



THE CLOVER CONNECTION



The official monthly newsletter of Wyandotte County 4-H

By Casey Ling, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent



In this month's newsletter:

- 4-H Online Enrollment and important dates
- 48 Hours of 4-H Service Project Recap
- Shooting Sports meeting- Open for all 4-Hers to attend
- DUI Pedal Car Demonstration- Open for all 4-Hers to attend
- New Rabbit Project Leader info
- County Club Days
- K-State Swine Day
- Leavenworth Livestock Judging Clinic and Contest
- 2025 K-State Jr Producer Days- Swine and Meat Goat
- Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge
- Districting information for Wyandotte and Leavenworth counties

Important dates:

- November 30- Returning 4-Hers re-enrollment deadline per Fair Book rules
- TBD- County 4-H Club Days

4-H Online Enrollment

Below are a few important enrollment dates to remember as we move into the 24-25 4-H year.

October 1- All 4-H members, Cloverbuds, and adult volunteers need to re-enroll in the 4-H program for the 2024-2025 year by logging into and updating their 4-H Online account. 4-H members will need to pay the annual enrollment fee of \$15. [Follow this link to go directly to the 4-H Online website.](#)

The glitches that occurred in 4-H Online at the beginning of the 4-H year should now be fixed. Enrollment is open!!!

November 30- Per the Wyandotte 4-H Fair Book on page 2 under the Exhibits section, rule #2 and on page 5 under the Livestock Auction section, Rule #1:
“Returning Wyandotte County 4-Hers are to be enrolled annually by Nov. 30 in order to be eligible to receive ribbon premiums and participate in the livestock auction as 4-Hers.”

This rule will be enforced for the 2024-2025 4-H year.

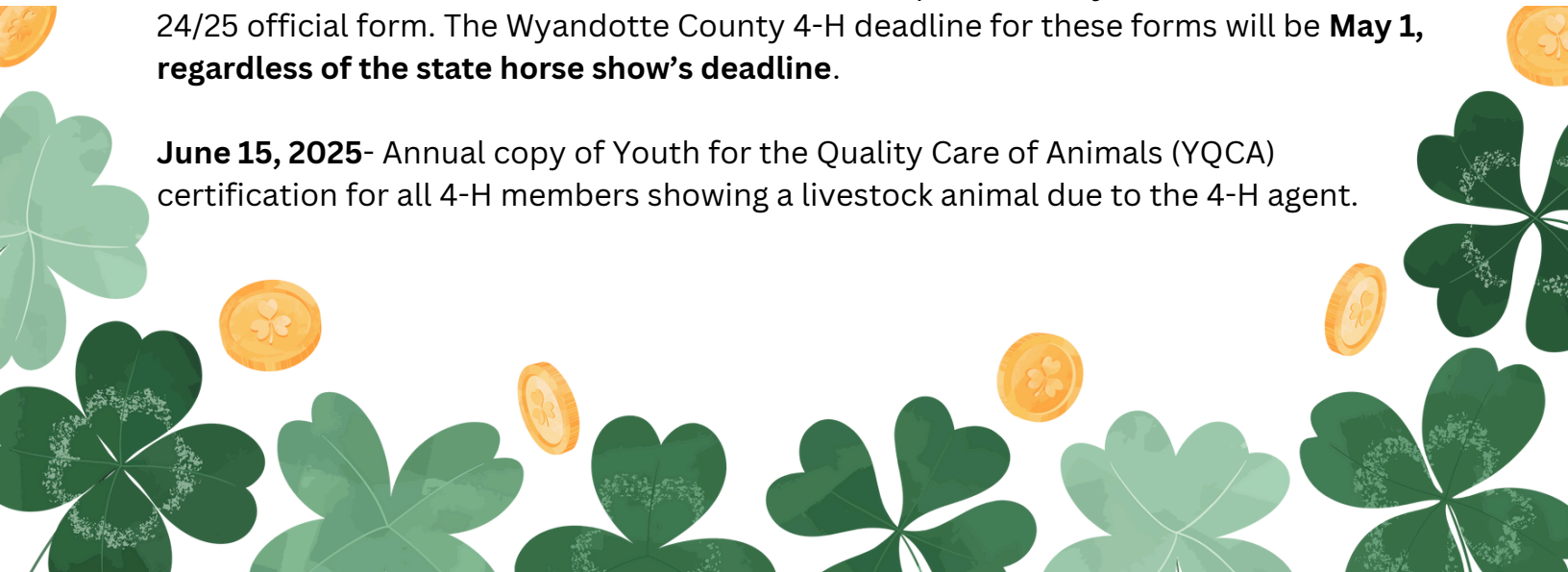
The 4-H agent will run a report of enrolled 4-H members from 4-H Online the following business day after November 30. This report will be referenced when 4-H members are tagging in livestock projects and submitting livestock entries in the 2025 county and state fairs. Any returning 4-H members who enroll after the Nov 30 deadline will still be allowed to participate in 4-H club meetings and other 4-H events.

May 1, 2025- Will be the last day to enroll in 4-H Online and select projects for participation in the 4-H divisions at the county and state fair.

-Breeding/non-market livestock forms due to the 4-H agent

-****HORSE ID FORMS**** All horse ID forms must be updated this year with the new 24/25 official form. The Wyandotte County 4-H deadline for these forms will be **May 1, regardless of the state horse show’s deadline.**

June 15, 2025- Annual copy of Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification for all 4-H members showing a livestock animal due to the 4-H agent.



48 Hours of 4-H Service Project

The 48 Hours of 4-H service project was created to challenge 4-H members to explore their service capabilities “To Make the Best Better” in their communities.

For this year’s community service project, Wyandotte 4-Hers were asked to make pet toys to benefit the KCK Animal Services no-kill shelter. Over 200 toys were made and an additional 25 new toys were donated. Thank you to the Nearman, Piper, and Wolcott Wanderers clubs for your participation in the community service project! The animals at the KCK Animal Services facility greatly appreciate it!



Shooting Sports

Anyone interested in joining or learning more about the 4-H shooting sports project is invited to attend a meeting on **November 3rd at 3pm**. The meeting will take place at Tri-County Rod & Gun Club 18573 Stillwell Rd, Linwood, KS 66052.

At this meeting, 4-Hers will get general information about the project and disciplines, meet other youth who participate in 4-H shooting sports, and meet the project leaders. Newly enrolled 4-Hers will get to participate in the first safety meeting. Returning 4-Hers will help with inventory, cleaning, and organizing. For returning 4-Hers who qualify there will be a "try it" session with pistol or air rifle.

The disciplines the Wyandotte 4-H Shooting Sports project will be able to provide for the 24-25 year are Air Pistol, Air Rifle, Archery, BB, Muzzleloader, Smallbore Pistol, and Smallbore Rifle.

This meeting will also recognize the accomplishments of the 23-24 4-H shooters, including presenting Archery state medals, announce 4-H Nationals qualifiers, state results, and more.

For any additional questions, reach out to the Wyandotte 4-H Shooting Sports Co-ordinator, Cyndi Bird at wyc04hshooting@gmail.com.



DUI Pedal Car Demo

The Nearman 4-H club will have guest speakers from the Kansas Police Department at their November club meeting. The police officers will be doing a DUI pedal car demonstration. **The Nearman club is opening their club meeting to invite all 4-H members and their families to attend this educational experience.**



When- November 12, 7pm.

Where- WyCo Extension Office- Room 1200

Who/What- Kansas Police Department will be doing a DUI Pedal Car Demo at the Nearman 4-H club meeting

New Rabbit Project Leader

If you are interested in learning more about raising or showing rabbits, you are in luck! The Wyandotte 4-H program has a new rabbit project leader, Renee Foster. Mrs. Renee has been busy preparing the rabbit project for the new 4-H year and is excited to share her enthusiasm with the 4-Hers.

To get involved with the rabbit project, be sure to enroll in the rabbit project on 4-H Online and contact Mrs. Renee at mrsrfoster7@gmail.com.



County 4-H Club Days

County Club Days is an opportunity for 4-H'ers to showcase their skills in public speaking, music, and performance arts. Learning to perform in front of a crowd is one of the many great things 4-H has to offer. 4-H Club Day is an event which gives participants an opportunity to tell others about their 4-H projects and demonstrate their talents and abilities. Presentations such as talks, demonstrations, speeches, skits, music and dance are judged and awarded ribbons. 4-Hers who qualify at the county level are eligible to compete at the Regional Club Days.

Be on the look out for more information in the next few newsletters.

Date: January or February- exact date TBD



K-State Swine Day

The 2024 K-State Swine Day will be held Nov. 21 on the university's Manhattan campus. Registration Fee: \$25 per person if paid by Nov 13, and \$50 after Nov 13 or at the door. K-State students may attend free of charge if they register by Nov 13.



“Swine Day is a culmination of timely swine research conducted at K-State within the last year including the latest information on nutrition, management practices, feed processing, pig livability and other industry issues,” said Mike Tokach, a University Distinguished Professor in K-State’s Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

The Swine Day program begins at 9:15 a.m. and includes lunch. The day wraps up with a reception at 3:30 p.m. featuring K-State Call Hall Ice Cream. The Technology Trade Show will go from 8am to 4pm.

Registration is available online at asi.ksu.edu/swineday or by sending a check payable to the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry, Attn: 2024 KSU Swine Day, 218 Weber Hall, 1424 Claflin Road, Manhattan, KS 66502.

For more information, contact Katie Smith at 785-532-1267, or katiesmith@ksu.edu.

Leavenworth Co Livestock Judging Clinic and Contest

The Elite Livestock Judging Clinic and Contest will be held at the LVCO Fairgrounds in Tonganoxie, KS on Saturday, December 7th. This contest is open to all 7 to 19-year-olds. New this year will be meats identification training hosted by KSU Meats Science Department.

Please address any questions to Karol Lohman of the Leavenworth County Livestock Committee. klohman@ksu.edu 913-683-4277.



2025 K-State Jr. Producer Days

Swine and Meat Goat

The junior producer day events are one-day family educational programs to learn about the selection and management of swine and/or meat goat youth livestock projects, as well as a variety of aspects related to the animal science industry. Each day is dedicated to one specie. These events are open to all ages and skill levels. This is a family event! Parents and youth are invited to come learn together!

K-State Junior Swine Producer Day

Date – Saturday, March 1, 2025

Registration Deadline – February 5

Cost - \$20/person by February 5

Online Registration - <https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND>

K-State Junior Meat Goat Producer Day

Date – Saturday, March 22, 2025

Registration Deadline – February 26

Cost - \$20/person by February 26

Online Registration - <https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND>

Both producer days will take place at the Stout Center in Manhattan, KS. north of the main KSU campus. A map and more specific directions will be provided to families who register the week leading up to the event.

Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge

The Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge, or YEC, is a community based competition for youth grades 6-12 to create and promote a business venture. Those who qualify at the local level are able to compete at the state championship, known as the Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge. Large cash prizes are awarded to students and their businesses at the state level. Kansas 4-H, K-State Research & Extension, Network Kansas, and K-State University Center for the Advancement of Entrepreneurship have come together to promote YEC, a competition designed for student-created, managed, and owned ventures. Go to the [competition website](#) for more detailed information.

The Toolbox KC hosts the Wyandotte Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge. Visit their website to learn more and for updates on this year's contest. www.thetoolboxkc.com/yec-2024



\$70,000+ in Cash Prizes to Student Entrepreneurs!

Districting information for Wyandotte and Leavenworth Counties

By now some of you have heard the rumors about Wyandotte and Leavenworth counties becoming an Extension District. Both counties, their respective governments, Extension staff, and Kansas State University are seriously exploring the option of districting. Below is information that should help answer questions about districting and how it will affect the 4-H program.

-Each county will maintain their own respective 4-H programs and 4-H agents.

-The function of the 4-H clubs and ability to attend 4-H events will not be affected by districting.

-Enrollment and participation will continue as usual.

-Each county will keep their respective county fairs. The county fair associations are responsible for hosting their individual county fair. Districting will not be the reason for any changes to the 4-H activities at the county fair.

History

- In 1991, the Kansas Extension District Law allowed local Extension Councils and county commissions to partner with one or more counties to form an Extension district. Once formed, the Extension district becomes a taxing subdivision of the State of Kansas and has the power to contract, acquire, hold, and convey real and personal property. An Extension district creates opportunities to structure an Extension unit to serve the needs of the residents in those counties. This framework creates more efficient, relevant, effective, and sustainable programs. In the last 33 years, 59 Kansas counties have formed into 21 Extension Districts.

-In 2009, Leavenworth and Wyandotte Counties started the process to become an Extension District. At that time, only the Wyandotte County Commissioners were willing to proceed and the idea was abandoned.

Why Explore Districting Now?

-Leavenworth County Extension had a flat budget for the past four years, including fiscal year 2025.

-This summer, Wyandotte County Extension received a budget cut of \$59,500 (10%).

-With rising costs, Extension agents are not able to continue programming with limited or no funding.

-Both county governments have asked Extension staff to find ways for cost savings in the 2026 budget cycle. County commissioners suggested the idea of forming an Extension District.

Some benefits of forming a district, as observed by the current 21 Extension Districts in Kansas:

Effectiveness: Districting allows for agents to become specialized in program areas. Specializing allows agents the ability to focus on specific program areas with additional resources and support from other staff members. Agents in an Extension district experience less burnout and are able to intentionally focus on expertise and subject matter.

Relevance: Districting helps Extension establish itself as a relevant resource for Kansas residents. We must ensure we are on the cutting edge in dealing with contemporary issues for the residents we serve. Residents expect more in-depth knowledge beyond the basics, and this framework allows for that specialty knowledge.

Efficiency: Merging operations can lead to financial efficiencies and free up more time for programming as both counties pool their resources.

Sustainability: Addressing the financial aspect of operations assures the sustainability of having K-State Research & Extension Programs in both counties. By establishing a taxing authority, the Extension District gains more flexibility to meet the needs of its personnel and operating needs and ensures continued programming.

Staffing: All staff will remain employed.

Residents can find these facts and more in-depth information on forming an Extension District [here](#). As always, please feel free to contact Denise Dias if you have concerns or questions. ddias@ksu.edu



**Have a star 4-Her that deserves recognition?
Have a picture from a project meeting or 4-H event that you would like to share with the community?
Let us know! Email csling@ksu.edu**



To make the best better!




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