

“Fast Facts” Colstrip, Montana

1) ECONOMY:

Colstrip (pop. 2,345) is fortunate to have some of the **Lowest Residential Property Taxes** in the State of Montana. For example, in 2008, a house with an assessed value of \$100,000 paid **only \$456** verses \$1,229 in Billings and over \$1,874 in Glendive.

2) RECREATION:

In 2004, the Colstrip Park & Recreation District (CPRD) was awarded the 50th Anniversary Sports Illustrated “**SportsTown USA**” Award for excellence in programs and facilities for the State of MT. The area is also blessed with tremendous outdoor recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, biking and hiking in the Custer National Forest, which is 45 miles away.

3) CITY/COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

The City of Colstrip features its own police force and also benefits from an excellent fire insurance rating by the Insurance Services Office (ISO). This **upgraded fire insurance rating to a class 4** is one of the best in Montana and helps property owners with lower insurance costs. A new City Hall Building was constructed in 2008 without raising taxes.

4) QUALITY of LIFE:

With over 23 parks, Colstrip averages **one (1) park for every 100 residents**. This includes a seven (7) mile community trail system maintained by the Colstrip Park & Recreation District (CPRD) and Castle Rock Lake, a recreational area next to Colstrip. CPRD Memberships, including the use of the golf course and the 32,000 square foot fitness center is free to Colstrip residents.

5) EDUCATION:

Since 1991, the Colstrip School District has won **Eleven (11) state wide Class A & B Academic Excellence Awards**. The District is blessed with 1st class facilities and staff that is the envy of the state.

6) HEALTH CARE:

For a rural medical clinic, the Colstrip Medical Center is uniquely able to offer a diversity of services such as Telemedicine, Physical Therapy, Urgent Care, Pediatrics, Women’s Health, Sports and Occupational Medicine, all with a preventive approach. In 2007, a \$2 million dollar expansion project was completed which doubled the physical size to nearly 20,000 square feet. Two board certified doctors and two physicians assistants are supported by a professional and well trained staff of 19.

7) UTILITIES & COMMUNICATIONS:

Colstrip is the un-official “**Energy Capital of Montana**” with over 750 employees directly involved in the responsible natural resource development of coal mining and electrical generation.

8) HISTORY & TOURISM:

Since the early coal mining days of the 20’s to power plant building booms of the 70’s and 80’s, Colstrip celebrates its unique history and success with the annual “**Colstrip Days Celebration**” in June.

9) REGIONAL ATTRACTIONS:

Little Bighorn Battle Field, the 3rd highest tourism attraction behind Yellowstone and Glacier Parks, is only one hour away. Numerous Native American "Pow Wows" are also held each season in the area showcasing the regions unique cultural and historic diversity.