



PUEBLO COUNTY

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION



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Extension Pathways



State Fair Fun



CSU Extension Pueblo County received a new opportunity this year to host a booth at the Colorado State Fair. Horticulture Agent, Sherie Caffey and FCS Agent, Laura Griffin collaborated on a booth held in the Creative Arts Building. Information was provided on food preservation techniques, proper chile pepper processing, gardening, pollinators, and Extension in general.

Master Gardener volunteers were on hand to answer any specific gardening questions from the public. Giveaway items with the office phone number helped to attract the crowds and let the public know the many ways that Extension can help them. The booth also featured activities for kids that taught them about pollinators and plant germination.

Over the course of the fair, contact was made with over 2,000 people and hundreds of informational factsheets were distributed. The booth saw many Pueblo County residents, as well as those from around the state and even across the country.



MyPI- Youth Preparedness Initiative Comes to Pueblo County

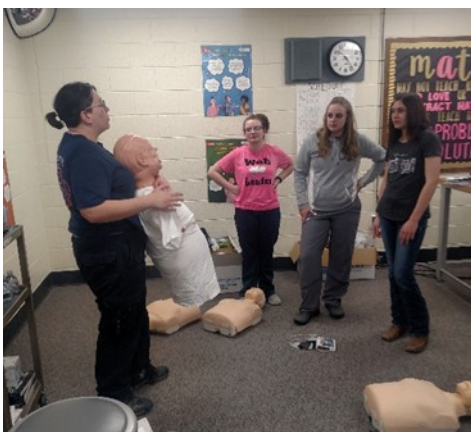
My Preparedness Initiative is a youth disaster and emergency preparedness program that educates teens to not only help themselves but also those around them in emergencies. MyPI began in Mississippi in 2013 and has since been implemented in numerous states with Colorado being the 18th state to adopt it. Since its inception, MyPI has received multiple national awards in youth preparedness from FEMA and other agencies.



Ag and Natural Resources Agent, Tom Laca, partnered with Craver Middle School this year to bring this program to local students. Eight teens signed up to take the class as part of the school's "intensives week" in which students sign up for their choice of classes then spend the week learning about specialized subjects. During this week long course students learned about disaster preparation, response and recovery. The course included Teen CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) certification, CPR and AED instruction and the completion of an emergency supply kit and communication plan for not only their family household but also six others.



While classroom time is a large part of the instruction, there was also some great hands on opportunities. With the help of Rye Fire the class was able to get hands-on training in the use of a fire extinguisher to suppress small fires. Beulah Fire and EMS provided an instructor to teach CPR and AED use. Students were also able to practice rescue techniques and first aid procedures. Finally, mock disaster scenarios were presented and the students were asked to fill the roles within the incident command system to insure a smooth and effective response was made.



The class was well received and many of the students stated that they now had an interest in possible careers in emergency response. Keep watching as we continue this program in Pueblo County.



MASTER GARDENER

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION



Apprentice Master Gardeners training on tree diseases.

Currently, the CSU Extension Horticulture program is getting ready to onboard a whole new group of Master Gardeners. Colorado Master Gardener volunteers are trained in research-based horticulture by CSU Extension staff. Trainees, referred to as Master Gardener Apprentices, receive ten weeks of online and in-person education that prepares them to educate the public on all things gardening.

Once training is over, Apprentice Master Gardeners are out in the public volunteering at events that allow them to spread their newfound knowledge. These volunteers will do fifty hours of volunteering before late October, which means a lot of people will become educated by the Master Gardeners! After year one, the Master Gardeners continue to volunteer 24 hours per year educating the public. They also take 12 hours of continuing education so that they can stay up to date on the most current horticulture research.

The CSU Extension office also has an option for green industry folks, where they can take the training to further their knowledge with no volunteer commitment.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2020 training class. CSU Extension is looking forward to training new volunteers so that we can further assist the residents of Pueblo County with their horticulture questions.



Master Gardener Kata Schmidt teaching a class on container gardening.



PUEBLO COUNTY

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New Staff Welcome!

Upcoming Events

For details, call 583-6566 or visit
<http://pueblo.extension.colostate.edu>

Family and Consumer Programs

- Preserving the Harvest food preservation class series:
 - Fermenting, Oct. 30, 1:00-4:00pm or 6:00-9:00pm, \$10.00. Registration deadline 10/23.
 - Freezing and Dehydrating, Dec. 13, 1:00-4:00pm or 6:00-9:00pm, \$10.00. Registration deadline 11/6.
- Foods Safety Training for Cottage Foods Producers, Fee \$40.00, 2020 dates to be determined.

Horticulture Programs

- 2020 Colorado Master Gardener Training – Applications being accepted now through Nov. 22, 2019– visit pueblo.extension.colostate.edu for more information.
- All Pueblo Grows Seed Library, collecting and packaging seeds, last Saturday of every month starting in January, Rawlings Library, Thurston Room, 1st Floor.
Visit: allpueblogrows.org
- Save the Date- Spring CMG Plant Sale - May 11, 2019.

4-H/Youth Development

- Ongoing Club and County Programs
- Currently enrolling new and return members. Returning member deadline– Dec. 1; New member deadline–Feb. 1

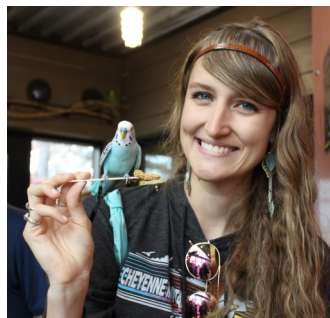
EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Program)

- Nutrition classes– Ongoing–call for schedule

Ag/Range/Natural Resources

- Site visits and consultations– Ongoing, upon request

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Welcome Jennifer Johnston, Extension Agent, 4-H and Youth Development

Jen is a former 4-Her born and raised in Pueblo County, where she participated in the Pueblo County 4-H program. After high school, she attended Colorado State University – Pueblo and earned her Bachelor's

Degree in English, with minors in Professional Writing and Leadership. Pursuit of her Master's Degree led her to Denver, where she became a three-year AmeriCorps member in CSU Extension in Denver County. She was also employed through the Denver Parks and Recreation Social Enrichment program and helped develop 4-H initiatives in Denver schools, libraries and recreation centers. She later earned her Masters through the University of Colorado Denver in Education and Human Development with an emphasis on Learning, and graduated in May of 2019. Jen enjoys artistic pursuits such as sculpting, photography and writing; and enjoys going to the theater, developing programs and sharing the 4-H program with her communities. Jen is excited to join the Pueblo County team, and looks forward to "Growing Green" with members, parents and volunteers alike! Welcome, Jen!!

Welcome Beth Hayes, 4-H/Youth Development Coordinator

Beth Hayes is a fourth generation Pueblo native. She grew up in Pueblo West riding horses, competing in some of the local gymkhanas and doing speech and debate contests during her high school years. She attended Colorado State University where she did her undergraduate studies in Equine Science with a focus in genetics and breeding, Soil and Crop sciences with a focus in agronomic production management and a minor in Agricultural Literacy. As an undergraduate she earned her artificial insemination certification in bovines. Beth was a member of collegiate 4H, competing national member for the agronomy club, and also participated with the on-campus Farm Bureau chapter. After college and during summers she worked at various cow calf and feedlot operations. She gained experience as an assistant trainer to top notch cutting horse trainers and reined cow trainers. She has a passion for agriculture- from livestock management, to range conservation, plant genetics and horticulture topics. During her free time Beth trains horses and competes in cow-dog trials with her 5-year-old Kelpie mix named Foxy. She is also currently attending CSU online for her masters degree.

