



September | 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 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

Band App Links

Follow the Band links below to find more project specific information!

[LINK](#) to Livestock Band Group

[LINK](#) to Dairy + Pygmy Goat Group

[LINK](#) to Small Animal Band Group

[LINK](#) to Mini Horse Band Group

[LINK](#) to Horse Band Group

[LINK](#) to Dog Band Group

[LINK](#) to Tabletop Band Group

[LINK](#) to Electricity Band Group

[LINK](#) to 4-H Shooting Sports Band Group

[LINK](#) to Rocketry Band Group

[LINK](#) to Robotics Band Group

2025-2026 4-H E-RECORDS

Please find the link to the 2025-2026 4-H E-Records [HERE](#). If you need the Google Doc or Google Sheets version, please refer to the February 2026 newsletter, or email Shawna.Lamothe@colostate.edu

Accommodations Form

Hello 4-H Families!

As a reminder to all., El Paso County 4-H and Colorado 4-H firmly believe that all 4-H members should be able to participate in 4-H Events and Activities with their peers successfully. This includes providing reasonable accommodation requests made on behalf of 4-H members. In an effort to streamline accommodation requests, El Paso County 4-H has developed a fillable form that can be accessed via the 4-H Website. This form should be used to request accommodations for each 4-H Event that accommodations may be required.

Colorado 4-H recognizes that accommodations may be requested orally and in person, up to the date of the event. However, the timing and manner of a request potentially reduces the county extension's ability to determine reasonable accommodation. Because it can take time to plan for some accommodations, El Paso County 4-H requests that the form be submitted no later than 14 days prior to the event or activity. Submitting a request for accommodation on shorter notice may reduce or limit county extension's ability to implement the accommodations. Please note that the accommodation may not be the one proposed by the participant.

If you have any questions regarding your 4-H member's participation in a 4-H Event, please email 4-H Specialists Emily Green (Emily.Green@colostate.edu) and Jennifer Loewen (Jennifer.Loewen@colostate.edu) and they can provide additional information.

Accommodations Form [HERE](#)

IMPORTANT: UPCOMING 4-H WEBSITE AND 4-H NEWSLETTER CHANGES & CONSTRUCTION



Hello 4-H Families and Volunteers!

CSU and Extension have been undergoing required and necessary website accessibility changes to make Extension resources more accessible for folks who use screen-readers, need high-contrast documents or other accessible materials. This means that each County Extension Office Website will undergo these same changes.

What does this mean for our County Website?

Our El Paso County Website will be changing! It will become more accessible and hopefully more streamlined. This does mean that many of the documents, tabs and pages will be moving, changed, or updated to make them more accessible.

What does this mean for the 4-H Newsletter/4-H Documents?

Because of accessibility and other required changes, we will be updating the way we present our 4-H Newsletter. We are currently looking into an updated digital format that will still land in your inbox each month and will be accessible on mobile devices.

Documents that live on the County Website will still be accessible, but may not be stored directly on the new county website. We are working on a solution to make sure everyone has access to what they need to make their clubs, programs and projects function.

When will this change happen?

This change is scheduled to happen in the coming weeks. If you need access to a document, please email Jen Loewen or Shawna Lamothe and we will help you track down what you need.

Thank you for your patience as we prepare to migrate to our new and improved website!

~ The El Paso County 4-H Team

RSVP to Achievement Awards [HERE!](#)

4-H Achievement Awards Ceremony **R.S.V.P**



Where: Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame
• 103 Pro Rodeo Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80919
When: Friday, October 23, 2026

Hey 4-H Families and Volunteers!
Please RSVP for the 2026 4-H Achievement
Awards Ceremony! All are Welcome!

SPACE IS LIMITED TO 230 ATTENDEES!
All RSVPs are due by **Tuesday, September 15,**
SPACE MAY FILL BEFORE THIS DATE!

Event Schedule:
4:30 - 5:30 PM Club Table Decorating
5:30 - 6:00 PM Appetizers/Group Social
6:00 PM - 4-H Awards Ceremony



El Paso County 4-H *Open House*

*Want to learn more about 4-H and
how it can benefit youth ages 5-18?
Please come learn more at our 4-H
Open House!*

4-H OFFERS...



**Public speaking, goal
setting, and critical
thinking skills**



**A wide range of Clubs
and Projects**



**Public speaking, goal
setting, and critical
thinking skills**



**October 9th, 2026
5:30 PM**



**Join us at the El Paso
County Extension Office
located at
17 N Spruce St. Colorado
Springs, CO 80905**



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EL PASO COUNTY EXTENSION

EL PASO COUNTY 4-H



PROJECT EXPLORATION NIGHT

NOVEMBER 17, 2026

6 PM - 7:30 PM

From Cake Decorating to Beef Cattle and
everything in between, come learn more
about the projects that 4-H offers!



17 N SPRUCE ST.
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
80905

Robotics Band: <https://band.us/n/a6a7b0zdieb8C>

Join the 4-H Robotics Project!



**Learn the skills you need to code, design and
build your own Robotics project!**

WHERE: Falcon Fire Station 4
Address: 2710 Capital Drive

WHEN: 2nd Tuesday of each month, October
through June from 6:00 - 8:00 PM

WHO: Any EPC 4-H member 8-18 wanting to
learn more and get support with the 4-H
Robotics project!

**No supplies or previous coding knowledge
needed! ***

*El Paso County 4-H has a series of Chromebooks and LEGO
robotics kits available to borrow for members who enroll in
the project! *First come, first served.*

Please connect with Project Contact Tricia
Schroeder for more information!
majesticwonderacademy@gmail.com.

Robotics BAND:
<https://band.us/n/aba2A4b1l2s97>



Find the Sewing Band page [HERE](#)



The graphic is a promotional flyer for a sewing band. At the top, the word "Sewing" is written in a large, green, cursive font. Above it is a green four-leaf clover with the letters "H", "4", "H", and "4" on its leaves. To the left of the word is a spool of green thread. To the right are several buttons and a heart-shaped patch. Below the word "Sewing" is a banner that reads "PROJECT MEETING SCHEDULE!". Under this banner are two columns. The left column has a calendar icon, "1ST MONDAY", and "4:00 - 6:00 PM". The right column has a calendar icon, "3RD WEDNESDAY", and "5:30 - 7:00 PM". To the right of these columns is a box with the text "JOIN US ON BAND!" and a QR code. Below the schedule is a rounded rectangle with the text "Twice a month to create, learn, share, and support each other in our sewing journeys!". Below that is a box with the heading "MEETING LOCATION" and a location pin icon, followed by "Falcon Fire Station 4", "2710 Capital Drive", and "Colorado Springs, CO 80939". To the right of this box is a list of bullet points: "Learn new skills", "Get help & share ideas", "Work on projects", "Make new friends", and "Have fun!". At the bottom right is an illustration of a green sewing machine. At the very bottom is a dark green banner with the text "SEW WITH PURPOSE. GROW WITH 4-H."

Sewing

PROJECT MEETING SCHEDULE!

1ST	3RD
MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
4:00 - 6:00 PM	5:30 - 7:00 PM

JOIN US ON BAND!



Twice a month to create, learn, share, and support each other in our sewing journeys!

MEETING LOCATION

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

- Learn new skills
- Get help & share ideas
- Work on projects
- Make new friends
- Have fun!



SEW WITH PURPOSE. GROW WITH 4-H.

**FUNDRAISER FOR
El Paso County 4-H Poultry Project**

**VIRTUAL COMMUNITY
FUNDRAISERS**



**> When
Friday, October 30, 2026**

Place your order for pickup or delivery on Friday, October 30!

**> Where
Available at Panda Express
locations nationwide**

www.pandaexpress.com

**> How
Online orders only**

Apply code **9018012** in the Fundraiser Code box during online checkout at www.pandaexpress.com or via App

28% of sales will be donated to: El Paso County 4-H Poultry Project

Fundraising to support the project members and to purchase updated equipment for the barn at fair.

Valid for online orders only. Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. ("PRG") reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events at any time, if the Virtual Community Fundraising Terms and Conditions are not followed. If the organization is not in good standing with the IRS, Franchise Tax Board, or the State of California (for California organizations only), then donations may not be made to the organization. The organization must raise a minimum of \$150 in total event sales pre-tax when purchased with designated code at check-out, in order to receive 28% of all event sales (pre-tax amount). PRG does not charge the organization fees related to the event. Purchase(s) of gift cards and meals from Panda's School Lunch program do not count towards the fundraiser, but purchases made with gift cards will count. No portion of purchase is tax deductible. The donation from PRG to the organization is tax deductible. The organization receiving the donation must be a tax exempt organization. PRG will issue the donation check and provide an accounting statement to the organization within 45 days of the completion of the Event. Participants in the fundraiser may request the total dollar amount donated to the organization by emailing communityprograms@pandarg.com or by submitting the question at <https://community.pandaexpress.com/faq>

Looking Forward

- **September 12, 2026**—County Fair 4-H Horse Show Awards (Black Forest Saddle Club)



Save the Date(s)! Colorado State 4-H Fall Online Volunteer Training

Topic: The Art of Engaging with 4-H Youth

Date: Tuesday, October 13, and/or Thursday, October 22

Time: 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.

All Active and Enrolled 4-H volunteers are invited to join us to learn and connect as we explore ideas and best practices on engaging with our 4-H members. We will hear from State 4-H Officers as they share their ideas; we'll share information and tools, and there will be time to visit in small breakout rooms.

Volunteers need only attend one of the two times the training is being offered.

Additional details will be shared in September as we get closer to the opportunity.

This training does not take the place of new volunteer training, required for all new 4-H volunteers in El Paso County. These dates will be shared shortly!

SAVE THE DATE -AYHC VIRTUAL EQUINE COLLEGE FAIR

Love horses? Wondering what comes next?

Your passion for horses can lead to more careers—and more college opportunities—than you might think!

Join us for the [Virtual Equine College Fair](#) on September 18, 2026, and explore colleges, universities, trade schools, and programs from across the country—all from wherever you are.

Discover programs in:

- Equine Science & Management
- Animal & Agricultural Science
- Veterinary Medicine & Pre-Vet
- Equine Dentistry & Farrier Science
- Agribusiness & Marketing
- Agricultural Communications
- And many more!

Meet college representatives. Ask questions. Explore programs. Find your next step.

Whether you already know exactly what you want to study or you're still figuring it out, this event is designed to help you connect your interests with real educational and career opportunities.

High school students in grades 9–12 are invited!

Save the date and start exploring where your passion for horses could take you.



Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassadors Program



The Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador Program is a statewide leadership opportunity for 4-H members ages 15–18 who are passionate about agriculture, leadership, and making a difference in their communities. Through a peer-to-peer teaching model, Ag. Ambassadors serve as leaders, mentors, and advocates for Colorado 4-H, while helping educate and inspire younger 4-H members. The program is designed to build leadership, communication, and teamwork skills while connecting youth with agricultural professionals and career pathways across the state.

A team of 20 Ag. Ambassadors will be selected, including one representative from each of Colorado's ten 4-H districts and ten at-large members. Ambassadors will begin their experience by participating in the ambassador team weekend, which is an interactive training focused on leadership development, team building, public speaking, and ambassador responsibilities. Throughout the year, ambassadors will continue their learning through bimonthly virtual meetings featuring leadership development, professional networking, and agricultural industry exploration.

As part of the program, ambassadors will plan and implement agriculture-focused leadership projects in their local communities or districts.

Ag. Ambassadors will:

- Serve a one to two-year term (depending on age when applying), with the opportunity to continue in a mentorship role for new ambassadors during a third year.
- Advocate for Colorado 4-H, while serving as leaders and role models for fellow members.
- Participate in statewide 4-H events and leadership opportunities.
- Strengthening their leadership, communication, and teamwork skills.
- Build connections with fellow ambassadors, Extension professionals, volunteers, and agricultural leaders.
- Design and lead agriculture-focused educational projects across the state.

The Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador Program provides an opportunity for youth to grow as leaders, expand their understanding of agriculture, develop lifelong professional connections, and make a lasting impact on their communities while representing Colorado 4-H.

Application Process

Youth, who are not currently serving as a Colorado 4-H ambassador for any programming area, are invited to apply to become a Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador. Applicants must complete the online application by **September 15, 2026**. The application includes general information about the applicant, a series of short-answer questions (500 words or less each), uploading a resume, and uploading two letters of recommendation. To help applicants prepare before beginning the online application, an outline of the required information is provided below.

A selection committee will review all applications and invite a group of finalists to participate in an interview. Interviews will be conducted virtually during September and October. Candidates selected for an interview will be asked to prepare a short presentation on a provided topic and will also participate in a panel interview. Interview topics and scheduling information will be sent only to applicants selected for an interview.

Youth selected to serve as a Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassadors will be required to attend the **Mandatory Ambassador Training**, tentatively scheduled for **November 20–21, 2026**. This two-day training will include public speaking, team-building activities, leadership development, and an overview of Ambassador roles, expectations, and responsibilities. Please note - Because this training is required, applicants who are unable to attend the full two-day training should reconsider applying this year.



For questions contact: Dawn Sanchez ~ (970) 491-0255 ~ dawn.sanchez@colostate.edu

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Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador Online Application Explanation



The following is what will be required when completing the online application.



Applications due: September 15, 2026 ~ Application link: <https://bit.ly/ag-ambassador>

General Information

➤ Name	➤ Address
➤ Youth's phone number	➤ Parent's phone number
➤ Youth's email address	➤ Parent's email address
➤ Years in 4-H	➤ Years in specific animal science projects
➤ County	➤ Club Name
➤ Age (as of December 31, current year)	➤ Grade in School
➤ Attire sizes (blouse, shirt, jacket)	

Resume

Your resume should be no more than three pages, single-spaced with margins no less than 1 inch, and a font size no less than 12 points. Be sure to include your experiences in citizenship, leadership, and public speaking both in 4-H and other organizations.

Short Answer Responses

In the JotForm, submit a short answer to each of these questions/statements. Each answer should be no more than 500 words.

1. Describe yourself as a leader and give examples.
2. Please describe your time management skills and how you use these within your life.
3. What would becoming a Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador mean to you?
4. How would you use your position as a Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador to impact Colorado 4-H?
5. As a Colorado 4-H Ag. Ambassador, you will be required to complete a leadership project either in your county, district, or in the state. What are some ideas you have for your leadership project?

Letters of Recommendation

Please upload two letters of recommendation from:

- County Extension Specialist/Educator responsible for the program - Required
- 4-H volunteer from your club
- High School principal or counselor
- A person outside your family who knows you well



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