



POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

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PROJECT ENROLLMENT DUE MAY 1 IN 4-H ONLINE MUST BE ENROLLED IN PROJECTS TO EXHIBIT AT COUNTY FAIR!

Log in to [4-H Online](#) or contact your local Extension Office to review and update your projects! 4-H project experiences, opportunities and reminders are communicated to you by local and state 4-H staff based on your project enrollment and contact information in [4-H Online](#). **May 1 is the final project drop/add deadline if you want to exhibit in a respective project area at the county fair.**

SET GOALS FOR SUMMER LEARNING

Setting measurable goals helps guide youth through a high quality 4-H project learning experience. Make sure you have clear goals for each enrolled 4-H project. This will help you focus your learning during the summer months. Use the [Kansas 4-H Setting 4-H Project Goals](#) resource to help you, or complete the goal section of your [Project Record Report](#) form.

REGISTER FOR DISCOVERY DAYS BY MAY 5

Discovery Days will be June 4 - 6 at the K-State Campus in Manhattan. This exciting event is for youth ages 13-18 years old. Post Rock District will provide a Staff chaperone and transportation to and from Discovery Days. At Discovery Days, youth learn new ideas, techniques, and skills they can use personally and in their 4-H clubs or groups and communities. Register by May 5, space is limited. Sign up early to have the best choice of sessions. Find the schedule, sessions and online registration link at the [Kansas 4-H Discovery Days Website](#). After registering, you will need to pay your local 4-H Council your registration fee.

CHECK EMAIL OFTEN FOR COUNTY FAIR INFORMATION

Post Rock District county fairs will be here soon! Be watching your email for important reminders. The email that you are signed-up for membership in 4-H Online will be used. We are also using the [PRD 4-H Insider Experience Facebook Group](#) to post reminders. Do not hesitate to reach out to your local Extension Office if you have any questions. If you are new to 4-H or new to a project, navigating the county fair can be confusing. Post Rock District staff, your club leader, and our entire 4-H family are here to help you!

County Fair Websites: www.postrock.k-state.edu/4-h/events/county-fairs/

Visit your fair website to find the online fairbooks, forms, and more... updated as available!



MITCHELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

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✉ DJBECHARD@KSU.EDU

DENAE BECHARD, OFFICE PROFESSIONAL

Project Add/Drop Deadline is May 1

The deadline for enrolling in projects in 4-H Online is May 1. Remember: *if you are not enrolled in a project area in 4-H Online by May 1, you cannot exhibit in that project area at the fair.*

4-H Fair Superintendents Needed

Volunteer superintendents make fair possible! Tasks vary from project-to-project, but generally superintendents help with set up and check in, assist with paperwork, help judges stay organized, and set up the displays at the fair building. We are looking for superintendents for Plant Science, Rabbit/Poultry/Pet Show, and Woodworking/Ag Mechanics. If you would like to be a Superintendent for any of these areas, please call the Extension Office at 785-738-3597 or email DeNae at djbechard@ksu.edu.

IMPORTANT HORSE PROJECT UPDATE

KDAH has updated rules regarding Coggins testing for horses at exhibitions across the state. A negative Coggins test from within 12 months of the exhibiting date is now required. **This rule applies to every horse exhibiting at this year's Mitchell County Fair.** For more information, check out this year's fair book and contact Blaire (blairet@ksu.edu or 785-738-3597) with any questions!



2025 Mitchell Co Fair Details

- **Date:** July 23 - 26
- **Theme:** Barn In The USA
- **Pre-fair deadline: July 7th** (livestock entry forms, pen rent fees, fashion revue pre-entry forms & scripts cards due)
- **Pre-fair judging** (foods, visual arts, fashion revue) has moved back to the Christian Church this year
- **Clean up duties:** please contact the Extension office **BEFORE** cleaning to communicate the date(s) you intend to clean up and to get the checklist for your area
 - **West Beloit:** pre-fair 4-H building, kitchen, and restrooms
 - **Tipton:** pre-fair livestock barns
 - **Asherville Achievers:** after fair 4-H building, kitchen, and restrooms

All fair forms are listed online here:
<https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4-h/events/county-fairs/mitchellfair/>

Animal Tags

- Mitchell Co 4-H tags (beef and small animal) are free and available at the Extension office.
- EID tags for those intending to show at State Fair or KJLS must be tagged/witnessed by an Extension employee.
 - Beef EID tags: \$3.50
 - Swine/Goat/Sheep EID tags: \$2.75

May 4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council meeting will be held in Tipton at the Great Plains R&D building (111 Arnoldy Street) on May 19th beginning at 7 p.m.

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DAY CAMP IN MANKATO ON JUNE 4

Critter Day Camp will take place at the Mankato City Park, June 4 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. All youth entering Kindergarten to 3rd Grade in the fall are welcome! Come explore interests and practice team work; be inspired to think critically and creatively; and have fun! Register and pay the \$5.00 fee (due to Post Rock District) to secure your spot by May 19 at <https://bit.ly/2025CritterDayCamp> (follow QR code). Space is limited. This camp is hosted by Jewell County 4-H Council.

DAY CAMP IN OSBORNE ON JUNE 5

Stars and Stripes Day Camp will take place June 5 in Osborne at the Scout Cabin from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. All youth entering 1st - 4th Grade in the fall are welcome! Youth will participate in fun games, get creative with crafts, practice team work, and have fun! Register and pay the \$5.00 fee (due to Post Rock District) to secure your spot by May 19 at <https://bit.ly/2025StarsStripesDayCamp> (follow QR code). Space is limited. This camp is hosted by Osborne County 4-H Council.



K-STATE SUMMER CAMPS

Every summer, K-State hosts summer programs that spark curiosity and fuel inspiration! The experiences are designed to educate and support youth in a variety of academic, athletic, creative, and extracurricular endeavors. Participants have the opportunity to further their education and skills while experiencing life at K-State. Check out the amazing opportunities at www.k-state.edu/summer/camps/... a few are listed below!

- [Vet Med ROCKS Summer Camp](#), July 28/29/30
- [Musical Theatre Camp](#), July 6-12
- [Health Professions Exploration Program](#), June 8-13/22-27
- [Champions Livestock Judging Camps](#), June 2-4; June 9-11
- [K-State Salina Aerospace and Technology Summer Programs](#)
- [Farm to Fashion Camp](#), July 7-10
- [Feeding Your Future Summer Camp](#), July 22-26
- [GROW Summer Workshop](#), June
- [Youth Horse Judging Camps](#), TBD

INSECT SPECTACULAR

The state Kansas 4-H Entomology Workshop will be held Friday and Saturday, June 27-28 in El Dorado. The workshop includes collection and photo trips, pinning class, identification class, and pollinator garden community service activity. One parent/adult guardian from each family must register and attend the workshop with children. Registration closes May 26. Register online at [Kansas 4-H event website](#).

GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP TO FEATURE NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS

The state Kansas 4-H Geology Field Trip is scheduled for June 13-15. It will feature North Central Kansas, with Concordia serving as the experience's headquarters. Several different stops are planned on the Field Trip. 4-H members are encouraged to participate in judging and quiz bowl. You must register all those who plan to attend including siblings ages 0-18 and all adults. Registration deadline is May 16. Register online at [Kansas 4-H event website](#).

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STATE FAIR ANIMALS

Exhibiting an animal beyond the 4-H division at a Post Rock District county fair means that ownership and identification must meet the requirements outlined by the specific show's governing body. The 4-H member is responsible for understanding the deadlines and expectations involved. If your animal species doesn't classify for state livestock nomination, visit the [Kansas 4-H State Fairbook](#) for important ownership, verification, and exhibition deadlines and details. Contact your local Extension Office as soon as possible if you are considering showing at the Kansas State Fair, so we can share resources to help you navigate the process

STATE LIVESTOCK NOMINATIONS

All market animals and commercial females youth would like to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) must be nominated. The [Kansas Youth Livestock Program](#) website outlines the [State Livestock Nomination Process](#) under the "Nomination Information" tab. Families are highly encouraged to use the resources available, especially the *Rookie Guide*.

The nomination process is through an online system. Families will purchase DNA envelopes in advance, submit their animal and exhibitor information online, then mail their completed and signed DNA samples by the deadline. Extension Agents and FFA Advisors will approve nominations online. Post Rock District will NOT sell Kansas 4-H EID tags over-the-counter at our Extension Offices. The state requires our staff to approve all State Nominations for livestock, and part of that approval process is confirming that we have physically seen each Kansas 4-H EID tag in your livestock animal's ear at tagging time (i.e. county weigh-in event).

Exhibitors who nominated animals in past years need to use their existing ShoWorks account. Those who need help accessing their account may request a password reset through ShoWorks or contact the [Kansas Youth Livestock Program](#) for assistance. Returning exhibitors should not create a new account. The ShoWorks website is <https://kansasnom.fairwire.com/>.



**KANSAS
YOUTH LIVESTOCK
PROGRAM
WEBSITE**

Grand Drive and KJLS Important Dates:

- May 1: Market Beef Nominations Due & DNA Postmarked
- June 5: Last Day to Order Small Livestock DNA Envelopes
- June 15: Small Livestock Nominations Due & DNA Postmarked
 - Market Swine, Commercial Gilt
 - Market Lamb, Commercial Ewe
 - ALL Meat Goat (Market & Breeding)
- June 15: Commercial Heifer Nominations Due
- June 15: Registered Breeding Heifer Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- June 15: Registered Breeding Gilt Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- July 1: Registered Breeding Ewe Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- July 15: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Entry Deadline
- July 25: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Late Entry Deadline
- August 15: KJLS Entry Deadline
- August 31: KJLS Late Entry Deadline
- September 5 - 7: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive
- October 3-5: Kansas Junior Livestock Show

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HORSE PROJECT REMINDERS

Horse project members are strongly encouraged to get your horse coggins testing completed soon. This will prevent you from having any issues with participation at 4-H and non-4-H events during the spring and summer. Kansas Division of Animal Health has revised regulations and it is now the responsibility of the horse owner to have a negative Coggins test. A negative Coggins test is valid for 12 months. It is up to the participant to provide verification if event organizers require proof of a negative Coggins test! Read the full regulation on the [Kansas Division of Animal Health website](#).

Planning to show at the State 4-H Horse Show? There are important deadlines that must be met to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show. Kim Naber, 4-H Program Coordinator, is an excellent resource for the equine project and she is happy to explain the requirements and deadlines. She can be reached at 785-346-2521 or kimn@ksu.edu. It's best to reach out to Kim or your local Extension Office ASAP, so you can be on track to meet all requirements.

NEW 4-H Horse Identification Certificate - The certificate has been updated for the 2025 4-H program year. *The NEW 4-H Horse Identification Certificate must be used to properly ID 4-H horse projects by June 1 of the current program year to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair.* Breed registration papers will no longer be acceptable forms of identification. You need to keep the original copy, after getting signatures from the local extension office. An example of how to correctly complete the ID form is available at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animal-science/horse/docs/SampleHorseID.pdf>.

Equine Science Webinar - This webinar is helpful to any horse owner and is a good reference as 4-H members expand their knowledge of basic equine nutrition. Watching these recorded webinars is a great way to participate in project learning activities.

DOG PROJECT EXPERIENCES IN POST ROCK DISTRICT

Spring Project Meetings: Post Rock District Dog Project Leader, Kelli Burrus, is leading dog project meetings at the Osborne County Fairgrounds this spring on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. Remaining dates are May 4, 18; and June 1. No prior experience or knowledge is required to attend, just a desire for you and your dog to have fun while learning. Kelli understands everyone is busy so come to the meetings you are available to attend. *It is important to be registered in 4-H Online in the dog project, so please call your local extension office to make sure you are in the project.* To help with preparations, please RSVP interest in participating by emailing Kim Naber at kimn@ksu.edu.

Fair Dog Show: The 2025 Post Rock District 4-H Dog Show has been set for the morning of Saturday, June 14. The reason for setting the date in June is that it provides a date in advance of the Post Rock District county fairs to avoid 4-H scheduling conflicts. This is the official dog show for all county fairs. Due to the uniqueness of this project, we do not have a dog show at each county fair; instead, we do the dog project as a district-wide show.

Mock Dog Show: To help dog project members prepare for the dog show, there will be a mock show on June 13 in Osborne. More details will be shared as the date gets closer.

State Fair Qualifiers: If you want to show at the state fair, your dog must qualify. You can find a listing of qualifier shows and other opportunities across the state at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/dog/local-dog-events/>

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LIVESTOCK PROJECT: SPRING SHOWS, EVENTS, AND MORE

If you are seeking opportunities related to livestock projects - like spring shows and other contests - the KSU Youth Livestock Program website provides a listing of many opportunities. It certainly doesn't contain every learning and competition opportunity, yet it is a great reference point as you plan for spring and summer. Visit <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/>.

The North Central Kansas Livestock Circuit is not affiliated to K-State Research and Extension or Kansas 4-H, but it provides many showing opportunities in our region. Follow their Facebook page for information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ncklc>.

FAIR PREMIUM AUCTIONS AND PROJECT SALES

County Fair Premium Auctions and Project Sales are NOT governed or clerked by Post Rock Extension District nor the local county's 4-H Council. We are also not the fiscal agent for the event. The premium auction or project sale is operated differently in each county. You can contact your local extension office to learn about the event in your county so you can be prepared to meet all requirements, if you want to participate. We are happy to share the expectations and rules set by the group that governs your respective event.

FFA PARTICIPATION AT POST ROCK DISTRICT COUNTY FAIRS IN 4-H DIVISION

Post Rock District supports FFA member participation in the 4-H division of the county fair. The Kansas 4-H Policy relating to Dual Enrollment of 4-H and FFA members will be followed. All 4-H participation deadlines will apply to FFA Chapters and members, including but not limited to tagging and verification expectations, weigh-ins, project drop/add deadline, fair entry deadlines and fees, dress code, code of conduct, etc.

To meet the Post Rock District's project enrollment drop/add deadline, FFA members need to identify what project areas they will be participating in by May 1, 2025. They will also share important contact information to assist the Post Rock District with providing communication to and supporting the youth in their participation. The earlier FFA members sign up, the more they can be included in communication about upcoming weigh-ins, deadlines, etc. Sign up by completing the online form at <https://bit.ly/FFAParticipationIn4HDivisionAtCountyFair>.

Are you currently enrolled in Post Rock District 4-H, but also want to exhibit FFA at the same county fair? You do not need to fill out this online form. You can select all of your 4-H AND FFA project areas in 4-H Online. Then, when you submit your entries by your county's pre-fair/other entry deadlines you will clarify which project areas are to be in 4-H and which ones are to be in FFA. The form is a way to gather information from youth only representing FFA at the county fair.

SHOOTING SPORTS STATE QUALIFIER

Stede Underwood, certified instructor, is planning to organize a 4-H Archery Qualifier at Glen Elder State Park on July 27. Save the date. Details will be emailed to members enrolled in the archery project as they become available. You have to qualify for State Shooting Sports at a local qualifier. You can attend a qualifier anywhere in Kansas, and you are allowed to attend as many as you want to register for. The state will post qualifier dates and registration information at www.kansas4-h.org/projects/natural-resources/shooting-sports/shooting-sports-events/local-qualifiers.html.

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FUNDRAISERS AND AWARD SOLICITATION FOR 4-H NEED TO NOTIFY THE EXTENSION OFFICE IN ADVANCE

Communicate with your local Extension Office in the early planning stages of your fundraiser to make sure you meet all Kansas 4-H policies and best practices relating to raising money in the name of 4-H. We have a form that helps share the necessary information. Complete the form and submit it to your local Extension Office or email to postrock4h@ksu.edu BEFORE beginning your fundraiser. Do not promote or implement your fundraiser until you receive approval from Post Rock District. Allow at least 10 business days for the fundraiser to be reviewed. If the fundraiser needs to be revised, the individual listed on the form is the one who will be contacted. Find the form at www.postrock.k-state.edu/4-h/club-and-council-support/finances-and-fundraising/.



4-H BRANDING REQUIRED ON CLOTHING, AWARDS, AND SWAG

The use of the K-State Research and Extension/Kansas 4-H co-wordmark is required on all 4-H print, digital, apparel, and merchandise. This requirement applies to all designs created at the local, county, district, area, and state levels BEFORE ordering any items to ensure your club, council, fair board, etc. are using licensed vendors and that all designs include the required co-wordmark. We have a form to help with approval. Submit the form & design artwork (in full color) to your local Extension Office or by email to postrock4h@ksu.edu. Allow at least 10 business days for the design to be reviewed. If edits need to be made, the individual listed on the form is the one who will be contacted. Find the form at www.postrock.k-state.edu/4-h/club-and-council-support/branding-and-marketing/.



4-H RECORD BOOK - DON'T WAIT TO BEGIN!

Don't delay getting your 4-H permanent and project record books started! Kansas 4-H offers paper-based and online record keeping forms. Work on them regularly this summer! Find details at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html>.

Record keeping and reporting are valuable life skills taught to members of the Kansas 4-H program. The purpose and objectives of 4-H records and reports:

- To learn how to set goals, how to make plans for action, and how to decide how well you did (evaluation).
- To learn the skills of record keeping and organization to use now and in the future. Examples: finances, taxes, health, immunizations, careers, scheduling, etc.
- To learn to communicate, prioritize, and summarize your project mastery and experiences.
- To practice responsibility by completing a task.
- To evaluate information that will market personal skills through future resumes and application forms.
- To allow 4-H members to tell how they have grown, what they have learned, where they came up short and to do it within outlined parameters.
- To provide an opportunity for competition at the County, Regional, and State level.

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact four weeks prior to the start of the event. Post Rock District staff and office contact information is available at www.postrock.ksu. 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 Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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