

4-H NEWSLETTER

February, 2026



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New Colorado State 4-H Website!

The Colorado State 4-H website along with other main CSU Extension websites have been recently updated or are in the process of finishing up their updates. They are still working on components on the 4-H site and some items will not be available till later spring. Please take time to explore the updates and become familiar with how to find project and other information.

@ co4h.colostate.edu/

*Most of the county extension websites will also be re-modeled this year. We will let you know once ours is undergoing "construction".

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

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WELCOME MEMBERS & GENERAL REMINDERS

We want to welcome our new and returning 4-H members and families! The following are some tips and reminders for the 4-H year.

- ♦ For Questions->Contact the office via phone or email (sooner than later).
- ♦ 4-H information, events, and updates will come out through the newsletter and email (information goes to the primary email listed in 4H Online). *Please make sure that emails are not getting stuck in your “spam or junk” folders. Additional information will be posted about other events as well on the [Lincoln County Colorado Extension](#) Facebook page. Plan accordingly so that important deadlines or requirements at the club and county level are not missed.
- ♦ All events subject to change or cancellation due to public health concerns, weather, cost, lack of attendance or closure due to maximum attendance, lack of volunteers, etc.. 4H Online is coordinated through the state and thus many additional events will show up in the registration section in 4H Online than may be applicable to our county members.
- ♦ Start on your projects and record books before school is out, so that you may ask questions and get help to complete your projects on time. Check out the Colorado 4-H website to learn more about the projects offered, what they entail, where to order manuals from, score sheet examples, and the general project record books at: co4h.colostate.edu/programs-projects/. Livestock/Animal records books will now be utilizing the state records books at co4h.colostate.edu/programs-projects/. *There are age specific books for livestock and also breeding animal supplements that will need to be attached. A 4-H club leader's signature is not required for livestock record books only general projects (because of state-level judging potential).*
- ♦ All deadlines and forms are due on the day stated or previous Friday if date is a holiday or weekend by 4:00pm (close of business). Items emailed, mailed, or dropped in the backdoor after that date/time are considered late. When there is an error in the day of the week and date please reach out for clarification in advance and use the earlier date as the deadline if unsure.
- ♦ Check the newsletter and fair website for fair related entry due dates and information.

County Extension/4-H & Lincoln County Fair Website: lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/

Facebook Page: [Lincoln County Colorado Extension](#)

Colorado 4-H Website: co4h.colostate.edu/

County 4-H “Forms/Applications” Link: lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-forms-applications/

County 4-H Policy, Guidelines & Deadlines Information:

lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-policy-guidelines/

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 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 GENERAL REMINDERS (cont.)

-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

-Market Beef Tagging (Mandatory) & Weigh-In -If exhibiting your project at the county fair- March 7

-Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) Training Requirements- March 30

1x-As a new member or first year taking a livestock project.

1x-When the member turns 4-H age of 10.

1x-When the member turns 4-H age of 14. *FFA members must attend their first livestock project year when showing in FFA (if they have not met the requirement in 4-H).

-Market Sheep/Goat/Swine- Must pick up and tag animals and submit nominations through 4H Online.-May 1

-Dog and Horse ID's- Must be submitted through 4H Online- May 1

-Market Poultry- Must collect leg bands from the office and submit nomination information through fair entries. -July 1

-Market Rabbits- Must be tattooed and submit nomination information through fair entries. -July 1

-Other Fair Related- Check the new fairbook in late spring for information, entry and deadline requirements.

4-H INFORMATION: PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

For youth to successfully participate and complete requirements in the county program the following must occur:

- 1) Enroll in and complete at least one 4-H project. Completion involves making a project and filling out a corresponding record book for the project. *Completion does not require participation at the county fair.
- 2) Participate in a community service activity.
- 3) Complete a demonstration or speech-arts presentation on a subject that relates to 4-H. *This does not have to be specific to your project.
- 4) Participate in any additional project requirements and deadlines as stated. Pay any additional project fees as required.
- 5) Participate and complete additional individual club requirements.

Reach out to the Extension Office if you have questions.

4-H DEMONSTRATION SUCCESS

Demonstrations and speeches offer youth the opportunity to learn many important life skills including, but not limited to public speaking, planning, critical thinking, audience engagement, how to find and utilize resources, and leadership. Youth learn about a particular topic or item of interest and how to convey what they have learned or would like to share with others.

Presentation success can start with following:

- Pick a topic of interest (4-H related) that you would like to learn more about or you think might be of value to share with others. Consider your focus of the presentation if you are trying to demonstrate/teach something or sharing more general information.
- Gather up at least 3 reputable resources (this can include an industry person (i.e. local nutritionist), journal articles, internet based resources that have reliable information, etc.).
- Write out a list of 3-5 main points for your presentation.
- Fill in information (around 2-3 sentences) per point (more if a longer presentation).
- Consider fully writing out what you will say.
- Be prepared for questions relating to your presentation and be able to share where your information came from. Don't be afraid to say that you do not know the answer if you are unfamiliar with the information.
- Don't plagiarize (copy other's work) or use AI generated items. Be sure to cite resources utilized.
- Consider using a few props or (large) visual items to help engage the audience.
- Keep your demonstration and speech to less than 10 minutes at the most. Younger members should strive for around 2-4 minutes. Older youth should strive for around 4-7 minutes.
- Practice several times reading out loud utilizing correct posture and stance. Work on your clarity when speaking and utilize family members to help practice making eye contact with an audience.
- Bring a written copy of your presentation, even if you are memorizing it or using a computer.

Calving & Calf Care Clinic

Saturday, February 7th @ 9:00am , Kit Carson County Fairgrounds-Burlington, CO

*Includes information on dystocia management, utilizing epidurals, handling colostrum, and hands-on activities with various calving simulators. Dr. Kathy Whitman-CSU and Dr. Leesa McCue from Eastern Colorado Veterinary Services in Limon will be presenting.

Registration is \$25 for Adults @ <https://col.st/qbaka> or \$15 for Students @ <https://col.st/8rmla> .

Registration Closes February 3

Hosted by CSU Extension

FAIR RELATED: BEEF EXHIBITORS

*Beef Weigh-In March 7 (8:00-10:00am) @ Meier Feedlot (48750 Hwy 40/287 Limon, CO)-located part-way between Limon and Hugo across the railroad tracks on the west side of the highway.

*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.



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!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marc Hollenbaugh'.

Marc Hollenbaugh, Brand Inspector - Limon District

STATE FAIR: GENERAL INFORMATION & SHOWING

The Colorado State Fair is August 28– September 7 in Pueblo, Colorado. The state fair provides a number of opportunities for 4-H and FFA members as well as the general public. Opportunities and general events include, but are not limited to: Horse, Livestock, & Small Animal Shows; Concerts & Other Specialty Events; Various Contests; Rodeos; Home & Garden Show; and Vendors.

**If you plan on exhibiting 4-H/FFA animals at the state fair, be sure to read through their site regarding nominations, DNA requirements, and entries information. Plan well in advance to receive and send DNA kits and obtain form signatures. This also includes securing a Colorado Premise ID Number as well.*

-Beef Nomination Forms are due to the office for signature no later than April 1.

-Sheep, Goat, & Swine Nomination Forms are due to the office for signature no later than June 1.

**Plan accordingly to receive forms on the correct paper.*

**4-H members may have the opportunity to exhibit indoor general projects at the state fair by qualifying at the local county fair. Contact the office for more information.*

Learn more & find resources and deadline information @ coloradostatefair.com/.

MEAT QUALITY ASSURANCE (MQA)

Meat Quality Assurance Training for 4-H/FFA members consists of walk-through learning stations and a test. The training is required for all members who are enrolled in livestock projects (Market and/or Breeding).

Lincoln County 4-H & FFA Members will be required to complete MQA as follows:

1x-First year taking a livestock project

1x-When the member turns 4-H age of 10

1x-When the member turns 4-H age of 14. *FFA members must attend as well their first livestock project year when showing in FFA.

Lincoln County MQA Date: March 30-> 4:00-6:30pm @ Lincoln County Fairgrounds

**If you cannot make the county date you will need to contact the office in advance for a listing of other county trainings that you may attend to complete your requirement. We need to notify other counties before you show up at their MQA training. Dates for other MQA trainings start as early as March in our part of the state.*

***Senior age members-If you would have an interest in helping with the MQA event and tear-down to earn community service, please contact chrisc@colostate.edu.**

4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING MEET & GREET

Date: February 24 @ 6:00pm

Location: Lincoln County Extension Office

Practices will take place on Tuesdays @ 6:00pm each week into late spring.

*This will be an opportunity for members to meet the livestock Judging coach-Ronny Pope. Members will be able to learn more about livestock judging in general, go over contest opportunities, costs, participation requirements, and ask questions. *Members are not required to attend contests to participate in judging practice activities.

DISTRICT & STATE OFFICER OPPORTUNITIES:

District or State Officer Interest- Senior (Driving-Age) Members who may be interested in running for a District or State Office need to contact the office by the end of February to get more information and complete the application process. *All offices require extensive travel and time commitment as well as event travel and registration expenses.

STATE CONFERENCE CONTESTS AVAILABLE:

The State 4-H Conference will be June 16-18 in Fort Collins at CSU campus. There are many workshops and contests available to senior age members. Contact the office to learn more about contest requirements and participation. *There is a cost to enter contests as well as general registration and travel costs. *Some contests require team members for competition. Volunteers are also needed to coach contestants in contests.

- Family & Consumer Science (Quiz Bowl & Skill-a-thon)
- Livestock (Quiz Bowl & Judging)
- Speaking Contests (Prepared & Impromptu)
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Horse (Demonstration, Quiz Bowl, Judging, & Hippology)

LINCOLN COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Lincoln County 4-H Foundation offers scholarship opportunities as follows to 4-H members:

- Reimbursement Scholarship (funds for attending a 4-H event/camp)
- Project Scholarship (funds to help offset general 4-H project expenses)
- Senior Scholarship (scholarship application for a graduating-senior member)- Due April 15

Learn more and download the applications by going to the Lincoln County Extension website @ lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-forms-applications/ under the tab "4-H Foundation app".

FAMILY & CONSUMER: TAX SEASON IS ALMOST HERE

Tax season is just around the corner with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announcing that it will begin accepting returns on January 26. It's important to meet with a tax preparer each year after you have received and gathered up all documents to determine if you need to file a tax return, if you are eligible for a refund or owe taxes, and if you might qualify for [refundable tax credits](#) (credits available even if you don't owe any tax or potentially have any income). A reminder that individual returns are due by April 15, while other entity types may have different deadlines. So don't delay, utilize the following information to get ready to file your taxes.

What's New: The [One, Big, Beautiful Bill](#) signing signaled many changes for tax filers for the upcoming season including new additions or extensions and some expirations of credits. Some of those changes include changes to taxes on tips and overtime pay, enhanced deductions for seniors, and a deduction on personal car loan interest. Parents can now sign up for the new Trump account (a retirement-based account for children). Health Savings Accounts also saw changes for those who can contribute and surrounding telehealth services. It's important to check with your preparer on all the changes and what may or may not be applicable. Don't forget to sign up for an [IRS Individual Online Account](#) to access your information and return history.

What Do I Need to Gather Before Filing:

->Basics: Social security number for you and others you will claim as dependents on your return, bank account information if receiving a refund, a current address, your IRS "PIN" that you filed with last year, and filing status.

->Make Note of Life Changes: Did you get married, lose a spouse, buy a house, move to a new state, have a child stop being a dependent, etc.?

->Income Sources: Gather W-2's from all employer's, 1099's (if an independent contractor or if you sold items electronically (i.e. Venmo), or other income), interest income, hobby or gambling winnings, side business income, social security or other retirement plans, etc. **Be sure to inform your preparer about any income your children may have received to determine if they will need to file as well.*

->Expenses or Contributions: Business, hobby, childcare or dependent care expenses, education expenses (teacher or student), etc.), retirement accounts, health savings accounts, etc. If you itemize your deductions (gather up donations to charity, home mortgage and property taxes, health care expenses, etc.).

FAMILY & CONSUMER: TAX SEASON IS ALMOST HERE (cont.)

Where to Get Help:

The [Colorado Department of Revenue](#) and [Get Ahead Colorado](#) has many resources for finding free or reduced filing tax preparers both online and nearby in your local community. They also offer learning resources and information regarding many topics including if you were a part-time resident, filing deadlines, and information on tax credits specific to Colorado. The IRS also has resources for free income tax filing assistance through their [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\)](#) program or [\(800\) 906-9887](#) and/or [AARP Tax-Aid site](#) or [\(888\) 227-7669](#) for the elderly and other qualified individuals. You can find a directory for credentialed tax preparers and what to consider before hiring a tax professional on the [IRS](#) website as well.

Need Ideas for Your Tax Refund?

- If your refund is very high, consider adjusting your withholding from your paycheck to reduce what you pay out of pocket up front. This lets you use more of your money now instead of letting the government hold onto it all year.
- Utilize your refund to pay down credit card debt or make an extra vehicle payment.
- Contribute to a retirement account.
- Contribute to a savings account for emergency or maintenance expenses.

Resources:

Colorado Department of Revenue (Income Tax): <https://www.colorado.gov/revenueonline/>

Get Ahead Colorado (Tax Filing Assistance in Colorado): <https://www.getaheadcolorado.org/>

Internal Revenue Service: <https://www.irs.gov/individual-tax-filing>

JUST TO GET YOU THINKIN...

"One kind word can warm three winter months." -Japanese Proverb

Q "What's the one flower you should never give on Valentines Day?"

A "Cauliflower"

ACTIVITY PAGE:

Rock Painting: Hearts & Other Shapes

Decorated rocks make an easy home-made gift to give to others for Valentines Day to let them know you are thinking about them. The rocks could also be used for a variety of purposes including decoration out in the yard or placed in a flower pot or on a coffee table or used as a paper or napkin weight.

Supplies:

-Larger rocks that are flatter work best (look around your house or see if you can find some river rocks locally to use).

**Reminder: do not take rocks from public places or other yards without permission first.*

-Sharpie marker (black and other colors)

-Paint

-Paint brushes (narrow and small)

-Paper towel or old newspaper

Steps:

-Lay down paper towels or old newspaper to prevent spills or marks onto other furniture

-Use a black sharpie to draw heart or other types of shapes onto your rock or rocks. **Practice on a sheet of paper beforehand if you are not sure what you want your design to be.*

-Utilize other colored sharpie markers or paint to color in your rock designs

**Bonus idea:*

You can draw designs onto rocks and give them to younger siblings or family members to color in on their own. This provides an activity for everyone.



Monthly Reader

"Cocoa's Cranky Valentine"

By Beth Hughes

Fruit Kabobs:

**Use different colored fruits to make a quick snack for friends or family.*

Supplies:

-Kabob sticks or skewers

-Knife (ask for parental permission or assistance)

-Cutting board

-Trey to hold kabobs

-Fruit (Strawberries, apples, bananas, cherries, blueberries, oranges, raspberries, etc.)

Steps:

-Wash hands and surfaces

-Wash fruit and cut into thumb size chunks

-Alternate putting different pieces of fruit onto the kabob sticks.

-Serve right away or chill if not serving till later.

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

- ♦ **4-H Horse Judging Practice** starts February 4 (weekly) @ 6:00pm at the extension office. Contact wayne.miller@colostate.edu to learn more.
- ♦ **Shooting Sports- 2nd Safety Meeting** will be 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. One is being offered February 14-15 in Limon.
- ♦ **Shooting Sports Volunteers Opportunity**-We are seeking volunteers to become certified shooting sports instructors. Please contact christine.schinzle@colostate.edu to learn more about the volunteer training process and opportunities.
- ♦ **Horse Project** open upcoming meetings are February 15 @ 2:00pm @ the Extension Office to learn more about the horse project. For questions contact wayne.miller@colostate.edu.
- ♦ **4-H Livestock Judging Meet/Greet** is February 24 at 6:00pm at the extension office to learn more about livestock judging and go over events and information for the year. Practices will be weekly on Wednesday @ 6:00pm.
- ♦ **District or State Officer Interest**- Senior (Driving-Age) Members who may be interested in running for a District or State Office need to contact the office by the end of February to get more information and complete the application process. All offices require extensive travel and time commitments as well as travel and registration expenses.
- ♦ **State 4-H Conference** will be June 16-18 in Fort Collins at CSU campus. Workshops and contests are available to senior age members. Contact the office to learn more about contest requirements and participation by the end of February. *There is a cost to enter contests as well as general registration and travel costs.

INFORMATION & EVENTS (CONT.)

- ♦ **Beef Weigh-In** is March 7 @ Meier Feedlot (48750 Hwy 40/287 Limon, CO) from 8:00-10:00am. The feedlot is partway between Hugo and Limon; across the railroad tracks to the west. Members are required to bring brand/ownership papers and be able to identify which animal belongs to which member (or if a family animal) at weigh-in. Ownership must be transferred before weigh-in. No EXCEPTIONS. Contact your local brand inspector for any questions regarding transfers including within your family (i.e. home-raised). Members interested in taking beef animals to state fair will need to notify the office to receive a **State Fair Nomination Form** and return it for signature no later than April 1. Additional information including DNA packets and entry information is available @ coloradostatefair.com/competitions/livestock/.
- ♦ **Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA)** for 4-H/FFA members for Lincoln County is March 30 from 4:00-6:30pm at the fairgrounds. Contact christine.schinzel@colostate.edu for a listing of other county available locations if you cannot make this date. **Livestock Members are required to take MQA their first livestock (including breeding) project year, at 4-H age 10, and at 4-H age 14. FFA members must take MQA the first year they are enrolled in FFA with a livestock project.*

**Senior Age members-> If you would have an interest in helping with the MQA event and teardown to earn community service, please contact christine.schinzel@colostate.edu.*

- ♦ **Lincoln County 4-H Foundation Project, Reimbursement, and Senior Scholarship** forms are available to 4-H members for some reimbursement or support of 4-H camps, workshops, and general project supplies. The Senior member scholarship is due April 15. Go to the Lincoln County 4-H/Extension website and click under "Foundation" to download the forms and requirements at lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-forms-applications/.
- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **4-H Project List & Manual Ordering Information** @ co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-project-information/.

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](https://www.facebook.com/LincolnCountyColoradoExtension) 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 @ extension.colostate.edu/offering/cottage-food-safety-training/.
- ♦ **CSU Extension Horticulture Blog** @ cshort.blogspot.com/.

INFORMATION & EVENTS (CONT.)

- ♦ **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/](https://lincoln.extension.colostate.edu/programs/agriculture-natural-resources/).
- ♦ **Agrability Resources (Agricultural producers/families)** @ agrability.colostate.edu/.
- ♦ **Various Livestock Shows** national listing of flyers available @ showman.app/shows#/ or showringmaster.com.
- ♦ **CSU Extension Gardening Topic Webinars** will be monthly on Wednesdays @ noon. Learn more @ planttalk.colostate.edu/webinars.
- ♦ **Denver Foundation Grants and Scholarship** opportunities available @ denverfoundation.org/scholarships/scholarship-opportunities/.
- ♦ **High Plains Organic Conference** is February 10-11 in Cheyenne, Wy. Learn more @ highplainsorganic.com.
- ♦ **CSU Ag Land Rental & Custom Rates Survey** Participants Needed by February 14. Complete @ colostate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form.
- ♦ **Hunter's Safety Course** open to the public is February 14-15 in Limon. Learn more @ register-ed.com/events/view/239814.
- ♦ **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/.
- ♦ **Black & Gold Showdown Cattle Show** is February 21 in Goodland, KS. For information contact Kaelyn Schilling @ 785-821-0608.
- ♦ **National Holstein Women's Scholarship** application is due February 21. Learn more @ nhw-soscholarship.com/scholarship-application/.
- ♦ **Colorado Ag Forum** is February 26. Learn more @ coloradoagforum.com/.
- ♦ **Stalwart Agfinity Scholarship** is due early spring. Learn more @ agfinityinc.com/about-us/community-support/.
- ♦ **Shorthorn Association Scholarship** application is open. Learn more @ shorthorn.org/junior-membership/opportunities/.

INFORMATION & EVENTS (CONT.)

- ♦ **American Agri-Women Daughters of American Agriculture Scholarships** are due March 1. Learn more @ americanagriwomen.org/scholarships/
- ♦ **National Ayrshire Youth Scholarship** and junior leader items are available @ husayrshire.com/youth-corner.
- ♦ **Targhee Sheep Association-Starter Flock Program** application is open until March 1. Learn more @ targheesheepus.com/.
- ♦ **Feed Tomorrow Institute of Food Technologies Scholarships** close March 2. Information available @ ift.org/Community/Students/Scholarships.aspx.
- ♦ **Agriculture Future of America Scholarship** is due March 5. Learn more @ agfuture.org/scholarships.
- ♦ **1890 Scholars Program** application is open till march 8. Learn more <https://national-scholar-program.powerappsportals.us/> and/or searching “1890 Scholars Program” within USDA.
- ♦ **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 Garden Foundation Scholarship** is due March 15. Learn more @ <https://www.coloradogardenfoundation.org/about/>.
- ♦ **Colorado 4-H Scholarship** applications are due March 15. Learn more @ co4h.colostate.edu/scholarships.
- ♦ **Sullivan Show Supply Scholarship** is due March 15. Learn more @ sullivanssupply.com/.
- ♦ **Transova Scholarship** applications are due March 15. Learn more @ transova.com/youth/.
- ♦ **Turf and Ornamental Communications Association Scholarship** is due March 15. Information and application is available at toca.org/toca-scholarship/.
- ♦ **Colorado GROW Youth Institute** application is due March 17 for youth in grades 9-12. It is a program challenge for students interested in food security issues. Learn more about the required research paper and events, and register worldfoodprize.org/Colorado.
- ♦ **National Farmers Union Foundation Scholarships** are due April 1. Learn more @ nfu.org/scholarships.
- ♦ **El Paso County Beef Blow N Go Show** is April 4 in Calhan, CO. For questions contact Emily Green @ emily.green@colostate.edu.

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New 4-H Member En- rollment Closes -Livestock Sale Committee Small Animal Applications Due	2	3 Calving Clinic RSVP Due	4 Horse Judging Mtg. 6:00pm @ Ext. Office	5	6	7 Calving Clinic- Burlington
8	9 2nd Shooting Sports Safe- ty Mtg. 6:30pm @ Fairgrounds	10	11 Horse Judging Mtg. 6:00pm @ Ext. Office	12	13	14 Hunter's Safety Class
15 -Horse Pro- ject Mtg. 2:00pm @ Ext. Office -Hunter's Safe- ty Class	16 Office Closed- Holiday	17	18 Horse Judging Mtg. 6:00pm @ Ext. Office	19	20	21
22	23	24 Livestock Judging Mtg 6:00pm @ Extension Office	25 Horse Judging Mtg. 6:00pm @ Ext. Office	26	27	28

HEAD-> 2025 USDA Colorado Land Rental Rates Publication

A USDA Colorado Land Rental Rates Publication is posted each year to help producers see differences in land rental rates around the state for irrigated and non-irrigated cropland and pasture.

This helps producers and landlords better understand potential rates and make better business decisions. To view the publication or other resources visit the CSU Extension Agriculture and Business Management site @ abm.extension.colostate.edu/full-resource-index/#financial.

HANDS-> CSU Land Rental & Custom Rates Survey

The CSU Extension Land Rental and Custom Rates Survey is open to producers until February 14. This yearly survey helps collect data regarding land rents and custom rates charged for various livestock and crop operations and different types of lease agreements. This survey data is vital for the use of federal determination of farm payment support, and is equally used by appraisers, ag lenders, county assessors, the Department of Agriculture, students, and producers. The survey results can be valuable in helping to negotiate new agreements with landlords or tenants and help new and seasoned producers understand different rates and what factors affect those rates. Complete by February 14 @ colostate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form.

HEART-> Send a Valentine!

Take the time to make some home-made Valentine's Day cards or use some of your extra ones for friends to send some to nursing home residents, your teachers and support staff, or even your elderly neighbors. Sending a quick note letting someone know you are thinking of them and wishing them a good day is a great way to give to others.

HEALTH-> Human Trafficking Awareness

Human trafficking occurs when someone uses force, coercion, or fraud to control another person for the purpose of exploiting that person for labor or other services against their will. It's important for all to remember to practice safety awareness around strangers, in public locations, and even online. It's also important to pay attention to how others (even if it's someone you know) is treating you or others. If you think something is not right or are concerned for yours or others safety then don't be afraid to reach out to local law enforcement or the trafficking hotline to ask for help.

Web: humantraffickinghotline.org/en

Phone: [1-888-373-7888](tel:1-888-373-7888)

TTY: [711](tel:711)

Text: [233733](tel:233733)

