



# FRUITA

## COLORADO



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## Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: JUNE 14, 2024  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

***City offices will be closed next Wednesday, June 19, 2024, in observance of Juneteenth. Trash and recycling services will not be impacted.***

### **Monday's City Council Meeting**

With the Colorado Municipal League Conference starting Tuesday, we rescheduled the regular City Council meeting to Monday, June 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. On the agenda, there is a number of items on consent and one public hearing on a special event liquor permit application. After that public hearing, the Fruita City Council will convene into a meeting of the Housing Authority for two executive sessions related to requests that have been received by the Housing Authority. After those items, the City Council will reconvene with reports and actions, and conclude the meeting with one final executive sessions to receive legal advice. See you on Monday!

### **City of Fruita Awarded Distinguished Budget Award by GFOA**

For the second year in a row, the City of Fruita has received the Distinguished Budget Award by the Government Finance officers Association ("GFOA"). The recognition highlights the City of Fruita's commitment to financial excellence, transparency, and meeting the highest principles of government budgeting. To receive the award, an organization must meet nationally recognized program criteria guidelines and excel as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and as a communications device. The award recognizes entities that have achieved the highest standards of clarity, accountability, and fiscal responsibility.

### **Mountain Water Update**

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

The City of Fruita's primary goal is to provide necessary core services to residents and businesses in the city limits. As an organization the city is focused on aligning resources, time, and talent to provide the highest quality services while positively impacting and increasing the quality of place, economic health, and lifestyle of the Fruita Community. The City Council [passed and adopted Resolution 2023-34 to divest the City of Fruita from owning](#), maintaining, and managing all City of Fruita Mountain Properties. The City Council directed staff to make formal offers of free donation to specific entities and based on the agreement between the City of Fruita and Ute Water, Ute Water has the first right of refusal.

In May of 2024, city staff submitted an official offer to donate to the Ute Water Conservancy District the Fruita Mountain Properties which include water rights decreed to the Fruita Pipe and Water System and Fruita Reservoirs – Reservoir #1, Reservoir #2, Reservoir #3, all water rights associated with the reservoirs and the 125-acre parcel located on Pinon Mesa. The City received correspondence from the General Manager of Ute Water stating that at the Ute Water Board meeting on June 12, 2024 the Board voted to not accept the official offer to donate the Fruita Mountain Properties as they did not think this was in the best interests of Ute Water. The City will continue to approach the other public entities to make the same offer. [Read more about the history of Fruita Mountain Water Properties online.](#)

## 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).

- **Question:** Why does the city chip seal roadways?
- **Answer:** Chip sealing is a process of spreading oil over a paved road and then covering the oil with a thin layer of small gravel. Chip sealing is a cost-effective maintenance treatment that slows the aging process of paved roads. A chip seal extends pavement life and reduces the frequency paved roads are resurfaced.

## General Updates

- **April Financial Reports.** The full report for sales tax collections for the month of April of 2024 is available in the Council packet for this week, which can be found here when available: City Council Meeting Packet – June 17, 2024. Here is a quick overview of the report:
  - **City Sales Taxes** – Sales tax collections in the month of April 2024 were up 10% compared to the prior April and are trending at an increase of 9% for the year overall.
  - **Use Taxes on Motor Vehicles** – Increase 13% in April and are even with the prior year.
  - **Use Taxes on Building Materials** - Were down 59% and is trending at decreasing to 29%.
  - **City Lodging Tax** – In April, lodging tax collections increased 16% and are at an increase of 7% from the prior year.
  - **County Sales Taxes** – Were up 4% in April and are up 4% for the year overall.
- **State of Community Breakfast.** The annual Fruita State of the Community Breakfast will be on Tuesday, June 25, at 8:30 a.m. at Absolute Prestige Ranch in Loma. Mayor Breman is one of the

speakers, along with Mesa County Commissioner Cody Davis, State Representatives Rick Taggart and Matthew Soper, Senator Janice Rich, and staff from Senator Hickenlooper's and Bennet's offices. Find more information at [2024 Fruita State of the Community Breakfast](#).

- **Monthly Waste Management Report.** In May this year, Fruita residents recycled 54 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard, which is a 28% increase from January of this year. Good job Fruita! The full report can be found below.
- **Colorado Capitol Conference.** Mayor Breman and I attended the Colorado Capitol Conference in Washington D.C. hosted by Colorado Mesa University. Over 100 fellow Coloradans attended as well, where we engaged with and learned from Federal leadership.



## Engineering

- **Informational Open Houses.** We will be hosting two informational open house events prior to the 19 Road Project kick off. These events provide residents with the opportunity to learn in person about the project. The first event will take place on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Fruita Civic Center (325 E. Aspen Ave.). The last one is on Thursday, October 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Fruita Civic Center (325 E. Aspen Ave.). Learn more about the project at [fruita.org/19road](http://fruita.org/19road).
- **19 Road Closure Starting Monday.** 19 Road will be closed from Skiff Avenue to Iron Drive starting Monday, June 17, 2024, for about two weeks. This closure is for sanitary sewer installation for the Iron Wheel development. The recommended detour route is taking 19 1/2 Road and Highway 6&50.

## Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** The Northern Pavilion construction started, and the steel framing is complete. They hope to complete the pavilion construction and do fine grading around the

shelter next week. The wheel park continues to progress and is over 50% complete. The deep bowl is being formed with rebar and pool coping around the top. The contractor hopes to pour the big bowl early next week. The electrical trenches in the grass area have been filled, and the landscaper is preparing for a second round of sod. The curb, gutter, and sidewalk for the west parking area was poured.

- **HeART of Fruita Planters.** Heritage Masonry started construction on the two new HeART of Fruita flowerbeds in front of Visit Fruita and Kim's Auto on Wednesday. They should be completed mid-week next week.
- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The contractor set the new pump in the pump room and is getting ready to complete the installation. They are still waiting for the engineer to provide foundation plans so they can be formed and poured. Even with the foundations' delay, we are expected to meet the installation date in September.
- **Parks Irrigation Update - Continued.** The parks crew is working on irrigation in all parks. Little Salt Wash Park continues to see irrigation problems and last week there was a large irrigation break that caused the grass to dry out over the weekend. Crews are trying to add additional water to the park to get caught back up and green. They are checking irrigation heads and making sure that everything is running correctly with irrigation audits at all parks. The high river water is causing additional sediment and debris which clogs the irrigation filters every night. The quick rise in temperatures has caused several parks to dry out and not look as green as they have been.

## Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit [fruita.org/projects](http://fruita.org/projects).

### 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 Construction) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001) (50 Lots)
- Gear Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Construction) (1156 18 Road) (8 Lots)
- Lake Weedunno Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (916 18 Road) (2 Lots)
- Sunset Pointe Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (Squire Court) (2 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)
- 1176 18 ½ Road Rezone (Under Review)

## Police

- **Traffic Monitoring Update.** At a recent City Council meeting, there was a public comment regarding issues with speeding on a narrow section of North Ash (north of Pabor). Fruita Police looked into this section and created a STEP area (Strategic Traffic Enforcement Program) where officers will dedicate time to proactively work in this area.
- **Calls for Service Statistics.** In May 2024, the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center logged 946 calls for service for the Fruita Police Department. This compares with 993 calls for service in May 2023, showing a 5% decrease. Year to date we have had 4,789 calls for service, compared with 4,582 calls for service this time last year, showing a 5% increase.
- **Junior Citizen Police Academy.** We're back! Registration for the 2024 Junior Citizen Police Academy is open. You can pick up an application at the Fruita PD or online at <https://bit.ly/fpdacademy>. The academy will be every Thursday from 6 pm-8 pm starting July 11th and ending on August 1st for cadets between the ages of 12-18. We look forward to having you in class!

## Public Works

- **Security Upgrades.** Security upgrades to various City of Fruita facilities are complete.
- **Street Work.** Street crews completed asphalt patching on Harrison, 52 miles of street sweeping, and 60 utility locates.
- **Utility Work.** Utilities crew completed irrigation system flushing and headgate cleaning. Year to date numbers for sewer line cleaning is 7.35 miles, sewer inspection completed 4.48 miles, and 4,786 hours of combined lift station sewer pump run time. Pumps range from 100 gallons per minute to 1,200 gallons per minute.
- **Kingsview Lift Station Review.** Completed 90% review of Kingsview Lift Station project and pricing evaluation and completed site visits with Construction Manager at Risk for King's View and Greenway Drive projects.

## RESOURCE LINKS

- [Traffic Impacts](#)
- [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):

- [Fruita, FARM owners team up to redevelop blighted building.](#)
- [Fruita Farmers Market begins today.](#)

- [Vietnamese Restaurant opens in Fruita.](#)
- [New developments in Fruita.](#)
- [Mesa County receives funding to eradicate Japanese Beetle.](#)
- [Community favorite dino event takes place this Saturday.](#)
- [Rivers are peaking so danger remains high.](#)

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

- **June 15, 2024** – Tab Benoit with special guest Larry McCray, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 p.m.
- **June 15, 2024** – Fruita Farmer’s Market, Reed Park, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **June 18, 2024** – Rim Rock Rodeo, 927 Highway 340, 7:00 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 18, 2024** – Rim Rock Rodeo, 927 Highway 340, 7:00 p.m.
- **June 28, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **July 17, 2024** – 19 Road Project Informational Open House, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- **July 18, 2024** – City Engagement Event, Imondi Wakezone, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 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.
- **October 3, 2024** - 19 Road Project Informational Open House, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 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](mailto:communications@fruita.org).

# **WM** May 2024 Recycling Benefits City of Fruita

In May 2024, we recycled 54 tons of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.

This Month's recycling efforts saved the following resources:



### **877 Mature Trees**

Enough avoided timber resource use to produce 14,915,900 sheets of printing and copy paper!



### **126 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace**

Enough avoided airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 161 people!



### **127,044 Kwh of Electricity**

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



### **Avoided 149 Metric Tons (MTCO2E) of GHG Emissions**

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



### **267,199 Gallons of Water**

Enough avoided water use to meet the daily fresh water needs of 3,562 people!

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. © Waste Management 2023  
Notes: GHG = Greenhouse Gas; MTCO2E = Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent



*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.