



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JANUARY 8, 2021
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE



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Coronavirus Update

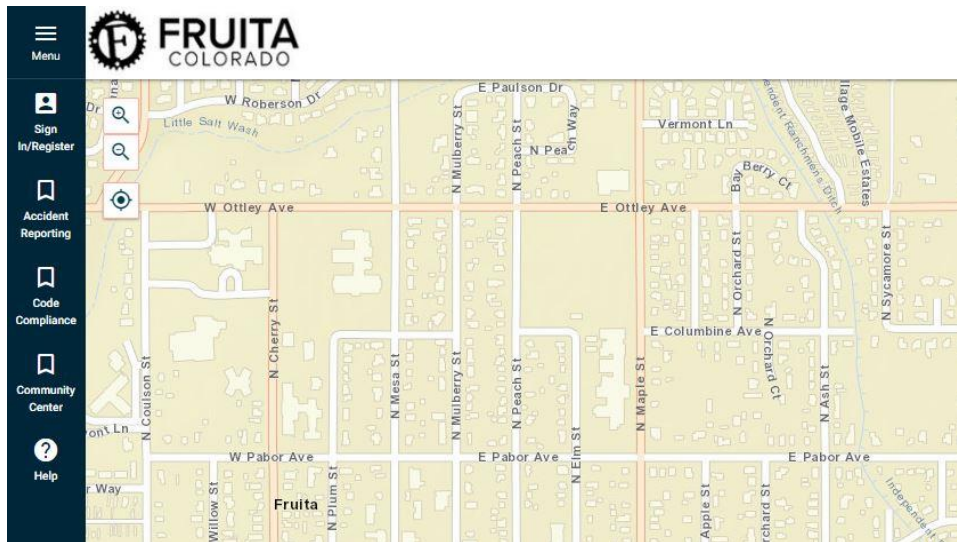
Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow www.fruita.org/covid19 for all updates we are posting. This also links to important Mesa County Public Health sources, as well as many others.

- **Mesa County Transitions to Level Orange.** Due to a sustained decline in cases of COVID-19, Mesa County has transitioned to Level Orange: High Risk on the state of Colorado's COVID-19 dial. This change was effective on Monday, and allows businesses within the County to operate at a greater capacity. More information on the change can be found at this [link](#), but an overview of this level includes:
 - **Restaurants** – Indoor seating is limited to 25% capacity or 50 people, outdoor seating requires six feet of distancing between parties.
 - **Bars** – Bars that do not serve food must remain closed (unless enrolled in the Variance Protection Program).
 - **Offices** – Limited to 25% capacity, with remote work/staggered shifts encouraged.
 - **Events** – Indoor and outdoor events remain limited, specific information can be found in the flyer below.
 - **Childcare** – Childcare facilities remain open with standard ratios.
 - **Personal Gatherings** – Limited to 10 people from no more than two households.
 - **Retail** – Limited to 50% capacity, dedicated senior and at-risk populations encouraged.
- **COVID-19 Update from the School District.** Schools returned from Winter Break on January 6. Classes are in-person with protocols. The district is still operating D51 online with approximately 2,000 students, which is a decrease of about 1,000 students from the start the semester. In addition, the quarantine window has been reduced from 14 days to 10 days for people who have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID. Also, the COVIDCheck Colorado drive-up testing sites at Fruita Monument High School and Grand Mesa Middle School will continue to operate through the end of March. About 800 people associated with the School District have used the testing sites, but testing is free and open to the public, and operates from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. The full D51 Board Brief updates can be found [here](#).

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

Citizen Request Portal – Available January 11, 2021

The City is excited to announce the launch of a new Citizen Request Portal. The portal provides members of the community and guests a way to directly submit and track concerns throughout Fruita. Users can submit requests for non-emergency issues like potholes, graffiti, street sweeping needs, and more. The portal is integrated with the work order software that is already being used by City maintenance staff. The portal will be available beginning next week on January 11, 2021, and can be found (starting on Monday) at fruita.org/citizenrequestportal. Questions regarding the portal can be submitted [here](#). We will continue to provide more information on the launch of the portal here.



General Updates

- **Waste Management Report.** In 2020, Fruita residents recycled 644 tons of cans, bottles, paper, and cardboard. Great job! Full report is provided below.
- **Partner Coordination.** Busy week attending virtual meetings with partners including the Fruita Area Chamber, all Mesa County Economic Development First Responders, Grand Valley Transit Board, celebrating local BLM Office Andy Windsor's retirement, Department of Local Affairs, Business Incubator Center, Grand junction Regional Air service Alliance and the Colorado local Government State Agency meeting. All focused on moving forward, maximizing recovery opportunities and positive trends in the economy.
- **Community Survey.** We are finalizing the Request for Proposals for the community survey and coordinating with Family Health West on a possible joint survey similar to 2017.
- **Fruita for Equality Event.** One last reminder, Fruita for Equality is hosting a virtual Fruita History event tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. Fruita-area residents are invited to join and discuss Fruita's history as it pertains to race, equality, and acceptance. This event is presented with the help of the Fruita Historic Preservation Board. Registration and more information can be found [here](#). Flyer is provided below.
- **Fruita Chamber Board of Director Vacancy.** The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors is looking to fill a board vacancy. The Chamber Board is looking for someone that is

actively involved in Fruita's business community and committed to help local Grand Valley Businesses thrive. To be eligible for the position, the applicant must be an active member of the Fruita Chamber of Commerce in good standing for one year or more. For interested Chamber members, you can email the Chamber [here](#).

- **News Release from Mesa County Commissioners.** After serving two terms and eight years, Commissioners John Justman's and Rose Pugliese's last day in office will be on January 12, 2021. The full news release from Mesa County is available at this [link](#).
- **Mesa County Libraries to Reopen.** The Fruita branch of the Mesa County Library is scheduled to reopen on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. More information can be found [here](#).
- **D51 Boundary Discussion.** Also, in the update from District 51 this week, was a discussion on boundary changes that may impact multiple schools. The changes were discussed in November and December during numerous Zoom meetings. There could be a potential shift in the FMHS/GJHS boundary. More information can be found [here](#).

Engineering

- N. Ash St. Sewer/Irrigation Improvements Project is currently out for bid. A pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday January 19, 2021 with a bid opening on January 22, 2021. More information about the project may be viewed at this [page](#).
- The Maple Street Sewer/Street Improvements Project is scheduled to go out for bid in the middle of January. The expected bid opening date is February 5, 2021. Posting to the City website is anticipated by Monday January 18, 2021. Current City Bids and RFP can be viewed at our website [here](#).

Human Resources

- The St. Mary's Bloodmobile will be in the Civic Center parking lot on January 12, 2020 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. accepting blood donations. You must schedule a time to donate blood by visiting [this website](#) to select your time slot. Please be advised: Appointments are required. Masks are required, please wear yours upon arrival. Your temperature will be taken prior to registration. Thank you for helping save lives!
- We continue to recruit and receive applications for the vacant [Public Works Director position](#). First review of applications will begin Jan. 14.
- To find all current openings at the City, click [here](#).

Parks and Recreation

- The newest edition of the Parks and Recreation biweekly newsletter can be found here: [Happy New Year Fruita!](#) This issue includes updates on the Fruita Community Center, information on the annual Sweetheart Run, program and event information, and more.
- The January 2021 Senior Newsletter is also now available, and can be found at this [link](#). It includes upcoming senior hikes, information on Mesa County Libraries Senior Social Club, and other news.

- A few updates to the Fruita Community Center operations. Beginning next week, the FCC will be extending its hours and be open until 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The pool will also be open later in the evening due to the change.
- Speaking of the pool, the indoor pool will be closed starting Monday, January 11, 2021 for repairs. Staff anticipates that the pool will be reopened and available for use on Thursday, January 14, 2021, but this date could change.
- Welcome to 2021 – in the coming weeks, Parks staff will take down and pack up Holiday Decorations for the season.
- The formatted draft of the Parks, Health, Recreation, Open Space & Trails (PHROST) Master Plan is in hand and will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at their Monday meeting. The draft plan will also be sent out to review agencies for comment over the next couple of weeks and planned for a review of City Council at the Jan. 26 workshop and formally on the Feb. 2nd Council meeting.
- Parks and Recreation staff will present a planning grant request to a Colorado Parks and Wildlife grant review panel on Monday. The grant request is to fund Biological surveys in the North Fruita Desert and to complete the NEPA process to develop upwards of 32 miles on new trails and trail re-routes.

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)

Public Works

- Tammy Etzler joined Public Works as a Maintenance Custodian this week. Welcome Tammy!
- Staff is updating the (SPCC) Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure plan for fuel tanks for Public works facility.
- Staff continues to work on completing a collection line infiltration study required by the Colorado Department of Public Health with our new treatment permit.
- We had XCEL turn the electric power at the pond property off, that will save us \$75 per month. The cost will be \$45 to turn it back on when needed.

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

- [The 25 coolest towns in America to visit in 2021.](#)
- [Efforts underway to make bike, pedestrian wayfinding easier across Grand Valley.](#)
- [Cities planning for recovery from pandemic in 2021.](#)
- [Events likely to see slow start but pick-up speed in 2021.](#)
- [Mesa County heading back to Orange Level on Monday.](#)
- [Waterline break causing water outages in Fruita, Loma, and Mack.](#)
- [Community planning, implementation continuing into 2021.](#)
- [Mesa County Moves to Level Orange on January 4.](#)
- [Mesa County Out of Red Level Restrictions Starting Monday.](#)
- [Colorado begins transition to new unemployment benefits system.](#)
- [First Day of Mesa County in Level 'Orange' Businesses Respond.](#)
- [Justman and Pugliese bid farewell to Mesa County.](#)
- [Real Estate could see continued success in 2021.](#)
- [Vaccine distribution continues, Mesa County through 8% of phase 1.](#)
- [Key industry forecasts for 2021.](#)
- [New Chicken Restaurant Opening in Fruita.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Health answers our questions about the COVID-19 vaccine.](#)
- [A wake or wakeless, that's the question for Highline.](#)
- [Mesa County Libraries plan to reopen on Jan. 19.](#)
- [School board holds first meeting of 2021.](#)
- [City of Grand Junction officially recognizing January 18th as Martin Luther King Jr. Day.](#)
- [2021 Job Boom in the Centennial State and the Mesa County Workforce Center is the go-to job hub.](#)
- [Wall Street Eyes Billions in the Colorado's Water.](#)
- [Fruita approves application for new RV Park.](#)

- [Fruita Sweetheart 5K/10K Run Goes Virtual in 2021.](#)
- [Plan Ahead: COVID-19 Vaccine for 70+ Coloradans.](#)
- [Riverfront Trail section to close temporarily.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Health launches COVID-19 vaccine dashboard.](#)

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

LEVEL ORANGE: HIGH RISK



GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS



P-12 Schools

In-person suggested
Counties are encouraged to prioritize in-person learning by suspending other extracurricular and recreational activities in order to preserve effective cohorting and minimize disruptions to in person learning



Group Sports & Camps

Virtual, or outdoors in groups less than 10



Higher Education

In-person, hybrid, or remote as appropriate



Critical & Non Critical Retail

50% with increased curbside pick up, and delivery. Dedicated senior and at-risk hours encouraged.



Restaurants

INDOORS: 25% capacity or 50 people †
OUTDOORS: 6ft between parties outdoors, per local zoning



Personal Services

25% capacity or 25 people †



Offices

25% capacity, remote work is strongly encouraged



Indoor Events & Entertainment

UNSEATED: 25% capacity or 50 person capacity (with calculator) †
SEATED: 25% capacity or 50 people †



Bars

Closed



Outdoor Events & Entertainment

UNSEATED: 25% capacity or 75 people
SEATED: 25% capacity or 75 people †



Gyms/Fitness

25% capacity, 25 people indoors †, or outdoors in groups less than 10



Outdoor Guided Services

25% capacity or 10 people †



2020 Recycling Benefits for the City of Fruita

In 2020, we recycled 644 tons of cans, bottles, paper, and cardboard.

Recycling these materials will save the following resources:

7,910 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 134,464,600 sheets of printing and copy paper!

1,501 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 1,711 people!

1,103,531 Kw-Hrs of Electricity

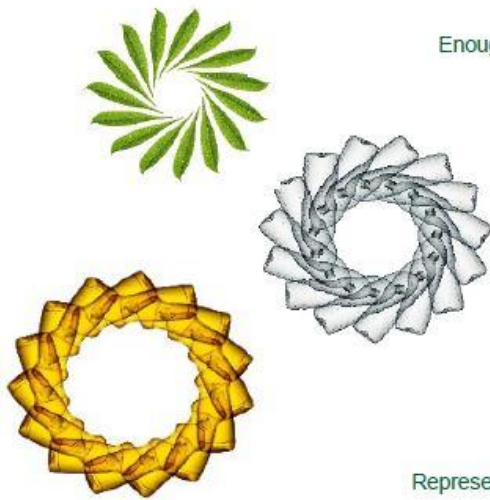
Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 102 homes!

Avoided 1,416 Metric Tons (MTCO₂E) of GHG Emissions

The recycling of these materials prevented these GHG emissions!

2,700,557 Gallons of Water

Represents enough saved water to meet the daily fresh water needs of 36,007 people!



PREPARED BY WASTE MANAGEMENT

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Environmental Paper Network-Paper Calculator V4.0, Domtar Paper, Gaylord Corporation, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, and Waste Management. © Waste Management 2019

FRUITA FOR EQUALITY

FRUITA HISTORY
THE KKK, CHARLIE GLASS, AND THE MINTER FAMILY

4:30 P.M., SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
ONLINE EVENT VIA ZOOM

Fruita-area residents are invited to join us for a virtual discussion about Fruita's history as it pertains to race, equality, and acceptance. The KKK. The legend of Charlie Glass. The tragic, transformative story of the Minter family. Hear stories about Fruita's history as our community navigated many of the same questions as we have as a nation, including the reemergence of the KKK in post-World-War-I America, and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.
VISIT THE EVENT CALENDAR AT [MESACOUNTYLIBRARIES.ORG](https://mesacountylibraries.org) TO REGISTER.

This event is presented with the help of the Fruita Historic Preservation Board.

FRUITA FOR EQUALITY MISSION STATEMENT:

Promoting and supporting equality, inclusivity, and diversity through meaningful conversations and action in our community.

LITHIC BOOKSTORE

& GALLERY



Mesa County
LIBRARIES

Rotary
FRUITA ROTARY



     visit mesacountylibraries.org



**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.



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.