



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 20, 2023
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Fruita Civic Center Closed Friday, April 21, 2023

The Fruita Civic Center will be closed to the public tomorrow, Friday April 21, 2023, for office space construction work. However, our offices will still be available via phone or email. Regular in-person hours will resume on Monday, April 24, 2023. This closure does not impact the Fruita Community Center, the Fruita Police Department, or Fruita City Shops. Please reach out if you need anything! Thank you, Fruita!

- Administration, Phone: 970 - 858 - 3663
- Community Development, Phone: 970 - 858 - 0786
- Engineering, Phone: 970 - 858 - 8377
- Human Resources, Phone: 970 - 858 - 3663
- Email: communications@fruita.org

Tuesday's City Council Workshop

Please remember to arrive at 6:00 p.m. to film the final scene of this year's State of the City video. The regular City Council Workshop will begin at the normal time of 6:30 p.m. The workshop will consist of a discussion with members of the Fruita Livability Commission, a discussion on Fruita's trash and recycling services, and an update and discussion on some planning and zoning items. See you on Tuesday!

Fruita Bark Park Celebration Recap

Thank you to everyone that helped us celebrate the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Fruita Bark Park! We had a great turnout of both puppies and their humans. We also gave away dog toys and dog treats, provided by Chow Down Fruita. The Bark Park is now open for use, and we have been told it is puppy approved!

The Fruita Bark Park is located on the Southside of Fruita, next to the Dinosaur Journey Museum. The park includes two areas, one for small and senior dogs, and the other for large dogs. The park consists of native landscaping with natural features including various grasses, shrubs, and elevation. Natural shade is available with the trees on the property and users can enjoy access to water, trash cans, and waste bags to help keep the park clean. Since the opening, Parks crews have fixed the gate

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

to the large dog park and are working on installing benches and additional signage. Thank you again to everyone that came out to celebrate with us!



Now Accepting Applications for the Fruita Academy! (Continued)

The Fruita Academy is a new in-person program for interested community members to learn about the functions of local government. Participants will hear directly from Fruita leaders, receive hands on learning, and tours of some of City of Fruita's largest facilities. Head to Fruita.org/Academy to learn more and sign up for FREE. Sign up today as spots are limited! This is a great option to learn, engage, and connect with your City leaders!

Bike to Work Day

May is Bike Month in the Grand Valley and we will be celebrating with a Bike to Work Day event on Wednesday, May 3 at the Fruita Civic Center Park. Enjoy free breakfast from Einstein Bagels and coffee from Bestslope Coffee starting at 7:15 am. See the flyer below for more information.

ArborWorks Schedule for Next Week

Xcel Energy, working with ArborWorks, a utility line clearance company, began trimming trees in Fruita in mid-February. They will be trimming all trees, both private and public, if the tree is a hazard for powerlines. The team will continue tree trimming services in Fruita next week. Below you can find area maps of where the team will be working.

Weekly FAQ

In every weekly update, we will be answering one question we get asked often from the community. These questions will cover a variety of topics from all city departments. If you have any questions, you think would be valuable for us to share, let us know by emailing communications@fruita.org.

- **Question:** Does the City of Fruita offer a senior discount for utilities?
- **Answer:** The City of Fruita has a senior discount for trash collection and sewer service but there are a few eligibility requirements residents need to meet to qualify for the program. To receive a discount, an individual must be over the age of 62 and have an annual income equal to or less than 133% of the federal poverty level which is \$18,075 for a single and \$24,352 for a couple. The 133% of the federal poverty level is the same eligibility requirement as other federal public assistance programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid. For questions or to sign up for the discount, please call our Utility Billing Division at 970 – 858 – 3663. [View the 2023 utility fees and charges online.](#)

General Updates

- **Waste Management Report.** In March, Fruita residents recycled 55 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. The full report from Waste Management can be found below. Great job, Fruita!
- **City Engagement Event Recap.** Last Tuesday, Councilor Jeannine Purser and I met with local community members at Copper Club Brewery. We had a great turn out and attendees asked lots of questions we were able to address. Topics included recycling in Fruita, code compliance, the Fruita Academy, the new Building Division, bicycle and pedestrian access, and more.
- **National Prescription Take Back Day.** Mesa County residents are encouraged to dispose of unwanted or expired prescriptions to keep kids and adults from misusing them. There are several drop off locations throughout the Grand Valley. [More information is available online.](#)
- **Xcel Energy Energy Bill Assistance Program.** Xcel Energy wants to remind customers that payment assistance programs are available that may be able to help with your energy bills, and the deadline to apply is coming soon. Thousands of families and households have benefitted from home energy assistance programs throughout the winter, and now is a good time to see if you're eligible. In Colorado the deadline to apply for energy assistance is May 1, so be sure to learn more and apply soon. State programs can offer assistance paying utility bills and the cost for repair or replacement of a home's primary heating system. To learn more, visit xcelenergy.com/EnergyAssistance or call Xcel Energy at 800-895-4999.
- **Discover Fruita Podcast.** On Tuesday, another episode of Discover Fruita aired on KAFM Community Radio. City Engineer Sam Atkins and Neighborhood Services Coordinator Matt Carson were the guest speakers on the show. The episode will be available online at bit.ly/discoverfruita in the next week or so.

Engineering

- **North Mulberry Street Outdoor Plaza Update.** The Mulberry Street Outdoor Plaza is on track to open in early May. This past week more brickwork has occurred along with construction of the concrete parking spots on the north end of the project. Benches, a bike rack and planter boxes were brought into the site today and will be set in their final location next week. The fire pit will be on-site next week. In addition, our contractor will be working on installing trees and plants in

the plaza space. We will be opening a portion of the plaza to pedestrian traffic later this week, but we ask that the community continues to use caution when walking through the area as construction continues.

- ***Pine Street Bridge.*** GA Western installed the large block retaining wall on the southwest corner of the bridge. The south abutment was backfilled with geotextile reinforced structural fill. The concrete for the north sleeper slab (independent support slab for the approach slab) was placed. The concrete sidewalks across the east and west sides of the bridge were placed.



- ***CDOT's US 6 & 20 Road Intersection Improvements.*** It appears the anticipated window when UPRR would be able to perform their work has shifted into October which extends the completion of the project later than planned. For the latest news on this project visit the [project website](#).

Parks and Recreation

- ***Outdoor Pool Tarp removed for summer prep!*** Our outdoor pool is getting ready for the summer season with staff power washing and prepping the pool to be filled and ready for sunny days ahead.



- ***Mike the Headless Chicken 5k and Volunteer Registration Open.*** Our 5k race on June 3 is open for registration [Here](#). We have also opened our volunteer sign up for racecourse marshals and

entrance volunteers. You will receive a festival tee shirt, Mike Store voucher, and help put on our signature festival when you [sign up to volunteer!](#)

- **367 of 370 spots Full for Dinomites Summercamp.** We have had a busy registration season and our youth summer camp for ages 5-10 only has 3 spots left for select weeks. Our 8 week camp offers enriching childcare throughout the summer.

Planning & Development

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

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- East Grand Townhomes Minor Subdivision (Approved) (600 Grand Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Copper Creek West Preliminary Plan (Approved) (954 19 Road) (138 Lots)
- Iron Wheel 2 Final Plat (Under Review) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele's Acres Subdivision (Under Review) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- Kismet Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (460 N. Mesa St) (3 Lots)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Ottley Suites Site Design Review (Under Review) (722 Ottley Avenue)
- Pediatric Dental Specialists Site Design Review (Under Review) (101 Jurassic Avenue)
- 18 & K Road Rezone (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001)
- The Fruita Mews (Under Review) (1138 18.5 Road)
- Berg Annexation & Rezone (Under Review) (1806 J 3/10 Road)
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Site Design Review (Under Review) (417 E Ottley Ave)
- 616 E. Grand Avenue Conditional Use Permit (Under Review) (616 E. Grand Avenue)
- 1824 J 2/10 Road Annexation and Rezone (Under Review) (1824 J 2/10 Road)
- A Storage Place Site Design Review and Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1960 & 1966 Hwy 6 & 50)

Police Department

- ***Farewell, Dave.*** April 20 was Officer Furnace's last day with the City of Fruita. He is beginning the next chapter of his career with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office. We will miss Dave and wish him the best of luck.

Public Works

- ***Irrigation.*** City-wide irrigation was turned on Monday and Tuesday. The crew was busy with multiple repairs and helped residents of Fruita with turning off and on water for their repairs as well. If you need your water turned on or off, please call us at 970-858-9558.
- ***Street Conference.*** Members from the road crew attended the 36th Annual Spring Street Conference presented by APWA and the Colorado Association for Roadway Maintenance.

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

- [Open air: Get outside for live music in the Grand Valley.](#)
- [Colorado State Patrol asks drivers to "Give Some Space."](#)
- [American Red Cross talks volunteer month.](#)
- [US Highway 6 & 20 Road Intersection Improvement Project Begins.](#)
- [Approximately 1,200 Registered Runners Converge at the 2023 Desert Rats Trail Running Festival.](#)
- [What's in a revers 9-1-1 call?](#)
- [CDOT starts work on U.S. 6 & 20 Road intersection project.](#)
- [More snowpack means more mosquitoes, West Nile, officials warn.](#)
- [Looking to the future: Mesa County's new master plan is almost done.](#)
- [Changes at the Mesa County landfill.](#)
- [Highline Lake refills after treating zebra mussels.](#)
- [City councilor proposes proclamation against antisemitism in Mesa County.](#)
- [Breathtaking views at Desert RATS Trail Running Festival by UTMB.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Please let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can RSVP for you)*

- **April 26, 2023** – Ribbon Cutting for Family Health West Urgent Care, 401 Kokopelli Drive Unit #2, Fruita, CO 81521.
- **April 27, 2023** – Western Colorado Economic Summit, presented by Grand Junction Economic Partnership.
- **April 28, 2023** – Fruita Fourth Fridays, FARM 160 S. Park Square, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- **April 29, 2023** – Spring Clean Up, City Shops, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **April 29, 2023** – Military-Bound Graduate Recognition & Family Picnic, Western Slope Veterans Memorial, 11:00 a.m. [RSVP Online.](#)
- **April 29, 2023** – Mesa County Historical Fair, Historical Loma School, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **May 3, 2023** – Grand Valley Bike to Work Day, Civic Center Park, 7:15 a.m.
- **May 5-6, 2023** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Highline Lake State Park, Open Venue
- **May 5-6, 2023** – Adventure Fest, 18 Road Trailhead, Open Venue
- **May 12-14, 2023** – Fruita Fat Tire Festival, Downtown Fruita and 18 Road Trailhead, Open Venue
- **May 14, 2023** – Co2uT, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue
- **May 31, 2023** – Colorado Municipal League Spring Outreach Meeting, Fruita Community Center at 3:00 p.m.
- **June 2-3, 2023** - Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue
- **June 8, 2023** - Thursday Night Concert Series - The Drunken Hearts (Americana), Civic Center Park, 7:30 p.m.

CC. Department Directors

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

BIKE *to work* DAY



MEET AT CIVIC CENTER PARK
MAY 3 @ 7:15 AM
RIDE TO FOLLOW FREE BREAKFAST

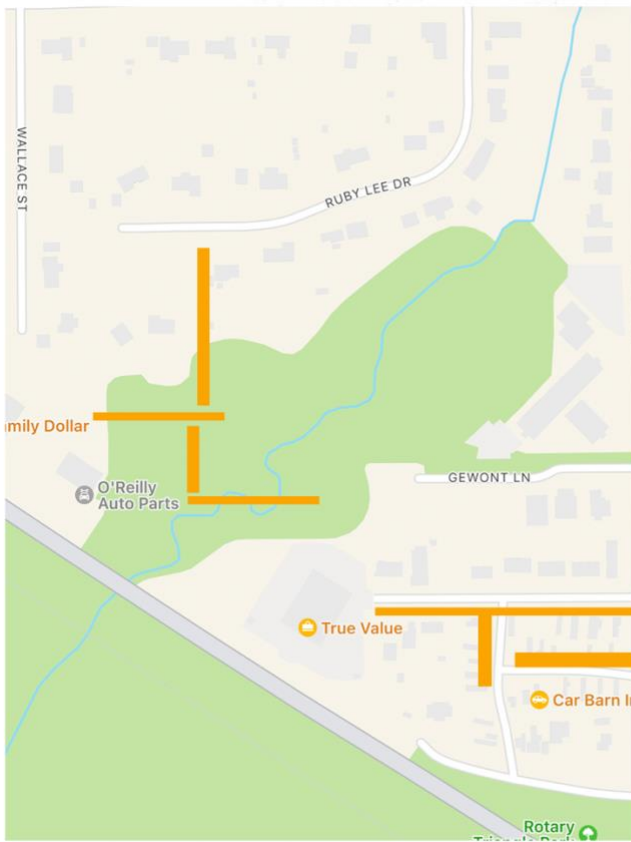
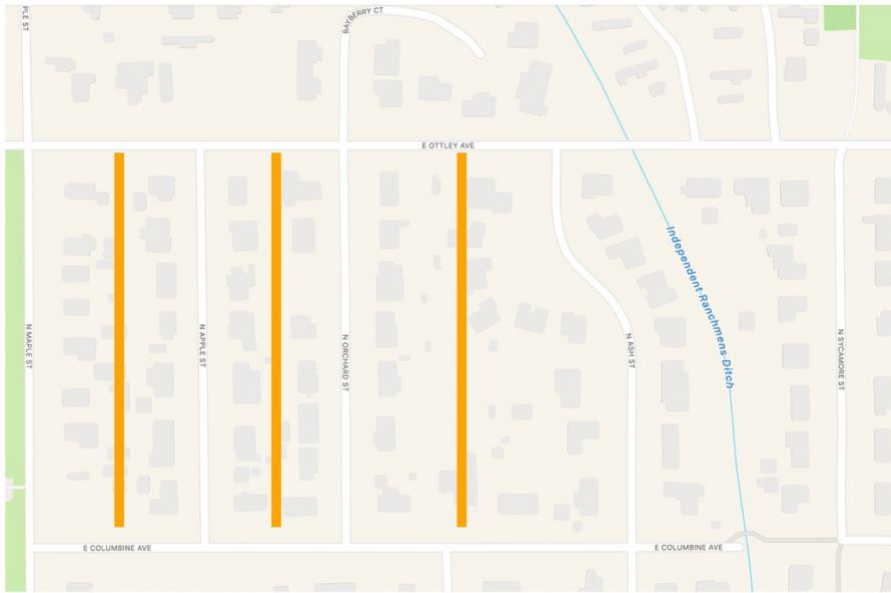
BREAKFAST PROVIDED BY EINSTEIN BAGELS
COFFEE PROVIDED BY BESTSLOPE COFFEE

fruita.org/parksrec
970.858.0360  



FRUITA
COLORADO
PARKS & RECREATION

ArborWorks Schedule for the week of April 24-28





CITY OF FRUITA

MARCH 2023 RECYCLING BENEFITS

55 tons of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard were recycled by the community this month.

This month's recycling efforts saved the following resources:

883 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 15,006,400 sheets of printing and copy paper!

127 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 162 people!

127,131 kWh of Electricity

Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 11 homes!

Avoided 150 Metric Tons (MTCO₂E) of GHG Emissions

This GHG reduction is equivalent to removing annual emissions from 32 passenger vehicles!

268,819 Gallons of Water

Represents enough saved water to meet the daily fresh water needs of 3,584 people!

To learn more about recycling, visit [WM.com/RecycleRight](https://www.wm.com/RecycleRight).

Always remember to Recycle Right



Recycle clean bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard.



Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.



No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

PREPARED BY WM

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.

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Notes: GHG = Greenhouse Gas; MTCO₂E = Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent



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.