



January | 2026



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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

[LINK](#) to Accommodations Form

# Check out Youth County Council!

Find the Zoom Link [HERE](#)



## Check It Out!



EL PASO COUNTY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

# 4-H Youth County Council!

## Upcoming Meetings!

Make a positive impact in El Paso County 4-H! Learn Leadership Skills, Make Friends, & participate in fun opportunities throughout the 4-H Year!

**MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM!**  
**Meetings have MOVED to the Extension Office (17 N. Spruce St. 80905)**



- JANUARY 27, 2026
- FEBRUARY 24, 2026
- MARCH 31, 2026
- APRIL 28, 2026
- MAY 26, 2026

**\*NEW\*** Join us Via Zoom for All Regularly Scheduled Advisory Committee Meetings!  
ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/j/94664978761>

Where: El Paso County Extension Office, 17. N. Spruce Street, 80905



# Scholar Path

RSVP [HERE](#)

For more information on Scholar Path, click [HERE](#)



**ScholarPath**  
TURNING ASPIRATIONS INTO ACHIEVEMENTS

## Unlock Opportunities, Empower Dreams

**Jessyca Tierney-Smith**  
Founder & Presenter




**IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START PLANNING!**

**Key Features**

In this power-packed workshop, students turn their career goals from "meh" to "heck yes!" Scholarship secrets, campus visits, college admissions, how to save thousands, finding your fit are a few of the focused topics. By the end of this workshop, students will have resources, connections, and the first step to pursue a career like the total rock star they are. You can also help us select which topics you are interested in!

**Giveaways for Attendees:**

(3) 1-hour private consulting meetings

**\$10 PER YOUTH WITH LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

**RSVP WITH LINK**

**TARGET AUDIENCE: 9-11 GRADE**

**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 7, 2026**

**10:00 AM- 12:30 PM**

**17 N Spruce Street**

**Home**  
Turning Aspirations into Achievements Boost Your ScholarPath  
ScholarPath empowers students to confidently navigate their path from high school to college and beyond. Through engaging workshops,...

Questions  
[Emily.Green@colostate.edu](mailto:Emily.Green@colostate.edu)



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
EL PASO COUNTY EXTENSION

## Join the Electricity Project!

# JOIN THE 4-H ELECTRICITY PROJECT!



**Dr. Phil Jahelka will be leading the Electricity project this year--project support is open to all 4-H members in El Paso County!**

**CHECK OUT THE 4-H ELECTRICITY PROJECT BAND, HERE:  
<https://band.us/n/a8aeb0r5ifNeq>**

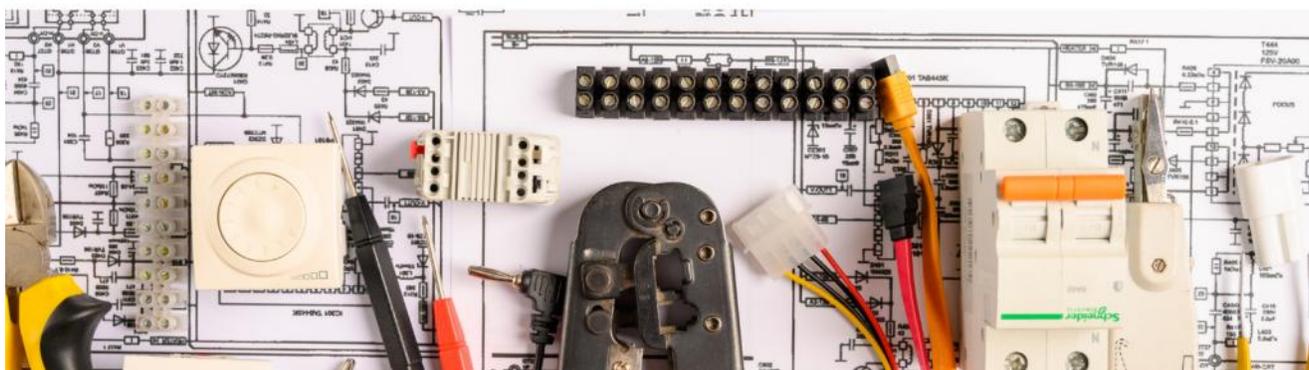


**You Can Reach Phil at:  
[phillip.jahelka@gmail.com](mailto:phillip.jahelka@gmail.com)**

Phil is an alum of the 4-H Electricity project and served as a judge at the 2025 County Fair, as he did not support any members last year.

In the past, he's conducted tours of local solar and wind farms and taught soldering skills in designing and making breadboards. He'll work via Zoom and in-person as he returns to Colorado often.

You can learn more about his professional experience with the CalTech Space Solar Power Project here, <https://atwater.caltech.edu/team-member/phil-jahelka>.



## New 4-H Club Huddle



EL PASO COUNTY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

NEW 4-H CLUB

# Huddle

**BE PART OF SOMETHING GROWING!**

WE'RE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE FORMATION OF A BRAND-NEW 4-H CLUB IN OUR COMMUNITY ON THE WEST SIDE OF TOWN! COME MEET OTHER INTERESTED FAMILIES, ASK QUESTIONS, GET TO KNOW THE CLUB LEADER, AND HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THIS NEW 4-H CLUB.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Contact  
Kevin Kersey  
[kevinkersey01@gmail.com](mailto:kevinkersey01@gmail.com)



MONDAY JANUARY 19, 2026 AT 6 PM

PROROEDO Hall of Fame Pavilion  
103 Pro Rodeo Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

# 2026 El Paso County Contest Day

Save the Date: Saturday April 11th, 2026!

Please review the 2026 County Contest Rules Packet [HERE](#)

## 4-H COUNTY CONTEST DAY!

### Get Ready to Share Your Voice at County Contest Day!

The El Paso County 4-H Contest Day is a GREAT opportunity to practice Public Speaking, Share a Skill, Perform, Act, Engage and **SHARE OUT LOUD!**

Prepare for the County Contest in April each year!



#### Bakeology Contest

- Ages - Cloverbuds, and 8-18
- Highlight your skills in Baking! Try out a new recipe and interview with a Judge! Members 8-18 will compete to be “Baker of the Day!”



#### Cake Decorating Contest

- Ages - By Unit, 8-18
- JR, INT and SR Winners advance to State Fair!
- Are you enrolled in Cake Decorating? Get ready to take your skills to the next level in this contest! Prepare and decorate your cake before the time runs out!



#### Demonstrations/ Illustrated Talks

- Ages - Cloverbuds, and 8-18
- Individual or Team
- Winners advance to State Fair!
- Do YOU have a 4-H Topic you think people need to know more about? Then participate in a Demonstration or Illustrated Talk! Share your knowledge with an audience and help teach them something new!



#### EPC Performing Arts Contest

- Ages - Cloverbuds, and 8-18
- Share your skills on the Big Stage! Participants can sing, act, dance or play a musical instrument!



#### Horse Public Speaking

- Ages - Seniors 14-18
- SR Winners advance to 4-H State Conference!
- Share some “Horse Sense” with your audience! Share information about Equine-related topics in this Senior-Only Contest!



#### Interpretive Reading

- Ages - Cloverbuds and 8-18
- JR, INT and SR Winners advance to State Fair!
- Participants prepare and deliver a rendition of a piece of pre-written material in this contest. How you interpret the words and deliver the performance is up to you!



#### Impromptu Speech

- Ages - 8-18
- SR Winners advance to 4-H State Conference!
- If you like speaking “off the cuff” then the Impromptu Speech Contest is for you! Get a topic, and 5 minutes later share your speech with the judge! Be Bold and give this contest a try!



#### Prepared Speech

- Ages - 8-18
- SR Winners advance to 4-H State Conference!
- Prepare a speech relevant to today’s youth—with a 4-H Flair! Participants in this category have the opportunity to win an additional cash sponsorship!



## 2025-2026 4-H E-RECORDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

Hello 4-H families! The 2025-2026 E-Records (Record Books) are now available via Google Drive! Click on the project link name to download your copies. **If you do not have a Google account**, please email [Shawna.Lamothe@colostate.edu](mailto:Shawna.Lamothe@colostate.edu) and we can send you an Word/Excel version of the document.

### Animal Science E-Records

- [Cats \(Display Board—Use if you don't show a cat\)](#)
- [Cats Junior \(Companion Animal\)](#)
- [Cats Intermediate \(Companion Animal\)](#)
- [Cats Senior \(Companion Animal\)](#)
- [Dog Junior](#)
- [Dog Intermediate](#)
- [Dog Senior](#)
- [Horseless Horse](#)
- [Horse](#)
- [Miniature Horse Supplement](#)
- [Livestock Junior \(Beef, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Swine\)](#)
- [Livestock Intermediate \(Beef, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Swine\)](#)
- [Livestock Senior \(Beef, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Swine\)](#)
- **Livestock Supplements**
  - [Goat Doe Record](#)
  - [Breeding Goats](#)
  - [Angora Goats](#)
  - [Cashmere Goats](#)
  - [Dairy Cow Production Record](#)
  - [Poultry Egg Production Record](#)
  - [Individual Buck Rabbit Record](#)
  - [Individual Doe Rabbit Record](#)
  - [Individual Litter Record](#)
  - [Ewe Record](#)
  - [Sow Record](#)
  - [Veterinary Science](#)

## 2025-2026 4-H E-RECORDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

### Communication, Arts and Leisure Science E-Records

- [Ceramics](#)
- [Filmmaking](#)
- [Global Citizenship](#)
- [Leadership](#)
- [Leathercraft](#)
- [Photography Basics, Unit 1 \(Year 1\)](#)
- [Photography Basics Unit 2 \(Year 2\)](#)
- [Photography Next Level Unit 3](#)
- [Photography Mastering Unit 4](#)
- [Photography Low Light Unit 5](#)
- [Photography Advanced Unit 6](#)
- [Photography Digital Image Editing Unit 7](#)
- [Scrapbooking](#)
- [Visual Arts](#)

### Family Consumer Science E-Records

- [Artistic Clothing](#)
- [Buymanship](#)
- [Cake Decorating](#)
- [Clothing Construction](#)
- [Foods and Nutrition](#)
- [Food Preservation](#)
- [Heritage Arts](#)
- [Home Design and Décor](#)

## 2025-2026 4-H E-RECORDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

### Mechanical Sciences E-Records

- [Computer Science](#)
- [Electricity](#)
- [Metalworking](#)
- [Model Rocketry](#)
- [Robotics and Engineering](#)
- [Small Engines Units 1-3](#)
- [Small Engines Unit 4](#)
- [Woodworking](#)

### Natural Resources E-Records

- [Beekeeping](#)
- [Beekeeping Units 2-4](#)
- [Entomology](#)
- [Gardening](#)
- [Outdoor Adventures](#)
- [Shooting Sports](#)
- [Sportfishing](#)
- [Wildlife](#)

### Supplemental

- [Self-Determined](#)

## 2026 National 4-H Conference

### **Hey Senior 4-H Members! Check out this Awesome Leadership Development Opportunity!**

**Please reach out to Jen Loewen directly if you are interested!**

The [National 4-H Conference](#) provides opportunities for young people between the ages of 15 and 19 to share their voice with Federal government officials in the nation’s capital. The event is a working Conference on April 10-15, 2026, where 4-H’ers work together to present ideas to Federal partners with the goal of impacting change in America. Known as the “Secretary’s Conference”, the National 4-H Conference has been the premier youth development opportunity of the U.S. Department of Agriculture since 1927.

During the Conference, delegates will become familiar with the government and share their voice with Federal agencies and congressional committees.



## 2026 National 4-H Conference Cont’d

**The Colorado 4-H delegation will include up to five youth and one adult advisor/chaperone.** The State 4-H Office will make all registration and travel arrangements. The State 4-H office has usually been able to sponsor part of the cost for youth to participate. After the holidays, we will let everyone know the estimated cost for the trip, which has been around \$2,000 in past years with some of that offset by the State 4-H Team.

### **Application Process**

County 4-H Specialists nominate Senior 4-H member(s) ages 15-19 from their counties. Please let Jen Loewen know if you are interested in being nominated! You will need to provide:

- A Resume
- A Cover Letter explaining why they would like to attend the conference
- A Letter of Recommendation from the County 4-H Specialist. (Jen Loewen will write this for you!)

**Applications are due to Jen by Thursday, January 15, 2026.**

**Applicants** will participate in an interview (Zoom or face-to-face) on January 20-22, and final selection of the delegation will be announced by January 23, 2026. Selected delegates will need to upload additional completed paperwork and a headshot photo into 4HOnline by January 31, 2026. If we have more than five applicants, we will have a waiting list for additional delegates if space should be opened for more to attend by the National 4-H Conference.



## Calhan Posse Dance & Chili Cook Off

# Calhan Posse 4th Annual('ish) Dance & Chili Cook-Off



**January 24, 2026**

**6:00 PM - 10:30 PM**

**Swink Hall--El Paso County Fairgrounds**

Join us for a special night  
full of music,  
friends, and fun!

### Chili Cook-Off & Silent Auction

- \$10 per chili entry
- Winning chili receives  
• a Buckle

### Dance

- \$10 per person
- \$25 per family

Music provided by

**Bubba's Jukebox**  
90's Country / Dance Music



All proceeds go to supporting educational opportunities  
and jackpot shows for 4H and FFA exhibitors

## 2026 Important Dates—Part 1

# 2026 Important Dates

Page 1

Sat | February 21 | Beef Tag In

Sat | April 4 | Beef Blow N Go Show

Mon | April 13 | Swine Tag Pickup

Wed | April 29 | MQA

Mon | April 27 | Swine Tag Drop Off

Thurs | April 30 | Animal ID's due (Breeding livestock, dairy, pygmy, horse, mini horse, cat, dog, and camelid)

Thurs | May 7 | Market Goat & Sheep Tag In

## 2026 Important Dates—Part 2

2026

# Important Dates

**Page 2**

*Fri*

*May 15*

*Market Beef Re-Weigh*

*Mon*

*June 1*

*FairEntry Opens*

*Fri*

*June 12*

*FairEntry Closes at 4:00 PM*

*Tues*

*June 23*

*FairEntry payment is due at 4:00 PM*

*Sat*

*June 27*

*Fair Cleanup & Exhibitor Meeting*

*Sun*

*June 28*

*Health Certifications*

*\*Dates are subject to change so please review the newsletter each month for verification of information*

# Small Animal Creation Stations

Please RSVP [Here](#)



# SMALL ANIMAL *Creation Stations*

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

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

- 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-Take**  
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!



FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL



Emily.Green@colostate.edu

## Reporter's Round Up

# REPORTERS ROUND UP COUNTRY HOLIDAY FAIR & CHRISTMAS PARADE



CLUBS: A-OK



REPORTERS: LYDIA GINSBURG

On December 13th, 2025, A-OK 4-H club members sold baked goods at the El Paso County Fairgrounds as part of the Country Holiday Fair. From 2pm to 6pm, our booth offered treats like homemade hot cocoa bombs, caramel apples, pizza kits, chicken pot pies, leg lamp cookies, loaf cakes, breads, and lots more! Afterwards, we watched the Calhan Country Christmas Parade outside. There were floats like a classic police cruiser, a tractor with festive lights, the Grinch and Santa, and a big Radio Flyer wagon. The event ran smoothly and had a good turnout. We got some of the parade cars to honk their horns at us, and we made around \$570 in sales



**My favorite part was buying jewelry from fellow 4-Her Kahlan Harloff's booth and eating food from Patty Mac's Coffee Barn and Outlawed Candy. Many of our club members and families enjoyed watching the parade and had fun visiting different vendors throughout the fair.**

## Beef Blow N Go Show

Register [HERE](#)

# >>> EL PASO COUNTY BEEF BLOW N GO SHOW

April 4, 2026



BREEDING BEEF CLASSES  
MARKET BEEF CLASSES  
SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES



**PRE-ENTRY** is \$30 a head and must be paid in advance through Eventbrite before April 1, 2026



**DAY OF ENTRY** is \$45 a head (check or cash)



**SHOWMANSHIP** is \$10 a head and paid at the gate in cash (80/20 split)



**PRIZES\$\$\$** will be awarded to Grand and Reserve Champion in Breeding and Market



**EMAIL** [Emily.Green@colostate.edu](mailto:Emily.Green@colostate.edu) for questions



WEIGH IN 7:30-9:00 AM  
SHOW START TIME 10:00 AM

El Paso County Fairgrounds  
366 10th St. Calhan, CO 80808

## Beef Showmanship Clinic and Exhibition Class

Register [HERE](#)

**El Paso County Presents**

### From Practice to the Ring: Beef Showmanship Clinic & Exhibition Class

Learn it –then show it!  
Hosted by Travis Chamblin. All exhibitors must participate in the showmanship clinic before competing in the ring. All age divisions will run together for clinic and exhibition showmanship class.

Start with the learning and end in the ring. Belt buckles on the line for grand and reserve showman!

**Saturday, April 18**  
**Sharp Start Time at 9:00 AM**  
**366 10<sup>th</sup> St Calhan, CO 80808**

Show attire highly recommended  
Please sign up using the registration link

Questions?  
Email [tlccattle@yahoo.com](mailto:tlccattle@yahoo.com)

## Beef Tag In

**Date: February 21, 2026**

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 28, 2026**—evening

**Location:** Owens Livestock Arena at the El Paso County Fairgrounds

**Required Sign Up (Time Slots):** Time slots will be assigned this year so please fill out the Google Survey link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvv2IUcWe9fo0EA9bm5DPCwmk3N7RVsU-h6dY0pQOm7OqOzA/viewform>

This form **MUST** be filled out and submitted by January 30, 2026 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 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 <https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>

## Beef Tag In Continued

### Expectations:

- All market beef **MUST** 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 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 ANIMALS MUST BE DEHORNED

## Looking Forward

- **January 30, 2026—Funding and Friends Workshop at the Extension Office at 6:00 PM**
  - Great things happen when we come together. Today we're learning why fundraising for awards matters—and how each family can support through small doable ways.
  - We kindly ask that everyone attend—your presence is important as we come together! Please bring a snack to share!
- **February 28, 2026– Showmanship with Autumn H. as guest clinician**

## El Paso County Horse Project Manual

The El Paso County Horse Manual has been updated for the 2025-2026 4-H Year. Please make sure to save this manual and refer to it for all your horse project information. This is a great resource that answers a lot of questions concerning policies and opportunities.

**[Find the Manual HERE](#)**

## Showmanship Clinic

Please RSVP [HERE](#)



# SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC

**LEARN FROM THE BEST  
INSTRUCTORS IN OUR COUNTY!**

*AUTUMN & GUEST*

**28 FEBRUARY 2026**  
**10:00 AM WALK TROT/NOVICE**  
**11:00 AM LIMITED & ADVANCED**  
**MINIATURE HORSES CAN ATTEND ANY SESSION**

Owens Arena at the Fairgrounds



## Looking Forward

- January 30, 2026— Funding and Friends Workshop at the Extension Office at 6:00 PM (bring your favorite snack to share)
- January 31, 2026—Ground Driving and Driving with Kelley H.
- February 15, 2026—Ground Driving and Driving with Kelley H.
- February 28, 2026—Showmanship with Autumn H. & guest clinician



Cat Project Meetings

**CAT PROJECT  
MEETINGS 2025-2026**

**HIGH PRAIRIE LIBRARY, FALCON  
JANUARY 13, FEBRUARY 10, AND  
MARCH 10 5-6PM**

**CSU EXTENSION OFFICE  
BRING YOUR CATS!  
APRIL 14, MAY 12, AND JUNE 9  
5:30-6:30PM**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT RACHEAL  
RBOYNTON15@HOTMAIL.COM



## Rabbit and Cavy Project Meetings

# Rabbit Meetings

**Every second THURSDAY every month**  
**Extention Office 17 N. Spruce St.**  
**6:00 pm**

**Bring:**

**Rabbit or rabbits, something to put your rabbit on (carpet square, towel, ect.)**

Please park in the south parking lot and wait by the employee entrance to be let in!



# Cavy Meetings

**First WEDNESDAY of every month**  
**starting October!**  
**Extention Office 17 N. Spruce St.**  
**6:00pm**

**Bring:**

**Your cavy, something to put your cavy on (towel, puppy pads, ect.), Record book, notebook to take notes**

Please park in the south parking lot and wait by the employee door to be let in!



## Dog Orientation

Are you new to the 4-H Dog Project or thinking about joining? Come learn what the program is all about at our Dog Orientation Workshop!

Date: January 17, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Latigo Equestrian Center—Community Room (upstairs)

This workshop is perfect for new and interested 4-H members who want to understand project expectations, equipment needs, and how to get started for a successful year with their canine partner. Families will have the chance to meet project leaders, senior youth members, ask questions, and learn more about what the Dog Project has to offer. Whether you're brand new or just exploring your options, we'd love to see you there!



## Gardening Project Meetings!

[Please RSVP HERE](#)

# El Paso County 4-H GARDEN PROJECT



**Lessons Include:**

- Composting & Worms
- Companion Planting
- Growing What in What Season
- Building and Planning Your Garden
- Pesky Pests
- & Much More

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- 11.19.25
- 1.21.26
- 2.18.26
- 3.18.26
- 4.22.26
- 5.13.26
- June TBD

**Meeting Location:**

CSU Extension Office  
17 N Spruce St  
Colorado Springs, CO

**6:00pm - 7:00p**

Join the El Paso County Master Gardeners for in-person Gardening Classes!

Starting with 4-H Gardening Manuals A & B, the Master Gardeners will help 4-H members learn the ins and outs of gardening in Colorado



EL PASO COUNTY 4-H

# ROBOTICS



Come join us!

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month

Time: 6-8pm

Location: Falcon Fire Station 4  
2710 Capital Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80939

Reach out on Band!



## EL Paso County 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS **ONLINE SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM (SQA)**

Hey 4-H Shooting Sports members! The El Paso County 4-H Shooting Sports program is excited to share a new Safety Quality Assurance (SQA) opportunity with you!

**Starting in 2026, 4-H members who have attended an In-Person SQA (*during the 2024-2025 4-H year*) are eligible to take the Online SQA this year!**

As a reminder, **ALL** 4-H Shooting Sports participants **MUST** complete the annual 4-H Shooting Sports Safety Quality Assurance program (SQA) to be eligible to compete in County and State 4-H Shooting Sports competitions.

The Online SQA was developed to help streamline the required SQA process for members and families. Members who meet all requirements to take the Online SQA and receive a passing score (90%) are not required to attend an In-Person SQA in 2026.

Online SQA scores will be accepted through **April 1, 2026**.

**Members MUST Review the Online Safety Quality Assurance Slides/Video prior to taking the Online SQA Test.**

The Online SQA Video Slideshow and SQA Test will be available starting Monday, January 12, on the [El Paso County 4-H Website](#).

Have questions? Please email Jen Loewen at: [Jennifer.Loewen@colostate.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Loewen@colostate.edu).



**All Additional Information and Program Requirements are included on the next page:**

## “Safety Quality Assurance” (SQA) – 4-H Shooting Sports Annual Safety Training Requirements

The Safety Quality Assurance (SQA) is an annual, required safety training for 4-H Shooting Sports members, regardless of age or experience. Participation in the SQA ensures that all 4-H Shooting Sports participants engage in yearly, important 4-H Shooting Sports Safety topics.

**Online SQA Results will be accepted through April 1, 2026.**

### **When is the SQA Required?**

- 4-H members enrolled in a 4-H Shooting Sports Project (regardless of discipline) will participate in an SQA Training Annually, regardless of age or experience.

A successfully completed SQA training is a **requirement** to compete in the El Paso County 4-H County Competition and the Colorado State 4-H Championships.

- The SQA can be taken in TWO separate ways: **In-Person**, or **Online**.
  - Eligible 4-H members who opt to take the SQA Online **MUST receive a 90% or better** to have successfully completed the requirement for the year.

Online SQA requirements **MUST** be completed by **April 1 of the current 4-H year.**

### **How can I take the SQA Training?**

- **An In-Person SQA** training is *required* when:
  - A 4-H member joins 4-H Shooting Sports Program for the first time, regardless of age.
  - A current or former 4-H member skips a year in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program and returns to participate in the project the following year.
- ✦ *If a member skipped the 2024-2025 4-H year, and enrolls in Shooting Sports in 2025-2026, they are required to attend an In-Person SQA.*
- ✦ A 4-H member advances in age to the next age division in 4-H.  
*“4-H Age” is determined by the member’s age on December 31 of the current 4-H year. (Juniors are 8-10, Intermediates are 11-13, Seniors are 14-18.)*
- **An Online SQA** training *can* be taken when:
  - A 4-H member has taken an In-Person SQA for their current age division, **and** is not advancing to the next age division.

A 4-H member has not skipped a year of 4-H Shooting Sports, **and** is not advancing to the next age division.

- **Additional SQA Program Information:**
  - No 4-H member is required to take the Online SQA. 4-H Shooting Sports members are eligible and encouraged to participate in an In-Person SQA each year, if preferred.
  - Though 4-H Shooting Sports is divided into 2 Age Divisions (Junior and Senior) for competition, for the purpose of the SQA, members will be required to take the In-Person SQA each year they advance in 4-H Age to the next age division, (Juniors – 8-10, Intermediates – 11-13, Seniors – 14-18).

If a 4-H member takes the Online SQA and is found to be ineligible to take the Online SQA, any scores received are considered invalid and an In-Person SQA must be completed.

Enroll in Safety Quality Assurance Training [HERE](#)

## IN-PERSON 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS SQA TRAINING

Interested in the 4-H Shooting Sports project for the 2025-2026 4-H Year? Don't miss out on this important, required training!

### 4-H SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE (SQA)

Attending an SQA training is a requirement for each member enrolled in 4-H Shooting Sports each year, regardless of age or training.

Members interested in joining the project are also welcome to attend!

#### Date:

- Saturday, January 18, 2026
  - Morning Session (10:00 - 12:00 PM)
  - Afternoon Session (1:00 - 3:00 PM)

#### Location:

Colorado Parks & Wildlife Offices  
4255 Sinton Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80907

**[CLICK HERE to enroll in a Safety Quality Assurance Training!](#)**



SATURDAY  
**19**  
JANUARY

**SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE**

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE OFFICES  
4255 SINTON ROAD, COLORADO  
SPRINGS, CO 80907

## What to Bring to Practice???

Anyone willing to volunteer to arrive early to help set up or stay late to help take down is always welcome and GREATLY appreciated!! All the Shooting Sports Leaders are volunteers. Please be nice to them!!

### 4-HERS FOR EVERY PRACTICE

Water and Snacks  
Sunscreen

POSITIVE ATTITUDE ANDS DESIRE TO LEARN

### FOR PARENTS

Water and Snacks  
Sunscreen

Something to do like a good book

\*<https://el Paso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2024/03/Permission-to-Fire-a-Handgun-10.9.19.pdf>

\*\* Optional but recommended items

Folding Chair

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

### .22 Rifle

Rifle  
Case  
Ammunition  
Eye Protection  
Ear Protection  
Clear Bore Indicator  
\*\*Mat  
\*\*Ammunition Block  
\*\*Binoculars or spotting scope

### .22 Pistol

**\*Permission to Fire Handgun form**  
Pistol  
Case  
Ammunition  
Eye Protection  
Ear Protection  
Clear Bore Indicator  
\*\*Binoculars or spotting scope

### Air Pistol

Pistol  
Case  
Ammunition  
Co2 cartridges  
\*\* Ammunition Block  
Eye Protection  
Ear Protection  
\*\*Clear Bore Indicator  
\*\*Binoculars or spotting scope

### Air Rifle

Rifle  
Case  
Ammunition  
Co2 cartridges  
Mat  
Eye Protection  
Ear Protection  
\*\*Clear Bore Indicator  
\*\*Ammunition Block  
\*\*Binoculars or spotting scope

### Muzzleload Rifle and Pistol

Rifle/Pistol  
Case  
Powder,Patch and Ball (or it won't shoot at all)  
Powder Flask/Powder Horn  
Original Powder Container  
Powder measure  
Ball starter  
Ramrod  
Caps and capper  
Cleaning patches and solution  
Eye Protection  
Ear Protection  
\*\*Binoculars or spotting scope

### Archery

Bow  
Case  
Arrows  
Quiver  
Arm Guard  
Finger Tab or Release  
\*\* Binoculars

### Shotgun

Shotgun  
Case  
Ammunition  
Eye Protection  
Ear Protection  
\*\*Ammunition bag  
\*\*Shooting vest

Questions: contact us on Band or Facebook :

**EPC 4H Shooting Sports**

Email us at: [epc.shootingsports@gmail.com](mailto:epc.shootingsports@gmail.com)

## January:

Thursday January 8th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—Pistol 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-60780758-01082026#/>

Monday January 12th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—

Western Heritage 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-60780757-01122026#/>

Thursday January 15th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—

Archery 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-60780761-01152026#/>

Sunday January 18th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—

**Mandatory SQA** Clinics & Range 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-58980845-01182026#/>

Monday January 19th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—\*\*NEW\*\*

Air Rifle & Air Pistol 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-60780772-01192026#/>

Thursday January 22nd—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—Rifle 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-60780773-01222026#/>

## February:

Thursday February 5th—Colorado Parks and Wildlife—  
.22 Pistol 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-61397556-02052026#/>

Monday February 9th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-61397558-02092026#/>

Monday February 16th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*—  
Air Rifle & Air Pistol 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-61397559-02162026#/>

Thursday February 19th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—.22 Rifle 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45ABA62AA0FA7-61397560-02192026#/>

Friday February 20th—Colorado Parks and Wildlife—Council Meeting 5:30PM—  
9:00 PM

## March:

Monday March 9th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage 5:00 PM—8:00 PM

Monday March 16th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—Archery 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

Tuesday March 17th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—Rifle 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

Saturday March 21st Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Archery 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Sunday March 22nd—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Archery, Muzzleload & .22 Pistol 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

## April:

Saturday April 4th—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Rifle, Pistol, Muzzleload 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Monday April 13th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage—5:30 PM—8:00 PM

Friday April 17th Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Council Meeting 6:30 PM—9:00 PM

Saturday April 18th—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Archery 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Sunday April 19th—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Archery, Muzzleload & .22 Pistol 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

## May:

Saturday May 2nd—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Rifle, Pistol, Muzzleload—9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Monday May 11th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

Friday May 16th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Council Meeting 6:30 PM—9:00 PM

Saturday May 16th—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Archery 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Sunday May 17th—Frontier Sportsman Club Hanover—  
Archery, Muzzleload & .22 Pistol 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

## June:

Monday June 8th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

## July:

Monday July 13th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

## August:

Monday August 10th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage 5:30 PM—8:00 PM

## September:

Monday September 14th—Colorado Parks & Wildlife—  
Western Heritage—5:30 PM—8:00 PM

## Colorado State Competition Dates:

- Saturday August 22nd and Sunday August 23rd 2026:
  - Archery—Colorado City
  - .22 Rifle & Muzzleload—Pueblo West
  - .177 Rifle & .177 Pistol—Colorado State Fairgrounds Event Center
- Saturday September 19th and Sunday September 20th 2026: (date subject to change)
  - Western Heritage & Hunting & Outdoor Skills National Qualifiers
- Saturday September 5th and September 6th 2026
  - Shotgun & .22 Pistol—Pikes Peak Gun Club



## Whittington Center Adventure Camp Scholarship Application

For 4-H Shooting Sports Members aged 13-17

Completed Applications Due: **Sunday, March 1, 2026, by 5:00 PM**

Applications must be emailed to Jen Loewen

at: [JenniferLoewen@elpasoco.com](mailto:JenniferLoewen@elpasoco.com) by the deadline.

**No Late Applications will be Accepted**

Biggs Contracting Services Inc. has generously provided the El Paso County 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory Committee with funding for **THREE** El Paso County 4-H members to attend the NRA Whittington Center Adventure Camp program on June 28 – July 10, 2026. Enrolled 4-H Members ages 13 to 17 are invited to apply for this scholarship opportunity. The NRA Whittington Center Adventure Camp's purpose is to teach the safe use and stewardship of firearms. In addition to the recreational and competitive shooting curriculum, hunting, camping and survival skills are added as part of the total experience.

For more information on the NRA, the Whittington Center and Adventure Camp, please visit: <http://www.nrawc.org/wc-experience/youthprograms/>

*Please note:* This camp is conducted by the NRA, not by Colorado State University Extension/4-H. The opportunities provided to the camp participants, as well as the opinions and viewpoints expressed by the instructors and camp staff, do not necessarily represent those of Colorado State University – Extension/4-H.

Please follow this link to find this year's Required Application: <https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2025/09/NRAWhittingtonCenterApplication-2026.pdf>

## Come learn about the Creative Cooks Contest!



- We will have lessons about contest requirements, nutrition, table setting, theme creation, and more!
- You will also see an example of a Creative Cooks table and see what it is like to visit with the judge.
- This event is open to those in the Front Range and Elbert County.

**Please sign up for the workshop no later than Thursday, January 22nd, 2026 [HERE](#)**

**Event Timing:** Saturday, January 31st, 9-11AM

**Event Address:** 410 Fairgrounds Rd, Castle Rock, CO 80104

**Questions:** If you have any questions, please email [Jacie.Rex@colostate.edu](mailto:Jacie.Rex@colostate.edu) or call (720) - 733- 6940.