Elk County 4-H News

September 2021

Rolling Prairie Extension District - Howard Office
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4-H Calendar of Events

September
6  Labor Day Holiday -- Offices Closed
8  Kansas State Fair Exhibits Due to Extension Office by 8:00 a.m.
10-19  Kansas State Fair -- Hutchinson
19  Teen Leaders Meeting -- 6:30 p.m.
22  Record Books, Achievement Pin Applications, Excellence Award Applications, Club Summary Reports and Officer Notebooks Due

October
1  Beginning of New 4-H Year
1  4HOnline Open for Reenrollment/Enrollment for New 4-H year
1-3  Kansas Junior Livestock Show -- Hutchinson
3-9  National 4-H Week
6  4-H Council -- 6:30 p.m.
9-10  48 Hours of 4-H

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

Howard Office Professional

Beginning Tuesday, September 7, the Howard Office will have a full time Office Professional!! Hillary Shorter will begin working at the Howard Office next week. Please welcome her and many of you will meet her when you bring in your family’s Kansas State Fair exhibits.
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.

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Kansas State Fair

The schedule for the Kansas State Fair has changed some this year. Static or indoor exhibits that I will be taking to the state fair must be at the Extension Office by 8:00 a.m. on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8!! Exhibits are accepted and encouraged earlier than September 8. Wednesday morning gets very hectic so the more exhibits that are here before then, the better!

Exhibitors were mailed information about how to prepare their exhibit(s). Please prepared as directed and ask if you have questions.

If you wish to take your own exhibit(s) to the fair, please let me know because there are entry cards that must be placed on each exhibit. These are only available at the Extension Office. They will be placed on the exhibit when you bring them to the Extension Office.

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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. Sessions are as follows:

- September 21 -- Personal Development - Public Speaking
- September 23 -- STEM - Rocketry
- September 28 -- FCS - Textile Science
- September 30 -- Animal Science - Livestock
- October 5 -- Service Learning
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_b2h9P3ROvNs8jI2

4HOnline Enrollment

4HOnline will be closed in September to complete end of the year reporting. It will re-open October 1 at 8:00 a.m. Clubs let us know at the Extension Office whether you will be paying the enrollment fee for your members or if individual families will pay their own.

48 Hours of 4-H

October 3 - 9 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

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.

4-H Record Books

Starting this year, Elk County is using the state system to make record keeping a more consistent and uniform system between all counties/districts and for recognition at the area and state level.

To help you through this process, please refer to the Guide to Kansas 4-H Project Recognition.

We will still have the Excellence in Project Achievement Award for members to try for. Members may choose to complete one or more project record report forms. Excellence awards may be awarded to Juniors (members age 7-9); Intermediates (members age 10-13); and Seniors (members 14 and older). Age is based on January 1 of the current year. County Champions will be selected in the Senior Age Division (14 and older) and in the Junior Age Division (Age 13 and under). Seniors are the only ones that are eligible to compete at the area level judging.

For Market Livestock exhibitors that went through the premium sale in order to receive your premium sale check, members must turn in at a minimum of the livestock record(s) for the animal(s) that they sold in the premium sale as well as a permanent record and personal information page. For example, if you sold a goat and a hog in the premium sale, at a minimum you must turn in a market hog record and market goat record as well as the personal information page and permanent record to receive your check.

All forms and other information are located on the website at: https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html

When record books are handed in, they should be arranged in the following order:

1. Achievement Pin Application - (If you are applying for one.)
2. Excellence in Project Achievement Award Check Sheet(s) - (If you are applying for any.)
3. **Personal Information Page**—Should be current year's Personal Information Page; be sure to include a picture of yourself.

4. **General 4-H Story**—Not to exceed six pages, double-spaced on one side.

5. **Permanent Record**—A well completed Permanent Record should reflect growth of the project. Size of the project does not mean exhibits at the fair, it means number of animals, articles made, pictures taken, books read, etc.

6. **Current year's project report forms**—Complete per the instructions on the project report forms.

**DIVIDERS:** Use tab dividers to make projects easy to find.

**Things to Remember:**
- Your records are the only impression of you the judge has.
- Tell everything about your project--don’t take anything for granted.
- Be neat.
- Be accurate.
- Be sure to get all signatures. If you don’t have a project leader, your parents may sign as your leader.
- Fill in the blanks--even if it is with none or N/A.
- Add another page if you need more room on Permanent Record. Extra pages can be copied or picked up at the Extension Office.
- Be sure to always fill out your own book.
- Do not include newspaper clippings, ribbons, awards or things like this in your record book. These go in a scrapbook or shoebox.
- Pencil, pen, or type? Whatever the 4-H’er feels comfortable with as long as the 4-H’er completes their own records. Be consistent with whatever you do. If you print or write, use blue or black ink, or type, try to do the same for all of your records.
- **DO NOT ADD MORE PICTURES THAN WHAT IS ASKED FOR OR REQUIRED!!**

- Follow directions on assembly order, number of picture pages and information requested on the records.
- On Project Report Forms, extra pages or pictures cannot be added. Only use the spaces that are allowed on each page.

**General 4-H Story:**

Your General 4-H story is an important part of your records. It should focus on how the total 4-H year impacted you and your family. Tell about experiences you have had this 4-H year; good and bad and what these experiences meant to you. Do not just tell what ribbons or awards you received. You can include these, but talk about your experiences, growth, and development.

The following outline may help you in developing your story. **Do not use** numbers or asterisks to outline your story when writing it.

**Introduction:** Include your age, interests, parents, brother and sisters, where you live, where you go to school, and for first year members why you joined 4-H.

**Project Information:** Tell about your projects -- things you learned, whether your project grew in size and scope, successes and failures, experiences and 4-H events participated in i.e. 4-H Club Days, Livestock Judging, Spring Livestock Shows, etc. Can also tell if you served as any officers on the club or county level, or other leadership roles, and other 4-H events participated in.

**Future plans:** Tell how you have benefited from 4-H participation and what are some future plans you have.

I know this is a new system for everyone this year. If you have any questions, please ask!!

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**Summary of Achievement Awards Due 9-22-21**

- 4-H Record Book
  - Achievement Pin Applications
Excellence in Project Achievement Awards

Community club leaders and the 4-H’er will determine if the Excellence in Project Achievement Award should be awarded. The record book should still be turned into the club leader by the 4-H’er. The form has been updated this year to a check sheet. Your record book should include the completed Personal Information Page, General 4-H Story, Permanent Record, and the age-appropriate Project Report Form for the project you are applying for to receive the Excellence Award. Information in the Project Report Form, General 4-H Story, and/or Permanent Record should answer the questions.

Members basically decide how many projects they want to be recognized in by completing the requirements on however many projects they want to. Only members receiving the Excellence in Project Achievement Awards will be eligible for county project champion.

Excellence Award check sheets and record books are due in the Extension Office Wednesday, September 22. Also due September 22 are achievement pin applications, key award applications, club summary reports, and officer notebooks.

The Excellence forms are available at the Extension Office or on the website. Applications need to be completed according to the directions listed on them. Listed by each requirement is where the information should be found in your record book to verify you met that particular requirement.

From the Excellence in Project Achievement Award winners in a project, a county champion may be selected, if the quality merits.

The Excellence in Project Achievement Awards that may be awarded at 4-H Achievement Banquet are as follows:

- Beef
- Bucket Calf
- Buymanship
- Citizenship
- Clothing & Textiles
- Communications
- Dairy Cattle
- Dairy Goats
- Dog Care & Training
- Energy Management
- Entomology
- Exploring 4-H
- Fiber Arts
- Foods & Nutrition
- Forestry
- Geology
- Health and Wellness
- Home Environment
- Horse
- Leadership
- Meat Goat
- Performing Arts
- Pets
If you are unsure what achievement pin you should be applying for this year, contact the Extension Office so you are applying for the correct pin!

Club Officer Elections

The September club meeting is the time for clubs to elect officers for the new 4-H year. Electing officers can be a very educational process for both young and old members. Here are a few suggestions I have for your club in electing officers.

- Talk to members about the election process and why we use it in a democracy.
- I strongly suggest that clubs use a nominating committee and prepare a ballot. Allow write-ins and let the 4-H’ers vote by written ballot.
- Allow the group to see the total nominating committee’s report before taking nominations.
- New members probably should not be eligible to be elected to offices.
- Candidates should be introduced or allowed to introduce themselves with a very brief campaign “speech” before balloting.
- Numbering the candidates may allow very young members to vote without assistance. Writing a number instead of a candidate’s name may be easier for younger members.
- A member does not have to be present to be elected. However, an effective officer must be someone that does have a good attendance and club participation record.
- Every leader, nominating committee member and current officer should review the club bylaws and be familiar with them before elections.

Teen Leaders Meeting

Teen Leaders will meet on Sunday, September 19 at 6:30 p.m. Location will be determined later. If you want to be a part of Elk County Teen Leaders you must:

- Be at least 13 year’s old.
- Enroll in Leadership
- Come to the meetings and participate in activities/events.

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

If you have pictures from the fair or other 4-H events during the year, please share with me. I am needing pictures for the slide show at the Achievement Banquet