

4-H Youth Development

Golden Plains Area Newsletter

MARCH/APRIL 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Kit Carson County

817 15th Street
Burlington, CO 80807
(719) 346-5571
coopext_kit_carson@mail.colostate.edu

Phillips County

22505 Hwy 385
Holyoke, CO 80734
(970) 854-3616
coopext_phillips@mail.colostate.edu

Sedgwick County

315 Cedar
Julesburg, CO 80737
(970) 474-3479
coopext_sedgwick@mail.colostate.edu

Washington County

181 Birch Avenue
Akron, CO 80720
(970) 345-2287
coopext_washington@mail.colostate.edu

Yuma County

310 Ash, Suite B
Wray, CO 80758
(970) 332-4151
coopext_yuma@mail.colostate.edu

MARCH

- 4 Order DNA kits for all species from Colorado State Fair
- 23 High Plains Community Beekeepers Meeting- Wray

APRIL

MQA CHECK DATES ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER

- 1 Beef DNA due to Colorado State Fair
- 1 Colorado State Fair Beef nomination forms due to Extension Office
- 26-28 Youth Sheep Production Tour
- 26-28 Youthfest- flyer in newsletter
- 30 State 4-H Scholarships Applications Deadline

MAY

- 1 Horse and Dog IDs are due in 4-H online.

JUNE

- 1 Colorado State Fair Sheep/Goat/Swine nomination forms due to Extension Office.
- 4 Yuma County Cake Show & Cake Wars
- 6 Mini Sportfishing Clinic-Wray-more info to come.
- 18-21 State 4-H Conference

Golden Plains Area Web Site

<http://goldenplains.extension.colostate.edu>

CSU Extension 4-H Web Site

<http://www.colorado4h.org>



GOLDEN PLAINS AREA
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Kit Carson, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, and Yuma Counties cooperating.

Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

Colorado Brand Inspection and 4-H Livestock Projects

Scott Stinnett, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development / Livestock

A brand is a legal mark of ownership. In Colorado, each brand is unique and can belong to a single owner, a farm, or a ranch. Livestock belonging to anyone or a farm or a ranch that owns a brand can be marked with that legal brand. You can own animals without owning a brand, but you still have to follow Colorado Brand Law.

A Brand Inspection is an “ownership check” on livestock. Brand Inspections are required by law. *“Colorado law and regulations require that livestock (including cattle, calves, horses, mules, donkeys, burros and, when requested, sheep), whether or not they are branded, be inspected before (1) any change of ownership (whether by gift or sale), (2) transport over 75 miles within the state of Colorado (determined by the most direct driving route), (3) transport to a destination outside Colorado (regardless of the distance), (4) transport to sale, and (5) transport to slaughter.”*

A brand inspector, who works for the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Brand Inspection Division, can be scheduled to come and do a brand inspection. The brand inspector will determine if the animals are owned by the person who says they own them and document a change in ownership. There is a fee charged for each brand inspection.

For more information on brands, brand law and to find a brand inspector you can go to the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Brand Inspection Division website at <https://ag.colorado.gov/brands>.



We all know that Roberts Rules of Order will help us keep all meetings orderly, accomplish more items in less time, meet your goals, help people work better together and come to agreement, and provide a democratic process at meetings. We have a Parliamentary procedure contest that displays these skills in a competitive environment and allows 4-H members to practice life skills that will help them in school and as adults. Planning, evaluating, sharing ideas, listening to others, and making decisions are all important life skills that take place through participation in meetings. This contest is held at State 4-H Conference in June. Please call your Extension Office for more information.



A QUICK LOOK AT A COOL PROJECT!

VISUAL ARTS

Do you want to express yourself, be creative, or make an impression? Cutting and pasting, painting, sculpting, drawing, printing, preserving memories and construction with fibers and other materials are all exciting hands-on activities in the visual arts project. Experience different careers, culture, science, and technology that are available. Explore your creativity and discover a hobby that you might enjoy for the rest of your life. Be yourself, explore visual arts!

KIT CARSON COUNTY

McKayla Stephen (4-H Youth Development / Family Consumer Science) mckayla.stephen@colostate.edu Scott Stinnett (4-H Youth Development / Livestock) scott.stinnett@colostate.edu

Dates to Remember

MARCH

- 1 Colorado 4-H Scholarship Deadline
- 17 Shooting Sports – Mandatory Safety Training/ Range Clean Up
- 29 HOLIDAY – Good Friday (office closed)

APRIL

- 1 4-H Project Add/Drop DEADLINE
- 7 KCC Shooting Sports – Discipline Training
- 8 KCC County Council Meeting – Bethune School
- 10 MQA Training at Burlington Community Center
- 13 4-H Cake Wars
- 21 KCC Shooting Sports – First Qualifying Shoot
- 26-28 Youthfest

MAY

- 1 Horse ID/Lease Forms Due
- 13 Sheep Weigh-in – Fairgrounds
- 13 Swine & Goat Nomination DEADLINE – Extension Office
- 27 HOLIDAY (office closed)



**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

4-H Scholarships

The KCC Memorial Scholarships Applications are available now and are due in the Extension office by **April 15th**.

The Colorado 4-H Foundation scholarship applications are now available. The application deadline is **March 1st**. For more information, go to: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/about-us/scholarships/>

Youthfest

There will be a Youthfest this year on April 26th – 28th. It will be held in Pueblo at the Colorado State Fairgrounds and will be for 4-H members ages 11-13. Registration is \$115. Registration opens March 1st. Contact Scott or McKayla.

4-H Projects - Add or Drop Deadline

The add/drop deadline for all 4-H projects is **April 1st**. Postcards, listing each member's enrolled projects, will be mailed in early March. If changes need to be made, call the Extension Office by 5 PM on **April 1st**.

NOTE: Sheep weigh-in and the deadline for swine/goat nominations are after the official add/drop deadline. 4-H members enrolled in these market livestock projects prior to April 1 will be allowed to drop the project if they are unable to purchase animals by the May 13th weigh-in date and nomination deadline.

Project Record Book Info

Records for all 4-H projects are available online. Visit www.colorado4h.org and click on the Projects & Record Books link..

Display Boards & Record Book Binders

General 4-H project and Shooting Sports display boards are available for purchase from the Extension Office – cost \$3 each.

Flat three-ring green binders for livestock and general 4-H project record books may also be purchased from the Extension office – cost \$3.50 each. *(For livestock members with multiple years in the same project, only include records for the two most recent years, along with the current project year's records.)*

Spring Break Work Shops

We are again going to host some half day workshops during spring break March 12th - 16th. Cake decorating, quilting and others will be available. If you have a suggestion for a workshop, contact Scott or McKayla.

Livestock & Horse Judging Contests

4-H members interested in judging livestock or horses contact Scott so he can make a list. Our greatest need is

for coaches! If you are willing to work with kids as an individual or part of a coaching team, please contact Scott.

Shooting Sports

4-H members in Shooting Sports must complete Hunter's Education before participating in any 4-H shooting activities and must attend the **Safety Training on Sunday March 17th, 1:30pm at the Burlington Gun Club**. If you have any questions, contact Scott at the Extension Office.

Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)

The Kit Carson County MQA certification program will take place **Wednesday, April 10th from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Burlington Community Center**. The training should take approximately one hour to complete, so please arrive no later than **6 p.m.** Kit Carson County will host only one MQA training. If members are unable to attend locally, they need to contact Scott.

All livestock exhibitors are required to attend Meat Quality Assurance training during the first two years of being enrolled in a livestock project, regardless of age. Also, members must attend when they reach age 12 and again at age 15. **If you are required to attend an MQA program this year you will receive a letter in March.** Please call Jean at the office, 346-5571, if you have any questions.

Cake Wars

April 13th The original date was April 20th but had to change due to some scheduling conflicts, so the date is Sat. April 13th. Kids do not have to be enrolled in cake decorating to participate, and if they are they can sign up in a different unit. Please RSVP by calling or emailing McKayla with their unit of choice to enter by April 5th. Kids will check in at 11:00 am and we will get started on some skills lab activities. We will have pizza for lunch, if your child has restrictions, please contact McKayla prior to the RSVP deadline. After lunch, the kids will plan out their design on paper and then work on their cake. We will practice interview judging and evaluate and discuss the cakes followed by some awards and prizes. McKayla is estimated to be finished around 3:00 pm.

2024 State 4-H Conference

State 4-H Conference is being planned for June 17th - 20th this year. If you are interested in participating in a contest, contact Scott at the Extension Office.

Citizen Washington Focus (CWF) 2024

Colorado will be sending a delegation of senior youth 4-H members, ages 15-18, to CWF on June 20-27, 2024. Interested youth must complete an official application for Citizenship Washington Focus in 4-HOnline and upload a clear, glossy picture for publicity by March 1, 2024.

KCC4-H Council will cover most of the cost. The remaining \$680 will be the responsibility of the youth to pay. To sign up or for questions, contact Scott.

Junior KCC Fair Superintendents

There are still some openings for Junior Fair Superintendents. Please contact the Extension Office as soon as possible.

KCC Fair Market Sheep Weigh-in

Sheep weigh-in will take place at the fairgrounds, **Monday, May 13th from 3:30 to 6 p.m.** A weigh-in fee of \$5 per head is due at the time of weigh-in. All members must weigh their market lambs at this time in order to be eligible to show and sell at the Kit Carson County Fair, no exceptions!

KCC Fair Market Swine & Goat Nominations

Market swine and goat projects will not be weighed-in prior to the fair. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to nominate their own animals in order to be eligible to show and sell at the Kit Carson County Fair. Exhibitors must complete a nomination form, as well as tag and photograph each animal. One color photograph per animal must be submitted; a close-up photograph of the animal's face with the ear tag (the tag number must be legible). Swine exhibitors must also indicate the animal's ear notches on the nomination form.

Nomination forms and ear tags are available at the Extension Office. A fee of **\$5.00** per head must be paid when the tags are picked up. Completed nomination forms and photographs are due to the Extension Office by **Monday, May 13th at 5:00 p.m.**, no exceptions!

Scale Appointments and Small-Scale Checkout

If you want to track the weight gain of your animals, we have two options. For small animals, a family or club can check out the portable small animal scales and take them to weigh their animals. We ask the scales not to be checked out for more than 48 hours. You can also take animals to the fairgrounds to weigh on the big scales. Contact Scott to checkout small scales or make an appointment to use the fairgrounds scales.

Showmanship Lessons

This year, Scott is willing to try something different. Instead of a single day showmanship clinic, Scott is willing to come and work with youth and their animals on showmanship lessons.

Here is how it will work. Contact Scott at the Extension office to set a date and time for an individual, a family, or a club lesson. Showmanship lessons will be scheduled during the work week. Make sure youth, animals and at least one adult can be present during the showmanship lesson. Scott can help with cattle, sheep, goats, and swine.

PHILLIPS COUNTY

March

- 3/1: Enrollment Deadline for NEW Members!
- 3/4: Phillips County 4-H Council Meeting
- 3/11: 4-H 101 for New Families
- 3/11: Livestock Committee Meeting
- 3/15: Cake Wars Contest
- 3/18: Fair Board Meeting
- 3/27: Egg My Yard Registrations Due
- 3/29: Colorado State Fair Beef Nomination Forms Due to Extension Office!
- 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26: Livestock Judging Practices

April

- 4/8: Phillips County MQA, 4-7 pm
- 4/8: Livestock 101 Workshop, following MQA
- 4/8: Livestock Committee Meeting
- 4/17: 4-H Volunteer Open House
- 4/17: Fair Board Meeting
- 4/26-4/28: 4-H Youth Sheep Production Tour
- 4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30: Livestock Judging Practices
- Down the Road:**
- 5/1: Animal Care & Housing Forms Due, Horse, Dog & Swine ID Deadline
- 5/8: Sheep & Goat Weigh In
- 5/15: Add/ Drop Deadline for Projects

New 4-H Member Enrollment Deadline

New members are welcome to join 4-H until March 1, 2024. If you are unsure of how to join 4-H, please call the Extension Office. We will help you find a Club, Projects, and enroll online.

New: 4-H 101: New Family Orientation

To help new families achieve more success in their first year in 4-H, we are offering the 4-H 101 Workshop. The goal of this program is to help first- or second-year families learn about 4-H and where to go for help. The workshop will be held on March 11, 2024, in the Ortner Room of the Event Center. The workshop will run from 5-6 pm.

Youth Sheep Production Tour

Senior aged 4-H members are eligible to attend a district wide 4-H sheep production tour. This tour will include visits to commercial sheep ranches on the western slope of Colorado, the University of Wyoming Sheep Farm, Cactus Hill Sheep Feedlot, Yampa Valley Fiber Works. Topics Commercial Sheep Shearing, Wool Production and Judging, Wool

4-H Volunteer Open House

Interested in becoming a volunteer for Phillips County 4-H? We would like to welcome you to our first ever open house for 4-H volunteers. We will be covering the process of becoming a volunteer, how to engage youth and families, how to host workshops, and more! This is a great opportunity to learn more about mentoring youth in Phillips County!

Project Add & Drop Date

If you need some extra time to decide which projects to take for the year, don't sweat it! You have until May 15th to add or drop projects for the year!

Youth Fest, Pueblo, Colorado

Youth Fest will be held April 26-28, 2024, in Pueblo. This is open to 11-13-year-olds. Registration is \$115. Please call the Extension Office by March 29, 2024, if you are interested in attending.

Phillips County Cake Wars

On March 15, 2024, Phillips County will be hosting a Cake Wars Contest. This program is open to all 4-H members and even non-members. You do not have to be in a Cake Decorating project or Foods and Nutrition Project. 4-H members may bring a friend that is not a 4-H member to this activity. In the morning there will be a presenter that will teach a skills lab focusing on smooth icing techniques and using fondant. Then in the afternoon we will give participants time to plan and decorate a cake around a theme. The cakes will then be judged and critiqued.

Register by March 11: <https://bit.ly/pccakewars2024>

Important Websites

We use different websites to get the most information out to 4-H members and their families! Below is a list of important websites that will lead you to information that will allow you to be successful in your 4-H projects.

- To access your own 4-H member or family profile: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
- To access resources for your projects including manuals, tip sheets and Record Books: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-project-information/>
- To access the 4-H policy: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/policy/4H-Policy-Handbook.pdf>

Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook to learn about important updates and upcoming events!

Project Manuals

Looking for your project manual? If you would like your manual printed or ordered, please call the Extension Office. We are only ordering manuals by request to avoid waste. Manual orders will be grouped together to save on shipping costs, so I encourage you to call the Extension Office as soon as you know.

Phillips County Livestock 101 Workshop

Want to learn about a new species you are showing this year? Consider joining us for the Livestock 101 Workshop. This will be an opportunity to learn about nutrition, health concerns, selecting, and raising your new livestock species. The Livestock Committee will be present to share their wealth of knowledge with you! This will follow MQA on April 8, 2024.

MQA Dates and Information

Meat Quality Assurance Trainings are designed to ensure that 4-H and FFA members are producing a safe, quality meat product that can secure consumer confidence. The training consists of a variety of stations that teach youth about different aspects of animal safety and animal products. In Phillips County, 4-H members are required to take MQA their first year of a livestock project and then at the ages of 12 and 15. Colorado requires that MQA be taken 45 days before the start of County Fair. Below are the dates of MQA in our area. If you get a postcard in the mail stating you are due for MQA, you must attend one MQA training. If you are unable to attend MQA in Phillips County, please call the Extension Office to learn about other trainings.

Livestock Judging Practices

Livestock Judging Practices start on March 5, 2024. They will run every Tuesday night at 6:00 pm. Practices will alternate weekly between Holyoke and Haxtun. Please reach out to the Extension Office with any questions.

Purple Up for Military Kids

This April, join the 4-H Military Partnership in celebrating the Month of the Military Child and Purple Up! For Military Kids Day! You can honor the service of military children by wearing purple, writing a letter to a child of a military member, and many more ways!

Phillips County Family and Consumer Science Programs

Our Family and Consumer Science Agent, Stephanie Starkebaum has been hard at work developing programming for our communities. There are several programs that will be coming over the next few months. Please watch the Facebook page for programming information. You can also reach Stephanie at stephanie.starkebaum@colostate.edu or at 970-854-3616

SEDGWICK COUNTY

Josilyn Lutze, 4-H Program Coordinator

MARCH

3 Chili Supper Fundraiser

APRIL

1 4-H County Scholarships Due
1 Beef State Fair Nomination Forms Due in Extension Office
7 **MQA: 4-6 pm. at Fairgrounds**
28 Market Lamb & Goat Weigh-in 12:30-1:30

MAY

1 Ownership deadlines for breeding beef, sheep, & goats.
Dog & Horse ID forms due in 4-H Online
1 Animal Care & Housing Form Due
7 Swine ID forms due
15 **Add/Drop Deadline**

JUNE

1 Lamb, swine & goat State Fair Nomination Forms Due in Extension office.
15 Rabbit & Poultry Ownership deadline

4-H Council Chili Supper Fundraiser



This year's Chili Supper will be Sit Down style again! It will be **March 3, 2024, from 4:30 to 6:30**. Set up will start at 4 pm. There will be a location in Julesburg and in Sedgwick. Be sure to check with your clubs, watch your mail for the schedule and keep up to date with the Facebook page.



Manual Orders

Project Manuals are crucial to successfully completing a project. They can consider different aspects you may not have thought of when doing your project. There have been a couple of changes this year, to help members get the most from their projects, we are asking the club leaders to collect the orders for 4-H project manuals from their membership. Literature orders are due to the Extension office no later than **May 22, 2024**, to give some time after the add/drop deadline. However, I will be making an **early bird order on March 20, 2024**. Please

double-check to see if the manual is online or not. The Extension Office will order the literature and bill individual 4-H clubs for all members' purchases. Members will need to check with their clubs on how to pay for it. Please double-check this information with your club members and then complete the literature order form.

4-H Scholarships

Calling all graduating seniors! The scholarship deadline for all Sedgwick County 4-H Scholarships and the Sedgwick is **April 1st**. Applications are available in the Extension Office or email Josilyn.

[Graduating seniors, Josilyn will be reaching out to you in April to get information so your accomplishments in 4-H can be highlighted in May on our Facebook page.](#)



Swine ID

Swine identification for 2024 will remain unchanged from previous years. Ear tags and taggers will be available to pick up in the Extension Office starting **April 1st**. Members need to pick up their tags and ID forms at the Extension Office. Members will tag their pigs, take pictures of both sides of the pig and a picture of the pig's ear with the tag in place. You will fill out a hard copy of the identification form and submit it to the Extension Office.

All IDs are due **Monday, May 7, 2024, no exceptions!**



MQA Training

The Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) date for Sedgwick County will be **Sunday, April 7th, 4-6 p.m.** at the Sedgwick County Fairgrounds. If you are new to a 4-H livestock project, you are required to participate in the training for the first two years of your project. You will need to re-certify when you are twelve and again when you are fifteen. Livestock projects that require MQA training include beef, sheep, swine, goats, rabbits, and poultry. We will be sending out postcards to those who need to attend this year's session. If you have not met this requirement by **June 10, 2024**, you will **NOT** be eligible to show at fair. Contact the Extension Office with any questions.

Sedgwick County Fair
July 24-28, 2024
Homegrown Memories

Add/Drop Deadline

The deadline for members to add or drop a project is **May 15th**. Members should give each project they are enrolled in thoughtful consideration. **4-H members are required to complete at least one project during the 4-H year.** Now is the time to review your projects and consider the time and expense it will take to complete each project. If you feel you are not going to be able to complete one or more of the projects or, if you think you may want to try another project that you have not yet enrolled in you are enrolled in, please call the Extension Office, or visit with your club leader about your concerns. You will want to add or drop any new projects by **May 15th** to be eligible to participate in that project at the Sedgwick County Fair at the end of July. **Please email Josilyn with any changes that may be needed.**

Record Book and Project Requirements

It is never too early to start thinking about your project's requirements and record books! Electronic record books for general projects are available online at <http://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/projects/e-records-general/>. It is a great idea to read the State Fair Exhibit Requirements for your general project; *these are the requirements you will be judged on in Sedgwick County.*



If you are enrolled in a **livestock or dog project**, Sedgwick County has a **different record book**. You will be judged on these and not the ones found online so please make sure to stop in the office and grab one or talk to your club leader.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Jamie Jo Axtell (4-H/Youth-Livestock) Anne Mason (4-H/Youth and Family, Consumer Science)

MARCH

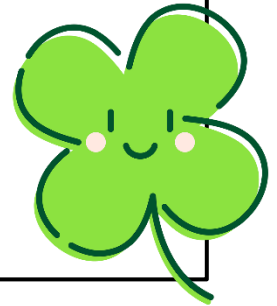
- 10** Shooting Sports Safety Meeting (Make-up Date) 2:00 p.m. – Events Center, Akron
18 4-H County Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. – Ext Office, Akron

APRIL

- 15** Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA) 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Events Center, Akron
15 4-H County Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. *Following MQA at Events Center
19 4-H Carnival 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Events Center, Akron

MAY

- 1** **Project Add/Drop Deadline!!!**
1 Dog ID, Horse ID Due in 4Honline
1 Market Hog ID/Photos Due to Extension Office
6 Market Lamb/Goat Weigh In 4:00 -7:00 p.m. - Fairgrounds



ANIMAL PROJECT DEADLINES

Market lamb and goat weigh-in will be held at the fairgrounds in Akron on Monday, May 6th from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. All market lambs/goats **MUST** be weighed in on this date to be eligible to show at the county fair - **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Market hogs will **NOT** be weighed in. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to identify your pigs for the county fair. Exhibitors should start by picking up identification forms and ear tags at the Extension Office. Tag your pigs and take three photos of each as directed on the form. Completed ID forms and photos must be returned to the office by May 1 for eligibility in the county fair. *This applies to all 4-H and FFA members exhibiting market hogs.*

Horse ID and **Dog ID** must be completed in 4Honline prior to May 1. Complete instructions can be found in your e-record or by contacting the office. Please feel free to bring in photos to our office to be scanned and uploaded if you need assistance.

Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA)

Monday, April 15

Events Center, Fairgrounds

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

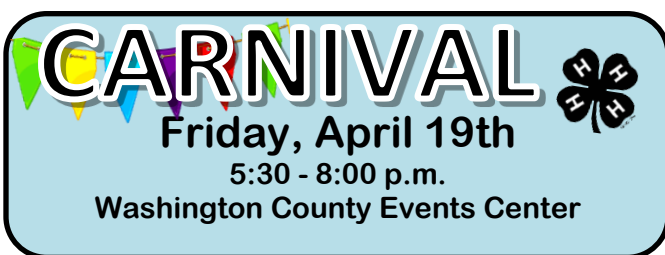
(Must arrive prior to 6:30 to allow time to test)

We encourage all livestock exhibitors to attend the training each year; however, you are **REQUIRED** to attend if you meet the following criteria:

1. First 2 years of showing livestock, regardless of your age.
2. Age 12 or Age 15 (4-H Age as of Dec 31, 2023)

The MQA training is self-guided so you can take as much time as you want to walk through various stations about topics such as animal ID, injections, feeds, or ethics. A test is required and can be completed as you explore the stations. The program will be open from 4-7 p.m. but no tests will be given after 6:30 so please arrive prior to that time! If you cannot make it to this training, please contact the office for alternative dates in the area.

Livestock projects considered in this policy include Market/Breeding Beef, Market/Breeding Goat, Market/Breeding Swine, Market/Breeding Sheep, Rabbits (only market/breeding, not pet rabbit) and Poultry. Cloverbud members are not required to attend but are welcome to come.





Add/Drop Deadline Approaching

Just a reminder that the deadline to add or drop projects is May 1st. You can edit your projects online at v2.4honline.com or you can contact our office and we can make your requested changes.

Shooting Sports Schedule

A tentative shooting sports schedule for this year was mailed out the end of December. Please note that the county safety meeting make-up date is scheduled for Sunday, March 10th at 2:00 p.m. at the Events Center. Please plan to attend this meeting if you did not attend the prior safety meeting in January. Shooting sports practice will follow the safety meeting.

Project Manuals/Curriculum

Have you ordered your project manual for the year? Don't hesitate, give us a call, or stop by to pick yours up today. Just a reminder that many of the general projects require a manual!

Record Books

For all General/FCS, Horse, Dog, or companion animal projects, please utilize the state e-record.

The state e-record can be downloaded from our state website. The link to the site is

<https://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-project-information/>
or scan the code to find the page



You can click on your project area for more information, and to access the record for each specific project.

For all livestock projects, a new COUNTY record book will be rolled out in March. More information will be mailed out to families this spring.

If you need a hard copy record book, please contact our office and we can print it for you. Printed

records are \$ 3.00. Record book covers are also available for \$3.00.

4-H COUNCIL MEETING
March 18, 7:00 p.m.
Courthouse Annex

Agenda Items:
Carnival Planning
Spring Event Planning

What can you do for 4-H in March and April?

These early spring months are perfect for getting started on your 4-H projects. Do some research and find out what your project exhibit requirements are. You can find project exhibit requirements online at: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/statefair/StateFairExhibitReq.pdf>.

Many of you do not have a project leader so it's up to you and your family to learn new skills. Check out the project manual, do research online or find someone in the community to help you. Manuals can be purchased through our office. If you look online, you can often find "how to" videos or project tips.

Make some practice items to improve your skills before starting on your fair exhibit item. Some projects, like Cake Decorating, require you to make and report on four cakes in your record book before the fair exhibit cake. Nearly every project, like sewing, leathercraft, and woodworking, encourages you to make additional items.

Make effective use of these weeks because summer will come fast! Contact our office if you need any help.

Planning Ahead Save the Dates!

Air Rifle and Air Pistol Contests – July 13
Dog Show – July 13
Livestock and Catch It Record Books Due – July 16

YUMA COUNTY

JoLynn Midcap (4-H Youth Development) Joy Akey (Family & Consumer Sciences) Travis Taylor (Livestock)

MARCH

- 4 Order market livestock DNA packets from Colorado State Fair.
- 4/11/18/25 **Livestock** Judging Practice
- 11 **Livestock** Judging Practice
- 18 Cloverbud Meeting
- 18 **Yuma** County Fair Board Meeting, 6:30, Wray
- 18-23 Yuma County Ag Appreciation Week
- 23 High Plains Community Beekeeping Meeting
Election Center in Wray 10:00 a.m.

APRIL

- 1 Beef nomination cards due for state fair
- 1 Swine tags and nomination cards available
- 1/8 **Livestock** Judging
- 3 Yuma County 4-H Council, 7:00 p.m., Wray (prior to meeting Trophy Committee at 6:30)
- 14 District 1 meeting
- 15 Fair board Meeting
- 17 MQA, Wray Roundhouse, 3:30-6:00 p.m.
- 18 MQA, Yuma County Fairgrounds, 3:30-6:00 p.m.
- 26-28 Youthfest
- 30 State 4-H Scholarships due.

MAY

- 1 Add/Drop Deadline for projects.
- 1 Dogs & Horses need to be entered in 4-H online.
- 4 Sheep, Goat weigh-in
- 6 Swine Nominations due
- 20 Fair board Meeting
- 27 Memorial Day, Extension Office CLOSED
- 31 4H Council Movie Night!
- TBA State Conference registration due in 4-H Online

JUNE

- 1 Swine/Sheep/Goat nomination forms due for state fair.
- 4 Yuma County Cake Show & Cake Wars
- 5 Yuma County 4-H Council, Liberty, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Mini Sportfishing Clinic-More information next month.
- 11 Food Booth Committee, Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Cloverbud Meeting, Yuma
- 17 Fair board Meeting
- 18-21 State 4-H Conference, Ft. Collins
- 25 Cloverbud Meeting, Extension Office, 10:30 a.m.

Quiz Bowl Teams

We are looking for members to participate in Home Economics, Livestock, and Horse Quiz Bowl teams. This process is similar to a knowledge bowl where you are asked questions and the first team to answer correctly gets the point. We will practice and then have our competition at the State 4-H Conference in June. Please call the Extension office if you would like to participate in this event.

Donated Breeding Heifers

Breeding heifers will be donated to several exhibitors in the Junior Beef Breeding show at the 2024 Yuma County Fair. Intentions are to randomly draw a name out of exhibitors following the breeding show at the fair. The winner of the heifer must be eligible to show at the 2025 fair and must show the donated heifer in that show. Before accepting the heifer, the exhibitor must declare they have the facilities and means to care for the heifer for the year. The heifer will come from established Breeders in Yuma County, and all sponsored by the Yuma County Cattleman's Association, and other area ranchers. For more information, contact JoLynn Midcap at the Extension office in Wray.

Thank You's

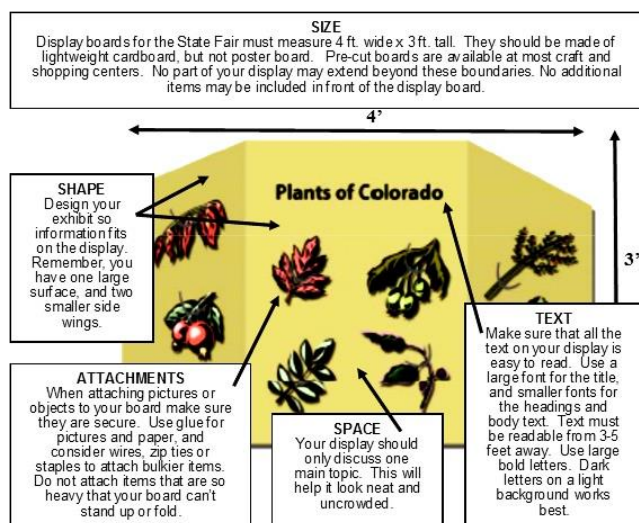
~Yuma County Commissioners for providing \$5.00/member enrollment fee.
 ~JD's Barn for supplying tags for market animals.
 ~Idler family and the Tri State Livestock for letting us use your facilities for beef weigh-in
 ~ Pat McGinnis, Matt Linman for providing the brand inspections.
 ~Yuma County Fair board and Beef Superintendents and all other volunteers for providing help at weigh-in

Citizenship Washington Focus

- Tentatively June 20 to June 27, 2024, what does it mean to be a good citizen? Are you being a strong civic leader for your community, country, and world? Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is a week-long 4-H citizenship program for youth ages 16-19 that takes place in the Washington, DC area. Participants are immersed in the culture and history of Washington through onsite workshops at its most spectacular sights. Members wishing to attend CWF must be ages 16-19 years of age by December 31. The application process for CWF will be completed through 4-H online. Call JoLynn if you are interested, and she will let you know when applications are available.

Exhibit Requirements

Please look at http://www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/StateFairExhibitReq.pdf to find information on State Fair requirements. This site also has a link to the e-records that you will use for all General and Home EC projects. Hard copies of all of this information can also be picked up at the Extension office.



Display Boards

Project display boards are available for you at the Extension office for \$3.00 each. PS These are also great for the science fair and other school projects!

Yuma County 4-H Council Notes

Per the Yuma County 4-H Constitution, an officer candidate must "have attended 2 meetings of the 4-H council the current year". If you are considering becoming an officer for the 2024-2025 year, please make sure to attend the April and June council meetings.

Horse Judging Team

We now have a Horse Judging Team! Members in this competitive team will learn the basics of how to evaluate a horse shown in halter and performance as well as give

MQA Certification/Recertification Workshops

- You Must Attend an MQA Workshop**
1. First 2 years taking livestock project.
 2. Once at 12 years of age.
 3. Once at 15 years of age.

oral reasons to an official judge justifying how you placed a specific class of horses. If you demonstrate a passion for horses and an eagerness to learn, this is for you. There are four competitions in the state to participate in. Contact the Extension Office for more information.

Sheep, Goat & Swine Information

Swine members, leaders, or designated individuals within 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters will need to come to the Extension office and pick up ear tags and nomination information. Nomination forms will have instructions for tagging and taking photos of your livestock projects. The tags may be picked up after April 1, 2024, with completed nomination forms returned to the Extension office no later than Monday, May 6, 2024. The weight range of all market swine eligible to show in the market show is 230 lbs. to 290 lbs. Just a reminder that all swine must have ear notches. Any un-notched pig will be disqualified. We will be returning to a physical weigh-in for sheep and goats this year. Please plan to weigh in at the fairgrounds or the Blackham residence on May 4th from 9a.m.-11:00 a.m. The weight range of lambs is between 110 lbs. to 180 lbs. Goats must weigh minimum of 60 lbs. and a maximum of 110 lbs. to be eligible to participate in the Junior Market Livestock Sale at the Yuma County Fair.

Other Important Livestock Information

Colorado State Fair DNA Kits must be ordered between March 4 and May 1 and sent to the Colorado State Fair by April 1 for beef and June 1 for all other species.

Notes from prior Fair board meetings:

- One animal per family may be weighed in as a family animal in each species.
- You may weigh in as many animals as you would like but still may only nominate four to show by July 19th.

College Scholarships

If you are looking for scholarships to help fund the next step of your education, please call the Extension Office if you have not been getting the emails.



Public confidence in our meat products is extremely important to the success of the livestock industry. Youth livestock projects play a key role in building or losing the trust of our consumers. It is important that youth livestock exhibitors exceed the standard in producing quality, defect-free livestock for our consumers. In the past, a small number of exhibitors have given youth livestock shows a bad name by using unethical and unsafe techniques to “win at all costs.” As a result, we have implemented a strong Meat Quality Assurance program in Colorado. Through the MQA workshops youth learn ethics and good production practices needed to produce a high quality, desirable product for the American Consumer. If you need to attend this year, you will be notified by your county Extension office prior to the workshop.

You have the option to test out of the workshop at 12 and 15 years of age but it is highly recommended to attend a workshop instead. The workshops allow for hands-on learning and experience. For those of you that participated last year, it will be the same layout. There will be different stations relating to the 10 Good Production practices set up at each location and you will have the chance to observe and learn with real supplies and equipment. You will have the opportunity to come any time during the listed period as long as you are able to participate at each station. Allow yourself one hour. The following chart explains when and where the workshops will be. Keep in mind that dates and/or times and locations are subject to change so stay posted and be sure to call your local Extension office if you have any questions.

Eastern Colorado 4-H Colorado MQA Trailer Schedule 2024

DATE DAY COUNTY LOCATION CITY CONTACT EMAIL PHONE

MARCH Correct as of: 11/15/2023 Corrections or Edits Contact Scott Stinnett at Kit Carson County

| | | | | | | |
|----|------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|
| 4 | Mon | Elbert | Fairgrounds | Kiowa | kali.benson@colostate.edu | (303) 621-3162 |
| 5 | Tues | Elbert | Simla School | Simila | kali.benson@colostate.edu | (303) 621-3162 |
| 15 | Fri | Kiowa | Fairgrounds | Eads | lacey.taylor@colostate.edu | (719) 767-5716 |
| 17 | Sun | Prowers | Home Ec Building, Fairgrounds | Lamar | lacey.taylor@colostate.edu | (719) 767-5716 |
| 20 | Mon | Otero/Crowley | Ark Valley Fairgrounds | Rocky Ford | lacey.taylor@colostate.edu | (719) 767-5716 |
| 21 | Tues | Cheyenne | Fairgrounds | Cheyenne Wells | lacey.taylor@colostate.edu | (719) 767-5716 |
| 22 | Wed | Bent | McClave School | McClave | lacey.taylor@colostate.edu | (719) 767-5716 |
| | | Baca | Fairgrounds | Springfield | lacey.taylor@colostate.edu | (719) 767-5716 |

APRIL

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------|------------|------------------------|------------|--|----------------|
| 1 | Mon | Lincoln | Fairgrounds | Hugo | christine.schinzal@colostate.edu | (719) 743-2542 |
| 4 | Thurs | Logan | Fairgrounds | Sterling | JD.Sexton@colostate.edu | (970) 522-3200 |
| 7 | Sun | Sedgewick | Fairgrounds | Julesburg | jolutze@colostate.edu | (970) 474-3479 |
| 8 | Mon | Phillips | Fairgrounds | Holyoke | Jessie.Ann.Stewart@colostate.edu | (970) 854-3616 |
| 10 | Wed | Kit Carson | Burlington Comm Center | Burlington | scott.stinnett@colostate.edu | (719) 346-5571 |
| 15 | Mon | Washington | Fairgrounds | Akron | jamie.axtell@colostate.edu | (970) 345-2287 |
| 17 | Wed | Yuma | Round House | Wray | jolynn.midcap@colostate.edu | (970) 332-4151 |
| 18 | Thurs | Yuma | Fairgrounds | Yuma | jolynn.midcap@colostate.edu | (970) 332-4151 |

MAY

| | | | | | | |
|----|------|--------|-------------|-------|--|----------------|
| 13 | Mon | Morgan | Fairgrounds | Brush | Marlin.Eisenach@colostate.edu | (970) 542-3542 |
| 14 | Tues | Morgan | Fairgrounds | Brush | Marlin.Eisenach@colostate.edu | (970) 542-3542 |

2024 YOUTH FEST

WHERE: STATE

FAIR GROUNDS



REGISTRATION VIA 4-H ONLINE



OPENS MARCH 1



COST - \$115



2024 Youth Sheep Production Tour

April 26-28, 2024

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Colorado State University Extension will be offering a Youth Sheep Production Tour to the youth of Eastern Colorado. The Tour will be offered to senior age youth in 4-H (14-18) that live in the following Counties: Logan, Washington, Phillips, Sedgwick, Yuma, Kit Carson, Lincoln.

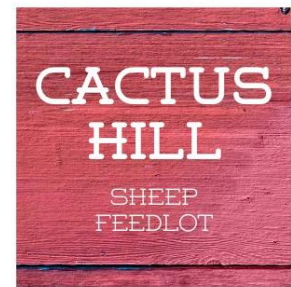
This tour will include visits to commercial sheep ranches on the western slope of Colorado, the University of Wyoming Sheep Farm, Cactus Hill Sheep Feedlot, Yampa Valley Fiber Works.

We will stay in Steamboat Springs Colorado for two nights and will be hosted by Routt County Extension Staff and 4-H Members.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PRODUCERS!



Extension
Sheep Program



TOPICS COVERED

Commercial Sheep Shearing, Wool Production and Judging, Wool Processing, Sheep Nutrition and Purchasing, Lamb tasting, and many other sheep related activities.

REGISTRATION

Tour is limited to 20 youth members, if interested, youth members will need to fill out a registration/application packet by April 1. **Cost to attend is \$100**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT:

JD Sexton
Logan County 4-H Livestock and Ag Specialists
970-522-3200
jd.sexton@colostate.edu



Link to Application

Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English. | Office of Engagement and Extension CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés. Full statements are available at: <https://col.st/OWMJA>.

Yuma County Cake Show

June 4, 2024

Yuma County Fairgrounds ~ Concession Building 410 Hoag,
Yuma

Please RSVP by MAY 29 by calling the
Yuma County Extension Office at 970-332-4151

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Registration

\$5.00 per Cake Entry

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Open Judging & Workshop

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

Lunch on Your Own

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Cake Wars

\$10.00 per entry

3:30 pm

Awards



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
GOLDEN PLAINS AREA
310 ASH, SUITE B
WRAY, CO 80758

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 22
WRAY CO 80758

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

GOLDEN PLAINS AREA 4-H NEWSLETTER

- 1..... Calendar of Events
- 2..... Highlights
- 3-4.....Kit Carson County
- 5-6.....Phillips County
- 7-8.....Sedgwick County
- 9-10.....Washington County
- 11-12.... Yuma County
- 13.....MQA Workshop Schedule

