



GOVERNMENT

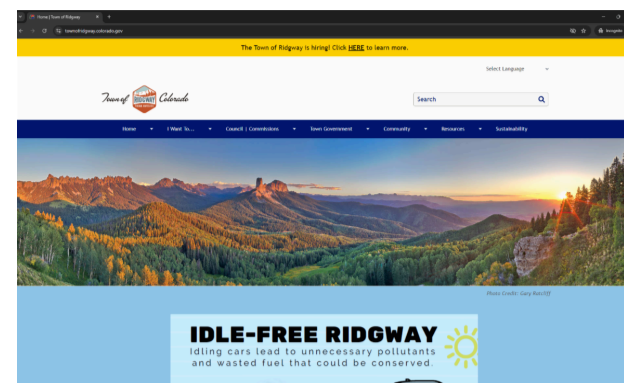
Ridgway, Colorado on Open.Media

The [Town of Ridgway](#) is a home rule municipality that is the most populous municipality in Ouray County. The town is a former railroad stop on the Uncompahgre River in the northern San Juan Mountains. The town population was 1,183 at the 2020 census.

Ridgway is poised on a highway that leads tourists to several other mountain towns of the San Juan region. Ridgway itself is a major tourist town. The area is also set at the base of the San Juan Mountains, providing excellent views especially when viewed from Log Hill Mesa.

Ridgway utilizes Open.Media to stream and record public meetings.

[Watch Ridgway Public Meetings on Demand](#)



Government Data Transparency Initiatives

Government data transparency is essential for building public trust, ensuring accountability, and fostering informed civic participation. Open and accessible data empowers citizens, journalists, researchers, and businesses to analyze, question, and contribute to better decision-making and policy outcomes. At the forefront of this movement are nonprofits like Open.Media, which play a vital role in advocating for open data, developing tools to interpret and visualize information, and holding institutions accountable. These organizations often bridge the gap between raw government data and the public, turning complex datasets into actionable insights that drive social progress and strengthen democratic processes.

The United States actively participates in several global open data initiatives aimed at enhancing transparency, fostering innovation, and promoting collaboration worldwide. Here are some notable initiatives:

- **U.S. Open Government Initiative:** Launched in 2011, the initiative is a multilateral initiative that aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance.
- **Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition:** This initiative focuses on making agricultural and nutritional data available, accessible, and usable to address global food security challenges.
- **Open Data for Development:** A global network that the U.S. engages with to advance open data initiatives in developing countries, aiming to enhance transparency and accountability.
- **Data.gov:** The U.S. government's open data portal, which serves as a model for other countries developing their own open data platforms.

These initiatives reflect the U.S. commitment to promoting open data globally, facilitating the sharing of information, and encouraging collaborative solutions to worldwide challenges.



CAREER ENGINE



Media Job Opportunities

Our [Open Media Career Engine](#) is a service offered to Employers in the Media & Journalism sector to help you find and hire more diverse jobseekers. This program has helped over 40 employers in Colorado's Media & Journalism field hire POC jobseekers at more than the double the industry average. We help craft your job description to appeal to diverse applicants, post it to over 20 job boards proven to generate more diverse jobseekers, and manage the screening process so that even the smallest HR team can afford a broad and inclusive hiring process developed by industry leaders.

Email careers@openmediafoundation.org to explore how the OMCE can help you with your next hire.

Join an Open Media Committee

- [Fundraising Committee](#) - Contact Tony Shawcross at tony@openmediafoundation.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS



OMF Creative Director Designs and Builds Set For Original Play

Step into a world where memory, emotion, humor, and artistry collide in *Seams*, the original play that made its worldwide debut on April 11th at Colorado's Buntport Theater. Audiences are transported to the backyard of a weathered Southern home, where the atmosphere is steeped in nostalgia and quiet tension. Crafted with heartfelt vision by Dakota C. Hill—who both wrote and directed the piece—Seams offers an intimate glimpse into the life of a retired dressmaker confronting the delicate threads of his past and the fabric of his present.

The soul of the production is brought vividly to life through the set design, a masterful creation by Brandon Stiller, OMF's Creative Director. With an eye for detail and a deep understanding of storytelling through space, Stiller designed and built a set that beautifully captures the rustic charm and quiet resilience of the American South. From the weathered porch boards to vintage textures, every element is intentionally "sewn" together, echoing the emotional patchwork of the protagonist's journey.

More than just a backdrop, the set is an evocative character in itself—symbolizing the fragmentation and beauty of lived experience. By merging Southern outdoor charm with Colorado's unique theatrical spirit, Stiller's design enhances the raw honesty of the play, making *Seams* a deeply immersive experience. Don't miss this stunning new production that's already making waves for its heartfelt narrative, unforgettable performances, and clever humor.

[Visit The Agenda Theatre for Time and Location](#)



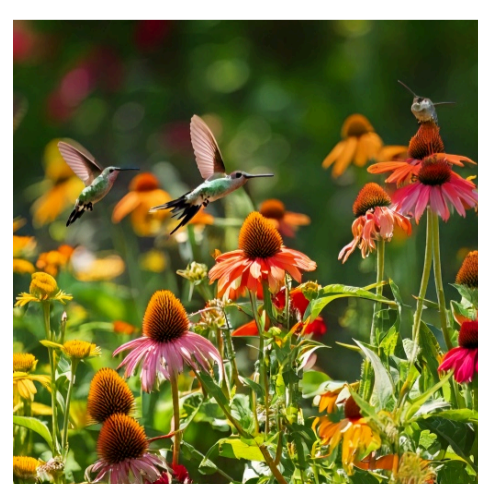
Earth Day is April 22

"Our Power, Our Planet" is the theme for Earth Day 2025. Each of us has the power to protect the planet by making conscious, sustainable choices in our everyday lives. Simple actions like reducing waste, recycling properly, and reusing items can significantly cut down on pollution. Choosing to walk, bike, or use public transportation instead of driving alone reduces carbon emissions, helping to slow climate change.

Supporting renewable energy and conserving electricity at home also make a difference. Additionally, we can protect biodiversity by avoiding products that contribute to deforestation, planting native species in our gardens, and supporting conservation efforts. Every small change adds up, and together, these actions help create a healthier, more sustainable future for all life on our planet Earth.

Visit the websites of some Earth Day activities around Colorado:

[Earth Day Celebration in Lakewood](#)
[Earth Day Festival at Colorado State University](#)
[Earth Day Celebration at The Royal Gorge Bridge and Park](#)



April is National Gardening Month

Gardening offers a wide range of benefits for human health, both physically and mentally. Spending time outdoors and engaging in physical activity like digging, planting, and weeding can improve fitness, lower stress levels, and boost mood. It also encourages mindfulness and a stronger connection to nature, which has been shown to enhance mental well-being.

Beyond personal health, gardening with native plants is especially important for the environment. Native species are well adapted to local climates and soils, requiring less water and maintenance while providing essential food and shelter for local wildlife like birds, bees, and butterflies. By choosing native plants, gardeners help support biodiversity and create thriving ecosystems right in their own backyards.

[Find Colorado Native Plant and Seed Sources](#)
[Native Plant Resources and Services in Colorado](#)

