

CSU Extension Food Systems Newsletter

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107TH EDITION

APRIL 2019

Welcome to the **107th edition** of the Colorado State University Extension Local Food Systems newsletter. As a key resource connecting our CSU team with local and state partners about events, news and opportunities, we are committed to building a stronger network of those who work on systems-based issues. This newsletter is one way to build that network. You can help us be better connected in two ways:

- **Forward** this newsletter to anyone with an interest in local food systems and CSU's programs in this area and tell them they are welcome to contact us so we can add them to our mailing list.
- **Send us** any events and news from your organization and other partners so that we may share them with our growing readership!

To assist our readers in finding information, events and programs we may have presented in the past, you can find old issues at: <http://foodsystems.colostate.edu/extension-outreach/local-food-systems-newsletter/>.

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CALL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS: COLORADO TOURISM

Destination Development in Colorado is looking to further incorporate rural tourism in Colorado for the upcoming fiscal year. They are looking to hear about any notable attractions, restaurants, or events that relate to rural tourism in Colorado. For example:

- Do you or any of your partners have any major upcoming anniversaries?

- Are you aware of any new tours, attractions, lodging properties, notable restaurants etc. scheduled to open in the upcoming year?

If you have any questions, please email Dawn Thilmany (dawn.thilmany@colostate.edu) or send suggestions directly to Jill Corbin at Colorado Tourism [here](#).

CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS: FEDERAL-STATE MARKETING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) offers grants with a one-to-one dollar match to assist in exploring new market opportunities for U.S. food and agricultural products, and to encourage research and innovation aimed at improving the efficiency and performance of the marketing system.

All applications must be received by ***Friday, April 5th, 2019 at 11:59 pm.***

In addition, the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service will be hosting a teleconference on Thursday, February 28th, at 1:00 pm to provide resources to help write the application. To register, please contact [Martin Rosier](#).

For more information, please click [here](#). To apply, please click [here](#).

CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS: WESTERN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION (SARE)

SARE's mission is to advance—to the whole of American agriculture—innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education.

The 2020 Call for Research and Education Pre-Proposals is posted, and pre-proposals are due in May 2019. These projects can take place over 1-3 years and have a budget of up to \$350,000, but must involve scientists, producers, and others using interdisciplinary approaches to address issues related to sustaining agriculture

Following scrutiny by a technical review panel of scientists, agency personnel, producers, and others, presenters of the best pre-proposals will be asked to submit full proposals, due in November 2019. Full proposals will undergo technical review in January 2020, and the Western SARE Administrative Council will select proposals for funding in March 2020.

For more information, please click [here](#).

GRANT: IMPROVING COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS

To ensure we are bringing health in reach for all Coloradans, the Colorado Health Foundation (CHF) is opening funding for [Improving Community Food Systems](#), which is designed to support coalitions with developing implementation plans focused on strengthening local food systems.

This funding opportunity will support a nine-month planning process aimed at addressing one or both of the following [Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger goals](#):

- Goal 2: Increase the number of Coloradans who can access affordable, nutritious food in their communities

- Goal 3: Increase the number of Coloradans who can access food assistance and nutritious food through community-based organizations

CHF funds programs and projects that reflect [our cornerstones](#), which outline who we serve, how our work is informed and our intent to create [health equity](#). These cornerstones will help bring health in reach for all Coloradans by strengthening bodies, minds and communities in the fight against unfair and avoidable differences in health.

Before You Apply:

1. Learn more about [this funding opportunity](#).
2. Connect with a program officer to discuss ideas for your program or project by [email](#) or phone at 303-953-3600.

Sign up for our [grants management system](#) and apply for funding by 5 p.m. MDT on **June 15, 2019**.

EVENT: ONLINE LAND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Land Stewardship badge program was developed in partnership between CSU Online and CSU Extension, and includes seven courses, each designed in recognition of our collective responsibility to retain the quality and abundance of our land, air, water and biodiversity, and to manage resources in a way that protects and conserves their value.

Participants will gain a better understanding of the available natural resources, how to cultivate them sustainably, and build an effective long-term land management plan. This program has been specifically developed for Colorado's arid west soil and climatic conditions, providing the learner with more localized land strategies. Courses in this program are now open and available for registration.

Courses include:

- [NRBB 1021 – Stewardship Planning – Inventory Resources \(Trek Badge \\$40\)](#)
- [NRBB 1022 – The Basics - Soil \(Trek Badge \\$50\)](#)
- [NRBB 1023 – The Basics - Water \(Trek Badge \\$50\)](#)
- [NRBB 1031 – Management of Forage Plants \(Trek Badge \\$50\)](#)
- [NRBB 1032 – Management of Invasive and Noxious Weeds \(Trek Badge \\$50\)](#)
- [NRBB 1043 – Management of Wildlife in Colorado \(Trek Badge \\$50\)](#)
- [NRBB 1044 – Emergency Preparedness \(Trek Badge \\$50\)](#)

Courses are ***now open*** and available for registration.

EVENT: ONLINE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN AGRITOURISM MANAGEMENT

The time has never been better for those interested in agritourism to provide leadership to this sector, as U.S.-based agritourism revenues topped \$2 billion dollars in 2012. Beyond farm-based activity, communities and community development practitioners in rural areas can benefit from rethinking how to grow tourism to their areas with a focus on food and agriculture. To augment workshop programming CSU has done in this topic area, we have now developed Colorado State University's Online Graduate Certificate in Agritourism Management that includes six courses and can be completed completely online (within one year or over several semesters).

Courses in this program are now open and available for registration through CSU Online, and individual courses are available if an individual is not interested in the full certificate.

For more information, or to register, please click [here](#).

EVENT: FOOD SAFETY TRAINING FOR COLORADO COTTAGE FOODS PRODUCERS

Learn how to safely produce food from home for a cottage food business. Courses cover a variety of topics that include but are not limited to:

- Basic food safety (proper hygiene, preventing cross-contamination, and temperature control for safe food preparation)
- Foods that are permissible under the updated Colorado Cottage Food Act
- Ingredient labeling requirements
- Special considerations for food preparation at higher altitudes
- Safe food sampling best practices

Cottage foods safety courses will be offered on the following dates and locations throughout 2019:

- **April 5th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Rifle
- **April 5th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Loveland
- **April 16th**, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm, Colorado Springs
- **April 24th**, 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm, Colorado Springs
- **April 26th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Longmont
- **May 1st**, Gunnison
- **May 6th**, 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm, Colorado Springs
- **May 9th**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Eagle
- **May 17th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Centennial
- **June 21st**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Longmont
- **August 23rd**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Golden
- **September 20th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Centennial
- **October 25th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Longmont
- **November 8th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Golden
- **December 6th**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Centennial

Registration: \$40.00

To register, please click [here](#).

EVENT: PRODUCE SAFETY GROWER'S TRAINING WORKSHOP

This course will provide a foundation to better understand FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and co-management information, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan. Individuals are expected to gain a basic understanding of:

- Requirements in the FSMA Produce Safety Rule and how to meet them;
- Microorganisms relevant to produce safety and where they may be found on the farm;
- How to identify microbial risks, practices that reduce risks, and how to begin implementing produce safety practices on the farm;
- Parts of a farm food safety plan and how to begin writing one.

Two more courses will be offered in Colorado this spring:

Thursday, April 4th, 7:30 am – 5:00 pm at the El Paso County Colorado State University Extension (17 N Spruce Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80905). To register, please click [here](#).

Thursday, April 9th, 7:30 am – 5:00 pm at Island Grove, at the Weld County Extension Office (525 N 15th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631). To register, please click [here](#).

Registration: \$50.00, which includes a light breakfast, lunch, PSA materials, and a certificate of completion as required under FSMA (attendees must be present for the entire course to receive a certificate).

For more information, please contact Martha Sullins [here](#).

EVENT: SERVSAFE CERTIFICATION COURSES

ServSafe is a nationally recognized program developed by the National Restaurant Association that provides food safety training, exams, and educational materials for foodservice managers.

Classes are offered the following days at the following locations:

- Gunnison, CO – **April 9th** (email Erin Durant [here](#) to register)
- Grand Junction, CO (GJ Business Incubator) – **October 8th** (Register before September 9th)
- Montrose, CO (Montrose Fairgrounds) – **November 13th** (Register before October 14th)

Classes begin at 8:00 a.m. and will conclude with testing the same day at 5:00 p.m. Space is limited, and registration is on a first come, first served basis.

For more information or to register, please click [here](#).

EVENT: SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE EXPO

Better Front Range Living...Through Science!

Join CSU Extension for a day of demonstrations, mini-workshops, and keynote presentations on evidence-based approaches to a sustainable lifestyle in Front Range Colorado. Topics include:

- Water conservation, setting up rain barrels, home energy production;
- Backyard chickens, the science of beekeeping, vegetable gardening, pollinator habitats;
- Lawn care and tree care, emerald ash borer, Japanese beetle, nuisance insects in the home;
- Best practices for food preservation, beer making, and cheese making; and
- Demonstrations on bike helmet safety, composting with worms, and much more!

While you're there, meet other local organizations that are engaged in environmental stewardship at our community booths; shop at the pop-up local cottage food market; check out the wares of home and garden vendors; and stop by the food trucks for a snack.

When: April 14, 2019 - 10am - 3:00pm

Where: 1stBank Center - Broomfield, CO

Registration: \$10 per adult. *Free admission for children and young adults 17 and under.*

Register [here](#).

EVENT: MONTEZUMA ORCHARD RESTORATION PROJECT GRAFTING WORKSHOP

Learn how to graft with the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP). Join us for this hands-on workshop and take home four heritage apple trees grafted by you.

When: Saturday, April 6th, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Where: Historic library at the Old Fort at Hesperus (18683 CO-140, Hesperus, CO 81326)

Cost: \$35.00 for MORP members, \$45.00 for non-MORP members

For more information and to register, please click [here](#).

EVENT: AGRISUMMIT

AgriSummit is a day-long event highlighting opportunities for networking, discussion and learning focused on local food production and agritourism in the Heart of the Rockies region. Held at **Salida's SteamPlant Event Center on Friday, April 19th**. AgriSummit 2019 will also include a lunch featuring local foods, an early season Farmers Market, a silent auction and a Community Open House, complete with local libations tastings, a seed swap and live music!

Who Should Attend?

- **Producers and Landowners:**
 - Interested in starting an Agritourism business as part of a diversified business model
 - Who currently have agritourism events on their land and would like to share their model or learn how to strengthen their current agritourism activities.
- **Beginning Producers** interested in learning more about resources and techniques for producing food in the Central CO Rockies region.
- **Food Enthusiasts & Community Members!** If you are interested in local food, agriculture, community resiliency, rural economies, are interested in learning more about local food initiatives and opportunities, and want to join in on the conversations, this event is for YOU!

New this Year! Join us **Thursday, April 18th** in the afternoon for a **Farm Tour** highlighting area farms, ranches and agritourism sites, followed by a **Meet & Greet with CO Commissioner of Agriculture, Kate Greenberg**. Pre-registration is required for the Farm Tour, but the Meet & Greet is free and open to the public, to be held at Soulcraft Brewing in Salida from 5-6:30pm. Kate will give an address at 5:30pm.

Where: Salida's SteamPlant Event Center.

When: April 18-19, 2019.

Registration: Thursday Tour + Friday Full Day AgriSummit – \$60; Friday AgriSummit – Full Day – \$45
Friday AgriSummit – Half Day (12-5pm) – \$30; Thursday Farm Tour Only – \$15. To register, click [here](#).

EVENT: BRANCHING OUT – GARDENING, UNIQUE CROPS, MARKETS & MORE

The University of Wyoming Extension and Platte County Master Gardeners are hosting a Specialty Crop Workshop April 26th and 27th at the Platte Valley Bank Community Room 200 16th St, Wheatland WY. Registration deadline is close of business April 19th.

The focus of the workshop is to provide an awareness of the various related crops that can be raised in the area as a part of an ongoing agricultural operation, small acreage owner, or homeowner with a large lot, or back yard. Topics to be covered: growing and marketing lavender, hops, apple varieties, introduction to biochar as a soil amendment, first grains, cut flowers, hemp, vegetable crops, things to consider when diversifying an operation. In addition, the workshop will cover food safety, marketing with social media, promoting agriculture and value added agricultural, and resources that are available for those seeking to diversify an operation.

When: April 26 & 27, 2019

Where: Wheatland, WY

Registration: Cost \$50-both days, or \$25 for 1 day. Registration Deadline April 19th. Register Register for both days through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or completing the registration form. Local information can be found on our [website](#). Call 307-322-3667 for more information.

EVENT: BREAKFAST WITH THE PROS SERIES

Join industry professionals and engage in panel discussions and networking by participating in the “Breakfast with the Pros Series”. These mini workshops will be held every quarter and cover a variety of topics including:

- Branding your product and farmers market success
- Food and agricultural tax fundamentals
- Exporting opportunities

The first breakfast will be held ***Friday, April 26th from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm*** and will discuss funding your business with speakers from Jefferson County, Colorado Enterprise Fund, and the USDA.

Where: Colorado Department of Agriculture (305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021)

Registration: \$20.00 per attendee which includes breakfast, refreshments, and learning materials

For the outline of upcoming workshops, please click [here](#). For an agenda of the first workshop on April 26th, please click [here](#). For more information and to register, please click [here](#).

EVENT: STRENGTHENING ECONOMIES IN THE WEST: COAL-RELIANT COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE

Is your county or region experiencing economic challenges due to the contraction of the coal industry? Are you seeking effective approaches to support economic diversification, workforce development, and improved quality-of-life in your community?

Join the National Association of Counties and the National Association of Development Organizations Research Foundation for a team-based challenge workshop that will convene county and regional leaders from Colorado, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. Participants will learn more about economic diversification planning and strategies, build out a diversification road-map, network with peers from across the four-state region, and engage with staff from a mix of federal agencies focused on diversification and economic resilience.

Where: Denver, CO

When: May 1st – 3rd

The community team application and more details will be made available soon. Please check [here](#) for more information or contact Jack Morgan at jmorgan@naco.org.

EVENT: LOCO FOODS TRADE SHOW

Join LoCo Foods for their 8th annual tradeshow, with over 70 vendors featuring their local products. LoCo Foods is a Fort Collins-based food distribution company that delivers local food along Colorado's Front Range.

Where: Jefferson County Fairgrounds 15200 West 6th Ave, Golden, CO 80401

When: May 7, from 11am-4pm

Registration: Vendors, register [here](#); Wholesale customers, register [here](#); Non-wholesale customers, register [here](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

To add your ideas and news, contact [Belle Parra](#).

To subscribe and unsubscribe to this newsletter, contact [Martha Sullins](#).