

January 2024



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# **Table of Contents**

Articles "4" All	
Links to Website Documents	<u>P.4</u>
Important Enrollment Date Changes	<u>P.5</u>
Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) Training	<u>P.6</u>
El Paso County 4-H Contest Day	<u>P.7</u>
Dog Project Slim Chickens Fundraiser	<u>P.8</u>
Colorado 4-H Scholarships	<u>P.9</u>
Colorado 4-H 2024-2025 E Records	<u>P.10</u>
Small Animal Creation Stations	<u>P.11</u>
New Families Dessert Night	<u>P.12</u>

<u>Livestock</u>	
2025 Colorado State Fair Information	<u>P.19</u>
Marketing & Networking Seminar	<u>P.20</u>
Dairy Goat Clinic	<u>P.21</u>
Beef Blow N Go Show	<u>P.22</u>
Market Producer Checklist	<u>P.23</u>
Beef Tag In	<u>P.24</u>
Beef Tag In Continued	<u>P.25</u>
First Year Market Lamb Program	P.26

NEW Articles "4" All	
El Paso County 4-H Summer Camp 2025	<u>P.13</u>
Speech Workshop	<u>P.14</u>

Small Animal	
Rabbit Project Meetings	<u>P.27</u>
Cavy Meetings	<u>P.28</u>
Cat Project Meeting	<u>P.29</u>

Reporters Round Up	
A-Ok Report	<u>P.15</u>

General Projects	
Tabletop Project Manuals	<u>P.30</u>
Tabletop Temperatures	<u>P.31</u>
Tabletop STAR Award	<u>P.32</u>

Miniature Equine	
February & March Clinics	<u>P.16</u>

Dog	
Project Manual & Orientation	<u>P.33</u>

<u>Horse</u>		
Showmanship Clinic	<u>P.17</u>	
Horse Show Office Fee	P.18	

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# **Table of Contents**

Shooting Sports	
Practices	<u>P.34</u>
Panda Express Fundraiser	<u>P.35</u>
Hunter Safety Card	<u>P.36</u>
Congrats to Daniel Andersen!	<u>P.37</u>

Youth County Council	
Join Youth County Council!	<u>P.38</u>

Other Opportunities	
Links to Opportunities on Website	<u>P.39</u>
District 3—Forecasting Future Leaders	<u>P.40</u>

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\*\*Please note that all articles and flyers in the 4-H newsletter will be run for a limited timeframe (usually 3-4 newsletters or less) then will be removed. Please be aware of this and review the 4-H newsletters starting in October of the current program year. This will ensure you are not missing out on any important program information. Thank you!

Please click the links below to find the following documents on the El Paso County Extension Website.

Link to Band App QR Codes

**Link** to What is a Community Service Document

**Link** to 4-H Branding Document

**LINK** to El Paso County 4-H Policies for Success

**LINK** to "More Than 4 Projects" Rule

LINK to Animal Record Book Policies

LINK to Oso the Bear

# \*\*\*NEW FOR 2024-2025\*\*\*

Welcome to the new 4-H Year! We are excited to have you join us for another year of Leadership, Learning and "Making the Best Better!"

Please read through this important information regarding Enrollment Dates, Project Add/ Drop Dates and the More-Than-4 Project Rule in El Paso County 4-H this year.

#### \*\*NEW\*\* 4-H NEW Member Enrollment Deadline – March 1, 2025

This deadline is for any <u>NEW</u> 4-H members enrolling in 4-H—this includes 4-H families new to the program, or new members from existing families enrolling for the first time.

Please enroll in 4HOnline.

#### \*\*NEW\*\* 4-H Project Add/Drop Deadline - April 1, 2025 at 5:00 PM

This deadline is for TABLETOP & 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECTS ONLY.

Members must add or drop any Tabletop (general projects) and 4-H Shooting Sports Projects by this deadline. <u>After April 1, 2025 at 5:00 PM</u>, any general/4-H shooting sports projects the member is enrolled in is what they will be eligible to participate in at County Fair, and must be completed for the 4-H year.

Any 4-H ANIMAL PROJECTS have an Add/Drop Deadline of May 1, 2025. If you wish to Add or Drop a 4-H Animal Project after April 1, please email Emily Green at: <a href="mailto:Emily.Green@colostate.edu">Emily.Green@colostate.edu</a> and ask to Add or Drop the Animal Project. Emily will Add or Drop the 4-H Animal Project on your behalf.

Member List Profile All 4-H Projects can be Added or Dropped in 4HOnline under the "Projects" Tab. Events Colorado 4-H Youth Development Enrollment About You Activities Animals Awards Clubs Consents Groups Health Invoice **Projects** Questions Files **Trainings** 

## **Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) Training**

Meat Quality Assurance Training teaches the youth about the quality of meat and food products that come from livestock. Quality assurance for livestock producers means making a promise to the consumers, or the people who consume the meat, eggs, milk and dairy products, from food production animals. The promise made is that products from livestock will be the highest possible quality and producers will do everything possible to make these products safe to eat.

- MQA Training will be offered twice. For 2024-2025, an interactive classroom style format will be used.
- The project areas required to complete MQA training is goats, sheep, cattle, swine, poultry, and rabbit.
  - All first year 4-H members must complete Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) in the projects listed above.
  - Current 4-H members advancing to intermediate (11 years old) or senior (14 years old) must complete a Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) in the projects listed above.
- This must be done at least 45 days prior to the El Paso County Fair to be eligible to exhibit at the county and/or state fair(s).
- Proof of compliance must be submitted to the El Paso County Extension Office.
- If the 4-H member is unable to attend an MQA workshop in El Paso County, the 4-H
  member may attend an MQA workshop in another county (information for completion
  must be sent to El Paso County office by the deadline from the county that the MQA
  training was completed in)

The first MQA will be offered **February 5, 2025, at 6:00 PM** at the Extension Office (17 N Spruce Street). Please park on the south side parking lot and enter through the Staff Only door on the south side of the building.

Please register for MQA with this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/ e/1FAIpQLSeiUIYwwwwXH isis61 9ReTt1PYxemIYH6bOPSgyMqk5Fnig/viewform

#### El Paso County 4-H Contest Day

Please find the link to the website **HERE** 



The El Paso County 4-H Contest Day will be held Saturday, April 12, 2025 at the El Paso County Extension Office.

- Registration Opens Monday, March 3, 2025
- Registration Closes Friday, March 14, 2025

The 4-H County Contest is a Qualifying Event for the Tabletop STAR Award! See the website for more info.

Get ready to Speak, Act, Demonstrate & SHARE OUT LOUD!



#### **El Paso County Dog Project Fundraiser**



Mention your organization at the register and Slim Chickens will donate 15% of your total.

Use code **SLIMSGIVES** when ordering online or through the Slim Chickens App!



Scan to order



Not valid for third party delivery orders, \$15 minimum for delivery. Must have a Slim thusiast Account for code to apply.

Only valid when you use the coupon code SLIMSGIVES on the Slim Chickens App or website. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Only valid at the locations and dates noted above

#### **Colorado 4-H Scholarships**

Colorado 4-H awards scholarships annually to outstanding youth who have actively engaged in Colorado 4-H clubs for at least three years. **The scholarship process is open from December 1, 2024, through March 1, 2025.** Scholarship recipients will be announced in May 2025. There are opportunities available for all kinds of students, including those attending CSU or other universities, trade schools or junior colleges, transfer students, and continuing students. We encourage our 4-H participants to apply.

For more information on the scholarship process and scholarships available, visit https://co4h.colostate.edu/about-us/scholarships/.

If you have scholarship questions, please contact OEE\_4-h\_scholarships@colostate.edu.



# Colorado 4-H 2024-2025 E-Records Now Available for Download!

#### Hello 4-H Families!

All 4-H E-Records for the 2024-2025 year are NOW AVAILABLE!

Remember—an E-Record is an important element of your 4-H project and required for all Tabletop/ General Projects, 4-H Shooting Sports Projects, and for specific Livestock/Animal Projects.

You can find all E-Record requirements in the <u>El Paso County 4-H Policies for Success</u>.

#### **How To Access & Download 4-H E-Records**

All 4-H E-Records can be found on the Colorado 4-H Website. E-Records can be downloaded as a PDF or Word Document and can be filled out with a computer or printed out and (neatly!) handwritten.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to access the PDF or Word Document versions of the 4-H E-Records.

<u>MAKE SURE</u> to download a copy to your files before you begin your work, so you don't lose any data!

E-Records are also available as Google Docs/Sheets this year! Users will be prompted to make a copy of the E-Record file into their own Google Drive before they can edit it.

**CLICK HERE** to access the Google Docs/Sheets versions of the 4-H E-Records.

**MAKE SURE** to download a copy to your Google Drive before you begin your work, so you don't lose any data!

Please contact our office with any questions. As a reminder, 4-H Project Manuals are also available for those projects that require them, and can be viewed on the "**Tabletop Project Resources**" Tab. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to go to that page.

Families can purchase their project manuals/curriculum individually, or through the El Paso County Extension office. Please make sure you give our office a call at: **719-520-7698** to ensure we have what you need in stock before coming in to make your purchases.

#### Please sign up **HERE**



# SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2025

9:00 AM-11:00 AM El Paso County Fairgounds- Swink

#### Pre-registeration Link



#### Education

There will be different learning stations with an educational component that are essential to the project area. It is also a great time to learn about other projects offered in the county!



#### Make-N-Jake

The youth will be able to have a hands on experience at each station to create something relevant to the project area



#### Social activities

This is a great time to meet other youth enrolled in or interested in the small animal project areas! Get to know your peers before the start of fair!



# **New Families Dessert Night**

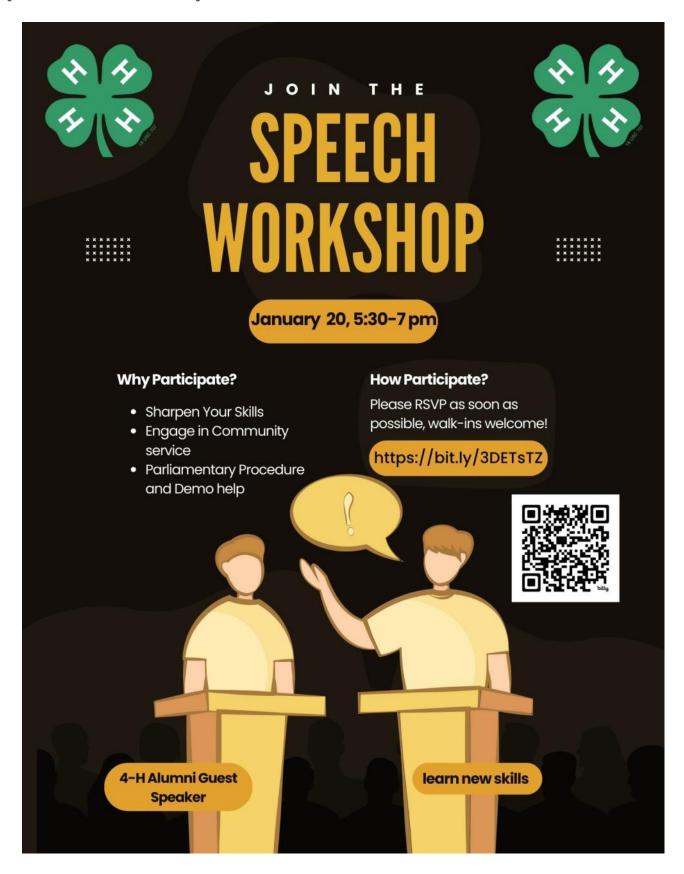
Please RSVP HERE



#### El Paso County 4-H Summer Camp 2025



#### **Speech Workshop**



# REPORTERS ROUND UP

# COUNTRY HOLIDAY FAIR



# & PARADE OF LIGHTS

CLUB: A-OK



#### REPORTER: LYDIA GINSBURG

On December 14th, 2024, the A-OK 4-H Club hosted our bake sale fundraiser at the Country Holiday Fair. The fair took place at the El Paso County Fairgrounds and A-OK sold a variety of baked goods made by our club families. Lily Auerbach, Kaylee McDaniel, Isaiah & Devon Jackson, Jack Perkins, Kaladin Goodell-Murphy, Linnaea & Jessa Boynton, Rylan MacDonald, Colt Nall, and Lydia Ginsburg ran the booth throughout the day. We also had a very special guest at our table, Oso the Bear. The event went very well for us. Overall, we raised \$745!



# Miniature Equine

# **February & March Miniature Horse Clinic**

**February 1, 2025**—Jumping, Ground Driving, and Safety Testing Owens Arena 10:00 AM

March 1, 2025—Jumping, Ground Driving, and Driving Owens Arena 10:00 AM



Horse Pg. 17

## **Showmanship Clinic**



# 2025 4-H County Fair Horse Show Office Fee

The 4-H Horse Project has recently implemented a new 4-H County Fair 4-H Horse Show Office Fee of \$100 to help cover awards and expenses for the show. Or, the 4-H youth/family will have the option to bring in \$120 in sponsorships by March 1, 2025 that will then WAIVE the \$100 office fee.

The new \$100 office fee for the 4-H County Fair Horse Show aims to cover awards and expenses, addressing the fundraising shortfall. This change ensures that participants receive appropriate recognition and support for their efforts at the 4-H County Fair Horse Show.

Additionally, the Horse Advisory Committee will continue to enhance their fundraising efforts to supplement the awards. By combining the new office fee or sponsorship income with ongoing fundraising from the Horse Advisory Committee, we hope to continue the quality of awards and recognition we give to the 4-H youth in the horse project.

If you have any questions or need the sponsorship form sent to you please do not hesitate to reach out to Emily.Green@colostate.edu



#### 2025 Colorado State Fair Information

A couple things to remember for 2025:

- Beginning in 2025, the Colorado State Fair will only accept DNA for identification, retinal scans are no longer accepted. DNA envelopes will be available for exhibitors to purchase around March 1st. Details will be posted on the website. Remember, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to order and submit DNA, not the Extension/FFA offices.
- 2. They will continue to do family nominations, just make sure each exhibitor fills out a form listing all family nominated animals. They will not accept forms made out to the "Smith Family".
- 3. The procedures will be posted on the website, just not the nomination forms as the office will not accept nomination forms from exhibitors.
- 4. The tentative livestock schedule and market deadlines will be posted on the website around the first of January.



# **Marketing and Networking Seminar**

Sign up **HERE** 

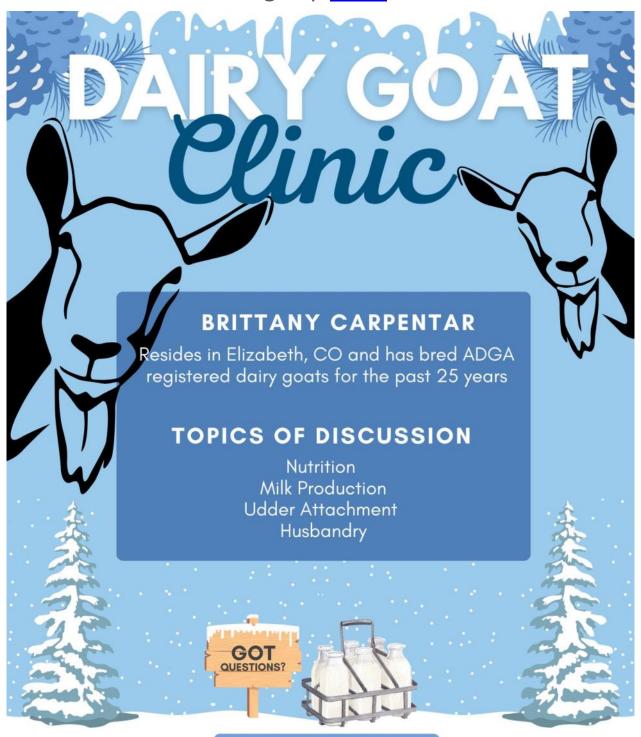




LOCATION: 3255 AKERS BUILDING

#### **Dairy Goat Clinic**

Sign up **HERE** 



January 16, 2025 6:00 PM 3255 Akers Building

## Registration **LINK**





#### Beef Tag In—Save the Date

Date: February 15, 2025

Location: Owens Livestock Arena at El Paso County Fairgrounds
Back-Up Date: This date will only be used if communicated by the Extension Office and species Superintendents due to weather. Please make sure to have both dates clear on your calendar. There are no alternative dates for tag in due to the number of volunteers it takes to run this event. February 22, 2025

**Required Sign Up (Time Slots):** Time slots will be assigned this year so please fill out the Google Survey link <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/</a>

e/1FAIpQLSfvbQMCovtIqFwTaJTGQWQ5zl0gU761aJJJ-A LSI0 9bFVkA/viewform

This form MUST be filled out and submitted by January 27, 2025 to participate in beef tag in.

State Fair Nomination Cards and Premise ID's: Remember all 4-H and FFA exhibitors must have their Premise ID# on their nomination cards to be accepted for State Fair. This is a State Fair Policy NOT a requirement to participate in the local 4-H program.

This information should be completed on the nomination card at the time of tag in. You will need to apply for your Premise ID number well in advance of tag in, so they have time to assign you one. Please do so 3-4 weeks before you need it. Please call 303-869-9000 to get your ID or apply online at <a href="https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises">https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises</a>

#### Beef Tag In—Save the Date, Continued

#### **Expectations:**

- All market beef should have an RFID tag before they cross the scale.
- Please be on time or early! If you show up late or past your time slot you will have to be moved to the back of the line. We believe in giving priority to those scheduled in their time slot so we will not allow families who are late or miss their time slot to cut in front of others.
- If our team is running behind, please be patient as we are working with live animals and technology.
- You must bring your animal with a halter already on before it is unloaded, or it will not be tagged, retinal scanned, or weighed.
- Any uncontrollable animals will NOT be tagged, retinal scanned, or weighed! This is at the discretion of the Extension Agent and species Superintendent. The idea is to work with them ahead of time!
- Please have your calves brand inspected prior to coming to tag-in.
   Do not forget to bring your brand inspection papers.
- Tag-in is the only time State Fair Nominations will be taken and it will cost \$3 per animal nominated.
- Retinal scans at tag-in are \$3.00 per animal due at tag in.
- The first 6 ear tags are free, \$1.00 per tag over six
- Fees are due before the animal can cross the scale and be tagged in.
- ALL MARKET ANIMALS MUST BE CASTRATED PRIOR TO BEING
  WEIGHED AND TAGGED AS A 4-H MARKET PROJECT. CASTRATION
  MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT THE FAIRGROUNDS (NOT THE
  DAY OF TAG IN) AND HEALED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. ALL MUST BE
  DEHORNED.

#### First Year Market Lamb Program

To help grow and incentivize starting a Market Lamb Project, we have started the First Year Market Lamb Program. This program will provide the 4-H member with a market lamb to show at this years County Fair. The member will exhibit the lamb in both the regular market class as well as a special class for first year market lamb program participants. Guidelines include the following:

- 4-H Members enrolled in their first year of the lamb project will learn more about their project through monthly project meetings. Participants will need to attend 3 of 4 educational meetings or they may substitute one of the meetings by exhibiting at a prospect or jackpot show.
- Members will receive one market lamb through this program to be paid for from their sale proceeds (from any animal they choose to sell through the junior livestock sale at the county fair not to exceed \$500).
- They will exhibit in the special First Year Program Class during the County Fair, as well as the regular market class and showmanship. Youth should plan on purchasing a second market lamb on their own. Members do not need to purchase the second, but lambs do not do well alone, so a buddy should be purchased. Siblings may not need to do this if both qualify for the First Year Program.
- The First Year Program is only available to 4-H Members in their first year of the project, but the educational sessions are open to all 4-H Members, regardless of experience.

Watch for more details in the next newsletter as well as the dates of the educational programs which will start in February!





Bring your bunny in a carrier with no hay

please!

Every second Thursday of the month





Small Animal Pg. 28





Contact Racheal with any questions RBoynton15@hotmail.com

Please do not bring cats to this meeting. Thanks!

#### **Tabletop Project Manuals**

# 4-H TABLETOP PROJECT MEMBERS – ORDER YOUR 4-H PROJECT MANUALS TODAY!

Welcome to another exciting 4-H year! Are you interested in participating in a 4-H Tabletop/General Project this year? Not sure where to get started?

Start by taking a look at the 4-H Project Manual and Curriculum for each project!

To see all Project 4-H Manuals in use for the 2024-2025 4-H year, please CLICK THIS LINK.

Families can purchase their project manuals/curriculum individually, or through the El Paso County Extension office. Please make sure you give our office a call at: **719-520-7698** to ensure we have what you need in stock before coming in to make your purchases.

Not all Tabletop/General Projects require a manual purchase each year—please review the 4-H Project Manual list for further information about what books are required each year, for each project.

For more project information, please check out the Colorado 4-H Project Information page.

Keep an eye out for the El Paso County 4-H Exhibit Requirements expected in the next couple months!

Please contact Jen Loewen with any Tabletop/General Project questions!

Jen Loewen

JenniferLoewen@elpasoco.com





# **Tabletop Temperatures**

Find this brand new guide to help pick your Tabletop Project!

# **Tabletop Temperatures Guide LINK**













# EL PASO COUNTY 4-H TABLETOP STAR

YOU could be eligible to Compete for the Tabletop STAR Award -- Get Qualified Today!





#### STEP 1:

Enroll in 2 or More Tabletop Projects!

Select Projects by **April 1** 

To qualify as a STAR Award Candidate, members must enroll in 2 Tabletop projects (or 2 units within a project)

AND receive a Blue award in BOTH at the El Paso County Fair.

You MUST enroll in your Tabletop projects by April 1, 2025!



#### STED 3

Fill out/return your STAR Activity Chart!

STAR Chart Due Friday, September 5

Once you've qualified by participating in a County Contest and receiving 2 or more Blue awards, you will need to fill out your El Paso County STAR Activity Chart. These points will be totaled and added to your final point total!



#### STEP 5:

Top 5 Candidates are Selected to Interview!

Interviews Held 3rd Week of September

Once the Top 5 Candidates in each age division are selected based on their point totals, candidates will be invited to interview with the Tabletop Advisory Committee! Candidates will:

- Interview with the Committee
- Take a 4-H Knowledge Quiz
- Bring in a Representative E-Record from the current year

Find all Award Details at: https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-family-resources/



STEP 2: Participate in a County Contest!

To qualify as a STAR Award Candidate, members must participate in a County Contest (held Saturday, April 13) or a County Contest held during the El Paso County Fair. Enrollment for the County Contest starts in March, 2025, El Paso County Fair Registration starts in May, 2025

Points Tallied in 1st Week of September

#### STEP 4:

Point Totals are Tallied by the Committee!

In the 1st week of September, the Tabletop Advisory Committee will tally all the points earned by Candidates in several areas:

- STAR Activity Charts
- · County Fair Awards received
- State Fair Awards received
- · County Competition Awards received

4-H Achievement Awards is in **October!** 

STEP 6: Attend 4-H Achievement Awards!

Attend the 4-H Achievement Awards Ceremony—the Top 3 Candidates in each age division will be awarded Gold, Silver or Bronze STAR Awards!



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#### **El Paso County Dog Project Manual**

The El Paso County Dog Project Manual has been updated for the 2024-2025 4-H Year. Please make sure to save this manual and refer to it for all your dog project information. This is a great resource that answers a lot of questions concerning policies, and opportunities.

#### LINK

#### **Dog Orientation**

Inviting all youth members in the Dog Project to attend the Dog Orientation. This is a great way to learn all about the Dog Project and set up you team for success in 4-H.

Please mark your calendars for January 18, 2025, at 9:00AM at Latigo Equestrian Center in the Community Room (second floor at the end of

the hallway).



# **Shooting Sports**

#### January:

- Thursday 9th—6:00—8:30 PM Range Only
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54151437-01092025#/
- Sunday 12th—12:00 Noon—4:00 PM—Classroom for Hunting & Outdoor Skills
  Training
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54169293-01122025#/
- Thursday 16th 6:00—8:30 PM Range Only
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54154051-01162025#/
- Friday 17th—5:30—9:00 PM Council Meeting
- Saturday 18th—Archery & Shotgun
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54166822-01182025#/
- Sunday 19th Large Informal Pit
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54166806-01192025#/
- Thursday 23rd 6:00—8:30 PM Range Only
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54154057-01232025#/
- Sunday 26th—12:00 Noon—4:00 PM Range & Classroom available for safety briefing
  - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54151110-01262025#/

#### February:

Saturday 1st—Pistol Berm (25&50)

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-54166805-02012025#/

#### **Shooting Sports Panda Express Fundraiser**

Link to Order: <a href="https://www.community-fundraiser.com/virtual-fundraiser/">https://www.community-fundraiser.com/virtual-fundraiser/</a> events/promotions/28f84933-6326-a42b-a6e2-64828a33638d/en/landing





Scan QR Code to Access the EPC
4-H Shooting Sports Panda Express Fundraiser
on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>January 23</u>, <u>2025!</u>

Place your order for pickup or delivery to participate!

Pg. 36

# Hello 4-H Shooting Sports Members (and potential members!)

Are you enrolled in 4-H Shooting Sports? Do you have your Hunters Safety & Education Certification Card? Read On!

To be eligible to compete in the El Paso County 4-H County and State Competitions, 4-H members enrolled in any 4-H Shooting Sports Discipline <a href="MUST">MUST</a> obtain a Colorado Division of Wildlife Hunters Education/Safety Certification Card by <a href="May 1, 2025.">May 1, 2025.</a>

#### Don't have your Card yet? Don't Sweat!

Go to the Colorado Division of Wildlife website and register for a class!

#### **CLICK HERE TO SEE CURRENT CLASS OFFERINGS.**

Once you've completed your class, email a photo of your Hunter's Safety Card (front and back) to 4-H Specialist Jen Loewen (<u>jenniferloewen@elpasoco.com</u>) and 4-H Admin Shawna Lamothe (shawna.lamothe@colostate.edu) by **MAY 1, 2025.** 

#### \*\*NEW\*\* Already Have your Card? Get a copy to the Extension Office!

Even if you already have your Hunters Safety/Education Card, it is a requirement to upload it to 4HOnline, <u>OR</u> email a photo of the card (front and back) to 4-H Specialist Jen Loewen (<u>jenniferloewen@elpasoco.com</u>) and 4-H Admin Shawna Lamothe (<u>shawna.lamothe@colostate.edu</u>) by **May 1, 2025.** 

If you were able to upload your Hunters Safety Card to 4HOnline during enrollment this year, please let us know!

Once we have a copy of your card on file, we can re-upload it into 4HOnline each year on your behalf—save yourself time and a headache, and send us your card photos!

For all other 4-H Shooting Sports Policies, please refer to the <u>El Paso County 4-H Policies for Success</u>.

Please email Jen Loewen at: <a href="mailto:jenniferloewen@elpasoco.com">jenniferloewen@elpasoco.com</a> with any questions!



The El Paso County 4-H Program wants to extend a big "Congratulations!"

to Daniel Andersen, Senior Member in the Pals of the Pines 4-H Club, for his recent acceptance into the

Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports
Ambassador Team!





COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Daniel will serve in his role with his fellow Ambassadors and members of the 4-H Senate to advocate for the 4-H Program as a whole, and promote the 4-H Shooting Sports Project here in Colorado.

<u>Best of Luck in your new</u> <u>leadership position, Daniel!</u>



Interested in joining the Youth County Council?! Join us for meetings the last Tuesday of every month!



# Other Opportunities

Please find the link to all current Other Opportunities **HERE**.

Currently the following opportunities coming up are:

- Colorado State University 4-H Scholarships
- Forecasting Future Leaders Event in Douglas County
- Colorado Agricultural Industry Tours
- Colorado 4-H goes to Italy



Link to Register **HERE** 

