

4-H NEWSLETTER

December 2025/January 2026



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Thank You's

Thank you to all of our 4-H volunteers, committee and foundation members, and club leaders who invest your time and energy to help make a positive impact in the lives of youth in Lincoln County.

Thank you as well to all our parents who spend countless hours and resources to help their children learn and grow.

We appreciate all that you do each year!

The Extension Office/4-H are on Facebook @

[Lincoln County Colorado Extension](https://www.facebook.com/LincolnCountyColoradoExtension)

*Visit the page for additional events and resources for all.



Lincoln County Extension/4-H Website

@

lincoln.extension.colostate.edu

4-H INFORMATION:

-Enrollment/Project Fees: -Enrollment fee- \$20/member (Pay fee to the club directly). Late fees of \$50 will apply on member re-enrollment. **Other projects or activities may require additional fees or expenses. There are no fees for leaders or volunteers.

-Shooting Sports Members- *\$35/per enrolled shooting sports discipline, except shotgun (\$40).* (This is in addition to the enrollment fee and is payable to the Extension office with forms by January 31st).

-Hunter's Safety- March 1 (must be completed for all members enrolled in shooting sports that will be participating in live fire activities).

-Project add/drop-March 1

Other Deadlines/ Project Requirements:

-Livestock will have to be tagged and/or nominated to be eligible to show at fair. Information will be posted in the newsletter for current year information.

-Refer to the fair book for project requirements to show at the county fair. *Download a record book for completion requirements as well.

-Watch for information in the newsletter, Facebook page or web calendar.

Resources:

Lincoln County 4-H- lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/programs/4-h/

Colorado 4-H- co4h.colostate.edu/

Project Books/Manuals: Families will need to order project books/manuals directly from the supplier. Go to Colorado 4-H @ co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-project-information/ and then click on "publication order form" to see where to download or order manuals.

Various Forms can be found on our Lincoln County Extension Website @ lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/. Hover over the 4-H Tab for the drop-down menu to appear.

4-H Forms & Applications »

General Forms Information:

- Requests for 4-H Agent signatures or recommendation letters must be received a minimum of two weeks before the application deadline. A completed application must accompany all requests and resumes are encouraged as well.
- Late, incomplete, or illegible forms will not be accepted or considered.
- Check all forms or contact the office for deadlines.
- Tips for Successful Completion of Forms*

General or Other Forms/Applications:

- CO State 4-H Events & Link Page*


Project Fair County & State Awards Foundation

Livestock Sale

4-H Projects Forms/Applications:

Shooting Sports-

- 4-H Shootings Sports Project Requirements & Signature Form
- 4-H Hand Gun Permission/Release Form *Required for members enrolled in Western Heritage or Pistol.
- 4-H Shooting Sports Permission to Participate/Liability Release Form
- Youth Handgun Safety Act Notice
- Shooter Responsibility, Fire Line Commands, & 10 Commandments of Firearm Safety
- *All Hunter's Safety cards (physical copy of card) and information must be uploaded to 4HOnline each year.

 **LINCOLN COUNTY**
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Home Extension **4-H** Lincoln County Fair

4-H »

4-H Newsletters

Extension & 4-H Calendar (All Events)

Extension & 4-H Equipment

4-H Forms & Applications

4-H Policy & Guidelines

4-H Projects & Record Books

4-H Clubs, Councils, & Teams

4-H Leaders

4-H Shooting Sports

4-H News & Updates:

*Check out the "News & Events"

*The current and past "4-H News" events, deadlines, camps, etc.

*The Facebook page "Lincoln County Extension" provides additional learning opportunities.

VOLUNTEER CORNER: SHOOTING SPORTS

VOLUNTEER TRAINING DATES 2026

If you enjoy youth, the outdoors, and shooting or archery activities we encourage you to consider volunteering to become a certified shooting sports instructor (prior experience is not necessary). 4-H members have the opportunity to participate in disciplines in the county if we have certified volunteer instructors. To become certified volunteers must first complete the 4-H enrollment process and then attend and certify at a state training. Please contact christine.schinzl@colostate.edu to learn more. *Interested volunteers should complete the initial 4-H volunteer process no later than end of January to ensure enough time to become a volunteer and register for a spring training.* Training dates being offered:

-March 13-15: Weld County (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, and Orion)

-March 20-22: Pueblo County (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloading, Western Heritage, Hunting and Outdoor Skills)

-March 27-29: Garfield County (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloading, Western Heritage)

SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECT INFORMATION:

Shooting Sports Forms Required (Due January 31): Forms are available online at lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/programs/4-h/shooting-sports/.

1) 4-H Shootings Sports Project Requirements & Signature Form

2) 4-H Shooting Sports Permission to Participate/Liability Release Form

*The requirements for minimum project completion and requirements to attend the state shoot are both outlined on the "4-H Shooting Sports Project Requirements & Signature" form. **Shooting disciplines offered will be subject to certified instructor availability.* All participants are required to provide their own ammunition/arrows and safety equipment at shoots.









Shooting Sports Fees Due: \$35/per shooting sports discipline, except Shotgun (\$40) enrolled in is due by January 31 (ex. enrollment in shotgun and rifle would equal a fee total of \$75). This is in addition to the member enrollment fee. A Late Fee of \$10.00 applies after January 31. Fees are payable to the Extension Office.

Safety Meetings- *New project members must attend both safety meetings their first year. Returning members only need to attend one safety meeting. *Members may not add the shooting project once the 1st safety meeting has passed to participate in range activities.

(Dates: January 26@ 6:30pm & February 9 @ 6:30pm @ Lincoln County Fairgrounds.)

Hunter's Safety Certification Due March 1: This must be completed by this date to participate in live fire range activities throughout the year. Check out the Colorado Parks and Wildlife site for more information and class availability at: cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/HunterEducation.aspx.

MARKET LIVESTOCK REFERENCE CHART

<u>Species</u>	<u>Ideal Birth Date</u>	<u>When to Acquire</u>	<u>Suggest beginning weight/age</u>	<u>Minimum Weight at Fair</u>	<u>Maximum Weight at Fair</u>
Beef 	Winter/ Spring of previous year	Fall to January	650-850 lbs. Miniatures 300- 400 lbs.	1000 lbs. Miniatures 500 lbs.	1550 lbs. Miniatures 999 lbs.
Swine 	After January 1 st of current year	March to April	70-100 lbs.	230 lbs.	325 lbs.
Lamb 	After January 1 st of current year	March to April	50-90 lbs. Miniatures 30-50 lbs.	100 lbs. Miniatures 60 lbs.	175 lbs. Miniatures 99 lbs.
Goat 	After December 1 st of previous year	March to April	30-65 lbs.	50 lbs.	125 lbs.
Turkey 	Hatched March 15 th -May 15 th	March 15 th to May 15 th	3 days old	Hens 13 lbs. Toms 20 lbs.	Hens 30 lbs. Toms 43 lbs.
Geese 	Hatched March 15 th -May 15 th	March 15 th to May 15 th	3 days old	Pen of two 14 lbs.	Pen of two 28 lbs.
Duck 	Hatched April 15 th -May 15 th	April 15 th -May 15 th	3 days old	Pen of two 12 lbs.	Pen of two 18 lbs.
Chicken	Hatched May 15 th - June 20 th	May 15 th -June 20 th	3 days old	Pen of three Fryer 9 lbs. Boilers 18 lbs.	Pen of three Fryer 18 lbs. Boilers 30 lbs.
Rabbit 	April 22 nd - May 1 st	May 22 nd - June 5 th	30 days old	Pen of three Fryer 9 lbs.	Pen of three Fryer 17 lbs.

JUST TO GET YOU THINKIN...

"Holidays are about creating cherished memories with loved ones and finding magic in the simplest moments." - Jeremiah Say

Q "What kind of ball doesn't bounce?"
A "A snowball."

FAIR RELATED: BEEF EXHIBITORS

*Save the Date: Beef Weigh-In March 7 (Details TBD)

*Exhibitors must declare at Weigh-In if they are exhibiting a mini-beef, otherwise the animal will be placed in the general market beef class at fair; no exceptions.

*Market animals must be castrated and de-horned or have blunt, flat ends.

*Exhibitors must read through and comply with requirements for participation at weigh-in, fair, and general ownership regarding brand inspections on beef cattle. This is not optional for paperwork to be done at a later date. Please schedule time well in advance of beef weigh-in to ensure you have proper ownership papers on your beef animals (including home-raised) and can bring them to weigh-in. Contact your local brand inspector for more information.



COLORADO
Department of Agriculture
Brand Inspection Division



ATTENTION ALL LINCOLN COUNTY LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

As of 2024, all beef that will be in the market show and sold at the Lincoln County Fair will be required to have a brand inspection (which is a legal bill of sale) in the exhibitor's name. There will be no more "home raised" animals cleared unless the exhibitor is the legal owner of the brand that the animal is wearing. If the animal does not have a brand it must still have a brand inspection in the exhibitors name. As I love to see local ranch raised calves in the show that are wearing a family brand, we must do a change of ownership (brand inspection) from the person selling (gifting) the animal to the exhibitor. Reference Colorado State Statute C.R.S. 35-53-105 (1)-(3) - Failure to Obtain Brand Inspection Prior to Shipment. Please bring your brand inspection with you to weigh in each year. I will mark a new tag number on your certificate. Each August at the fair when you consign your animal to sell, I will need to collect your certificate so please also bring your brand inspection paperwork. If you do not have a brand inspection done by the time the livestock sale starts the money will be held until you get the brand inspection done. Reference Colorado State Statute C.R.S. 35-54-105 (1) - Sale of Livestock Without a Bill of Sale.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 719-924-3548 or 719-440-1387. Again this will be a requirement starting in the year 2024.

Thank you and I wish you the best of luck with your animals!

Marc Hollenbaugh, Brand Inspector - Limon District

4-H VOLUNTEER CORNER: EVENT PLANS REQUIRED

All 4-H related programs and activities are required to fill out and have on file with the office an “Event Plan” as a part of due diligence and liability compliance with CSU and Extension. Event plans provide information about planned 4-H activities and how risk will be mitigated and other details including volunteer support, ages, purpose of the program or event, potential costs and additional liability considerations. The plans help to ensure that 4-H events are fun, safe, and appropriate. All 4-H events must have an approved 4-H volunteer in attendance. Event plans should be submitted at least three weeks in advance of an event to ensure time for review, approval, and implementation of any additional requirements including additional liability forms or information.

Common examples of 4-H events: 4-H camps, workshops, club meetings, community service, live-stock judging, 4-H horse ride nights, dog practices, fun club outings, buyer solicitation, etc. For additional information, plan template, or questions, please contact Christine or Wayne.

4-H CORNER: FUNDRAISING USES & TIPS

Fundraising helps to sponsor different 4-H events and activities including at the club level. Fundraising should be conducted in support of educational 4-H activities as it is a non-profit. Funds may not be raised and then donated back to another organization (even for community service purposes) or to memorials. It’s important to have a goal in mind when fundraising so as to avoid just collecting funds that may not be used. Complete club use of funds information can be found on the fact sheets on the Colorado 4-H website @ co4h.colostate.edu/volunteer-resources/.

Member/Club Fundraising Reminders:

-Clubs/groups need to turn in an event plan ahead of time to ensure the fundraiser is appropriate.

**Raffles cannot be utilized as we do not have a license.*

-Determine the purpose of the fundraiser and how funds will be utilized. For younger members, creating a talking sheet that explains the basics can be beneficial when they are out raising funds. This could include: Name of youth, club associated with, what the fundraiser is for, what they are selling or providing, approximate cost of item(s), payment methods, delivery, contact information for questions, etc.

-Determine when fundraising will start, stop, and expectations for all in the club.

-Discuss with youth how to present themselves, utilizing manners, where to walk on someone’s property, and general common courtesy.

-Explain safety in terms of being out fundraising, no-soliciting signs, and other precaution items.

(Example) *Hello, my name is Joey Smith and I am a member of the Waterloo 4-H club. I would like to ask for a few minutes of your time to tell your about our 4-H club fundraiser. We are selling beef sticks for \$2.00/piece to help support club activities including_____. Would you be interested in supporting our club??? (If yes-provide more information including payment). For Yes or No “Thank you for your time today”.*

PILOT PROJECT: ANIMAL SCIENCE DISCOVERY

For the 2026 4-H project year, *Animal Science Discovery* will be offered as a “pilot project” in select counties including Lincoln. This will count as a regular project for interested members.

Members interested in exhibiting at fair will enter their *Animal Science Discovery* project in the “County projects” section this year. *It is not currently state fair eligible.

You can sign up for the project through 4H Online. Email christine.schinzle@colostate.edu for more project information including the record book and score sheet example.

What is it? The *Animal Science Discovery* project is designed for members to learn about an animal species of their choice. (Cat and Horseless Horse are not included as they have their own project areas). *This project can be for youth that are not showing an animal species or want to extend their learning beyond raising and showing an animal. This project will allow youth to investigate a topic of their choice relating to a specific species with a display board and e-record.

HORSE JUDGING: MEET & GREET

Date: January 21– 6:00pm

Location: Lincoln County Extension Office

*This will be an opportunity for members to meet with the Horse Judging coach-Wayne Miller. Members will be able to learn more about horse judging in general, go over contest opportunities, costs, participation requirements for contests, and ask questions.

FAMILY & CONSUMER: HOLIDAY HYDRATION

As we get busier with extra events or longer days due to added holiday activities, there can be a tendency to forget to intake liquids or even increase our intake due to increased activities. The average daily recommended water intake for women is 11.5 cups and 15.5 cups for men. This can depend on your age, weight, health, and general lifestyle activities. Proper hydration helps to prevent certain infections, allows our body to function properly, helps with digestion, reduces fatigue and more.

Tips to Staying Hydrated:

- Fruit and vegetables count->try adding in an extra serving for the day or adding more to the plate at that holiday gathering. Try serving fruit-flavored punches to encourage beverage consumption.
- Set a reminder on your phone or watch to take a beverage break at least 2x/hour.
- Set your goal to drink 3 full bottles (or more) of liquid during the day and one more at night.
- Avoid added caffeine even though it may be quick and convenient to reduce dehydration.
- Talk with your doctor early when not feeling well during the holidays and consider adding electrolytes to your beverages as well.

Resources: cdc.gov/healthy-weight-growth/water-healthy-drinks/index.html

ANIMAL INFORMATION CORNER: EQUINE HERPES VIRUS (EHV-1) & MYELOENCEPHALOPATHY (EHM)

We don't necessarily think about reportable diseases in the wintertime. However it's important to remember that while some diseases are less active in winter due to the cold, less wildlife movement, etc. many diseases can still be transmitted. It's important to remain diligent with our animals and properties throughout the year to avoid disease transmission and illness. One such disease to be aware of is Equine Herpes Virus-EHV-1/Myeloencephalopathy-EHM. EHV-1 includes respiratory disease and abortion/stillbirths in horses and EHM also presents with neurological symptoms. Symptoms can include nasal discharge, coughing, inability to stand, difficulty walking, lethargy, and urine dribbling. Vaccination can help prevent EHV-1, but doesn't protect against EHM and treatment is limited to supportive type care. The disease can spread through contact, aerosol droplets, infected (non-symptomatic carriers) horses, contaminated surfaces, and humans (contaminated clothing/hands).

What You Can Do:

- Ensure that you have a vaccination and biosecurity plan in place for your operation/home (regardless if you have one dog, 5,000 cows, or 15 horses).
- Ensure interstate movement including appropriate veterinary inspections are being followed.
- Practice biosecurity year round by utilizing different clothing/shoes when working with animals or going out in the pens than what you use in town or out traveling.
- Keep animal species separated as best as possible including the use of equipment and water.
- Quarantine all animals 21 days upon returning from events or activities.
- Regularly look at animals to monitor healthy symptoms and make it easier to spot illness. Contact your veterinarian if symptoms arise.

Where to Report: State Veterinarian's Office @ (303) 869-9130 or through online form portals @ ag.colorado.gov/animal-health/reportable-diseases

Resources:

- Local Veterinarian
- Colorado Department of Agriculture @ ag.colorado.gov/animals
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Resources including International Travel @ aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease
- Healthy Farms Healthy Agriculture @ healthyagriculture.org/

ACTIVITY PAGE:

Christmas Tree Paper Activity:

Supplies:

- Construction Paper (any color)
- Different colors of paint
- Paper plates to put paint on
- Paint brushes or Q tips
- Sequins
- Glitter
- Glue
- Scissors
- Empty Paper towel or toilet paper tubes

Steps:

- Add different colors of paint to paper plate area
- Utilize the ends of paper towel tubes by pressing them into the paint and then pressing them down on your paper to make a circular tree design. You can also utilize the paint brushes to paint a tree instead or add more detail.
- Utilize glue, sequins and glitter to add designs to your tree.
- You can also cut out designs with other colors of paper to make tree ornaments as well.
- For a larger tree- tape pieces of construction paper together.

**Don't forget to ask for permission before using scissors, paint, and glue and before hanging up your tree decorations.*



Monthly Reader

"Our Christmas Tree Farm"

By Lisa J. Amstutz

Christmas Tree

Brownies:

Supplies: Bake brownies utilizing instructions from Boxed recipe or home recipe.

Decorating Options:

- A) Once cool-cut brownies into rectangles and place on a plate or cutting board to cut out the shape of a tree.
- B) Once cool- cut brownies into little squares/rectangles and place on a plate. Use frosting and sprinkles to make different Christmas tree designs on the brownies.

**Don't forget to ask for parental permission/guidance before cooking or using electrical or sharp utensils.*

**Don't forget to wash your hands and work surface before beginning your activity.*

INFORMATION & EVENTS

County: *Reminder to check your email and monitor our Facebook page for updates on 4-H activities and events. **Forms, fees, and registrations are due to the office by (day stated) or (previous Friday) if the day is a weekend or holiday. County related forms and applications are available on the 4-H Forms & Applications page at lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-forms-applications/. A reminder that forms can be mailed, emailed, or dropped through the back door slot. The extension office cannot take credit cards for payment purposes.*

-Lincoln County Extension/4-H Website @ lincoln.extension@colostate.edu

-Facebook @ [Lincoln County Colorado Extension](https://www.facebook.com/LincolnCountyColoradoExtension)

-Colorado 4-H Website @ co4h.colostate.edu & 4H Online @ v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in

- ♦ **Leadership Development Camp** for 4-H members (14+) is January 24-25 in Denver. Registration closes in 4H Online December 17. Costs will be approximately \$450 (with registration, hotel, and meals). Camp chaperones will be needed for youth attendance. Registration and mileage will be paid for chaperone. Contact the office for questions.
- ♦ **Horse Project** open upcoming meetings are December 21 and January 18 2:00pm @ the Extension Office to learn more about the horse project. For questions contact wayne.miller@colostate.edu.
- ♦ **4-H horse Judging Meet & Greet** is January 21st @ 6:00pm extension office to learn about judging and ask questions. Contact wayne.miller@colostate.edu to learn more.
- ♦ **Shooting Sports- Safety Meetings** will be January 26 & February 9 @ 6:30pm @ the fairgrounds. First year members must attend both safety meetings. **Shooting Sports Forms and Fees** (\$35/discipline, except Shotgun \$40 are due by January 31 to the office. Forms are available @ lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/programs/4-h/shooting-sports/. **Hunter's Safety (Shooting Sports)**- All members interested in taking shooting sports need to obtain their Hunter's Safety Card before the March 1 add/drop project deadline. Find classes @ cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/HunterEducation.aspx.
- ♦ **Shooting Sports Volunteers Opportunity**-We are seeking volunteers to become certified shooting sports instructors. Please contact christine.schinzel@colostate.edu to learn more about the volunteer training process and opportunities.
- ♦ **Livestock Sale Committee (Livestock Scholarship Program Sheep, Goat, Swine, Poultry, Rabbit)** applications for 4-H and FFA members are due February 1. For specific program information and applications go to "4-H Programs and Applications", and look under the "livestock sale" tab @ lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-forms-applications/. Contact the sale committee or extension office if you would like to donate to a scholarship.
- ♦ **Beef Weigh-In** will be March 7. Details TBD.
- ♦ **Please contact the office if you have a workshop request or need project assistance.**

INFORMATION & EVENTS (CONT.)

- ♦ **Horse Safety Test (New Requirement)-** All 4-H members enrolled in the horse project going forward will be required to take and pass a written “Safety Test” one time in their 4-H career. The test may be taken at the office by scheduling an appointment and must be completed no later than July 15.
- ♦ **Lincoln County 4-H Foundation** has project assistance scholarships and 4-H event attendance reimbursement opportunities available in addition to a senior member scholarship. Check out the website under “forms and applications” “4-H Foundation app” to learn more @ lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-forms-applications/.
- ♦ **4-H Project Manual Ordering Information** @ co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-project-information/.
- ♦ **4-H Project List is available** @ co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-project-information/.
- ♦ **If you have club events, fundraisers, or pictures you would like to include in the newsletter or post on our Facebook page, please send them in at least two weeks before the beginning of the next month.**

Other Opportunities*** *Verify with listed contacts pertaining to their individual event to find out specific information and guidelines, event cancellation procedures, registration requirements, etc.*

- ♦ **Additional Events-Facebook-** Many events/notices/resources in and out of 4-H are also posted on the [Lincoln County Colorado Extension](#) Facebook page as they become available. Be sure to check the page for additional opportunities and information for both youth and adults.
- ♦ **CSU Extension Cottage Foods Safety Trainings** are held throughout the year. Learn more and register for a training @ foodsmartcolorado.colostate.edu/food-safety/cottage-retail-foods/.
- ♦ **CSU Extension Horticulture Blog** @ cshort.blogspot.com/.
- ♦ **CSU Extension Live Smart Blog (Family & Consumer)** @ livesmartcolorado.colostate.edu/.
- ♦ **CSU Extension Pasture to Profit Podcast** @ goldenplains.extension.colostate.edu/programs/agriculture/livestock-production/
- ♦ **Lincoln County-Noxious Weed Management Pocket Guide** is available @ lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/programs/agriculture-natural-resources/.
- ♦ **Agrability Resources (Agriculture producers/families)** @ agrability.colostate.edu/.
- ♦ **Various Livestock Shows** national listing of flyers available @ showman.app/shows#/ or showringmaster.com.

INFORMATION & EVENTS (CONT.)

- ♦ **Denver Foundation Grants and Scholarship** opportunities available @ denverfoundation.org/scholarships/scholarship-opportunities/.
- ♦ **National Corn Growers Association Ambassador & Scholarship** applications are due starting mid November. Information available @ ncga.com/stay-informed/scholarships.
- ♦ **Farm Credit of Southern Colorado Scholarships** application open in December. Learn more @ aglending.com/fcscscholarships/. **Internships** are also available.
- ♦ **Healthy Horses, Healthy Lands** CSU Extension Workshop is December 6 in Fort Collins. Learn more @ col.st/ai5v2 or kmelgar@colostate.edu.
- ♦ **National Western Catch-A-Calf Program** applications are open till December 15. Learn more @ nationalwestern.com/livestock-shows/catch-a-calf-program/.
- ♦ **Colorado Department of Ag Best in Show Photography Contest** is open till December 31. Learn more @ ag.colorado.gov/home/best-in-show-photography-contest.
- ♦ **BASF National Wheat Foundation Scholarship** application is due December 31. Learn more @ wheatfoundation.org/leadership-programs/.
- ♦ **Miniature Hereford Breeders Scholarship** applications is Due December 31. Learn more @ miniatureherefordbreeders.org/Scholarship-Applications.
- ♦ **Syngenta Scholarship** application is open through the FFA scholarship portal. **Syngenta Internship** opportunities @ syngenta-us.com/careers/students/.
- ♦ **ASBA Ewes for Youth Grant** application is open till January 1. Learn more @ southdownsheep.org/juniors/ewes-for-youth.
- ♦ **Future of Agriculture Colorado Farm Bureau Scholarships** application is due January 1. Learn more @ usascholarships.com/colorado-farm-bureau-scholarship-program/.
- ♦ **National Western Catch-A-Calf Program** applications are open till January 1. Learn more @ nationalwestern.com/livestock-shows/catch-a-calf-program/.
- ♦ **Dairy Farmers of America Scholarships** application is due January 9. Learn more @ dfamilk.com/stories-inspiration/press/dfa-cares-scholarship-open. **DFA Internships** are also available.

INFORMATION & EVENTS (CONT.)

- ♦ **American Quarter Horse Association Scholarships** are due January 15. Learn more @ aqhfoundation.smapply.io/prog/aqhf_scholarship_program/.
- ♦ **Presidential AI Challenge** is open to youth to learn more about AI Registration due January 15. Learn more @ orise.ora.gov/ai-challenge/index.html.
- ♦ **National Western Stock Show 4-H Day** is January 16. Discount tickets available @ groups@nationalwestern.com using promo code: FOURH.
- ♦ **NRA Youth Education Summit Leadership & Scholarship Program** Applications are open till January 18. Learn more @ yes.nra.org.
- ♦ **CO Building Farmers & Ranchers Online Program** starts in January. Learn more @ buildingfarmers.com.
- ♦ **Colorado Farm Show** exhibits and learning seminars is January 27-29 in Greeley, CO. Learn more @ coloradofarmshow.com/.
- ♦ **National Corn Growers Association Scholarship** applications are due January 31. Learn more @ ncga.com/stay-informed/scholarships.
- ♦ **High Plains No-Till Conference** is February 3-4 in Burlington, CO. Learn more @ highplainsno-till.com/.
- ♦ **Ag Day Essay** contest entries are due February 6. Learn more @ agday.org/essay-contest.
- ♦ **High Plains Organic Conference** is February 10-11 in Cheyenne, Wy. Learn more @ highplainsorganic.com.
- ♦ **Dairy Calf and Heifer Association Scholarship** is due February 15. Learn more @ calfandheifer.org/scholarship/.
- ♦ **El Pomar Internship** application is due February 20. Learn more @ elpomar.org/programs/internship/.
- ♦ **National Holstein Women's Scholarship** application is due February 21. Learn more @ nhw-soscholarship.com/scholarship-application/.
- ♦ **Lincoln County Extension** is selling seedling trees and shrubs until March 11 or until inventory runs out. Contact coopext_lincoln@mail.colostate.edu for an order form.
- ♦ **Colorado GROW Youth Institute** is April 26, 2026 at CSU Spur Campus for high school students. Learn more about project and registration @ csuspur.org/grow-youth-institute/.

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Re- Enrollment Closes	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 LDC Camp Reg. Due	18	19	20
21 Horse Pro- ject Mtg. 2:00pm @ Ext. Office	22	23	24	25 Office Closed- Holiday	26 Office Closed- Holiday	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Closed- Holiday	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 NWSS 10-25
11	12	13	14	15	16 4-H Day NWSS	17
18 Horse Project Mtg. 2:00pm @ Ext. Office	19 Office Closed- Holiday	20	21 Horse Judg- ing Mtg. 6:00pm @ Ext. Office	22	23	24
25	26 Shooting Sports Safety Mtg. 6:30pm @ Fair- grounds	27	28	29	30	31

February 1- 4-H New Member Enrollment Closes
-Livestock Sale Committee Scholarship Applications
(Small Animal Due)

HEAD-> Exploring Your Farm Dream

CSU Online and Building Farmers Program are offering a new course called Exploring Your Farm Dream (AGLL 2201). This online course is self-paced and one can sign up at any time during the year. This course is geared toward aspiring agriculture producers and food systems workers. To learn more about the course go to col.st/EWt8z. You can also contact Jonathan.cable@colostate.edu for questions as well.

HEART-> Give to Others

The holiday season is filled with lots of extra events and gatherings. During the hustle and bustle of the season it can be hard to remember that many do not have friends or family around to share the holidays with. Others may be feeling down during the holidays because of losses they have suffered. Take some time this holiday season to reach out to a neighbor, friends, nursing home residents, etc. to drop off a Christmas card, spend some time visiting, or giving a simple gift such as warm socks or cookies.

HANDS-> National Western Stock Show

The National Western Stock Show takes place January 10-26 in Denver. The NWSS provides opportunities for the general public and contestants to participate in many different events including, but not limited to rodeos, livestock exhibition shows, vendors including clothing and food, children's education center and activities, livestock sales, art exhibits, and stock dog and agility shows. Visitors can also stop by the SPUR center while on the grounds. With continued remodeling of the NWSS facilities, it's also a great chance to check out all of the changes.

Learn more @ nationalwestern.com/

HEALTH-> Staying Home When Sick

It can be tempting during the holiday season to attend every function you're invited to or fill up your schedule with extra holiday activities. However it's important to take care of your health and others by staying home when you are ill. This is especially true during the holidays as people tend to congregate more frequently and in many different gatherings. A good way to measure if to stay home or not is if you have an infectious illness (i.e. strep throat) or are potentially contagious. Symptoms that warrant staying home include fever, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, a constant cough or problems breathing. It's also a good idea to "say no" to events when you are feeling overwhelmed or experiencing high levels of fatigue.

