

4-H Clover News

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

March 2025

How to Reach Us:

Ford Co. Extension

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Dodge City, KS 67801
620.227.4542

Hours:

8:30am—12 noon
1:00pm—5:00pm

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Check us out on the web!

www.ford.ksu.edu
www.kansas4-h.org
facebook.com/fordcounty4h



Focus on the Future of Ford County Extension

The Ford County Extension Council Executive Board and Extension Agents are having a Public Meeting on Wednesday, March 19 at 6:30 pm at the Ford County Fair Building. This meeting will be an open forum to Focus on the Future of Ford County Extension and all programming opportunities. If you have concerns, comments, etc., you would like to share concerning the Ford County Extension Service, please plan to attend. This meeting will be facilitated by two trained K-State Extension Facilitators from our area.

SMALL ANIMAL LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN AND TAGGING DATE

Countywide weigh-in/tagging for small animals will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at the Ford County Fairgrounds between 4:00—6:00 pm. If you are planning on showing Swine, Sheep, Goats and/or Bucket Calves **at the County Fair**, you **MUST weigh and tag your livestock at the respective weigh-in dates. If the 4-H member can not be at the weigh-in/tagging that is ok, we need the ANIMAL brought to the event & it can be brought by anyone.**

SMALL ANIMAL (SWINE, SHEEP, GOAT, BUCKET CALF) WEIGH-IN/ TAGGING

Tuesday, April 8: 4:00 pm—6:00 pm @ Ford County Fairgrounds

Alternate date is Tuesday, April 15 in case of bad weather

Animals for state shows that are not brought to respective weigh-in dates, will have a service charge of \$25 applied to tag animals.

EAR TAG POLICY

4-H Council policy allows a 4-H'er up to six (6) ear tags per species (i.e. up to 6 for beef, 6 for sheep, 6 for goats, 6 for swine). Any tags over the provided six will be at the expense of the 4-H'er and their family.

YOUTH QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS PROGRAM (YQCA)

YQCA certification is designed to be useful and help prepare you for your show but also prepare young producers in animal agriculture industry. This is available online and Andrea has scheduled an in person meeting for March 22, 10 am at the Fair Building. Andrea will also be offering one in Meade County on March 18 at 1 pm. Let Andrea know if you need a ride to Meade.

4-H COUNCIL MEETING

The next 4-H Council meeting will be Monday, March 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ford County Fair Building.

LIVESTOCK SALES

Now is the time that several fliers concerning upcoming sales and livestock shows are being sent to the Extension Office. All these fliers, along with show bills will be compiled into a binder. Feel free to come in and check it out or ask for them to be emailed out to you by contacting Andrea!!

COUNTY FAIR POULTRY TESTING INFO — Ford County testing in 2025

All poultry (except waterfowl) are required to show proof of being P-T clean by one of the following:

- ◆ Originate from a certified U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid clean flock
- ◆ Test negative at check-in of the county fair when the county has been designated by KDA-DAH for surveillance. Routine surveillance testing will be performed for each county fair a minimum of once every 5 years.

We are only required to do Pullorum-Typhoid testing every 5 years, prior to the fair. You must make sure that your birds originate from a certified clean flock. Our county tested last year and will again in 2029. If you have questions, please ask Andrea.

COUNTY WIDE PROJECT LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS!

The Ford County 4-H Program is always looking for County-wide project Leaders who will share their expertise, time and effort with our 4-H'ers. If you know of anyone who wants to get involved with the 4-H Program, please have them contact the Extension Office! Project Leaders give our members an extra 'edge' in their 4-H Experience!

COUNTY FAIR SUPERINTENDENTS

Please consider being a Fair Superintendent for the County Fair this year. It takes many volunteers to make sure the Ford County Fair is a success. We need superintendents for the fair divisions to function correctly and to get everything recorded correctly, ribbons attached, etc. . Please consider signing up to help. All adult leaders/parents and junior leaders (ages 12 and older) are encouraged to volunteer and sign up during your next club meeting. If you know anyone else who might be interested in helping as a superintendent, please ask them and let us know what area they are willing to assist in.

Current Project Leaders:

Horse — Shayla Tieben

Jr. Horse Leader—Josie Robinson

Livestock Judging — Jay Langlois
— Eddie Nichols

Meat Goat — Andrea Burns
Jr. Meat Goat Ld.—Adeline Robinson

Rabbit Jr. Leader—Adeline Robinson

Shooting Sports Shotgun — Troy Robinson
Archery — Brandi Stein



- ◆ All 4-H members who participated in County Club Day and all members who will be competing at Regional Club Day.
- ◆ Braeden and Quinlan Simon, Emma Ackerman, and Ethan Holman for participating in CIA at the Kansas Capitol.

::4-H Shout Outs::

Shooting Sporting Practices

Practices will begin on April 27 at the Ford County Gun Club with a required safety meeting. Practices will begin on May 18. More details and times will be in the next newsletter.

HORSE ID CERTIFICATES

A reminder that Horse ID Certificate papers are due **June 1** to the local office. ID Forms can be found on our website or you can update from last year if you still have room on the signature lines. For more information, please contact our office.



Horse ownership:

Each horse should be properly identified with the local Extension Office by June 1 of the current 4-H program year. Horses may be identified by a) completed Horse ID Certificate with all required signatures, or b) breed registration papers with horse ownership listed in the 4-H member's or a family member's name. "Family member" includes: immediate family—parent, stepparent, sibling, stepsibling, grandparent, or legal guardian.

A copy of the 4-H Horse ID Certificate or the horse's registration papers must be kept on file with the local Extension Office and taken with you to any shows you participate in. 4-H'ers exhibiting registered horses must present a copy of the registration papers or the 4-H Horse ID Certificate at check-in to the State Fair.

Horse Coggins Test Required in 2025

'Coggins' is a common name for a blood test that is used to screen horses, mules and donkeys for a possibly fatal disease - Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). Proof of negative Coggins test within the last 12 months per the updated KDAH requirement will be required at the 2025 Ford County Fair. This updated requirement is not the result of an EIA outbreak in the State. It is just implementing good biosecurity practices. Contact Andrea if you have any questions.

Rabbit Clinic

There will be a Rabbit Clinic on May 3, at Stanton County 4-H Building, 702 S. Knox St, Johnson, KS. Clinic will start at 10 a.m. Topics will be rabbit selection, purchasing a rabbit, showmanship and breeds. You can bring your rabbit to the clinic. Register by April 19 by contacting kcjones@ksu.edu, 620-952-2878. You may text your information.

A District Livestock Judging Contest in Dodge City

A District Livestock Judging Contest will be March 26 at 9 am at the Western Bank Expo Center in South Dodge City. We may have one senior and one junior team and as many individual contestants as needed. Questions, contact Brice Gibson, Hodgeman County FFA Advisory at bgibson@usd227.org or contact Andrea Burns at the Extension Office. There is a registration fee, contact Andrea for details.

Exchange Flea Market

Spring Flea Market is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, 9 am to 1 pm at the Ford County Fair Building. If interested in a booth, please contact the Extension Office. Otherwise, come and check out the vendors and support the Exchange group by eating at their concession stand. We will also have pecans and meat sticks for sale at the Flea Market.

Dance Recital and Soup Supper Fund Raiser

The Exchange group will be hosting a free will donation soup supper and a Little Feet Dance Academy recital on Saturday evening, March 29 at the Ford County Fair Building. Supper starts at 5:00 pm with the Recital to follow the meal at approximately 5:30-6:00 pm.



CAMP CENTRAL

4-CLOVER CAMP—“BE A 4-H H ALL STAR AT 4-H CAMP”- JUNE 11-13

Looking for a summer camp closer to home? **4-Clover Camp** is the camp for you! 4-H youth ages 7 to 10 years olds are invited to attend this 3 day 2 night camp for only \$110 but the Ford County 4-H Foundation will provide a \$50 scholarship and 4-H Council a \$20 scholarship to lower your cost to only \$40! This camp is jammed packed with activities such as: swimming, crafts, and new friends! Theme is “It’s In the Bag at 4 Clover Camp”. Camp is for Ford, Gray, Hodgeman and Walnut Creek District (Lane, Ness & Rush) 4-H’ers. Apply for the Blake Stanley Camp Scholarship to help reduce your camp cost even more.

CAMP AT ROCK SPRINGS RANCH

Don’t forget, if you are interested in attending camp at Rock Springs this year, you can enroll at www.rockspringsranch4Hcamp.org at anytime. You have choices of 4 days/3 nights or 7 days/6 nights camping opportunities. You can select dates that fit your schedule, as our county does not have specific time frame for camping. There are camps for 3rd through 12th grades with different price tiers. For our older kids there is Counselors in Training and Leaders in Training. Call the office for more details.

Both our 4-H Council (\$50) and the Ford County 4-H Foundation (\$100) provides scholarships towards your registration.

PLEASE NOTE

Several of the Camps listed are made affordable by financial assistance from the **Ford County 4-H Foundation** and **Ford County 4-H Council**. Take a few minutes out of your day to thank them.

Also consider applying for the **Ford/Gray County Scroggins Scholarship**. This is a one time, per year, scholarship available for members to attend a State level camp or certain state events. Check with the office for more details on this scholarship.

Day Camp — June 18

Calling all kids of Ford County

Ford County Fair Building

More information will shared soon

PAYMENT POLICY

- **For any activity registration:** Payment arrangements can be made in writing with the Extension Office to set up a payment schedule. Full payment is due by the registration deadline.
- **For online registrations:** **Full payment is due to the Extension Office by the online event deadline unless a written payment agreement is made between the Extension Office and the participant.** Failing to meet those requirements will result in cancellation of registration (participant will still be responsible for the \$25 cancelation fee and possible registration cost based upon event guidelines).
- **Transportation:** A transportation fee of \$15 per person will be added to fees for trips that require travel in a county vehicle outside of Ford County.

Community Service Opportunity

For Arbor Day, arrangements have been made to work with the City of Dodge City to plant trees within the city limits. The next 4-H Newsletter will have more information on date, time and location. This would be an excellent opportunity for community service to report in your record for projects such as plant science and horticulture, club community service, leadership, citizenship, etc.

Barn Quilt Workshop

If you are interested in doing a Barn Quilt for your Arts project, the Extension office is hosting a workshop on April 12 at the Fair Building starting at 9 am. Contact Ethel for more details on costs and sizes. This is an opportunity to complete one of your art projects early.

Discovery Days 2025

Are You Ready for Discovery Days? Put June 4-6, 2025 on your calendar to be in Manhattan on the K-State campus. Class sessions are being finalized and cover a variety of topics. Discovery Days is open to all youth who are 13 to 18 years old by January 1, 2025. More information and registration will be available soon. There is a \$15 transportation fee added to the registration fee when you pay at the Extension Office. Both Ford County 4-H Foundation and 4-H Council offer scholarships to help with the registration fee.

Tractor Safety Course

The annual Tractor Safety Course will be held on June 3 and it will be held either in Cimarron or Kinsley. More information will be in next months newsletter. Please call if you have any questions.

Ford Co. 4-H Foundation Scholarships

High School Seniors and past 4-H members should receive information concerning the Ford County 4-H Foundation Scholarships. These were emailed or mailed to the individual. Remember they need to be turned in by the **deadline of April 1.** Only complete applications will be considered and each application requires a copy of your last permanent record. The application can also be found on our website on the main page or at the Extension Office. Remember to plan ahead as you will need a transcript and a letter of recommendation from a 4-H leader, (not your parent or an Extension Agent).

Seniors and college students can also consider applying for the Dodge City Women's Chamber of Commerce Scholarship. This can be found on their website—DCwomenschamber.com and will be available for 2024 soon. These are due April 30. Call Ethel for more information or if you have questions.

4-H TRAVELING PHOTO DISPLAY

The 4-H Traveling Photos have been on display at the Dodge City Public Library and will be there till the middle of March. We will be moving them soon to be displayed at the Bucklin Public Library during the middle of March thru the month of April.



Ford County Extension Office
100 Gunsmoke
Dodge City, KS 67801

Dear 4-H Families,

Congratulations to all club members who competed at County Club Day and advanced to Regionals. Good Luck to those competing at Regional Club Day tomorrow at the First Nazarene Church here in Dodge City.

During Spring Break is a good time to start on some of your projects for the county fair. Remember to set your goals first for what you want to accomplish and learn within the project. If you have questions concerning what you can take to the county fair, call the office. We are currently working on the 2025 Fair Book with revisions from the Kansas State 4-H Office and State Fair.

Have a great Spring Break and St Patty's Day!



Ethel Schneweis
County Extension Agent



Andrea Burns
County Extension Agent



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