



Crawford County 4-H News

March 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**

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| March 2 | All Summer Camp Registrations Open at NOON |
| March 3 | County Fair Judges Training 5:30 PM @ Parsons Research Center |
| March 7 | Beef Producer Day in Manhattan |
| March 26 | Beef Weigh In @ Mesa Animal Clinic 6-7:30 PM |
| March 27 | FSCC Aggie Day |
| 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 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 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 |

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.



Record Books

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

Entomology Project

Insect Heads Up!

We are learning about what is in and on an insect's head. Come join us on February 14th for the SE Kansas Entomology project meeting. We will meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Allen County Extension Office meeting room. We will be pinning insect specimens again, so bring your pinning boards, and supplies and 3 or 4 insects to pin. 4-Hes if you need to practice a talk or demonstration for Club Day on any project, we would be glad to listen to your presentation. Questions? Call Vicky at (620)804-9170.

Rabbit Project Meeting

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

The meeting will be held at the extension office at 9 a.m. February 21-Rabbit basics (ie, care, supplies, record books-goal setting, picking a breed)

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

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 the 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 is also the scholarship from 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

Registration opens Monday, March 2nd at Noon and Closes Friday, May 1st at Noon or until full!

Summer Camps and Events- Save the Date! Below is a list of all the camps being offered locally this summer. I will send out registration links when they are live, typically around the first of March. Please note that space is limited at some camps and available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Don't forget that you can earn up to \$100 scholarship toward camp by giving an individual talk/demo or sharing your favorite foods at 4-H Club Day.

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

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: This is 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.

Market Steer/Feeder Steers - The tag/weigh-in will take place on **Thursday, March 26**, at Mesa Animal Clinic, 518 E 47 Hwy, Girard, KS 66743, from **6:00 to 7:30 PM**. 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. The tags are \$4 each. Please bring cash or a check made out to 4-H Council to pay for your tags. **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.**

This year's event will take place on a Thursday evening due to scheduling conflicts with other youth events and activities. If you cannot attend on a Thursday evening, please arrange a time with me

beforehand. Also know that you are always welcome to reach out to a trusted friend or family member to bring your animals for you. The youth does not have to be present at the time of tagging.

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.

Save the Date! K-State Junior Producer Days Scheduled

The 2026 K-State Junior Producer Days have been scheduled. The dates are provided below. We host two Junior Producer Days each year, with beef and sheep in even years and swine and meat goats in odd years. We will be hosting a Junior Beef and Sheep Producer Day next spring. These are one-day educational events focused on a specific species for families, extension agents, and ag teachers to learn about selecting and managing youth livestock projects. All ages and skill levels are invited to attend!

Registration information will be released in the next few weeks. Once released, updates will be emailed to those on the YLP listserv, posted on the Youth Livestock Program Facebook page, and added to the Junior Producer Days page of the Youth Livestock Program website, located under the Events tab.

K-State Junior Beef Producer Day – Saturday, March 7, 2026

K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day – Saturday, April 11, 2026

Wildcat Extension District
Crawford County
120 E. Buffalo
Girard, KS 66743

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GIRARD, KANSAS
PERMIT NO. 120

March 2026

Will Morris
4-H Youth Development
Wildcat Extension District
willmorris@ksu.edu