

Doniphan County

K-State Research and Extension News

www.doniphan.ksu.edu

Doniphan County Extension Service

Kathy Tharman

County Extension

Director,

FCS & 4-H Agent

ktharman@ksu.edu

Katharine Sharp

ANR/4-H Agent

kgsharp@ksu.edu

Angela Stock

Office Professional

astock@ksu.edu

Phone: 785-985-3623

Fax: 785-985-2858

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ksre.k-state.edu

4-H NEWS



Welcome Back to 4H Online! Kansas 4-H welcomes you to another year of convenient online enrollment!

Visit: <https://v2.4honline.com/>

****Enrollment will stay open throughout the winter till May 1st**, but after November 30, 2023 points will no longer be earned for your clubs Standard of Excellence.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

MARCH

16- Beef Weigh-In 10-Noon

23- Regional 4-H Day

APRIL

15- 4-H Council

28- Sheep and Goat Weigh-In

MAY

1 - Last Day to make project changes

1- Last day to buy livestock tags, turn in tag numbers to the office.

1- Horse ID papers due into the office

June

5-7 -Discovery Days

14 & 15- Rodeo

17 - 4-H Council

MARCH/APRIL 2024

REGIONAL 4-H CLUB DAY

SATURDAY,
MARCH 23rd
2024



In-Person at Atchison Elementary School.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE—
March 11th —Top Purples have first choice to perform at Regionals. If they choose not to, alternates will be given the opportunity.

*There will be a Regional FCS Judging contest at the Atchison school the morning of our Regional 4H Club Day. It will be set up in one of the rooms. All three age divisions will be set up. This will be a contest, not a school.

4-H Discovery Days - 2024

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days is planning to be in-person on KSU campus

When: June 5th—7th, 2024

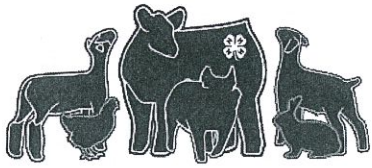
Who: Youth ages 13-18 before January 1, 2024 are invited to register

Cost: TBA

Registration: Coming soon

REMINDER:

May 1st will be here quickly. Please log on to your 4H Online account and review your 4H projects you have chosen to participate in this year!



YQCA Training
Youth for the Quality
Care of Animals

(YQCA) is a national, multi-species youth livestock quality assurance program. It is an annual training open to youth 8-21 years of age and focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and life skill development. For further details, please contact your local extension office or visit the program website, www.yqca.org. To register for training, create a user account here. Kansas 4-H members may use their family 4HOnline credentials to log in and register for the appropriate training.

***Any 4-Her showing at KSF must have this training.**

COUNTY BEEF WEIGH-IN
MARCH 16th, 2024

8:30 - 10:30 am

4-H Fairgrounds

All Market Steers must be weighed in at this time in preparation for summer shows. All breeding heifers and cows need to be identified with a 4-H ear tag or registration tattoo, and the number turned into our office by May 1st.

County tags \$1, KSF \$4

Bucket Calves need to have a county tag.

COUNTY SHEEP/GOATS WEIGH-IN

Spring market sheep and goat weigh-in will be on Sunday, April 28th at the Troy Fairgrounds, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

Your market animals **MUST** be weighed in to show at the fair. You may use wethers or ewes/does for the market class.

All breeding animals must be identified with a 4-H ear tag or registration tattoo and turned into our office by May 1st.

All sheep and goats must have a valid scrapie ID.

Sheep/Goat eartags cost \$1.00
Sheep/Goat EID eartags cost \$3.25

SWINE

All state fair swine must be eartagged (EID) and ear notched, or tattooed/tagged appropriate for their breed. County swine

must have a county eartag if not registered. ID numbers must be turned into the Extension office by May 1st.

Swine eartags cost \$1.00
Swine EID eartags cost \$3.25

PLEASE COME PREPARED TO PAY FOR TAGS AT WEIGH-IN!

Late purchased tags (after May 1st) will cost \$10/tag.

No tags purchased after May 31st.



RODEO

Doniphan County Fair

Association is putting the 11th Annual Rodeo on Friday, June 14th and Saturday, June 15th.

Please save the dates for this

event. More details will be coming soon.

***Plan on concession stand - All Clubs needed!**



It Is Coming.....County Fair Planning will began in March!
County Fair Dates: Saturday, July 20th and the week Monday, July 22nd - 26th.

WHY 4-H?

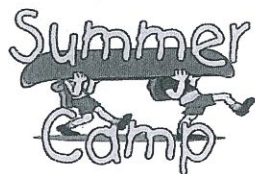
4 H empowers young people with the skills to lead for a lifetime.

In 4 H, we believe in the power of young people.

We see that every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us. We are America's largest youth development organization—empowering nearly six million young people across the U.S. and over 70,000 youth in Kansas with the skills to lead for a lifetime.

It's a research-based experience that includes a mentor, a hands-on project, and a meaningful leadership opportunity. Based on their interests and guided by adult volunteers, youth develop their own pathway in 4 H. They select from a broad menu of local 4 H programs and projects. There are hands-on, learn by doing, opportunities for everyone.





AWESOME 4-H CAMP!

Campers excitement like fireflies' lighting a summer's evening, sparks childhood memories of fun-filled, stress-free, spontaneous days.

Attending summer camp can be a time for experiencing nature and the outdoors, making new friends, and learning life skills. Summer camp is more than just a vacation. Camp is a learning adventure like no other place to gain self-confidence, practice cooperating with others, and experiencing life beyond one's own world. The outcome of camping is for those life lessons to contribute in a positive and significant way that enhances the child's adjustment into their adult years.

New Camp Opportunities

4-H Clubs, Units and previous camp groups may choose to coordinate with their families to attend a designated session.

***A Parents Camp Packet was sent to all families in February and is located on our Doniphan County website:**
<https://www.doniphan.k-state.edu/>

For session pricing and to register, visit
<https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/>.

**1/2
Price**

*****Doniphan County 4-H Council will pay half cost for any Doniphan County 4-H Member attending camp!**

PLUS there are full scholarships available from RSR and the 4-H Foundation. This scholarship is found on the camp registration site.

Note: If you choose session 5, I will transport our kids to camp and back in our county van. ☺

***Last years campers had a great time and highly encourage all 4-H members to go to camp!!**

4-H FAIR LIVESTOCK INFORMATION

ALL hooved animals must be identified and tags/IDs turned into the office by **May 1st**. More details are below or on the website:

www.doniphan.k-state.edu/4-h/fairinfo.html

Horses

- County fair only? ID papers turned in by May 1st.
- State fair? ID papers by May 1st, horsemanship level completed by district show entry date, compete at district show. KSF paperwork deadlines vary.

Beef, Sheep, Goats, Swine

Showing just at the county fair?

- Attend weigh-in (market beef, sheep, goats).
- Eartags in by May 1st, registered/purebred; tag or tattoos reported to office by May 1st.

Note difference on State Dates!

Showing at the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or KJLS?

- All showmen must complete YQCA training by nomination date or **June 15!** See below.
- Attend weigh-in (market beef, sheep, goats).
- Eartagged and IDs reported to office by May 1st.
- Market or commercial animals need an eID, DNA pulled, and nomination paperwork in by the appropriate deadline. **Nomination is not registration for the state fair.**

2024 dates:

- **May 1:** market steers/heifers
- **June 15:** commercial heifers, market lambs and commercial ewes, market swine and commercial gilts, all meat goats
- Purebred gilts at KJLS need EID as well!
- All animals must be registered for shows by **July 15. Nomination is not registration for the shows!** Please check the website to make sure you're on the right track!

State Website for all information:

<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/>

[Help Video: Web-Based Training](#)

[Help Video: Instructor-Led Training](#)



K-State
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Doniphan County Office
P.O. Box 487
105 S. Liberty
Troy, KS 66087-0487

March /April 2024

* Dear Friends,

It has been a Cold Winter but Spring is around the corner with
Plenty of Extension Programs to participate in! Join the Fun!

Sincerely,

Kathy Tharman

County Extension Director

Will March Come
"In Like a
Lion,
Out Like a
Lamb"?





Walk Kansas
celebrate healthy living

2024 Walk Kansas is an 8-week walking program that starts on March 31st and goes till May 25th.

NEW This Year:

***Option of Walking Solo - Teams are still encouraged**

Register Online: www.walkkansas.org

Cost is \$10 per team member. T-shirts are optional.

*All shirt orders will go directly through NZone

*Manage your team and record your minutes walked on-line.


Each team member needs to keep track of how many minutes they walk each week. (Other forms of exercise count as well, 15 minutes of most any form of exercise counts as 1 mile).

You will also keep track of how many cups of fruits and vegetables you eat each week.

Log on to your team page to record your minutes. At the end of the 8 weeks, your team will have collectively walked across Kansas, almost 423 miles!

Happy Easter!

shutterstock.com - 7527675



**2024 Stay Strong
Stay Healthy
Program**
www.k-state.edu/staystrong

I will be starting a new class for Stay Strong Stay Healthy, Aging Adults. March 26th - May 16th

Classes will be on Tuesday & Thursday mornings, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Classes will begin on March 26th.

Classes will be held at the Troy 4-H Building at the fairgrounds.

Cost will be \$20. *Scholarships available.

SSSH Program is 16 sessions. Twice a week for 8 weeks.

**You will need to register at the Extension office by March 19th
Pick up a registration packet at the Extension office.**

*These classes are for anyone ages 55-100!

You need not be an exercise enthusiast to participate!! The program is built around your individual abilities.

This program focuses on 3 objectives.

1. Increasing strength.
2. Increasing flexibility.
3. Increasing balance.

Join us and give yourself the chance to improve your overall health!



Morel Mushroom Identification Training

K-State Research & Extension will provide morel mushroom

identification training in an

upcoming online training. This training will help people earn the necessary approval to sell wild morel mushrooms.

The classes are intended to help ensure that wild harvested mushrooms sold as morels in the state of Kansas are safe to consume. Current regulations under the Kansas Department of Agriculture's food safety and lodging program require that mushrooms picked in the wild for sale must be individually inspected for safety by an approved mushroom identifier. Upon completion of this class, participants will be recognized as approved morel identifiers in order to meet this regulation.

The zoom link for accessing the training online will be sent the day before the training. The same training will be offered two different times, so participants can select which time works better for them.

Go to this web page to register:
<https://enewsletters.k-state.edu/youaske dit/category/february-2024/>

Click on your choice:
March 21, 2024 – Noon to 1:00pm
March 12, 2024 – 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Doniphan Daisies FCE would love to Welcome New Members! Contact Amy Masters to join!

See Clearer with Green Foods!

March brings us closer to spring colors, such as fresh green foods!

Some of those green foods contain lutein which helps keep our eyes healthier and could reduce the eye disease age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Lutein is a xanthophyll found in foods such as basil, parsley, kale, spinach, broccoli, peas and lettuce.

Some risk factors for AMD are out of our control such as advancing age, being female, having light skin and/or blue eyes, and having a close relative with the disease.

Other factors include smoking, being sedentary, not consuming enough fruits and vegetables, and too much sun exposure.

But, eating eye-healthy foods can reduce the chances of getting AMD. So how can you incorporate these green foods into your diet? Add bright green vegetables to a party tray. Add a green salad as a side dish to lunch or dinner. Make the color pop in broccoli and green peas by blanching them briefly in boiling water, then put them into ice water to stop the cooking process. This enhances the green color to make those vegetables more appetizing.



AMD - An eye disease that causes vision loss.

Macular degeneration causes loss in the center of the field of vision. In dry macular degeneration, the center of the retina deteriorates. With wet macular degeneration, leaky blood vessels grow under the retina.



Kansas State University

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DONIPHAN COUNTY
AGNR NEWS

Upcoming Events of Interest:

- Mar 1 - 111th Annual K State Cattlemen's Day @ Manhattan
- Mar 13 - Northeast Kansas Sheep and Goat School @ Holton

Greetings Doniphan County!

My name is Katharine Sharp, and I am the new AGNR & 4H extension agent for Doniphan County. I look forward bringing agronomy, livestock, natural resources, and horticulture programming to Doniphan County. Please contact me if you have an AGNR topic you would like to see brought to Doniphan County. I will be entering my third month here at Doniphan County and I wanted to thank you all for being so welcoming. I hope to continue meeting everyone, so please continue to stop by and introduce yourself!

Katharine 😊

**Northeast Kansas Sheep and Goat School
March 13th 6 pm at Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex in Holton, KS**

This meeting will feature speakers and presentations to help those involved in small ruminant production or looking to begin a sheep and/or goat enterprise.

The term "Mob Grazing" may mean different things to different people, but the benefits to multi-species grazing can be clearly observed when done properly. K-State Research and Extension units from across northeast Kansas will be hosting the annual Sheep and Goat School in Holton, to discuss this topic and more. Evening activities will begin at 6:00 pm with a sheep shearing demonstration given by Manus Brothers Shearing of Tonganoxie.

If you are interested in attending or have questions, please contact myself at (785) 985 3623 or email me at kgsharp@ksu.edu. Please share with others who may be interested in this event!

Reminders!

- If your private certified pesticide applicator license has expired, please contact the Extension office to take the certification exam. There is a \$25 KDA fee and we do offer manuals for sale.

During the month of February Doniphan County has had countywide burn bans. Here's a helpful reminder from the Kansas Forest Service via K-State for Doniphan County homeowners to protect their homes during the months of March and April:

State forest official urges Kansans to safeguard their homes from fire

Pat Melgares, K-State Research and Extension news

A Kansas Forest Service official is encouraging homeowners to fireproof their homes in advance of potential wildfires in the state this year.

Eric Ward, the assistant fire manager for the state's forest service, said actions taken ahead of time can be the difference between saving or losing a home and surrounding structures.

"During a major fire, one of the challenges is that there are not enough fire trucks for every home," Ward said. "It's just a given that if there's a major fire coming, there will not be a fire truck at your house. There just aren't enough in any community."

Ward said the Kansas Forest Service has a Wildfire Risk Assessment portal available online for free. The tool allows homeowners to enter their home address – or any other specific area they want to protect – and receive an on-screen assessment of the fire risk in that area.

City officials – public safety professionals, emergency managers and community planners among them – can use the Wildfire Risk Assessment tool to produce a multi-page report that assesses fire danger for a wider area, such as an entire community.

Regardless of one's risk, Ward said there are many steps that homeowners can take to safeguard their property and the lives of their family, including:

- Move firewood away from the side of the house.
- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles.
- Replace or repair loose or missing shingles on the roof.
- Prune tree branches so they are at least 10 feet from the home's roof.
- Keep lawns, native grasses and wildflowers at a height of less than four inches.
- Keep trailers, recreational vehicles, storage sheds and other combustible structures more than 30 feet away from the home.

A more detailed list of homeowner safeguards is available in the Kansas Forest Service publication, Ready, Set, Go! My Personal Wildland Fire Action Plan.

Chip Redmond, a K-State meteorologist and director of a network of 86 weather stations known as the Kansas Mesonet, said all landowners can help reduce the potential of wildfires by paying attention to forecasts available online via a fire danger tool.

“It’s called the Kansas Fire Danger Forecast, and what we’ve done is take all the real-time data we get from our 86 weather stations to build a historical record,” Redmond said. “That information goes to the U.S. Forest Service’s wildfire information management system, which then calculates a fire danger rating through a burning index, which looks at the flammability, wind and humidity component to fuels (such as grasses) in a given area.” The forecast, Redmond adds, is typically reported for the next seven days.

“You want to look at fire concerns in the future,” he said. “The fire danger of the day you’re going to burn may be conducive for that day...but you also need to check those burns in the days after. The forecasts will help you understand whether you need to check a little more often because maybe the winds are going to pick up.”

Often, Redmond said, a fire could re-ignite four or five days after the original burn.

Kansas Wildfire Awareness Week is Feb. 12-16. More information on safeguarding property from wildfire is available online from the Kansas Forest Service, and from local extension offices in Kansas.

More info may be found: <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/news-and-publications/news/stories/2024/02/forestry-wildfire-awareness-week.html>

February turned out to be a warmer month, however Spring officially begins on March 19th! Here are two articles preparing area gardeners for spring. The following article has been taken from the K-State Horticulture Newsletter:

Caring for Flowering Bulbs

K State Division of Horticulture

During the months of March through April and into May we will receive our delayed gratification from the bulbs planted last fall. Get the most out of this reward with the following tips:

- Deadhead blooms as they fade to prevent seed development and allow bulbs to store more energy for future blooms.
- Leaves should be left intact until they die back naturally. Cutting leaves back while still green

halts energy production and limits energy stored in the bulbs.

- Wait to transplant bulbs until after leaves have died back, if necessary.
- If you’re noticing leaves emerging from the soil due to our warmer days lately don’t be too concerned. When freezing temps return the leaves may develop some brown tips but the plants should be fine. If buds emerge you can cover them gently with mulch.



Do I need to test my garden’s soil?

Maddy Rohr, K-State Research and Extension news service

Most gardeners think soil testing only determines nutrient deficiencies, but the tests also help gardeners understand whether the soil contains adequate nutrients. Basic tests check the soil’s pH, and the phosphorus and potassium levels.

“Most of the lawn and garden soil tests that come out of our soil-testing lab show more than adequate levels of both phosphorus and potassium,” said Kansas State University horticultural expert Cynthia Domenghini. “If those nutrients are not needed, applying them is a waste of money and can be a source of pollution.”

Domenghini urges gardeners to test their garden’s soil before beginning spring gardening, particularly if the soil hasn’t been tested in several years.

To do so, she says, take a sample from multiple locations in the garden and lawn. Samples should be taken at a depth between the surface and eight inches, depending on the area being sampled. Next, mix the samples together to total one pint of soil.

More information on taking an accurate soil test is available online from the K-State Agronomy Soil Analysis.

According to Domenghini, the soil sample can then be submitted to your local K-State Research and Extension office to have tests done at the K-State soil-testing laboratory for a fee.

“A soil test determines fertility problems, not other conditions that may exist, such as poor drainage, poor soil

structure, soil borne diseases or insects, chemical contaminants or damage,” Domenghini said. “All of these conditions may reduce plant performance but cannot be evaluated by a soil test.”

Domenghini recommends submitting dry soil samples, as wet soil has different precautions.

“Wet soil samples should be air-dried before being submitted for testing,” Domenghini said. “Do not use artificial means of drying such as an oven or microwave as such treatment may result in inaccurate readings of nutrient levels.”

Soil tests should be used as a tool to identify nutrient deficiencies, Domenghini said, but often they do not tell the whole story of other factors affecting plant growth.

Factors that can affect plant growth that are not due to nutrient deficiencies or pH include:

- Not enough sun
- Poor soil physical characteristics
- Walnut trees (walnuts give off a natural herbicide that interferes with the growth of some plants)
- Tree roots.
- Shallow soils.
- Improper watering.
- Overwatering.



As we enter into spring planting season, we will begin to see more farm equipment on the road in Doniphan County. Please use extra caution when you encounter farm equipment on the roadways.

Planting, harvesting means more farm vehicles likely to be on roads

K-State Research and Extension news service

The leader of a program that promotes safety on the farm and in rural areas is encouraging drivers to remain alert in areas where farm equipment is likely to be on the roads.

Tawnie Larson, the state’s coordinator of the Rollover Protection Structure (ROPS) program at Kansas State University, said accidents between vehicles and farm machinery is more likely to happen during planting and harvesting time because more equipment is likely to be on the roads.

“Most accidents are preventable,” Larson said, noting that a 2016 study administered by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration found that human error accounts for 94% to 96% of all auto accidents.

Collisions between farm equipment and passenger vehicles can result in pricey repairs to vehicles and equipment, but in a worst case, also result in loss of life. According to the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, there have been more than 10 fatalities and 30 serious injuries since 2012 on Kansas roadways involving passenger vehicles and farm equipment.

“Many accidents include passenger vehicles rear-ending machinery as it travels on the roadways or misjudging the width of equipment,” Larson said. “Farmers do not like to drive machinery on the roads, but sometimes it is required to get equipment from one field to another. To prevent accidents, CS-CASH’s recommendations include:

- Never pass farm equipment while in no-passing zones.
- Slow down and be patient when encountering farm equipment on roadways.
- Use turn signals so the equipment operator knows that you are passing.

Larson notes that rural roads are often narrow, hilly, steep and curvy with little to no shoulders. When driving on a two-lane road, she says:

- Be alert and avoid distractions.
- Watch ahead for large equipment and trucks entering and exiting the road.
- Slow down as soon as you spot a piece of equipment on the road.
- Be aware of the orange triangular slow-moving vehicle (SMV) signs.

Kansas Farm Bureau publishes additional safety tips for drivers of non-farm vehicles:

- Give tractors and combines plenty of room to operate. Expect them to take wide turns and even travel into both lanes to properly turn.
- Don’t pull in front of farm equipment and suddenly slow down. The tractor may be towing heavy machinery, making quick stopping impossible.
- Be aware of slow-moving vehicles. Expect farm equipment and tractors to travel at a much slower rate – between 5-15 miles per hour.
- Watch for hand signals and other ways a farmer or rancher may try to communicate with you.

Those who operate farm equipment should make sure lights and flashers are working properly; know the height of the vehicle they’re driving; take care when traveling on public roads; and communicate with fellow motorists using whatever signals possible.





Creating a **Bill calendar** helps you see how income and bills line up each month

1. Select which month you're planning for and label the calendar for that month.
2. Make a list of all your bills.
3. For each bill, **mark the payment date**: 7 days before the due date for mail, 3 days before the due date for online.
4. Enter the dates you'll receive income and the amounts you expect.

Bills:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Month of: _____

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday