

Elk County 4-H News

October 2024

Rolling Prairie Extension District - Howard Office
130 South Pennsylvania
P.O. Box 647
Howard, KS 67349
620-374-2174 (Phone)
620-374-2889 (Fax)

K-STATE
Research and Extension



4-H Calendar of Events

October

- 1 Beginning of New 4-H Year
- 2 Community Club Leaders Meeting -- 5:30 p.m.
- 2 Elk County 4-H Council Meeting -- 6:30 p.m.
- 3 Elk County Farm Bureau Day on the Farm
- 6 - 12 National 4-H Week
- 9 Livestock Sale Committee Meeting -- 7:00 p.m.
- 12 - 13 48 Hours of 4-H
- 15 KYLF Registration Due

November

- 1 Annual Financial Reports Due
- 10 4-H Achievement Banquet -- Grenola - 6:00 p.m.
- 11 Holiday -- Offices Closed
- 17 Livestock Judging/Livestock Skillathon Workshop -- 5:30 p.m.
- 20 Resume and Interview Workshop
- 23 - 24 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum -- Rock Springs
- 28 - 29 Holiday -- Offices Closed



New 4-H Year

The new 4-H year begins October 1. **ELK COUNTY MEMBERS MUST BE ENROLLED BY DECEMBER 1 TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE 2025 COUNTY FAIR.** You will still have until May 1 to drop or add projects but you need to be enrolled by the DECEMBER 1 deadline in order to be eligible to exhibit at the 2025 County Fair.

Link to 4HOnline and other resources for enrolling: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online/index.html>



4HOnline Enrollment

4HOnline will be open for enrollments beginning October 1 at 8:00 a.m.

This year, funds are available to pay for member's enrollment fees. When members start enrolling in October, **you will mark your payment as a check payment.** Once they complete enrollment and it is sent to the Extension Office for approval, we will enter a code and your fees will be paid. If you have any questions about this, please ask before you enroll!

Community Club Leaders Meeting

Wednesday, October 2 -- 5:30 p.m. (Prior to 4-H Council Meeting)

Current club leaders make plans to attend as we will be making plans for the new 4-H year and go over forms for clubs to complete for the new year and several other items.

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet **Wednesday, October 2 at the Extension Meeting Room in Howard at 6:30 p.m.** This will be the new 4-H year organizational meeting for 4-H Council. Clubs should have their new council representatives attend this meeting.

4-H Council has several new members this year! If you cannot attend, send a replacement from your club in your place. There are 4 youth and 2 club leaders that are voting members per club.

The agenda items include:

- ✓ 4-H Council Orientation and Training
- ✓ Election of Officers
- ✓ Meeting Dates -- months and days
- ✓ Achievement Banquet
- ✓ Officers Training
- ✓ Other New Business

National 4-H Week

October 6 - 12 is National 4-H Week. This is a time to promote 4-H, encourage membership, celebrate the completion of a successful 4-H year and make plans and set goals for the new 4-H year.

It is recommended that all clubs do something to promote 4-H during this week. Let us know what you are doing and where. If we can provide assistance, let us know.

48 Hours of 4-H

October 12 - 13 has been designated this year for the 48 Hours of 4-H. The weekend after National 4-H Week is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project to give back to our communities that have been so supportive.

For more information and to report your activities go to: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/index.html>.

Entomology Project Meeting

Come join the fun for the Entomology Family Day October 19th at the Allen County Extension Office beginning at 1:00 p.m. Please bring your insect collection, photo notebook, and/or educational displays from the Fair so all can see what amazing things you accomplished this year. If you are thinking about trying the Entomology project in the coming year, bring your family and come see our exhibits and learn about the project. We will have a guest speaker! Questions? Call Vicky Wallace at (620)804-9170.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

What: Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2024 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected and up to six National 4-H Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF.

When: November 23 - 24, 2024

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Center

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2024

Registration Deadline - October 15.

~~~~~

## Kansas 4-H/FFA Enrollment

There is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Kansas 4-H and Kansas FFA. If youth are considering joining one or the other, please look over the MOU and take it into consideration in choosing projects that may overlap between the two organizations. Projects might include livestock, horse, rabbit, poultry, crops and agricultural mechanics.

4-H Youth Development and Agriculture Education/FFA promote teaching youth life skills. Both programs exist to maximize the participants' knowledge of agriculture and its value to our communities while educating the young people to become productive citizens. Eligible youth may participate in both 4-H and FFA but shall avoid duplication. Therefore, the following principles are required to be used in delivering the 4-H and FFA programs in Kansas as we strive to educate youth.

1. Agriculture Education teachers, FFA Advisors, Extension staff and local volunteers are encouraged to cooperate in sharing information and resources to provide educational opportunities for youth.

2. When young people are members of both 4-H and FFA, they shall plan and manage separate projects, and/or supervised agriculture experiences (SAE) programs.

3. FFA and 4-H members may enroll in the same area of experience in 4-H and FFA; however, participants cannot identify, nominate, manage, keep records on, or exhibit the same plants, animals, etc. in both organizations. Members must designate exhibits as either FFA or 4-H at weigh-in, registration or similar deadline.

4. Members may participate in judging contests and related events in FFA and 4-H but cannot represent both organizations at a contest, show or event at the same time.

5. When 4-H and FFA are conducting collaborating activities, both the 4-H and FFA organizations should be represented through emblems and information on all signs, print materials and awards.

6. Collaborating FFA and 4-H activities or events are obligated to have supervision representation from both organizations.

The above principles are in agreement with Kansas 4-H and FFA and hereby affirmed by members and professionals in order to participate in either educational program.

**An Elk County Fair FFA Intent to Participate Form will be emailed to both FFA chapters for FFA members to complete if they are planning to participate in the 2025 Elk County Fair. This will allow the Extension Office to make sure FFA members are on email lists and kept informed about details of the county fair.**

~~~~~

Reorganization Time for Clubs

As the new 4-H year starts, the officers & leaders are busy getting everything reorganized for the year. Some things to remember are:

Club Program Books: The books or whatever your club uses are very helpful to your 4-H families. Try to get the year's programs planned early so the families will have them. Be sure that each 4-H'er has time at least once, to present a talk or demonstration. Once you complete your club program book, please bring a copy to the Extension Office for our records.

A couple of suggestions for clubs: First, have a chairperson for each committee, not just a list of committee members.

Club Budget: Club Leaders and the treasurer should work together to put together a budget for the year.

Club Goals: A good time to set goals is as you fill out program books.

Parent's Committee: This committee within the club helps support the community club leaders. They assist in getting project leaders, help committees and recruit community leaders when needed. They also help the community leaders with some of the problems and decisions that may arise in the club. The committee may be made up of adults who are parents of members, former leaders, interested adults in the community or a combination of these people. Clubs are strongly encouraged to form and use parent's committees.

~~~~~

## Club By-Laws

The constitution and bylaws of your club should be reviewed annually. A suggestion would be to include reading the constitution and bylaws at the October or November 4-H club meeting. Upon the conclusion of the reading members are encouraged to sign the constitution and bylaws, indicating their approval. If changes are made; send a copy to the local Extension Office.

~~~~~

Welcoming New 4-H Families

Make a special effort to welcome all new 4-H members and their families. Try to involve them in club activities--not just at the first meeting, but throughout the year. Here are some suggestions for doing that.

Explain the sometimes confusing 4-H terms to new families. Don't assume they understand.

Form a buddy system by having older 4-H'ers help new 4-H members with meetings, records, and 4-H events.

Advise new families of deadlines. Explain the major events that happen in 4-H such as 4-H Club Day, fair, awards program, record books, etc.

Have other adults or 4-H'ers sit with new 4-H families. Involve them in conversations and explain what is happening in the meetings.

Have a parent's meeting during recreation or before or after the 4-H meeting. Be sure to brief all parents about plans for the year and the important skills we are trying to teach our youth.

Let new 4-H families participate at their own pace. Involve them in club activities, but allow them to participate at a level that is comfortable to them.

Be aware of special family circumstances and be flexible. All families are an important part of our 4-H program.

Make sure new members and families know about the 4-H Handbook. It is available on the Rolling Prairie website at: <https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/clubleaders/leaderdocs/4-H%20Handbook%20September%202022.pdf>

~~~~~

## Traits of a Strong Club

Listed are some traits of a strong 4-H club. Can you answer yes to each statement for your club?

- ✓ Fun for members!!
- ✓ Growing
- ✓ Doing things
- ✓ Strong leadership  
(Adult and youth)
- ✓ Visible in the community.
- ✓ New members (and their families)  
welcomed and supported.
- ✓ Members receive recognition for many  
accomplishments.
- ✓ Members participate in beyond the club  
level activities, events and training.
- ✓ High percentage attendance at meetings,  
activities, and events.
- ✓ Family involvement
- ✓ Lots of parents at the meetings & activities.
- ✓ Good relationship with the Extension Office.
- ✓ Fair to all
- ✓ Good communication
- ✓ Meetings belong to members.
- ✓ Standard meeting times and places.
- ✓ Club officers run the club meetings.



## Club Finances and Monies

Questions regarding club finances are frequently asked of the Extension Office. There are five basic principles that exist to assist with management of non-appropriated funds. First, what is non-appropriated? Non-appropriated funds are described as, “Any funds, outside of appropriated tax dollars, collected by groups for educational purposes, examples include fees, registrations, etc.”

The five principles to manage these funds include:

1. Extension Boards are accountable for all non-appropriated funds generated for Extension programs under their jurisdiction - which includes 4-H.
2. All accounts should require at least two signatures for withdrawals.
3. All funds should be receipted each time they change hands.
4. All 4-H clubs/groups must have their own Employer Identification Number from the

IRS. Personal Social Security Numbers are not to be used.



## Club Treasury Health

Club finances are a necessary resource for a successful 4-H club. How is your club doing with money? Check out the survey below for help. If you need additional financial resources, contact the Extension Office.

- Prepare a yearly budget with club finance committee, Leaders and Treasurer.
- Only spend money with club approval.
- Keep club money & personal money separate.
- Treasurer’s record is accurate & up to date.
- Funds are deposited into the bank ASAP.
- Bills are promptly paid as directed & approved by the club.
- Bills should only be paid by check.
- Receipts must be collected for bills, before they are paid.
- A monthly Treasurer’s report is prepared for each meeting.
- Reconcile the account against the bank statement each month.
- All checks have two signatures before sending.
  - Write checks for all expenditures. Do not pay bills with cash. Do not do business by online or internet banking. Have a bill and get a receipt.



## Achievement Banquet

The Achievement Banquet is scheduled for Sunday November 10, 6:00 p.m. at Grenola.



K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

K-State Research and Extension is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision or hearing disability, or a dietary restriction please contact the Howard Office.

**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension



## **Rolling Prairie Extension District Elk County 4-H News**



**Rolling Prairie Extension District #8, Chautauqua and Elk Counties**  
130 South Pennsylvania  
P.O. Box 647  
Howard, KS 67349-0647