



Crawford County 4-H News

May 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. Parents, please check your emails for updates 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	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 2	Wildcat District Challenge Day in Fredonia
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 18	Beginning Livestock Judging Camp in Parsons
June 19-20	Insect Spectacular
June 22	Fair Entry Help Night 6:00 PM 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
July 21	Junior Leaders Ice Cream Making and Barnyard Olympics Prep 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Training 5:45 PM Pre-Fair Clean Up 6-9 PM

Where is Will?

The warmer weather means more events and activities are happening. Please know you are always welcome to pop into 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

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

Junior Leaders

The Junior Leaders' next meeting will be held on Monday, June 22, at 6:30 p.m.

4-H Council

The Next 4-H Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 22, 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.

Pre-Fair BBQ Tickets

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 23. The BBQ is on Sunday, July 26, 5:30-7:00 PM at the Fairgrounds.

Crawford County 2026 Fair Book!

Below is the link to the website where you will find the 2026 Crawford County Fair Book. In the online version, all updates are 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 2026 Crawford County Fair. Any future proposals made at the 4-H Council or Fair Board will be considered for Fair 2027.

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.

Entomology Project

Pinning and labels will be the focus of the April 11th Entomology project meeting. We will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Allen County Extension Office meeting room. Bring 3 or 4 insects to pin. Parents, bring your laptop or a zip drive so I can set up a spreadsheet for insect labels. Also, each 4-H'er may bring a project talk or demonstration on **any project they are enrolled in** - it does not have to be about Entomology. Don't forget to put your insects to pin in the relaxing chamber on Thursday night or Friday morning.

Also, a reminder that registration for Insect Spectacular is scheduled to open up on April 24th.

Rabbit Project Meeting

At the small animal barn(fairgrounds)-9am

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 ages 10-13.

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

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 own knowledge and skill development rather than 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 must register for this event 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. Buffalo
Girard, KS 66743

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