Sherman County Family 4-H Handbook 26-27





Para recursos en español por favor visite

https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/spanish-information/

Connect with us on social media!

Find us on: facebook

K-State Research and Extension Sunflower District

https://www.facebook.com/SunflowerExtensionDistrictAGFCS/

K-State Research & Extension Sunflower District

Find us on: facebook

https://www.facebook.com/sunflowerextensiondistrictshermancounty4h/

Facebook: Sunflower Extension District Sherman County 4-H

4-H Online

https://4honline.com/#/user/sign-in

https://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/

KSRE - Sunflower Extension District #6

remind

4-H Members & Family

(Code: 379hac)

Join to get 4-H texts from the county office.

Ask your club for their remind app code.

Sunflower Extension District #6
Sherman County Extension
813 Broadway, Room 301
Goodland, KS 67735
785-890-4880

Kansas State University Extension Sherman County

Beyond Ready

Table of Contents

Are you Thinking about Joining Sherman County 4-H?

What is 4-H? 3
What Happens in 4-H? 3
Parents: Partners on the 4-H Team 4
4-H Thriving……5
Why Join 4-H? 6
Emblem, Colors, Pledge, Motto 7
Mission of 4-H 7
How 4-H Began..... 7
Choose From Over 30 Projects..... 7
Use of the 4-H Emblem - Quick Reference……...8
4-H Age, Enrollment Deadline, Cost 9
Kansas 4-H Cloverbuds (5-6 Year Olds) Program Policies…..……..……..10

Ready to Enroll in Sherman County 4-H?

Enroll in 4-H Annually..... 11
Choose a Sherman County 4-H Club..... 11
Independent Membership……...11
2025-2026 Project List……..12
Choose a Project or Projects 13
County-wide Project Groups/Meetings..... 13
You are a 4-H Member—Now What?..... 14

Welcome to Sherman County 4-H

Sherman County 4-H Leadership Groups 15
(Jr. Leader Club, JR Project Leader, Ambassadors, 4-H Council)
Community 4-H Club Meetings 16
Club Officers 16
Club Rotation Events……..17
Club Achievement Goals—Clubs set goals annually…18-19
4-H Leader Roles..... ……..20
Share your Skills—Become a 4-H Volunteer 20
4-H Project Meetings..... 21
Record Keeping in 4-H Kansas Project Report Form (KPRF).....22
Sherman County 4-H KPRF Awards and Recognition 23
Achievement and Key Awards 24
Other Recognition……..……..24
Older 4-H Member Opportunities 25
4-H Scholarships 25
(State 4-H and County 4-H)
Camps.....26
Kansas State 4-H Opportunities…. 26-27
Policy for Sherman County 4-H Support……28
County/Sunflower District Event. 29
4-H Pledge……..……..30
Animal Science Project Information.....……...31
4-H Deadlines.....32
Why 4-H Members Should Say Thank You 32
As the 4-H Year Begins Remember: 32
Who's Who in 4-H? 33
Northwest Kansas District Free Fair - Animal ID.....34
Judging at County Fair.. ..... ….35

A 4-H Year in Sherman County— Events and Deadlines

October—September List of Events 36-39

How to Be a 4-H MVP (Most Valuable Parent)

Care to Share.....40-41
How to Be a 4-H MVP 42
Best Practices for 4-H Publicity……43

Are you thinking about joining Sherman County 4-H?

What is 4-H?

- 4-H is a volunteer led, educational program.
- 4-H is an informal educational program for all boys and girls 7—18 years of age **as of December 31 of the 4-H Year and enrolled in 4-H** whether they live in town, the country, or on a farm.
- Youth ages 5—6 years of age **as of December 31 of the 4-H Year** and enrolled in 4-H may participate as a Cloverbud through local 4-H clubs. See the Cloverbuds section for additional information.
- 4-H is having fun and learning with friends.
- 4-H is older 4-H members sharing experiences and teaching younger members things they have learned.
- 4-H develops "life skills" through the use of research based project materials and experiential learning (hands-on experiences).

What Happens in 4-H?

In 4-H, youth "learn by doing." Youth learn useful skills, how to get along with people, and how to help your community. Some activities you can participate in:

Club Meetings…	members attend monthly meetings to plan and carry out what they want to do as a group
Project Work…	members choose at least one project of interest per year
Demonstrations…	members learn to speak in front of others
Recreation…	members play games and make new friends
Community Service…	members help improve their community
County Contests…	members may choose to enter contests and compete
Exhibits…	members exhibit their best project work at the county fair
Camps…	members may participate in a day camp, overnight camp, or stay in the dorms on the K-State campus
State Events…	members strengthen their leadership and citizenship skills while making friends from across the state

Parents: Partners on the 4-H Team

Parents are important in their 4-Her's life. When you make 4-H a family affair, you will take an active role in your children's activities. 4-H encourages children and their parents and other adults to work side by side, play together, and watch each other develop skills and talents.

Areas of Parent Partnership, Engagement, and Responsibility

Enrollment

- Learn what 4-H is about, it's purpose, its objectives.
- Assist your children in selecting projects they like, they have the ability to do, and one for which you can furnish needed materials. Ask questions! Is there a project leader or project support in the county. If not, are you or someone you know able to provide support for your child to complete the project?
- Show a genuine interest and enthusiasm in 4-H, your children, and other club members.
- Go online to enroll in projects for the year.

Enroll online at: https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in

Club Meetings and Activities

- Pay attention to communication from 4-H Club Leaders.
- Encourage your child's participation in 4-H Club activities.
- See that your child has a way to get to club meetings and that he/she attends regularly.
- Attend club meetings with your child.

Project Activities

- Give encouragement and guidance in your children's project work by showing enthusiasm and interest in their work with record keeping, KPRForms, demonstrations, judging, etc. Help them understand what to do, but give them the responsibility for the actual work that is to be done.
- Show a personal interest in your children. Show an interest in the projects they select and other events in which they participate.
- Inspire and encourage them to keep up with their 4-H records and complete their work.
- Familiarize yourself with project materials so you can help when needed.
- Provide for ownership and growth. Make it possible for your children to own their projects and help them plan for expansion of their project work.
- Share your talents and skills and consider becoming a 4-H Project Leader.
- Ask your local Extension Office for project material.

Liaison

- Keep in touch with members from the 4-H Club Leadership Team.
- Inform and remind your children of communications they have received.
- Reply to correspondence from your Club Leaders and the Extension Office, or help your children respond.

Adult Leadership

- Be willing to provide transportation. Be willing to volunteer for tasks that you can accomplish at the club and county level.
- **YOU could be a project leader!** It doesn't take an expert in photography to be a photography leader—the same with most all projects. An adult willing to meet with members and help them explore the topic and being sincerely interested in working with members is most important. If you would consider being a project leader, talk with your club's leaders or contact the Extension Office.
- The process to become a leader requires a volunteer application & background check and can be submitted by using 4-H Online. **See page 18 for more information.**

4-H Beyond Ready

https://www.kansas4-h.org/about/beyond-ready/



Young people need us now more than ever before.

More than ½ of Gen Z reports feeling loneliness and failure

30% of youth are chronically absent - doubled since the 2018-2019 school year

The job gap continues to grow. We need to prepare this generation to be ready.

WHY 4-H?

4-H is building a ready generation.

6M Reach
greater than any other youth development organization

Unmatched Network
from 3,000 counties to state & federal institutions

Proven Impact Model
spanning 20 years of longitudinal research

Youth that participate in 4-H programs emerge:

3X more likely to participate in community service

2X more likely to report living life with intentionality and purpose

2X more likely to have the goal of being a leader

Why Join 4-H?

Through the eyes of members:

- They learn, make, or do things that appeal and are meaningful to them.
- They make friends, belong to a group and give and receive acceptance.
- They have a good time, which makes learning appealing and enjoyable.

Through the eyes of adults—members become a contributing and caring adult to their community because of the knowledge and life skills they learned in 4-H. They:

- Develop an inquiring mind and a desire to learn.
- Make decisions and solve problems.
- Relate to and work with other people (youths and adults).
- Develop a concern for their community and the people in it.





Emblem, Colors, Pledge, Motto:

The colors of 4-H are:

Green- life, springtime, youth
White- fresh, clean



The four H's stand for ***head***, ***heart***, ***hands***, and ***health***.

The 4-H pledge is:

I PLEDGE
My Head to clearing thinking,
My Heart to greater loyalty,
My Hands to larger service,
My Health to better living,
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

The 4-H motto is: "To Make the Best Better!"
4-H members and volunteers learn the pledge and use it in their daily lives. The motto is to remind us to always strive for improvement, to continually set goals and give every effort your best.

Mission of 4-H

To provide educational opportunities for youth and adults to work in partnership as they develop life skills to become healthy, self-directing, and contributing members of society.

How 4-H Began

4-H began in the early 1900s. Girls participated in canning clubs, and boys in corn and pig clubs. In 1914, Congress passed an act establishing cooperative Extension and 4-H across the country. Corn, poultry and garden clubs existed in Kansas as early as 1905.

4-H has changed since its early days. 4-H is no longer a program just for rural kids! We've evolved to meet the needs of today's youth, and develop learning experiences for boys and girls of all ages. There is something for everyone!

Choose From Over 30 Projects!

4-H Project Resources:
https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/
https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/project-guides/ProjectSelectionGuideColor.pdf
https://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/projects/

Projects provide education experiences. Carrying out a project will help the member "learn by doing", learn why things happen the way they do, and develop skills. 4-H members should take at least one project each year and complete the records for that project.

It is recommended that young 4-H'ers and first year members limit projects to two. Members should join projects prior to participating in project meetings.

Use of the 4-H Emblem – Quick Reference

Complete official Emblem rules available online at
http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/emblem/4h_name.htm.

The 4-H Name & Emblem belong to the 4-H Youth Development Program, under the authority of USDA and anyone wishing to use it must obtain permission prior to use.



Requirements

- Clover has four leaves and an "H" on each leaf.
- The numeral "4" separated from a capital "H" with a hyphen (not a dash, slash, or space).
- Clover's stem **must** point to the right as you look at the image.
- Emblem should appear in specific colors and in its entirety.
- The statement "18 USC 707" **must** legibly appear either to the right of the base of the stem or below the lower right leaf of the clover.
- The Emblem should be kept upright.
- The "18 USC 707" should be the same color as the leaves.
- Clover may be outlined, green outline for white clover or white outline for green clover.



Colors of Emblem

- Clover is 100% PMS 347 green, H's reversed out to the color of the paper on which the emblem is printed. *This is the official and preferred color of the Emblem.*
- Clover can be green and H's can be white, metallic gold, or black.
- Clover can be black and H's can be white or black.
- Clover can be white and H's can be white, green, or black.
- Clover can be metallic gold and H's can be white or black.
- **One color printing** – green or black only accepted colors



Do NOT

- Flip, rotate, or turn image on its side
- Place over or obscure the emblem with a photo, drawing, symbol, word or other figure or object.
- Place text over on top of Emblem
- Superimpose an image over the top of one or more of the leaves
- Use to imply endorsement of any product or material



4-H Age, Enrollment Deadline, Cost

Enroll online at: https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in

Re-enroll in 4-H by December 1!

The 4-H year begins October 1 and ends September 30 of the following year.

- Members live in towns, in the country, and on farms. 4-H is open to all youth regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or disability.
- Youth wanting to join must be 7 years old and not older than 18 **as of December 31 of the new 4-H Year in order to be eligible for 4-H.** 4-H members who are selected as winners in late summer or fall, and who turn 19 before January 1, cannot compete in state or national contests, awards, or recognition programs.
- Youth ages 5—6 years old **as of December 31 of the new 4-H Year** to be eligible to participate in the Cloverbuds project which is offered through the 4-H clubs. Cloverbuds members are encouraged to attend Cloverbuds county-wide project meetings. (See Cloverbuds Section for policies.) There is no enrollment cost.
- ***All continuing Sherman County 4-H members*** must re-enroll and pay the annual State 4-H Enrollment Fee by **December 1** of each year to participate in the NW Kansas District Free Fair 4-H Division.
  - As of December 1, Extension Office reminders will only be sent to currently enrolled 4-H families.
  - The last day to drop or add a project is May 1 unless a project requires earlier enrollment.
- ***New 4-H Members*** may enroll at any time during the 4-H year. However, you must enroll and pay the annual State 4-H Enrollment Fee by **May 1** of the current 4-H year to participate in the NW Kansas District Free Fair 4-H Division. **Note:** Some projects require an earlier enrollment.
- **Enrollment Deadline to Represent the Sunflower District at State and National Level 4-H Competitions** Approved September 1, 2026. Members must enroll by the May 1 deadline with the enrollment fee paid to be eligible to represent the Sunflower District at State and National Level Competitions.
- The ***last day to drop or add a project is May 1*** of the current 4-H year.
- ***Cost to Join***—Kansas 4-H members pay a $15 annual State 4-H enrollment fee. Pay by credit card online. Pay by check made payable to *Kansas 4-H Youth Development* or in *cash* at the Sherman County Extension Office. If you are not able to afford the fee, contact the Sherman County Extension Office. Member enrollment scholarships may be available.
  - 4-H members purchase materials needed for individual projects.
  - Local clubs may develop their own methods of raising money for worthwhile activities.

The Sunflower Extension District—Sherman County Policy Is:

Are you a continuing Sherman County 4-H member?
Planning to show at the NW Kansas District Free Fair in the 4-H Division?
Re-enroll and pay the State $15 fee by December 1 of each year
to be eligible to show in the NW Kansas District Free Fair 4-H Division!
Pay by credit card on line. Pay by check made payable to *Kansas 4-H Youth Development* or *cash* at the Sherman County Extension Office.
Drop/add project deadline remains May 1 unless a project requires an earlier enrollment.

Enrollment Deadlines for NW Kansas District Free Fair 4-H Division Fair Participation

- ***Choose your 4-H projects online prior to participating in project meetings/activities.***
- ***Livestock projects must be identified online before weigh-in.***
- **Members enrolling after these dates are welcome to participate in the Fair Open Class Division.**

Kansas 4-H
www.Kansas4-H.org

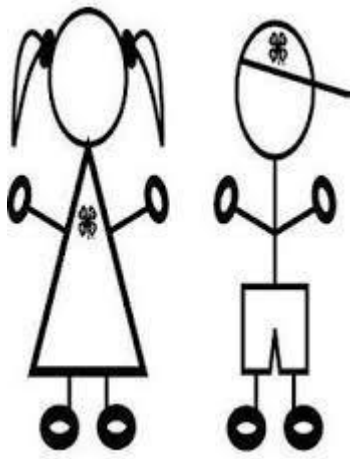
Check out the Sherman County 4-H Website for more information about 4-H. http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/sherman.html

Kansas 4-H Cloverbuds (5-6 Year Olds) Program Policies

Kansas 4-H Cloverbuds Guide and Policies: **https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H1077.pdf**

Kansas 4-H Policy Handbook: **https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/policy-guide/index.html**

Website: **https://www.kansas4-h.org/4-h-programs/cloverbuds/index.html**



In Sherman County, Cloverbuds members should join a 4-H Club and enroll in the Cloverbuds Project.

1. 4-H Cloverbuds is activity-focused, rather than project-focused.
2. The 4-H Cloverbuds programming is cooperative, rather than competitive.
3. 4-H Cloverbuds exhibits can be showcased at fairs and public events, but a 4-H Cloverbuds member may not participate as a competitive exhibitor in traditional 4-H events. The 4-H Cloverbuds member may receive a 4-H Cloverbuds ribbon.
4. The 4-H Cloverbuds member is allowed to showcase a pet from the approved list in accordance with4-H Cloverbuds pet policies. The 4-H Cloverbuds member may not have 4-H livestock exhibits that require long-term ongoing care or weigh-ins, nor can a member participate as a competitive 4-H exhibitor within livestock divisions.
5. The 4-H Cloverbuds members do not manage money.
6. The 4-H Cloverbuds member does not pay dues.

Cloverbuds Pet Policies

- A 4-H Cloverbuds member may showcase a pet from the approved pet list.
- Wildlife cannot be allowed (as per the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Policies and Statues)
- All pets must be caged, leashed, and/or contained as appropriate and manageable/under-control.
- A parent or guardian must be present with their child and pet at all times.
- Pets cannot be included in overnight exhibits at the fair but may be used as show-and-tell activity or showcase.

Approved Pets			
Amphibians (frogs, toads)	Ant Farms	Cats	Dogs
Fish	Gerbils	Guinea Pigs	Hamsters
Mice	Parakeets	Rabbits	Rats

Ready to Enroll in Sherman County 4-H?

Enroll in 4-H Annually—4-H Online - $15.00 Fee

https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online/index.html



With 4-H Online, families will be able to manage their 4-H enrollments, using a secure web-based online database system instead of paper forms. With the 4-H Online system, families can ensure their 4-H records are accurate; leaders can help manage 4-H Clubs; and the local Extension office can focus on providing information and a quality 4-H experience for youth.

All you need is a computer, tablet or smartphone with internet access and a valid e-mail address. The system works best with Firefox or Chrome. If you do not have a valid e-mail address or are unable to complete the enrollment online, please contact the Extension Office. We have a computer available for you to use. For 4-H enrollment deadline dates & payment of the annual 4-H fee, see page 7.

Choose a Sherman County 4-H Club that is right for you!

Country Clovers 4-H Club

Usually meets on the 3rd Monday at 7 PM at the Sherman County 4-H Building, Fairgrounds

- Leaders: Amanda Martin (785) 821-2661
  Katie Short (620) 290-0218

Prairie Dale 4-H Club

Usually meets on the 1st Monday at 5:30 PM at the Sherman County 4-H Building, Fairgrounds

- Leaders: Aranda Mader (785) 639-3564
  Bryn Mosbarger (719) 342-1445

Ruleton Eager Beavers 4-H Club

Usually meets on the 2nd Sunday at 3 PM at the Sherman County 4-H Building, Fairgrounds

- Leaders: Heather Evert (785) 547-6058

Sunflower 4-H Club

Usually meets on the 3rd Monday at 6:30 PM at the Goodland Church of Christ

- Leaders: Peggy Berls (785) 821-4187
  DJ Smith (785) 466-6128

Shooting Sports Club

Meeting times are TBD by the Leaders

- Julie Crow (785) 821-2606
- Matt McKenzie (785) 821-3890

Independent Membership Option

Kansas 4-H provides the option of independent membership. Any youth who wishes to be an Independent 4-H member in the Sunflower Extension District must complete an Individualized Study Agreement, which will be reviewed and approved by the Sunflower District Extension Board and Extension Agents. The study agreement shall be filed with the Extension Office in the county you are joining by the enrollment deadline date. A final report must be submitted by September 15 annually.

https://www.kansas4-h.org/4-h-programs/independent-members/index.html
https://www.kansas4-h.org/about/clubs-programs/independent-member-docs/Individual%20Study%20Agreement%20Form%20KSRE2020.pdf

Kansas 4-H Projects

Animal Science
Beef
Dairy Cattle
Dairy Goats
Dog
Horse
Meat Goats
Pets
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine
Veterinary Science

Communication & Expressive Arts
Communications
Interior Design & Architecture
Performing Arts
Photography
Visual Arts

Engineering & Technology
Aerospace/Rocketry
Ag Mechanics Welding
Astronomy
Building Block Engineering
Computer Science
Electric & Renewable Energy
Robotics
Small Engines
Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
Woodworking

Family & Consumer Sciences
Family Studies
Fiber Arts (includes 9 projects)
Foods & Nutrition
Health & Wellness
Sewing & Textile Design
Shopping in Style

Leadership & Personal Development
Civic Engagement
Entrepreneurship
Leadership
Reading Adventures
Self-Determined

Natural Resources
Environmental Science
Geology
Shooting Sports (includes 10 projects)
Wildlife

Plant Sciences
Agronomy
Entomology
Forestry
Horticulture & Landscape Design



Choose a Project or Projects

The last date to drop or add a project is May 1. Some projects may have earlier deadlines.

4-H Project Resources:
http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/

https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/project-guides/ProjectSelectionGuideColor.pdf

https://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/county_projects/

- Does the project meet the member's needs and interests?
- Is the project in keeping with the age and ability of the member? Will it challenge the member?
- How much time does the member have and how much time does the project require?
- What season of the year has most of the activity of the project?
- Is the project acceptable to you as parents and does it fit into the family needs and situation?
- How much will the project cost? Is it affordable?
- Is adequate space and equipment available?
- **Ask your club leader or contact the Extension Office to see if there are leaders to help with the project. If no leader is available, are you willing to help the member with the project? Or, do you know someone in the community who can help your child? If there isn't someone to help with the project, we recommend choosing a different one.**



County-wide Project Groups/Meetings

Some 4-H projects have county-wide leaders or project meetings.

Examples include:

Animal Science Clinics ***Archery*** ***Cloverbuds*** ***Dog***

Foods & Nutrition ***Horse***

Shotgun ***Woodworking*** ***Wildlife***

Welcome to Sherman County 4-H!

You are a 4-H Member—Now What?

The paperwork is in, and – you are officially a 4-H Member!
4-H is a Family Affair—Something the whole family can do!

Let's get started!

The Extension Office uses an app called Ban
Please join to stay informed. Go to
https://band.us/n/aca4b2bceeb0r and use
invite Code: VBF-PS8-WT

Most 4-H clubs and the county 4-H program use an app to send families reminders about meetings and activities.

To get reminders—download Remind: School Communication
(Join: 4-H Members & Family @379hac)
https://www.remind.com/classes/379hac/messages/stream/605fe2e4-39c8-43a3-a6d5-6f066f1b9b27

Check your email

Club Meetings and Activities – Be sure to attend club meetings and events. The best way to know what's going on and coming up is to be there and hear about it for yourself.

4-H Projects – Attend every project meeting you can! Project leaders are a wonderful resource. Begin working on your 4-H projects now. Do not wait until two weeks before Fair. Check with your club leader or project leader if they don't call you! If there is no project leader, a parent may need to identify resources for the member to complete the project. Project materials are available:

- Reasonably priced materials are available for every project in Kansas 4-H. You can order the materials for your project online or contact your local Extension Office for a check out copy. Find a list of recommended materials at: **http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/**

County/District Events – Get involved in county events; participate in 4-H Club Days, County 4-H Camp, Day Camp, and county/district project related events.

- **http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/** **http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/sherman.html**

Club Leadership – During your first year in 4-H, you won't likely be an elected club officer, but pay attention because you may want to get involved in that in the future!

Kansas 4-H Project Recognition – Youth 7 years old & up are encouraged to document their 4-H activities at the club, county, and state level in a Project Report. The report also helps you track community activities and your progress in 4-H projects. Ask older 4-H members about the benefit and importance of record books and record keeping as they apply for higher education, prepare their resume, and submit applications for jobs. **http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html.** Check with your club leaders for the Project Report due date for your club & where to turn them in.

The Kansas 4-H Youth Development Policy Guide— includes valuable information about the Kansas 4-H Program.
https://4h.ksu.edu/resources/policy-guide/Kansas%204-H%20Policy%20Handbook%202024%20FINAL.pdf



Sherman County 4-H Leadership Groups

Junior Leader Club

This organization is for anyone who is enrolled in Leadership grades 6th to 12th**.** Junior Leaders help younger members and learn the value of community service.

- The group plans social activities and events for its members and the Sherman County 4-H Program.
- Participate in fundraisers to support education and leadership development.

Junior Project Leaders

Who are 4-H Junior Project Leaders?

4-H members who are 12 years old or older (4-H age), may enroll in 4-H Online as a Junior Project Leader in one or more projects.

What do 4-H Junior Project Leaders do?

Junior Project Leaders work ***under the guidance of a certified adult leader*** to plan, organize, teach, and lead project related learning activities.

Junior Project Leaders serve as positive role models while they help younger 4-H members with their project. Junior Project Leaders should complete the volunteer orientation training on 4-H Online. In all cases, a certified adult leader should be present when a Junior Project Leader is working with a group of 4-H members or other youth.

4-H Junior Project Leaders and Project Records

If you are a 4-H Junior Project Leader in a project in which you are enrolled, you can report what you learned to develop a project meeting or activity in **Section 3** – Project Learning Experiences. You can also report teaching or presenting at the meeting in **Section 5** – Project Leadership. If you are a Junior Project Leader for a project in which you aren't enrolled, you may wish to enroll in the Leadership Project and report your learning and leadership efforts there. In either case, don't forget to write about your experiences in **Section 8** – Project Reflection or Summary.

4-H Ambassadors

The Ambassador program provides each county with the opportunity to develop a small-scale public information program through its members. The basic criteria of this program is:

- Ambassadors will be selected by a committee on the basis of an application.
- Must be a current 4-H member in good standing and have been a 4-H member for the last two years.
- Must be currently enrolled in high school.
- Must be willing to commit 2 years (1 year if you are a Senior) to the program.
- Must demonstrate an ability and willingness to work. This program is not designed to be an award - it will demand commitment and hard work.
- Must show obvious signs of courtesy, warmth and poise.
- Must demonstrate a keen sense of responsibility. Although the ambassadors will be a team, there will be a great deal of individual effort required.

Sherman County 4-H Council

4-H clubs elect two 4-H member (twelve years and older) representatives plus the club leaders to this group. They meet four or more times a year. The purpose of the Council is to aid in the development of all 4-H Youth programs (approved by the District Extension Board) by giving leadership to the planning and conducting of educational events, volunteer leader training and teen leadership development.

- The 4-H Council meets several times a year, typically on the first Monday of the month.

Community 4-H Club Meetings

4-H members are given the opportunity to learn and practice decision-making in group situations.

- Most clubs hold monthly meetings, normally the same time each month.
- Clubs organize opportunities for recreation, service projects and work on improving communication skills through talks and demonstrations.
- Members are expected to attend club meetings and parents are encouraged to attend…4-H is a family affair!

A meeting includes business, educational program and recreation. The club officers and 4-H members are responsible for conducting the meeting. Adult leaders serve as advisors.

- **Opening** - Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, and 4-H Pledge.
- **Business** - Roll call, secretary's report, treasurer's report, committee reports, old business, and new business. It should be short and snappy. It is a small democracy in action. It presents the opportunity for group consensus and parliamentary procedures to be learned and practiced.
- **Education** - program, demonstrations, talks, and guest speakers.
  Demonstrations -"Show and Tell" type presentations where 4-H members share some of the things they have learned in their project. Most consist of three parts: Introduction, Body, Summary.
  Illustrated Talks - differ from demonstrations in that they tell how rather than show how. Charts, models and other visuals are important for illustrated talks.
  Project Talks - Project talks are given about the member's project. They project talk can relate things experienced in the project, or give information relating to the project.
- **Fun** - recreation, songs, skits, refreshments, and entertainment.

http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/sherman.html

Club Officers

4-H Club officers are elected by members. Each officer has a specific job.

President	Presides over the business meeting. Keeps members involved and discussions organized.
Vice President	Leads in the president's absence, introduces guests, and is the program chair.
Secretary	Writes meeting notes, keeps attendance records, maintains and brings the secretary's book to all meetings, and keeps track of all communications.
Treasurer	Takes care of the club money, pays bills, keeps an accurate account of the club's finances, and reports at each club meeting.
Reporter	Sends news stories to local newspapers/radio stations and plans publicity for events.
Recreation	The recreation leader leads games and other fun activities.
Song Leader	The song leader leads the group in singing.

https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/leader-resources/clubcorner/officer-resources/

https://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/Club%20Leaders.html

CLUB ROTATION EVENTS

Clubs are assigned on an annual basis to help plan & carry out various county activities.
Families are asked to support their club as they carry out various tasks.

2026-2027 CLUB ROTATION

****

4-H DAYS & TALENT NIGHT

CLUB IN CHARGE: JR Leaders

4-H Project Talks, Demonstrations, & Creative Tables
Help with set-up, hang signs on doors, announce for judges, help with Lifeskills Judging and clean up.

4-H Talent
In charge of the ceremony, line up contestants, and clean up.

ALL Clubs bring finger foods. Paper supplies provided by 4-H Council
****

STYLE REVUE
Plan stage decorations (the Fairboard will pay for decorations within means), responsible for finding master of ceremonies, writing scripts, setting up for style revue, announcing for judges, line up 4-H'ers, and clean-up.

CLUB IN CHARGE: Country Clovers & Sunflower
****

APPRECIATION BAR-B-QUE

CLUB IN CHARGE: Prairie Dale & Ruleton Eager Beavers

Set up tables, organize food, make drinks, cook meat, take tickets and money, serve food, and clean up.
****

TRUNK OR TREAT

CLUB IN CHARGE: JR Leaders
****

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

Set up, greet, present the awards, & tear down

CLUB IN CHARGE: Ambassadors
****

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK PROMOTION

CLUBS IN CHARGE: All Clubs
****

SOCIAL MEDIA—All clubs ae encouraged to post to Social Media (please do not post pictures with the youth's name).

CLUBS IN CHARGE: All Clubs
****

Return to your Extension Office by the KS Project Report Form Due Date Annually

Sherman County Club Seals – Clubs set goals annually

Name of club:_____

Each club sets achievement goals for the year.

Members and parents play an important role in helping your club achieve. What can you do to help?

PURPLE SEAL

_____ Hold at least 11 regular meetings

_____ Turn in a Secretary Notebook, Treasurer Notebook, Financial Review, & the Sunflower District Review Forms

_____ Fulfill any 20 additional "guidelines"

RED SEAL

_____ Hold at least 9 regular meetings

_____ Turn in a Secretary Notebook, Treasurer Notebook, Financial Review, & the Sunflower District Review Forms

_____ Fulfill any 12 additional "guidelines"

Blue Seal

_____ Hold at least 10 regular meetings

_____ Turn in a Secretary Notebook, Treasurer Notebook, Financial Review, & the Sunflower District Review Forms

_____ Fulfill any 15 additional "guidelines"

WHITE SEAL

_____ Hold at least 8 regular meetings

_____ Turn in a Secretary Notebook, Treasurer Notebook, Financial Review, & the Sunflower District Review Forms

_____ Fulfill any 10 additional "guidelines"

GUIDELINE FOR SEALS - To qualify for a white, red, blue, or purple seal, a club shall meet the requirements of meetings held plus the number of optional guidelines for the seal level your club is applying for.

_____1. Present one or more demonstrations or illustrated talks in a county contest.
_____2. Have a majority of the officers attend a 4-H Officer Training.
_____3. Have a parent's night or program.
_____4. Plan and carry out one or more group projects such as safety, health, natural resources (outdoor topic areas such as wildlife, outdoor living skills, fishing, water, plant or soil conservation), recreation, emergency preparedness, citizenship, ecology, pollution control, THE GARDEN at North School, etc.
_____5. Provide in-person service to the community, such as presenting a program for another organization, assisting persons less fortunate, assisting with some worthy cause, or helping in a community event.
What did your club do?_____
_____6. Have three or more 4-H members participate in a county, district, or state judging school or contest. Includes life skills judging. Does not need to be a 4-H event.
List school or contest and names of 4-Her's judging. _____
_____7. Have an achievement program at a regular or special 4-H meeting to bring the accomplishments of the club and the 4-H members to the attention of the people in the area.
_____8. Hold a club project tour or a local club fair.
_____9. Present a program to explain and promote 4-H at school or open house. (Cooperate with County Extension Agents).
____10. Organize a window display (or indoor display) promoting some phase of 4-H work during National 4-H Week or any other time during the year.

____11. Have a club booth at the County Fair or a County 4-H Show promoting some phase of 4-H Work.
____12. Have a Club Educational Display at the County Fair that focuses on a project area.
____13. Have a 4-H float in the fair parade.
____14. Have an exchange meeting or other event with another 4-H Club in the county or another county.
____15. Participate in Sunday Observance.
____16. Have a 4-H member participate in a State 4-H Event.
____17. Have a 4-H member participate in a Regional Event.
____18. Have a 4-H member participate in two or more county/district 4-H events such as the Style Revue, Dog Show, Creative Tables, Super Saturday, Club Days, Day Camp, or other similar events. Give the number of entries in each.
____19. Have some exhibits from your club at the Kansas State Fair in the current year.
____20. Have a 4-H member participate in the Kansas State Fair in ways other than exhibiting project work.
____21. Make a membership contribution to the Kansas 4-H Foundation.
____22. Contribute to a county fund, such as a contribution to Cancer, March of Dimes, Tuberculosis, Heart, Muscular Sclerosis, Match Day, Toy Drive, Genesis or similar drives. What fund?_____
____23. Increase the number of 4-H members in the club as follows: red seal 2%, blue seal 5%, purple seal 10%.
____24. Increase the number of 4-H members completing project record book forms as follows: red seal 20%, blue seal 30%, purple seal 40%.
____25. Present or participate in a radio program about 4-H.
Who, when, radio station:_____
____26. Create a video on 4-H and publish it on the county 4-H Facebook page or other social media.
Who, when, social media_____
____27. Have one or more older 4-H members attend Counseling in Training (CIT) at Rock Springs, serve as a Rock Springs Counselor, or assist with a local 4-H sponsored day camp.
____28. Take an educational one-day trip or tour. Where, what_____
____29. Visit people in a rest home and/or provide a program or programs and remembrances for them.
____30. Plan and present a model meeting during the current year. See suggested procedures for model meetings in the guidelines for County & Regional Club Days on the Sunflower District 4-H webpage.
https://www.sunflower.kstate.edu/4-h/countyclubdays.html
____31. Complete any two self-determined goals.
List goals: _____
What did you do?_____
____32. Turn in your club program & meeting schedule to the Extension Office.
____33. Turn in a Historian Book with an option of an electronic or paper version.
____34. Turn in a Reporter Book with an option of an electronic or paper version.

Updated: November 2025

4-H Leader Roles

Community Club Leader: Volunteers responsible for the general organization of the club

Project Leader: A volunteer who leads a project. They are parents, a Jr. Leader, or a community member.

JR Project Leader: 4-H teens who work with an adult leader to give leadership to activities, events, and/or projects. A 4-H member who is 12 years of age **as of December 31 of the new 4-H Year** and enrolled as a JR Project Leader (county-wide) in the specific project. They take an active role in helping the younger members in the 4-H Program.

Parent Committee: The committee is made up of three to five adults. Duties will vary from club to club, but their basic responsibilities are: recruit and orient project leaders and/or community club leaders, make arrangements for training leaders at the club level, connect with new families, and assist the club leader at his/her request.



Share Your Skills—Become a 4-H Volunteer

Today's youth need caring adult volunteers to assist them to develop leadership citizenship and life skills. Pledge to share with 4-H'ers in your community. Volunteers help members with 4-H projects and activities. You could launch a career. The return on your investment is something that money can't buy. Invest in the future today!

https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/policy-guide/Kansas%204-H%20Policy%20Handbook%202023.pdf **Page 33**

All individuals who work in close, ongoing interaction with youth, ***or*** volunteers (youth or adult) with authority to independently plan and conduct 4-H educational experiences for youth with other adults present or in a public setting must go through the Volunteer Screening process.

We encourage parents to become a registered volunteer.

New Adult Kansas 4-H Volunteer Applicant Steps

1. If your family uses the Kansas 4HOnline system at: https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in
you already have a family account. Login to your family and add yourself as a new family member. If your family has never used 4HOnline, you will need to create a new family account before creating an adult profile for yourself.
2. Complete the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Orientation via Kansas 4HOnline at home or your local Extension Office.
3. After completing the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Orientation, notify your local Extension Office and schedule an interview appointment with 4-H Staff. **Sherman County Extension Office: 785.890.4880**
4. Upon completing the interview, the Extension Office will provide information for the required background checks. Initial screening of volunteers will occur when you sign up to volunteer. Re-screening for volunteers will be done by the Sunflower Extension District Board every three years from when the original screening was completed.
5. The Extension Office will compile information and submit the applicant's packet for approval.
6. The Extension Office will send each volunteer a letter concerning volunteer status and appointment for 4-H work and update status within the Kansas 4-H Online system.

4-H Project Meetings

Each 4-H member is required to enroll in a minimum of one project. There are more than 45 different project options, and several levels, allowing a member to advance their skills. If your club, county, or district does not have a project leader, parents may need to find resources to help their child complete their project work.

4-H competitive events and fairs provide opportunities to have their project work judged against a set of standards. Exhibit evaluations are meant to be a positive and motivating part of the total 4-H experience. The exhibit is not an end in itself, nor does it illustrate all of the learning that has taken place during the 4-H year.

Project work is completed in a number of ways.

- Project meetings (in the local club or county-wide, workshop courses, etc.)
- Regular club meetings (demonstrations, project talks, etc.)
- Guest speakers, field trips, activities, etc.
- Tours
- Field trips
- Family activity at home
- Exhibiting projects at shows, fairs, etc.
- Record keeping

The greatest and most lasting reward a 4-H member can receive:

Satisfaction from a job well done
Pride in his or her accomplishments
Recognition from leaders, parents, and other 4-H members
Knowledge and skill gained through the project

K State Bookstore 4-H Youth Development Project Materials:
https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/topic/4-h-youth-development
Description of projects and project resource lists:
http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/
Project Selection Guide:
https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/project-guides/ProjectSelectionGuideColor.pdf



Record Keeping in 4-H — Kansas Project Report Form (KPRF)

Kansas Project Report Forms:
Fillable: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html
Online: https://4h.zsuite.org/
Guide to Kansas 4-H Project Recognition can be found at: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html

Question: **Why is record keeping an important part of 4-H?**
Answer: Good record keeping reflects accomplishments and serves as the basis for awards, trips, and other forms of recognition. Few people enjoy record keeping, however, keeping good records is a valuable life skill. Keeping records helps you keep track of what you are learning and helps you measure your progress. Your records are useful in the future when you are applying for scholarships and completing job applications.

Members should plan to complete a Kansas Project Report Form for one or more projects in which they are enrolled each year along with a permanent record form.

The **KPRF** covers the project work completed during the **current** year. The **KPRF** asks for information about goal setting, knowledge and skills learned, work accomplished including expenses and receipts, leadership, photos, and other project information. **A permanent record form is required for local level judging and includes participation for each year the member is in 4-H.** Members may receive county and state recognition awards based on completed project report forms and are invited to the 4-H Achievement Program held in the fall. One senior level record book in each project area is eligible to compete at the Regional level.

SECTION 1: Project Goals- Maximum 5 points • Goals should reflect – Action=How; Result=What; Timetable=When • Project learning/ personal development goals include details, are age appropriate, challenging yet realistic • Reflect growth in project mastery through leadership/citizenship, communications and/or contest goals.

SECTION 2: Project Communications/Presentations- Maximum 10 points Shared learning with others, i.e. demonstrations, talks, articles written, web pages, slide shows, digital media, social media, etc.

SECTION 3: Project Learning Experiences- Maximum 20 points • Size/Growth/Development of Project • Knowledge and Skills Gained • Project Learning Experiences • Project Meetings, Clinics, Schools, Tours attended • Contests – Judging, Quiz Bowls, Skill-A-Thons.

SECTION 4: Project Exhibits & Showcase Opportunities- Maximum 5 points • Fairs, Shows, Exhibits, Displays, Public showcases.

SECTION 5: Project Leadership- Maximum 15 points • Leadership Exhibited – elected, appointed or requested • Leadership Exhibited – independent, self-initiated Leadership is teaching another person or a group, skills or information, also includes organizing or coordinating an activity, event, or meeting; selecting and preparing materials, and selecting presenters.

SECTION 6: Project Citizenship- Maximum 15 points • Community Service/Citizenship Related to Project Citizenship means helping out in your community and serving others without compensation.

SECTION 7: Project Finances- Maximum 10 points • Accuracy, completeness • Profit or loss is not evaluated, i.e. large profit does not equal high score.

SECTION 8: Project Reflection- Maximum 15 points • Reflects/identifies knowledge gained in project area • Reflects/describes leadership/citizenship skills developed/used in project area • Reflects/describes impact of 4-H within family/personal life/community • Reflects/describes impact of 4-H on future plans • Ability to communicate ideas effectively (organization & word usage) • Reflects application of project knowledge and skills to non-4-H settings • Presentation - neatness, spelling, punctuation, grammar.

SECTION 9: Project Photos- Maximum 5 points • Project photos reflect action & growth • Leadership photos reflect organizing/ coordinating activities, and/or teaching others • Citizenship photos reflect helping in your community and serving others without compensation.

Sherman County 4-H Kansas Project Report Forms (KPRF) Awards and Recognition

Sherman County - Kansas Project Report Form Judging

In October, 4-H members should complete and turn in to their club leader, a Kansas Project Report Form for their age group for one or more projects in which they are enrolled.

County Project Award Pins—Members completing their **KPRF** are eligible to compete for a county project award pin.

Top KPRF (**Sponsored by Farm Credit Association)—**This award is given to the 4-H members who have the neatest appearing, complete, and best overall achievement based on their **KPRF** applications. The top two Sherman County Kansas Project Report Form receive this recognition.

Senior KPRF Recognition (National Congress)—One Senior **KPRF** is awarded the top 4-H members record book in their respective project. Winners in various projects are eligible to compete at the area and state levels.

4-H member age of 14-and under 19 **as of December 31 of the 4-H Year** (4-H age) will compete to go on to Area Screening. The Extension Office will contact county winners following County **KPRF** Screening. 4-H members who are eligible to compete in Area Screening may make corrections or changes recommended by the judges prior to the due date in early January. If you are 13 4-H age, pay close attention to your birthdate. You may need to complete a **SR KPRF** (Example: 13 now as of October 1, 2024, and you have a birthday on or before **December 31, you must fill out a SR KPRF.)**

Area Award Screening
The top Senior Kansas Project Report Form in most projects are sent to the area level, where they are judged in January against the top **KPRF** from the other counties in NW Kansas. No prizes or special awards are presented. (See above information for a member transitioning from age 13 - 14.)

State Award Screening
The top 2 **KPRF** in each project from the Area Screening are sent to the State Screening. Each finalist will receive a list of questions to create an optional five minute video presentation. Eligible winners have an opportunity to attend National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. State level winners will be recognized at the Emerald Circle Banquet in Manhattan.

Former Award Winners
Members who have been a delegate to National 4-H Conference, or who have been to National 4-H Congress may only be considered for a state award program in which he/she has not been a state winner and which does not include a trip to the National 4-H Congress.



Achievement Pins and Key Awards

Member Achievement Pins
https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/

Achievement awards are based on completion of minimum standards and are non-competitive.

Kansas 4-H Member Achievement pins are designed to recognize 4-H members as they reach milestones throughout their 4-H journey. The pins are awarded in a series. As a member's 4-H journey progresses, the achievement pin requirements expand to challenge individuals to explore and engage in more opportunities to develop life skills. The following guidelines are to be used statewide in all local Extension Units. This ensures consistency and maintains the integrity of the recognition.

- 4-H members are allowed to receive only 1 Member Achievement Pin per year.
- 4-H members may not earn the same pin more than once throughout their 4-H career.
- 4-H members may start with any pin but may not move backwards. Pins are intended to be completed in sequential order. For example, if a young person joins 4-H for the first time as a 15-year-old, they may choose which pin to start with, and must advance from that point. 4-H'ers may choose to skip a pin but are not allowed to move backwards.
- 4-H members may not apply for the Gold Guard & the Key Award in the same year.
  (See the Key Award guide lines @ **https://www.bookstore.ksre.k-state.edu/pubs/MG13.pdf)**
- The application will represent the 4-H experience of the current 4-H year, unless specifically noted on the application.

These are awarded to 4-H members who meet the requirements on the member pin application form and turn in a completed **KPRF.** Nine pins are awarded in a series: Membership, Bronze, Clover, Emerald, Silver, Silver Guard, Leadership, Gold and Gold Guard.

Key Award
https://www.bookstore.ksre.k-state.edu/pubs/MG13.pdf
The 4-H Key Award recognizes 4-H members who have an "all around" good 4-H record of accomplishments. To apply, 4-H'ers must have passed their 16th birthday by December 31, completed 4 or more years and meet nine other requirements. Members complete a KAP along with the Key Award form to apply for this recognition.

- Members will be more successful if they plan to complete activities several years before they plan to apply for the Key Award.
- Members may use their past three years of 4-H work to complete the Key Award application.

"I Dare You Award"
This award is presented to members who have demonstrated excellence in character and personal development. They demonstrate qualities of constructive leadership as evidenced through challenges in community service, good citizenship, and excellence in education. Recipients are selected by the Sherman County Youth Development Program Development Committee (PDC) based on Key Award applications.

Other Recognition

Family and Consumer Science Award—This award is presented to the 4-H member who receives the highest number of ribbon points with their Family and Consumer Science exhibits at the NW Kansas District Free Fair.

Fair 4-H Grand Champion Award — 4-H Division Grand Champion Award Winners receive a hoodie (the hoodie style is subject to change from year to year) personalized with their name, 4-H Emblem, and the project/s in which they received a Grand Champion Award. The hoodies are distributed at the 4-H Achievement Awards.

Older 4-H Member Opportunities

National 4-H Congress— National 4-H Congress is attended by nearly 1,500 4-H members from all states and territories. Kansas delegates include: state KAP project area winners, a random drawing of Kansas 4-H Key Award recipients, and Centennial Delegates.

National 4-H Conference (April)—4-H delegates from each state meet in Washington, D. C. to share ideas and plan for future 4-H programs. Kansas sends two to four delegates.

Citizenship Washington Focus—This trip is typically held in the middle part of June. The applications are generally available in early December from the Extension Office and are due into our office by January 1st. You must be enrolled in the Citizenship project two years (one being the year in which you take the trip) and have turned in a Kansas 4-H Awards Portfolio on Citizenship the year prior to going. ***Applicants must be 15 years of age* as of December 31 *to apply.***

International 4-H—These programs provide youth aged 12-25 and adults opportunities to learn another culture by living it. Programs include a four week visit to Japan, a six to eight week experience traveling to another country to see programs similar to 4-H. Funds for the youth programs are provided by the participants, Kansas 4-H Foundation, National 4-H Council, county 4-H councils, and other friends of IFYE.

4-H Scholarships—State and Local

Kansas 4-H Scholarships—https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html

Scholarships ranging from $100—$1000 are available to outstanding 4-H members. Applications are available online and at the Extension Office and will be due to the County Extension Office in January. Check with your county for the specific due date.
https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html

The Vanier Family Scholarship Program was established in 2016 to enhance the strong leadership skills exhibited by 4-H members. Recipients will be recognized leaders and role models within their home communities who have balanced "**greater than usual**" demands and contributed in positive ways as a 4-H member and citizen. Applications are typically due in April.

Sherman County Jr. Leader Scholarship—https://www.usd352.org/o/gjsh/browse/137448

- Due April 1
- Must be a graduating High School Senior
- Must be an enrolled 4-H member and a member in good standing of the Sherman County 4-H Jr. Leaders Club for 3 years, including your senior year*
- Must have shown good leadership in your 4-H Club and in the Jr. Leaders Club
- Plan on attending a 2 or 4 year college or a trade school

Refer to the Jr. Leaders By-laws for description of good standing



Camps

Many 4-H members attend camps. They take part in educational and recreational experiences as they learn about nature and living with other people. Most importantly, 4-H'ers have fun at camp!

Rock Springs 4-H Camp

Multiple sessions are available for campers in 3rd through teens entering 12th grade. Camp sessions are three or six days in length and are held at the Rock Springs 4-H Camp Center, south of Junction City, KS. Teens about to enter 11th grade can attend Leaders in Training sessions, teens about to enter 12th grade can attend Counselors in Training, and family sessions are available. Activities include: hiking, fishing, campfires, flag ceremonies, swimming, crafts, recreation, and more! Camp is open to all community youth. Please visit **https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/** to sign up for camp sessions and view pricing options.

General Camps

There are many other camping opportunities available to members. Photography camps, horse camps, space camps, outdoor adventures, and day camps, just to name a few. Watch the newsletter, website, and Facebook page for information.



Kansas State 4-H Opportunities

Citizenship in Action (CIA)
http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/citizenship-in-action/index.html

Held in Topeka in February for youth 13—18 **as of December 31 of the New 4-H Year.** ***Would you like to have more influence in laws and rules that affect your life?*** Then you'll want to go to Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action! This two day event is sponsored by the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. The purpose of the event is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building, but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process.

Discovery Days
http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/discovery-days/index.html

This event is held at KSU the week after Memorial Day. Members, leaders, and parents may attend. The focus of this event is to help 4-H'ers "discover" more about project areas, to strengthen what they are learning in the club, and to share with others. 4-H members must be at least 13 years old **as of December 31 of the New 4-H Year,** to attend.

Kansas State 4-H Opportunities (Continued)

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)

Held at Rock Springs Ranch in November. Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected at KYLF.

- The Youth Council and National 4-H Conference application will be combined, with applicants indicating if they are applying for one or both opportunities. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, of the current year may apply as a Council Rep and those 15-18 before January 1, of the current year may apply for National Conference.

Emerald Circle

This is held annually during Discovery Days in Manhattan. State Kansas Project Report Form winners receive their recognition at the Emerald Circle. This is one of the most prestigious awards recognitions that a Kansas 4-H member can receive and attend.

Kansas State Fair (September)—For the most up to date rules and entry information see:
http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/index.html
http://www.kansasstatefair.com/default.aspx

4-H members who receive top purple ribbons at the county fair may exhibit in the 4-H division at the State Fair in Hutchinson, providing they meet the age requirements. Some departments limit the number of exhibits allowed for each county. The minimum age for exhibitors is 9 (by January 1) in most departments. In addition, 4-H members may represent our county in style revue, demonstrations, informal presentations, art, judging teams, and photo fun day.

If showing livestock, members must complete the livestock nomination process of your specific species.

Beef nominations - (market steers & heifers) May 1.
Small animal nominations - (commercial heifers, market lambs, commercial ewes (whether dams), market hogs, commercial breeding gilts, and all meat goats) June 15th.

Show entry Deadline: July 15th

The Extension Office will take exhibits to and from the State Fair, with the exception of large articles, such as large woodworking items and livestock exhibits. Parents will be asked to help get their children to and from the State Fair.

Kansas Junior Livestock Show (early October)
https://kjls.net

This event allows the 4-H members in livestock an excellent opportunity to participate and see what is happening in the livestock industry. 4-H members can enter beef, sheep, goat, and swine in this show is held at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson, KS.

Members must complete the livestock nomination process of your specific species.

Beef nominations - (market steers & heifers) May 1 (For further details, see page 30).
Small animal nominations - (commercial heifers, market lambs, commercial ewes (whether dams), market hogs, commercial breeding gilts, and all meat goats) June 15th.

Show entry Deadline: August 15th

Policy for Sherman County 4-H Support/Reimbursement Scholarships
Leadership/Project Learning Funds

-Requests will be considered on a "funds available" basis. *4-H Council will review available funds at the first meeting of the 4-H year and establish the maximum amount available for the year based on the award funds received annually. (Jacket and Designated Fund Account)*

-Funds can be requested only for 4-H activities, events sponsored or hosted by 4-H organizations. Camps, etc. produced by non-4-H organizations would be excluded, as would entry fees.

-If funding is limited, leadership activities will be given priority-Youth Leadership Forum for example, over Discovery Days. Project learning fund requests may be awarded from the 4-H Project Learning Opportunities Account.

Requests will be processed on a first-come first-serve basis.
Youth requests will be prioritized over adult requests.

-If a request is for a project specific activity, the 4-Her must be enrolled in that project.

-Fund request forms must be submitted ten (10 days) in advance of registration or can be submitted for reimbursement. The member must attend the event or reimburse the council for any funds distributed.

-Approved requests will be funded at 50% up to a maximum of $150 (i.e. registration cost of $300 would be funded at $150, as would a registration of $430).

-4-Her's may request assistance twice, up to a total of $300/per 4-H year (Oct 1-Sept 30)

Name:_____

Leadership or Project Learning Opportunity:_____

Date of Event:_____

Total Registration Cost:_____

Amount of Scholarship Requested: _____

Reason you would like to attend the learning opportunity. How will you share what you learn?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Completed form should be returned to the Sherman County Extension Office for review.

4-H Council Approved: May 12, 2025

County/Sunflower District Events

Leadership/Officer Training

All club members are encouraged to attend the leadership training event. Sessions are held to introduce club leadership topics to current officers, future officers and club members. This is usually held in November after club officer elections. This activity will be a county or multi-county event, depending on which activity will best meet the needs and what schedules will allow.

Achievement Program

A time of celebration for 4-H members, leaders, parents, and clubs. Awards are given based on results of the county award application & KPRF screening. This event is held in November.

Model Meeting—http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/pdf/club_day_resources/modelmeeting_resources/Model%20Meeting%20Guidelines.pdf
Clubs plan a model meeting that depicts a typical monthly meeting of their 4-H club. Clubs will need to invite an individual to critique a model meeting.

County 4-H Club Day

At County Club Days 4-H'ers present project talks, illustrated talks, demonstrations, skits, talent, dance, Creative Tables, Life Skill Judging and more. This event is usually held in late March.

Sunflower District Regional 4-H Club Days: Held in the Sunflower District and limited to speaking events.

At the Sunflower District Club Days, all entries are eligible to compete in the competition. This event is usually held in late March or early April. Limited to speaking events.

- Demonstrations or illustrated talks may be individual or team (2 people) presentations. Project Talks are individual presentations.
- Judging times will be assigned
- The presentation should be of sufficient length to cover the topic adequately, three minutes minimum and 15 minutes maximum.
- Talks are eligible to compete at the state fair level. Please sign up when the state fair registration opens.

Life Skills Judging Contest

Several contests are held during the year. The contest involves solving a stated problem and determining the best solution to the problem. Topics covered are horticulture, financials, foods, clothing, home environment and life skills. Typically the contests have been held at county club days, Regional club days, fair, state fair, and other times throughout the year.

Livestock Judging Contest

There are several livestock judging contests held locally and in the surrounding counties in which 4-H'ers have the opportunity to participate.

4-H members evaluate various classes of animals and give oral reasons as why they placed them the way they did. Every 4-H member in the livestock project should learn how to judge livestock, as it will aid them in selecting their project animals and will also help them strengthen their project.

4-H Shooting Sports Competitions

Shooting competitions are preliminaries to the State competition. 4-H'ers must shoot a qualifying score at a qualifying event in order to compete at the State competition. The local State Shotgun qualifier may be in Sherman & Cheyenne counties in late summer.

4-H shooting events held throughout Kansas can be found at the following website:

https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/shooting-sports/local-qualifiers.html

National 4-H Week (first full week in October)

A week is set aside each year to recognize and promote 4-H across the country. Each year a theme highlights the week and we use it throughout the next two years. Our local clubs can have open house, window displays, write newspaper articles, do radio spots, television appearances, make posters, and many other activities that help promote what 4-H is all about.



I PLEDGE
my HEAD
to clearer thinking.
my HEART
to greater loyalty.
my HANDS
to larger service, and
my HEALTH
to better living, for
my club, my community,
my country,
and my world.

Animal Science Project Information

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA available online and in person)

Required for State Fair and KJLS, recommended for all Animal Science Project Members

YQCA is required for all youth livestock exhibitors at the Kansas State Fair and KJLS regardless of species. Even if you are not planning to attend the KS State Fair or KJLS, livestock members are encouraged to participate in a YQCA training to learn more about this program.

Rookie Guide—Kansas Youth Livestock State Nomination Process

The information included in this "Rookie Packet" is targeted to new families/households who will be nominating livestock projects for the first time. However, it may be useful to any family who has questions about the nomination process.

https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/2024%20Rookie%20Guide.pdf

Kansas 4-H EID Tags required for Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS)

- Last day to order market beef DNA envelopes for nomination: April 20
- Beef Nominations Due: May 1
- Last day to order small livestock DNA envelopes for nominations: June 5
- Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep and Meat Goat Nominations Due: June 15
- Extension Agent, FFA Advisor and/or designated volunteer (approved through local Extension Executive Board) MUST tag each animal(s) or be witness to the animal(s) being tagged.
- If an animal already has an 840 EID tag at the time of tagging, the Youth Livestock Program will be contacted for guidance. Animals may not have two 840 identifiers, including EID tags.
- It is unlawful to remove Kansas 4-H EID tags once placed in an animal(s) ear.
- It is unlawful to remove an 840 tag (used in beef and swine).
- The EID tags issued for sheep and meat goats are 982 management EID tags and can be removed if absolutely necessary.
- For sheep and meat goats, their 840 AIN tag is the scrapie tag.



Need information about 4-H animal science deadline dates and learning opportunities?

Bookmark this page!

https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/

- Nomination Information for Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS)
- State Shows
- K-State Judging Camps
- Camps, Clinics and Local Events
- Spring Shows
- National Events
- Kansas 4-H EID Tags
- DNA Collection Instructions
- 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
- Junior Producer Days
- K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy
- Educational Materials
- Meat Judging Resources

4-H Deadlines

- Submitting things on time and following the rules are part of the 4-H learning experience.
- Members not complying with established and published dates and deadlines for exhibition may be denied participation privileges and well as premiums or awards.
- Read your Extension Newsletter carefully and check the 4-H websites and 4-H Facebook pages frequently.

  Sunflower District Webpage (includes link to the newsletter): http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/
  Sherman County 4-H Webpage: http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/4-h/sherman.html
  Sunflower Extension District Sherman County 4-H: https://www.facebook.com/sunflowerextensiondistrictshermancounty4h/
  Remind: Join class 4-H Members & Family @ 379hac to receive 4-H event messages from the Sherman County Extension Office.
- Notify the Extension Office if you are not receiving the Sunflower District Newsletter.

Why 4-H Members Should Say Thank You

4-H members who receive recognition should look upon it as both a badge of honor for work well done and a symbol representing the broad interest friends of 4-H have in the program. Say "thank you" to your friends of 4-H, i.e. trophy donors, livestock buyers, project and club leaders, parents, judges, etc. A personal letter is the most satisfying and lasting way to say "thank you".

A well written thank you letter is often read by several executives. Many donors keep letters of appreciation. Write it as soon as possible! Remember, it's not WHAT you say, but HOW you say it that counts. Your letter need not be long, but it should be sincere. Never underestimate the power of a thank you letter! Remember how it feels when someone says "thanks" to you or remember how you feel when someone doesn't.

As the 4-H Year Begins Remember:

- 4-H youth are more important than the project exhibit itself.
- Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself.
- To "learn by doing" through a useful work project is fundamental in any sound educational program, and is characteristic of the 4-H program.
- Generally speaking, there is more than one good way of doing most things.
- Our job is to teach 4-H members how to think, not what to think.
- Winning isn't always measured by the results of the ribbon or judging event, but by the character of the 4-H member, parent, and leader.

Who's Who in 4-H?

Kansas State University
This land grant college has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H program is part of that mission.

K-State 4-H Youth Development Office—www.Kansas4-H.org
201 Umberger Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506
Phone: 785-532-5800

State 4-H Specialists
Located in Manhattan, specialists are responsible for specific parts of the 4-H program.

Kansas 4-H Foundation—https://www.kansas4hfoundation.org/
The Kansas 4-H Foundation works with businesses, organizations, individuals, and families who share a common desire to support a statewide effort of growing our future leaders.

Sunflower Extension District Board—http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/about/board.html
The extension board is the policy-making authority for 4-H Youth Development programming within its jurisdiction.

4-H Program Development Committee (PDC)
This group of six extension council members are appointed by the district executive board. They are responsible for the program direction of the county 4-H program. They implement and help carry out new programs and suggest improvement for 4-H and other youth programs conducted by K-State Research and Extension.

County Extension Agents—http://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/about/
They are professionals who help carry out the 4-H PDC's objectives. The Sunflower District has an office in Sharon Springs, St. Francis, and Goodland. The District has three agents who specialize in a specific area – Ag & Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Science, and 4-H Youth Development.

Western Area Extension Office—https://www.northwest.k-state.edu/
Located in Garden City, it houses an Area Director.

Area 4-H Specialists
Located in Hays, an Area 4-H Specialist assists County Extension Agents in developing and carrying out 4-H and Youth Development programs.

Rock Springs 4-H Center (Kansas State 4-H Camp)— https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/
Located near Junction City, Kansas. 4-H Members are encouraged to check the camp schedule for available sessions. Buses are available for transportation from Colby (only for some scheduled dates).

Northwest Kansas District Free Fair, Inc. Board—http://www.nwksfair.com/
Board members are appointed by the County Commissioners to carry out and plan the County Fair each year.

Northwest Kansas District Free Fair - Animal ID

For the most up-to-date rules and entry information see: http://www.nwksfair.com/

County Fair is the highlight of many 4-H'ers year. It gives members an opportunity to evaluate their projects. The County Fair is typically held the first part of August. Fair books will be available sometime the last part of June and are posted on the fair website. The books contain the class breakdown, special guidelines, and policies. You should take time to read every section that pertains to your projects/exhibits.

- Only enrolled 4-H club members will be permitted to exhibit and compete in the 4-H division.
- You must enroll by May 1st in all projects that you wish to exhibit (unless an earlier date is required).
- If you enter in the 4-H Division, you may not enter in open class.
- Pre-entry is required for all 4-H exhibits. Consult the fair book if you have questions on your project.
- All exhibits must be work completed during the current 4-H year.
- All market animals (including swine, sheep, goats, & beef) will be weighed in and tagged at a county spring weigh-in date to establish a common starting date for the project. The exact weigh-in dates will be published in the county 4-H newsletter. The weigh-in date for beef will be sometime in February or March. The weigh-in date for swine, sheep, and goats, will be sometime around the last of April or the first part of May. Weigh-in for bucket calves is optional.
    - ***NEW 2025 - All market animals can be identified under your immediate family's name. Fair entries must identify which animal each member is showing before Fair Entry closes.***
    - All market animals must have an identification tag. Breeding (including bucket calves) and dairy animals are strongly recommended to have an identification tag, but not required.
    - All members must be enrolled in the project before weigh-in or the animal will be shown in open class.
    - Homegrown determination needs to be made at the spring weigh-in.
- It is the 4-H member's responsibility to get their animals to the scheduled weigh-in and ID location. If the 4-H member cannot attend, they need to make arrangements to get their animals there. All animals must be identified and tagged at the spring weigh-in to show in the 4-H Division at the county fair.
- **All animals a member intends to show in the 4-H division at the County Fair must be tagged/ID no later than the spring weigh-in/ID. If an animal dies that animal cannot be replaced.** We recommend you weigh in and ID additional animals at the spring weigh in. Exhibitors can only transfer an animal from an exhibitor within the immediate family because of sickness or death with the animal. The transfer must be approved unanimously by the superintendent, fair board, and the extension office.
- Any animal that does not make weight (over or under) can show in the show but cannot sell or participate in the grand drive. Only those meeting the weight requirements will be allowed to sell in the 4-H livestock sale. Others may sell at a floor price if a bid can be obtained for those animals.
- Horse Identification Papers. All 4-H'ers enrolled in the Horse project must submit their horse identification papers to the Extension Office by June 1 each year.
- Health Requirements - All livestock must be healthy and originate from a herd free from infectious and contagious diseases. All livestock must comply with state and federal regulations affecting intra and interstate movement. It is the responsibility (morally and financially) of the exhibitor to see that these blood tests are done within the listed required time. Required tests will be listed in the livestock information of the fair book.
- Pullorum Testing - Poultry shown at the county fair **may** require pullorum testing. Check with the county extension office. The KS Department of Ag has the Pullorum testing on a 5-year rotation. 4-H Members will be notified when the county rotation is scheduled. Last testing was in 2023.

Fair Set-up/Clean-up

Thursday before the fair, the 4-H'ers, agents, and parents are expected to help set up the fairgrounds for the fair. It involves sweeping the 4-H & Ag buildings and moving the display cases. It also involves setting up the panels and other miscellaneous activities that need to be done before the fair. It takes as much to set up as it does to tear down. We would also like to see you help on Saturday while getting your fair ribbons, etc. Look around to see what you can do to lend a hand. There are curtain panels and dividers to fold and take down.

Judging at County Fair

JUDGING SYSTEMS USED AT THE COUNTY FAIR

Remember that when you exhibit at the county fair, you are asking for the judge's opinion. The judge's opinion is just that: an opinion, and it can vary from judge to judge and day to day. It is an opportunity to explain what you have learned, and it is an opportunity to learn from an expert.

Each project is a success, no matter what color the ribbon may be!

CONFERENCE SYSTEM OF JUDGING

This form of judging allows for more flexibility on the part of the judge and the exhibitor. Exhibitors bring their projects to the judge at their convenience within the time allotted and talk to the judge about their project. The entire class does not need to be present at the same time. The judge then, based on all discussion, may award the ribbon and premium which he/she believes is appropriate without regard to percentages.

Examples of questions that might be asked:

What kinds of things did you do in your project this year?
How did you make it...grow it...build it...paint it…?
Where did you learn how to…?
What was the hardest part for you to do?
What did you like doing best?
What are you going to do with your rocket...drawing...cookies…?

Only 4-H members will be seated with the judge during consultative judging. Parents may stand in proximity to hear comments but may not contribute to the conversation.

Necessary accommodations may be arranged in advance.

DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING

A 4-H exhibit or process is evaluated against a set of standards, and recognition is awarded on the degree to which the standard has been met by each 4-H member. The standards of excellence are often printed on a judge's scorecard, and allows for the 4-H exhibit to be judged on one's own merit, and not in comparison with others in the class. The following ribbons apply:

WHITE: For one reason or another, the exhibit did not meet all the minimum standards, but it does not mean the exhibit is not worthwhile. This is a learning experience that the 4-H'er can ask, "what have I learned and how can I make it better"?
RED: The project met all the minimum standards for its class. The exhibit shows an honest effort has been put forth, and while there are visible signs of needed improvement, the skill level of the 4-H'er is increasing.
BLUE: The exhibit is outstanding on all the standards set up for the project. There are usually no flaws and if there are one or two very small ones, only the trained eye of the judge can see them.
PURPLE: The exhibit is outstanding on all the standards set up for the project. No room for improvement, only the trained eye of the judge can see them.

Aside from any ribbon placements, what is most important is that the member was participating in an activity that will build character and learning life skills that will be of benefit to them for life. People remember the member, not the ribbon color!

Sherman County Events and Deadlines

Events are typically held in these months but may be changed.
Check your newsletter or the website for specific event information.

CLUB ROTATION EVENTS—Clubs are assigned on an annual basis to help plan and carry out various county activities. Families are asked to support their club as they carry out various tasks.

October—The New 4-H Year Begins

4-H Enrollment Opens October 1: Enroll using 4-H Online beginning October 1. https://v2.4honline.com/

4-H Club and County Promotion Events

National 4-H Week and 4-H Hours of 4-H: It is a week to promote one of the nation's largest youth organizations. The first Sunday in October is National 4-H Sunday. 4-H groups are encouraged to attend church together on that day. 4-H Week is the time for anyone interested in joining the organization to visit clubs in the area.

Kansas Project Report Form Judging: All youth are encouraged to turn in a **KPRF**. **KPRF** are due to your club leaders in October. Check with the office or your club leader for specific due dates.

Leadership (Officer) Training: Leadership training is open to all 4-H members in the Sunflower Extension District. Young leaders will join together to learn their club responsibilities of each office; president, vice president, reporter, secretary, etc

State Photo Shutterbug Photo Event

4-H State Dog Conference: Held at Rock Springs

State 4-H Shooting Sports Shotgun Match

November

Volunteer Orientation: All new & returning 4-H Leaders undergo an orientation and background check to become certified and serve as a 4-H Volunteer.

National 4-H Congress: This annual trip for state project winners is a recognition, educational, cultural, and community service experience held in late November each year in Atlanta, GA. Project winners selected from Kansas Award winners are given the opportunity to attend. Some grants may be available each year.

4-H Achievement Awards: Project Awards and the County Fair Grand Champion Awards (hoodies) are awarded. (Hoodies will not be released prior to the Achievement Award date.)

Kansas Youth Leadership and 4-H Volunteer Forum: Rock Springs. Held in November.

December - 4-H Re-Enrollment Due

December 1—4-H Enrollment Deadline for re-enrolling members: Re-enrolling members must enroll by December 1 in order to show in the 4-H division at the NW Kansas District Free Fair for the current year! Link to enroll on 4-H Online 2.0 : https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in .

Genesis Food Drive: All clubs, members, and families are invited to come help with the food drive. It is a great citizenship activity.

January, February & March

NW Area KPRF Judging: Takes place in January, weather may change times and dates for the judging. Please be prepared to hand in the last week of December or the by the first week of January.

Horse Panorama: January at Rock Springs 4-H Center for 4-H Members ages 7-18 and adult volunteers. Horse Panorama provides education and horse related contests including quiz bowl, hippology, public speaking, photography and educational posters.

4-H Scholarships Due: State 4-H Scholarships - Check with your local office for due date.

Citizenship in Action: Held in Topeka in February.

4-H Scholarships: Graduating Seniors start preparing your application. The Kansas State 4-H Scholarship is due in the office in March 1st of the current year (https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html).

Beef Weigh In/ID for the NW Kansas District Free Fair, State Fair, KJLS: Typically in February or March. Date may change due to weather. ***Must be enrolled in the project before the weigh in date.***

Ambassador Training: County/District Ambassadors must be in the 8th - 12th grades to attend. Local Extension Offices may not be able to provide chaperones and/or transportation. Check with the Extension Office before registering. It will be at Rock Springs in February, registration fees apply.

4-H Days & Talent Night: Registration due to club leaders in February.

Sunflower District Regional 4-H Club Days: Held in the Sunflower District and limited to speaking events.

Super Saturday Judging Contests: Alternates between Hays or Colby. Typically in March.

April

JR. Leader Scholarship: Due April 1 of the current year.

YQCA Training: Must be completed prior to the state nomination due date for the KS State Fair and KJLS.

National 4-H Conference: The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension Staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Providences. Usually held in April at Washington D.C. for Youth 15-18 Years Old **as of December 31 of the New 4-H Year** the year of the conference. Registration fees apply.

Small Animal Weigh-In/ID for the NW Kansas District Free Fair, State Fair, KJLS: Small animals include Goats, Sheep, Swine and Bucket Calves. Members must be enrolled in the project before the weigh-in/ID. It is the end of April.

Spring State Shooting Sports Match: BB, Air Rifle, Air Pistol

National Volunteer Week: Remember to thank your 4-H volunteers!

May

May 1: Families, please review your 4-H Online project list, this is the deadline to add or drop projects.

Beef Nominations: In order to show at the Kansas State Fair (KSF) or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS), you must first nominate your animal. **Nomination dates May 1 Market Steers and Market Heifers**. Please let us know at weigh-in if you need EID Tags and DNA Envelopes. DNA envelopes should be ordered in advance by families. Fees are required. **https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/** . Must have completed the YQCA training.

Projects: Many projects are kicking off for summer. Check the Facebook page, district newsletter, website, and e-mails for specific information.

Discovery Days: The last week in May; registration is in due in April. For those going, the Extension office will be in contact with you for time & date to leave for the event.

Summer Camps

Geology Field Trip (State 4-H): Typically held in June.

Insect Spectacular (State 4-H): Typically held in June.

Fishing Clinic: Is open to Multi-County 4-H & Community Youth ages 7-12 years old at Bellamy's Ranch & Pond area. Transportation provided.

Rock Springs Camp: 4-H Camp is at the Rock Springs 4-H Center and sessions are available in the month of June and July. Campers in 3rd through teens entering 12th grade are able to attend any session that fits their schedule. **https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/** Camp counselor training opportunities are available for youth (4-H and non-4-H) in grades 11 and 12. Check the website!

Day Camp Learning Opportunities: Held in May and June, they include various project learning and discovery opportunities. They are open to all youth in the community. Ages vary based on the camp topic.

Babysitting Clinic: Held in May or June, the clinic is open to all multi-county 4-H & community youth ages 5th grade & up.

June

Horse ID Certificates: Due to the Extension Office June 1. Please check for rule changes & updates.

Small Animal Nominations for State Fair: Due in June (check on specific due date) for Commercial Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, Market Hogs, Commercial Gilts, and all Meat Goats (Market Goats, Commercial Does, and Registered Does). Fees are required. Please let us know at weigh-in if you need EID Tags . **https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/**

Wheat Tour Plot: The Sherman County Wheat Plot Tour is held the second or third Tuesday of June. It is open to 4-H and the community for the tour. 4-H Project members that are enrolled in this project will also attend and the tour will visit the member's plot. Topics include wheat varieties, wheat production practices and farmer questions. Call the Extension Office for more information.

JULY

Poultry Pullorum Testing: Poultry shown at the county fair **may** require pullorum testing. Check with the county extension office. The KS Department of Ag has the Pullorum testing on a 5 year rotation. 4-H Members will be notified when the county has been scheduled for their rotation date. Next due date will be 2028.

Style Revue Scripts: Forms for the Style Revue will be sent out and are due the same day as fair entries. Pre-fair entries are due in July. Members are responsible to enroll for the fair online at **https://www.nwksfair.com/** Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. Members will need to fill out the Cost-Per-Wear form, as well as the Score Card, attach 2 photographs, and bring them to the Extension Office.

Pre-Fair Entries: Are due in July. Note that each item you intend to exhibits must be entered individually (i.e. 4 different food or craft items). Once members are entered in fair entry online, you will be notified through an email when to pick up your fair entry tags at the Extension Office for all exhibits and judging schedules. **https://www.nwksfair.com/**

August

Fair Events: Pre-Fair & Fair Events can be picked up at the Extension Office or for your convenience can be printed on line at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair website. **http://www.nwksfair.com/competition/**

Appreciation BBQ: The Appreciation BBQ is for the previous year's livestock sale buyers, jacket donors, 4-H volunteers, Sherman County Fair Board Members, and Sherman County Commissioners are invited. It is an opportunity for 4-H members to thank them for their support. The Appreciation BBQ is on a club rotation schedule. If your club is in charge, members are asked to help serve & clean up, the meal provided to our Livestock Buyers and 4-H donors. Parents are encouraged to help!!!!

Last Day of Fair: Premiums can be picked up in the Pavilion in the morning. Check the fair schedule for the time. If you exhibited livestock, your premium will not be released until your pens are clean. It takes as much effort to tear down the fair as it does to set it up. Curtains and dividers in the pavilion need to be folded and taken down. **If you are waiting for your turn to get your ribbons and premiums, take a little time to help!**

State Fair & KJLS Entries: Youth Livestock Nomination & Entry Deadlines for the Kansas State fair are due by July 15th,and KJLS are due by August 15th. For additional information, please follow the link. **https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/**

State Fair Horse Entries: State Fair Horse entries are due to the State 4-H Office by August 1st. Make sure the County Extension Agent has signed your documents - check with the local office for the county due date.

State Fair Entries: Are due to the Extension Office in August, shortly after the fair. Check for the deadline date. You will be notified when to come pick up your entry tags for your exhibits.

FCS Judging Contest: **https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/contests/fcs-judging/**

State 4-H Horticulture Judging: Typically held in August

State 4-H Wheat Expo

State 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

September

State Fair: The Extension Office can transport your projects to the State Fair. Very fragile, heavy, large items may not be able to be taken if they don't fit in the vehicle. Families have the option of transporting items themselves. Please have proper packaging & boxes to protect your items from getting damaged. Your projects will need to be brought to the Extension Office at a time to be designated. Check with the Extension Office if you have questions about packaging and drop off times.

State Archery Match

State 4-H Shooting Sports

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Extension Sherman County Beyond Ready

SUNFLOWER DISTRICT EXTENSION

"Care to Share Form"

This form has been designed to provide valuable input to the Sunflower District Extension and 4-H Youth Development Program. If you have a suggestion about Extension or 4-H Youth Development, please complete this form! Once completed, this form will be distributed to the appropriate individual or group to give them a compliment or address the issue or concern. We may not be able to implement your suggestion right away, but your input is important to us!

Please take a few moments and complete the appropriate sections of this form and sign it.

- **Forms addressing a situation or issue must have sections 2a, 2b, and 2c completed.**
- **Forms without a signature will be disregarded.**

SECTION #1: I'd like to commend the Sunflower District Extension Program for the following:

SECTION #2a: I'd like to bring attention to this Sunflower District Extension related situation or issue:

SECTION #2b: Describe the problem with the current situation:

SECTION #2c: Give your suggestion (s) for a possible solution:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please Print:

Name of person completing form:_____

Address of person completing form:_____

Phone number of person completing form:_____

E-mail address of person completing form:_____

Signed:_____

Dated:_____

Please return completed form to:

Cheyenne County

212 E Washington
P.O. Box 667
St. Francis, KS 67756
785-332-3171

Sherman County

813 Broadway, Room 301
Goodland, KS 67735
785-890-4880

Wallace County

118 N Gardner
P.O. Box 189
Sharon Springs, KS 67758
785-852-4285
785-852-4284 Fax

How to be a 4-H MVP (Most Valuable Parent)

- Learn what 4-H is all about. Stay informed on what is happening in your club and county.
- Show a genuine interest in 4-H and your child.
- Attend 4-H meetings and activities with your child; encourage your child to participate in 4-H events.
- Make 4-H a priority in your home—read your 4-H mail promptly, and mark 4-H activities on your calendar.
- Provide encouragement and help in your child's project work with record keeping, demonstrations, judging, and completion of attempted work—without doing the work yourself. Help members select, finance, and manage their projects. There are costs required for project literature and materials.
- Provide transportation to local club meetings, activities, and county-wide events.
- Provide a meeting place for a project group. Assist volunteers by providing refreshments or other help.
- Share your special talents by volunteering to guide or lead a project.
- Help volunteers conduct project work.
- Help volunteers locate and secure other qualified adults to assist with project work or 4-H activities.

Remember: 4-H members are the focus!

The 4-H program utilizes the "learning by doing" approach as we work to develop the potential of each 4-H member. This means that 4-H members and their families must assume a high level of responsibility for their own learning and involvement in program opportunities.

To get the greatest benefit out of 4-H, members need to:

- Attend and participate in all club and project meetings.
- Support and work on club-level activities and events.
- Participate in county, district, state and/or national activities and events that enhance project learning.
- Keep up-to-date on project-related work.
- Exhibit pride in being a 4-H member.

Source: https://www.uidaho.edu/-/media/UIdaho-Responsive/Files/Extension/4-H/New-Family-Handbook-2016.pdf?utm_campaign=ext-pub&utm_content=ext-4h-project&utm_medium=web&utm_source=prev-url (source no longer available)



Best Practices for 4-H Publicity: What Families and Volunteers Need to Know

Submitted by Sarah E. Maass

At the request of some Extension professionals, here is a newsletter article that you can use in your 4-H newsletter and/or enrollment email to your 4-H families regarding publicity.

As we begin the 2026–2027 4-H year, it's important to understand how publicity permissions are handled and how we, as Extension professionals, can responsibly share the stories and successes of you, our 4-H members.

What Is the Publicity Release?

When families enroll in 4-H Online, they are asked to agree (or not agree) to a **publicity release**. This release gives permission for the use of a member's name, image, and likeness by:

- Local Extension Units
- Kansas State University (including the State 4-H Office)
- The Kansas 4-H Foundation

This includes use in photos, videos, social media, websites, press releases, and more. If a family selects **"I Do Not Agree,"** their child's name and image **cannot** be used. Some examples include:

- Kansas State Fair & County Fair entry cards, schedules, or results
- Local or state contests
- Social media posts
- News articles or promotional materials

Additional Consent Questions

To provide more clarity, families are asked to give specific permission for:

- First and last name
- Extension unit
- 4-H club or town name
- Media (photos, video, audio, etc.)
- Print-only media
- Social media
- County fair-related publicity

These responses **override** the general publicity release and help guide what can or cannot be shared publicly.

Best Practices for Sharing Youth Information for Extension Professionals

Even when full permission is granted, it is **best practice** to:

- Use **first names only** in social media posts.
- If no consent is given, refer to the youth as:
  - "A 4-H member from [Club Name]"
  - Or use initials, e.g., "C.C., participant from Cloverville 4-H Club"

These practices help protect youth privacy while still celebrating their achievements.

To view the complete best practices document, please go here. If you have questions about publicity permissions or how to apply these best practices, please contact your local Extension Office.

4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT 4-H
K-State 4-H Youth Development Office
201 Umberger Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506
Telephone: (785) 532-5800
Fax: (785) 532-5981
Kansas 4-H Website: www.Kansas4-H.org

18 U.S.C. 707

Updated September 2026

Sources:

Kansas Department of 4-H Youth Development Policy Guide: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/policy-guide/index.html

Kansas State University Extension Sherman County | Beyond Ready

K-State Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the Sherman County Extension Office at 785.890.4880 (kjartzer@ksu.edu) four weeks prior to the start of the event. Requests received after this date will be honored when feasible. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited-English-proficient individuals upon request.
Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service
K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.