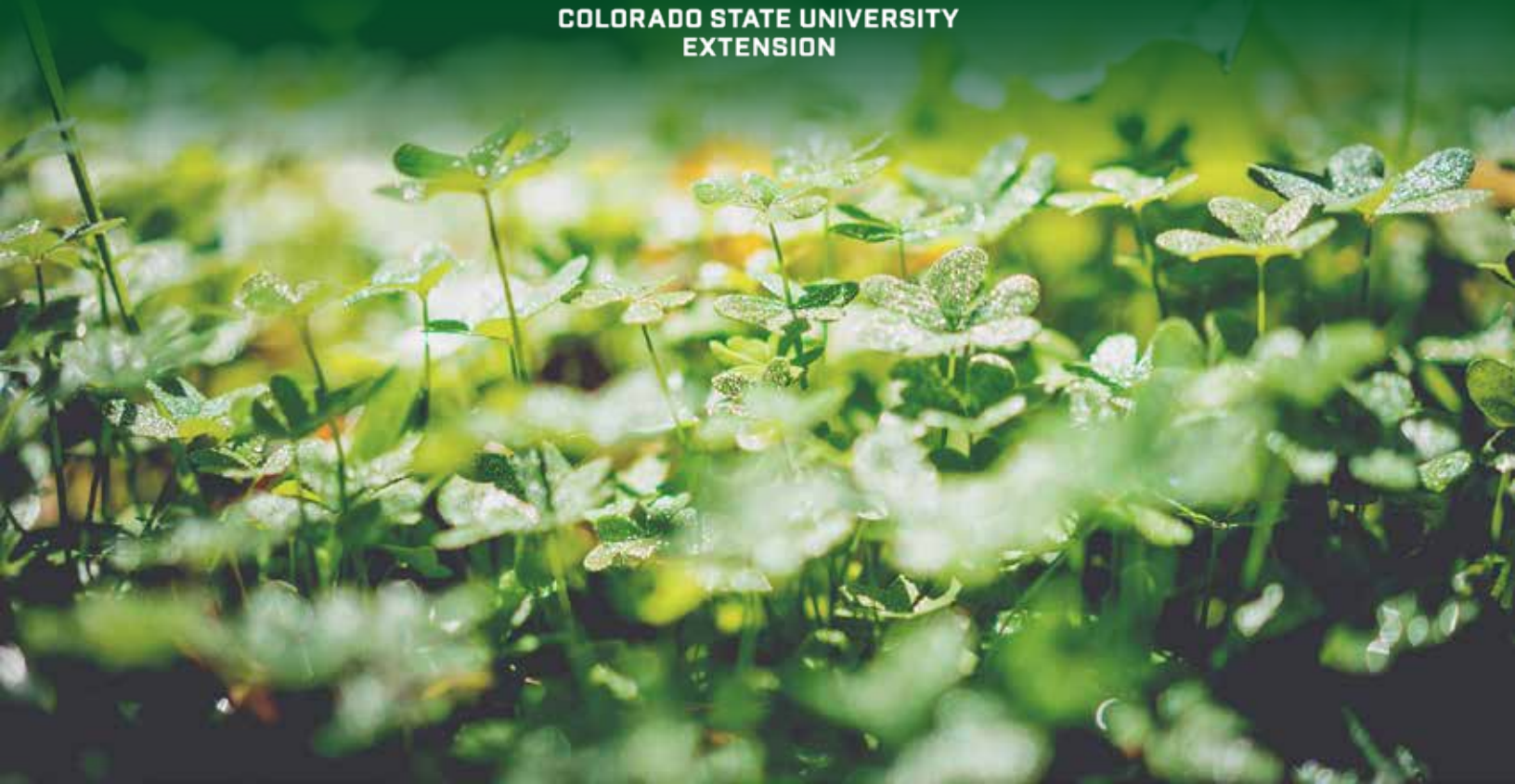


Adams County 4-H New Member Guide

2021-2022



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



The Adams County 4-H Team

We are here to help you succeed and make the best better!

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions throughout the 4-H year.



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Stay Connected

Our primary method of communication is by email. We strongly encourage you to opt-in to our e-mail list. Registration is available on our News & Events web page -

<https://adams.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-youth/4-h-news-events-2/>

This mailing list is not part of your 4hOnline account so you may use any email address and have it sent to multiple family members if you like. News and updates that happen between quarterly newsletters, important project announcements, and closures/cancellations are sent out regularly on our email service. As always we keep your privacy in mind, so this list is never shared with anyone else.

Even if you choose not to sign up for the email list all of the information is still at your fingertips. Our quarterly newsletter and "Weekly Fourcast" are available on the 4-H News & Events Page of the website. The News and Events page also has a calendar of events and the latest snapshots from our social media pages.

If you prefer to get your info via social media you can find us on Facebook (ADCO4-H) & Twitter(adco4h).



ADCO 4-H



adco4H



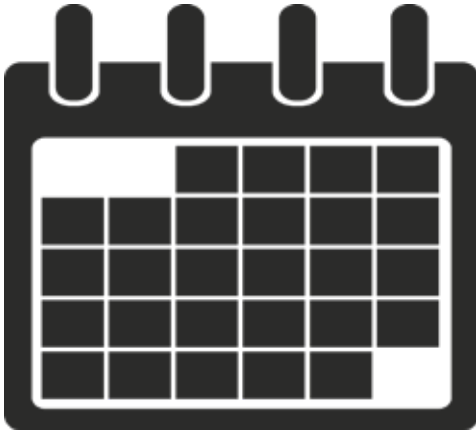
CSU Extension - Adams County
9755 Henderson Rd.
Brighton, CO 80601

303-637-8100

www.adamscountyextension.org



Important Dates



General Deadlines

4-H Member Enrollment

Enrollment is open starting November 1st. Any member that wishes to participate in club activities, team practices or hands-on project days should be enrolled through 4hOnline as soon as they begin participation. <https://v2.4hOnline.com>

- Deadline for returning members - February 1st
- Deadline for new members - April 1st
- Cloverbuds (ages 5-7) may enroll anytime
- Enrollment Fees- \$40/member

Any members that register after April 1st may still participate in club activities but will not be able to add projects that are eligible for County or State Fair.



4-H Projects

Tabletop projects may be added or dropped from an enrollment until May 1st.

Animal projects have several deadlines regarding ownership and Animal Identification. Project Tip Sheets are your go to resource for all important dates and resources for your specific project, they can be found on the Member Resource page - <https://adams.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-youth/4-h-member-resources-2/>

Adams County Fair

Many 4-H members bring their projects to the Adams County Fair to showcase all of the hard work that they have put into their 4-H projects throughout the year. *Participation in the Adams County Fair is optional and may require entry fees and additional costs that are not included as part of your 4-H enrollment.*

- Deadline for most 4-H Fair Entries - July (usually a few weeks before fair)

Specific fair requirements are posted in the Adams County Fair Premium Book. It is usually posted around May 1st and can be found online at <https://adams.extension.colostate.edu/adams-county-fair-information/>



Where Do I Find It?



Adams County 4-H - <https://adams.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-youth/4hOnline> - <https://v2.4hOnline.com>

Colorado 4-H - <http://co4h.colostate.edu/>

Adams County Fair - www.adamscountyfair.com

Fair Entry - <http://adco.fairentry.com>

4-H Mall - <http://shop4-h.org/>

State Fair - www.coloradostatefair.com

National Western Stock Show - www.nationalwestern.com

What do these funny 4-H words mean?

People

4-H Member – Any youth between the ages of 5 and 18 who belongs to a club or participates in a special interest or school enrichment project.

The types of members are:

Cloverbuds – Ages 5 to 7. They are encouraged to participate in most events, but there is no competition in Cloverbuds. Cloverbuds are activity based.

Juniors – Ages 8-10. A youth is a junior if they are 8-10 on January 1 of the current year.

Intermediates – Ages 11-13. A youth is an Intermediate if they are 11-13 on January 1 of the current year. The Intermediate age division is sometimes lumped into the Junior division. Some projects will break them out into their own age division.

Senior – Ages 14-18. A youth is a senior if they are 14 to 18 on January 1 of the current year. If they are 19 on January 1 of the current year, they have aged out of the 4-H program. They are now encouraged to continue as adult 4-H volunteer leaders.

Volunteer Leader – Adults who volunteer to work with 4-H clubs and special interest groups. Volunteers are required to complete a 4-H Volunteer Application Form, background check and take leader training before being involved with a club or the members.

The types of leaders are:

Organizational Leader – Responsible for the organization and management of the club.

Project Leader – An adult who helps 4-H members in their club learn about their specific project.

Resource Leader – An adult who helps 4-H members countywide with specific projects. The resource leader is not connected to any specific club.



Shooting Sports Leaders - Resource leaders with additional training specific to Shooting Sports. They direct all county-wide Shooting Sports events including practices, shoots and fundraisers. These leaders must complete a certified a Colorado State 4-H Shooting Sports Training.

ADCO 4-H Ambassadors - Help new families and members with transition into 4-H. They are available as a resource for new families in the 4-H program. These leaders are typically graduates of the Adams County 4-H program and are between 19 and 21 years of age.

Extension Agent – An employee of Colorado State University Extension who specializes in either Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, Horticulture, or 4-H Youth Development. The 4-H Agents are professionals that administer the 4-H program. Adams County has three agents that work in different areas of the 4-H program.



What do these funny 4-H words mean?

Activities

4-H Project – A 4-H project is a series of learning experiences for 4-H members to learn new skills or a new subject. Most projects have volunteer leaders who have knowledge of the project and are willing to assist members through their experiences. See your project selection guide for the projects offered.

4-H Year – October 1 to September 31 of the following year. Club members and volunteers re-enroll each year to remain active.

Exhibit – An exhibit is an object or display created by a member to show what she/he has learned and accomplished through their project work.

Project Literature (Manuals) – 4-H member and leader guides and other support materials are available to assist them in their project work and studies.

Record Books – A record of the 4-H member's activities and projects completed during the year. A project leader or organizational leader from the club is required to sign all record books.

Code of Conduct – The rules that each member and leader agree to follow when involved in any type of 4-H activity. Both leaders and members are required to fill out this form.

Enrollment/Re-enrollment – Member information is updated annually using 4hOnline. Both members and leaders are required to fill out the enrollment forms every year.

Weigh In/Tag In – The required day for market large animal project members to be enrolled in 4-H and get their animal tagged in. This is required in order to participate in the market large animal projects at the County Fair.

4-H Clubs

Club – A 4-H Group of at least 5 youth, one or more adults and elected officers. The club should have a business meeting once a month to discuss upcoming club and county events. Clubs may also choose to do community service projects, have project meetings, or other fun activities.

4-H Club Officers – Members of a local club elected by the membership to serve a one-year term. Elected officers most commonly consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and county council representatives. Other offices that can be included in the club are parliamentarian, historian, activity director, etc.

Parliamentary Procedure – Parliamentary Procedure are the rules that clubs use in conducting their business. These rules provide courtesy and justice for each member. They bring order to the meeting and help the club make decisions.

Bylaws – The written rules for the operation of the club. A copy of each club's bylaws must be on file in the 4-H office.



What Makes 4-H Different?

4-H is an informal, educational youth development program conducted by Colorado State University Extension. It is open to youth ages 5 to 18 years of age. Youth belong to a club that is led by volunteer leaders and take part in club activities, such as community service, educational tours and fun events. In addition to club activities, there is a wide variety of enrichment activities offered at the county, state, national and international levels.

Learn by Doing

This is the heart of the 4-H program. Rather than merely reading about things or watching others do them, 4-H members do things themselves. They compare things and decide which is best. They make things and show others what they learned.

4-H Grows True Leaders

4-H empowers young people to be true leaders. True leaders are young people who have confidence; know how to work well with others; can endure through challenges; and will stick with a job until it gets done. In 4-H, we believe true leaders aren't born - they're grown.

4-H programs hands-on approach gives young people guidance, tools and encouragement, and then puts them in the driver's seat to make great things happen. Independent research proves the unparalleled impact of the 4-H experience.

Revolution of Responsibility

4-H members are accepting responsibility for making sure they have the skills they need to live productive lives and contribute to their communities.

4-H volunteers are accepting the responsibility to mentor and guide youth on their journey to adulthood.

Together, youth and adults are working as partners to create a healthy planet, a healthy economy, and a healthy population.

4-H Study of Positive Youth Development

Highly regarded as the first-ever research project of its kind, the 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development defined and measured positive youth development. Compared to their peers, the report shows that youth involved in 4-H programs excel in several areas.



4-H'ers are...

4X

more likely to give back to their communities

2X

more likely to make healthier choices

2X

more likely to participate in STEM activities



4-H'ers participate in



5M
ANNUALLY
SCIENCE PROJECTS



2.5M
ANNUALLY
HEALTHY LIVING PROJECTS



2.5M
ANNUALLY
CITIZENSHIP PROJECTS

The Path to Success

Like anything in life, 4-H has a learning curve – learning what terms mean, when things happen, and what to do. We hope that your first year is a very enjoyable and educational experience for the entire family. The goal of Adams County 4-H is to make 4-H as user friendly as possible. However, we realize that all of the moving parts and project requirements in 4-H may be a little intimidating, so here are some helpful hints to make the next year a little easier.

Stay Informed

The Adams County 4-H office uses several online tools to keep our members and leaders informed. The Fourcast newsletter is the main method of communication between the Extension Office and the 4-H families. It contains important information about upcoming events, deadlines, activities, workshops, and much more. You can opt in to have it emailed directly to you. We also post information on Facebook, Twitter & Google Calendar. Even if you do not have social media accounts you can access all of those posts on the 4-H page of our website - <https://adams.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-youth/>



Ask Questions

Whether you are a new 4-H family, or have been in the program for years you will have questions from time to time. Ask your leaders, ask other parents and most importantly - feel free to ask the 4-H Staff at the Extension Office. We are here to help you, so don't be afraid to ask your question!

Keep A Calendar

This calendar will serve as the history of what was done in 4-H for each member. Write down events attended, activities participated in, demonstrations, community service activities, and any project related information. This information can help you fill out record books and complete your projects. This will help reduce the stress and anxiety for your family when trying to remember what was done!

Club Participation

Club meetings are an opportunity for your family to meet other 4-H families and to have a support group that will help you learn the ropes of 4-H. Through club meetings, youth learn leadership skills, teamwork skills and make new friends. For parents, the club meetings are a chance for you to learn what you can do to support your children in 4-H. There are several 4-H clubs in Adams County and they all have their own unique personalities. If your current club isn't a good fit don't hesitate to contact another club or the 4-H office to try and find a better fit.

Be Involved

Like anything else, the more you put into 4-H, the more you will get out of 4-H. Take advantage of the workshops, events, and activities that are offered by your club and on the county level. Not only will they help you to understand more about the 4-H program, but they will also open doors to greater opportunities.

Don't Wait Until the Last Minute

Most of the projects in 4-H take months to complete and have different deadlines along the way. Plan to keep projects up to date and be aware of any deadlines. If you are having difficulty contact your leader or 4-H Agent before the deadline approaches so they have time to help you succeed. If you don't make a deadline please understand that your leaders and 4-H Agents cannot change the rules for your family without changing the rules for the entire county. This could mean that you may not be able to participate in a desired project area, so don't wait until it's too late!

A Little Courtesy Goes a Long Way

Be respectful, thoughtful, considerate, cooperative and friendly in your behavior regardless of whether you do well or not, or whether you win or lose. Regardless of the outcome thank your parents, volunteers, program organizers, sponsors, judges and others who have helped you.



4-H Pledge

I Pledge

My Head to Clearer Thinking
My Heart to Greater Loyalty
My Hands to Larger Service
My Health to Better Living

for

My Club
My Community
My Country &
My World