Greeley, Colorado, was founded by Nathan Meeker. Meeker was the agricultural editor for Horace Greeley’s New York Tribune and organized the Union Colony of Colorado to establish a utopian community based on temperance, religion, education, agriculture, irrigation, cooperation, and family values. Each member of the Union Colony contributed a fee of $155 to purchase land where the Denver to Cheyenne rail line crossed the Platte and Poudre Rivers.

The Meeker Home Museum is a two-story adobe home built in the 1870s that is listed on the National, State, and Greeley Historic Registers. This museum provides a history of the Meeker family and the early history of the city. The Centennial Village Museum, another local museum, interprets the settlement history of Greeley and areas of Weld County from 1860 to about 1920 and consists of more than 30 structures on the south side of Island Grove Regional Park. The Greeley History Museum exhibits the city’s history and includes fossils and artifacts from the earliest human inhabitants through the Union Colony’s beginnings.

Plumb Farm Learning Center is a memorial to C.O. Plumb’s grandparents who participated in the Union Colony and also serves as an agricultural learning center. The Plum Farm is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Colorado Centennial Farm. The Greeley Freight Station Museum features over 600 railroad-related artifacts, including a Virginia and Truckee Railroad switch key, a full-sized Colorado and Southern wooden caboose, and a 5,500 square foot operating miniature railroad.

The Union Colony Civic Center provides entertainment, from Broadway musicals to comedy, concerts, dance, plays, and more. The Greeley Chorale and the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra perform in this venue, as does the University of Northern Colorado University Symphony Orchestra.

**Neighborhoods**

Downtown Greeley has mixed-use buildings with businesses on the first floor and condominium lofts on upper floors. One of Greeley’s earliest residential neighborhoods is Cranford, which is located between the University of Northern Colorado and North Colorado Medical Center, and features bungalow-style houses dating from the early 1900s. Single-family Tudor Revival and Craftsman bungalows are common in this neighborhood that also has rental and owner properties. The neighborhood has older duplexes and fourplexes and a few condominium townhouses dating from the 1980s. The nearby Glenmere neighborhood was designed by a landscape architect and was the first planned subdivision to use a curvilinear street system in Greeley. This neighborhood, which was built between 1930 and 1960, surrounds Glenmere Park and features a mix of Tudor, Victorian, bungalow, and ranch-style homes. Denver ranch is the dominant architectural style in the Hillside neighborhood, which was built during the 1950s and 1960s. The Alles Acres neighborhood dates from the same time period and features larger ranch-style homes on very large lots; many of the homes have stables.

Newer homes are also available in Greeley, which has expanded over the years through annexation of adjacent properties. The Cottonwood neighborhood has a mix of ranch and two-story homes built primarily in the 1960s and 1970s. This neighborhood also has townhouses and apartment complexes. The Poudre River Ranch neighborhood is located along the Poudre River Trail and contains some of the newest homes in Greeley that were built between 2000 and 2011. Patio homes, which are detached single-family homes maintained by home owners associations; ranch-style; and large, two-story homes in contemporary styles are available.

**Parks and Recreation**

Greeley has 40 parks, 4 recreational centers, and an indoor ice skating facility that offers opportunities for figure skating and ice hockey. The city operates 2 indoor pools, 4 outdoor pools, and 2 golf courses. City park amenities include 12 softball/baseball fields, 12 soccer fields, 3 tennis courts, 24 playgrounds, 5 in-line skating tracks, a disc golf course, and an off-leash dog park. Eight parks have lakes that permit fishing and nonmotorized boating. Island Grove Regional Park is home to the annual July 4th Greeley Stampede, which features a professional rodeo, a demolition derby, and concerts.

The 21-mile Poudre River Trail extends from Island Grove Regional Park to Colorado Highway 392 in Windsor and provides a paved pathway for walking, cycling, running, rollerblading, and more.

**Education**

Greeley is served by 2 school districts. The largest, Greeley-Evans School District 6, serves 19,000 students in the communities of Greeley and Evans. The district operates 12 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 4 high schools, and 3 charter schools in Greeley. High-school magnet programs include performing and visual arts; International Baccalaureate; agriculture; horticulture; and science, math, and technology. Windsor School District 4 serves students in the western part of the city.

Higher education is available at the University of Northern Colorado, which offers more than 100 undergraduate and 100 graduate programs of study. Aims Community College Greeley has more than 160 associate degree and certificate programs. IBMC Greeley College offers associate degrees and diplomas in selected areas of business and health care.

**Health Care**

Greeley is served by one medical center with 398 licensed beds.

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<tr>
<th>City Stats</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Statistical Area Population</td>
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<td>Per Capita Personal Income, Greeley, CO, MSA</td>
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For opportunities in this region see page C-14.