



Dennis Schick

Cell: 970-567-3942
Office 970-226-3990
www.DennisSchick.com



4703 A Boardwalk Drive
Fort Collins CO 80525 970-226-3990  

Greeley, Colorado

Community Profile

Greeley was one of the first planned communities in the nation. The city's namesake, Horace Greeley, visited here only once. Greeley's original streets were named after trees, while avenues took the names of U.S. presidents; now, nearly 100% of our city streets are numbered.

With strong agricultural roots and the sophistication of a small city, Greeley accommodates both with an easy charm. Distinguished for its commitment to its natural heritage, Greeley preserves and celebrates the tradition of Northern Colorado through a variety of festivals and community events.

In the summer, the entire community turns out to produce and attend The Greeley Stampede, the world's largest 4th of July rodeo and western celebration. The Stampede dates back to the late 1800's and over 425,000 people attend this event each year. The Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra performs at the Union Colony Center that hosts an array of cultural events.

Greeley's population is 87,596 including 14,000 students at the University of Northern Colorado. With an elevation of 4,658' and covering 27.58 square miles – lush farm land. Northeastern Colorado, the area around Greeley, was the inspiration for James Michener's first novel, Centennial.



Economy

Diversity of industry, educational facilities, and strong agribusiness give Weld County a degree of stability not often seen in areas of its size. Weld ranks in the top five counties nationwide for the amount of agricultural products sold, and number 1 in some sectors, including livestock, lamb, and poultry. It is the largest agricultural county in the state in terms of cash receipts. With 3,100 farms and 31% of local employment related to agriculture in one way or another, agribusiness contributes over \$1 billion to the local economy.

Greeley and Weld County are home to some large corporate facilities, such as State Farm Insurance and JBS Swift & Company. Manufacturing facilities for Owens-Illinois, Kodak, and Metal Container Corporation have been joined by Vestas, a Danish manufacturer of turbine blades for electrical wind farms.



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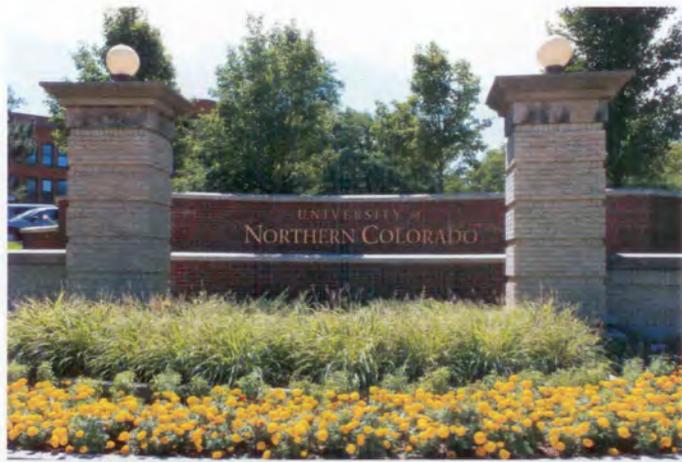
Economy (continued)

Weld's thriving oil & natural gas industry also contributes more than \$625 million to the economy and provides some of the highest-paying jobs in the region.

Education K-12

There are twelve K-12 school districts in Weld County, as well as a number of private schools.

Weld County School District 6 provides public education for 18,000 students in grades K-12 across Greeley and Evans. Educational opportunities abound, with 15 elementary schools (grades K-5), five middle schools (grades 6-8), two K-8 schools, three comprehensive high schools (grades 9-12), three charter schools (varying grades), and three alternative high school programs (varying grades). The three comprehensive high schools in District 6 each offer a regular high school program and also a special focus "magnet" within the school. Greeley Central High School offers a Performing and Visual Arts magnet, Greeley West High School offers the International Baccalaureate program, and Northridge High School has a Science, Math, and Technology program.



Parks and Trails

Greeley is blessed with some 40 parks, natural spaces, and athletic fields located throughout the city for the benefits of its residents. Many parks feature walking trails as well as playground equipment, picnic shelters and restroom facilities. For a complete map, including

features at each location, go to <http://greeleygov.com/Parks/newmaps.htm>.

The Poudre River Trail travels along the north side of Greeley from Island Grove Park west through Windsor, to the Larimer County line. Once completed, it will extend all the way to Fort Collins. The trail, built through a cooperative effort between the cities of Greeley and Windsor, and Weld County, provides an excellent walking, jogging, rollerblading, or biking surface in the midst of natural landscapes and wildlife.

Recreation

Did you know that Colorado ranks among the fittest states in the nation? Perhaps it's because our residents have access to some of the best public and private recreational facilities available. The City of Greeley provides services in the following seven areas:

- Aquatics Program
- Greeley Ice Haus
- Greeley Recreation Center
- Greeley Senior Activities Center
- Family FunPlex
- Jesus Rodarte Cultural Center
- Youth Enrichment



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Recreation (continued)

Bicyclists co-exist on many city streets on designated bike trails. And private fitness clubs and workout centers abound for those seeking to improve their health and well-being. Greeley's two municipal golf courses are considered among the best in the state, having been ranked 4.5 out of 5 by evaluators from Golf Digest. You can reach three more just ten minutes outside our city limits. Fore!





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Northern Colorado - Community Links

Chambers of Commerce and Visitor Centers

- Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce www.fcchamber.org
- Fort Collins Visitors Center www.ftcollins.com
- Greeley Chamber of Commerce www.greeleychamber.com
- Loveland Chamber of Commerce www.loveland.org
- Loveland Visitors Center www.loveland.org
- Windsor Chamber of Commerce www.windsorchamber.net
- Compass of Larimer County – A living report on the quality of life , pulls together data from various sources that indicate our community's social, economic and environmental health www.larimer.org/compass

County and State of Colorado

- Larimer County www.larimer.org
- Weld County www.co.weld.co.us
- State of Colorado www.state.co.us
- Local Governments – **City of Fort Collins** www.fcgov.com; **City of Greeley** www.ci.greeley.co.us; **City of Loveland** www.ci.loveland.co.us; **Town of Windsor** www.ci.windsor.co.us

Education

- Colorado School Comparison www.state.co.us/schools
- Aims Community College (Greeley & Loveland) www.aims.edu
- Colorado State University (Fort Collins) www.colostate.edu
- Front Range Community College (Fort Collins) www.frcc.cc.co.us
- Fort Collins Schools www.psd.k12.co.us (Poudre School District)
- Greeley Schools www.greeleyschools.org (Weld County District)
- Loveland Schools www.thompson.k12.co.us (Thompson District)
- Windsor Schools www.thompson.k12.co.us
- University of Northern Colorado (Greeley) www.unco.edu