



February 2026

To Make the Best Better

All 4-H families have a responsibility to read the 4-H newsletter and to understand the information and deadlines that apply to them.

Need help? Please check with your club leader or contact 4-H Agents at the Extension Office.

Be sure to stay in touch with your club leader and remain active in club meetings.

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Morgan County 4-H Newsletter

2025-2026 4-H Enrollment

Enrollment Deadline is **February 2, 2026**.

Enrollment cost will be \$20 per youth, (5-18 year olds) payable by cash, check, debit or credit card to the Morgan County Extension Office (NO online payment available.)

Shooting Sports members will pay an additional \$10 yearly fee. **Encourage a friend to join!** Go to: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>.



2026 County Fair Dates

Official fair dates are **July 24 - July 30, 2026**, BUT pre-fair activities will begin earlier in July including Interview Judging which is **Wednesday, July 22nd**.

Thank You!

Thank you to NAPA Auto Parts - University Auto Parts Inc. in Brush who recently donated safety glasses and safety masks to support local 4-H members as they work on hands-on projects requiring proper personal protective equipment. Please stop by the office if you are in need.

Leadership Development Conference

Youth attending the LDC were **Arisa Eicher, Kimber Heid, Katelynn Johnson, Saxson Keller, Soul Keller, Shylynn Lerrick, Chayton Pyburn, Addyson Schwindt, Zylana Vlieger and Elizabeth Whitney**. **Stephaine Johnson** accompanied the attendees.

Consumer Choices/Consumer Bowl

Starting in March, Extension Office Meeting Room. Make plans now to be part of the Consumer Choices and Consumer Bowl in 2026. This activity is open to all 4-Hers 14+ and enrolled in any project area. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in State 4-H conference June 16-19. We will begin practices in March and determine a practice cadence that will work for participants once we have the full team. Contact Katie to learn more about participating in Consumer Choices.

4-H Activities and Information

2026 State Syllabus Information

The 2026 State Syllabus will be available soon. For project descriptions go to: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/programs-projects/>.

4-H Project Workshops

We are planning some project workshops for the 2025-2026 4-H year. These may include Leather Craft, Scrapbooking, Cake Decorating, Clothing, Foods & Nutrition, Quilting, Sport Fishing, Outdoor Adventures, Photography, and so many more. We are always looking for instructors willing to help out as well. If you know of someone that has a skill set related to any 4-H project please let us know.

R.S.V.P.

We are planning some great workshops and meetings for leaders and members this 4-H year. These events are organized and led by 4-H leaders, staff or guests. We ask that you RSVP by registering in 4-H Online under Events that you will be attending. Some events are cancelled because so few people have responded or because of unforeseen circumstances. Of course if you have not responded we have no way to let you know that the event has been cancelled! For 4-H purposes, unless we specifically ask you to let us know whether or not you are planning to attend, RSVP means respond only if you are coming. It means that we need a definite head count and we need it by the specified date. Please RSVP!

February Cloverbuds

Cloverbuds workshop will be Valentine's Day Themed.

February 13 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm at the Extension Office. Please register in 4-H Online by **February 11th**.



Join District 1 4-H for a fun and educational day that is focused on helping prepare youth for their futures!



Monday, February 21, 2026

Mitchek Event Center, Logan County Fairgrounds

Cost: \$10 per person, includes lunch

Register by February 18, at <https://col.st/4shi8>

Chaperones may be needed for this conference.

New Family Orientation Night

Plan to attend **Tuesday, February 24th, 6:00 - 7:00 pm**, an introduction and need to know information night at the Morgan County Fair Grounds, 4-H Building. Light supper will be provided. Please register in 4-H Online (Events) by **Friday, February 20th at 12 noon**.

2026 Youth Fest

YouthFest is a conference for members 11-13 in Pueblo, Colorado and is being held **March 27-29**. Registration opens in early February and registration information will be sent to eligible members.

Horse and Dog ID Forms

All Horse and Dog ID Forms must be done on an annual basis through 4-H Online by **4:00pm, May 1st**. If you identified a horse or dog last year, you must activate each animal account. For the Dog ID, you will need to update and upload new vaccine information.

4-H Activities and Information

4-H Project Display Board & Scrapbook Workshops

March 9th and/or March 20th, 9 am - 12 pm

Extension Office

Youth are invited to attend a hands-on workshop focused on creating 4-H project display boards and scrapbook pages. During this time, participants will design their display boards and have access to multiple Cricut machines, crafting materials, and other tools to help bring their projects to life. Youth may also work on individual scrapbook pages or contribute to their club's scrapbook.

A Google Form will be sent out soon to gather information on needed supplies, including preferred colors and themes. There is no cost to attend this workshop.

4-H Did You Know?

 *4-H offers more educational leadership and citizenship activities and programs than any other extracurricular youth program in the country.*

 *Everyone benefits from 4-H experiences; youth, families, volunteers and the community.*

 *More than 100,000 Colorado youth participate in 4-H activities.*

 The Colorado 4-H program offers more than 40 different projects in which members can participate.

 Each year there are a variety of leadership conferences and camps 4-H members can attend.

 4-H has an exchange program through which participants can travel across the country to meet other 4-H youth.



Council Corner-

During the January meeting, County Council discussed the annual activity to be held in May, will be a field day! Be on the lookout for ways to get involved with Morgan County 4-H Council in the coming months!

February Meeting will be **Monday, February 16th at 6:45 pm** at the Extension Office meeting room.

If you have any questions about the Morgan County 4-H Council please contact Katie at 970-542-3544.

New to 4-H and not sure what to expect?

Newsletter: Your enrollment in 4-H automatically subscribes you to this newsletter that focuses on Morgan County 4-H. Watch the front of the newsletter for information and events that may be pertinent to you. Flip to your section for specific news, events, deadlines and rules. Current and past editions are available on the Morgan County website at <http://morgan.extension.colostate.edu/4-h/newsletters/>



Email: We use mass email to send reminders of upcoming opportunities, workshops, deadlines and more. Many opportunities and news items that we receive from the State 4-H office and other counties may miss our newsletter deadline, and those are also passed on by email. Please let us know if you change your email address. Also, the newsletter is our primary way of getting information to you. We will send a mass email the day the newsletter goes to print to every enrolled member and leader. The email will have a link to the newsletter and instructions on how to find it on the website. If you would like to be mailed a paper copy, please call Jamie at 970-542-3540.

Club Meetings: Are you in touch with your club leader to find out when your club meetings are? Attend as many meetings as you can so that you can get involved, make friends, and learn more about your projects. Many clubs have requirements as to how many meetings you need to attend, so make sure you are aware of that number.



Manuals: Be sure to ask your club leader or the Extension office if you need a project manual. These manuals were designed to help you learn more about your specific project. TIP: For additional help, try to find out if your club has any project leaders that can help you. Colorado4h.org also has tip sheets for most projects. Click "Projects and Record books". Scroll to the middle of the page and click "Tip Sheets". If you have already picked up your manuals for the year, please stop by the office to pick up labels for your manuals that include our Non-discrimination statements.

Livestock Weigh In: Are you taking a livestock project? If you plan to show a market animal (one that will be fed out, shown and possibly sold) you'll need to be sure to check the newsletter for information about livestock weigh-in or nomination. All market beef, market goats, and market lambs must be weighed in on the specific date listed to be eligible for the Rate-Of-Gain contest. Market swine must be tagged by the specific date listed. Market rabbits and poultry require a paper ID's turned in by the specific date.

Website: Check out our local Morgan County website at <http://morgan.colostate.edu> or the state 4-H website at www.co4h.colostate.edu. We also have a 4-H Facebook page, just search for Morgan County Extension, on facebook.com and then "Like" to follow our updates.

COUNTY 'Member in Good Standing' POLICY

Just a reminder that Morgan County and Colorado 4-H have a "Member in Good Standing" policy. As written in the state policy manual, a member in good standing; abides by the 4-H Code of Conduct, meets deadlines, attends a majority of club and project meetings, and completes at least one project.

To complete a project, members are required to:

1. Participate in a 4-H related (subject matter or audience) demonstration or other speech-arts presentation.
2. Participate in a 4-H sponsored community service activity, and
3. Complete any county level requirements such as a record book, exhibit, etc.

While this state policy has always been in effect, the county has really had no way to determine a member's level of participation. Effective October 1, 2015, all club leaders are required to sign off on every member's participation before county fair and at the end of the 4-H year. All members must meet county/state policy as well as club policy (if applicable). Members not in good standing may not be able to participate in certain county, state or national events.

What is community service?

Webster's Dictionary defines community service as "work that is done without pay to help people in a community." What does this mean in the 4-H world and what is classified as appropriate community service? It is any event or opportunity where the club can go out into the community to perform good deeds. This can include: working at the food bank, cleaning trash in a cemetery, visiting a nursing home, or putting together care packages for soldiers. It does not include: donating money to an organization, club fundraisers, volunteering for 4-H events at fair or raking leaves in your family's lawn. It is encouraged that you do community service through your club's annual events but, if circumstances arise that keep you from doing so, make sure you coordinate with your club leader to ensure that what you are doing falls into the community service criteria and that you will still be in compliance with the club bylaws. Remember, community service is a requirement to be a member in good standing and a HUGE aspect of 4-H is serving those around you!

How do I choose my projects?

There are lots of resources to help you choose your projects. You can ask 4-H leaders for help. You can come to project workshops scheduled throughout the year. You can call the 4-H Agents and you can talk to other 4-H members about their projects.

Considerations in Selecting a 4-H Project

- ◆ Select a project you like
- ◆ Select a project that can be completed
- ◆ Consider the costs (check the State Fair Exhibit Requirements to estimate cost)
- ◆ Consider the space and equipment that will be needed (If you have concerns about this, ask the Extension Office — There could be opportunities for resources)
- ◆ Consider parental support for the project
- ◆ Be aware of the opportunities for growth in the project
- ◆ Select only the number of projects that you can complete
- ◆ A 4-H project should be fun, serve a purpose and be worth the effort!



In addition to the guide, talk with other members, leaders and 4-H staff to learn more about the project.

Considering New Projects for 2026?

The new State 4-H General and FCS Project requirements are available at: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/programs-projects/>. All the requirements to complete FCS and General 4-H projects will be listed in this online booklet. The Morgan County Fair Book will follow those guidelines.

What is a Self-Determined Project?

The self-determined project is designed for 4-H members who have an interest in a topic that is not included in the 4-H Project List. Self-determined projects include these county projects that are not offered as state projects: Child Development, Crops, Model Horse, Natural Resources, Pocket Pets and Weeds.

If you wish to enroll in a self-determined project, use the project name next to "self-determined." County projects are not eligible to qualify for state fair.

4-H Shooting Sports

Signing up for Shooting Sports

There is a \$10 fee for every youth enrolled in shooting sports.

All youth must attend a **mandatory safety training** prior to their first practice. The training will be held **February 19th at 5:30 p.m.** at the Fairgrounds. If you have any questions, please contact Katie, 970-542-3544.



MORGAN COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS COUNTY FAIR

ELIGIBILITY

1. All participants must be 4-H members currently enrolled in the 4-H Shooting Sports Project.
2. Juniors: 8 - 13 years old as of 12/31/25 Seniors: 14 - 18 years old as of 12/31/25
3. All participants must attend a mandatory safety training prior to their first practice.
4. Appropriate safety equipment is the shooter's responsibility.
5. All youth MUST complete record books and participate in interview judging and must receive at least a Red Ribbon on their interview project for scores to count for participation at Colorado State Fair.
6. All youth must have a Hunter's Safety Card to shoot at the County Fair Shoot.

You must have participated in at least three (3) County *Certified shoots in each of the divisions entered to compete at the County Fair. For safety reasons, a shotgun shooter must shoot at least three (3) practices in each class they want to compete in. *Certified shoots are scheduled shoots shot in front of the contest superintendent or assistant superintendent of the discipline.

*For emergency situations, the superintendent and shooting sports committee will take it under consideration for county only results. Youth not participating in county shoots will not be eligible for State Fair Shoot.

*Guidelines for Classes and equipment will be same as the current rulebook. You may view the Colorado Shooting Sports Rule Book at: <http://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/shooting-sports/>. Click on rulebook, forms, and notices.

Shooting Sports Leader Training

If you are interested in becoming a Certified Shooting Sports Leader, in any discipline, contact Katie as soon as possible. You will be required to go through the volunteer process as well as one of the trainings listed below. This process needs to begin early in the 4-H year.

4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training Dates and Locations:

- ⇒ **March 13-15, 2026: Weld County** (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, and Orion) *Orion training - Please watch for information in the coming months.
- ⇒ **March 20-22, 2026: Pueblo County** (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloading, Western Heritage, Hunting and Outdoor Skills)
- ⇒ **March 27-29, 2026: Garfield County** (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloading, Western Heritage)

NEW Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Recertification Training:

- ⇒ **April 25, 2026: Morgan County** (Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloading, Western Heritage, Hunting and Outdoor Skills)

All workshops are tentative and may be cancelled or adjusted for reason including but not limited to low registration numbers, inclement weather, state health department restrictions, etc.

4-H Shooting Sports Schedule

2026 Shooting Sports Dates

| Discipline | Contact | Additional Volunteers | Shooting Practice Times | February | March | April | May | June | July | Fair Shoots |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| .22 Rifle Muir Springs 18918 CR 16, Fort Morgan | DJ Eicher 970-380-1288 | DJ Eicher Laurie Mielke Justin Lowe Stephaine Johnson | 7:30 am -11:30 am Saturdays | | April 4 April 18 | May 2 May 16 | June 6 June 20 | | | Saturday, July 11 Check-in 7:30 am Muir Springs |
| .22 Pistol - Muir Springs 18918 CR 16, Fort Morgan | DJ Eicher 970-380-1288 | Willie Johnson | 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Saturdays | | April 4 April 18 | May 2 May 16 | June 6 June 20 | | | Saturday, July 11 Check-in 2:00 pm Muir Springs |
| Air Rifle MC Fairgrounds 750 Ellsworth | DJ Eicher 970-380-1288 | Stephaine Johnson Janet Larrick Justin Lowe | 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm 1st & 3rd Thursdays | February 19 | March 5 March 19 | April 2 April 16 | May 7 May 21 | June 4 June 18 | July 9* | Sunday, July 12 Check-in 7:30 am MC Fairgrounds |
| Air Pistol MC Fairgrounds 750 Ellsworth | DJ Eicher 970-380-1288 | DJ Eicher Willie Johnson Andy Larrick | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm 2nd & 4th Thursdays | February 19 | March 12 | April 9 April 23 | May 14 May 28 | June 11 June 25 | July 9* | Sunday, July 12 Check-in 7:30 am MC Fairgrounds |
| Muzzleloading - Muir Springs 18918 CR 16, Fort Morgan | DJ Eicher 970-380-1288 | Andy Larrick | 12:30 am - 1:30 pm Saturdays | | | April 4 April 18 | May 2 May 16 | June 6 June 20 | | Friday, July 10 Check-in 5:30 pm Muir Springs |
| Shotgun - Trap Muir Springs 18918 CR 16, Fort Morgan | Paul Oliveira 970-645-2157 | Dale Chacon Jay Marshall Stefani Oliveira | 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Wednesdays | | | | May 6 May 20 | June 3 June 10 June 24 | | Sunday, June 28 Check-in 7:30 am 12710 MCR W.5 Weldona |
| Shotgun Games - Skeet 12710 MCR W.5, Weldona | Levi Dixon 970-768-1931 | Dale Chacon Andy Larrick Paul Oliveira | 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Wednesdays | | | | May 6 May 20 | June 3 June 10 June 24 | | Sunday, June 28 Immediately following Trap 12710 MCR W.5 Weldona |
| Archery - MC Fairgrounds- Mitchell Property 750 Ellsworth | Dale Chacon 970-571-3637 | Levi Dixon Spencer Famik Stephanie Johnson Chad Lorenzini Katie Lorenzini Justin Lowe Nicolle Lowe Paul Oliveira Stefani Oliveira Janie Whitney | | | | | | May 5 May 12 May 26 | June 9 June 23 | July 7 |

Youth MUST complete contest entry forms by Wednesday, June 24th, 2026
 Youth MUST participate in Interview Judging on Wednesday, July 22, 2026
 Shooting Sports Banquet, Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Judging Opportunities

Judging Opportunities for 4-H Members

Judging is a great opportunity for 4-H members to improve decision making, communication, problem solving and time management skills in a fun, team-oriented setting. Members do not have to be involved in any specific project to take part in judging programs. Some potential benefits of judging include college scholarships, opportunity to travel, personal and team awards. Check out one or more of these judging opportunities!



• Consumer Choices Judging & Consumer Bowl

Did you know that you are a consumer judge every time you buy something? Come join us and learn fun ways to become the smart and savvy shopper you know you are! In Consumer Choices Judging you will learn standards of quality for goods such as backpacks, toys, clothing, food, and much more, and then practice making comparisons. There are opportunities for Senior members of top placing teams to travel to national level contests. Consumer Choices is open to all senior 4-H members and in any project. For more information contact Katie at katie.seelhoff@colostate.edu. Practices are starting in March.

• Parli Pro

Parliamentary procedure provides a framework that encourages all members to have an equal voice in their club. The 4-H club model provides an excellent forum for youths to experience, practice, and effectively use life skills that will allow them to be successful in living productive and satisfying lives. Leading or participating in a club business meeting gives members an opportunity to plan, evaluate, discuss ideas, and set goals—all important life skills.

The members of the Morgan County Parliamentary Procedure team will compete at the State Conference in June 2026 where they will conduct a mock meeting and demonstrate their knowledge of correct Parliamentary Procedure. For more information or if you are interested contact the Extension Office at coopext_morgan@mail.colostate.edu. Practice date and time will be determined based off interest but will begin early in 2026. Also, looking for an adult volunteer to coach.

• Meats Judging

The Morgan County 4-H Meat Judging Team will begin practices soon. 4-H meat judging includes retail cut identification, judging classes of cuts and carcasses, and giving reasons. You don't have to be enrolled in a livestock project or know anything about meat or meat judging, you just need to be willing to learn. Practices will be held in preparation for the state contest held in late April/early May. If you are interested in participating please contact Marlin Eisenach at 970-542-3545 or marlin.eisenach@colostate.edu. Also, looking for an adult volunteer to coach.

• Livestock Judging

Workouts for Livestock Judging normally start in early March. Generally, the team will also compete in several county contests prior to the State contest in June, held in conjunction with the State 4-H Conference in Fort Collins. Team members will learn livestock evaluation skills for beef, goats, sheep and swine. Top placing teams have the opportunity to participate in national level contests. For further information contact Marlin at 970-542-3545 or marlin.eisenach@colostate.edu. Also, looking for an adult volunteer to coach.

• Horse Judging

Learn the basics of how to evaluate a horse shown in halter and performance as well as give oral reasons to an official judge justifying how you placed a specific class of horses. If you demonstrate a passion for horses and an eagerness to learn, this is for you. There are 4 competitions in the state to participate in. Contact the Marlin at marlin.eisenach@colostate.edu more information. Also, looking for an adult volunteer to coach.

Scholarship Information

Colorado 4-H Foundation Scholarships

The Colorado 4-H Foundation will be offering scholarships for 2026. Applications need to be completed by **March 1, 2026**. Go to: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/about-us/scholarships/> for more information.

By submitting this one application form, students will be considered for all appropriate scholarships at the University level. The online application process began on October 1, 2025. You do not have to attend CSU to be eligible for scholarships. Take time during your vacation days to see what scholarships that you may be eligible for.



CSU Scholarships

To apply for most of the scholarships offered through Colorado State University for the 2026-2027 academic year, applicants should complete the CSU Scholarship Application available online at: <https://financialaid.colostate.edu/csu-scholarship-application-csusa/>.

By submitting this one application form, students will be considered for all appropriate scholarships at the University level. Due Date: **March 1, 2026**.

Look for more information for the following scholarships in the Extension [Google Drive](#) in all weekly 4-H Updates:

- ◆ **Fort Morgan Young Farmers Educational Foundation Scholarship** The scholarship consists of one \$2,000 4-H year annual renewable scholarship or \$8,000 in total to be awarded to one individual from Morgan County. **Application Deadline: March 31, 2026**.
- ◆ **Jonathan Marr 4-H Memorial Scholarship**, One \$500.00 scholarship will be awarded annually to a 4-H Member who has been enrolled in Shooting Sports for a minimum of four years. **Due April 1, 2026**
- ◆ **Livestock Exchange, LLC Scholarship** - Applications must be received or post marked by **April 5, 2026**.
- ◆ **Morgan County 4-H Foundation Scholarship**, coming soon, **Application Deadline: April 15, 2026**
- ◆ **Morgan County Cattleman's Association Scholarship**, coming soon, **Application Deadline: April 15, 2026**
- ◆ **MCCA Two Vocational/Trade School Scholarships**, coming soon, **Application Deadline: April 15, 2026**
- ◆ **MCCA Mike Glenn Memorial Scholarship**, coming soon, **Application Deadline: April 15, 2026**
- ◆ **Colorado Association of Fairs and Shows Scholarship**, The Morgan County Fair is a member of the Colorado Association of Fairs and Shows (CAFS). CAFS is offering a scholarship to any active 4-H or FFA member who has participated in the Morgan County Fair. 4-H or FFA members who are eligible to apply for this scholarship must be high school seniors or a graduate with a minimum of a "B" average in both their junior or senior year. This scholarship can be used at any creditable post-secondary school. The application deadline is **April 20, 2026**. You can find more information and the application on the CAFS website <https://www.coloradofairs.org/p/news/scholarship>.

4-H Leader/Volunteer Information

4-H Volunteers Re-Enroll

4-H Volunteers must complete an enrollment form every year. Background checks are completed for new volunteers and can periodically and randomly be conducted on any leader. When a 4-H volunteer signs an enrollment form, they agree to abide by the 4-H Code of Conduct. Only authorized, enrolled volunteers should act as leaders and only authorized, enrolled volunteers are covered by CSU insurance.

Volunteer Requirements

Recognized volunteers may hold 4-H functions, are covered by 4-H insurance, and may serve as chaperones in the name of 4-H.

Everyone interested in becoming an Organizational Leader is required to visit with the

4-H Agent, even if you are already an approved project volunteer. If your club is dissolving or if you are considering changes in leadership, call the Extension Office at 970-542-3540.

In order to be recognized as a volunteer 4-H leader in Morgan County, all NEW leaders must

complete the following requirements:

1. Complete a volunteer application through 4-H Online and receive two positive references.
2. Complete a 4-H enrollment form through 4-H Online
3. Complete leader training
4. Pass a background check
5. Interview with 4-H Agent (All organizational leader applicants or as requested).



Colorado State University Conducts Background Checks on all Volunteers

Volunteers serve at the request of Colorado State University Extension. That request can be withdrawn for any reason, or no reason, at any time. Volunteers agree to abide by the 4-H Code of Conduct and to enforce the Code of Conduct with 4-H members they supervise.

Leaders Advisory Committee

Monday, February 16, 2026, 5:30 pm

Are you looking for a way to get involved and give back to the 4-H program of Morgan County? Offer a helping hand to Morgan County 4-H! Morgan County 4-H Funding Committee is looking for volunteers who care about 4-H and know the impact that it can have on developing youth in the way of camps, conferences, contests, trips, and workshops. LAC appropriates funds for 4-H youth and 4-H volunteers to participate in a variety of activities which are local, county, state and national. If you want to help the 4-H youth of Morgan County call Katie at 970-542-3544. **Everybody can be great! Because anybody can serve!**

Morgan County 4-H Funding Committee DBA LAC 2025-2026

Youth must participate in fundraisers in the 4-H year (Oct 2025-Sept 2026) to be eligible to receive funding from LAC for activities in the next 4-H year (Oct 2026-Sept 2027). This is done by selling 4 items of any fundraisers (butter braids, pastry puffins or peaches). If youth do not sell 4 items, **\$25 may be contributed by December 31, 2026** to be eligible for funding.

Continuing in January 2026 all LAC reimbursements will be left in club cubbies at the Extension Office and club leaders will be responsible for getting them to their members.



Premises ID

Premises identification will provide quick and accurate traceability of livestock and locations in the event of an animal health concern, which will help maintain the health of all Colorado livestock. For this program, a premises is defined as a location or site where livestock are born, handled, housed, managed, marketed, processed, or exhibited. Premises ID is managed by the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

For the 2025 – 2026 project year, 4-H members with livestock projects (beef, dairy, goat, horse, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbit) are strongly encouraged to obtain a Premises ID. It is required to exhibit at the Morgan County Fair and

Colorado State Fair. It is also required for other livestock shows.

If you don't already have a Premises ID, you can obtain one by going online to Colorado Location Identification (LID) Registration Form at <http://col.st/tzSZP>.

Animal Care and Housing Form

All 4-H members with animal projects will be required to have a completed, signed and approved animal Care and Housing Form for Colorado 4-H Livestock Projects form on file at the Extension Office. This form will be provided in two ways:

1. 4-H online for those that have their animals at their place of residence and
2. on our 4-H Website <http://morgan.extension.colostate.edu> for those that have their animals some place other than their residence.

If your animal project is housed at your place of residence you filled out this form while filling out your paperwork during the enrollment process online.

If your animal project is not housed at your place of residence then you will need to go to our 4-H Website, print the Animal Care and Housing form and fill out both sides of that form and turned back in to the Extension Office yearly by the Primary Care date. This gives us additional information about your specific situation and helps with the approval process. Please give us detailed information or we will send them back for you to adjust your comments.

Talk to your club leader, or contact Marlin at 542-3543 if you have any questions.

MQA Certification/Recertification Program

Public confidence in our meat products is extremely important to the success of the livestock industry. Youth livestock projects play an important role in building or losing the trust of our consumers. It is important that youth livestock exhibitors exceed the standard in producing quality, defect-free livestock for our consumers.

These self guided workshops allow for hands on learning and experience. There will be different stations pertaining to the 10 Good Production practices set up at each location and you will have the chance to observe and learn with real supplies and equipment. Allow yourself one hour. Parents please attend with your youth under 14 years old.

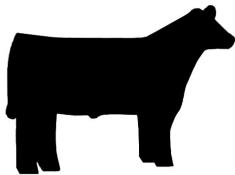
The Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) dates for Morgan County will be **May 11 and 12**, between **4:30-6:30 p.m.** at the Morgan County Fair Grounds, 4-H Building. **If you are new to 4-H livestock projects, you are required to participate in the training the first year of your project. You will need to recertify when you are 14 years old as of December 31, 2025.**

Livestock projects that require MQA training include: **beef, dairy cattle, goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep, and swine.**

If you haven't met this requirement, you will not be eligible to show at the Morgan County Fair.

For anyone interested in showing at national shows or out-of-state shows, double check the show's Meat Quality requirements. There are some shows that are now requiring Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) or Beef Quality Assurance (BQA.) Please contact Marlin with any questions, 970-542-3543.

Livestock



2026 Beef Weigh-In/Tag-In

Option A: Attend traditional beef weigh-in on **Saturday, March 7th, 8:30-10:00 am** at the Morgan County Fairgrounds. Bring your paperwork for the Brand Inspector at no cost. All information collected at weigh-in will complete the process.

Option B: Exhibitors can pick up ID forms, tags and DNA hair sample envelopes at the Morgan County Extension Office. Tag applicators are available to borrow, but must be returned asap. You must arrange a brand inspection with the Brand Inspector at your own expense or can bring cattle to the weigh-in for brand inspection at no cost. Turn in ID forms, DNA envelopes and Photos to the Morgan Extension Office no later than **Monday, March 9th, by 4:00 pm**.

***Anyone wanting to enter Rate-of-Gain contest must weigh in on Saturday, March 7th, 8:30-10:00 am at the Morgan County Fairgrounds.**

ID Forms, DNA Envelopes and Photos Due: March 9th, by 4:00 pm at the Morgan Extension Office.

- Exhibitors can pick up ID forms, tags and DNA hair sample envelopes at the Extension office. Tag applicators are available to borrow.
- A quality readable picture of the Morgan County tag in the animal's ear must be included with ID form.
- You must arrange a brand inspection with the Brand Inspector at your own expense or brand inspection at no cost can be obtained at the non-mandatory weigh in for Rate-of-Gain contest on **Saturday, March 7th, 8:30-10:00 am** at the Morgan County Fairgrounds.

Livestock Sale Information

The information is available in our weekly 4-H Updates and at: <https://col.st/n6aty>

Livestock Clinics/Shows/Workshops

The information is available in our weekly 4-H Updates and at: <https://col.st/juyr3>

4th Annual Showdown on the Plains

Cattle Show

January 30 - February 1, 2026

2 Rings- Heifers show Saturday, Steers show Sunday

Bank of Colorado Pavilion, Phillips Co. Fairgrounds, Holyoke, CO

Check them out on Facebook for updates.

Colorado State Fair

Beef nominations are due to the Morgan County Extension Office by **April 1, 2026**. The tentative 2026 livestock schedule can be accessed at their website: www.coloradostatefair.com. You are encouraged to visit the website for a complete listing of rules.



Horse Project

There will be a Horse Project Organizational Meeting on **Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 6:30 pm** at the Extension Office. All horse project members and parents are encouraged to attend.

2026 Livestock Information

Identification and Weigh-In Dates 2026

All ID's must be turned into the Extension Office by 4:00 pm on the due date. ID forms can always be accepted early.

| Species | Primary Care Begins | Optional Weigh-In | I.D.'s by 4:00 pm |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Market Beef | March 9 | March 7 | March 9 |
| Horse | May 1 | | May 1 |
| Dairy Cattle | May 1 | | May 1 |
| Breeding Beef, Goats, Sheep and Swine | May 1 | | May 1 |
| Market Swine | May 4 | | May 4 |
| Market Goats and Sheep | May 4 | May 2 | May 4 |
| Breeding Rabbits & Poultry | June 1 | | n/a |
| Market Rabbit-Single Fryer | June 25 | | June 25 |
| Pen of Meat Poultry | June 25 | | June 25 |

2026 Morgan County Fair

The 2026 Morgan County Fair is **July 24th through July 30th**. The Junior Livestock Sale will be held on **Thursday, July 30th**.

FAIR SCHEDULE & RULE CHANGES

Beef

- Show to start at 9:00 am.
- Neck ties required.

Swine

- Weigh-in 8:00 - 9:30 am
- Can be shown with powdering, painting and coloring agents.

Livestock Sale to include

- Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Chickens, Market Rabbits and Market Poultry (Turkey's & water fowl)

Horse

- Ranch Horse Level 2 Contest with cow work will show as one age group.
- Ranch Horse Level 1 Contest without cow work will show as one age group.



2026 HORSE ID'S

Due May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm.

All Members with Horses are required to fill out ID's in 4-H Online, yearly. Three views of Horse are required.

If you identified a horse last year, you must activate each animal account.

Primary Care of Horses begins **May 1, 2026**. This includes leased horses.

Check with Marlin if you have questions.

2026 Livestock Information

2026 Livestock Information

| Species | Beginning Primary Care/ID's Due | Vet Check in Transit | Enter in Barn | Weigh-Ins after Vet Check & Entry | Weights | Show Date and Times |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Western and English Horse | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | Saturday, July 18th, 7:00 am | N/A | N/A | N/A | Saturday, July 18th, 8:30 am |
| Gymkhana Horse | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | Sunday, July 19th, 7:30 am | N/A | N/A | N/A | Sunday, July 19th, 8:30 am |
| Ranch Horse | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | Tuesday, July 21st, 7:30 am | N/A | N/A | N/A | Tuesday, July 21st, 8:30 am |
| Breeding Poultry | Primary Care June 1, 2026 | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 7:30 - 8:30 am | N/A | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 8:30 am |
| Market Poultry | by 4:00 pm | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 7:30 - 8:30 am | 7:30 - 8:30 am | Variety on Species | Friday, July 24th, 8:30 am |
| Breeding Rabbit | Primary Care June 1, 2026 | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 7:30 - 8:30 am | N/A | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 10:00 am |
| Market Rabbit | June 25, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 7:30 - 8:30 am | 7:30 - 8:30 am | 3.5 - 5.5 lbs | Friday, July 24th, 10:00 am |
| Single Fryer | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm | N/A | N/A | Saturday, July 25th, Immediately following the Market Show |
| Breeding Goats | May 4, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Friday, July 24th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm | Friday, July 24th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm | 60 - 120 lbs. | Saturday, July 25th, 9:00 am with Showmanship, Market Show |
| Market Goats | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Saturday, July 25th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm | N/A | N/A | Sunday, July 26th, 5:00 pm, followed by Showmanship |
| Breeding Sheep | May 4, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Saturday, July 25th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm | Saturday, July 25th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm | 100 - 175 lbs. | Sunday, July 26th, Immediately following Sheep Showmanship |
| Market Sheep | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Sunday, July 26th, 8:00 - 9:30 am | N/A | N/A | Monday, July 27th, 5:00 pm, followed by Showmanship |
| Breeding Swine | May 4, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Sunday, July 26th, 8:00 - 9:30 am | Sunday, July 26th, 8:00 - 9:30 am | 220 - 300 lbs. | Monday, July 27th, Immediately following Showmanship |
| Market Swine | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Sunday, July 26th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm | N/A | N/A | Tuesday, July 28th, 9:00 am |
| Breeding Beef | March 9, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Monday, July 27th, 8:00 - 9:30 am | N/A | N/A | Tuesday, July 28th, 9:00 am |
| Breeding Beef | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Sunday, July 26th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm | Monday, July 27th, 9:30 am | 1000 - 1600 lbs. | Tuesday, July 28th, Immediately following Breeding Beef Show |
| Market Beef | March 9, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Monday, July 27th, 8:00 - 9:30 am | Monday, July 27th, 9:30 am | 1000 - 1600 lbs. | Tuesday, July 28th, Immediately following Breeding Beef Show |
| Market Beef | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Sunday, July 26th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm | N/A | N/A | Wednesday, July 29th, 10:00 am |
| Dairy Cattle | May 1, 2026 by 4:00 pm | N/A | Monday, July 27th, 8:00 - 9:30 am | N/A | N/A | Wednesday, July 29th, 10:00 am |

National Western Stock Show

Morgan County Cattlemen, Fort Morgan Young Farmers Educational Foundation and the Morgan County Extension staff took Morgan County third graders on six days of field trips to the 2026 National Western Stock Show. This followed an agriculture lesson in the classroom with the students. In addition to the sheep shearing, students visited the Petting Zoo, Hall of Education with many Colorado agriculture exhibits, Pony Trails and the National Western nursery.

Houseplant Snip & Sip Workshop

Learn general care tips, try different propagation methods, take home 7 starts!

Registration required, \$20 Cash, Check or Card

Pay at: Morgan County Extension Office, 914 E. Railroad Ave. Fort Morgan, CO

Medium drink included.

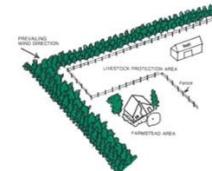
To register, call Eric at 970-542-3542 or email: eric.lovell@colostate.edu (8 person limit)

February 28, 2026 , 3-5 pm at Books on Main, 302 Main St., Fort Morgan

Cottage Food Safety Training - This training covers specifics of the Colorado Cottage

Food Act and how to safely operate a food business from a home kitchen. Participants learn food safety guidelines and the specifics for operating a home based cottage food business from a home kitchen. Participants also learn about the most current Colorado Cottage Food Act guidelines and best practices. Cost: \$40 and the next Online class available:

- ◆ **February 17**, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm, online
- ◆ **February 27**, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, online
- ◆ Registration link for all classes: <http://cottage-food-safety.eventbrite.com/>



Seedling Tree Sales

The annual sale of seedling trees has begun, and many trees sell out fast. If you would like to receive an order form please contact Eric at eric.lovell@colostate.edu.



2026 ServSafe Trainings The ServSafe program blends the latest FDA Food Code, food safety research and years of food sanitation training experience. Handlers learn to implement essential food safety practices and create a culture of food safety. Trainings are being offered through the year. Pre-registration is required by contacting the Yuma County Extension Office at (970) 332-4151.

Handlers' Trainings:

Thursday, March 5 – Sterling

Monday, April 13th – Brush *Class taught in Spanish ONLY*

Monday, September 14th – Yuma

Thursday, November 10th - Brush

Managers' Trainings

Thursday, April 21st – Sterling *English with Spanish simultaneous translation*

Tuesday, June 23rd – Burlington

Wednesday, October 21st – Akron

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

2 - Last Day to Enroll in 4-H in order to participate in the 2026 Morgan County Fair

13 - Cloverbuds Workshop, 5 - 6 pm, Extension Office

16 - HOLIDAY, Extension Office Closed

16 - MC 4-H LAC Meeting, 5:30 pm, Ext Office

19 - Shooting Sports Orientation and Safety Training, 5:30, MCFG

24 - New 4-H Family Orientation, 6 - 7 pm, MCFG, 4-H Building

MARCH

7 - Market Beef Weigh-In, MCFG

9 - Market Beef ID's Due to Extension Office by 4:00 pm

9 - 4-H Project Display Board and Scrapbook Workshop, 9 am - 12 pm, Extension Office

13 - Cloverbuds Workshop, 5 - 6 pm, Extension Office

13 - 15 Weld County Shooting Sports Leader Training

16 - MC 4-H LAC Meeting, 5:30 pm, Ext Office

16 - 4-H Council Meeting, 6:45 pm, Extension Office

19 - Annual Horse Project Organizational Meeting, 6:30 pm, EO

20 - 4-H Project Display Board and Scrapbook Workshop, 9 am - 12 pm, Extension Office

20 - 22 Pueblo County Shooting Sports Leader Training

27 - 29 - Youth Fest in Pueblo (11-13 year olds)

27 - 29 Garfield County Shooting Sports Leader Training

APRIL

1 - State Fair Beef Nominations due

1 - Jonathan Marr Memorial 4-H Scholarship applications deadline

5 - Livestock Exchange, LLC Scholarship application deadline

10 - Cloverbuds Workshop, 5:00 - 6:00 pm, Extension Office

15 - Morgan County 4-H Foundation Scholarship due, Ext Office

15 - Morgan County Cattleman's Association Scholarship due, Ext Off.

15 - Mike Glenn Scholarship due, Extension Office

20 - MC 4-H LAC Meeting, 5:30 pm, Ext Office

20 - MC 4-H County Council Meeting, 6:45 pm, Ext Office

25 - Morgan County Shooting Sports Leader Recertification Training

TBD - State 4-H Conference registration in 4-H Online

MAY

1 - Horse & Dog ID's due, in 4-H Online by 4 pm

1 - Breeding Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine and Dairy Cattle ID's due to Ext. Office by 4 pm

2 - Optional Market Goat & Sheep Weigh-in, MCFG

4 - Market Goat, Sheep & Swine ID's Due, 4:00 pm, Ext Office

8 - Cloverbuds Workshop, 5:00 - 6:00 pm, Extension Office

11-12 - MQA 4:30 - 6:30 pm, MCFG 4-H Building

15 - 4-H PROJECT ADD/DROP DEADLINE IN 4-H ONLINE

18 - Leaders Advisory Committee Meeting, 5:30 pm, Ext Office

18 - 4-H Council Meeting, 6:45 pm, Extension Office

25 - Memorial Day Observance – Extension Office Closed

Morgan County

CSU Extension

PO BOX 517

914 E Railroad Ave

Fort Morgan, CO 80701

Phone: (970) 542-3540

Fax: (970) 542-3541

E-Mail:

coopext_morgan@mail.colostate.edu

Web Page:

www.morgan.extension.colostate.edu/

Hours: Monday thru Friday

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

May be closed for lunch from 11:30-12:30.

Extension Staff:

Robin Halley - Morgan County Extension Director

Jamie Dixon-Administrative Technician

Marlin Eisenach-Livestock Agent

Katie Seelhoff-Family Consumer Science and 4-H Youth Development Agent

Eric Lovell-Horticulture/4-H Youth Specialist

Morgan County Fair Grounds (MCFG)

750 Ellsworth

Brush, CO 80723

Call 970-542-3500 ext. 1410

to make reservations

Extension Fylers



MORGAN COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

**JOIN US FOR THE
VALENTINE'S
CLOVERBUDS
WORKSHOP**

February 13th
FROM 5-6 PM
914 E. RAILROAD AVE.
MORGAN COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

FOR ALL CLOVERBUDS (5-7 YEARS OLD) ENROLLED IN 4-H

Enjoy Valentine's Day Art, Science, and Food Activities Related to 4-H Projects

RSVP THROUGH 4-H ONLINE BY FEBRUARY 11TH

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"Become The Leader You Wish To Be" Presents:

Growing The Future of Ag Leaders

Inspiring
Talks
Leadership
Workshops
Team Building

Join us for an inspiring day of workshops and talks designed to empower the next generation of leaders. Learn valuable skills and connect with peers.



Meet Our Key Note Speakers:

Dusty Johnson
District 63
House Representative

Ganah Elhemri
Colorado 4-H State President

Lucinda Mares
Colorado FFA State President

February 21, 2026
Logan County Fair Grounds
1120 Pawnee Ave. Sterling, CO

don't miss out! Register at: [\[QR code\]](#)

SCAN ME

✓ youths 4 change



MORGAN COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

2026 Seedling Tree Sales

CSU Extension in Morgan County in cooperation with the South Platte Natural Resource District is taking orders for seedling trees and plants. Orders can be submitted at any time before March 1, 2026.

For more information and to place your order contact the CSU Extension Office in Morgan County at 970-542-3542. You can also visit us at 914 E Railroad Ave., Fort Morgan, CO 80701 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information visit our website at:
<https://morgan.extension.colostate.edu/horticulture/seedling-trees/>

Or send an email to:
eric.lovell@colostate.edu

The Colorado State University Office of Engagement and Extension ensures that no person is subject to discrimination or prohibition based on their national origin in any program or service. It is our policy to ensure that reasonable steps are taken to provide timely, meaningful access, and equal opportunities to participate in programs, activities, services, and other benefits for individuals whose first language is not English. This policy includes providing oral interpretation or written translation of vital documents and other information to persons with limited English proficiency (DOL) at no cost to program participants.

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PESTICIDE APPLICATOR PROCTORING CENTER

TAKE YOUR PRIVATE OR COMMERCIAL EXAM HERE

**914 E. RAILROAD AVE.
FORT MORGAN, CO**

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON
WEDNESDAY MORNING
TIMESLOTS AVAILABLE**

when

What you need to know

- Go to the CDA website for licensing details
- Sign-ups are through Metro Institute, not through Extension
- Pay at the same time as booking your exam
- Tests are all online and in-person

Contact us for more info
970-542-3542
eric.lovell@colostate.edu

MORGAN COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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4-H GROWS HERE

Morgan County Extension
914 E. Railroad Ave
P.O. Box 517
Fort Morgan, CO 80701

**Enrollment Deadline
is February 2, 2026
to participate in the
2026 Morgan County Fair.**