

Media Contact: Danielle Dascalos 720-837-3845 or ddascalos@comcast.net

LINCOLN COUNTY COLORADO PREPARES TO REOPEN TO VISITORS SAFELY

Limon, CO June 9, 2020—The Lincoln County Tourism Board announced today that in support of the State of Colorado's Safer at Home plan, businesses and attractions in Lincoln County, Colorado are slowly reopening while protecting residents and visitors against the spread of COVID-19.

"We support our local businesses and stand ready to move toward a thriving economic environment once again," President of the Lincoln County Tourism Board Apryl Huelskamp said. "Lincoln County welcomes visitors as we move towards reopening with health and safety foremost in our minds."

The Lincoln County Tourism Board is partnering with the Lincoln County Economic Development Office to communicate with the public what is open and what restrictions are in place. Highway banners will be in place letting visitors know businesses are open and individual signs detailing restrictions are being offered to local businesses to help them communicate their safety expectations including social distancing requirements and when and where masks must be worn.

Lincoln County, Colorado's Home on the Range, is beginning to open for business. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone and rural Colorado is no exception. Our people are friendly, but still safety minded. While much of our shopping, dining, lodging and recreation areas are open, restrictions and safety measures are in place, so it is always best to be prepared. Enjoy our wonderful landscapes and relaxed atmosphere, while following rules and keeping our local at risk populations safe at the same time.

Visit www.seelincolncounty.com to learn more about what Lincoln County has to offer.

Local Areas of Interest:

Arriba Museum

If you ever wondered about life in Arriba, Colorado, stop by this small museum located in the Arriba Town Hall. It's free and full of local history. Open on Monday, Wednesday or Thursdays between 8 a.m. - noon or 1-5 p.m.

<u>Genoa Tower</u> Drive by the World's Wonderview Tower in Genoa to see the exterior of this quirky roadside attraction as it prepares for renovation. In 1926, Charles Gregory – who is often referred to as Colorado's P.T. Barnum – returned to a spot on the Colorado plains where he'd camped fifty years earlier, right outside the town of Genoa, and started building an incredible roadside attraction. He incorporated petrified wood and stones from all fifty states into the structure, and also hired a Sioux princess, Raven Wing, to paint scenes on many of the stones. Soon Gregory started building an observation tower, from which he would yell at motorists passing by on Highway 24, encouraging them to come visit his place.

Hugo State Wildlife Area

Hugo State Wildlife Area is Lincoln County's largest State Wildlife Area with 1,941 acres. Warm water fishing is stocked with trout in the spring. The area is also great for camping, hiking, and wildlife viewing. From Hugo, go 14 miles south on 109 and then 2.25 miles east on County Road 2G.

<u>Hugo's Main Street</u> Visitors can shop in antique stores, pass by the outside of the Union Pacific Roundhouse that is currently undergoing renovation and see an array of art ranging from the last neon sign on Colfax Avenue at Hugo Liquors, to tree carvings on Main Street created by a local artist.

<u>Lincoln County's Hedlund House Museum in Hugo Opening in July</u>

This historic home was built in 1877 and in August of 1972, Lincoln County dedicated it as the Hedlund House Museum. Today, the museum showcases life on the prairie and the unique lives of homesteaders who founded Hugo. To get there, watch for the brown museum sign as your enter the town of Hugo.

<u>Limon, Colorado</u> Limon is a great destination in Lincoln County and is also known as the Hub City. Easily accessible by Interstate 70, U.S. Routes 24, 71, 40, and 287 all cross paths here. With deep connections to the railroads and highways it is the perfect starting point to explore Colorado's Home on the Range. Visit the Limon Heritage Museum & Railroad Park to learn about life on the plains. Downtown features landscaped streets with a library, pharmacy, gift boutiques, antique shops, Movie Theater, city park and an urban fishing pond. A walking path also meanders from downtown to a wetlands area, a popular spot for bird watching. Favorite downtown eateries include a friendly grill that serves up hearty steaks and a hometown café with great homemade food. With over 350 motel rooms, Limon is also a convenient place for an overnight rest stop.

Karval Reservoir

Enjoy 229 acres of stocked warm water fishing, camping, and wildlife viewing. Restrooms and shade shelters available. To get to Karval Reservoir, head 10 miles south from the junction of State Highways 94 and 109. From downtown Karval, the reservoir entrance is only two miles east and one mile south.

Kinney Lake

Fishing, wildlife observation, camping, and photography can all be enjoyed at Kinney Lake's 354 acres. In warmer months the lake is stocked with trout. Campsites are also available. From Hugo, go 14 miles south on 109 to County Road 2G. Then drive 2.5 miles east to County Road 2J and one more mile east.

Tamarack Golf Club

Tamarack Golf Club is considered one of the oldest 9 hole courses in Colorado. The course was designed by Henry Hughes and is regarded by many as the "Jewel of the Plains" In 2008, Tamarack was selected as one of the Best 9 hole courses in Colorado by Colorado Avid Golfer. Tamarack measures over 6,000 yards and offers two distinct sets of tees for front and back nine play. The course is unique and isolated, providing a tranquil and enjoyable golf experience. A parkland style setting that is both challenging to the expert golfer and yet playable for all ages. A great place to bring your family for a relaxing, fun and affordable day of golf.