



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: MARCH 10, 2023  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

### **North Parking Lot at the Civic Center Closed Next Week**

Work on the electrical upgrades for the two Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Fruita Civic Center is scheduled to continue next week, and because of this, the north parking lot will be closed next week and potentially longer. Last month, Xcel's contractor installed a new pole for the upgrades, and the additional work that needs to be completed includes installing transformers on that pole and laying the conduit/electrical to the parking spots that will be used. Once the electrical upgrades are complete, staff can schedule the installation of the two stations and painting for the parking spaces. Work is scheduled to begin on Monday with mobilization.

### **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.

### **HOA Contacts**

As the Public Works Department gears up for irrigation season, we are looking to update our current HOA contact list. It is important for us to maintain an updated list in case of irrigation breaks or issues. If you are a part of an HOA, please consider taking a few minutes to review our master list and see if your HOA contact needs to be updated or added. [The full HOA contact lists can be found here.](#) Thank you, Fruita neighbors!

### **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](mailto:communications@fruita.org).

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

- **Question:** I'm interested in learning more about current development projects in Fruita. Does the City provide this information?
- **Answer:** Yes! You can find all current development applications including site plans, project narratives, and more by visiting <https://www.fruita.org/cd/page/current-development-projects>.

## General Updates

- **Congressional Directed Spending Requests.** This week, staff submitted four projects to be considered for Congressional Directed Spending to Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper. The projects submitted included the replacement of the Maple Street Bridge, 19 Road Improvements, Fremont Street Improvements, and a request to replace aging sewer lines in Fruita. After the deadline today, all projects from across the state will be reviewed and each Senator recommends specific projects to be included in the federal appropriations process. We will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available.
- **Broadband Meeting with CDOT.** On Thursday, Fruita staff (City Engineer Sam Atkins, Assistant City Manager Shannon Vassen, and I) participated in a meeting with the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation ("CDOT") Shoshana Lew and many other agencies in Mesa County and Garfield County to discuss current broadband projects in our region. The meeting discussion focused on helping other organizations utilize CDOT assets for fiber projects across Western Colorado. The discussion was positive, as CDOT has identified alternative splice points for the other agencies to use for their projects. Based on this, we are going to continue with our Broadband Project and anticipate our construction schedule will not change. Our Requests for Proposals for our Middle-Mile/Lateral Build is scheduled to close next Friday.
- **Japanese Beetles in Mesa County.** On Tuesday morning, the Mesa County Board of County Commissioners declared the Japanese Beetle to be a public nuisance and directed staff to coordinate with residents to take emergency action to quarantine, control, and/or eradicate the beetle in Mesa County. Currently, the "hot zone" for the Japanese Beetle in Mesa County is north of G Road to I-70 (west and slightly east of 26 Road) in northern Grand Junction. To prevent spread, Mesa County employees will be working with homeowners on treatment options. The Japanese Beetle, Mesa County shared, feeds on over 300 species of plants, including farm plants, and can cause severe damage to local farms and landscaped properties. To learn more, you can visit the news release from Mesa County [here](#). In addition to that, the Colorado State University Extension Campus has released a lot of information on the Beetle that can be found [here](#), and will be hosting an informational meeting at the Central Library Community Room on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Details on that event are available at this [link](#) on the library's website.
- **Monthly Report from Waste Management.** In February, Fruita residents recycled 47 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. Great job Fruita! The full report from Waste Management can be found below.

## Engineering

- ***Pine Street Bridge Update.*** Work on the bridge deck is on hold until parts are delivered to help with forming the cantilevered portion on the outside limits of the bridge. The placement of the bridge deck is dependent on the delivery of these parts. GA Western delivered and installed a pedestrian bridge for the temporary irrigation main on the west side of the Pine Street Bridge. Ben Dowd Construction, the pipeline subcontractor, installed the storm drain on the northwest corner of the bridge. The temporary irrigation main was started by installing a 10" gate valve and 4" drain line on the north end of the bridge. Work on the southwest storm drain is progressing.
- ***Mulberry Street Plaza Progress.*** Good progress was made on the Mulberry St. Plaza this week. The crosswalks on Aspen Street and Mulberry reopened, a few of the light posts were installed, and quite a bit of decorative concrete was placed against the buildings on both sides of the project. All of the footers for shade sail posts and light posts on the west side of the plaza have been installed and only four footers remain to be installed. More concrete was supposed to be placed today but is on hold due to the rain. We expect the east edge of the project to be open to pedestrians by the end of next week, which will allow pedestrians to access the Vintage Commons, the Hot Tomato, and the rest of the businesses along Mulberry from both the north and south ends of the project. As always, please remember to stay away from the active construction zone and to use caution when walking next to heavy equipment. We thank you for your patience while we work to improve our downtown.

## Parks and Recreation

- ***Update on the Gym Floor Installation at the Fruita Community Center.*** The painting of the court lines and logo are complete and four additional layers of topcoat will be applied. During the application of the topcoat layers, the running track will be closed to use on March 13 and 14. **We are excited for the courts to open to the public next week! A specific date will be announced early next week.** Please remember that all court and track availability is subject to change at any time for construction or safety of our patrons.
- ***189 youth registered for Spring Soccer and spots are still available!*** Registration will close this Sunday, March 12. There are still spots available for youth kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Register online at [fruita.activityreg.com](http://fruita.activityreg.com).
- ***Senior Potluck.*** We had a full house at the Senior Potluck this week, and reached our capacity of 70 participants that enjoyed a pork lunch and good company.
- ***Our 136 youth volleyball players will be wrapping up their season this weekend.*** Youth volleyball for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> will have their final games Saturday.

## Planning & Development

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

### Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Cider Mill Estates Final Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mountain Drive) (47 Lots)
- Dana Minor Subdivision (Approved) (317 Pine Street) (3 Lots)

- 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)

#### **Site Design Review/ Other Applications:**

- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (111 S. Mesa St)
- 204 S. Mulberry Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (204 S. Mulberry St)
- North Mulberry Street Conceptual Street Design (Approved/Under Construction)
- The FARM Fruita Arts Recreation Marketplace (Under Construction) (158 Park Square)
- 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)

#### **Public Works**

- ***Congratulations Raymond!*** Congratulations to Raymond Mikhail for passing his Wastewater Collections I exam!
- ***Controlled Burn.*** Crews were busy this week cleaning and burning ditches around the city in preparation for irrigation season. This includes the ditch off SE side of Greenway Drive, behind Walgreens, behind Mission Coffee, behind Cedar Glen Apartments, and Highway 6 & 50 from Greenway Drive to Pine Street.
- ***FOGs Update.*** Utility staff continues to add grease additive to the I-70 lift station in an effort to break up the grease that comes into the lift station from the collection system. Staff has added approximately 235 gallons over the last two months. Staff started with heavy dosing of 5 gallons per wet well and noticed the grease became much thinner and more liquid like. Staff reduced the dosing to ½ gallon per wet well twice a week and while the grease is not as large in diameter it has become noticeable thicker. Dosing was reduced to determine the effectiveness of the additive at a lower dosing rate and cost. The city continues to encourage residents and businesses to avoid pouring grease down drains. This grease enters the city's collection system and causes damage to the infrastructure and can result in sanitary sewer overflows. Crews continue to haul approximately 1200 gallons of grease a week to the WWRF.
- ***Mesa Conservation District Water Resilient Agriculture Workshop.*** Public Works Director participated in the Resilient Agriculture Workshop, a two-day Exploratory Scenario Planning workshop to discuss the various futures the region's agriculture industry and community face. The workshop was facilitated by The Babbitt Center and Arizona State University and sponsored by the Mesa Conservation District, Western Colorado Community College, and Mesa County.
- ***PFAS Grant.*** The City of Fruita Wastewater Reclamation Facility staff recently submitted an application to the Colorado Division of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) for the PFAS Grant Program funded by the EPA. As of January 1, 2023, preparers of biosolids are required to sample and analyze biosolids for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (known as PFAS) and report to the division. PFAS are an emerging contaminant of concern, and the EPA is currently conducting a risk assessment which could lead to developing criteria for PFAS in biosolids.

CDPHE is implementing additional requirements through Regulation 64 for the beneficial use of biosolids as an interim strategy and is supporting preparers of biosolids by paying the costs to have one biosolid sample tested for PFAS and assist with the evaluation of results and reporting requirements. Grant funding covers the costs associated with the laboratory sample kits, laboratory shipping costs, and analytical laboratory reporting.

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

- [COPMOBA Discusses New and Upcoming Trails in the Grand Valley.](#)
- [Planning for the Plunge | Ride](#)
- [Fruita Colorado's All Women Biking Event is Wild and Crazy Fun.](#)
- ['Go Baby Go' a rewarding program for everyone.](#)
- [It's oh-fish-ial, Colorado fishing licenses are now available.](#)
- [Commissioners declare Japanese Beetle a public nuisance.](#)
- [Beetle Battle: County seeking homeowner consent to treat lawns and stem beetle threat.](#)
- [School board votes to close East Middle School, reconfigure Fruita's grade system.](#)
- [11 Most Underrated Cities in Colorado.](#)
- [Fruita Chamber of Commerce holds third Women's Conference.](#)

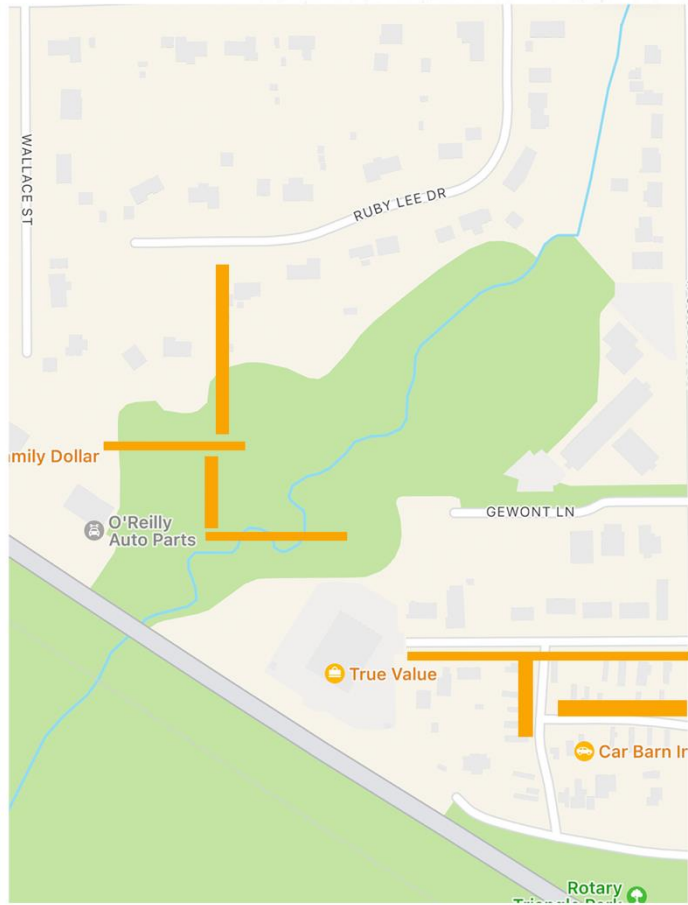
**UPCOMING EVENTS** *(Please let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can RSVP for you)*

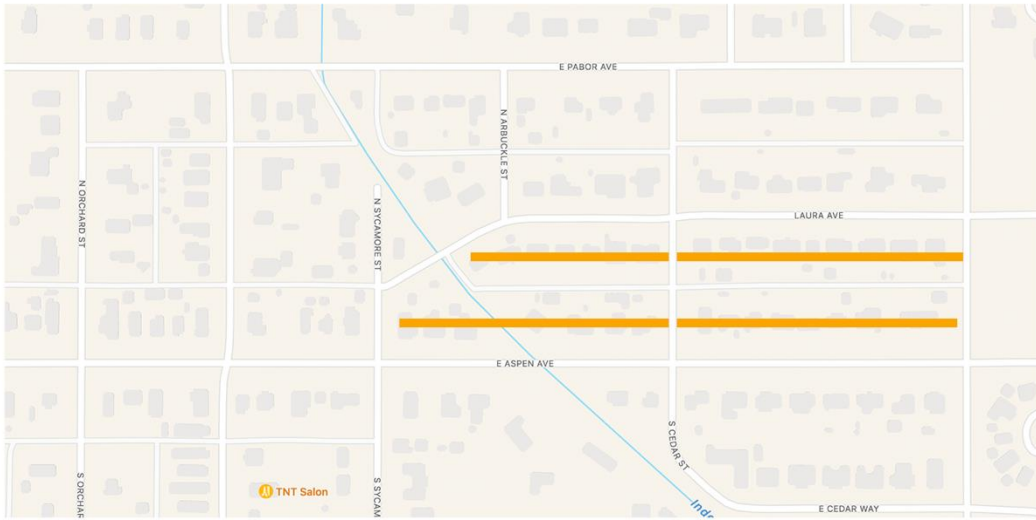
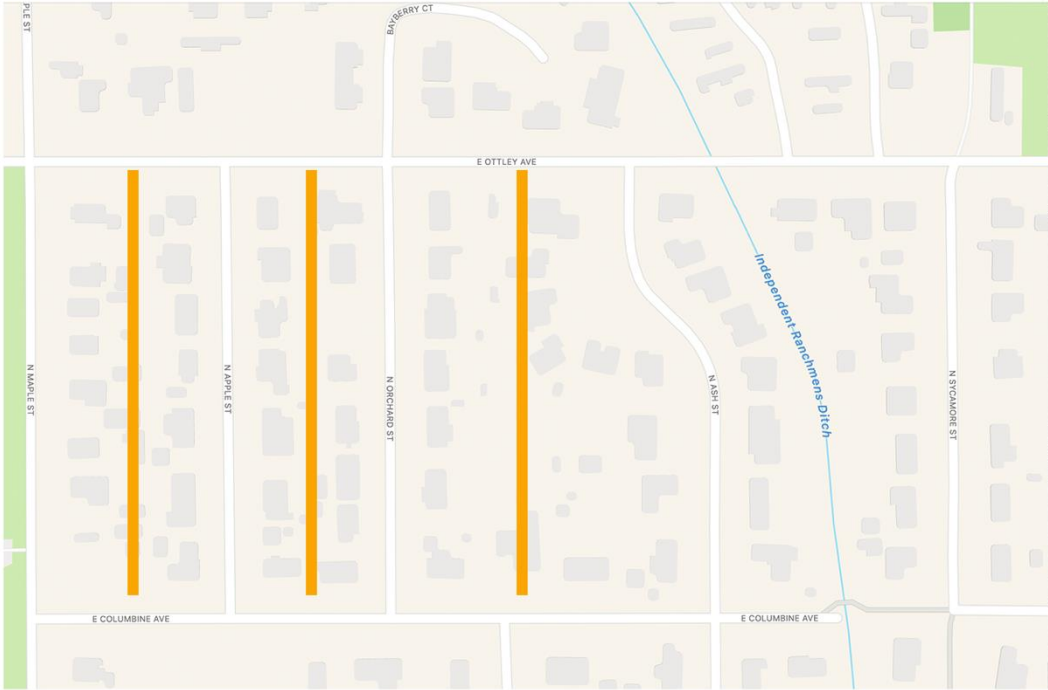
- **March 10, 2023** – Fruita Arts & Culture Coco Vino – SOLD OUT, Our Lady of Perpetual Motion, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- **April 7, 2023** – Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament, Adobe Creek Golf Course, 9:00 am.
- **April 15, 2023** – Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Fruita Community Center, 5:00pm – 10:00 pm
- **April 14-16, 2023** – Desert RATS Trail Running Festival, Kokopelli Trailhead, Open Venue
- **April 27, 2023** – Western Colorado Economic Summit, presented by Grand Junction Economic Partnership.
- **April 29, 2023** – Spring Clean Up, City Shops, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.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
- **June 2-3, 2023** - Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue

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)

ArborWorks Tree Trimming Schedule Week of March 13, 2023









CITY OF FRUITA

## FEBRUARY 2023 RECYCLING BENEFITS

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

**This month's recycling efforts saved the following resources:**

### 764 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 12,981,200 sheets of printing and copy paper!

### 110 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 140 people!

### 109,974 kWh of Electricity

Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 10 homes!

### Avoided 130 Metric Tons (MTCO<sub>2</sub>E) of GHG Emissions

This GHG reduction is equivalent to removing annual emissions from 28 passenger vehicles!

### 232,542 Gallons of Water

Represents enough saved water to meet the daily fresh water needs of 3,100 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; MTCO<sub>2</sub>E = 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.