Outreach, Research and Extension

- Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado Water Institute
- Environmental Learning Center
- Extension

Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station

Office in Shepardson, Room 121
(970) 491-6274

Agricultural research has been part of Colorado State University (CSU) since the institution's beginning. In 1888, the Colorado General Assembly established the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) (http://aes.agsci.colostate.edu) as the contributor to the federally-created state agricultural experiment station system established by the Hatch Act, currently encompassing all fifty states and United States territories.

The CAES is an integral part of CSU and a unit within the College of Agricultural Sciences. The mission of the CAES is to support research that addresses the needs of all Coloradans, whether on farms and ranches or in rural communities, as well as those who live in cities and suburbs. The CAES is committed to finding practical solutions to food and natural resources challenges facing the people of our state and beyond.

The CAES supports faculty, staff, and students across CSU who conduct research on crop and livestock production, food systems, and natural resources problems. Our research is conducted in Fort Collins in seven of eight colleges, in more than 15 academic departments, and at seven off-campus research centers located throughout the state. The CAES is not a single place, but rather a statewide research system network.

Agricultural research programs include the traditional areas of producing and processing food products such as wheat, beef, potatoes, fruits, and vegetables, as well as discovering how foods and diets influence human nutrition and health, new kinds of textiles we wear, the ornamental plants and gardens we enjoy, and sustainable use of rangelands where high-quality water comes from and which support grazing livestock and wildlife.

The CAES partners with CSU Extension, industry, schools, and any others who can help get new information and technologies into the hands of those who need it.

Colorado State Forest Service

Office in Foothills Campus, Building 1050
(970) 491-6303

The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) (http://csfs.colostate.edu) assists other state and federal agencies, counties, communities, and private landowners with forest stewardship, community forestry, wildfire mitigation, and conservation education. The CSFS State Office is located on the CSU Foothills Campus; 16 district and three field offices are located throughout Colorado.

A service and outreach agency of the Warner College of Natural Resources, the Colorado State Forest Service maintains cooperative relationships with Colorado State University Extension and other federal, state, and local agencies and organizations. The Colorado State Forest Service provides forestry-related information to the citizens of Colorado via technical assistance, media, the web, publications, and educational workshops.

Colorado Water Institute

- Office in Engineering Building, Room E102
- (970) 491-6308

The Colorado Water Institute (http://www.cwi.colostate.edu) is a research and outreach agency within the CSU Office of Engagement that connects the water information needs of the state to research faculty and graduate students at CSU as well as other public universities in Colorado. The Water Institute provides research grants to faculty and students, as well as internship opportunities and scholarships. The Colorado Water Institute provides water-related information to the citizens of Colorado via the web, publications, and educational workshops.

Environmental Learning Center

- Offices in Natural Resources Building, Rooms 218 and 223
- Program site at 2400 South County Road 9 Ft. Collins, CO 80525
- (970) 491-1661

Staff of the Environmental Learning Center (http://www.csuelc.org) (ELC) work to connect people with nature by facilitating educational, inclusive and safe experiences in the natural environment. The ELC provides a diversity of programs to groups throughout the community. This includes public schools, scout troops, CSU groups, service organizations, and many others.

Extension

Office in University Square, Room 102
(970) 491-6281

Colorado State University Extension (CSUE) (http://www.ext.colostate.edu) provides information and education that encourages the application of research-based knowledge in response to local, state, and national issues affecting individuals, families, businesses, and communities of Colorado.

Extension in Colorado was established in 1913 when counties created programs. In 1914 federal legislation created the Extension system nationwide. It was accepted by Colorado’s General Assembly in 1915, and reaffirmed in 1979. It is funded by county, state, and federal appropriations. Extension also functions as the educational arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, through each state’s land grant university. CSUE has 54 off-campus offices and serves 62 of Colorado’s 64 counties.

Extension’s outreach educational objectives fall within the scope of their land-grant mission and address high-priority needs and issues in Colorado in the broad areas of agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community development. Ongoing program teams focus on critical areas including: strong families, healthy homes; nutrition, health,
and food safety; 4-H and youth development; community economic development; natural resources—including water and alternative energy; and competitive and sustainable agriculture systems.