



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: DECEMBER 24, 2020  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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### Happy Holidays!

**City offices will be closing early today for Christmas Eve and next Thursday for New Year Eve (will be closed from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). City offices will be closed on both Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Trash and recycling services are not impacted by the holidays.**

**Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!**

### Coronavirus Update

Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow [www.fruita.org/covid19](http://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.

- **Quick Note on Positive Cases.** Not too much to report as far as COVID-19 news this week, but I did want to touch upon that for the first time in a while, Mesa County's two-week positive percentage rate dipped below 6% as of Wednesday morning. This is quite the contrast to the surge that we have been experiencing over the past several months. I want to continue to applaud the community for their efforts to limit the spread, as we can see the results as our numbers have decreased significantly. While we are still seeing increases/fluctuations in hospitalization rates, the decreased case counts is something to highlight. Full case count information can be found [here](#).

- **COVID-19 Vaccination Roll-out in Mesa County.** Mesa County Public Health released updates on the rollout of vaccinations found [here](#). A helpful graphic is provided below.

- **COVID-19 Testing and MCPH Update.** With the addition of the two new community sites in the valley, getting tested for COVID-19 is now easier. As we reported previously, there are now testing sites at Fruita Monument High School, Colorado Mesa University, Mesa County Fairgrounds, and at Grand Mesa Middle School. Appointments for community members can be made at this [link](#), and turnaround and wait times have been significantly reduced. With the increase in testing, Mesa County Public Health has also shared additional information about the different types of testing and their purposes. A helpful graphic can be found below and at this [link](#). Also, in this newsletter, MCPH provided more helpful information on testing:

*Honor the Past – Envision the Future* **FRUITA**

- **Testing is Available to Everyone** - Everyone is able to get a COVID-19 test free of charge. A doctor's note is not needed, and at most community sampling locations you can be tested even if you do not have symptoms.
- **Detecting Illness Early** - Detecting illness early is a way we can all work together to keep businesses open. By being tested and staying away during your isolation or quarantine period, you're preventing the spread of illness.
- **Wait and Turnaround Times** - With an improved process at the Mesa County Fairgrounds, MCPH is able to handle a large number of residents each day. Wait times are usually under 15 minutes, and results are delivered within 2-4 days. More information about community sampling sites for COVID-19 testing can be found on their [website](#).
- **Updates from the state of Colorado:**
  - **MESSAGING AND SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS FOR HOLIDAYS AND VACCINES**
    - The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has put together great holiday and vaccine messaging and social media graphics. Please share this messaging and social media graphics with your community and your networks, as appropriate. [Click here to access the holiday messaging and social media graphics!](#)
  - **EXPOSURE NOTIFICATIONS ARE WORKING**
    - Colorado leads the nation on adoption of Exposure Notifications -- a revolutionary tool in our work to end this pandemic. When activated, Exposure Notifications will alert the user when they've come into contact (close contact for a duration of time) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Exposure Notifications are completely private and work even when contact tracing efforts are overwhelmed, and they are especially effective in places where people gather. [For more information on Exposure Notifications, please click here!](#)
  - **MORE INFORMATION ON VACCINES**
    - With the exciting news of vaccines reaching Colorado, we know that hope is on the horizon. Vaccines are a promising next step in our work to end this pandemic, but it will take a few months before they are available to anyone who wants one. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has set up a new website with information on vaccines, [which you can access by clicking here!](#)
  - **MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES**
    - These last ten months have taken a substantial toll on our physical health, economy, and mental health. Many of you have asked for more resources to support Coloradans experiencing the mental health impact of this pandemic. You can visit CDPHE's web page with mental health resources, [which you can access by clicking here!](#)

### **Job Opening – Public Works Director (continued)**

The City of Fruita is seeking an innovative and transformational leader for the position of Public Works Director. Reporting to the City Manager, the Public Works Director is a highly responsible executive

level position and a key contributor to the City's leadership team. The Public Works Director performs complex leadership, managerial and professional work in planning, organizing, directing, and overseeing the activities and operations of the Public Works Department to maintain the quality and safety of the City's infrastructure and deliver associated program and services reliably, efficiently, and cost effectively. The department provides services of street maintenance and construction, fleet maintenance, traffic engineering, mountain water rights, building maintenance, collection systems, irrigation service, wastewater treatment, and biosolid programs.

Additional information on this position, including the recruitment brochure, preferred candidate qualities, and salary and benefits information, please visit our website at this [link](#). The City of Fruita is committed to building a diverse and inclusive workforce, all interested applicants are encouraged and welcome to apply for this position. Completed City applications, cover letters, and resumes can be emailed to Odette Brach [here](#). The first review of applications will begin on January 14, 2021.

Public Works Director Ken Haley will surely be missed and has accomplished so much in his 12 years with the City, which will continue to benefit the community for many years to come. We congratulate him on his new opportunity!

### General Updates

- ***Fruita Awarded Winter REDI Grant.*** We are excited to announce that the City of Fruita has been awarded a REDI Grant through the Department of Local Affairs to help keep our outdoor dining spaces open this winter. The funding will help with the costs of professional cleaning services and cleaning supplies, propane for the heaters, and the extended trash services from January through the end of February.
- ***City Link.*** The Winter City Link is being finalized and should be completed next week and likely arriving at residences the first week of January.

### Engineering

- The Colorado Department of Transportation and Contractor KSK, LLC, will begin work in early January on existing curb ramps on CDOT's facilities to bring them into compliance. Work will begin in early January and will likely be completed by the end of January.
  - Affected intersections in Fruita along CO 340
    - Willow St. Cherry St.
    - I-70 Ramp
    - I-70 Frontage Rd.
    - Raptor Rd.
    - Jurassic Ct.
    - Red Cliffs Dr.
  - Affected intersections in Fruita along US 50
    - Pine St.
  - Affected intersections in Fruita along I-70 Frontage Road
    - Rest Area Drive

- For more information, you can visit:  
<https://www.codot.gov/projects/mesacounty-adaramps>

### **Human Resources**

- We are currently recruiting the Public Works Director and a part-time, temporary evidence technician in the Police Department. More information on this position can be found [here](#).

### **Parks and Recreation**

- The latest edition of the Fruita Parks & Recreation Newsletter can be found [here](#).
- The Community Center indoor pool reached COVID-capacity this past Sunday. With the holidays and the New Year, staff will be monitoring visitations and if needed they will re-implement SignUp Genius for the pool and fitness areas. We will still accept drop-in use but admittance won't be guaranteed unless a spot is reserved.
- The Community Center will close at 5pm on Christmas and New Year's Eves and will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Days.
- The PHROST Master Plan is in the formatting stage and a Final Draft should be sent back sometime next week.

### **Planning & Development**

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

### **Land Use Code Amendments:**

- Vested Right Code Amendment (Approved)
- Development Agreements Code Amendment (Approved)
- [Zoning and Density Bonus Code Amendments](#). These Code Amendments are currently out for public comment and will be more formally noticed once public hearing dates are set.
- Short Term Rental Code Amendments can be found as this [page](#).
- [Parking Standards](#)
- Landscaping/ Irrigation Design Standards: The Fruita Planning Team has asked Design Workshop to work with their staff Landscape Architects to provide the City suggestions for a more sustainable approach to irrigation usage within residential and commercial development proposals.
- Design Standards: The links to the Code Amendments can be found at this [page](#).

### **Major/ Minor Subdivisions:**

- Dwell PUD Concept Plan (Approved)
- Bradyville Minor Subdivision (Approved)
- Cider Mills Preliminary Plan (Approved)

### **Site Design Review/ Other Applications:**

- Coloramo Site Design Review (333 W Aspen) (Completed and Open)
- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Under Construction)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic) (Under Construction)

- Sycamore St ROW Vacation (Approved)
- Lithic Arts Building Site Design Review (Approved)
- Skalla Annexation, Zoning, and Minor Subdivision (Under Review)
- Grand Valley Estates 3, Zoning and Annexation
- Sunshine Short-Term Rental (Approved)

### **Police Department**

- A recent news story reported on a court ruling involving a 5-year-old case in which former FPD Officer Yaws utilized her drug-detection K9 to sniff a vehicle that was stopped for a traffic violation. While narcotics were ultimately found in the vehicle, the Colorado Court of Appeals ruled that a previous Colorado Supreme Court ruling that a K9 “hit” (indication of presence of the scent of drugs for which the dog was trained to recognize) did not rise to the level of probable cause to search the vehicle because the K9 had been trained in the detection of marijuana, the possession of which is legal in some circumstances. A reminder that Officer Yaws is no longer with the Fruita Police Department and we no longer have a canine unit. The news story can be found [here](#).

### **Public Works**

- The custodian position closed on Monday and staff began reviewing applications.
- Crews had to close Cherry Street north of Aspen twice this week for sewer work, once on Monday morning to camera the line and then on Tuesday to remove an obstruction.
- There was also a blockage in a sewer line on Ash Street earlier this week that required emergency repair. Crews were able to clear the line but are glad that this segment is scheduled to be replaced in the next couple of months, which will improve access and reduce the amount of maintenance issues.

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

- [Mesa County jobless rate rises.](#)
- [How a Headless Chicken Lived for 18 months.](#)
- [Gov. Polis announces expansion of Five Star Program - “I want to applaud Mesa County”.](#)
- [Grand Valley learning from past mistakes by diversifying economy.](#)
- [A recycling surge.](#)
- [Unwrapping the gift of economic forecasts.](#)
- [County records 47 new COVID-19 cases.](#)
- [Moderna Vaccine administered at Community Hospital.](#)

**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.):*

- **January 9, 2021** – Fruita For Equality Event, Fruita History: The KKK, Charlie Glass, and the Minter Family, 4:30 p.m. This will be held virtually, and link to participate can be found [here](#).
- **February 7-14, 2021** – Virtual Sweetheart 5K/10K Run.

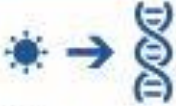

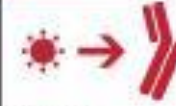












- *Due to Public Health Orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, most events remain cancelled for the time being.*

CC. Department Directors

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

# COVID-19 TESTING TYPES



TEST TYPE	DETECTS VIRUS		DETECTS ANTIBODIES
	MOLECULAR (PCR)	ANTIGEN	SEROLOGICAL (ANTIBODY)
HOW IT WORKS	 <p><b>GENETIC</b> Detects genetic material of a virus.</p>	 <p><b>PROTEINS</b> Detects proteins found on a virus.</p>	 <p><b>ANTIBODIES</b> Detects antibodies in blood and the body's immune response to the infection caused by the virus, rather than detecting the virus itself.</p>
HOW IT'S COLLECTED	 <p>NASAL OR THROAT SWAB</p>	 <p>NASAL OR THROAT SWAB</p>	 <p>BLOOD DRAW</p>
WHAT IT TELLS YOU	 <p>CURRENT OR RECENT INFECTION</p>	 <p>CURRENT OR RECENT INFECTION</p>	 <p>FIRST INFECTION</p>
ADVANTAGES	 <p><b>ACCURATE</b> Most accurate way to test for current COVID-19 infection.</p>	 <p><b>SPEED AND COST</b> Less expensive and offers fast results (within 2 hours).</p>	 <p><b>IMMUNITY CLUES</b> Identifies people who may have immunity (if it exists) and whose antibodies could be used to treat COVID-19 patients.</p>
LIMITATIONS	 <p><b>CURRENT INFECTION ONLY</b> Not useful for determining past exposure in fully recovered patients.</p>	 <p><b>LESS ACCURATE</b> Not as reliable as a PCR test. A PCR test might be needed to confirm a negative antigen test.</p>	 <p><b>FALSE POSITIVE POSSIBLE</b> Cannot determine if a patient is currently infected and able to spread the virus to others. Possibility of false positive results. Because much is unknown about immunity, this test could give a false sense of safety to patients.</p>





# COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

## PHASE 1A

Currently Underway

Included in this phase:

- Highest-risk health care workers: People who have direct contact with COVID-19 patients for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Long-term care facility staff and residents.

## PHASE 1B

Winter 2021

Included in this phase:

- Health care workers with less direct contact with COVID-19 patients.
- Emergency Services and First Responders including Law Enforcement and Corrections.

Other examples include:

- Small Practice & Urgent Care Healthcare Workers
- Pharmacy/Qualifying Hospital Staff of Hospitals not Enrolled in COVID Vaccination Program
- Psychiatric Services
- Patient-Facing Staff of LTC Facilities that Do Not Qualify for Federal Program
- Home Health Workers
- Community Health Workers
- Dental Practices
- Therapists
- Funeral Services
- Air Traffic Controllers
- Other Essential Response Personnel
- Students involved in response who are patient-facing
- Federal Personnel Not Already Covered by the Feds

11,000

Cumulative estimated vaccines administered by the end of Phase 1B

## PHASE 2

Spring 2021

Included in this phase:

- People age 65 or older.
- People of any age with obesity, diabetes, chronic lung disease, significant heart disease, chronic kidney disease, cancer, or are immunocompromised.
- People who interact directly with the public at work, such as grocery store workers and school and child care staff.

60,000

Cumulative estimated vaccines administered by the end of Phase 2

## PHASE 3

Summer 2021

Included in this phase:

- Anyone age 18-64 without high risk conditions.

80,000+

Cumulative estimated vaccines administered by the end of Phase 3

\*Timeline subject to change based on the supply chain.

Prioritization subject to change based on data, science, availability.

Estimates derived from models from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment using Standardized Occupational Classification (SOC) data available from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.



**MESA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**  
Working Together for a Healthy Community



12/11/2020

In partnership with COVIDCheck Colorado

# FREE COVID-19 TESTING

D51 staff & students can register for a free, voluntary, drive-up COVID-19 test

Grand Mesa Middle School  
585 31 1/2 Rd,  
GJ, CO 81504

Fruita Monument High School  
1102 Wildcat Ave,  
Fruita, CO 81521

## D51 STAFF & STUDENT REGISTRATION



STAFF: ID # REQUIRED  
STUDENTS: USE CODE  
9V2B48WR

[HTTPS://WWW.PRIMARYBIO.COM/L/D51](https://www.primarybio.com/L/D51)

## PARENT & COMMUNITY REGISTRATION



[HTTPS://WWW.PRIMARYBIO.COM/L/CDPHE](https://www.primarybio.com/L/CDPHE)

# MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-5PM

\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**School District 51**  
MESA COUNTY VALLEY





**MESA COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH**  

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**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.



# FRUITA COLORADO



*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.