LA PLATA COUNTY 4-H Friday Update

May 15, 2020

In response to all COVID-19 adjustments, I will be sending out weekly updates highlighting activities and project changes each Friday afternoon. I hope you find these weekly updates helpful. Please check your email and visit the @laplatacounty4h Facebook page often.

I have a weekly “check-in” zoom meeting each Tuesday at 5:30 pm. It will be an opportunity for virtual discussions and help with your projects.

Also, as a reminder, the Extension Office is closed to the public and the staff is working remotely. Email or my cell phone is the best way to contact me. fountainaj@co.laplata.co.us or 970-749-8883

Spring & Summer Programs:

We had our CSU Extension update yesterday and they would like us to continue to not have any face to face contact for the near future.

If things continue to change in a positive direction and the local orders/restrictions continue to be lifted, then we will address face to face events on a case by case basis. Of course, safety of our 4-H members and their families are our #1 concern.

Tagging and Registering your Market Goat, Sheep & Swine:

I have mailed out tags to everyone that said they have the ability to tag your own animals. I told you to do the wrong ear in my instructions. You should be tagging the LEFT ear. However, I was then contacted by people that have their scrapie tag in the lift ear. If that is the case, Lorene said to tag the right ear with the one I sent you. In the end, if you tag the wrong ear, no worries.

Next, we are asking that everyone register their market goat, sheep & swine online at www.Colorado.4 honline.com by June 1st. This is the same place that you register for 4-H so you will use your same email and password. I have attached the information to upload and instructions to the Friday Update.

I am more than happy to register your animals for you. Please send me all of the information & photos by May 29th.
Upcoming Meetings:
Weekly Check-Ins – Every Tuesday at 5:30 pm. I will be available to you on Zoom, in case you have questions, want to talk or need help with your project.
Please join me at: https://zoom.us/s/98960223747 Password: 3141592

June County Council Meeting is Thursday, June 4 at 7:00 pm
Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/5014276566 Password: 8675309

Upcoming Deadlines:
Market Goats, Sheep & Swine tagged and registered on 4honline by June 1st – Instructions have been emailed out and are attached to the Friday Update email.

Meat Quality Assurance (M.Q.A) is due by June 1st – Complete the 4-H M.Q.A PowerPoint (attached) and do the online test for your age group.

Juniors (8 to 10 yrs. old) https://4hcouncil.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5yEeOCFhL9bi9qR

Intermediates & Seniors (11 to 18 yrs. old)
https://4hcouncil.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1HoWafXxkloHbPT

Last day to drop projects is June 1st - If you need to drop a project, you can go online to www.colorado.4honline.com or email Angela and I will update your projects for you.

Canceled Events:
Spring Fling Horse Show & Gymkhana, May 16 & 17 – is canceled.
Friday Night Lights Gymkhana, June 12 – is canceled
State Conference, June 22-26 – is canceled

La Plata County Fair
The La Plata County Fair Board had their meeting last night and they have agreed that there will be a Fair this year. It may not look like our normal fair, but all of our 4-H/FFA members will be able to showcase their projects and animals in one way or another.
Here are the options that we are working on:

- Plan A: We have a fair at the La Plata County Fairgrounds. This is best case scenario, where we have a lot of the same activities (Derby, BBQ, Carnival, etc.) – We are all aware that short of a miracle, this will not happen. Depending on group size restrictions, we will change the schedule to reflect that.

- Plan B: We will have member & parent only events at the Fairgrounds. Livestock shows would be where you trailer in and out on the same day. Each species would be on a separate day, so we lower our group numbers. General Projects will be where you drop off your projects at set times on separate days.

- Plan C: Is Plan B but out at the Old Fort in Hesperus. This is the backup plan if we are not able to have our events at the La Plata County Fairgrounds (due to testing or emergency situations).
• Plan D: Everything is done virtually. Interviews, project judging, tests, contests, livestock shows & auction.

*There is a chance that our fair will end up being a mix of in person and virtual. I am telling you all of this because I want you all to be assured that we are thinking of multiple options and that we will do our very best to make this year a success. The Fair Board and I agree that we need to showcase our youth and all of your accomplishments throughout this year.

La Plata County Fair Theme:
The Hanhardt family suggested the winning theme for the fair this year: “The Show Will Go On”.

La Plata County Fair Camper Space Sign up:
The Fair Board changed the date for signing up for camper spaces to July 1st.

State Fair Nominations for Goat, Sheep & Swine:
In a normal year, we have you fill out a nomination form then we do a retinal scan of your animal at the tag in. This year, in place of the retinal scan, the State Fair is requiring DNA tests.

So, it will become a 4 step process to take your goat, sheep or swine to the state fair:
1. You will fill out the attached nomination form for your animal and get it back to me by May 29th.
2. On June 1st, you will go online to https://www.coloradostatefair.com/events/2020/mkt-animal-nomination and order your DNA sample envelopes (yes, they are asking for DNA samples for swine as well).
3. Mail your DNA samples to the State Fair Office by July 1st.
4. Fill out entry forms online or mail them to the State Fair Office by August 1st.

Please let me know if you need help with this process or have any questions.

Congratulations to our Higher Education Scholarship Winners!
Taylor Jenkins
Clay Sanburg
Sydney Brown
Madison Mortimer
Each member will receive a $500.00 scholarship to go towards furthering their education in the Fall.

Homemade Masks are needed for our community:
Many community members don’t have access to facemasks or the ability to make them. The La Plata County Emergency Operations Center is looking for people to make masks to be handed out to people in need. If you are able to sew masks, please let me know. The more people we can help, the better.

Community Members looking to purchase meat from 4-H families
I have been contacted by many community members that want to purchase meat from 4-H families instead of the grocery stores. If you have any animals that are ready to sell now, please let me know and the price per pound.
Virtual Adventure Activities
We will have virtual activities this year.

June 8th to 12th – Virtual Horse Camp
June 8th to 12th – All About Animals
June 10th – Painting Party! We will all get together on Zoom and paint a beautiful butterfly. All ages and skill levels are welcome.
June 15th to 19th – STEM Week! This will be really fun week of learning STEM and will include some outside activities.
June 22nd – 26th – Art Camp

Record Books and Exhibit Requirements for General Projects:
All record books & exhibit requirements for general projects are available on our website: www.laplatacounty4h.org If you have any questions about your record books or projects please contact at me at 970-749-8883 or fountainaj@co.laplata.co.us

Virtual Opportunities:
People from all over the State have been making fun videos and posting them to our CSU 4-H website. Some videos are project related and others are STEM related. http://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/colorado-4-h-online-virtual-engagement-resources/

Dog Trainings – Boulder County has been doing a lot of fun dog videos, trainings and virtual shows. You are more than welcome to join a virtual event or watch the trainings at your own time! https://boulder.extension.colostate.edu/4h/dog-virtual-training/

STEM activities - https://4-h.org/parents/stem-agriculture/youth-stem-activities/
Masters of Beef Advocacy

Become a strong advocate for the industry

The Masters of Beef Advocacy (MBA) course is a Beef Check-Off funded program that consists of five lessons in Beef Advocacy. Advocates will understand the Beef Lifecycle, from pasture to plate.

Course is offered May 16, 2020 at 10am via Zoom

To register visit: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjuud- cvqjovgnmsxitcayogyxvrr8uciiikk

Colorado State University Extension