



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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Date: Wednesday, July 03, 2024
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/93331576481>

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

Call to Order

Agenda Review

Approval of Minutes

1. May 1, 2024 Extension Advisory Board Minutes

Board Feedback

County Commissioner Liaison Reports/Comments

Information Items

1. **4-H:** (Rachel, Bailey, Britney, Diane and Diana)

We welcome Britney Filter to the 4-H Team!

Leadership Updates

Junior Jam, June 14th 2024

State Conference June 17th-21st 2024

Citizen Washington Focus June 20th-

2. **Ag & Natural Resources:** (Jess)

Agriculture

Successful Soil Health Demo Day (35 registered - Producers and Ag Specialists)

Climate Smart Future Ready Soil Health Action Committee 2nd Qrtly meeting - Intern working on actions

Working through Ag Producer Survey results into report

Creating Farm Hop with Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers Associations (4 farms in Weld and Larimer, CSU Charter Bus, 45 people, \$35 cost, Aug 17th) - registration will open June 28th

Presented at Livermore Community Townhall Meeting about Ag Heritage (resources and events that we provide for farmers/ranchers at CSU Extension)

Natural Resources

Presentation at Weed Symposium with Estes Park Land Trust

5 Site Visits May/June

Native Plant Masters kicking off to a great start

3. **Community Development:** (Lisa)

PRESENTATION

4.

Farmers' Market (Maggie)

2024 To Date Farmers Market Weekly Sales*:

May 18: \$72,837 → increase of 3.47% from 2023

May 25: \$72,708 → increase of 1.92% from 2023

June 1: \$72,054 → increase of 41.76% from 2023

June 8: \$64,327 → increase of 0.19% from 2023

Theories: storm during market, Taste of Fort Collins event

June 15: \$66,976 → decrease of 0.35% from 2023

Theory: only 80 vendors present

June 22: \$68,614 → increase of 9.13% from 2023

*sales include nutrition programs: SNAP, DUFB, Market Days, etc

*sales are underreported; as some vendors still owe checkout form data (sales data) for various market dates

Average number of customers/visitors (to date): 3,292 individuals (not children)

Recent special events:

May 18: Opening Day celebration with 3 County Commissioners present to ring bells and “open” the market

June 1: Market Days for Older Adults program, Food Bank outreach team present (more about Food Bank Bucks below)

June 8: Front Range Ballet performances at market

June 15: Pride celebration at market

June 22: Commissioner Shadduck-McNally provided storytime to children

LCFM in partnership with Food Bank of Larimer County to provide Food Bank Bucks: eligible for fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, herbs (produce); Food Bank outreach team present on first Saturday of each month at the market to give tours of the market and provide healthy cooking demonstrations as part of Cooking Matters program → must participate in tour & cooking demo to receive Food Bank Bucks

\$285 in Food Bank Bucks distributed on June 1, 2024

\$175 in Food Bank Bucks redeemed by vendors thus far

First Time SNAP customers (this year, 2024): 78 customers

LCFM also in partnership with Food Bank of Larimer County & NoCo Foodshed Project in "Veg Out" program, where Food Bank purchases unsold produce at discounted rate after each market: watch recent news about this here! #famous

LCFM in partnership with Compost Queen to provide composting service for market vendors & customers during market hours

Upcoming special events:

July 6: Market Days for Older Adults + Food Bank outreach team

July 13: fun-in-the-sun summer picnic celebration

August 10: National Farmers Market week

Two upcoming changes to market operations:

Colorado "Produce Bonus" pilot program (eHIP) → transitioning SNAP doubling onto purely electronic system; no physical vouchers will be distributed - begins August 3 at market; produce vendors will accept SNAP/EBT directly and SNAP doubling will occur automatically on EBT cards

Oak St construction project → Oak St to undergo construction for stormwater renovation, to begin July 8; market team is preparing vendor arrival plan as well as communications plan for customers

5. **Food Safety & Nutrition** (Amber & Analecia)

Retail Food Safety:

Analecia is now a ServSafe Instructor and Proctor as well- goal is to reach larger corporate groups

Analecia is also Always Food Safe Proctor - Electronic option, Spanish exam option as well (higher success rate in exam)

Goal of multiple Proctoring companies is to offer what is needed to each participant or company. Tailored to the need of the industry

CFPM- 72 total participants- 53 full class training participants

83% passing rate

FSW- 47 total participants

2 onsite requested trainings- Cheley Camps (2nd year requested), Mishawaka- first year

Setting up- sister companies of Mishawaka- new location opening as well

Working with Poudre School District to certify all kitchen managers (50 possible participants!)

Added to NOCO Hospitality Career Advancement Program- Partnering with Online Restaurant Academy with sending participants our way to complete their all around Leadership Training

In collaboration with the Northern Colorado Hospitality Sector Partnership and The Online Restaurant Academy, this comprehensive digital program is specifically designed to equip participants with the skills, knowledge, and experience needed to excel in the local hospitality industry. The course was created by local industry leaders and focuses on leadership expectations for career advancement in retail, restaurants and hotel job opportunities right here in Northern Colorado

Family Consumer Sciences

Amber received a CSU Front Range Regional Award for Outstanding Educator/Communicator

Master Food Safety Advisor Volunteers have started their shifts at the LCFM to reach consumers about food safety and food preservation information. This is their largest outreach effort of the year.

Amber is mentoring for the Extension Summer internship program. She is hosting a CSU nutrition student to learn more about Extension programming.

Amber, Christa and Lisa are partnering with a CSU Faculty member that received a \$60k grant from CSU's Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station to fund a program called Health Without Barriers/Salud Sin Barreras in Northern Colorado. The 6 week mental health, nutrition and lifestyle intervention program is designed for underserved families and will be targeted in Larimer and Weld Counties.

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

Healthy aging (Cheryl): Market Days for Older Adults started on June 1st to distribute vouchers for food-insecure participants to purchase fresh produce from our farmers' market. We have 157 participants this year. Vouchers are worth \$40. We continue to get referrals for advance care planning presentations and to provide assistance in completing the Medical Durable Power of Attorney and Living Will forms. From January - June, there were 60 people who completed their forms and 155 people attending presentations. Outreach for Senior Access Points (larimerseniors.org) is tied to the advance care planning presentations along with unique opportunities with community partners. Meals on Wheels has allowed us to insert 400 SAP magnets into their lunch meal deliveries. Cheryl won the 2024 Extending Excellence Front Range Region Award for Community /Partner Engager at the Front Range Regional Conference in late May (yay!).

Climate Smart Future Ready (Christa)- Christa is the co-lead for the Health Impacts Focus Team who is working on education and resources for Extreme Heat in the County. She has an intern who is helping to create infographic and social media materials for the county and partners to use. In addition, she was able to secure funding for 500 "Cooling Kits" that will be distributed throughout the summer targeting the most vulnerable populations to heat (older adults, infants/young children, people outside for long periods of time, and people with chronic medical conditions.). She will also be recording a podcast on June 24th to highlight the work with KRFC Community and Work.

Nature and Health (Christa)- In partnership with CSU Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the City of Fort Collins Natural Resources, we are hosting a free community event, Healthy by Nature, on July 27th 11-2pm at Lee Martinez Park. The event is an opportunity for families to learn about the many ways nature can improve our health and wellbeing. We will have a variety of hands-on learning activities, resources, and food. Christa is supervising a MPH intern, Vidusha, to evaluate the event and conduct informational interviews with stakeholder organizations on the topic of nature and health to learn about future program needs.

Social Media and Technology & Youth Mental Health (christa): Cari and Christa tried out a social media campaign directed at parents to provide education and online resources related to digital/internet influences on adolescent development and mental health. The campaign reached a total of 11,104 with a small budget of \$75. Christa hopes to expand and offer in-person education on this topic in the future with local partners.

7. **Horticulture:** (Alison)

On June 28, I taught a class with Master Gardeners and faculty in the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture for the Ram Scholars program, which supports special needs adults in learning life skills and obtaining a certificate in agriculture

In June, two classes were taught at the Chilson Recreation Center in Loveland - one was on gardening "hacks" and the other was on heat-loving perennials

In August, I will teach a class for AARP Colorado on garden herbs and we'll make herb butters - the class will be at the Extension Office

The Twilight Garden Series is held June 27, July 25, and August 29, rotating between the Gardens on Spring Creek and the CSU Trial Gardens. Extension is a supporting partner and Master Gardeners help with class coordination. Topics include irrigation, pollinators, and plants for bloom - each class is \$10.

The Master Gardeners are averaging 25-35 calls/emails each week and I am handling about the same amount through Ask Extension and direct contacts, which is an increase from last year. Common questions include plant and weed identification, tree diagnostics, turf issues, and lawn conversions.

I will attend the National Extension Master Gardener Coordinator Conference in Santa Fe, NM at the end of August; I have submitted a presentation to talk about the partnership with the Grow & Give program and the additional support Larimer County CMGs have provided with weekly updates/information and drop-off locations to make produce donations easier

Want to join Grow & Give? Register here! Donating produce? Log your donations through Fresh Food Connect.

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

New member appointments/staggering

Roles of advisory committee members

2025 Showcase - 2/27/25

BYLAWS APPROVAL - VOTE

Staff Presentation

Lisa - FLTI & Community Engagement

Future Agenda Items

Items to add now

Process for adding items between meetings

Next Meeting Scheduled

9/4/2024: 8:00am - 10:00am

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.