



Crawford County 4-H News

April 2026

Dear 4-H members, parents, leaders, and friends,

We are returning to the busy season, so read the calendar carefully! If you have any questions about upcoming events or activities, please remember to reach out to me. 4-H members, if you or your club are doing something great, please remember to share it!

Sincerely,
Will Morris
4-H Youth Development
620-724-8233
willmorris@ksu.edu

Wildcat Extension District – Crawford County 4-H Website:
www.wildcatdistrict.k-state.edu/4-h/crawford/



**Find us on Facebook @ Wildcat Extension District &
@ Wildcat Extension District 4-H**

April 11	Sheep Producer Day in Manhattan
April 13	Junior Leaders Meeting 6:30 PM 4-H Council Meeting 7:30 PM
April 20	Last Day to order DNA Envelopes for State Fair/KFLS Market Beef
April 25	Small animal Weigh In 8-10 AM @ Fairgrounds
April 28-29	Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge in Manhattan
May 1	State Market Beef Nomination Deadline Deadline for NEW Families to Enroll Summer Camp Sign Up Deadline @ NOON
May 15	Fair Entry Opens
June 1	Horse ID Papers Due
June 3-5	Discovery Days
June 8-9	Greenbush Overnight Camp Youth 7-9
June 9-10	Greenbush Overnight Camp Youth 10-13
June 12-14	State Geology Tour
June 15	State Small Livestock Nomination Deadline
June 16	Floating on Leadership
June 16-18	Sewing Camp
June 19-20	Insect Spectacular
June 22	Junior Leaders Meeting 6:30 PM 4-H Council Meeting 7:30 PM
June 25	Area Challenge Day
June 29-July 1	District Livestock Judging Camp
July 2	Area Livestock Contest
July 13	Fair Entry Help Deadline is the last time to get help with making entries before the deadline.
July 15	Fair Entry Deadline

Enrollment

Paying Program Fee

If you selected pay by check at the time of enrollment, please mail your check along with your child(s) name and Wildcat District-Crawford County to the address below. Remember, you will not be able to enter the fair until your account shows as paid.

Kansas State 4-H Office

201 Umberger Hall
1612 Claflin Rd
Manhattan, KS 66506

Youth/Volunteer Enrollment

The new 4-H year is **October 1st**! Don't forget that all returning families have until **January 31, 2025**, to **re-enroll in 4-H Online**. All new families have until **May 1 to enroll in 4-H Online**. All volunteers must renew their 4-HOnline. <http://v2.4honline.com/>

Junior Leaders

The Junior Leaders' next meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m.

4-H Council

The Next 4-H Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. Please note that each club must send two council representatives, one president, and two adult leaders to attend. If one cannot participate, they need to find an alternate to attend that meeting.

Fair Wrap Up

Your checks are ready for pickup at the Extension Office, M-F 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. Don't forget to send thank-you cards to all who sponsored awards and purchased items at the sale.

Livestock Sale Buyers Checks

If you have not already done so, please collect your check from your buyer as soon as possible. It reflects poorly on you and 4-H if your buyer has to track you down to give you your check. Remember that if they have a bad experience, they may not return as a buyer.

Fair Proposals

A complete document of this year's Fair proposal results for the 2026 Fair was emailed to you. Please note that all State Fair updates to indoor projects and proposal changes will be highlighted in red when the Fair Book is released. If you have any questions, please know that my door is always open, and I would be happy to talk with you.

Wildcat District Livestock Judging Team Facebook Group

Parents, please use this QR code to join this private group. It will help you stay up to date on the latest happenings.



Shooting Sports

Archery

2026 Crawford County 4-H Archery will begin Sunday, April 12, at **3:00 p.m.** at the Crawford County Fairgrounds, South side of the Marvin Green Bldg. Then we will meet every Sunday except for holidays (Mother's Day, Memorial Day weekend, Father's Day, etc.). The first 2 Sundays (**April 12 & 19**) will be for anyone new to the program and anyone who needs refreshing. Beginners **MUST** attend the range and safety orientation on **April 12** to participate in the program. If you cannot attend that meeting, please contact Dan about possible alternative arrangements. Equipment will be provided for beginners. **PLEASE** leave yours at home. The veteran archers and beginners will begin meeting on Sunday, **April 26, at 3:00 p.m.** For more information, email, text, or call Dan Mosier II at danmosierii@gmail.com, 620-687-0643.

Archer to compete at the National 4H Shooting Sports Championships

Adarius (Girard, KS) has qualified to represent Kansas as part of the 4-person Compound Archery team. This prestigious competition will be held June

21-26 in Grand Island, NE. The week-long event will feature over 700 4-H Shooting Sports competitors from across the country competing in 8 disciplines. This marks the 4th time a Crawford County Archer has qualified to attend this event. Please join me in wishing Adarius the best of luck at this event!

Entomology Project

Time to get some new insect specimens identified! We will work on this at the March 14th Entomology project meeting at the Allen County Extension Office beginning at 1:00 p.m. Please bring the insects you need help getting identified. Parents, please bring your laptop or a zip drive so we can get the insect labels spreadsheet on your computer for you to use. I will plan on staying a little later in the afternoon to help new families pin more insects, so bring you pinning supplies and insects to pin.

Rabbit Project Meeting

Some dates have changed since the February newsletter was sent out.

At the small animal barn(fairgrounds)-9am
4/11- (meat rabbits and meat pens, when to breed for fair)

5/9- (potential meat processing clinic)

6/13- (handling rabbits, basics of rabbit showmanship/herdsmanship, fair entry questions, tattoo rabbits)

7/18- (last-minute questions/things for fair, tattoo rabbits)

I'm going to try and line up some guest speakers for various topics, so let me know what you would like to hear about, rabbits or the rabbit project

I have created a FB page for members of the rabbit project as an easier way to send information to families. CC Rabbit Project Members is the page name. It will be a private page, so you will need to ask to join. I will also send invitations to project members via email.

Meeting times/dates/locations/topics are subject to change, but plenty of notice will be given.

YQCA Training

This course is required for youth who are planning to attend the Kansas State Fair or the Kansas Junior Livestock Show. All youth are encouraged to

participate. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21. The program is designed to provide a minimum of 60 minutes of education each year.

Sign up at: yqcaprogram.org

Step 1- Sign in or create a profile

Step 2- Search the course "Crawford County YQCA Training 2025-2026" if you attended the class at 4-H Super Sunday on November 2. If not, you will need to take the online course.

Step 3- Register for that course and pay the \$3

Step 4: Take Pre-Test

Step 5: Attend the training

Step 6: Take the Post-Test and print the certificate.

Plan for the future!

4-H Camp Scholarships

Carolyn Zagonel and America's Farmers Grow Communities donation. By filling out this application, youth can receive a \$100 scholarship to help cover the cost of a 4-H camp/activity. Please call Will if you have any questions.

Camp Dates 2026

If you reserved a spot, don't forget to bring the necessary forms and payment to the office.

Discovery Days- June 3-5 - College readiness camp at Kansas State University for youth 13-18 years.

Full- Waitlist Available Greenbush Overnight 4-H Camp- June 8-9 - This is an overnight camp for youth 7-9 years.

NEW Greenbush Overnight 4-H Camp- June 9-10 - This is an overnight camp for youth 10-13 years.

Geology Field Trips- June 12-14 - These are state events that travel to different parts of the state each year.

Floating on Leadership - June 16: A one-day event for youth ages 13-18. Youth must know how to swim in order to attend.

Sewing Camp - June 16-18- Youth 10 and up. May not attend more than 2 years in a row. Takes place at the Extension Office.

Insect Spectacular- June 19-20 – This year's will be in Yates Center!

SE Area Challenge Day- June 25- This event includes Horticulture, Crops, Family and Consumer Science, Favorite Foods, and Photography Judging.

Livestock Judging Camp - June 29 - July 1- This camp is open to all youth interested in learning more about livestock judging.

SE Area Livestock Contest - July 2 - This is a one-day event that includes Meat Judging, Skill-a-Thon, and Livestock Judging in Iola.

Rock Springs Camp - This is open to all youth who wish to attend. Registration and more information can be found on their website

Livestock Tag/Weigh-In

Below is some information for the Livestock Tag/Weigh-In for the 2026 Fair. Remember, it is not required that you weigh in; however, it is required for all market animals and bucket calves to be tagged on or before the designated days listed below. If you are unable to make the designated tag in days, then you need to make prior arrangements with me to set a time to tag your animals. No animals will be tagged after the designated tag in days. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, YOU RISK NOT GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME. LACK OF PLANNING ON YOUR PART DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN EMERGENCY FOR ME!**

I would encourage you to visit the Crawford County Fair Facebook page and like the events as a way to receive reminder notifications.

Small Animals- Small Animals include Bucket Calves, Market Goats, Market Sheep, and Market Swine. This will take place on **Saturday, April 25th, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds.** The tags are \$3 each for goats, sheep, and swine. The tags are \$4 each for bucket calves. Please bring cash or a check made out to 4-H Council to pay for your tags. If you are unable to attend, you must make prior arrangements with me to tag your animal, or it will not be eligible to show at the fair. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, YOU RISK NOT GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME.**

Breeding Class animals do not have to be tagged in; however, I encourage you to tag them in in the event that something would happen to your Market Class animal.

Setting the Stage for a Great Fair!

Some of these you may feel do not apply to you, but they are important reminders for us all. It will also help ensure we keep each other accountable and, hopefully, provide a fun, safe, and positive experience for youth. Parents, please share this with your spouse to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Attitudes-Positivity! This is what I expect from everyone this year, as we prepare for Fair activities. Some of you do an amazing job, but others may need a reminder. 4-H is a Positive Youth Development organization, and sadly, on many occasions, some parents, volunteers, fair board members, etc., seem to lose sight of that. What has happened in the past is in the past, and everyone is expected to do their best moving forward. As they prepare to enter any 4-H event, I expect everyone to check their attitude at the door.

Relationships- Personal relationships are just that personal. There is no room for personal hatred, conflict, or rivalry at any 4-H event/activity. Your relationships are yours alone and have no business infecting the attitudes and experiences of those around you.

Grace and Understanding - It is also expected that everyone shows a little grace and understanding. NO ONE is perfect or is going to do things perfectly. Not everything will be done or addressed when and how you would like. Not every rule or policy will be agreed with or liked by everyone. However, it is expected that everyone shows a little grace and understanding, in that everyone is doing their best to do right by all youth.

Criticism vs. Clarification- There is a huge difference between the two, starting with your approach. Myself, superintendents, leaders, volunteers, and fair board members are ALWAYS open to clarifying questions. Those putting on 4-H events/activities do not deserve nor will tolerate unnecessary criticism/complaining. If you want change, we have a fair proposal process, and you better be ready to step up and volunteer.

Respect- You don't have to like what/how things are done, other families, rules/procedures, etc., but you must RESPECT them. You are expected to

show respect to everyone, even if you disagree. You are not owed or guaranteed an explanation/justification for every decision/rule made. Still, you must trust that there was thought and reason put into every decision to try and keep a positive and safe environment for all youth. You must respect the fact that sometimes things have to be addressed/changed at the moment and that time does not always allow for a seamless transition.

Conflict- With anything, there is likely to be conflict at times, but the difference comes in how you handle it. Remember to always respond and not react. Allow yourself and others time to process what is happening and address conflict calmly, coolly, and collectedly. Don't forget that wherever you are, a young person is likely watching and learning from you, so be sure to be a positive role model.

What's your why? - Not every family has the same goals and values when it comes to participating in the fair. Some may want to help their child learn to care for and raise livestock. Some may want to win a grand champion ribbon and be the top seller at the livestock sale. Regardless of your family's why, it is important to remember that what other families choose as their "why" is out of anyone's control. As a parent, this may be hard to explain or rationalize to your youth, but it teaches them to focus on themselves and their knowledge and skill development instead of others.

Fun- Let's all remember to have fun! There is so much time, energy, money, and resources that go into 4-H events/activities that if we all are not having fun, we need to figure out something that is. These are the memories youth will carry for a lifetime, so it is our job to make sure they are positive ones.

Open Door- Remember that my door is always open. If you have questions or want to learn more, you will get a lot further and receive more accurate information from me rather than secondhand sources. So, if we need to chat, just call the office or email me, and we can set up a time to chat.

Record Books

Now is the time to begin thinking about record books. This year, you will be able to do those online! Resources for the forms can be found here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ProjectRecognition.html>. Recourses for

our online zbooks record keeping can be found here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html>

2026 4-H Shutterbug Photography

Photography skills and fun techniques will be featured at this year's 4-H Shutterbug Photography Event. This year's event will take place at The Midwest Dream Car Museum, an exciting new venue where young photographers will learn how to take detailed car photos, photo composition, how to properly mount a photo, black & white photography, kaleidoscopes, and much more! 4-H members and families will need to register for this event in order to attend. The registration link is: <https://cvent.me/027Zb9>, and the cost for each 4-H member is \$25.00. Youth members must be accompanied by an adult.

Youth are encouraged to bring their camera, smartphone, and/or tablet to take photos, but 20 SDLR cameras will be available to check out for use that day. Youth members will need to bring their own SD card if they would like to take their photos home with them.

Door prizes and many more fun things are planned for this event. Get registered soon!



**Wildcat Extension District
Crawford County**

120 E. Bu...
Girard, K

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April 2026

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