



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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Date: Wednesday, January 07, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM

Location: Zoom Meeting

EXTENSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Public Registration:

This is a hybrid meeting, so come in-person or join the meeting virtually via Zoom to be let into the waiting room at:

<https://larimer-org.zoom.us/j/96840436854?pwd=DzeqaRgjLTVeAPpHp08aWxLt8XcsAf.1>

Contact: Please contact Andy at (970) 498-6002 or weaklaan@co.larimer.co.us if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Call to Order

Agenda Review

Approval of Minutes

- November 5th, 2025

Board Feedback

County Commissioner Liaison Report/Comments

Information Items

1. **4-H:** (Rachel, Bailey, Britney, Roxanne)

We hosted our first 4-H Discovery Day on Dec. 23 with a total of 26 youth in attendance, ages 5-10. With the help of senior 4-H members and 4-H volunteers, the youth were able to explore 6 different project areas throughout the day, which included entomology, visual arts, home design and decor, dairy, scrapbooking, and global citizenship.

2. **Agriculture:** (Jess)

Hosting Grant, Loan, and Grow class at Ranch Event Complex on January 15th from 8:30am-2:30pm, great lineup of speakers from NRCS, CDA, Mad Ag, FSA, etc.

Working with CSU OEE Online to create a Grant and Grow CSU Online Class that producers can take throughout the year, the course will be \$35 and will hopefully open up Fall 2026

Working with Agrisolar Consulting to host the Agrivoltaic Workshop for CSU Extension and Agriculture Experiment Station Researchers on January 11th at the CSU Research station in Grand Junction, this workshop is apart of a larger CDA grant proposal to educate extension and research staff on agrivoltaics to support producers across the state.

Supporting Farm2LocalBiz with Maggie, we have 18 producers with a booth space at the event this year and are hoping to have more than 100 businesses attend the event, the event will be on Feb 5th at Block One Events in Fort Collins

I am on the conference planning committee for the Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association Conference - planning a couple of sessions on mental health, agritourism, and producer stories of overcoming challenges for the annual CFVGA conference from Feb 24-25 in Westminster, CO.

3. Community Development: (Lisa)

The Spanish Aging Mastery class ended in November, there were 10 participants who graduated. Will continue to host monthly alumni groups, hosted a holiday party in December.

Will receive \$10,000 in 2026 from the state FLT team for facilitating the statewide Civic Learning Lab on family-school partnerships in the summer of 2025. Funds will support FLT programming, including Civic Learning Labs or the full 20-week FLT session.

Will host another online 10 session statewide School Family Partnership Civic Learning Lab Spring 2026. There will be a focus on recruiting TSD families.

Have purchased pocket talks to help with interpretation.

Have continued to support the Nueva Vida mobile home park with monthly community meetings. The park has undergone major infrastructure updates and will work with the community on new rules and regulations.

4. Farmers' Market: (Maggie)

Presentation

5. Food Safety & Nutrition (Analecia)

Retail Food Safety - End of the year numbers

CFPM- 226 Total participation with 83% pass rate, 178 full class and review participation with 85% pass rate, all other participation (self study and exam only) 48 total participation with 77% pass rate. These numbers show that our full class training is still number one choice with the best opportunity to learn and retain the knowledge.

FSW 104- total participation with in person and virtual trainings

To accommodate the industry we also offered private classes, this appeals to location, full staff training or availability. We did 11 total CFPM private full class trainings, 5 of those we held in Spanish, 5 of the 11 we held at the location of the business meeting their needs for availability and accessibility. Some would be The Forks Mercantile, El Diablo, Hays Market, Cheley Camps which are recurring (3rd year in a row). For FSW we held 7 requested classes, 3 of which were in Spanish, 5 held at the location of the business meeting their needs for availability and accessibility.

Funding opportunities for the industry

LIGHTR Grant - Local, Industry, Grant, Hire, Train, Retain

In partnership with City of Fort Collins Economic Health Office and LC Economic and Workforce Development

\$10k to help food industry put owners, managers, shift leaders through the CFPM program to build their business

Health Department Vouchers-

In partnership with the LCHDE, we take some of the money from civil penalties that retail food businesses have to pay if they are late on renewing their licensing, a portion of the money goes back into the industry to help with education and training. Also to help with being compliant with the new 2022 Food Code

\$5k to help food industry put owners, managers, shift leaders through the CFPM program to build their business

Both forms of funding ideally to be spent by March '26

Consumer Food Safety-

Host our first consumer training class, Handling Food Safely for the Aspen Club in Fort Collins 7 total attended. We discussed the basics of food safety along with hosting gatherings. This time of year is especially important as everyone is getting together for the holidays to celebrate and eat! We want to make sure we keep our family and friends safe as well as our community.

Registered for MFS training, training start January 15th

Cottage Food Safety train the trainer will be conducted in the first quarter of 2026. Finishing up my training so I will be certified to teach in person training for Cottage Food.

All training for retail and consumer education are set for the 2026 year!

6. **Health & Well-Being:** (Christa)

The Senior Access Points website is no longer active as of Jan 1. The site will redirect to a web page with information about the change and a link to Larimer county Office on Aging website and resource guide.

Lexie and Christa are working with Partnership for Age Friendly Communities and Office on Aging to develop a campaign for older adults and caregivers to share information about local resources and encourage preparing for changes as we age. The social media campaign is set to run in April 2026.

Christa worked with partners in Red Feather Lakes to host a resource fair during the Thanksgiving Food Pantry at Chapel in the Pines Church on November 24th. 12 organizations offered services and resources at the event. CSU Extension provided craft activities, food/drinks, and information about 4-H programming. Walgreen Pharmacy provided 38 vaccines (mostly COVID and Flu); UCHHealth provided free blood pressure checks and information about Aspen Club; LCDHE provided well water testing supplies and general LCDHE resources; LC Office on Aging provided Answers on Aging resources; LC Behavioral Health and Health District of Northern Larimer County gave out information about mental health resources.

Radon Action Month is January and we will be providing 569 radon test kits through an online ordering form and social media campaign. We will also have a joint press release with LC Health and Environment. We have also set aside 75 test kits for Spanish Speaking residents and Christa will work with Lisa on outreach to this population.

Christa and Maggie developed a new presentation, Winter Harvest Wonders: Cooking with Colorado Produce in the Cold-Season, for the Loveland Museum's V is for Veggie exhibit. They presented to 8 community members on December 12th and received great feedback about the presentation and recipe demo. Loveland Museum staff are interested in our offerings and will let us use their space for education.

7. **Horticulture:** (Alison)

The CMG Annual Banquet was held on December 13 and we had a great turnout! Nearly 100 people attended (about 75 Master Gardeners), including Kara and Xochil from the Advisory Board. We also had all three Commissioners attend and say words. It was a really heartwarming event. In 2025, the 127 Larimer County CMGs, accomplished:

5,763 volunteer hours - valued at \$223,000 in services to Larimer County

2,087 continuing education hours

8,042 direct contacts

Other CMG accomplishments:

Donations via the Grow & Give program topped 11,380 pounds!

Evergreen Elders hosted 15 classes and over 150 participants - these all had a therapeutic horticulture focus and worked primarily with older adults facing cognitive issues

The final results of the Winter Squash Trial has been published and is available on the Larimer County Extension website; next year, the CMGs will be researching cherry tomatoes and zucchini. We'll be partnering with Douglas County to have replicate sites.

Asian jumping worm was confirmed in Denver - this is a non-native worm species that can destroy soil structure and tilth; a webinar will be held on January 29 for volunteers, the Green Industry, and the general public to learn more about the biology and potential effects of this species

Alison will be teaching at the Professional Development Institute at CSU in January; classes at the Gardens on Spring Creek and Fort Collins Nursery; and is doing four classes at ProGreen in Denver in February - she is also supporting Green School.

8. **Natural Resources:** (Jenna)

Native Plant Master Program

Introductory meetings with instructors to plan for upcoming classes and understand program goals and audiences.

Additional new classes this season: 1) Daylong - Introduction to plant identification and keying, in person at High Plains Environmental Center, 2) 3-session course on alpine flowers at Rocky Mountain National Park.

Moving Red Mountain Open Space course to Eagle's Nest Open Space, at the instructor's request.

Onboarding three new instructors/co-instructors.

Water

Introductory meetings with water professionals at Larimer County and Colorado Water Center.

Attended Buy & Dry Seminar in Fort Morgan, 12/17.

Planning to attend South Platte Basin Roundtable meetings.

Small Acreage Management

Attended Healthy Horses Healthy Lands Workshop, Management of Invasive and Noxious Weeds Class.

Planning to take CSU online classes on topics including soil, water, forage plants, and native plants to prepare for site visits beginning in spring.

9. **General/Other** (Cary)

Poudre River Fund steering committee

2025 reporting

Committee member terms

Committee Input - Trends/issues you see in the community? Questions for staff?

Staff Presentation

- Farmers Market (Maggie)

Discussion

Marketing & Communications Plan feedback

Officer Elections

1. Farmers Market Presentation

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Monthly posting of physical flyers

4-H digitizing project

Future Agenda Items

Adjourn

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Larimer County will provide reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with a disability who need assistance. Services can be arranged with at least seven (7) business days' notice. Please email us at aweakland@larimer.org or call (970) 619-6002 or Relay Colorado 711. "Walk-in" requests for auxiliary aids and services will be honored to the extent possible but may be unavailable if advance notice is not provided.

