



Crawford County 4-H News

April 2025

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 1	Fair Book goes live online
April 2	NEO Livestock Judging
April 14	Junior Leaders Meeting 6:30 PM 4-H Council Meeting 7:30 PM
April 20	Last Day to order Beef DNA Envelopes (State Fair/KFLS Only)
April 26	Small Animal Weigh-In 8:00-10:00 AM @ Fairgrounds
May 1	Camp Sign-Up Deadline, Market Beef Nominations Due, New Family Enrollment Deadline
May 15	FairEntry Opens
June 1	Horse ID Papers Due
June 2	District Challenge Day in Fredonia
June 3	Area Livestock Contest in Iola
June 4-6	Discovery Days in Manhattan
June 9-10	Greenbush Overnight Camp
June 10-12	Sewing Camp
June 12	Area Challenge Day in Emporia
June 14-15	State Geology Field Trip
June 15	Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep, and Meat Goat State Nominations Due
June 17	Floating on Leadership
June 18	Greenbush Day Camp
June 23	Fair Entry Help Night 6:00 PM Junior Leaders Meeting 6:30 PM 4-H Council Meeting 7:30 PM
June 30-July 2	District Livestock Judging Camp
July 10	Fair Entry Help Deadline is the last time to get help with making entries before the deadline.
July 15	Fair Entry Deadline
July 15-17	OSU Big 3 Livestock Judging Contest

Enrollment

Youth/Volunteer Enrollment

The new 4-H year is **October 1st**! All new families have until **May 1st** to enroll in 4-HOnline. All volunteers must renew their 4-HOnline.

<http://v2.4honline.com/>

An enrollment fee has to be paid before you will be able to enter the Fair. Mail your checks to the address below.

Kansas State 4-H Office

201 Umberger Hall

1612 Claflin Road

Kansas State University

Manhattan, KS 66506

New Volunteers

If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact Will to learn more about how to become a certified 4-H volunteer.

4-H at your Fingertips

Coming to a phone near you: Wildcat 4-H Connection phone app! With our app you will be able to quickly have access to 4-H Online, each county page, as well as registration links and our district calendar. This is a FREE app, scan the QR Code.

Check out the new Wildcat 4-H App!

Wildcat 4-H Connection



District Wide and County Specific Calendars

Event Registration Links

Camp Information

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Junior Leaders

Junior Leader's next meeting will be on Monday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m.

4-H Council

The Next 4-H Council meeting will be Monday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. Remember, each club should have 2 council reps, 1 club president, and 2 adult

leaders attend. If one cannot attend, they need to find an alternate to fill in for that meeting.

Livestock Tag/Weigh-In-

Below is some information for the Livestock Tag/Weigh In for the 2025 Fair. Remember it is not required that you weigh in but it is required for all market animals and bucket calves to be tagged in either on or **BEFORE** the designated days listed below. If you cannot 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 OR YOU RISK NOT GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME. LACK OF PLANNING ON YOUR PART DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN EMERGENCY FOR ME!**

Small Animals- Small Animals include Bucket Calves, Market Goats, Market Sheep, and Market Swine. This will be at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, **April 26th, 8:00-10:00 AM**. 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 OR YOU RISK NOT GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME.**

Breeding class animals do not have to be tagged; however, I encourage you to tag them if something happens to your market class animal.

Crawford County 2025 Fair Book!

Below is the link to the website where you will find the 2025 Crawford County Fair Book. In the online version, all updates have been made in **RED**. Please pay close attention to the schedule and location of events, as some may have changed this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. **It is your responsibility to make sure you have read all sections of the fair book.**

Fair Entry will open up on May 15 and will close on **July 15th**

Fair Proposals

The Fair Board September meeting was the last time to submit proposals for changes for the 2025 Crawford County Fair. Any future proposals that are made at the 4-H Council or Fair Board will be considered for Fair 2026.

Western Heritage

Hello 4-H Families, the Western Heritage shooting sports project continues to meet about every 4-6 weeks, depending on people's schedules. In our last meeting, Mr. Shoemaker (and Derrick and Abby) demonstrated Dutch oven cooking over the campfire. They made a delicious blackberry cobbler. Mr. Sandford showed everyone how to cut wood using both one and two-person crosscut saws. Cutting firewood in the frontier days was a lot of work! Our shooting range continues to grow with a dedicated safety zone, many plate gong targets, a cowbell target that rings when you hit it, a prairie dog and several squirrel targets, and new shotgun targets--we even have the challenge of shooting and breaking shotgun sporting clays resting on top of a fence rail. We have friendly competitions for both the number of hits and elapsed time. We would love to have more participants in this shooting sport, and parents are always welcome to take part in any of the activities. In our next meeting on November 30th, we will have a guest to teach us about pistols and rifles that use black powder including going to the range to give them a try. If you are interested, please contact the 4-H office for more information. Call, text, or email Brian Sandford at 620-249-1088 or bacon4six@gmail.com.

Rabbit Project meetings

Saturdays starting at 9 am (most meetings last one hour)

These meetings will be at the small animal barn at the CC Fairgrounds

-April 12th- Meat breeds and meat pens

-May 3rd- Handling rabbits, basics of showmanship/herdsmanship

-June 21st-Questions for the fair and getting ready to do fair entries (I will be available to tattoo

rabbits that need them, or you can contact me to schedule at a different date)

-July 19th- Last minute questions or things you need to do for the fair (can tattoo this date too)

-TBD-possible meat processing clinic in the fall 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.

I will be teaming up with the Labette County rabbit project leader and members for information exchanges and we may have a joint meeting at some point within the project year.

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

Archery

2025 Crawford County 4-H Archery will begin Sunday, April 13, 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 13 & 27**) will be for anyone new to the program and anyone who needs refreshing. Beginners **MUST** attend the range and safety orientation on **April 13** to participate in the program. If you cannot make that meeting, please contact Dan about possibly making other arrangements. Equipment will be provided for beginners; PLEASE leave yours at home. The veteran archers and beginners will begin meeting on Sunday, **April 27, at 3:00 p.m.** For more information, email, text, or call Dan Mosier II at danmosierii@gmail.com, 620-687-0643.

Entomology Project Meeting

Tips & Tricks for Making Posters, Tri-folds, Educational Displays, Etc.

Come join the fun and learn about making great visual displays. Saturday, March 8th, at the Allen County Extension Office Meeting Room beginning

at 1:00 p.m. It's not too early to start on displays for the County Fair! Learn time saving tips for making posters and tri-folds. Learn about making your displays stand out. This is open to all 4-H families. Please RSVP to Vicky Wallace at vicky.wallace55@gmail.com or (620)804-9170.

Wildcat District Livestock Judging Team Facebook Group

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



4-H Camp Scholarships

Camp Scholarships are available through the 4-H Council. These are limited to one per youth per year. To be eligible for this, you must complete a Talk/Demonstration at County 4-H Club Days or participate in Favorite Foods Contest. The Scholarship will be refunded up to \$100 upon the youth's return from camp. This is a great way for youth to experience more youth development opportunities! There are also scholarships from Carolyn Zagonel and America's Farmers Grow Communitates donation. By filling out this application, youth can receive a \$100 scholarship for a 4-H camp/activity. Please call Will if you have any questions.

Camp Dates 2025

Summer Camps and Events- Remember that for some camps, space is limited and is first come, first serve. If you have any questions, please let me know. Don't forget that you can earn up to a \$100 scholarship toward camp by doing an individual talk/demo or favorite foods at 4-H Club Day. There is also another scholarship for up to \$100. When bringing payments, please make checks payable to Crawford County 4-H Council.

Beginner Livestock Judging Camp- May 29 –

This is open to anyone and is held in Fredonia. Contact Cheri at the Fredonia office at 620-378-2167 if you plan to attend

District Challenge Day- June 2- this will be held in Fredonia at 3:00 PM. Contact Cheri at the Fredonia office if you plan to attend.

Area Livestock Contest- June 3- This is a 1-day event that includes Meats Judging, Skill a Thon, and Livestock Judging in Iola. Contact me and the coach if you plan to attend.

Discovery Days- June 4-6 - College readiness camp at Kansas State University for youth 13-18 years. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Full Waitlist Available- Greenbush Overnight 4-H Camp- June 9-10 - This is an overnight camp for youth 7-9 years. Limited space is available for the first 20 boys and 20 girls signed up. The cost for this year is \$85. **Registration will open on Friday, March 7th, at NOON.** **Step 1-** Fill out the registration link when it goes live on Friday at noon. The registration is full if it does not let you select a cabin when completing the link. Contact me afterward to be put on the waitlist. **Step 2-** Bring the completed forms and payment to the Extension Office.

Full Waitlist Available- Sewing Camp- June 10-12- Youth 10 and up. May not attend more than 2 years in a row. Takes place at the Extension Office. A waitlist is available if you would like to call the office at 620-724-8233 to be added.

Area Challenge Day- June 12- This event is in Emporia and includes Horticulture, Crops, Family and Consumer Science, Favorite Foods, and Photography Judging. Please let me or the coach know if you plan to attend.

Geology Field Trips- June 13-15 - These events travel each year to different parts of the state.

Floating on Leadership- June 17 – This is a one-day event for youth 13-18. Youth must know how to swim to attend. The cost is \$40; the permission slip can be found on the website [HERE](#).

Greenbush Day Camp- June 18 – This camp is for youth 10-13. **Registration will open on Friday, March 7th, at NOON.** The cost is \$25. **Step 1-** Fill out the registration link when it goes live on Friday at noon. The registration is full if it does not let you select a cabin when completing the link. Contact me afterward to be put on the waitlist. **Step 2-** Bring the

completed forms and payment to the Extension Office.

Livestock Judging Camp- June 30- July 2- This camp is open to all youth interested in learning more about judging livestock. Contact Keith, Ryan, or me for more information.

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

Yearly Calendar

There is a complete list of dates on the website for this year's dates and events. Please note that not all dates are available at this time.

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 to ensure that 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 are just over a week away from the first official Fair activity. (Beef Weigh-In) 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. No room exists 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 has 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 is everyone going to agree with or like. 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 that youth will carry with them 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 have more accurate information coming to me rather than taking secondhand information. So, if we need to chat, just call the office or send me an email, and we can set up a time to do so.

Record Books

Now is the time to begin thinking about record books. This year, you will be able to do those online! Recourses can be found for the forms 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>

Host Families Needed for International Delegates

Looking for fun and excitement this summer? States 4-H and Kansas 4-H has a great opportunity for families this summer to host a new international friend in your home this summer. Kansas 4-H International Exchange Programs are offering hosting opportunities for families to host youth from Costa Rica: June 25 – July 19; Japan: July 21 – August 16; Norway: June 25 – July 19; and Taiwan: July 3 – August 2. Host families are needed to host an international boy or girl. The international youth will be between the ages of 12 - 18. Kansas 4-H's responsibility is to make host family assignments matching each delegate with an American same-gender host sibling as soon as possible so that families and exchange delegates can communicate and get to know each other.

Any Kansas family with children aged 10-19 who are interested in a cultural exchange may host. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a separate room from the host sibling. Delegates are 100 percent medically covered with 4-H insurance and bring their own spending money. They can go on host family vacations and camping trips or join their host siblings for summer camps and the county fair. The focus is everyday family life.

Interested families can complete the application at <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/> to start the process. The Japanese Delegates' personal information forms arrive in February.

If you have further questions, please call Pam Van Horn, Kansas 4-H Japanese Exchange Coordinator, (785) 826-8917, or e-mail pvanhorn@ksu.edu or Mary Kay Munson, State Coordinator Costa Rica, Norway, and Taiwan, mkm2@ksu.edu.



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