



FRUITA

COLORADO



Weekly Info Update

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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 12, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

Our meeting on Tuesday will begin with old business, and we still start with four proclamations that recognizing Military Bound Graduate Recognition Day, National Donate Life Month, an Arbor Day Proclamation, and May as Grand Valley Bike Month in Fruita. After those proclamations, we have one item on the consent agenda and no public hearings. We will conclude old business with presentations to Mayor Kincaid and Councilor Kreie for their many years of service to the community and the Fruita City Council. We will then take a 15-minute recess. After that recess, we will begin new business by swearing in the new members of the City Council and Mayor. After a few items on the new business consent agenda, the Council will then review two special event liquor permits for upcoming events. For Council reports and Actions, the City Council will elect a Mayor Pro Tem, and then discuss interest for City Council liaison assignments for the City's Boards and Commissions. See you all on Tuesday night!

Spring Clean Up Next Week

The 3rd Annual Fruita Spring Clean-Up is next Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Public Works Facility located at 900 Kiefer Ave.

Please note the items we CANNOT ACCEPT.

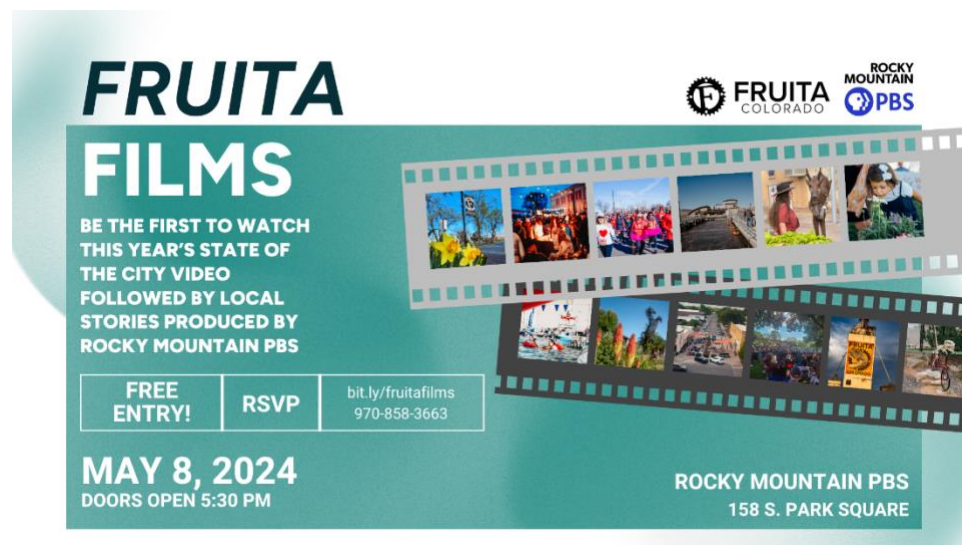
Aerosol cans, air conditioners, air/gas cylinders, ammunition, antifreeze, asbestos materials, asphalt rubble, batteries, auto batteries, concrete rubble, electronics, engines/motors, fluorescent lights, freezers, freon, fuel tanks, gasoline/grease/oil, hazardous waste, insecticides, items longer than 6', large drums, liquids of any kind, major appliances, medical waste, microwaves, paint/stain, pesticides, refrigerators,

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

road flares, shingles, spa/pool chemicals, tires. Mattresses and box springs can be dropped off for \$18.00 each. Cash or check will be accepted.

Fruita Films – State of the City Premiere

We are excited to bring this event back for a second time! Enjoy a night of Fruita films at the Rocky Mountain PBS Fruita location at 158 S. Park Square (located at the FARM). Be the first to watch the Fruita State of the City film followed by a premiere of local stories presented by Rocky Mountain PBS. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., films will begin at 6:00 p.m. This event is FREE, but an RSVP is required. Any open seats will be opened on a first-come, first-served basis. Please RSVP online at bit.ly/fruitafilms or by calling [970-858-3663](tel:970-858-3663).



The poster for Fruita Films features a teal background with the title 'FRUITA FILMS' in large white letters. Below the title, it says 'BE THE FIRST TO WATCH THIS YEAR'S STATE OF THE CITY VIDEO FOLLOWED BY LOCAL STORIES PRODUCED BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN PBS'. There are two film strips showing various local scenes. Logos for Fruita Colorado and Rocky Mountain PBS are in the top right. A box contains 'FREE ENTRY!' and 'RSVP' with the website 'bit.ly/fruitafilms' and phone number '970-858-3663'. The date 'MAY 8, 2024' and 'DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM' are at the bottom left, and the location 'ROCKY MOUNTAIN PBS 158 S. PARK SQUARE' is at the bottom right.

UTMB Desert Rats Trail Running Festival This Weekend

Festival season has arrived with our first event happening this weekend at the Fruita Civic Center. The UTMB Desert RATS Trail Running Festival is scheduled for this weekend, Friday and Sunday, April 13 – 15. The event hosts a 100K, 50K, 21K, a 10K, and a kids race at the Kokopelli Trail system. Civic Center Park is hosting the festival's main gathering area for packet pick up, expos, the after-race party, and more. With this, downtown Fruita and the Kokopelli Trail System will be busy this weekend, as there are around 1,100 runners participating in the event. If you are interested in learning more about this weekend, you can visit their website at [UTMB Desert Rats](https://www.utmb.com/desert-rats).

2024 Regular City of Fruita Municipal Election Official Results (Continued)

The results for the 2024 Regular Election are now available and can be found on our website here: [2024 Municipal Election Information](#). Based upon the results, Matthew Breman has been elected Mayor of the City of Fruita for a two-year term. In the City Council race, Richard Parrish, Aaron Hancey, and Andrea Stolarczyk have been elected to the Fruita City Council for four-year terms. The change of City Council is scheduled to take place on April 16, 2024, during the regular City Council meeting. The meeting will begin with old business the current City Council considers, followed by the farewell of

Mayor Kincaid, and City Council member Ken Kreie, whose term was completed. Following old business, Mayor Breman and the newly elected Council members Richard Parrish, Aaron Hancey, and Andrea Stolarczyk will take the oath of office to begin their new terms and consider new business on the City Council agenda that night.

Irrigation water turns on the week of April 15 (Continued)

City irrigation water will turn on April 15, 2024. If you are in a neighborhood with an HOA, your irrigation system will be turned on by your association. Please [Contact your hoa](#) for specific dates.

Who to call if you have a break in your irrigation line

As irrigation systems start up for the season, irrigation line breaks are almost inevitable. It is vital for residents to know who to call if they are having irrigation issues. Over the past year, your neighborhood may have experienced fiber internet construction, so the likelihood of an irrigation line break from this construction is high. To help manage service calls, we are asking residents to help with calling the right organization for help.

- Deeply Digital/Clearnetworx - [970.240.6600](tel:970.240.6600)
If you have fiber internet construction in your neighborhood, please contact Deeply Digital/Clearnetworx.
- City of Fruita Public Works - [970.858.9558](tel:970.858.9558) (7 AM - 3:30 PM, M-F), [970.250.7853](tel:970.250.7853) (After Hours)
If you don't know who to call or you are on city irrigation, please call the City of Fruita.
- CALL YOUR HOA or Property Manager | [Find your HOA online](#)
If you are a part of an HOA, please contact your HOA.

In addition to sharing irrigation information through our regular communication channels, we are also sending a newsletter specifically for HOA's to share with their homeowners. [Read the HOA newsletter.](#)

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:** What is the recommended lawn watering schedule for Fruita residents?
- **Answer:** The City of Fruita recommends the following watering schedule for homeowners with City Irrigation Water:
 - Even numbered addresses: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
 - Odd numbered addresses: Wednesday, Friday and Sunday
 - The Public Works Department utilizes every Monday as a regularly scheduled maintenance day to flush lines and make repairs to the irrigation system.

General Updates

- **Fruita Academy Week #1.** We kicked off the first of the Fruita Academy last night at the Fruita Community Center! We have a fantastic group this year, and we are excited to spend the next four weeks together. We have 22 students and the first class started with a tour of the Fruita Community Center and an overview of the Parks and Recreation Department.



- **MOWC Update.** On Monday, Shannon and I had the chance to meet with the new Executive Director of the Museums of Western Colorado (MOWC), Shenna Hayden. Shenna comes to Mesa County with great museum experience and has been working in the field since 2008. We discussed our partnership between the City of Fruita and MOWC for Dinosaur Journey, how we can best communicate between the two agencies, and potential joint marketing opportunities in the future. Shenna will present to the City Council this summer to introduce herself and answer any questions from the Council. Welcome Shenna!
- **Annual Chamber Banquet.** As a reminder, the Annual Fruita Chamber Banquet is tomorrow night at Absolute Prestige Ranch from 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. The full schedule, and additional information, can be found at [the Chamber's website](#).

Administration

- **Audit Work.** The City's new auditing firm was on site this week to wrap up fieldwork for the annual audit. The audit is on track to be completed early summer and the 2023 Financial Statements will be presented to the City Council soon after. The annual Financial Statements are produced to provide the Mayor, City Council, and residents with useful information about the City's operations and financial position. The reports are prepared in accordance with standards prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA). You can see [prior year Financial Statements online](#).
- **RFP for Financial Management Services.** This week, we issued a formal Request for Proposals ("RFP") for Contracted Municipal Financial Management Services. The City is looking for a contractor that can serve as a resource to staff in day-to-day operations of the city, but also if needed, can provide interim Management services if needed. [View this RFP or others issued by the City](#).
- **Job Openings.** The City of Fruita continues to recruit for a number of a Full-Time and Part Time positions. For example, we are currently accepting applications for a Finance Director, Police

Officer, and several positions at the Fruita Community Center. To view all current openings in Fruita, you can visit this link: [Job Openings](#).

Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** The playground installation is completed, and the safety surfacing is next to be installed. The engineered wood fiber has been installed and the poured in place material will be installed next week. This is an active construction site, and we ask you to please wait for the park to open before using the playground. MUSCO has completed the installation of the Minipitch and will be installing new basketball hoops before the opening of the park. Sheathing of the shelter has begun, roofers will be installing roofing, and doors will be installed next week. Wheelpark rough grade is scheduled to begin on Monday, April 15th.



- **Sharps containers installed at Heritage Park.** Parks crews installed sharps containers to help eliminate sharps from being flushed down the toilet or placed in the trash can, which has been an issue lately.
- **Downtown Restroom Construction started this week.** The contractor has started prepping the site for the new downtown restroom that will be installed on the corner of Aspen Avenue and Peach Street. The contractor will be closing Peach Street on Monday to tie in the sewer and water for the restroom. They are anticipating the closure to be Monday and if needed Tuesday

morning. The new restroom will have two unisex units and will be ADA-accessible. It is a self-cleaning facility and will be open to the public from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Hours may change based on needs and community events. There will be partial closures of the road for one day to install the bathroom. We anticipate the restroom construction to be completed by the end of April or Early May. There will be minimal impacts to traffic as they install the water and sewer lines.

- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The contractor has completed demo of the concrete of the pool deck and in the mechanical room. They have located the piles for the foundation, piping for the plumbing and are currently working on plumbing and electrical for the pump.
- **Guest Services - New Employees.** We would like to welcome Audrey Smith and Diane Loken to the Guest Services team. They have been a great addition to the team and are picking up their new responsibilities quickly.
- **Guest Services – Front Desk Access Point.** To better accommodate the incoming and outgoing traffic at the front desk, staff are implementing various directional configurations with stanchions and signage. We are encouraging all members and new patrons to stop at the front desk and either scan their membership fob or check in to ensure that we are collecting accurate participation data, collecting daily pass fees, allowing staff to build relationships with human interaction, and decelerating guests from simply walking through.
- **Rec Rats Drop-in Childcare.** Drop-in childcare for FCC members continues to be a popular amenity. This past quarter 1036 children participated in a 30-minute -2 hours playtime at Rec Rats. The most popular times, which are 8:00 am-12:00 pm Monday through Saturday dominates with 78% of the total attendance. To encourage the repetitive and frequent facility use for those with children ages 6 months – 8 years of age, the hourly rate fee remains sustainable. Future plans could include building upon this activity model and expanding the boundaries of Rec Rats with new programming opportunities.

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit fruita.org/projects.

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Copper Creek West Final Plan, Filing 1 (Under Construction) (954 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- Iron Wheel Filing 2 Final Plat (Under Construction) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele's Acres Subdivision (Approved) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- LaPointe Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1050 E. Ottley Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Weston Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1877 J 2/10 Road; Parcel # 26997-164-00-050 & 2697-164-00-074) (109 Lots)
- West Canyon Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001) (50 Lots)
- Gear Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1156 18 Road) (8 Lots)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- The Fruita Mews (Under Construction) (1138 18.5 Road)
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Site Design Review (Under Construction) (417 E Ottley Ave)

- 535 W. Aspen Apartments (Under Construction) (535 W. Aspen Avenue)

Police Department

- ***Calls for Service Statistics.*** In March 2024, the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center logged 917 calls for service for the Fruita Police Department. This compares with 849 calls for service in March 2023, showing an 8% increase. Year to date, we are at 2,937 calls for service in 2024 compared with 2,654 this time last year, showing an 11% increase.

Public Works

- ***Congratulations Jesse!*** Congratulations to Jesse McClaskey on his promotion to Streets Crew Leader. Jesse has several years of experience as an equipment operator completing road maintenance projects and installing critical infrastructure. Jesse holds a CDL-A License and a Wastewater Collection II License. He is certified as a Traffic Control Supervisor and completed the APWA Supervisor Training program. Congratulations Jesse!
- ***City of Fruita - Colorado Water Rights.*** The City filed an application in March of 2023 requesting the Colorado River conditional water rights be continued in full force and effect at the Fruita Pump Station. These water rights were decreed for 25 c.f.s. with 0.78 c.f.s. of that conditional water right absolute and continued the remaining 24.22 c.f.s. conditional. This water right is decreed for municipal and irrigation purposes. The City received the final decree entered by the water judge confirming the city's Colorado River rights for another six years. Future diligence will be filed in April of 2030.
- ***APWA Conference.*** Streets Crew participated in the American Public Works Association (APWA) Spring Street Conference held in Grand Junction. Agenda topics included: Asphalt Industry update and current trends, traffic Control and MUTCD Update, Public Works Support in Wildfire Response, Cost of Building Roads, Pavement Preservation and Overlay Solutions, Pavement Maintenance, Flagger Certification, etc.
- ***Chip Seal Bids.*** Chip seal bids are due April 26, 2024, by 1:00 p.m. with bid opening to occur immediately following.
- ***Utilities.*** Utility staff cleaned approximately 2,215 feet of sewer lines and is preparing for irrigation start-up on Monday, April 15, 2024. Staff also completed CCTV inspections for Rose Creek.
- ***Kingsview Lift Station Replacement Project.*** Public Works received 60% design documents for the Kingsview Lift Station project.

RESOURCE LINKS

- [Community Resources](#)
- [City Project Updates](#)
- [Fiber Internet Construction Updates](#)
- [Trash and Recycling Services](#)
- [Stay Informed](#)
- [Fruita City Council](#)

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

- [Colorado festival celebrates headless chicken. You're invited.](#)
- [Japanese Beetles eradication efforts.](#)
- [Central, FMHS improvements among D51's top facility plan priorities.](#)
- [Faces of the Fallen.](#)
- [How aluminum cans preserve Fruita's History.](#)
- [Here's the #1 Most Walkable City in Colorado.](#)
- [The 50 Best Places to Live in the U.S.](#)
- [Heather Nara Named Workforce Center Director.](#)
- [Mesa County's outdoor recreation trumps all.](#)
- [Resource Navigators now at Central Library, ready to support residents.](#)
- [City of Fruita awards grant to Grand Valley Pets Alive.](#)
- [Denver inflation rate dips below 3% for the first time in three years.](#)
- [Fruita's 5th Graders compete in annual Arbor Day Post Contest.](#)

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

- **April 12, 2024** - Desert Rats Race, Open Venue, Trails around Fruita
- **April 12, 2024** – Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament, 9:00 a.m., Adobe Golf Creek Course
- **April 13, 2024** – Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- **April 20, 2024** - Lower Valley Professional Firefighters Tournament, 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Civic Center Park
- **April 20, 2024** – Fruita Spring Clean Up, City Shops (900 Keifer Ave), 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **April 26, 2024** – Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **April 27, 2024** – Fishing is Fun at Snooks Bottom, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- **May 4, 2024** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Open Venue, Highline Lake State Park
- **May 4, 2024** – Co2uT, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 3 – 5, 2024** – Fat Tire Festival, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 11, 2024** – Adventure Fest, Open Venue, 18 Road Trailhead
- **May 24, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **May 31 – June 1, 2024** – Mike the Headless Chicken, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita.
- **June 15, 2024** – Tab Benoit with special guest Larry McCray, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 p.m.
- **June 25, 2024** – State of the Community Breakfast hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 8:30 a.m.
- **June 28, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **July 26, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- **August 23, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Civic Center Park, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **September 7, 2024** – Firefall with special guests The Dubious Brothers, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 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.



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.