



# CITY OF Federal Heights

COLORADO

FOCUS NEWSLETTER

RIISING TO GREAT HEIGHTS

Incorporated 1940

SUMMER 2026 EDITION

www.fedheights.org

## FREE SUMMER MEALS & FOOD ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

As summer break begins, families throughout our community are encouraged to take advantage of several local food assistance programs available to children, teens, and residents in need. Adams 12 Five Star Schools and Westminster Public Schools are once again offering free summer meal programs for youth ages 1–18. These programs help ensure children continue to have access to nutritious meals while school is out for the summer.

Many meal sites do not require registration, and meals are available regardless of household income or school enrollment status. Families are encouraged to review participating locations and meal schedules through the school district websites listed below.



In addition to the summer youth meal programs, Thrive Church, located at 2720 92<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, continues to provide important community support through its weekly food assistance services. The church hosts a food bank every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Proof of residence is required, which may include a valid ID, utility bill, or piece of mail showing their name and address.

Thrive Church also offers a community soup kitchen every Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., providing warm meals and fellowship for individuals and families in need.

These programs reflect the strong spirit of support and compassion within our community, helping ensure that no resident goes without assistance during the summer months.

For additional information, meal schedules, and participating locations, please visit:

- <https://www.adams12.org/newsroom/news-details/~board/district-news/post/free-summer-meals-for-youth-ages-1-18-1689016899865>
- <https://www.wps.org/departments/operations/culinary-services/summer-meal-program-locations>

# MAYOR LINDA S. MONTOYA REPORTS



**Linda S. Montoya**

Mayor

(720) 394-3928

lsmontoya@fedheights.org

As summer arrives in the City of Federal Heights, it brings more opportunities to gather with neighbors, enjoy local events, and strengthen the connections that make our city such a special place to call home. I encourage all residents to take advantage of the many programs, parks, and activities available throughout the season and to spend time supporting one another in our neighborhoods.

I would also like to invite everyone to join us for our upcoming Summer Social and

National Night Out on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Carstens Park, 2518 W. 90<sup>th</sup> Ave., Federal Heights, CO 80260. This event is a wonderful opportunity for residents, families, first responders, and city staff to come together for an evening of community fun, conversation, and connection.

National Night Out is a nationwide event that promotes strong relationships between communities and public safety personnel, helping create safer and more connected neighborhoods. We look forward to seeing residents of all ages come out to meet neighbors, enjoy activities, and celebrate our community spirit together. We hope to see you there and wish everyone a safe, enjoyable summer season.

*Con la llegada del verano a la Ciudad de Federal Heights, también llegan más oportunidades para convivir con los vecinos, disfrutar de eventos locales y fortalecer las conexiones que hacen de nuestra ciudad un lugar tan especial para vivir. Invito a todos los residentes a aprovechar los programas, parques y actividades disponibles durante la temporada, así como a apoyarse mutuamente en nuestras comunidades.*

*También me gustaría invitar a todos a acompañarnos en nuestro próximo Summer Social y National Night Out el martes 4 de agosto, de 5:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m., en Carstens Park, ubicado en 2518 W 90th Ave, Federal Heights, CO 80260. Este evento es una excelente oportunidad para que residentes, familias, primeros respondedores y personal de la ciudad convivan en una tarde de diversión, conversación y unión comunitaria.*

*National Night Out es un evento nacional que promueve relaciones sólidas entre la comunidad y el personal de seguridad pública, ayudando a crear vecindarios más seguros y unidos. Esperamos ver a residentes de todas las edades convivir con sus vecinos, disfrutar de actividades y celebrar juntos el espíritu de nuestra comunidad. Esperamos verlos ahí y les deseamos a todos un verano seguro y agradable.*



# CITY COUNCIL

## WARD I



**Celeste Arner**  
(720) 409-7735  
[carner@fedheights.org](mailto:carner@fedheights.org)



**Mike Vallero**  
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## WARD II

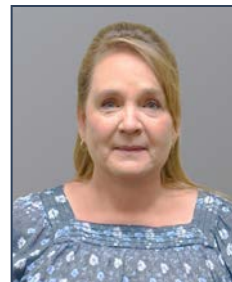


**Doris Peterson**  
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[dpeterson@fedheights.org](mailto:dpeterson@fedheights.org)

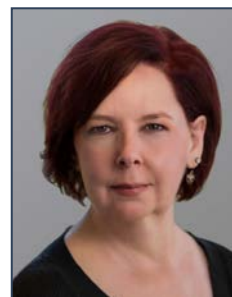


**Bonnie Sellers**  
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## WARD III



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**Sonia Jensen**  
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THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEET AT 6:00 P. M. ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAYS OF EACH MONTH FOR REGULAR MEETINGS & STUDY SESSIONS

Jacqueline Halburnt  
303-412-3525  
[jhalburnt@fedheights.org](mailto:jhalburnt@fedheights.org)

## CITY MANAGER

### GET INVOLVED: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Cities thrive when residents step forward to shape their future, and the Planning and Zoning Commission is one meaningful way to get involved. This role offers the opportunity to serve the community while gaining insight into how local government operates.

The Planning and Zoning Commission plays a vital role in guiding a city's growth and development. Volunteers review proposals for land use, zoning changes, and new developments, helping ensure projects align with the community's long-term vision. The P&Z Commission also serves as the Board of Adjustment, as needed. This position is ideal for those interested in urban planning, sustainability, housing, or economic development. Commissioners collaborate with city staff, developers, and residents, providing recommendations that influence everything from neighborhood character to infrastructure improvements. The P&Z Commission meets 6-12 times per year.

This opportunity helps residents build leadership skills, expand civic knowledge, and shape a stronger, more resilient city. Apply at [fedheights.org/jobs](https://fedheights.org/jobs).



# GOVERNMENT

## RECENTLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES

### **ORDINANCE NO. 26-03 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FEDERAL HEIGHTS, COLORADO, REPEALING AND REENACTING SEC. 1-15(A) PENALTIES OF THE FEDERAL HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE**

In December 2025, the Colorado Supreme Court held that state law preempts municipalities from imposing penalties that exceed the state’s statutory sentencing limits for non-felony offenses when the state law prohibits the same conduct addressed in a municipal ordinance. This ordinance repeals that section of the City’s municipal code and replaces it with language consistent with the Court’s ruling.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 26-04 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FEDERAL HEIGHTS, COLORADO, AMENDING SECTIONS 14-274 DEFINITIONS AND 14-277 APPLICATION; FEE OF CHAPTER 14 ARTICLE VIII MASSAGE FACILITY OF THE FEDERAL HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE**

The state legislature enacted legislation regulating massage facilities in accordance with statewide requirements, including a mandate that local governments establish a process for periodic criminal background checks of massage facility operators, owners, and employees. The City’s municipal code was amended to reflect these requirements.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 26-05 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FEDERAL HEIGHTS, COLORADO, REPEALING AND REENACTING IN ITS ENTIRETY SECTION 42-27(4) OF THE FEDERAL HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE STORAGE AND VISIBILITY OF SOLID WASTE, RECYCLING, AND ORGANIC MATTER CONTAINERS**

The existing municipal code language from 2013 created challenges for enforcement and interpretation. This ordinance clarifies that language and removes the R-4 Mobile Home Park Zone District from these regulations, as that district maintains its own internal rules and requirements for trash receptacles and site maintenance.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 26-06 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FEDERAL HEIGHTS, COLORADO, ENACTING SECTION 2-21 OF THE FEDERAL HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR PRO TEM**

The City’s Home Rule Charter provides that a Council Member shall be appointed as Mayor Pro Tem. This ordinance establishes a one-year term for the Mayor Pro Tem, to be filled by a vote of the Council Members at the first business meeting of each year.

## NEW EV CHARGING STATIONS NOW AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL

We’re excited to announce the installation of brand-new electric vehicle charging stations at City Hall!

This Level 2 charger delivers up to 19.2 kW of power and features two ports, making it easy and convenient for multiple drivers to charge up while visiting City Hall. Whether you’re stopping by for business or just passing through, you can now power up your EV right here in our community.

This project is another step toward a more sustainable and forward-thinking Federal Heights. We’re proud to support cleaner transportation options and provide resources that benefit both residents and visitors.



## PET SPOTLIGHT

If you're a Federal Heights resident and would like to see your pet featured in an upcoming issue, please email a photo of your pet, a fun fact, and your contact information to [events@fedheights.org](mailto:events@fedheights.org).



*Jerry (left) is 3 years old, Zolas (middle) is 12 years old, and Zen (bottom right) is 2 years old. Pictured having a cozy afternoon together.*



*Aspen (left) is 6 years old. Jedi (right) is 10. They are both best friends and love to go for long walks and smell all the smells.*



*These furry friends may be a bit of a mystery, but they definitely caught our attention. Two very good dogs and one very cute photo.*



*Tobin is a 5 year old long haired American Akita who loves the snow. She enjoys hiking and meeting new people.*



*Kai is a 4 year old mutt with 26 different breeds in her DNA. She just moved to Federal Heights from Ohio.*



*Francisco is 9 years old and loves to play ball, chase squirrels, and spend time outside exploring.*

# COMMUNITY

## CALL FOR LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS IN OUR UPCOMING CITY NEWSLETTERS

The City is excited to highlight the vibrant business community that makes Federal Heights such a dynamic place to live, work, and visit. As we prepare the next edition of our city newsletter, we invite local businesses of all sizes and industries to share their information for potential inclusion.

This is a great opportunity to connect with residents, highlight what makes your business unique, and let the community know about new products, services, events, or milestones. Whether you've recently opened your doors, are launching something new, or simply want to introduce yourself to more neighbors, we'd love to hear from you.

### What to Submit:

Businesses are encouraged to provide a brief description that may include:

- A short overview of your business
- Recent news or achievements
- Upcoming events or promotions
- Special services or seasonal offerings
- Photos

### Deadline:

All entries must be received by September 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered for the next issue.

### How to Submit:

Send your information via email to [events@fedheights.org](mailto:events@fedheights.org) with the subject line "Newsletter Business Spotlight Submission."

We are proud to support our local businesses and look forward to showcasing the incredible work happening throughout our community. Thank you for helping us keep residents informed and engaged.



## OVERNIGHT PARKING CHANGES BEGIN

The City will have installed new overnight parking restrictions in select areas to improve public safety, enhance maintenance access, and support the overall usability of community spaces.

Overnight parking is now prohibited between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. in the following locations:

- Messina Park (along the north side of the park)
- 96<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Federal Boulevard and Zuni Street
- N. Elm Court (behind Ocean Express from 96<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Cascade Drive)

By limiting overnight parking in these specific corridors, the City can better support maintenance operations and help address community concerns related to safety and congestion. We encourage residents to share this information with neighbors and community members to help ensure a smooth and informed transition.

For questions or additional information, please contact the City at 303-412-3539 or via email at [dstahurski@fedheights.org](mailto:dstahurski@fedheights.org).



## A NEW SCHEDULE FOR THE FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Following feedback from our recent community survey and a thoughtful review of how we serve our readers, the FOCUS Newsletter is introducing a few updates to improve content, accessibility, and overall reach within the community.

Beginning with this edition, the FOCUS will move to a seasonal publication schedule, with issues released every three months instead of every two. This change will allow us to dedicate more time to developing meaningful, in-depth stories and timely updates that better reflect the priorities and interests of our residents.

Printed copies of the FOCUS Newsletter are available at City Hall, located at 2380 W. 90<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Federal Heights, CO 80260, as well as at apartment communities, mobile home parks, and condominium properties throughout the City.

The FOCUS Newsletter is available digitally, and residents may subscribe at <https://www.fedheights.org/Focus> to receive each issue by email for convenient access.



These updates are designed to strengthen the newsletter's reach while maintaining the quality, consistency, and reliability readers expect. We remain committed to keeping our community informed and engaged, and we appreciate your continued support as we continue to improve.

# PUBLIC WORKS

## FERTILIZER APPLICATION BEST PRACTICES

Did you know that using too much fertilizer can be harmful to the environment? Excess phosphorus and nitrogen flows from lawns into our local waterways and causes toxic algae growth that's harmful to people, pets, and aquatic life. To help protect water quality, it's important to read your fertilizer label and choose one without phosphorous.

Did you know that Colorado soils are often naturally high in phosphorous? Established lawns most likely do not need additional phosphorous. You can pick a phosphorous-free fertilizer to help protect water quality!

So, what else can you do in your own yard this spring to help water quality?

1. Fertilize your lawn and garden according to the instructions on the label.
2. Apply fertilizers during clear weather with no rain in the forecast for at least 24 hours, preferably longer!
3. Water only when needed.
4. Use low-maintenance landscaping such as xeriscaping.



## 2026 WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE SOON

Please take the time to review our 2025 Water Quality Report for the calendar year 2024, which is currently available on the City's website. The upcoming 2026 Water Quality Report for 2025 will be available for review no later than June 30, 2026.

The report can be found on the City's website at [www.fedheights.org/water-report](http://www.fedheights.org/water-report) or under the "Water Quality Report" tab on our main page. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. If you do not have internet access and would like a paper copy of the report mailed to you, please contact the Public Works Department at 303-412-3539.

Please feel free to call to learn more about the City's water system, ask questions about the report, or to inquire about public participation opportunities that may affect water quality. The City of Federal Heights wants our valued customers to be informed about the water utility, the services provided, and the quality water delivered to you every day.



# PUBLIC WORKS

## DROUGHT WATCH BEGAN APRIL 15TH, 2026

As Federal Heights water is purchased from the City of Westminster, the city follows and supports Westminster's Drought Management Plan.

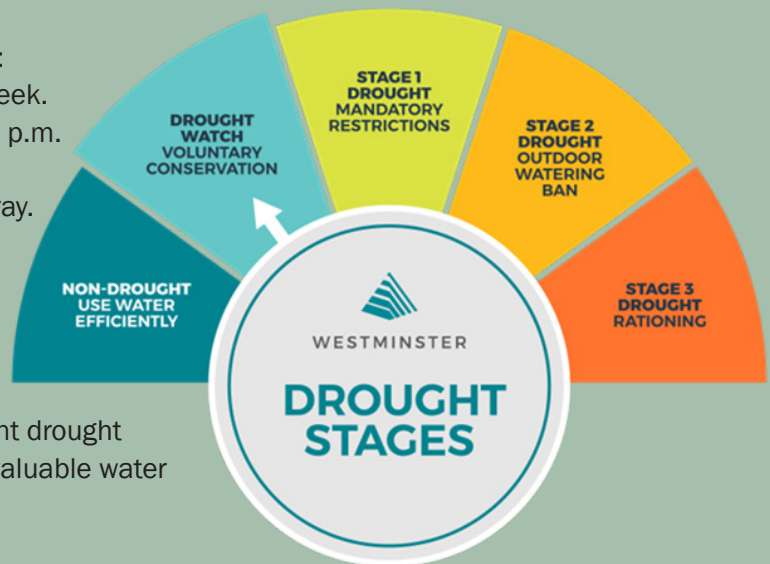
Please note, Westminster and Federal Heights enacted a Drought Watch effective April 15<sup>th</sup>, which means conditions are drier than normal and the projected water supply is below average. Clear Creek Basin's snowpack, which is the main water source, is trending similarly to 2002, the driest year on record.

While mandatory watering restrictions are not in place at this time, residents can help protect our water supply and reduce the need for stricter measures. Voluntary conservation today helps ensure Westminster and Federal Heights customers have the water they need for our homes, parks, and communities in the months ahead.

Residents can help by taking a few simple steps:

- Limit watering to no more than 3 days per week.
- Water lawns before 10:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. to minimize evaporation.
- Check irrigation systems for leaks or overspray.
- Stay informed about drought status updates from the city.

Please visit <https://www.westminsterco.gov/drought> or contact Federal Heights Public Works at 303-412-3539 to learn more about the current drought status and what you can do to help protect our valuable water resources.



## YARD OF THE MONTH NOMINATIONS DUE AUGUST 15TH

The City Council is proud to recognize residents and businesses who enhance our city with beautiful, well-kept outdoor spaces. In September, one stick-built home, one manufactured home, and one commercial property will be selected. Selection will be based on overall street-view appeal, including general upkeep and cleanliness of the property. Additional consideration will be given to well-maintained and trimmed landscaping, as well as clearly defined lawns, borders, and flower beds that contribute to an attractive and cohesive neighborhood appearance. Winners will be chosen through online voting by Federal Heights residents. Winners receive a Yard of the Month sign, a certificate, and a gift card.

Nominations will be accepted from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>. To nominate a yard, send a photo of the yard and the address to [events@fedheights.org](mailto:events@fedheights.org) or call 303-412-3560.



# MARIJUANA EDUCATION



## UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

As legal marijuana use can be a part of life in Colorado, understanding the laws, health implications, and responsible use is crucial for all residents. Whether you're a regular user, a first-timer, or someone who simply wants to stay informed, here's what every Coloradan needs to know about marijuana.

### Know the Law

Since marijuana was legalized for recreational use in 2012, Colorado has implemented strict regulations to ensure safety and responsible use. Adults 21 and older can legally possess up to one ounce of marijuana for personal use. However, it remains illegal to use marijuana in public places or drive under the influence.

### Health Considerations

Marijuana can have both positive and negative effects on your body and mind. It has been shown to relieve symptoms of certain medical conditions such as chronic pain, anxiety, and nausea. However, overuse or misuse can lead to impaired judgment,

memory issues, and increased anxiety for some individuals.

If you're considering marijuana for medical purposes, consult with a healthcare professional to understand how it may affect your health, especially if you have pre-existing conditions or are taking other medications.

### Responsible Consumption

- **Start Low, Go Slow:** If you're new to marijuana, begin with a small dose and give your body time to react.
- **Know Your Source:** Purchase marijuana only from licensed dispensaries. This ensures the product is regulated and tested for safety.
- **Don't Drive High:** Operating a vehicle under the influence is illegal and dangerous. Plan ahead for a safe ride.

# EDUCACIÓN SOBRE LA MARIHUANA



## ENTENDIENDO LO BÁSICO

Dado que el uso legal de la marihuana puede ser parte de la vida en Colorado, entender las leyes, las implicaciones para la salud y el uso responsable es crucial para todos los residentes. Ya seas un usuario frecuente, un principiante o alguien que simplemente quiere mantenerse informado, esto es lo que todo habitante de Colorado necesita saber sobre la marihuana.

### Conoce la Ley

Desde que la marihuana fue legalizada para uso recreativo en 2012, Colorado ha implementado regulaciones estrictas para garantizar la seguridad y el uso responsable. Los adultos de 21 años o más pueden poseer legalmente hasta una onza de marihuana para uso personal. Sin embargo, sigue siendo ilegal usar marihuana en lugares públicos o conducir bajo los efectos de la misma.

### Consideraciones de Salud

La marihuana puede tener efectos tanto positivos como negativos en tu cuerpo y mente. Se ha demostrado que alivia los síntomas de ciertas condiciones médicas, como

el dolor crónico, la ansiedad y las náuseas. Sin embargo, el uso excesivo o incorrecto puede generar juicio alterado, problemas de memoria y aumento de la ansiedad en algunas personas.

Si estás considerando la marihuana para fines médicos, consulta con un profesional de la salud para entender cómo puede afectar tu salud, especialmente si tienes condiciones preexistentes o estás tomando otros medicamentos.

### Consumo Responsable

- **Comienza Bajo, Ve Despacio:** Si eres nuevo en la marihuana, empieza con una dosis pequeña y dale tiempo a tu cuerpo para reaccionar.
- **Conoce Tu Fuente:** Compra marihuana solo en dispensarios autorizados. Esto garantiza que el producto esté regulado y probado para su seguridad.
- **No Conduzcas Bajo los Efectos:** Conducir bajo los efectos es ilegal y peligroso. Planea con anticipación para tener un transporte seguro.






### A-Lift Mobility Service

The City of Federal Heights partners with Adams County and Adams County municipalities to offer free mobility services to residents who are mobility challenged or are 60 years and older. To find out how you can improve your mobility call (303) 447-9636 or visit <https://www.adcogov.org/community-transit-program-lift>.

2380 W 90th Avenue  
Federal Heights, CO 80260

(303) 428-3526  
info@fedheights.org  
www.fedheights.org

Follow us on social media:

-  Facebook
-  X (Twitter)
-  Nextdoor

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

City Hall Receptionist	(303) 428-3526	Utility Billing	(303) 412-3532
City Manager's Office	(303) 412-3525	Building Department	(303) 412-3527
City Clerk	(303) 412-3536	City Planner	(303) 412-3530
Fire Department	(303) 427-7209	Public Works	(303) 412-3539
Police Department	(303) 428-8538	Engineering	(303) 412-3521
Community Development	(303) 412-3558	Human Resources/Employment	(303) 412-3520
		Municipal Court	(303) 412-3538

# ITEMS OF INTEREST

## A WARM WELCOME

To the newest licensed businesses in Federal Heights!

### KING BARBERS

8411 N. Pecos St., Unit D  
(720) 676-5357

### MAI KITCHEN –YUMMY HOT POT DUMPLINGS

10350 N. Federal Blvd., Unit 400  
(303) 466-9504

### EL CASTELAN AGENCY

2727 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
(720) 909-3701

### DARRELL C. ADOLPH AGENCY

2727 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave., #104  
(720) 540-6007

### REKINDLE RELATIONSHIP

2727 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave., #105  
(720) 595-5560

## FEDERAL HEIGHTS EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Visit the City's website: [www.fedheights.org/jobs](http://www.fedheights.org/jobs) to explore available job opportunities with the City of Federal Heights.

Current openings include:

- Full-time Police Officer
- Volunteer At-Large Planning and Zoning Commissioner

Completed applications can be emailed to [hr@fedheights.org](mailto:hr@fedheights.org). Hard copies can be dropped off at City Hall or mailed to:

City of Federal Heights  
Attn: Human Resources.  
2380 W. 90<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
Federal Heights, CO 80260

Applications can also be faxed to (303) 428-3298. Thank you for your interest in working for the City of Federal Heights.