



# MAY



## 4-H NEWSLETTER

### 4-H Online Deadline

The deadline to add or drop a project in 4-H Online is **Friday, May 1st**. Any member who is not enrolled in a project by May 1st will not be eligible to enter an item in that category as a 4-H member at the fair. Items may still be entered and judged in the Open Class division, but they will not count as 4-H entries.

### Other May 1 Deadlines

- Registration for Wild Horse Camp
- Market Beef Nominations

### 4-H Council

Date: **May 28th at 5:30 PM**  
Location: Extension Office

### YQCA Make-up Date

For those who couldn't attend the YQCA classes in person, we will be holding a make-up class on **Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm** at the Extension Office.

**If you took the YQCA courses online, please email your certificate to Shelby at [srrobertson20@ksu.edu](mailto:srrobertson20@ksu.edu).** YQCA certification is *required* for 4-H members planning on showing livestock at the county and state fairs, AND those planning to nominate livestock for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS).

### Communication Policy

Due to new K-State social media policies, we have been advised to use email, telephone, or Band App communication with 4-H parents and members if they have questions. Please reach out to us via one of these methods when you need assistance, and we will be happy to help!



Last Chance



Last Chance



### Wildhorse Camp

Wildhorse Camp is for youth ages 7 to 12 years old and takes place at Silver Maple Camp in Kingman County from **June 9-11**. Transportation is provided. Activities include archery, arts and crafts, fishing, robotics, exploring nature, swimming, dancing, and more! The cost is \$135 for non-4-H members and \$85 for 4-H members. Invite a friend! (Some clubs offer to cover part of the fee, so check with your club leader.) **The registration form can be found at the end of this newsletter.** Registration is due to our office by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### In This Issue

- **May 1<sup>st</sup> Deadlines**
- 4-H Council Meeting
- YQCA Make-Up
- Communication Policy
- Wild Horse Camp
- Summer Day Camps
- Auction Eligibility
- Horse ID Certs Due
- Horse Show/Meetings
- Round Robin Info
- Livestock Nominations
- Tractor Safety Course
- Discovery Days
- Crooked Creek Classic
- Swine Clinic
- Kansas 4-H Events
- Miller Ranch Scholarship

### Contact Us

#### Meade County Extension Office:

407 E Rainbelt  
PO Box 369  
Meade, KS 67864  
(620) 873-8790

**Wadona Henson**  
[whenson@ksu.edu](mailto:whenson@ksu.edu)  
(620) 518-6653

**Shelby Robertson**  
[srrobertson20@ksu.edu](mailto:srrobertson20@ksu.edu)  
(620) 629-5972

**Leslie Hasenbank**  
[lesliedenise@ksu.edu](mailto:lesliedenise@ksu.edu)

**Website**  
[www.meade.ksu.edu](http://www.meade.ksu.edu)



## Fishing Day Camp



Calling all youth ages 7-12 years! Our Fishing Day Camp will be **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** at Meade State Park, from 8am-11am. Meet us near the life jacket station on the south side of the lake. There is no registration fee, but if adults choose to stay with their youth, a vehicle permit is required. Snacks, water, and fishing supplies are provided. We ask that participants wear close-toed shoes and bring a reusable water bottle. Sunscreen and bug spray is also suggested. [Register here by May 28th](#) or scan the QR code.



## Meade County 4-H Day Camp



Youth ages 5-11 years are invited to Meade City Park on **July 1<sup>st</sup>** from 9am-2pm for Meade County 4-H Day Camp. Attendees do not have to be a 4-H member, so invite a friend! Activities include games, learning, crafts, snacks, and more. A pizza lunch will be provided. The cost is \$10 per participant. [Register here by June 25th](#) or scan the QR Code.



## Selenite Crystal Digging

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Youth entering 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades: visit the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge near Jet, Oklahoma on **July 7<sup>th</sup>** for a chance to dig for hourglass-shaped selenite crystals! This selenite is a crystallized form of gypsum, also known as hydrous calcium sulfate, and is chocolate-brown in color due to the presence of iron oxide in the salty soil ([U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)). Participants will get to keep some of the crystals they collect. Transportation, lunch, and water will be provided for a registration fee of \$5. [Register here by July 2nd](#) or scan the QR code below. **NOTE: There will be a MANDATORY informational session on July 6<sup>th</sup> at the office (time TBD). Participants MUST attend this session order to be eligible for the trip.**



## And MORE!

Mrs. Vieux will be back this summer for more exciting programming options, this time with another intern to assist! There will be chances to learn about photography and other 4-H projects, a Chalk the Walk event to show off your art skills, STEM activities to flex your brain, educational programs at libraries around Meade County, and MUCH more. (There's even the potential for a little Back to School Pool Party!) Be sure to keep an eye on future newsletters and our Facebook page for upcoming event dates and how to register. These programs fill up fast and, for some, space is limited. Don't miss out!

## Auction Eligibility

Whether you're participating in the Cake and Pie Auction or the Livestock Auction, please review the [Auction Eligibility Form](#) for important requirements. This form is due to the office by **July 15<sup>th</sup>** and should be signed by the 4-H member, a parent/guardian, and your 4-H Club Leader.

Note: *Not* submitting the form does not prevent you from entering items in the fair — it only affects your eligibility to participate in the auction itself.

## Fair Board Rule

For 4-H'ers to receive add-on money for the 2026 fair, they **MUST** attend at least 3 club meetings. This is required to receive ANY add-on money. Beginning October 2026, members must meet the same qualifications as Auction Eligibility to receive add-on money. Questions? [Contact the Meade County Fair Association via Facebook.](#)

## Horse ID Certificates

Horse ID Certificate papers are due **June 1**. ID Forms can be found [on our website](#) or you can update last year's forms if you still have room on the signature lines. For more information, please contact our office.

A copy of the 4-H Horse ID Certificate must be kept on file at our office. You should bring a copy to any horse shows you participate in. 4-H'ers exhibiting registered horses must present a copy of the registration papers or the 4-H Horse ID Certificate at check-in to the State Fair.

## Horse Show and Horse Project Info

This year's Horse Show competition will be a joint event with Gray County 4-H, at the Meade County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> (time TBD). Pay attention to the Band App and emails from 4-H Online as we finalize dates in May and June for Horse Project Meetings. As a reminder, Horse ID Certificates are due to the office by **June 1**.

## Round Robin Rule Change

Juniors are now able to participate in Round Robin at county fair! This includes horses, beef, swine, sheep, and goats. For more information, see page 9 of [last year's Fairbook](#). The 2026 Fairbook will be available soon!

## State Livestock Nominations

Want to nominate your livestock for the Kansas State Fair or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS)? The nomination deadline for Market Beef (steers and heifers) is **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. The nomination deadline for Small Livestock is **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. For more information and instructions, visit the [K-State Nominated Livestock website](#). If you have further questions, reach out to Shelby at our office.

## Tractor Safety Operator's Course

This all-day course is designed to help youth understand safe tractor and farm machinery operation. It also allows 14 and 15 year-olds to earn a Tractor Operator's Permit, required by Child Labor Regulations before being employed to operate a tractor. All teenage youth are welcome, regardless of age. Participants who complete the course will receive an Operator's Permit once they turn 14. Youth age 16 and older do not *need* a certificate but are strongly encouraged to attend to benefit from the education and safety materials. Lunch is included in the registration fee and will be hamburgers hot off the grill. Please call 620-855-3821 with any dietary restrictions.

Date: **Wednesday, May 27th**

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00pm

Location: Gray County Fairgrounds

Fee: \$20 (payable to Ford County Ag Activity Fund)

**Students must attend all day for training and the final test in order to receive an Operator's Certificate.**

Pre-register by May 20<sup>th</sup> by calling our office at 620-873-8790.



## Discovery Days

Discovery Days is a mini college experience designed for youth who are 13-18 years of age as of January 1. Youth will have the opportunity to select classes and attend social functions. The primary purpose of 4-H Discovery Days is to gain new ideas and expand your 4-H experience. Participate in action-oriented learning activities, fun tours, and great evening social events. You will meet new people, build leadership skills, and grow as a person!

When: **June 2-5**

Where: Kansas State University

Who: Youth ages 13-18 before January 1, 2026

Cost: \$280 (Meade County 4-H Council will cover \$150 of this fee. Some clubs also help so ask your leader!)

Registration closes May 8<sup>th</sup>, so be sure to sign up soon! More information and registration can be found at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/discovery-days/>

Note: this year, activities start earlier than they have at Discovery Days past. For this reason, we are heading up a night earlier than usual. *Congratulations to Emmett Woods for being selected as a 2026 Group Leader!*

## Crooked Creek Classic

Get ready for Crooked Creek Classic Livestock Show on May 22-24! All registrations will be completed on <https://showman.app/>. Entries received on/before May 8<sup>th</sup> will receive a free t-shirt. For complete show details, visit the Crooked Creek Classic Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/CrookedCreekLivestockClassic>.

## 4-H Cloverbuds

There will be no more Cloverbud sessions until next season. Thanks for hanging out with us in 2025-2026! If your Cloverbud turns 7 years old by January 1, 2027, we invite them to enroll in 4-H beginning October 1, 2026.

## Swine Showmanship Clinic

Ford County Fairgrounds in Dodge will be hosting a Swine Showmanship Clinic Saturday, June 6, led by Butler Community College Livestock Judging team members. Participants will receive hands-on practice with their own pig to expand their showmanship knowledge. There is a \$50 registration fee which includes a t-shirt.

Register for Session 1 (9:00am-12:00pm): <https://bit.ly/3OTGWFV>

Register for Session 2 (5:00pm-8:00pm): <https://bit.ly/4b8VHfd>

## Kansas 4-H Geology Field Trip

4-H Geology project members and their families are invited to Parsons, KS from June 12-14. Registration is \$10 per person. Trip includes a visit to Big Brutus, Joplin Tri-State Mineral Museum, educational workshops and speakers, a quiz bowl, a judging contest, specimen identification, and more. Deadline to register is **May 15<sup>th</sup>**.

[Click Here for the Geology Trip Information Letter](#)

## Kansas 4-H Insect Spectacular

Beetles, bugs, dragonflies, and more! It's time to get registered for the 34th Insect Spectacular! The State Entomology Workshop will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 19th and 20th. Activities will be based at the North Community building at 505 N. Buckeye Street in Iola, Kansas. Workshop events include collection and photo trips, pinning class, identification class, and a pollinator garden community service activity. Registration closes **May 25<sup>th</sup>**. For more information and to register, [visit the Kansas 4-H website](#).

## Rock Springs Ranch



It's not too late to sign up for summer camp at Rock Springs Ranch! [Check out their session dates and rates here](#). They offer options for campers ages 6 to 17 years old, near Junction City, KS. Meade County 4-H Council covers \$150 of the registration fee. Check with your 4-H Club Leader to see if additional assistance is available. Camperships are also offered through Rock Springs Ranch. To learn more, visit their website at [Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Camp](#), or call (785) 257-3221.

## Miller Ranch Scholarship

The Miller Ranch is proud to offer a **\$500 scholarship** to one graduating Meade County 4-H senior. This scholarship is designed to support your future education or training as you take the next step beyond high school. To apply, submit a one-page letter to our office, addressed to the Miller Bucket Calf Committee answering the following:

- What are your plans after high school, and how would you use the \$500 scholarship?
- As a 4-H alumni, how will you continue to promote 4-H in your home community?
- How do you plan to support and promote the beef industry in the future?

**Deadline: Please submit your letter to the office by Friday, June 5th, 2026.**

# CALENDAR

## May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Note:</b> each club has different ways of informing members of meeting times. Dates/times listed here are current to our knowledge, but sometimes plans change. If you're ever unsure of a time or date, please check with your club to confirm, or we can help!</p>					1 Deadlines: Wild Horse Camp, Add/Drop Projects	2
3	4LC Mtg 4	5	6	7	8	9
3 C's Mtg 10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Spring State Shooting Match
17	PLW Mtg 18	19	T&C Mtg 20	21	22	23
					Crooked Creek Classic	
24 Crooked Creek Classic	25 Office Closed	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### Monthly Club Meetings

Club	Date	Time	Location
4-Leaf Clover	4th	6:30pm	Extension Office
3 C's	10th	5:00pm	Fowler Friends Church
Town and Country	20th	6:00pm	Indoor Harris Arena
Plains Livewires	18th	6:30pm	Plains Methodist Church

# YEAR AT A GLANCE

## May

- 1:** Deadline to Add 4-H Projects
- 1:** Deadline to register for Wild Horse Camp
- 1:** Market Beef Nomination Deadline
- 8:** Deadline to register for Discovery Days
- 15:** Deadline to register for Kansas 4-H Geology Trip
- 22-24:** Crooked Creek Classic, Meade Fairgrounds
- 25:** Office Closed for Memorial Day
- 25:** Deadline to register for Insect Spectacular
- 27:** Tractor Safety, Cimarron
- 28:** YQCA Make-up Date
- 28:** 4-H Council Meeting

## June

- 1:** Horse ID Certification Deadline
- 2-5:** Discovery Days, Manhattan
- 5:** Miller Ranch Scholarship Application Deadline
- 3:** Fishing Day Camp, Meade County Lake
- 6:** Swine Showmanship Clinic, Dodge City
- 9-11:** Wildhorse 4-H Camp, Kingman
- 12-14:** State 4-H Geology Field Trip, Parsons, KS
- 15:** Small Livestock Nomination Deadline
- 19-20:** Insect Spectacular, Yates Center
- 26:** Chalk the Walk (more information coming soon)

## July

- 1:** Meade County 4-H Day Camp, Meade City Park
- 3:** Office Closed
- 6:** Crystal Digging Trip Educational/Info Meeting
- 7:** Selenite Crystal Digging Trip, Jet, OK
- 11:** Archery, Air Pistol, Air Rifle: Meade County Fair
- 12:** Meade County Fair Trap Shoot
- 14:** Style Revue, Extension Office
- 15:** Auction Eligibility Form Deadline
- 15:** 4-H Horse Show, Meade County Fairgrounds
- 18:** Meade County Fair SET UP
- 20-24:** Meade County Fair
- 25:** Meade County Fair CLEAN UP

## August

- 1:** State 4-H Horse Show entries due
- 4:** 4-H Wheat Expo, El Dorado
- 15:** State Horticulture Judging Contest, Manhattan
- 22-23:** (tentative) 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, Manhattan

## September

- 11-20:** Kansas State Fair

## October

- 1:** New 4-H Year Enrollment Opens
- 3:** State 4-H Archery Match, Wakarusa
- 10-11:** State 4-H Shotgun Match



# Sign Up Now

## WILDHORSE 4-H CAMP JUNE 9-11, 2026

SILVER MAPLE CAMP IN KINGMAN COUNTY

COST IS \$135 - NON 4-H MEMBERS

\$85 FOR 4-H MEMBERS

INCLUDES ALL MEALS, ACTIVITIES AND LODGING

RETURN TO YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE BY MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: (Circle one) Male or Female

T-Shirt Size: (please circle) (Youth) YXS YS YM YL YXL  
(Adult) AS AM AL AXL

Parent / Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Work or Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Dance Song Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to your local 4-H Council.  
Return form and payment to your local Extension office.

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

Extension



This institution 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, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the event contact Robin Eubank-Callis four weeks prior to the start of the event May 11, 2026 at 620-886-3971. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. 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 is an equal opportunity provider and employer.