

# **THE CODE OF THE WEST**

This code was first chronicled by the famous western writer, Zane Grey. It embodied much of what is good in mankind. The men and women who came to this part of the country during the westward expansion of the United States were bound by an unwritten code of conduct. The values of integrity and self reliance guided their decisions, actions, and interactions. In keeping with that spirit, we offer this information to help the citizens of Mesa County who wish to follow in the footsteps of these rugged individualists by living outside the city limits.

We hope that this will become...

# **THE CODE OF THE WEST**

## **-TODAY-**

**INTRODUCTION:** It is important to know that life in the country is different from life in the city. Enjoy the country life, but at the same time, understand you are not in the city. County governments are not equipped to provide all the same types of services or the same levels of service city governments provide. One of the keys to enjoying life in the country is to be informed and know what to expect. To that end, we are providing you with the following information to help educate and inform you when you are considering purchasing and/or developing in rural Mesa County.

**1.0 ACCESS** The fact that you can drive to your property does not necessarily guarantee that you, your guests, construction, service or emergency vehicles can achieve that same level of access at all times. Please consider:

**1.1** You may find that emergency services response time is longer and their services may be more expensive. Sheriff's services are usually dispatched from a municipal central location or are present in your area at scheduled times; fire departments are most often manned by volunteers as are many ambulance services associated with them. Mesa County can boast some of the most up-to-date training and equipment in the state, but distance from dispatch and road conditions will always be a consideration. The best crime prevention program is your relationship and cooperation with your neighbors. Rural Mesa County is an expansive extended community; please remember that fewer tax dollars will require more in the way of volunteer effort. Your volunteer time and moneys are needed by your fire department, EMS and others. Plan on being asked and on serving.

**1.2** Access to your property should not be taken for granted. No person shall construct any driveway providing vehicular access to or from any County road or across property adjoining a County Road without access approval by the Mesa County Engineering Division. It is wise to investigate the access to your property by obtaining legal advice and by contacting the

County Planning Office. If you are planning to access your property across public lands you should contact the appropriate public land management agency. Make sure you understand the full rights and restrictions of your access.

**1.3** Mesa County has approximately 1,400 miles maintained county roads, about half paved and half unpaved and an additional 300 miles of unmaintained Right of Way. Many roads in rural areas are also maintained by private road associations. And there are some public roads which are not maintained by anyone. Additionally, the level of maintenance can vary. Some roads are maintained only seasonally. Some county maintained roads are neither graded nor plowed. Make sure that you know what type of maintenance to expect and who will provide that maintenance and whether you are expected to pay for some part of the maintenance. Do not assume just because you move out to a location that the maintenance level will increase.

**1.4** In extreme weather, even county maintained roads can become impassable. You may need a four wheel drive vehicle with chains for all four wheels to travel during some weather conditions, which could last for several days. Extreme weather conditions can destroy roads. You need to ascertain whether your road has been engineered and constructed properly and in the event that it is damaged who will be responsible to repair or rebuild it. The cost could come back to you. Driveway grade and curves also must be constructed with emergency access in mind. Please contact your local fire department when

you begin the construction of new roads and the construction of your new home. Your local fire department will be contacted by your insurance agent in order to get a rating for your access and structure.

- 1.5** Many large construction vehicles cannot navigate small, narrow roads. If you plan to build, it is prudent to check out construction access.
- 1.6** If your road is unpaved, do not assume that paving will happen soon or at all. Check carefully with the county road and bridge department when any statement is made by the seller of any property that indicates any unpaved roads will be paved. Remember unpaved roads usually mean dust; they are not always smooth and often slippery when wet. Accordingly, you can expect an increase in vehicle maintenance costs when you regularly travel on rural county roads.
- 1.7** School buses travel only on maintained county roads that have been designated as school bus routes by the school district. You may need to drive your child(ren) to the nearest county road so they can get to the bus and in some situations they will need to be transported to their school(s).
- 1.8** Even those items we most often assume as home delivered need to be investigated. Mail delivery is not available in all areas of the county. Ask your postmaster to describe the system for your area. Newspaper delivery is similarly not always available again, check with the local services. Standard parcel and overnight package delivery can be a problem for those who live in

the country. Confirm with the various providers as to your status.

**2.0 UTILITY SERVICES** Water, sewer, electric, telephone, cable TV, trash and other services are provided by different entities within Mesa County. Be sure to check with the various sources on the availability and cost of these services. Also, be aware:

**2.1** Mesa County is experiencing the same surge in demand for phone lines as the rest of the nation. Some rural areas may still be served by party lines and some areas may not have phone lines available at this time. In some very remote areas, service may be available by cellular or radio phone, and in some cases coverage may be limited. The additional or primary line for use with a FAX or computer modem may not be available.

**2.2** Sewer line hook-up is usually provided by municipalities or sewer districts, normally in close proximity to a town. Do not assume that your property is serviced by a sewer hook-up or district. Even if your neighbor is so serviced your property may not be. If sewer hook-up is not available you will need to contact the Mesa County Health Department, to obtain an Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) permit application. The ability to develop an ISDS on your property also is not a given, your soil type, drainage and other factors can prohibit the use of one.

**2.3** If you have access to a supply of treated domestic water, the tap fees can be expensive as can the monthly cost compared to that of

municipal systems. If a supply of treated domestic water is not available, you will have to locate an alternative supply. Well water is not a given and water tables are depleting across the west. Permits for wells are granted by the state engineer and costs for drilling and pumping can be considerable. The quality and quantity of well water can vary considerably from location to location and from season to season. Using a cistern and hauling water may be another consideration. Please keep in mind that not all wells can be used for the watering of landscape and/or livestock. Water well permits are usually issued for use only inside the home. If you have other needs, make certain that you have the appropriate approvals before you invest.

**2.4** Mesa County has a pay-as-you-go policy on development where rural building is concerned. The cost and availability of electric and natural gas service should be checked carefully. The cost of these services must usually include a fee to hook into the system and then a monthly charge for energy consumed. If you are purchasing land with the plan to build at a future date there is a possibility that the utility lines in place may not be large enough to accommodate you if others connect first. It may be necessary to cross private or public lands in order to bring utilities to your property; make sure that the proper easements are in place or can be obtained. If you have special power requirements, it is important to know what level of service can be provided to your property.

- 2.5** Electric service is enjoyed by rural and urban residents alike. While infrequent, a rural customer can expect a few more power outages than their urban neighbor because of the nature of serving rural areas. For quicker restoration of power, report the outage and any information to the utility provider as to what may have caused the outage. (Do not call 9-1-1 unless the outage causes a true emergency.) Safety precautions that all electric customers should take include: utilize surge protectors on all electronic equipment; make sure internal wiring is safe and up to code; know where overhead power lines are when doing any kind of overhead work and maintain a safe distance from them; and when digging, have an underground locate performed to find where any underground utilities may be located.
- 2.6** Power outages, although mostly short term, do occur in rural areas more frequently than in town. A well pump or a computer may be most susceptible to damage due to such outages.
- 2.7** Although most rural areas of the county are not wired for cable TV, many areas can receive broadcast TV signals provided by several broadcast stations. However, in mountainous areas reception can be limited and the purchase of a satellite dish may be the only alternative.
- 2.8** Trash removal can be much more expensive or non-existent in a rural area. In some cases, your only option may be to haul your trash to the landfill yourself. Recycling is more difficult because pick-up is also not as available in some rural areas.

**3.0 THE PROPERTY** There are many issues that can affect your property. It is important to research these items before purchasing land. Check the following very carefully:

**3.1** Not all parcels are suitable for building or development. Many parcels are not buildable lots in the sense that a building permit can not be issued. The following are examples of concerns: zoning, environmental concerns (steep slopes, watershed, natural hazards, agricultural lands of importance, wildlife areas and others), wild fire hazards or flood areas. This is a partial list of those that might not be considered as suitable. An approval from county planning should be obtained before construction begins. A separate parcel number does not absolutely designate a separate lot; only the planning department can investigate and ensure this.

**3.2** Some easements held by others, allow the construction of roads, irrigation ditches, power lines, water lines, sewer lines, etc. around or across your land. This could restrict some development or building options. Also, some easements may not be recorded, so be sure to research this thoroughly.

**3.3** Fences do not necessarily define property lines. Not all sections are exactly 640 acres and just because you received a plat of your property you can not assume that the property boundaries are accurate. Unless the land has been surveyed with pins placed by a licensed surveyor and those pin locations filed with the Mesa County's Surveyor's Office, you can not be assured of the boundaries of your property. Placing fences on



your property requires crucial steps. It is necessary, as mentioned above to know your property boundaries. It is also critical to call for utility locations to avoid digging and placing of posts in dangerous underground utilities. Fencing is also a huge concern with the Division of Wildlife (DOW). Please contact the local DOW office to know specifications on fencing requirements in your area.

**3.4** Many subdivisions or PUD's (Planned Unit Developments) will have Home Owners Associations (HOAs) that place covenants limiting the use of the property. These covenants may also require the care of common areas including roads, open space, etc. They also have the authority to assess dues. A dysfunctional association or poor covenants can cause problems and unforeseen expenses, even involving you in litigation. Mesa County does not enforce covenant restrictions. You should research the existence of any association or covenants on your property. An association may not be in operation when you purchase your property but its existence and covenants can be enforced.

**3.5** Mesa County is growing and changing, and no one can guarantee that properties you do not own will stay the same forever. It is advisable that you review Mesa County's Long Range Plans and study the zoning in your area. The pasture across the road may be scenic today; tomorrow it could be a gravel pit or shopping center.

**3.6** Water rights can be a point of contention even among longstanding neighbors. Do not assume

that water that crosses a piece of property you own (or are thinking of buying) is necessarily a part of that property. Other users may have senior rights to the water, or may require you to pay for the over sizing or other improvements to the ditch or water course. If you have a ditch running across your property, there is a possibility that the owners of the ditch have the right to come onto your property with heavy equipment to maintain the ditch. If your development plans call for a large amount of irrigation water, make sure that the land comes with enough rights, or that you can increase the amounts of water coming onto your property. Not all land has irrigation water rights and not all water rights can be increased. You must determine what water rights come with the property and understand through whom and how they will work.

- 3.7** Irrigation ditches, canals and their banks may be privately owned and their access and use may be restricted. Recreational use is not allowed and is possibly dangerous.
- 3.8** It is your responsibility to know what lands are privately owned. Not all privately owned property is fenced; not all private roads are posted or labeled as such. Trespass is a recurring problem and one that must be considered before you assume open land is public land.
- 3.9** Some rural lands in Mesa County can be used for mining. However, zoning and review by the Mesa County Planning Department and the Board of County Commissioners is usually required.

And although you own your property it does not guarantee that you own what is underneath. Many of the mineral rights in Mesa County were sold away many years ago from the property under which they sit. Owners of mineral rights may have the right to change the surface characteristics in order to extract the mineral resources. Also, be aware that a mining operation or gravel pit in proximity or adjacent to your property may also be able to expand.

**4.0 NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION** Natural gas development has become increasingly common in Mesa County. It is important that you know about the mineral rights under your property and how to work with the energy industry.

**4.1** Many properties with mineral rights are considered “split-estate”, meaning that the surface is owned by one entity or private party, while the minerals can be owned by the Federal Government, the State or by a private party or entity. Also, many minerals may have been leased prior to your ownership. When the minerals are owned by the Federal Government, they are managed under the auspices of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This means that the natural gas extraction can occur on private land, if the minerals are federally held. Make sure you research whether mineral rights under your property are privately held or if your property is considered a split estate. In Colorado, it is the responsibility of the property purchaser to research the split estate issue. Be aware that

energy development on your land, or neighboring parcels, may expand.

- 4.2** Energy development can impact your property. It is best to establish a working relationship with the company extracting on your property or in the area. Make sure you know who to contact if you have problems with noise, dust, traffic, etc. Most operators will have a designated community liaison that handles questions and complaints; if not, the company land man is also a good contact to have.
- 4.3** Energy companies and their contractors have strict safety and environmental regulations. It is also your responsibility to act in a safe and environmentally sensitive manner. Please use caution on roads that energy operators utilize, do not cross private properties or enter drilling sites owned by energy operators, and keep children and pets far away from energy activity.
- 4.4** To extract minerals that are held by the Federal Government, companies must undergo an extensive process governed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This process includes several opportunities for public engagement and comment. It is in your best interest to become as involved as possible in these processes. More information can be obtained through the Bureau of Land Management.
- 4.5** Federally or privately held mineral rights will also have to undergo a series of county and state permits. If you own your own minerals and are working with a company to extract the natural

gas, make sure all necessary permits from the county and state have been obtained.

- 4.6** It should be understood in areas of natural gas development that other related infrastructure may be needed, including but not limited to compressor stations and pipelines.

**5.0 MOTHER NATURE** Living and working in the country brings its own special contact with nature and the elements. Keep in mind that a government entity will not indemnify you for losses to your pets or livestock. Please consider these ideas brought to you by the voice of experience:

- 5.1** Trees are beautiful and useful. They can be a danger, too. A clear open space between buildings and the surrounding vegetation provides a “defensible perimeter” in the event of forest or range fire. Because response times for emergency services may be longer in the rural parts of the county, two factors have emerged as the primary determinants of a home's ability to survive wildfire. These are the home's roofing material and the quality of the "defensible space" surrounding it. Use fire-resistive materials (Class C or better rating), not wood or shake shingles, to roof homes in or near forests and grasslands. Check with your county building department. Defensible space is an area around a structure where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire towards the structure. It also reduces the chance of a structure fire moving from the building to the surrounding forest. Your house is more likely to withstand a wildfire if grasses, brush, trees and other common forest fuels are managed to reduce a fire's intensity. Develop defensible space around each

building on your property. Include detached garages, storage buildings, barns and other structures in your plan. The actual design and development of your defensible space depends on several factors: size and shape of buildings, materials used in their construction, the slope of the ground on which the structures are built, surrounding topography, and sizes and types of vegetation on your property. These factors all affect your design. You may want to request additional guidance from your local Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) forester or fire department. Should a fire start as a result of your carelessness, you may be responsible for paying for the cost of extinguishing that fire. When landscaping, remember the use of native vegetation will not only increase your chances of successful growing, it will also reduce dangers to and from wildfire and wildlife, as well as reducing the chances of the introduction of noxious or undesirable vegetation to the area.

- 5.2** The dirt under your feet cannot be taken for granted. Soil stability varies widely depending on the area. Expansive soils, such as Bentonite Clay, can buckle foundations and twist steel I-Beams. Get sound advice from a qualified engineer about the best foundation for your structure before you begin construction.
- 5.3** North facing slopes rarely see direct sunlight in the winter. There is a possibility that snow and ice will accumulate and not melt throughout the winter. You should be cautious about placing any improvements on north facing slopes.
- 5.4** A flash flood can occur, especially during the spring and summer months, turning a dry gully into a river. The topography of the land can tell

you where the water will go in the case of heavy precipitation or run off. Be wise when choosing a construction site and don't build in an area that could be washed away.

**6.0 WILDLIFE** Mesa County is home to many wildlife species, including both threatened and endangered, as well as threatening and dangerous wildlife. Rural development encroaches on the traditional habitat of bear, mountain lion, coyotes, bobcats, rattlesnakes, prairie dogs and other animals that can be dangerous to you and you need to know how to coexist with them. You need to know how to handle your pets and even your trash properly. The Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) is a good resource for information and publications that can help educate you about living in the 'wild'.

**6.1** Specifically, bears frequent communities looking for food. In order to alleviate conflicts with bears, secure all garbage and food attractants to ensure that they cannot access them. Humans provide a lot of food sources for bears. Some include: garbage, pet food, bird feeders, hummingbird feeders, gardens, compost, BBQ grills (including the grease traps). Bears are very intelligent and inquisitive. Once a bear(s) has found a food source, they will return to it over time. If you have a conflict with a bear, remove or secure the food/garbage source in a garage or sturdy shed, keep the doors closed and locked and if you continue to have problems, contact the DOW. The DOW has trained volunteers called "Bear Aware" volunteers that may contact you to discuss solutions to conflicts

with bears. If your conflicts are not alleviated by a discussion or visit by a “Bear Aware” volunteer, the local officer will contact you to assist with the situation. Trapping and relocating bears is not always the best solution. Bears that have become habituated to human food or garbage sources will soon return to their old habits. If you are prepared and consistent, you will prevent bears from becoming problems.

**6.2** With the arrival of warmer weather and spring blooms, baby animals are born all over western Colorado. Please remember that wildlife rarely abandons their young – it is best to leave young animals alone! Young birds occasionally fall out of nests. If you know where the nest is, it is okay to put the bird back in the nest. Later in the spring and summer, they will be learning to fly. If they have feathers, don’t touch them – leave them on the ground. If they look “naked” they likely fell out of the nest, and it is okay to put them back. “Naked” birds are not ready to leave the nest. Deer fawns and elk calves are spotted at birth. They have built in camouflage to blend in to their environment. They lie down and remain quiet until their mother is nearby to feed them. The mother will then leave them and feed on her own. Typically if there are two fawns or calves, they will not be together. This improves their chance of survival. They are quiet and still for the same reason – noise and movement will attract predators. If you see a fawn or calf lying silently – leave it alone! The mother will return in several hours to feed and care for it! Other young



mammals such as squirrels, raccoons, and foxes will be having young in the spring, too. Leave them alone – their parents will have to leave them alone for periods of time to hunt for food. If you are convinced that a young animal has been abandoned – leave it alone and contact the DOW. Experts may tell you to leave it alone and let nature take its course. In a few locations there are wildlife rehabilitators that can care for a few animals at a time. They are trained and licensed through the DOW. Do not ever take an animal into your home or try to feed them yourself. You will likely do more harm than good!

**6.3** Wildlife viewing is one of the benefits to living in Mesa County. Many locations provide good wildlife viewing opportunities in every season. Spring and summer is a good time to see waterfowl, raptors, deer, and many small mammals. For specific viewing opportunities in your community, look at the Colorado Division of Wildlife website at: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/Viewing>

**6.4** And remember wildlife on the road, even “harmless” animals like deer can cross the road unexpectedly and cause a traffic accident. Please contact the DOW if an injury has occurred to an animal from a vehicle accident.

**6.5** The time-honored tradition of hunting and fishing continues to be a part of the rural lifestyle. These activities can take place on private property with the permission of the owner, or on public land that may border private property. Consequently, you may need to find yourself in close proximity to hunters and fishermen. Remember that your safety and that of your property may be in someone else's hands when the use of firearms comes into the picture. There are educational opportunities for adults and youth year-round. From Hunter Education to Cast and Blasts – where you learn to fly fish and shoot shotguns – there are opportunities for everyone. Please visit the DOW website or call a local office for a schedule of activities: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/Education/>

**7.0 AGRICULTURE** The people who tamed this land brought water to the barren, arid western slope and its mountains through an ingenious system of water diversions. This water has allowed agriculture to become an important part of our environment. Owning rural land means knowing how to care for it. You should be aware of the facts about agriculture in Mesa County.

**7.1** Agriculture is a multi-million dollar business in Mesa County, Colorado with the “Right to Farm” legislation that protects agri-businesses from nuisance and liability lawsuits. Do not expect county government to intervene in the normal day-to-day operations of your agri-business neighbors.

- 7.2** Farmers and ranchers often work around the clock, especially during planting, harvesting and the spring when the young are born. Dairy operators sometimes milk without stopping and hay is often swathed or baled at night. Land preparations and other operations can cause dust, odor and noise. If you choose to live among farms and ranches of our rural countryside, your property may be affected by your agri-business neighbors.
- 7.3** Colorado has an open range law. This means if you do not want cattle, sheep or other livestock on your property, it is your responsibility to fence them out. It is not the responsibility of the rancher to keep his/her livestock off your property. “Fence out, not in!” For information regarding livestock laws and issues, please contact the Department of Agriculture State Board of Stock Inspection to visit with your local Brand Inspector.
- 7.4** Another danger can be fencing itself. Electric fence must be considered “hot”, and barbed wire may look stationary, even innocent, but it can easily tear clothing and flesh.
- 7.5** Pasture land must be carefully maintained on both private and public lands to ensure its durability and resilience. Therefore, you may encounter livestock being moved on public roadways. Legislation allows the livestock operator the conscientious use of these roadways for this purpose. Should you encounter livestock on the road, patience is recommended; they are usually on the road for only a short distance and will pass fairly quickly. You may wait if they are

oncoming, or follow at a safe distance should you come up behind them. If you choose instead to pass through them, please follow the instructions from those in charge of the herd or flock. If you are asked to follow a horse or vehicle through the livestock, please stay as close as you can. Remember that a cow may look small but its kick, even the rub of a rough hide, can still cause damage to your vehicle. Additionally, should you cause injury to livestock you will be held responsible for damages.

**7.6** Domestic animals can be dangerous. Livestock in general, not just bulls, stallions, rams, boars, etc., can attack human beings. Children need to know that it is not safe to enter or approach animals in pens or pastures.

**7.7** Pets always need to be kept under control. Mesa County Animal Services enforces a "Dog at Large" ordinance and the state statute relating to Dangerous Dogs. Pets that are allowed to run free may become a nuisance to ranchers, livestock and wildlife. Stockmen may legally shoot animals which are threatening their livestock. Wildlife personnel also have the right to protect all wildlife from harassment by domestic pets.

**7.8** You must also be aware of the working livestock dog. He is there to herd and/or guard his owner's livestock. If you trespass on what he considers the territory he is meant to protect, it could be you who is considered the interloper.

**7.9** Feedlots, both large and small, and other farm animals such as horses, sheep, chickens and hogs can have an odor. Under Colorado

agriculture law (C.R.S. 35-3.5-101), odors, smoke, noise, dust, spraying are not considered nuisances.

- 7.10** Farmers occasionally burn their ditches to keep them clean of debris, weeds and other obstructions. This burning occurs at various times of the year, creating smoke that you may find objectionable. This burning is legal and necessary. Drought conditions may lead to burning bans. Should you decide to burn on your rural property you must check with local authorities before burning.
- 7.11** Chemicals (mainly fertilizers, insecticides and herbicides) are often used on growing crops, orchards and vineyards. You may be sensitive to these substances and many people actually may have allergic reactions. These chemicals are often applied in the calm of the morning, sometimes by airplanes. CSU (Colorado State University Extension) can provide information on the use of agricultural chemicals. Your property can also be in a pest control district. This is another term to investigate.
- 7.12** Owning rural land means knowing how to care for it. Weed control, both noxious and otherwise, is the responsibility of the land owner. CSU Tri-River Extension office does have weed control and abatement regulations. Native and introduced plants can be poisonous to livestock. Do not assume that because it's green your livestock can eat it. Again, the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Office can provide information and help in these areas. Failure to control insects or weeds on your

property may have disastrous impacts on your neighbors. Please be aware that Colorado has an enforceable noxious weed law. Please visit [www.mesacounty.us/pest/default.aspx](http://www.mesacounty.us/pest/default.aspx) to learn more about the Mesa County Noxious Weed Plan.

**7.13** Mesa County's Agricultural Advisory Panel can help mediate problems associated with complaints about agricultural operations.

**IN CONCLUSION** The information presented here is intended as a guideline and an introduction into some of the realities of rural living. You may discover other issues that have not been covered. We encourage you to research and examine all aspects of country living so you will enjoy the country and not have unpleasant surprises. Mesa County elected officials, administration and staff prides themselves on their accessibility. By publishing "The Code of the West- Today", Mesa County is in no way divesting itself of its responsibility to its constituents. We offer these comments in the sincere hope that they will help you better understand how things work in the country. Mesa County is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. We only hope this information will help to enhance the quality of your life here. Respect your neighbors' livelihood and property and be aware that your actions may have adverse impacts to your neighbors, human or otherwise.

**"Code of the West- Today"**  
**Contacts and Resources-**

Bureau Land Management- Grand Junction, CO	970-244-3000
Call Before Digging- Utility Locate	1-800-922-1987
Colorado Cattlemen's Association- Arvada, CO	303-431-6422
Colorado Division of Transportation Road and Weather	1-877-315-7623
Colorado Division of Wildlife- Grand Junction, CO Office	970-255-6100
Colorado State Board of Stock Inspection- Denver, CO Office	303-294-0895
Colorado State University Research	970-434-3264
Community Counts – Energy Industry Neighborhood Partnership Group	1-866-442-9034
Grand Valley Power- Grand Junction, CO	970-242-0040
Grand Valley Ranger District- Grand Junction and Collbran Work Center	970-242-8211
Mesa County Agricultural Advisory Panel	970-244-1724
Mesa County Animal Services	970-244-4646
Mesa County Board of Commissioners Office	970-244-1885
Mesa County Building Office	970-244-1631
Mesa County Cattlemen's Association	970-858-0497
Mesa County Division of Pest Management	970-244-1834

Mesa County Environmental Health Department	970-248-6960
Mesa County Landfill	970-241-6846
Mesa County Long Range Plan	970-255-7189
Mesa County Planning Office	970-244-1867
Mesa County Road and Bridge	970-244-1807
Mesa County Sheriff's Office	970-244-3500
Mesa County Surveying, Public Works, Engineering Department	970-244-1765
Mesa County Transportation and Road Planning	970-255-7188
Mesa County Weed and Pest Control	970-255-7120
Mesa Land Trust	970-263-5443
Natural Resources Conservation Service- Grand Junction, CO	970-243-5068
Operation Game and Livestock Theft	1-800-332-4155
Plateau Valley Cattlewomen- Collbran, CO	970-487-3402 970-487-0119
School District 50-Plateau Valley- Collbran, CO	970-487-3547
School District 51 Mesa County- Grand Junction, CO	970-254-5100
Source Gas- Grand Junction, CO	970-255-7510
Tri River Area Colorado State University Extension Agent, Horticulture	970-244-1834
US Bureau of Reclamation- Grand Junction, CO	970-248-0600
USDA Forest Service Supervisor's Office- Delta, CO	970-874-6600

Xcel Energy- Grand Junction, CO 1-800-824-1688

*In cases of emergency, please call 9-1-1.*



**Special Appreciation to  
Endorsing Entities:**

Mesa County Board of Commissioners

Plateau Valley Cattlewomen

Grand Valley National Bank

Mesa County Cattlemen

Palisade National Bank

Community Counts –  
Energy Industry Neighborhood Partnership Group

Barbara East

Lightening Quick Printers