



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JUNE 25, 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.

- **Weekly Vaccination Update.** Here are a few highlights from latest vaccine update from Mesa County Public Health. The full report can be found at his [link](#).
 - The Power the Comeback COVID-19 Vaccine Bus is making stops at the following locations:
 - **Country Jam** (inside the gates on the promotional row) Thursday, June 24 through Saturday, June 26 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - **St. Joseph's Catholic Church** (White Ave. between 3rd and 4th Streets) Sunday, June 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Bilingual staff on bus*
 - **St. Mary's Hospital** (2635 N. 7th St.) Tuesday, June 29, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - **Community Hospital** (2351 G. Rd.) Wednesday, June 30, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - No appointment, ID, or insurance is required for any mobile vaccination clinic listed above. All vaccines are free of charge.
 - As of the week ending June 19, 52,919 first doses and 53,850-second doses have been administered in Mesa County for a total of 106,769 doses.
 - Approximately 40% of Mesa County residents aged 12 and older are fully vaccinated, meaning they have received both doses in a two-dose series, or a single dose vaccine.
 - A [Vaccine Dashboard](#) is updated weekly on the MCPH website with new data related to vaccine by age group.
- **Unvaccinated Large Gathering Attendees Urged to take Precautions as Variant Spreads Rapidly.** One more update from MCPH – the Health Department is encouraging those attending Country Jam or other large-scale events to get vaccinated to protect themselves from COVID-19 and variant strains. From MCPH: “The Delta Variant is spreading rapidly in Mesa County, and not does it spread faster, it carries nearly double the of hospitalization”. The full report can be found [here](#).

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

Wild Cow Fire Update

The Wild Cow Fire was reported on June 21, 2021 and is located near Baxter Pass in Garfield County north of the Grand Valley. The fire is currently 553 acres, and there are 54 personnel currently working on the fire. The Emergency Management Command Center is now at the Fruita 8/9, and that is why you might be seeing a lot of fire traffic in and out of Fruita. Updated information on the fire can be found [here](#). CDOT has also recently shared that Hwy 139 will likely remain closed tonight due to the Oil Springs Fire.

Valley-Wide Water Quality

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has developed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs) Assessment for the Colorado River tributaries in the Grand Valley. The assessment was sent out as a draft for review in April of 2021 with a deadline to respond in June. The scope of the TMDLs presented in the document addresses selenium, iron and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) impairments found in certain tributaries within the Grand Valley, located along the Colorado River. The tributaries represent a combined drainage area of approximately 138 square miles. Reductions in Selenium, iron, and *E. coli* are identified for Adobe Creek, Little Salt Wash, and Big Salt Wash in the Fruita area.

Mesa County, Grand Junction, Fruita and Grand Valley Water Users Association teamed up to provide comments to the draft assessment in late April. Members of staff of each of the jurisdictions met with the CDPHE on Thursday June 24th to discuss the comments and concerns of the collective group. CDPHE staff stated that they will be responding to all comments received by the end of July.

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in Place – Mesa County (Continued)

The Mesa County Sheriff, the Bureau of Land Management, and Fire Chiefs representing municipalities and fire protection districts of Mesa County are implementing Stage 1 Fire Restrictions last week. Stage 1 Fire Restrictions prohibit the personal use of fireworks, campfires outside of designated fire pits or fire rings, agricultural opening burning without a Sheriff's issued burn permit, use of explosive targets, and smoking outside near combustible materials. More information on the restrictions can be found [here](#), and an infographic can be found below.

2021 Fruita Community Survey Results (continued)

In case you missed it, the Community Survey results are now available and can be found online on our website [here](#). The full report and presentation can be found there.

General Updates

- **City Council Ice Cream Social.** Next week's Thursday Night Concert event is the Annual Ice Cream Social, presented by Fruita City Council. The Centennial Band will be playing and please note that the concert starts at 7pm. As always, the concert and ice cream is free for those that attend.
- **Country Jam.** Country Jam is back this week! If you are heading out there, we hope that you have a fun and safe weekend. Also, if you are going, the Mesa County Sheriff's Office has asked that attendees use I-70 as the primary route to get to Mack, and to keep Hwy 6&50 cleared between Fruita and Mack for fire crews battling the fire near Baxter Pass.

Engineering

- **Mesa County Chip Seal Project.** Traffic update: June 28 to July 2. The Mesa County chip seal project will take place at the following four locations: US Highway 6 from Mile Point 11 to MP 20, CO Highway 139 from MP 0 to MP 6, US 50 Frontage Road from MP 33.8 to MP 36.2 and CO 141 from MP 120 to MP 154. For the week of June 28 to July 2 motorists should plan for: CO 141 from MP 120 to MP 154 Monday through Thursday. North and southbound one-lane alternating traffic with pilot car operations and minimal delays with a 12 ft. For more information, you can visit this [link](#).
- **Concrete Thermal Heaving.** There has been a number of concrete heaves throughout the city due to thermal expansion with the hot weather. Seven locations have been identified and half have been completed with repairs so far.
- **Maple St. Aspen Street Closures.** Paving is still on track to begin on July 14th.
- **19 Road Closure.** 19 Road will remain closed for at least another week. Optimistically, the road may open as early as July 2nd.

Human Resources

- **Open Positions.** The City of Fruita is currently accepting applications for several positions, including a Procurement and Risk Coordinator, Recreation Coordinator for Special Events and Marketing, and a part-time Administrative Specialist. You can find more information and view the job announcements at this [link](#).

Parks and Recreation

- **P&R Newsletter.** The latest edition of the Parks and Recreation bimonthly newsletter is now available and can be found here: [Summer programs and activities](#).
- **3rd of July Fireworks Show.** The City of Fruita Parks and Recreation Department is working with the Mesa County Sherriff's Office and the Lower Valley Fire District to determine if the 3rd of July Fireworks Show should proceed. At this time, Mesa County has Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in place. If Mesa County moves to Stage 2 Restrictions, it is possible that the event will be canceled. We will continue to provide updates here and on our website as more information becomes available.
- **Irrigation Break at LSWP.** There is a break in the main irrigation line just outside the pump house at Little Salt Wash. Staff has exposed the break and is in the process of making repairs. The system may not be back online until Monday. As a result, turf at LSWP won't be watered for up to 6 days. Luckily the cooler weather has helped the situation but we still may see some drying out of turf.

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](#). (Approved)
- Short Term Rental Code Amendments can be found as this [page](#).(Approved)
- [Parking Standards](#) (Approved)
- Design Standards: The links to the Code Amendments can be found at this [page](#). (Approved)

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Preliminary Plan (Approved) (1136 17 ½ Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 (Approved) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Rose Creek Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1892 K Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Patron Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1123 19 Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- VACC Final Plat (Under Review) (1176 18 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- Epic Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1092 Wallace St, Fruita CO 81521)
- Cider Mills Rezone (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521)
- Red Cliffs 3 Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (280 Clements Way, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- 1930 Highway 6 & 50 Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50 Fruita CO 81521)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521)
- Fruita Copper Creek Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (954 19 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Under Construction)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic) (Finished)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (853 Raptor Rd) (Under Review)
- Lake Fruita Site Conditional Use Permit and Design Review (Under Review) (1571 Cipolla Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Review) 111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)

Public Works

- ***Encanto Line.*** Irrigation water on the Encanto line is currently unavailable following a pipe failure. Crews repaired the pipe this afternoon and water should be available to users tomorrow. The Encanto line serves a number of subdivisions in northeast Fruita, such as Canterbury Park, Windsor Park, Brandon Estates, Phyllis Drive, Vista Valley, and a portion of Pine Street.
- ***Mountain Water Update.*** GPPWUA has requested the City turn on Mountain Water. The City's plan is to flow water from Reservoir #1 and Reservoir #3 at the requested 330 Gpm over Windy Point which is about 1 ½ acre feet a day.

- **Moss Removal.** Grand Valley Irrigation System is working on moss removal in the Ranchman's ditch. PW staff continues to clean head gates and has installed headgate cleaners developed by staff to help keep the moss from building up on the headgates.
- **Asphalt Repairs.** Crews completed asphalt patches on Ruby Lee, Annabelle, Placer Drive, and Comstock.
- **WWRF Tour.** Wastewater Superintendent Terry Anderson provided a tour of the WWRF facility and processes to Councilmember Heather O'Brian.

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

- [Fruita middle schoolers learn about water use in the west through the Wellspring Project.](#)
- [10 horseback riding destinations in Colorado.](#)
- [Ute Water to pump from the Colorado River.](#)
- [Fire restrictions in effect in Mesa County, map included.](#)
- [Ute Water to hike rates, draw water from Colorado River.](#)
- [Mesa County celebrates Juneteenth.](#)
- [After federal recognition, Grand Junction celebrates Juneteenth and black history.](#)
- [County seeing 'breakthrough' COVID-19 deaths amid virus spread.](#)
- [BLM prepares for fire season.](#)
- [Ute Water celebrates 65 years of clean water.](#)
- [Mesa County jobless rate trends downward.](#)
- [40% of Colorado COVID Cases Are New, More Transmissible Delta Variant, Health Officials Say.](#)
- [Area organizations prepare for Country Jam.](#)
- [Wildland Fire Team monitoring current conditions.](#)
- [Driving safety in rural areas.](#)
- [Highway 139 remains closed by 5,000-acre fire.](#)
- [Delta variant calls for concern.](#)
- [Polis to Mesa County: give us ideas on improving vaccination rate.](#)
- [Hospitals remain busy with COVID-19 cases.](#)
- [Oil springs fire burning North of Grand Junction explodes to 5000 acres.](#)
- [New wildfire 'erupts' in Colorado, impacting travel to multi-day music festival.](#)
- [Progress made on smaller area fires.](#)
- ["Mesa County Blueprint to End Hunger."](#)

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.):*

- **June 26 ,2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **July 1, 2021** – **City Council serving ice-cream at the Thursday Night Concert** – Centennial Band (American Classic), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 3, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **July 8, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert - Whiskey Stomp (Country Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 10, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- **July 14, 2021** – Coffee with the City Manager and guests, Einstein Bros Bagels at 7:30 a.m.
- **July 15, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Desert Flyer Band (Country), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 16, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **July 22, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Gerry Goodman Band (Blues/Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 29, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Michael Morrow & the Culprits (Rock-N-Roll), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** – Fruita Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, “Welcome to Wonderland” at the Fruita Community Center, 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Additional information [here](#).
- **August 5, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Louie & the Lizards (Funky Jam Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **August 6, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **August 12, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Great Western Heritage Show (Country & Western Bluegrass), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 3, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **Sept. 22-24, 2021** – The Colorado Municipal League will be holding the 2021 CML Annual conference in Westminster. More information is available at www.cml.org/conference. Please let Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods know if you are interested in attending. CML will also hold a virtual conference on Sept. 29-30.
- **September 24-25, 2021** – Fruita Fall Festival, Downtown Fruita. The festival will include live music, food trucks, and variety of vendors. Fruitachamber.org/fruita-fall-festival.

CC. Department Directors

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



Stage 1 Fire Restrictions Fact Sheet



Allowed



Fires in permanent fire pits, fire rings at private residences or within developed recreational sites such as a campground, or picnic area.



Fire features, chimineas and tiki torches at private residences supervised by a responsible adult.



Fires contained within liquid fueled or gas fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices.



Agricultural burns with SHERIFF'S OFFICE ISSUED PERMIT ONLY! Mesa County Fire Marshal will do a safety inspection prior to issuing permit.

Only PERMITTED PROFESSIONAL FIREWORKS displays are allowed.



NOT Allowed



The personal use of all fireworks are prohibited during fire restrictions.



Any fire or campfire, not within a permanently constructed fire grate in a developed park, campground, private residence, or picnic area.



Smoking, EXCEPT within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material.

Operating or using any internal combustion engine, such as chainsaws, without a spark-arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order.



Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame EXCEPT in cleared areas of at least 10 ft in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.

Target shooting with explosive targets is not permitted.



City Manager Event Series

These events are an opportunity for residents to have an open conversation with the City Manager and guests and discuss topics on their mind while exploring Fruita or enjoying a local business. These are casual, informal events that you are all welcome to drop in or out of at any time.

To find current information, including guests, visit Fruita.org or facebook.com/cityoffruita

Upcoming Dates

May 5, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

Bike to Work Day with the City Manager and Mayor Kincaid - Fruita Civic Center.

May 20, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

Coffee with the City Manager at Bestslope Coffee

June 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Beer or Rootbeer with the City Manager at Copper Club

July 14, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

Coffee with the City Manager at Einstein Bros. Bagels



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.