4-H Calendar of Events

October
1   Beginning of New 4-H Year
1   4HOnline Open for Reenrollment/Enrollment for New 4-H year
3-9  National 4-H Week
6   4-H Council -- 6:30 p.m.
9-10 48 Hours of 4-H
10   Elk County 4-H Hayrack Ride -- Old Moline Lake

November
1   KYLF Registration Deadline
6   4-H Achievement Banquet -- Grenola - 6:30 p.m.
20-21 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum -- Rock Springs

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet **Wednesday, October 6 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.

The agenda items include:
- Election of Officers
- Meeting Dates -- months and days
- Achievement Banquet
- 2022 Fair
- Officers and Club Leaders Training
- Other New Business
New 4-H Year

The new 4-H year began October 1. **ELK COUNTY MEMBERS MUST BE ENROLLED BY DECEMBER 1 TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE 2022 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 2022 County Fair.

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

One note about selecting projects. Remember that Junk in a Bucket is not a project to select.

National 4-H Week

October 3 - 9 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, we will be glad to.

48 Hours of 4-H

**What:** Join us this fall in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums too! Find all the information here and start planning your projects. Please register your projects and then follow up with a report so we know about all the great things that happened across the state.

**When:** October 9-10, 2021

**Who:** 4-H Members, 4-H Clubs, Friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents, 4-H Alumni, Partnerships, Community Organizations, Potential 4-H Families

Go to the website to register your project and other information. https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/index.html

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Elk County 4-H Hayrack Ride

**Sunday, October 10** at the Old Moline Lake. Start serving food at 6:30 p.m. The hayrack ride starts at 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Elk County Teen Leaders.

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Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum is scheduled for November 20 - 21 at Rock Springs Ranch. Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2022 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. For more information go to: https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/index.html

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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. Second, when determining your monthly program and hosts; it may be a good idea not to have the family or families that are giving talks to serve as hostess as well.

**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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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.

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**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
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 Finances and Monies

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.

Achievement Banquet

The Achievement Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, November 6, 6:30 p.m. at Grenola. If you have pictures from the past 4-H year, please forward to me as I begin to work on the slide show for the year in 4-H.

4-H Camp Changes

Many of you have heard the 4-H Camp is making some changes beginning with the 2022 camping season. Families that registered for camp last year have or will be receiving some information in the mail from Rock Springs Ranch. Listed below are some of the changes that will be taking place beginning September 1. Here is the link to the Rock Springs Ranch website with more information.

https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/

Beginning September 1, Rock Springs is offering Priority Enrollment for Kansas 4-H members ONLY! Sign up for camp before October 31 and get a 10% discount on your 2022 Session!

- Year-round Summer Camp Team
  A new Camp Director will lead a team of program specialists and counselors under the supervision of the Rock Springs Ranch Executive Director.

- 4-H Open Attendance Dates
  Open attendance dates will increase flexibility for campers and helps families fit Kansas 4-H Camp into their busy summer schedules.
Open Invitation to All Kansas Youth
We are eager to share the Kansas 4-H experience as well as invite these new campers into their local 4-H groups when they return home.

New Online Registration System
Our new system from CampInTouch will streamline communications, allow direct registration, keep parents updated and ensure accurate health records.

Extended Camp Sessions
- Traditional 4 Day/3 Night Sessions – This is the perfect way for young campers to experience time away from home and still be immersed in Kansas 4-H programming.
- All New 7 Day/6 Night Sessions – This option expands Kansas 4-H Camp to a full week! These sessions allow our campers to repeat their favorite activities, cement new friendships and truly experience the positive youth development of 4-H.

Transportation
Rock Springs Ranch and Extension Agents will coordinate transportation based on regional hubs and transportation fees will be included in the price of camp.

4-H Volunteer Project Leader Training
Kansas 4-H is offering project leader training via Zoom on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting September 21 - October 14 at 6:30 p.m. Upcoming sessions are as follows:

- October 7 -- Creative Arts - Visual Arts - Barn Quilts
- October 12 -- Financial Literacy
- October 14 -- Ag & Natural Resources - Wildlife

To register, go to: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b2h9P3ROvNs8j12

4-H Record Books
The Elk County record books are being judged in another county. Prior to sending them off to be judged, I took some time to look through them and make some general observations. Here are some general notes about the record books this year and things to keep in mind for next year. First of all, yes it was a new system and forms that were to be used, and was/is a learning experience for everyone.

- Members do not need to complete a project record form or list Junk in a Bucket as one of their projects as it is not a project that members enroll in.
- Please follow the directions about what items to include in the record book and only include the items that are to be included.
  - For county judging, members do not need to include the checksheet and scoresheet. Also, do not include the three pages of pictures (like we have done in previous years)
- For the pictures on the individual project forms, use the pages from the forms, not your own pages or sheets of paper. I noticed some of you did not get the pages that had a photo logo on it and allowed you to download pictures. One of the causes of this may be the way you used the Adobe Reader files. When opening a form, please open it and save it to your desktop or device before entering information. You must download or open the form, then "save as" or you run the risk of losing your work. If this is done, that should allow you to download photos to the project report forms next year.
- Try to be consistent with typing, writing, pen, pencil, etc. If you use one way of doing things, try to do all the pages and forms the same way.

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