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For Immediate Release:

Ouray Hot Springs Pool Renovation Nears Completion.

Ouray, Colorado, May 2017. The historic Ouray Hot Springs Pool celebrates its 90th Anniversary this July and is completing a multi-million-dollar renovation. In operation since 1927, the Ouray Hot Springs Pool has served the local and regional communities as the premier destination for relaxation, family fun and amazing views!

Ouray Hot Springs History

Ouray's many hot springs have been a natural draw for the bone-weary for centuries. The same geologic forces that made the town rich in minerals and ore also produced some of the largest and most pleasant hot springs in the United States.

The Ute Indians who settled the Uncompahgre Valley considered the mineral springs sacred and healing, and other tribes traveled for days to visit the springs. The local hot springs were a soothing resource during the mining boom of the late-1800's and many private bathhouses went up around Ouray. In 1920, several of Ouray's local leaders banded together with the intention of erecting a large, outdoor pool. Citizens bought memberships and businesses contributed funds and materials to the venture. After six years of planning and delays, the pool opened on July 4, 1927. One of the largest crowds in Ouray's history attended the opening.

After almost nine decades of operation and countless visitors, the pool facility was beginning to show its age. In the autumn of 2012, the City of Ouray organized a citizens' committee that was tasked with reviewing, prioritizing and recommending essential improvements to the Ouray Hot Springs Pool and Fitness Center facility. In August of 2015, the Ouray City Council adopted and approved the final master plan design for the Ouray Hot Springs Pool. The demolition and renovation of the pool facility began in October 2016 and will be completed this June, just in time for its official 90th birthday on July 4, 2017.

Facility Improvements

While keeping the historic oval shape of the pool was important to the new design, many changes and upgrades will make the Ouray Hot Springs Pool a premier hot springs facility for generations of visitors to come. Great care has been taken to honor the historic tradition of this family-friendly, relaxing and rejuvenating attraction.

- **Shallow Section** – Family-friendly depths with expanded seating and a seasonal inflatable volleyball court.
- **Hot Section** – A continuously curving pool with alcoves and edge seating to create the sense of a private getaway. Shaded pool areas for those sunny San Juan Mountain days.
- **The Overlook** – Two terraced pools of varying depths divided by an infinity edge waterfall with panoramic views of the surrounding mountain peaks. This is a completely new soaking

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option outside of the original oval pool, dramatically increasing the hot temperature soaking options for visitors.

- **Activity Pool** - This is the spot for summer fun! The Wibit inflatable obstacle course will test your balance and agility while the 12-foot-tall climbing wall will challenge your strength and stamina. Don't forget to perfect your cannonball on the new 6'-high jumping platform.
- **Lap Lanes** – Eight (8), full-size 25-meter lanes. ADA access lift and stair entry.
- **Slides** - At just over two stories tall, both the speed slide and curving body slide are guaranteed to thrill riders of all ages. Pick your ride, hold on tight and come to a splashing stop in the new slide runouts.
- Enhanced **deck lighting** and **heated walkways** throughout the grounds.
- New **LED in-water lighting**.
- New state of the art **filtration system**.
- **ADA access** to all pools.
- Increased **seating options** for sunbathing as well as shaded picnic areas.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT:

Pool Completion Schedule and Hours of Operation

There will be two (2) pools open beginning Saturday, May 27, 2017: the main shallow pool and the hot soaking pool. Additional pools will be opened as they are completed. The current order of additional pool openings will be: the Overlook pool, the lap pool and finally the activity pool (which includes the slides). The full opening of all facilities is expected by the end of June.

On May 27, the pool plans to open with peak-season hours: 10:00am-10:0pm (Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day). There is a possibility that the in-water lighting will not be ready by Memorial Day Weekend. If this is the case, operating hours will be revised to 10:00 am-7:00 pm until the lighting is up and running. Additional temporary closures may be necessary due to construction activities. Please check the Ouray Hot Springs Pool website (www.ourayhotsprings.com) or Facebook page ([OurayHotSprings](https://www.facebook.com/OurayHotSprings)) for updated hours of operation.

Admission Prices

Beginning May 27, 2017, the Ouray Hot Springs Pool pricing structure will be as follows:

Daily Admissions	
Adults (ages 13-61)	\$18
Seniors (ages 62-74)	\$14
Youth (ages 4-12)	\$12
Unlimited Slides	\$3
Under 4 and over 75	Free
10 Punch (transferable)	\$120
20 Punch (transferable)	\$224

- 10- and 20-punch passes will be available, offering patrons a discounted rate off daily admission prices. Punch cards purchased prior to the renovation project will be honored.
- Discounts are available for qualifying groups and military service members.
- Memberships rates for the pool, gym or both will remain unchanged for 2017.
- Same day re-entry is available.

Discount Punch Passes

As Memorial Day and the opening of the new pools approach, we want to offer our loyal customers an exciting discount as a thank you for your patience. The Ouray Hot Springs Pool is offering 10- and 20-

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punch cards at pre-construction prices through May 26, 2017. The punch cards are discounted cards that never expire, are transferable, and may be used for individuals or groups. During this limited promotion, 10-punch cards are \$84 and 20-punch cards are \$144.

You can purchase punch cards in person, from 10am to 6pm from May 15 through May 26 at the Ouray Hot Springs Pool & Fitness Center (1220 Main Street, Ouray). For all pool pass and pool membership questions, please call 970-325-7076 during those hours.

Parking

As the project nears completion, there will still be parking impacts at the Ouray Hot Springs Pool due to construction equipment, supplies and operations still moving around the pool facility. The pool parking lot will see more improvements in the future; we thank you for your patience and consideration in advance.

Please consider parking in the following areas:

- Main Street and side street parking.
- Additional parking areas are available at:
 - The Ouray School (7th Avenue & 4th Street)
 - The Ouray County Courthouse (6th Avenue & 4th Street)
 - City Hall (6th Avenue & 4th Street)
- RV and large vehicle parking is available in the catchment basin located at the bottom of 9th Avenue. From Main Street, head west on 9th Avenue, turn right into the alleyway, the catchment parking area will be on your immediate right.

It's a short stroll from downtown Ouray to the Hot Springs Pool, past historic homes, businesses, and through spectacular Fellin Park. Learn more about the City's historic Victorian downtown by picking up a free "Historic Walking Tour of Ouray" brochure at City Hall or the Ouray Visitor's Center.

Better yet, plan a longer visit and experience everything that Ouray offers! Ouray is perfect for parking the car at your hotel and exploring on foot – from our charming Main Street shops and restaurants, to our extensive in-town hiking trail access. If you're longing for a high-country adventure, early summer is the perfect time to book a Jeep tour or rent a Jeep from our local tour companies and spend some time exploring our waterfalls, wildflowers, mining heritage and all the spectacular scenery of our San Juan Mountains. Visit www.ouraycolorado.com to plan your trip to Ouray today.

Please visit the official Ouray Hot Springs Pool & Fitness Center website www.ourayhotsprings.com for more detailed information about the full renovation and photos of the project and keep up with the latest news and happenings on our Facebook page: [OurayHotSprings](https://www.facebook.com/OurayHotSprings). We can't wait to reconnect with old friends and make new ones as we embark on this exciting and historic journey together!

ABOUT OURAY

Perched at 7,800 feet above sea level, Ouray is located in southwest Colorado along U.S. Highway 550 approximately 80 miles north of Durango and 35 miles south of Montrose. Surrounded on three sides by 13,000-foot snowcapped peaks and home to hundreds of miles of historic Jeep roads, sulfur-free hot springs and the world-famous Ouray Ice Park, the town is appropriately nicknamed "The Switzerland of America." Ouray was founded in 1876 as a prosperous mining town and was designated a National Historic District in 1983. Two-thirds of Ouray's original Victorian structures have been restored and are still occupied today, keeping intact the town's historic charm.

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