



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 9, 2020
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Staff will be off tomorrow, Friday April 10th, 2020 in observance of Good Friday. Hope you have a good Easter weekend!

2020 City of Fruita Municipal Election - Unofficial Results

Unofficial results from the 2020 City of Fruita Municipal Election can be found [here](#). Based upon these unofficial results, Joel Kincaid has been elected Mayor of the City of Fruita for a two-year term. In the City Council race, Heather O'Brien, Ken Kreie, and Matthew Breman have been elected to the Fruita City Council for four-year terms. The change of City Council is scheduled to take place on April 21, 2020, during a City Council meeting. The meeting will begin with old business the current City Council considers, followed by the farewell of Council Members Dave Karisny and Amanda Ewing, whose terms were completed and who both chose not to run again. Then Mayor Kincaid and Council members Matthew Breman, Ken Kreie, and Heather O'Brien will take the oath of office to begin their new terms and considering new business on the City Council agenda that night. Referred Issue A, concerning an increase to the Fruita lodging tax, was approved by the Fruita voters by a margin of 60% in favor to 39% opposed (with 1% not voting). This takes effect January 1, 2021. Info on the measure is found at the link above.

Coronavirus Update

Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow www.fruita.org/covid19 for all updates we are posting. This also links to important Mesa County Public Health sources, as well as many others.

- **Unified Mesa County Incident Management Response Team.** The City of Fruita is working with the other jurisdictions in the County in a coordinated effort during this response. This week we began updates to the entire valley every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11a.m. streamed live on the Mesa County Public Health Department Facebook page.
- **Mesa County Cases** - Mesa County Public Health Department updates daily the current counts for cases in our area. As of April 8, 2020, there are 32 confirmed cases, eight of which have unknown sources and seven cases under investigation of

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source. For the full update, the Community Impact dashboard, and the COVID-19 symptom dashboard, [please visit this page.](#)

- **Wearing Non-Medical Masks** – Governor Polis and the Mesa County Department of Public Health continue to recommend that the public wear non-medical face masks when participating in essential activities. Important to note that this is less about protecting ourselves, but about not spreading the virus if we do not know if we have it yet—this is how it is spreading in many cases. If you are wearing a mask and are asymptomatic, you may be preventing yourself from spreading the disease. Information on face masks, including how to make one out of old clothing and how to wash the mask, can be found at the FAQs [here](#). The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recommends the following when wearing a non-medical mask:
 - Cloth cover should be clean and in good condition.
 - Stay tight, but comfortable in the face.
 - Be tight so you don't have to adjust it.
 - Include several layers of fabric.
 - Allow breathing without restriction.
 - Allow machine washing and drying
- **Stay at Home Order Extended** – At a press conference on Monday night, Governor Polis announced that the Stay at Home Order has been extended until April 26, 2020. The full conference and more information can be found at this [link](#).
- **Sales Tax Deferral** - Fruita sales taxes are collected by the State, not directly by the City. Colorado retailers that are required to file a sales tax return and remit sales tax on April 20, 2020 may extend their filing and remittance deadline to May 20, 2020. This is a one-time extension of the April 20, 2020 filing and remittance deadline for state and state-administered sales taxes (which includes Fruita).
- **Fruita Community Center Billing Update** – FCC members, we hope that you are staying well and healthy during this time. In accordance with Governor Polis's Public Health Order 20-22, the Fruita Community Center is scheduled to remain closed through April 30th. Regarding billing during this closure, if you have an existing membership at the Fruita Community Center, we will not be automatically debiting bank accounts or charging credit cards on April 15, just as we did not bill in March. If you have a have prepaid 3-month or 12-month membership to the FCC, your membership expiration date will be extended to reflect the length of the closure. We are hopeful that the Fruita Community Center will reopen in the near future, and when it does, you will be notified that automatic billing will be reinstated.
- **Grrretta Uses Cloth Facemask** - Grrretta was busy this week working protect herself from COVID-19. Thanks to the Fruita Arts and Culture Board for the mask, and the Fruita Chamber for the picture! And thank you to 'Angels Sign Company' who happened to be in the area and helped Grrreta put on her mask with their bucket truck. It seems Angels appear when needed 😊 (pictures below)



Drive Thru Easter Egg Hunt

On Wednesday afternoon, the Fruita Community Center hosted its first ever “Drive Thru” Easter Egg Hunt. Families with young children were able to come through the drive thru and pick up a bag of filled Easter eggs to be hidden later. The event went really well, and we estimate that we gave out over 8,000 eggs! Staff remained properly spaced out and utilized gloves and masks.



General Updates

- In March 2020, Fruita residents recycled 46 tons of cans, bottles, paper, and cardboard. Full report can be found below.
- The Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District rescheduled their Board meeting to consider awarding Spring grants to their May 20 meeting. This is the grant we applied for to repair the rail crossing at 16 Rd into the business park.
- The Colorado Riverfront Concert series has been postponed until the end of summer/early fall. The committee will keep us up to date on any changes.
- The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce has extended the 2020 College Scholarship application deadline to April 30, 2020. There are three scholarship opportunities for seniors that live in the Fruita area or attend Fruita Monument High School. You can view more information at this [link](#).
- Tomorrow night, the Fruita Cavalcade will be hosting its first ever virtual Variety Night! It will be hosted on the Cavalcade’s Facebook page, and more details can be found [here](#).

- Canyon West Worship Center will be distributing food to anyone in need this Saturday, April 11th, from 9-11 a.m. at the Kokopelli Plaza in Fruita.

Engineering

- The Big Salt Wash Trail is closed for repairs from April 8, 2020 through the end of the week of April 17, 2020.

Parks and Recreation

- The Girls on the Run 5K that is scheduled for May 2, 2020 will be held virtually. For more information, you view their website [here](#).

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit: <https://www.fruita.org/cd/page/current-development-projects>

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Concept Plan
- Bradyville Minor Subdivision
- Cider Mills Preliminary Plan

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Coloramo Site Design Review (333 W Aspen)
- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic)
- Sycamore St ROW Vacation
- Lithic Arts Building Site Design Review

Public Works

- City irrigation systems will be turned on starting on Monday. All City irrigation customers should have water by Wednesday April 15th.
- There has been noticeably less wipes and trash in the sewer system over the past couple of weeks, which may be a result of messaging pushed out in March. Thanks to residents as this makes our job easier.
- We received a number of applications for the open WW Operator position and are completing a first review of applicants with the intent of setting up virtual interviews in the coming weeks. Even though we are continuing to prioritize this as a critical position to fill, the hire date will not occur until after the Stay-At-Home order has expired.

FRUITA IN THE NEWS (and regional news of impact to Fruita):

- [Fruita passes lodging tax increase, Palisade elects Mikolai as mayor.](#)
- [Unofficial Results of the 2020 City of Fruita Municipal Election.](#)

- [Montrose, Palisade, and Fruita 2020 Election results.](#)
- [Colorado National Monument Temporarily Closes Cold Shivers Overlook.](#)
- [Resources available during stay-at-home period.](#)
- [Polis: 'This is not a vacation'](#)
- [Municipal elections still on for April 7th.](#)
- [Towns taking precautions as they move forward with elections.](#)
- [District 51's Emergency Meal program valuable amid COVID19 crisis.](#)
- [COTREX App: discover local trails and closures.](#)
- [County parks open, for the most part.](#)
- [Governor Polis takes further action to address COVID-19.](#)
- [Mesa County combines forces with cities in response to COVID-19.](#)
- [District 51: no final decision on semester has been made.](#)
- [Rescue teams stay busy during crisis.](#)
- [Grand Junction BLM seeing increase in illegal dumping.](#)
- [Forest imposes fire restrictions due to pandemic.](#)
- [MCPH pleads with community members to follow guidelines.](#)
- [Chamber surveys track outbreak effects.](#)
- [Fruita retailer coordinates mask production for local hospitals.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Please let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can make sure to post if multiple council members plan to attend. Deb would also be happy to RSVP for you when needed.):*

- **May 6, 2020** - Bike to Work Day, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at Civic Center or Heritage Park.
- **May 29, 2020 – May 30, 2020** – Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita.
- The Fruita Community Calendar is available on the website or at this [link](#).

CC. Department Directors

Do you have questions about anything in the Weekly Information Update? Please feel free to email us at communications@fruita.org.



March 2020 Recycling Benefits for the City of Fruita

In March 2020, we recycled 46 tons of cans, bottles, paper, and cardboard.

Recycling these materials will save the following resources:

305 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 3,784,900 sheets of printing and copy paper!

163 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 209 people!

110,740 kWh of Electricity

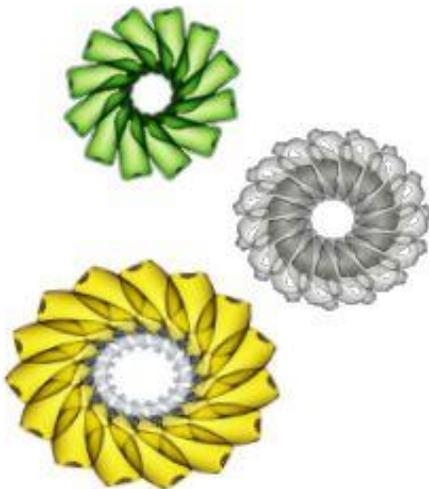
Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 10 homes!

Avoided 104 Metric Tons of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Recycling these materials helps create cleaner air!

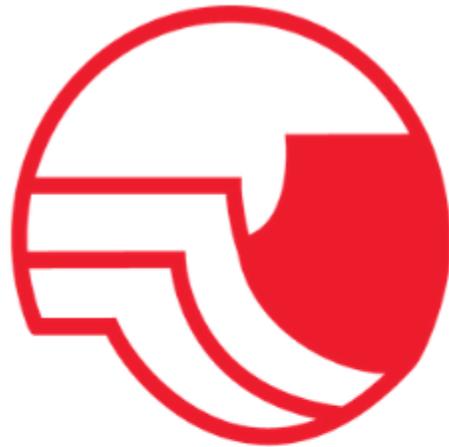
178,201 Gallons of Water

Represents enough fresh water to meet the daily needs of 2,376 people!



Prepared by Waste Management

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, International Aluminum Institute, National Association for PET Container Resources, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Earth Works Group Recycler's Handbook, One Earth Recycle, Bring Recycling.org, National Recycling Coalition, US Forest Products Laboratory, and Waste Management. © Waste Management 2016



**MESA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**

HOTLINE
(970)683-2300



WHY FRUITA? The City of Fruita focuses on three strategic outcomes built upon a base of providing quality core services.

Quality of Place (QP) The City of Fruita is a community where residents and visitors love where they are. The City strives to be a bike and pedestrian friendly community by providing a system of sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes that connect our parks, schools, neighborhoods, civic facilities, and commercial areas. We value safe neighborhoods, our geographic natural resources and landscapes, top tier education and healthcare, and we collaborate to provide quality essential infrastructure and services. We are an inclusive community of doers who enjoy active and healthy lifestyles.

Economic Health (EH) The City of Fruita strives to be financially sustainable by enabling a stable economy and supporting a diversity of businesses that offer well-paying jobs that attract educated employees. The City works to be fiscally responsible and continuously seeks ways to allocate resources to services and projects that have the highest impact on the City's priorities. We are the innovative leader for economic development in the Grand Valley.

Lifestyle (L) The City of Fruita fosters a fun and funky ambiance by celebrating the local arts, farm and ranching history, unique leisure opportunities, and family-friendly events and activities. As a city, we encourage a diversity of cultural opportunities, businesses, and recreational activities. We continue to improve and enhance recreational offerings from traditional to outdoor adventure sports and youth to adult activities. We are a family-friendly community with diverse cultural opportunities, businesses and recreational amenities where visitors feel like locals and locals play like visitors.



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City of Fruita staff strive to emulate these core behaviors in everything we do in order to show gratitude for public trust, build trust and maintain trust with the public, our partner agencies and with one another.

We are Fruita. We are...

Fun—This is such a critical behavior that impacts everything we do. If we are not having fun, we must ask why and recalculate and adjust. We must love what we do and where we work, live and play. We are positive and put forth focused effort to have a positive attitude. We are smiling. We are friendly. We enjoy serving the public and working together. We care about the experience those who interact with us internally and externally have.

Respectful—We are empathetic. We take an active interest in each other, residents, businesses and visitors. We listen. We talk one at a time. We compliment and build up others. We are tough on issues and easy on people. We recognize the role of City Council, Board and Commission Members, residents, supervisors, coworkers and customers. We are kind. We treat people with dignity. We embrace diversity and make every effort to think collectively.

United—We are a team. We focus on purpose and work together to achieve our goals. We communicate effectively with each other. We seek consensus, agree to disagree and move forward for the greater good. We support each other. We value partnerships that help us achieve our goals. We remember we are public stewards and serve. We are inclusive. We create synergy by recognizing our strengths and weaknesses and succeeding as a team.

Innovative—Simplicity is our key to innovation. We consider and explore alternatives to the way we've always done it. We are open to new ideas. We welcome calculated risk-taking and learning from our mistakes. We seek continuous improvement and welcome constructive feedback. We ask why and why not. We work to continually improve.

Transparent—We operate as an open book. We create, over communicate and reinforce clarity in our work. We are trustworthy. We assume a positive intent from others. We work with integrity. We seek ways to increase transparency internally and externally.

Authentic—We are unique. We are real. We are different. We are special. We are optimistic. We are exceptional and proud of it. We are comfortable being different. We are open-minded. We are honest. We embrace and value family. We live what we speak. We create clear expectations and work hard to manage those expectations.