

4-H Youth Development

Kit Carson County Newsletter

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March and April 2026

4-H Scholarships

Colorado 4-H scholarship applications are now available. The application deadline is **March 15th**. For more information, go to:

<https://co4h.colostate.edu/scholarships/>

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

Youth Fest

There will be a Youth Fest this year on March 27th – 29th. It will be held in Pueblo at the Colorado State Fairgrounds and will be for 4-H members ages 11-13. Registration is \$115. (KCC 4-H Council will pay 50%.) Contact Scott to register or with any questions.

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 18th 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 Programs & Project link on the top banner.

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 Activities

We are going to have some activities during spring break on March 19th – 20th. Quiz Bowls and others will be available. If you have any suggestion for a workshop, contact Scott.

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 22nd, 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 8th from 3:30 to 7 p.m. at the Show Pavilion at the KCC Fairgrounds**. 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 3 MQA trainings: as a Junior (age 8-10), as an Intermediate (age 11-13) and as a Senior (age 14+). No matter their age, members must attend an MQA training during their first year of being enrolled in a livestock project. **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.

Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)

April 8, 2026

Show Pavilion – KCC Fairgrounds

Letters will be sent to those 4-H members who need to go through the program.



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
KIT CARSON COUNTY EXTENSION

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2026 State 4-H Conference

State 4-H Conference is being planned for June 16th - 19th this year. If you are interested in participating in a contest, contact Scott at the Extension Office.

KCC Fair Market Sheep Weigh-in

Sheep weigh-in will take place at the fairgrounds, **Monday, May 18th 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 to be eligible to show and sell at the Kit Carson County Fair, no exceptions!

Any Market Lambs, Goats or Swine going to the 2026 Colorado State Fair must be nominated at this time as well.

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 will be available beginning April 1st at the Extension Office, plus we will have them available at the MQA training on April 8th. A fee of **\$5.00** per head must be paid when the tags are

picked up. Animals with USDA official tags are still required to pay the nomination fee. Completed nomination forms and photographs are due to the Extension Office by **Monday, May 18th 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 if the scales are checked out for no more than 48 hours. You can also bring animals to the fairgrounds to weigh on the big scales. Contact Scott to check out scales or make a scale appointment.

Showmanship Lessons

This year, Scott will again offer showmanship help. Instead of a single day showmanship clinic, Scott will 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.

Junior Superintendents

We are still looking for Junior Superintendents, age 12 or older, for the 2026 KCC Fair. We need 3 Beef, 2 Swine 1 Rabbit and 1 Poultry. If you would like to be a Junior Superintendent, please contact Jean.

Dates to Remember

MARCH

- 1 Colorado 4-H Scholarship Deadline
- 19-20 Spring Break Project Days
- 22 KCC Shooting Sports – Mandatory Safety Training/ Range Clean Up

APRIL

- 1 4-H Project Add/Drop DEADLINE
- 3 HOLIDAY – Good Friday (office closed)
- 8 MQA Training at Show Pavilion at KCC Fairgrounds
- 12 KCC Shooting Sports – Discipline Training

MAY

- 1 Horse ID/Lease Forms Due
- 11 KCC County Council Meeting
- 18 Sheep Weigh-in – Fairgrounds
- 18 Swine & Goat Nomination DEADLINE – Extension Office
- 25 HOLIDAY – Memorial Day (office closed)
- 27 Explore New Worlds with 4-H
- 31 KCC Shooting Sports Qualifying

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