



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Office of Gov. Jared Polis

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**Energy Smart Agriculture Workshop Series to Detail Cost Savings and Climate Resiliency Opportunities for Colorado Farmers and Ranchers**

*Sessions will focus on energy efficiency, on-farm renewables and funding assistance*

**DENVER – Tuesday, Apr. 2, 2019** – The Colorado Energy Office (CEO) and the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) today announced a series of energy smart agriculture workshops to be held in late April that will detail energy savings and climate resiliency opportunities for Colorado farmers and ranchers. Created through a partnership between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service, state government and agricultural industry leaders, the workshops will focus on energy efficiency, on-farm renewables and funding assistance.

Colorado farmers and ranchers spend more than \$400 million annually on energy, and the workshops will help agricultural producers consider how utilizing clean energy holds the potential to reduce cost of production, modernize infrastructure and improve margins. The series provides the opportunity for Colorado producers to discuss local concerns about agricultural energy and climate resilience with public officials and industry experts. Workshop attendees will learn about technical assistance to address barriers that prevent investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy as well as how to access local, state and federal funding.

The workshops will feature presenters from Colorado State University, CDA and CEO. In addition, the Colorado Climate Center will give an update on climate and weather considerations, energy, water and agriculture. The series will be co-hosted by the USDA, Colorado Livestock Association, Colorado Corn Growers Association, Colorado Wheat Administrative Committee/Colorado Association of Wheat Growers, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, Dairy MAX, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Colorado Farm Bureau and Colorado Rural Electric Association.

Registration is free, and lunch/dinner and refreshments will be served. To register, RSVP via the following links.

**Wednesday, April 24, 2019**

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| 10:00 a.m. - Cortez  | Dolores Water Conservancy District<br>60 S Cactus St, Cortez, CO 81321      | Register: <a href="https://cortezenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com">cortezenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com</a>     |
| 5:00 p.m. - Montrose | Delta-Montrose Electric Association<br>11925 6300 Rd, Montrose, CO<br>81401 | Register: <a href="https://montroseenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com">montroseenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com</a> |

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**

10:00 a.m. - Glenwood Springs	Glenwood Springs Community Center 100 Wulfsohn Rd, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601	Register: <a href="http://glenwoodspringsenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com">glenwoodspringsenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com</a>
5:00 p.m. - Craig	Moffat County Fairgrounds Pavilion 750 E 4th Street, Craig, CO 81625	Register: <a href="http://craigenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com">craigenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com</a>

If you have questions, please contact workshop organizer Darrell Hanavan at (303) 981-4430 or [dhanavanco@gmail.com](mailto:dhanavanco@gmail.com).

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**About Colorado Department of Agriculture**

The Department of Agriculture works to strengthen and advance Colorado agriculture; promote a safe, high quality, and sustainable food supply; and protect consumers, the environment and natural resources. See [colorado.gov/agmain](http://colorado.gov/agmain) for more information.

**About the Colorado Energy Office**

The Colorado Energy Office works to deliver cost-effective energy services and advance innovative energy solutions for the benefit of all Coloradans. Go to [colorado.gov/energyoffice](http://colorado.gov/energyoffice) to learn more.