

4-H News to Know February 2014

Colorado
State
University

Extension

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*Custer County Courthouse
and Extension Office will
be closed on Monday, Feb.
17th for Presidents' Day.*

Communication – As we continue with the new 4-H year, we want to remind you how we communicate with you. We have a lot of important information, deadlines, requirements, new changes and most importantly, educational opportunities to make you aware of. Our primary method of communication is through the *4-H News to Know* newsletter. It would be helpful to read this newsletter every month! Please make sure your

mailing address and email address are both up to date!! On occasion, we mail letters or postcards to 4-H members', leaders' homes. Please open and ready anything you receive from our office. Finally, all things related to County Fair are communicated through the Fair Book, which is generally completed and posted on www.custercountygov.com/ext in May or early June.

Keep in mind that many 4-H contests and activities have registration forms and deadlines. These will be covered in the newsletter. We publish this newsletter nearly every month, with a few combined monthly issues near fair time and the end of year. Information to be included in the newsletter needs to be submitted to the Extension Office by the 25th of each month. If information is not included in the newsletter, but needs to be sent out, we will send out an email to all 4-H and FFA members. So please keep current on viewing your email as well.

Don't forget...if you make any changes to your 4HOnline account, you NEED TO LET US KNOW!!!!!!!

Spring Carnival - mark your calendars with the carnival date: Wednesday, March 19th from 5-7 p.m. at the multi-purpose room at school.

We will have lots of fun activities and games going on for youth of all ages. Pizza and pop will be available for purchase.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to come out for a fun time!

Meat Quality Assurance Class – all 4-H members in their first year with a market livestock project **MUST** attend a class and once again when they turn 14 or those 14 may take a written test and must pass it instead of taking the class. Those members 14 years of age with either option are: Halie Lemons and McKensie Penkoff. You must take the test before the date of the MQA class.

The following first year 4-H members must attend a class: Alysha, Brittany and Kirsten Benoit, Charlie Buchanan, Jacob Comerford, Elizabeth Mullett, Jolene Mullett, Grace Moos, and Benjamin Penkoff.

The only MQA class to be held in Westcliffe will be Wed., April 9 at 4:15 @ the Annex Bldg., OR there are several opportunities to visit the MQA trailer at several locations around the state:

Fremont County – Canon City Rodeo Grounds – April 21 or 22 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Chaffee County – Fairgrounds – April 18th from 3 – 7 p.m.

Teller County – 11122 U.S. 24, Divide – April 16th from 4 – 6 p.m.

Pueblo County – State Fairgrounds – March 20th from 6 - 8 p.m.

Park County – FitzSimmons Middle School, Shawnee, CO – April 17th – from 6 – 8 p.m.

El Paso County – Skyview Middle School, Colorado Springs – Feb. 1st – from 10:30 – 3 p.m.

If you attend one of these sessions, you must request a letter of attendance verification to be sent to the Extension Office. Please call if you have any questions.

Colorado State Fair Pork Exhibitors: All market hog exhibitors going to the Colorado State Fair need to have the up to date Pork Quality Assurance certificate for your entries. The MQA class held in Fremont County will also provide you with the PQA requirements.

Custer County 4-H Club rule: (please note the change below in bold) All elections are to be held in the 1st meeting in the calendar year (January). The 1st meeting of the 4-H year (November/December) will be run by the previous officers who are returning to their clubs. If those officers have moved on, the meeting will be run by the leader in the interim of the clubs executive board (officer team). The bylaws and officer duties will be given at the first 4-H Meeting of the 4-H year (November/December) for a 30 day review. Any changes wanted to be made to the bylaws must be made available for review 30 days prior to a vote. A discussion must be had before making such a vote. After the Bylaws have been approved no changes will be made for the remainder of the 4-H year, unless it is an avoidable necessity which must be proven to the Extension agent and met with her approval to amend the bylaws. Age requirements for officers: the President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary must **be senior 4-H age** and at least a second year 4-H member. You do not have to belong to the same club, but enrolled in 4-H for a 2nd year before running for an executive office. You must also be present at the election to run for an office and give a statement of why you are a good candidate.

Are you interested in .22 Rifle

We will be offering a .22 Rifle workshop for any 4-H members that are interested. Please call the Extension Office to get on the list.

Livestock Record Books

REMEMBER... we will **NOT** be using the electronic version of the livestock or horse record books. We have printed versions, age appropriate for all 4-H members here in the office. Only one type of livestock per record book will be allowed. We will NOT combine livestock projects. So, if you are bringing beef, sheep, swine and goats to the fair, you will need to complete four different books. You may have multiple animals in your record book as long as they are all the same type. ie: 2 pigs-1 book, 4 rabbits-1 book, 3 sheep & 2 goats-2 books. Horses will have their own type of record book as well. If you have any questions at all, please call or stop by the Extension Office.

4-H Club Meeting Schedules:

Silver Spurs - at 4:15 p.m.: Feb.13, Mar. 13, April 10, May 8 and June 12-courthouse annex.

Trailblazers – at 1 p.m.: Feb. 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 1-Mrs. Tillotson’s classroom at school.

Triple C Clovers – Feb. 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6 @ 1 p.m. in the school Great Room.

Livestock Weigh in Schedule

Market Beef – from **2-4 p.m.**(Mandatory- March 9, May 18). Optional- June 22.

Market Sheep, Swine & Goats – from **2-4 p.m.** (All are mandatory) April 27, May 18 and June 22.

4-H Project Requirements

The Custer County Fair follows the Colorado State Fair requirements on all your indoor projects. These projects are: cake decorating, ceramics, computers, entomology, foods, model rocketry, outdoor adventures, photography, robotics, scrapbooking, shooting sports, veterinary science, visual arts, , wildlife and woodworking.

The 2014 CSF requirements are posted on the State 4-H website @ www.colorado4h.org

You can find your requirements, e-records, tip sheets, score sheets, etc. on this website.

Add/Drop Deadlines

4-H members – don't forget your project deadlines: if you want to add or drop an indoor project (those judged in the home ec building) the deadline is May 1st. Livestock and animal projects, the add/drop deadline is the first weigh in date for those animals.

Horse Certificates

Horse certificates are due to the Extension Office by May 1, 2014. This certificate must be completed for each horse that you may use for your project at the county fair. Certificates may be copied from the Horse record book or stop by the office for your copies. If leasing your horse, the lease agreement must be turned in with the horse certificate.

Dog Health Certificates

Dog certificates are due to the Extension Office by May 1, 2014. This certificate must be completed for each dog that you may use for your project at the county fair. Certificates may be copied from the Dog e-record or stop by the office for a copy.

Poster Boards Available

Look no further for the correct size of poster boards for your projects. We have a supply of them in the Extension Office. Your cost is \$2 each.

Colorado State Fair Retinal Scanning/Nomination Card Requirements

All market beef, sheep and goats that will be nominated to compete at the Colorado State Fair MUST have a retinal scan done as part of the nomination process. Market beef will be done on February 1st and Sheep and Goats will be done on May 9th. The retinal scanning process will be done in Fremont County. The cost is \$5 per animal. There WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS MADE!!! You must plan to take your animals to Fremont County on these dates.

The nomination cards for market swine will still need to have the ear notches, etc. All nomination cards (for sheep, swine and goats) must be completed and submitted to the Extension Office before the June 1st deadline. Market beef nominations are due by April 1st.

Colorado Childrens' Campaign Doll Day 2014

An opportunity has come up to help decorate cardboard cutout dolls to present to our Colorado State Senators and Representatives. This event helps to remind them that kids and their families should be a priority as they make policy decisions.

We will have 10 dolls to decorate and we are looking for 4-H members to volunteer to each decorate one of these dolls. It can be done through your clubs (CLUB LEADERS... ARE YOU INTERESTED) or on your own at home. If you are interested, please give the Extension Office a call for all the details.

The dolls will be delivered in early March so there is not a lot of time. Please give us a call!

Colorado CattleWomen Youth Beef Spokesperson Competition

Would you like to:

- Have adults listen to you for a change?
- Travel Colorado to CCW/CCA events and other local and state activities?
- Practice your speech and presentation skills in a welcoming environment?
- Have an opportunity to create your own YouTube video that shows your support for the beef industry with the possibility of earning a cash prize?
- Have an outstanding activity on your resume, college and scholarship applications?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then sign up for the Competition.

Official rules and more information are available at the Extension Office or these contacts:
Sallie Miller at smiller@wigginstel.com or 970-656-3792 or Colorado CattleWomen website:
www.ColoradoCattleWomen.com

2014 NRA YHEC & 4-H Hunting Skills Challenge

Do you enjoy hunting, shooting or just being outdoors? Would you like the opportunity to enhance your skills and learn more about hunting methods, game species, hunter ethics and safety? Then this event is for you!

The Youth Hunter Education Challenge/4-H Hunting/Outdoor Skills Challenge will be held in Flagler, CO on May 3-4 at the Flagler Lake Wildlife Area.

Youth 8-20 AND their family members are invited to attend. Shotgun and archery shooting, .22 rifle and muzzleloader shooting, orienteering and wildlife identification are just some of the challenges that are waiting for you and your family.

The cost of the event is \$45 per shooter and includes all ammunition and targets and guarantees participation in all events. Space is limited to 50 shooters per day so call to get your Shooter Information Packet today! For more information call Perry Brewer at 719-349-1358 or perry.d.brewer@gmail.com

South Central District Retreat

District Retreat will be held March 14-16th at the Silver Cliff Ranch in Nathrop, Colorado. This camp is for 4-H members ages 13 and up. Registration costs are estimated at \$125 per camper. Deadline to register is February 26th.

Night Owl

The Douglas County Extension Office is hosting a Rodeo themed Night Owl camp. This is one night only, March 21st-22nd from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. at their fairgrounds. This overnight event is for ages 13-18, cost is \$10. AND you can bring your non 4-H friends. If you are interested, you must sign up Feb. 14th. Stop by for more information.

Upcoming camps:

State 4-H Conference – members 14 & up are eligible to attend this conference held on CSU campus in Ft. Collins, June 17-20th.

CUSTER COUNTY FAIR DATES...JULY 14 – 20TH, 2014

Please check out the Custer County CSU Extension website:
www.custercountygov.com/ext

2014 Public Speaking Contest

The Speech Contest is a very important part of the 4-H program—You do NOT have to come to practices, however it is recommended.

Remember—awards are presented to winners of the Speech Contest at Achievement Banquet in September.

PUBLIC SPEAKING PRACTICES

Mondays 4:15 p.m. Annex Building (February 24th and March 3rd will be in the Court Room).

Entry deadline for the speech contest will be February 28th. You do not have to be at the practices to enter the contest, but it will give you an advantage.

SPEECH CONTEST: March 6th

The 2014 Speech Contest will be held at the Custer County Court House on March 6th at 6pm.

DIVISIONS:

Cloverbuds 5-7 (participation ribbon only)

Junior Division — 8-10

Intermediate Division—11-13

Senior Division— 14 and over

All ages are based on 4-H age as of December 31, 2013

PREPARED SPEECH

The score card includes content, delivery and articulation, fluency, appearance, gestures, eye control, effectiveness, composition, speech structure, choice of words, materials and speech value.

INTERPRETATIVE READING

The reading should not be over 10 minutes. It can be one or several articles including poetry, humor, or anything appropriate for 4-H. The selection should be introduced and explained before it is presented.

IMPROMPTU SPEECH

The contestant will be given a topic and 10 minutes to prepare their speech. After ten minutes they will give a presentation on that topic not to exceed 5 minutes. This speech should include an introduction to gain the audience's attention, reasons and explanation of the subject and a conclusion to summarize.

PRESENTATIONS

Demonstrations or illustrated talks are a part of this category. A presentation is limited to 10 minutes in length. You will be allowed time to set up and take down your presentation. You will be expected to provide your own equipment. General equipment and supplies, such as tables, easel and chairs will be furnished upon request.

Contestants will receive 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place ribbons. Participant ribbons will be awarded to 5th place and below. Cloverbuds will receive a participation ribbon only. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be named from an average in each age group if merited. Senior Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Prepared and Impromptu speech will be eligible for the state contest.



SPEECH CONTEST ENTRY



Name _____ Club _____

Age (12/31/13) _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

I will be entering the following:

_____ Junior; _____ Intermediate; _____ Senior

_____ Prepared Speech Contest - Title of Speech _____

_____ Interpretative Reading – Title of Reading _____

_____ Impromptu

_____ Presentations – Title of Presentation _____

Return this application to the Extension Office by February 28th. (You may turn it in at the next group practice)

Ranching and a West That Works

April 24-25, 2014

Lory Student Center Theater—CSU

Free & Open to All

Topics Include:

Ranching in a time of less water

Sustainable grazing

The wider spectrum of ranching values

Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition

Keeping working lands in working hands



By standing on the shoulders of those who have preceded us, we will scan our horizons for the reality of ranching during these times of great change. Rather than staring at the rear-view mirror, we hope to explore the transformative ideas that ranching will pass through during this century.

For additional information go to:

<http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/WR/Ranching.shtml>



Sustainable Agriculture
Research & Education



College of Agricultural Sciences
Colorado State University Extension
Center for Collaborative Conservation
Dept. of Forest & Rangeland Stewardship



Homestead Natural Meats



Colorado Cattlemen's
Agricultural Land Trust



MIRR
RANCH GROUP
Legacy ranches & fine sporting properties

Ranching and a West That Works

April 24-25, 2014

Lory Student Center Theater—CSU

AGENDA

Thursday - April 24, 2014

- 9:00 am Opening Remarks – *Robbie LeValley*
- 9:30 am Ranching in a Time of Less Water – *Pat O'Toole*
- 10:30 am Sustainable Grazing... Adaptively! – *Grady Grissom*
- 11:30 am Wetlands, Windmills and Wapiti: The Wider Spectrum of Ranching Values
– *Andrew Seidl & Tex Taylor*
- 12:30 Lunch – On your own
- 2:00 pm The New Ranch – *Dennis Moroney*
- 3:00 pm Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition – *Alaina Pomeroy*
- 4:00 pm Rewatering the West: One Ranch at a Time – *Wendell Gilgert*
- 5:30 pm Social: Welcome – *Lou Swanson & CJ Mucklow*
University Club & Cherokee Park Room, Lory Student Center (sponsored by *Homestead Meats*)

Friday - April 25, 2014

- 9:00 am Opening Remarks – *Craig Beyrouthy (Dean College of Ag. Sciences, CSU) & Terry Fankhauser (Executive Vice President, Colorado Cattlemen's Association)*
- 9:30 am The Blackfoot Challenge: A Rancher-Led Collaborative – *Sara Schmidt*
- 10:30 am For the Good of Land and People: Keeping Working Lands in Working Hands
– *Richard Knight*
- 11:30 am Comments and Questions from Audience

Earn 9 CEU Credits from the Society for Range Management (6.5 credits first day, 2.5 credits second day)

Sponsors: Sustainable Agriculture Research Education Program (USDA), College of Agricultural Sciences (CSU), Colorado State University Extension, Center for Collaborative Conservation (Warner College of Natural Resources, CSU), Department of Forest & Rangeland Stewardship (Warner College of Natural Resources, CSU), World Wildlife Fund, Homestead Meats (Delta, CO), Colorado Cattlemen's Association, Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, Mirr Ranch Group.

Extension

January 2014 Newsletter

For back issues visit the Family Matters Web site At www.ext.colostate.edu/Pubs/fammatrs/fmmenu.html

For more information contact the CSU Extension office nearest you, or visit our Web site at: www.ext.colostate.edu

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Colorado State University,
U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating.

You Can Count On Soup!!!

Anne Zander, Family & Consumer Science Extension Agent in Boulder County

Trying to get enough vegetables into your daily diet? One of the easiest and most economic means to do that is to make soup. It is such a great comfort food especially on a cold day.

Canned soups are good in a pinch, but are high in sodium. Making your own soups can reduce sodium and increase vegetable consumption. Homemade soup helps you save money which makes it easier on your wallet.



Vegetables provide necessary vitamins and minerals to help keep our bodies healthy and energized. Vegetables also provide fiber, vitamins and minerals.

Vegetable soup bases are easy to make. Unlike what happens during stewing and frying; the vegetables, meat and poultry are cooked directly in the soup broth, conserving much more of their natural nutrients, vitamins and general essence. Soups usually contain a lot less calories than other main dishes, but aren't any less nutritious or filling.

Leftover vegetables, rice, meats, poultry, fish and beans make great soups! Fresh, canned or frozen vegetables can also be used. Dried beans are very inexpensive, low in fat adding lean protein to soups. To make your own broth, boil meat or poultry bones in water. A vegetable broth can be made from vegetable juice or tomato sauce and water.

To simplify soup making at your home, keep these ingredients on hand:

- Pasta in a variety of shapes such as stars, alphabets, bow ties or tiny tubes
- Canned tomatoes and tomato sauce
- Cooked meat or poultry which could be leftovers from another meal
- Broth or bouillon, either homemade or commercially prepared. Low-sodium varieties are best, so that soup can then be seasoned to taste
- Quick cooking pearl barley or rice
- Vegetables either fresh, frozen or leftover such as carrots, celery, peas, potatoes, onions, and corn
- Beans, either inexpensive dried beans that required pre-cooking or canned beans that can be drained and used right away
- Herbs, either fresh or dried, just keep in mind to use less of a dried herb
- Lentils, they don't need to be pre-cooked
- Canned vegetable juice to add nutrients and body

Then to complete the meal, just make a salad and add some crackers or bread.

Let's Talk

Invite children to help make the soup. Let them choose which pasta or vegetables to put into the soup. This activity could spur an interest in cooking for children. If pressed for time, add ingredients to a commercially prepared soup base or broth. For example, add fresh cut tomatoes and a little basil to a can of classic tomato soup.

Serve and Store Soups Safely

Make a large batch of soup and enjoy some for another meal. Many soups, with the possible exception of seafood soups, may taste even better the next day! For best safety and quality, plan to eat refrigerated soup within 2 to 3 days or freeze it. Avoid letting soup set at room temperature for more than 2 hours.

Don't put a large pot of hot soup directly into your refrigerator. It would take an 8-inch stock pot of steaming soup 24 hours to cool down to a safe temperature in the refrigerator. To Be Safe:

- Speed cooling by transferring soup to shallow containers, making sure soup is no more than 2 inches deep. Refrigerate promptly. You can place loosely covered foods in your refrigerator while still warm, then cover when food is completely cooled.
- When serving soup a second time, reheat it until it's steaming hot throughout, at least 165 degrees F.

Cold Weather Activities:

Winter months can be a challenge for daily physical activity, but the need doesn't go away when the weather is cold. When weather permits, walking or playing in the snow can be a work out. Engage with your kids in old-time favorite activities like creating a snow angel, dancing the "Hokey Pokey" or playing the game "Duck, Duck Goose". Challenge children to come up with fun, healthy activities to do inside and outside.

Recipe for Health: Healthy Vegetable Beef Soup

Ingredients:

- 3 c. cooked beef roast, cut into bite size pieces or cooked ground turkey
- 1 c. beef broth from cooked roast or low-sodium canned/boxed broth
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 medium carrots, sliced
- 2 celery stalks, sliced
- 4 potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2-3 c. water
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 can (15 oz.) diced tomatoes, with liquid
- 1 can (15 oz.) green beans with liquid
- 1 can (15 oz.) whole-kernel corn with liquid

Directions:

1. Remember to start by washing your hands.
2. Place cooked beef/turkey, broth, onion, carrots, celery and potatoes in a large pot. Add enough water to cover vegetables. Add pepper and other seasonings, if desired. Place pot on burner set to Med-High heat. Stir soup mixture, as needed to keep ingredients from sticking to pot.
3. When soup begins to boil, turn the heat to Low. Cover pot and simmer about 1 hour or until vegetables are tender.



4. Add tomatoes, green beans and corn. Turn heat to Med-High. When soup begins to boil, turn heat to Low, over pot and simmer about 15 minutes.

Cooking Tips:

For flavor variations, try adding herbs. Favorites include marjoram, thyme, oregano, rosemary or a bay leaf. (Remember to remove the bay leaf before serving).

Recipe adapted from: Kids a Cookin', K-State Research and Extension Family Nutrition Program

FYI

February 2014

Ranchers...Stop by the Extension Office to pick up your Redbook.

The WESTCLIFFE FARMER'S MARKET is looking for vendors for 2014 season. Farmers, bakers, artists, and musicians welcome! For more information and vendor applications go to: www.westcliffefarmersmarket.com . Please call Simone Soucy (market manager) 719-371-2937 for further information. Markets will begin June 11th and run until October 8th on Wednesdays from 9am-1pm at the Jess Price Park in Westcliffe.

Cliff's Park Community Garden - Spring is just around the corner and the Cliff's Park Community Garden (CPCG) committee are turning their thoughts to bringing out the shovels, hoes and wheelbarrows making sure that at the earliest feasible date we are ready to plant our seeds.

Over the last three years the CPCG garden compound has improved relative to the control of weeds and pest, water availability and overall making vegetable gardening a pleasant and worthwhile endeavor for the Wet Mountain Valley residents. For instance, last year the Community United Methodist Church grew and contributed an estimated 300 bags of fresh produce such as lettuce, spinach, carrots, kale, swiss chard and about 150 lbs of zucchini, yellow squash and potatoes to the local Sharing Center. The Garden also has a "Commons" area where participants not wanting to have the full responsibility for their own individual plots can share in the work as well as the harvest.

If you want your own, organically grown vegetables this Summer, please call Joyce Ziesler at (719) 783-0888 or email her at jdziezler@wildblue.net.

CSF Seedling Tree Sales continues... Stop at the Extension Office or the Post Office for an order form. Trees will be delivered in May at the Westcliffe Fire Station. There is a limited inventory of trees available from the nursery. Order today before they are gone. Visit: www.csfs.colostate.edu for more information and lots of great publications.

Got Critters?

Kathi Taylor
Colorado State University Extension Master Gardener in Larimer County
November 2, 2013

You plant bulbs and perennials in fall, in anticipation of a colorful spring, then see all that new growth disappear before you have a chance to enjoy the blooms! You've got critters. Every gardener has suffered from critters nibbling, gnawing and digging through the garden. What to do? Cures for



wildlife issues don't exist; however, steps can be taken to identify the culprit and minimize damage to the landscape.

Raised tunnels in grass and spongy spots are indicative of burrowing rodents, most often voles or pocket gophers. Though unsightly, lawn damage is usually minimal and may be reduced by shorter mowing, fertilizing and weed control. With mild infestations, aeration may be a plus—something to think about when your foot sinks into a soggy tunnel. Vole damage on ornamental shrubs, trees and orchards is characterized by girdling of trunks and gnawed irregular bark patches. Pocket gophers often snip stems of small shrubs and trees near their tunnels. This villain can also pull a small annual or perennial into his tunnel from below.

Rodents may be excluded from orchards and ornamentals by burying hardware cloth or plastic mesh three to six inches below ground level and projecting the barrier 18 inches above the ground. Repellents containing thiram (Nott Chew, Bonide Rabbit-Deer Repellent, Science Deer and Rabbit Repellent) and Capsaicin, a product made from hot peppers, may be somewhat effective; read labels for use on food crops. Mouse snap traps set at the end of tunnels are a possible control for small populations. In desperation, poison grain baits may be utilized in grassy areas. Read labels carefully and be aware of the lethal potential to pets, birds, humans and other animals.

Peter Cottontail is not the gardener's friend. Rabbit damage is characterized by a sharp 45-degree angle feeding cut. In winter, rabbits will feed on fruit tree bark and ornamental plants—evergreens are favorites. Tulips and roses, including other rose-family plants (apple, raspberry, cherry, plum and mountain ash), are munched regularly in spring and summer. Rabbits are easily excluded from gardens with wire fencing buried shallowly in the soil. Holes in fencing should be no larger than ½ inch. Plastic tree wraps are effective, as is repellent containing thiram.

Some of the most destructive and pervasive garden pests in urban and rural gardens are deer. Though their grace and beauty is lovely to behold, the “Bambi syndrome” is quickly compromised when witnessing a garden browsed by deer. Ragged wounds characterize deer damage. Lacking upper incisors, deer tear branches and bark from trees and shrubs, decimate vegetable crops, and wipe out tulips and roses. In deer prone areas, eight-foot fencing is the only sure deterrent. In most cases, an eight-foot fence isn't reasonable for gardeners, so repellent is a possibility. Some with promise are those using egg solids (Deer-Away, MGK Big Game Repellent) or ammonium soaps. Another option would be to plant enough vegetables for both your family...and deer.

A reasonable cultural control for deer is planting infrequently browsed plants. However, if food is scarce, they will eat virtually any plant. A few of the less palatable perennials include the salvia family, daffodils, larkspur, lavender, coneflowers, Russian sage and most herbs. Trees and shrubs include Apache plume, blue-mist spirea, juniper, Douglas-fir, lilacs, silver buffaloberry, sumac and quince. Drought tolerant plants tend to be less browsed—another reason to be water thrifty when planning a landscape.

Although wildlife issues in the garden are challenging, it is possible to decrease frustration and wildlife damage by identifying and taking steps to discourage the critters in the garden. Happy gardening! For more information on managing wildlife, visit the [Fact Sheets #6.507 on voles](#), [#6.515 on pocket gophers](#) and [#6.520 on deer damage](#).