

MARCH/APRIL 2026

March

- 8 Shooting Sports Safety Meeting
1:00 p.m. Events Center, Akron
- 16 County 4-H Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. Extension Office
- 19 District Quizbowl Fun Day
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Burlington

April

- 15 Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)
Training
- 20 County 4-H Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. Extension Office

May

- 1 Project Add/Drop Deadline
- 1 Horse ID Deadline
- 1 Dog ID Deadline
- 1 Market Hog ID Deadline
- 4 Market Sheep/Goat Weigh In
4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Fairgrounds

Other Important Dates/Deadlines

Interview Judging	Jul 14
Fashion Revue	Jul 14
Livestock/Horse Record Books Due	Jul 14

Office Update

We are still waiting for Anne's position to officially re-open. We are also still finalizing staffing changes that must be made by March 31st due to county budget cuts. As of now, our office is anticipating being short staffed for the summer and possibly for fall. We ask for your patience as we navigate these changes ahead.

Shooting Sports Updates

Just a reminder that the makeup safety meeting will be held Sunday, March 8th. All members and a parent/guardian are required to attend a safety meeting.

If you have questions about shooting sports practices, please contact one of the volunteers listed on the schedule (sent in the last newsletter). Bruce Knutzen has stepped down as a volunteer. We appreciate all of the time and dedication that he provided to the program. We do have several new volunteers that are in the process of being trained.

Quiz Bowl Fun Day

Want to have some fun over spring break? Join us for a district quiz bowl fun day in Burlington on Thursday, March 19th. This is open to any age and there will be livestock, horse and FCS quiz bowl questions. Transportation may be available. Contact Jamie to learn more.

Colorado State University Extension - Washington County

Courthouse Annex - 181 Birch Avenue - Akron, CO 80720

Phone: 970-345-2287

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

Animal Project Deadlines

Market Lamb and Goat Weigh-In will be held at the fairgrounds in Akron on Monday, May 4th from 4-7 p.m. All market lambs/goats must be weighed in on this date to be eligible to show at the county fair. Breeding animals do not need to be weighed in but should be owned and under the primary care of the member by May 20th.

Market Hogs are NOT weighed in but will need to be identified for the county fair. Members enrolled in the project should have received an email March 2nd with instructions. Members must pick up ear tags and identification forms from the office. Completed identification forms/photos are due to the Extension office by May 1st. This applies to all 4-H and FFA members exhibiting market hogs.

Horse and **Dog** ID must be completed in 4Honline by May 1st. Be sure to submit any animals that you may use in your project. Your record book should include all animals that you identified.

Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)

Our annual Meat Quality Assurance Training is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15 from 4-7 p.m. at the Events Center. The training will utilize stations that each member will walk around and view. A quiz will be taken as the member goes through the stations. To leave enough time for the quiz, members must check in by 6:30 p.m.

Livestock exhibitors must attend their first and second year and at age 12 and 15 (*as of Dec. 31, 2025*). Those required to attend will receive more information later this spring. Adults are encouraged to attend.

Livestock projects considered in this policy include Market and Breeding Beef, Market and Breeding Goat, Market and Breeding Swine, Market and Breeding Sheep, Poultry, and Rabbits (Not companion rabbit).

State Fair Market Livestock Exhibitors

All market animals for the state fair must be nominated this spring. You will need to go online to the state fair website and order DNA packets AND you will need to stop by the Extension office to pick up a nomination form. Completed nomination forms must be returned to the Extension office by Apr 1st (Beef) and June 1st (Sheep, Goat, Hog). DNA samples must be returned directly to the state fair by Apr 6th (Beef) and June 8th (Sheep, Goats, Hogs).

All nominated animals must have a county tag. All exhibitors must have a premise ID. ALL sheep/goats must have a scrapies tag.

A nomination is just the first step, you will also need to enter your animal online by July 27. Contact Jamie or check out the state fair website for more information.

Address Change? Project Change?

Be sure to update your profile at

V2.4honline.com

Add/Drop Deadline

Did you know that you can add or drop projects until May 1st? We encourage you to login and doublecheck that you are in the correct projects before the deadline. You can edit your projects in 4Honline or you can contact the Extension office to make the requested changes. Email is the preferred method so that we have your request in writing.

New Members

Do you have a friend that still wants to join 4-H? It isn't too late! We accept new enrollments until May 1st. Grab a friend and bring them along to your next club meeting or invite them to a 4-H activity.

Upcoming District Camp

Save the date for our annual District 1 Exploring New Worlds camp to be held in Burlington on May 27th. This is a great local opportunity for our youngest members to meet new friends and learn more about 4-H, community service, and leadership.

SENIORS! 4-H Scholarship

Each year, Colorado 4-H and the Colorado 4-H Foundation offer scholarship opportunities to support members in pursuing higher education and career goals. These awards recognize the hard work, leadership, and dedication that youth demonstrate through their 4-H experiences.

The application portal is all online and is available at the state website here:

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

Applications are **due** MARCH 15th!

State 4-H Conference

Members aged 14 and older are invited to attend the annual Colorado State 4-H Conference to be held at CSU on June 16-19. Members can compete in contests like public speaking, parliamentary procedure, judging, quizbowl, or hippology. Other opportunities for workshops, dances, and a district night out make the trip fun for all. To learn more, contact Jamie or attend our next county 4-H council meeting on March 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Spring Livestock Shows and Sales

Want information about upcoming spring shows and livestock sales? Check out this page for flyers from across the state.

<https://padlet.com/dawnsanchez2/4-h-animal-opportunities-2lazu0b9tcdbyso>

4-H Dress Code

Just a reminder that there is a 4-H dress code that all members should be abiding by. Clothing worn by participants should be neat, clean, and practical for the activity. Clothing should be free of any reference to drugs, alcohol, sex, profanity, violence or political affiliation. Clothing must cover undergarments.

Casual wear is appropriate for most 4-H activities; however, nice attire is suggested for events like interview judging.

Getting Started on Your Project

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 don't 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. You can also find project tips and some online resources through the state 4-H website.

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

YUMA COUNTY CLASSIC

APRIL 18TH, 2026

Yuma County Fairgrounds

410 W. Hoag Ave. Yuma, CO 80759

\$1000 PAYOUT TO CHAMPION MARKET ANIMAL

\$500 PAYOUT TO CHAMPION BREEDING HEIFER



**ENTRER ON THE
SHOWMAN.APP**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK
YUMA COUNTY CLASSIC**

**MARKET AND BREEDING
SHOW!**

**BREEDING HEIFERS WILL
BE SHOWN BY AGE**

**CHECK IN &
WEIGH IN:**

SATURDAY 7 am—9 am

SHOW TIME:

SATURDAY @ 10 am

ENTRY FEE:

\$40/head BEFORE APRIL 4

\$50/head AFTER APRIL 4

Showmanship \$10

**BLOW & GO SHOW
BUT CAN BE FITTED**

**GENERATORS
ENCOURAGED**

**FIRST COME FIRST
SERVE ON STALLS**

FOOD TRUCKS ON SITE

**OPEN TO ANY 5-18
YEAR OLDS**

**CONTACT MARIYA MEKELBURG AT 970-630-1307 OR
NIKKI WEATHERS AT 970-630-9545 WITH QUESTIONS OR TO SPONSOR**

Babysitter Basics Training Class

Monday, March 16, 2026—Yuma

9am to 3pm



Cost: \$15.00 to cover materials and snacks
Bring a brown bag lunch and a drink



LEARN TO BECOME A RESPONSIBLE BABYSITTER

Session Includes:

- Child Safety
- First Aid & Emergency
- Feeding & Nutrition
- Stages of Child Development
- Discipline
- Ways to entertain children
- Business of babysitting

PRE- REGISTRATION REQUIRED by March 9, 2026

- Participants must be 11-14 years old
- Minimum of 8 registrations required
- Certificates upon successful completion of the course
- Students receive a First Aid & Emergency pocket card.
- Fill out the registration slip below and return it with the fee to:



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION**

CSU Yuma County Extension
310 Ash Street, Suite B, Wray, CO 80758
OR call the Extension Office - 332-4151
OR email: jolynn.midcap@colostate.edu

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Babysitter Basics Training Class Registration

Registration (with payment) due by March 9, 2026

Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Parent Guardian: _____ **Address:** _____

Guardian Email Address: _____ **Contact Phone Number:** _____