



University of Nevada, Reno
Extension
College of Agriculture,
Biotechnology & Natural Resources

Extension | Lander County

Annual Report | Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025

Extension is a unit of the University of Nevada, Reno's College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources engaged in Nevada communities, bringing research-based knowledge to address critical community needs. It is a county-state-federal partnership providing practical education to people, businesses and communities.

Extension, Lander County Office

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Program Impacts

4-H Youth Development

Impact: 72 youth, with many participating in multiple 4-H activities

4-H Club Activities:



4-H youth in Lander County participated in a variety of clubs focused on animal care and shooting sports, building hands-on skills and showcasing their work at local and state events.

The **Shooting Sports Club** (8 participants) focused on safety and skill development in archery, air pistol, shotgun, and muzzleloader disciplines. Members practiced regularly at the shooting range and participated in club competitions.

The **Cloverbud Club** (4 participants) and **Small Animal Club** (2 participants) are centered on care and showmanship of rabbits, chickens, and cavy. Cloverbuds focused on learning and demonstrating animal care techniques, while the Small Animal Club hosted a petting zoo at the Lander County Fall Festival, allowing the community to interact with a variety of animals including goats, pigs, and a baby calf. Both clubs participated in the Tri County Fair.

The **Large Animal Livestock Club** (6 participants) involved members raising and showing market lambs, goats, swine, and steers. Youth learned animal husbandry

and show techniques, attended clinics on washing and fitting, and exhibited their animals at the Nevada Junior Livestock Show in Reno and the Tri County Junior Livestock Show in Winnemucca.

4-H Day Camps:

The **Fishing Day Camp** engaged 16 youth in a hands-on outdoor experience, in partnership with the



Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). Participants rotated through interactive stations to learn about fish species, habitats, fishing laws, and casting techniques. After the educational sessions, youth practiced their skills at the local duck pond, where everyone successfully caught multiple fish. A highlight of the day was helping release several large catfish (8–10 lbs) into the pond. Special thanks were given to NDOW for supporting youth outdoor education and connecting kids with nature.

4-H Overnight Camps:

Lander County 4-H offered two exciting camp experiences that promoted outdoor activity, skill-building, and personal growth.

The **Ski & Snowboard Camp** engaged 30 youth in a two-day adventure in partnership with the Lander County Recreation Center. Participants received ski or snowboard lessons tailored to their skill levels and spent time practicing on the slopes, gaining confidence and enjoying the outdoors.

The **4-H Overnight Summer Camp** at Lake Tahoe hosted 5 Lander County youth who joined campers from other Central Area counties. Through hands-on activities, campers developed teamwork, self-awareness, character, and problem-solving skills, all while building friendships and having fun in a supportive outdoor environment.

Special Interest Clubs:

Two Special Interest Club activities—**Floral Arranging and Sewing**—offered hands-on learning experiences for youth participants. In the **Floral Arranging** club (8 participants), members completed three creative projects: fall wreaths, live floral crowns and rings, and floral arrangements in jack-o-lantern containers. They learned key floral design principles such as color combination, balance, scale, and the roles of focal, filler, and foliage flowers. In the **Sewing** club (7 participants), youth worked with volunteers from the Battle Mountain Quilt Guild to make magic pillowcases. They practiced using sewing machines, cutting and ironing fabric, sewing straight seams, and explored basic design concepts with color and line. Despite a few picked seams, all participants left with finished projects and new skills.



Radon Program

Radon test kits are available to the public and are located at the Extension Office and throughout several Lander County offices. With a concerted effort in providing Radon education for Lander County residents, there were 20 tests completed in the year. Informational booths about the Radon program were set up at the Battle Mountain General Hospital Health Fair in Battle Mountain and Austin. In addition, Lander County Commissioners voted to recognize February as Lander County Radon Action Month and with help from Lander County and several social media posts, Lander County saw an increase in radon testing.

Beginning Farmer & Rancher Program

The **Beginning Farmer & Rancher Program (BFR)** supports individuals who have operated a farm or ranch for less than ten years. Offered through UNR Extension, the program provides access to resources such as farm loans, crop insurance, conservation support, and disaster assistance. It also helps participants build skills in marketing, sustainable agriculture, business management, and financial planning. The goal is to equip new farmers and ranchers with the tools needed to start, operate, and sustain a successful agricultural operation. For more information, contact the Lander County Extension office.

Rural Housing Baseline Assessments

Nevada faces ongoing challenges with housing affordability and availability. Reliable housing data is difficult to find due to its scattered and inconsistent nature. Since late 2022, NEAP and Nevada Rural Housing have collaborated to collect and analyze data on the state's housing situation, particularly in rural areas. Their work aims to support informed decision-making by local leaders and private sector partners. Initial data collection and analysis focused on Lander County. Reports and fact sheets are available at <https://extension.unr.edu/neap/pub.aspx?PubID=6908>

Foundational Public Health Services

NEAP and NACO surveyed public health infrastructure in Nevada’s rural and frontier counties using the national Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) framework. The survey assessed local expertise, capacity, and implementation across key public health areas and capabilities, and collected input on known services at county, state, and partner levels. This data will guide future public health advocacy and investment, including the development of regional services. Lander County participated in the survey, with an in-person review workshop held on March 13, 2024. A statewide and county-specific report is available. <https://extension.unr.edu/publication.aspx?PubID=6814>

Fiscal Overview

Fiscal Summary

FY 25 Lander County Expenses

State:	\$54,893
Federal:	\$23,846
County:	\$74,347
Grants:	\$56,502
Gifts:	\$4,813
Other:	\$20,687
Total:	\$214,206

FY 25 Lander Funds Summary

Opening Balance:	\$488,840
Revenue:	\$102,357
Expenses:	\$53,465
Ending Balance:	\$537,732

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