



Crawford County 4-H News

May 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. Parents, please check your emails to stay updated on all camp and fair information.

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**

May 1	Camp Sign-Up Deadline, Market Beef Nominations Due, New Family Enrollment Deadline for New Families
May 10	Entomology Project Meeting
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

Where is Will?

The warmer weather means more events and activities are happening. Please know you are always welcome to pop in the office any time. However, to make the most of your time and ensure I am not out at a program, I would encourage you to email or call the office before setting up a time with me. Email- willmorris@ksu.edu Phone- 620-724-8233

Youth Enrollment Fee

An enrollment fee has to be paid before you can 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 get in touch with 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 have access to 4-H Online quickly, as well as each county page, registration links, and our district calendar. This is a FREE app that scans the QR code.

Wildcat 4-H Connection



District Wide and County Specific Calendars

Event Registration Links

Camp Information

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Pre-Fair BBQ Tickets

Tickets have been given to club leaders. Each member is required to sell five tickets. There are prizes for the top 4 ticket sellers. To be considered

for the top seller, you must turn in the ticket count by July 24. The BBQ is on Sunday, July 27, 5:30-7:00 PM at the Fairgrounds.

Junior Leaders

Junior Leader's next meeting will be on Monday, June 23, at 6:30 p.m.

4-H Council

The Next 4-H Council meeting will be Monday, June 23, at 7:30 p.m. Remember, each club should have two council reps, one president, and two adult leaders attend. If one cannot participate, they need to find an alternate to fill in for that meeting.

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 on May 15 and will close on **July 15th**

Fair Proposals

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

Dog Project Meeting

Dog project meetings will be held at 6:00 PM every Thursday at the Crawford County Fairgrounds from May 29th through July 24th. Contact Kristin Heuer or Johanna Walker at k_heuer@mail.com for more information.

Western Heritage

Hello 4-H Families, the Western Heritage shooting sports project continues to meet 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. Sanford showed everyone how to cut wood using 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 more participants in this shooting sport; parents are always welcome to participate in any activities. In our next meeting on November 30th, we will have a guest teach us about pistols and rifles that use black powder, including going to the range to try them. If you are interested, please get in touch with the 4-H office for more information. Call, text, or email Brian Sanford 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

-May 24- 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 will try to include guest speakers for various topics; let me know what you want to hear about rabbits or the rabbit project.

I have created a FB page for rabbit project members 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 must 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 sometime during 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. To participate in the program, beginners MUST attend the range and safety orientation on April 13. If you cannot make that meeting, please get in touch with 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. Email, text, or call Dan Mosier II at danmosierii@gmail.com, 620-687-0643 for more information.

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 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 an excellent way for youth to experience more youth development opportunities! There are also scholarships from

Carolyn Zagonel and donations from America's Farmers Grow Communities. 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/Contest Dates 2025

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 13-18 years old youth. Those registered will receive an email from Will closer to the time. -Registration Closed

Greenbush Overnight 4-H Camp- June 9-10 - This overnight camp is for 7-9 years old youth. Those registered will receive an email from Will closer to the time. -Registration Closed

Sewing Camp- June 10-12- Youth 10 and up. May not attend more than 2 years in a row. -Registration Closed

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 yearly to different parts of the state.

Floating on Leadership- June 17 – This one-day event is 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. Those registered will receive an email from Will closer to the time.

Greenbush Day Camp- June 18 – This camp is for youth 10-13. Those registered will receive an email from Will closer to the time. -Registration Closed

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 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 and events on the website for this year. 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 ensure we keep each other accountable and hopefully provide youth with a fun, safe, positive experience. 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 a fantastic 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 is in the past, and everyone is expected to do their best moving forward. As they prepare to enter any 4-H event, I hope everyone checks 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- Everyone is expected to have 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 going to be agreed upon or liked. 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 vast 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 that sometimes things must 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 always to 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 a young person is likely watching and learning from you wherever you are, so be sure to be a positive role model.

What's your why? - Not every family has the same goals and values when 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 essential 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, call the office or email me, and we can set up a time.

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

State Livestock Nomination Information

Nomination season is here! All forms and information about the process can be found online at the Kansas Youth Livestock Page. This is a reminder that this process requires hard deadlines to show livestock at the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show.

Host Families Needed for International Delegates

Looking for fun and excitement this summer? States 4-H and Kansas 4-H have a great opportunity for families to host a new international friend in their home this summer. Kansas 4-H International Exchange Programs offer 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 global 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 interested in a cultural exchange may host. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a 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.

May Entomology Project Meeting

Our May Entomology project meeting will be on May 10th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. starting at the Allen County Extension Office Meeting Room. We will be going out and trying to collect some insect specimens. Bring your nets, kill jars, and specimen containers.

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Wildcat
Extension

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