



# FRUITA

## COLORADO

### Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: NOVEMBER 20, 2020  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE



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***City offices are closed, and staff will be off next Thursday and Friday, November 26-27, 2020, for Thanksgiving. I hope that you have a safe and great holiday!***

#### 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.

- **Mesa County Moving to Level Red on New CDPHE Dial.** Effective today, November 20, 2020, several counties throughout the state (including Mesa County) are moving to Level Red: Severe Risk, on the state's new COVID-19 Dial. This level is the second most restrictive on the new dial, and several new changes are being implemented as a result of this phase. More information can be found [here](#), and highlights of these changes include:
  - **Indoor Dining** - Indoor dining is closed but restaurants can offer take out, to go, or delivery (unless identified as a variance protection program business).
  - **Bars** – That do not serve food must be closed (unless identified as a variance protection program business).
  - **Offices** – Limited to 10% capacity, with remote work strongly suggested.
  - **Gyms** – Limited to 10% capacity or 10 people with reservations.
  - **Indoor Events/Venues** - Entertainment and indoor event venues must be closed.
  - **Outdoor Events** – Limited to 25% capacity or 75 people (whichever is less)
  - **Gatherings** – In-person gatherings (e.g., meetings, shows, exhibits) are not allowed.
  - **Childcare** – Childcare facilities may remain open with standard ratios.
  - **Retail** – Limited to 50% capacity, dedicated senior and at-risk population hours encouraged.
    - Some facilities may fall into an exception to these requirements if they are enrolled in the Variance Protection Program.

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

- Also, the updated capacity requirements chart can be found below and at this [link](#) (for each phase of the state’s reopening plan).
- **Mesa County Hospitals Reaching Limits for Beds, Staffing.** From Mesa County Public Health: “Area hospitals are reaching critical thresholds for capacity and staffing due to COVID-19. As of November 18, there are no ICU beds available. All area hospitals will begin activating surge capacity to ensure additional rooms and beds are ready for use. This is due to a robust collaborative planning process that has been in place since the start of the pandemic.” The full update from Mesa County Public Health and area hospitals can be found [here](#).
- **District #51 Update.** On Wednesday, following the state’s decisions to move Mesa County to Level Red, the School District made the following decisions regarding in person learning:
  - High schools (including Career Center and the Fruita 8/9) will remain remote until December 18. The district is considering alternative options for finals week.
  - Middle School students will return to in-person learning on December 1 (although Fruita Middle School is still in-person)
  - Elementary School students will continue with in-person learning on December 1.
    - The full news release from the School District can be found [here](#).
- **Visitors at Grand Valley Hospitals.** In coordination with Mesa County Public Health, area hospitals are implementing visitor restrictions in response to COVID-19. Visitors at hospitals are no longer allowed apart from for a few exceptions. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Update on Outdoor Dining Spaces.** Construction began on the yurt at the Mulberry Street outdoor dining space this week. We are still waiting for a few more materials for the yurt and a building inspection before it can be used. Here are a few photos:





## Dinosaur Journey Mural Complete

The joint mural project between Rise Above Colorado and the Fruita Youth Action Council is complete and looks great! Thank you to everyone who made this happen!



## General Updates

- **City Council Workshops Cancelled.** Just a quick reminder, our City Council workshop originally scheduled for next Tuesday night has been cancelled. The December workshop is also cancelled.
- **Mobile Mesa County Newsletter.** The latest Mobile Mesa County newsletter is now available online and includes updates on the new Grand Valley (GVT) logo design, GVT COVID policies and procedures, and information on the next local coordination council meeting. You can view the newsletter [here](#).
- **City of Fruita Awarded CTO Grant.** On Tuesday, it was announced that the City of Fruita has been awarded a \$25,000 Matching Marketing Grant from the Colorado Tourism Office for next year. This grant will help fund a joint digital marketing campaign for the City of Fruita and the Town of Palisade (highlighting the bookends of the valley), as well the ability to continue to build our library of photo and video assets. We are thankful for our partnerships with the Town of Palisade and the Colorado Tourism Office and look forward to starting this project in the spring. The official release from the Colorado Tourism Office can be found [here](#).
- **GoFruita Newsletter.** Speaking of tourism, the newest GoFruita newsletter can be found here: [It's still Fall in Fruita!](#)
- **Census Update.** Henry and Shannon attended a Census wrap up/thank you meeting on Thursday morning for the Mesa County Complete Count Committee. Fruita finished with a self-response rate of 76.7%, and Mesa County finished with a 73.5% response rate (both well above the state

and national rates). If you would like to see the presentation from the meeting, please let me know. The final data will be submitted to the Presidential administration at the end of the year, and we should access to it next year.

- **Update from the Airport.** This week, Executive Director of the Grand Junction Regional Airport, Angela Padalecki, announced that Allegiant Airlines will begin offering twice a week service to Orange County, California. She stated, “that Grand Junction Regional is one of eight airports that will be served, and it is a testament to the confidence Allegiant has in our market and airport”. More information [here](#).

### **Engineering**

- A Trip hazard survey was conducted this week to mark areas of sidewalks that need grinding. The grinding is expected to begin in early December.
- The Active Circulation Plan is scheduled to kick off on Monday.
- The Wayfinding Project for in-town trails should kick off in December. Currently, we are working on a contract with CDOT for the Revitalizing Main Street Grant funding this project.

### **Parks and Recreation**

- Early this week, we had meetings to review the Draft PHROST Master Plan with many of our health, schools and youth partners as well as with City Council, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and staff. We believe the plan is getting closer and we appreciate the work and input that many of you have given us through this process.
- The Fruita Youth Action Council met on Tuesday evening and are looking at resurrecting the Sharing Shelves over the next couple of months. With the holidays upon us and a retreat back into more-strict restrictions from COVID, the youth thought it would be a good idea to get the shelves back out. They are also working on a Holiday Book / Pen Pal Exchange with our local senior community and have started working with the Library and the Senior Services department to potentially implement this.
- The Fruita Community Center will be closed on Thanksgiving, reopening on Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Holiday lights will be turned on next week for the holidays.

### **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 (<https://www.fruita.org/cd/page/zoning-and-density-bonus-land-use-code-amendments>)

### **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)
- Sunshine Short-Term Rental (Under Review)

**Public Works**

- Mesa County Stormwater Division completed a municipal operations audit inspection of the Fruita City Shops this week and provided training materials that will be circulated to staff. This annual inspection is a requirement of the City's MS4 stormwater permit and no significant findings were noted.
- Staff completed an internal review of the City's ROW permit process and has decided to move forward with starting to utilize the web-based work order system for permit tracking. This is an existing tool that is geared for primarily just internal use but is anticipated to streamline tracking and inspection records for staff.

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

- [New COVID-19 testing site opens Monday at Colorado Mesa University.](#)
- [Girl Scouts Step Up for First Responders.](#)
- [Testing ramp-up key to stemming county COVID-19 surge.](#)
- [Mesa County Goes from A Coronavirus Success Story To A Cautionary Tale.](#)
- [New school exceeding expectations despite pandemic opening.](#)
- [Local Girl Scout Troop is helping Lower Valley Fire District Get PPE.](#)
- [COVID-19 numbers still surging; Pomona goes online.](#)
- [District 51 High School and Middle Schools first day of remote learning.](#)
- [Mesa County to be placed under new COVID-19 restrictions.](#)
- [Grand Valley mental health during pandemic.](#)
- [Commissioners OK sweeping land management plan.](#)
- [Stricter measures coming, Mesa County to transition to Level Red starting Nov. 20.](#)
- [Polis to call special session over pandemic.](#)
- [City of Fruita to receive \\$25,000 grant.](#)
- [Allegiant to add non-stop service to Orange County.](#)
- [COVID in Colorado: 15 Counties Listed as Advancing to "Level Red – Severe Risk".](#)
- [Mesa County commissioners urge mask use due to COVID upswing.](#)

**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.):*

- **December 16, 2020** – Drive-Thru Cookies n’ Claus, at 6:30 p.m. at the Fruita Community Center. More information [here](#).
- *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)

# LEVEL RED: SEVERE RISK



## GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS



### P-12 Schools

P-5 in person suggested, or hybrid or remote as appropriate; Middle school in-person, hybrid, or remote suggested; High school hybrid or remote suggested



### Group Sports & Camps

Virtual, or outdoors in groups less than 10



### Higher Education

Remote suggested, limited in-person when necessary



### Critical & Non Critical Retail

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



### Places of Worship

INDOOR UNSEATED: 25%, 50 (with calculator)  
INDOOR SEATED: 25%, 50 person capacity  
OUTDOORS: 6ft between parties outdoors, per local zoning



### Personal Services

25% capacity or 25 people



### Restaurants

INDOORS: Dining closed, take out, curbside, delivery, or to go  
OUTDOORS: Open, air with only groups of own household is open



### Indoor Events & Entertainment

UNSEATED: Closed  
SEATED: Closed



### Offices

10%, Remote work is strongly encouraged



### Outdoor Events & Entertainment

UNSEATED: 25%, 75 people (with calculator), attended only with members of your own household and 6ft spacing between groups  
SEATED: 25%, 75 people (6ft distancing between parties), attended only with members of your own household and 6ft spacing between groups



### Bars

Closed



### Gyms/Fitness

10%, 10 indoors per room, or outdoors in groups less than 10. Reservations required



### Outdoor Guided Services

25% capacity or 10 people







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

**AVAILABLE NOW!**

Mesa County Fairgrounds | 2785 US Highway 50

# COVID-19 TESTING

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Tuesday - Saturday



TESTING IS  
**FREE**

Testing is open to anyone  
regardless of where you live,  
especially if you have symptoms.



## PRE-REGISTRATION

Scan this image with your phone:



**MAKO  
MEDICAL**

*Thank you for letting  
us serve you.*

## Simple. Fast.

Get results within four days.  
Save time by pre-registering

- NO** health insurance required
- NO** cost. It's FREE!
- NO** doctor referral required
- NO** appointment needed

More information at [health.mesacounty.us/covid19](https://health.mesacounty.us/covid19)





**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.