in the Park
Harley Brown Amphitheater
3498 E. 112th Ave.

Saturday, July 27, 9 a.m.
Arts Thornton Public Art Tour

Tuesday, July 30, 5:45 p.m.
Council Planning Session

Wednesday, July 31, 6 p.m.
Ward 4 Meeting
Thorncreek Golf Course
13555 Washington St.

Saturday, August 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Homebuyer Workshop

Thursday, August 8, 6 p.m.
Community Meeting
Community Connections
9471 Dorothy Blvd.

Friday, August 9, 6 p.m.
TPD Cinema - How to Train Your Dragon
Highridge Court Park, 2132 West 101st Cir.

Saturday, August 10, 8 a.m.
Tree Branch/Compost Drop-off
IMC, 12450 Washington St.

Saturday, August 10, 9 a.m.
Back-to-School Event
Community Connections, 9471 Dorothy Blvd.

Tuesday, August 13, 5:45 p.m.
City Council Update

Tuesday, August 13, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Saturday, August 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Homebuyer Workshop

Saturday, August 17, 10 a.m.
Paws for a Dip
City Pool, 2141 E. 95th Ave.

Saturday, August 17, 7 p.m.
Movies in the Park - Elemental

Tuesday, August 20, 5:45 p.m.
Council Planning Session

Thursday, August 24, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thornton Landfill Day
Republic Services Tower Landfill
19260 E. 88th Ave., Commerce City

Tuesday, August 24, 3-7 p.m.
Thornton Barrel & Beer Festival
Carpenter Park North, 3498 E. 112th Ave.

Tuesday, August 27, 5:45 p.m.
City Council Update

Tuesday, August 27, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting

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

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Volunteer Hotline 720-977-5760

Voter Registration 303-538-7230

Water Quality 303-255-7770

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Design/Digital & Print Media Specialist

Para leer el periódico
de la ciudad de
Thornton "City Voice"
en español, escanee
este código con su
teléfono.



New public art adds color to the Thornton landscape

Thornton's newest public art piece can be spotted on 136th Avenue, east of I-25. This 3-D printed piece created by Volkan Alkanoglu is titled 'RAE' for Robotic Art Experience.

Join Council, city staff, and Thornton Arts Sciences and Humanities Council (TASHCO) on a free tour July 27 from 9 a.m. to noon to dedicate nearly a dozen public art sculptures and murals that have been installed since 2020, from 136th Avenue to Sky Park.

For more information, visit goCOT.net/artsevents or call 720-977-5881.

Summer is here!

Check out these upcoming events:

Movie night: How to Train Your Dragon
August 9, 6 p.m. at Highridge Court Park,
2132 W. 101st Cir.

Pick-up soccer!
Come kick it with the cops!

July 13, 1-4 p.m., or July 25, 5-7 p.m. at Trail Winds Park & Open Space, 13385 Holly St. Invite your friends! No age limit and no skill requirements. Just bring a good attitude, the love of soccer and some water.

PREMIER MEMBERS presents
THORNTON
BARREL & BEER
FESTIVAL

Saturday, August 24 | 3-7 p.m.*
Carpenter Park Fields
108th Avenue & Colorado Boulevard

VIP Experience | \$80 presale/\$95 door
Enjoy full-sized pours, mixed cocktails and food in a special VIP area.

General Admission | \$40 presale/\$55 door
Designated Driver (Non-Drinking) | \$10

*VIP guests may enter at 2 p.m. All remaining guests may enter at 3 p.m.
This is an adult only (age 21+) event. No pets please. Service dogs exempt.
For event details, go to goCOT.net/barrelandbeerfest.