

# Who's Who in Land Conservation in Larimer County Colorado

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

### [Larimer County Open Lands Program](#)\* (Department of Natural Resources)

The mission of the Larimer County Open Lands Program is to preserve and provide significant open space, natural areas, wildlife habitat, and develop parks and trails for present and future generations. These open lands provide opportunities for leisure, human renewal and protection of our natural and cultural resources. Larimer County has been a partner in preserving over 40,000 acres of open lands through fee simple acquisition and conservation easements

**Contact:** Kerri Rollins, Program Manager  
Larimer County Open Lands Program  
1800 South County Road 31  
Loveland, CO 80537

Phone: (970) 619-4577  
Fax: (970) 619-4574  
E-mail: [krollins@larimer.org](mailto:krollins@larimer.org)

### [City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department](#)\*

The City of Fort Collins, Department of Natural Resources, through its Natural Areas Program has conserved over 34,000 acres of natural areas and open lands. The Natural Areas Program currently manages 44 sites consisting of 29,940 acres of natural areas. Fort Collins updated its Land Conservation Plan in 2003, which identified three land conservation focus areas – regional, local and community separators. Fort Collins has recently conserved over 20,000 acres in the regional focus areas and is currently concentrating conservation efforts on the local and community separator focus areas. Fort Collins regularly partners with Larimer County and other agencies on conservation projects

**Contact:** Mark Sears, Program Manager  
Mail: PO Box 580, Ft. Collins, CO 80522-0580  
1745 Hoffman Mill Road, Fort Collins, CO 80524

Phone: (970) 416-2096  
Fax: (970) 416-2211  
E-mail: [msears@fcgov.com](mailto:msears@fcgov.com)

### [City of Loveland Natural Areas Program](#)\* (Department of Parks and Recreation)

The City of Loveland Natural Areas Program's mission is to promote the community's goal to preserve significant open lands characterized by unique natural environments that comprise Loveland's natural heritage. Providing responsible management of those lands while also maximizing the use of tax dollars is a priority. To date the Natural Areas Division and the Parks and Recreation Department has preserved over 1,700 acres of land in and around Loveland. The City of Loveland recently adopted an Open Lands Plan in 2003 that prioritizes protection of a system of inter-connected natural areas, view sheds and agricultural lands, primarily within the City's Growth Management Area. The Big Thompson River corridor remains at the core of the open lands system. The City of Loveland will also continue to partner with other entities such as Larimer County, City of Fort Collins, Colorado State Parks, and the Legacy Land Trust.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Anderson, Director  
500 East Third Street  
Loveland, CO 80537

Phone: (970) 962-2456  
Fax: (970) 962-2903  
E-mail: [Elizabeth.Anderson@CityofLoveland.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Anderson@CityofLoveland.org).

\* Certified by the State of Colorado as a Conservation Easement holder.

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## [Town of Windsor Trails & Open Lands\\*](#) (Department of Parks, Recreation & Culture)

The mission of the Town of Windsor Parks and Recreation Department is to provide recreation and cultural opportunities for the entire community through quality programs, facilities, service and management of natural resources.

Founded as an agricultural hub in the late 1800's, Windsor has now grown to encompass industry, agriculture, and a growing number of residents that live in Windsor but commute to work in one of the neighboring communities. Windsor is proud of its small town feel and convenient access to local and regional services. Currently the Town has a variety of housing types, shopping, and recreation options. As it continues to grow, it will need to be able to respond to demands for the continued provision of parks and recreation.

**Contact:** Wade Willis, Manager of Parks & Open Space      Phone: (970) 674-2434  
250 N. 11th St.      E-mail: [wwillis@windsorgov.com](mailto:wwillis@windsorgov.com)  
Windsor, CO 80550

## LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

### [Estes Valley Land Trust\\*](#)

The Estes Valley Land Trust is committed to land conservation in the Estes Valley and surrounding area, and especially committed to the preservation of ranches, valleys, and streams adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park and the Arapahoe-Roosevelt National Forest. The geographic focus of EVLT is the Estes Valley, the Tahosa Valley, and the Glen Haven, Retreat areas. Since its inception in 1987, the EVLT has been comprised of a mostly-volunteer staff, with a recent addition of one part-time employee. The EVLT works very closely with Larimer County, the Town of Estes Park and with Rocky Mountain National Park. EVLT has 150 conservation easements protecting approximately 9,000 acres. Each EVLT project protects open space, scenic viewsheds, and critical wildlife habitat.

**Contact:** Mary Banken, Director of Operations      Phone: (970) 577-6837  
1191 Woodstock #5      E-mail: [evlt@evlandtrust.org](mailto:evlt@evlandtrust.org)  
Mail: PO Box 663  
Estes Park, CO 80517

### [Colorado Open Lands\\*](#)

Colorado Open Lands is a dynamic, results-oriented, statewide land trust whose mission is to preserve the significant open lands and diminishing natural heritage of Colorado through unique private and public partnerships, innovative land conservation techniques, and strategic leadership. Colorado Open Lands works cooperatively with all types of landowners, resulting in the permanent protection of 190,000 acres around Colorado, through 234 projects in 38 counties to date. Lands we have protected include agricultural land, scenic viewsheds, community buffers, watersheds, and wildlife habitat.

In Larimer County, Colorado Open Lands has assisted with the protection of 1,427 acres to date, and focuses much of its work in the County through its Community Conservation Area in Berthoud. Led by a full-time staff of eight with over 80 years of experience, Colorado Open Lands' primary office is in Lakewood. It also operates a satellite office in Berthoud in partnership with the Berthoud Land Conservation Fund, an agricultural preservation organization.

**Contact:** Sarah Parmar, Director of Conservation      Phone: (303) 988-2373, ext 212  
274 Union Blvd., Suite 320      E-mail: [info@coloradoopenlands.org](mailto:info@coloradoopenlands.org)  
Lakewood, CO 80228

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## [Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust \(CCALT\)\\*](#)

CCALT was formed in 1995 by the Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) to help Colorado's ranchers and farmers protect their agricultural lands and encourage the intergenerational transfer of ranches and farms. CCA was the first state livestock association in the nation to form a land trust. Five other state livestock associations have followed suit, including Wyoming, California, Kansas, Texas, and Oregon.

Since 1995, CCALT has partnered with landowners across Colorado to protect productive agricultural land. This work has helped agricultural families to achieve their estate planning goals, pay down debt, save for retirement, pay for long-term health care and college education, diversify and expand operations, and preserve their agricultural heritage. It has also helped to preserve the natural resources that make Colorado such a special place to live and visit.

**Contact:** Erik Glenn, Executive Director  
8833 Ralston Road  
Arvada, CO 80002

Phone: (303) 225-8677  
E-mail: [info@ccalt.org](mailto:info@ccalt.org)

## NATIONAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

### [The Nature Conservancy in Colorado\\*](#)

The Nature Conservancy is a private, non-profit conservation organization. For more than 50 years, we have been preserving special places in the natural world. We work locally and in communities around the world to protect precious habitat and the plant and animal species it supports. We achieve results by working in collaboration with communities, partner organizations and people from all walks of life to "Protect Nature and Preserve Life." Through the support of over 1 million members, we have conserved more than 101 million acres worldwide. In Colorado, The Nature Conservancy has helped protect more than 600,000 acres of natural lands. Conservation efforts are focused on critical landscapes including the Laramie Foothills in northern Larimer County and the Western High Plains in Weld County. In Larimer County, The Nature Conservancy owns 2,000 acres of land and has conserved 25,000 acres through conservation easements.

**Contact:** Heather Knight, Laramie Foothills Project Director  
The Nature Conservancy  
PO Box 270  
Livermore, CO 80536

Phone: (970) 631-7645  
E-mail: [hknight@tnc.org](mailto:hknight@tnc.org)

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