



4-H UPDATES

Official Newsletter of Meadowlark Extension District 4-H

4-H Open Enrollment—October 1!!!

It is that time of year again, a new 4-H year! 4-H Enrollment for the **2025-2026** year opens online, <https://v2.4honline.com/>, at 8:00 AM on **October 1**.

Returning families will be able to log into their Family profile to re-enroll in 4-H. New families will have to create a new family profile to start the enrollment process. Resources to help with the enrollment and re-enrollment can be found on the Enrollment page, <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/enrollment.html>, of our website or within the 4HOnline site. Don't forget that enrollment is not just for members! Cloverbuds and registered volunteers **MUST** maintain active enrollment, but will not pay the program fee. Other volunteers, parents or supporters, now termed "Adult Helpers", are welcome and encouraged to enroll too.

As a returning family, if you cannot remember your username email and/or password, **DO NOT** create another account!!! Contact your local Extension Office and we will assist you with logging back into your existing account. If you ever have any issues or need help with the enrollment process, please contact your local Meadowlark District Extension office.

We encourage all enrollments to be completed early in the month of October. To avoid restrictions being placed on your 4-H membership, **ALL RETURNING 4-H MEMBERS** need to complete the re-enrollment process by **NOVEMBER 1!!!** The full policy document may be viewed under "District Policy Resources" on the Resources & Links page of our 4-H website. Enrollment is needed for participation in events and project meetings! Why wait? Get started today! Please do not hesitate to ask questions about this important process.

October 2026

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You're Invited!

MEADOWLARK EXTENSION DISTRICT

4-H CLUB LEADERS

SHARE A MEAL, IDEAS, & FELLOWSHIP!

WE WILL BEGIN WITH DINNER, FOLLOWED BY SETTING
GOALS, AND END WITH TIME FOR AN IDEA SWAP WITH
OTHER 4-H LEADERS!

OCTOBER 29, 2026

6:30-8:00 PM

NE KANSAS HERITAGE COMPLEX IN HOLTON

RSVP BY OCTOBER 22

BY CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

National 4-H Week is Oct. 4-10. Theme: Beyond Ready

Take advantage of this important week to highlight the remarkable 4-H youth in your communities and showcase the incredible experiences that 4-H offers young people.

National 4-H Council has a toolkit available at <https://4-h.org/resources/professionals/marketing-resources/promotional-toolkits/>. This toolkit is designed to help you leverage National 4-H Week on social media, in your community and beyond. You will need to register to have access to these items. Kansas 4-H Promotional Resources can be found at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/marketing/index.html>, as well.

Don't forget to share photos of 4-H Week promotion in our Facebook group!

Remember to Register Your 48 Hours of 4-H event

We hope every 4-H Club will join 4-Hers from across the state 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 set up a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, potential 4-H members and 4-H Alums too!

It's time to make plans for your club to participate. Check out <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/index.html> for a helpful guide, and to register your project(s).

- **When: October 10-11, 2026**
- **Who:** 4-H Members, 4-H Clubs, Friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents and 4-H Alumni

4-H Record Book Judging—Your Help is NEEDED!!!

Every 4-H member is expected to submit a printed summary of annual work - what we all know as the 4-H Record Book. Some youth choose to take the annual summary a step farther by trying for project recognition, by having their records nominated for project awards, given out at Achievement events. Within Meadowlark District, 4-H Record Books are exchanged between the counties comprising our District. Volunteer screeners review, comment and rank project winners based upon the work recorded in the 4-H Record Books.

This is where YOU come in... WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!! All that is needed is a desire to help/learn, a base understanding of Kansas 4-H Records (review the "Tips for Record Book Success, it's all in there, https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/project_records.html) and the ability to write; positive, encouraging comments to youth. We will be using the new evaluation rubric provided by the State 4-H Records Taskforce. Parents typically find this to be a great way to learn about how to help their own 4-H members improve. Older teens, 4-H Alumni, Grandparents and any willing volunteer are welcome! See local pages of this newsletter for specific information about the dates, times and locations. Here is a quick summary:

October 12: Jefferson County Fair Building, Valley Falls

October 12: Woolsoncroft Events Center, Seneca

October 12 & 18: NE Kansas Heritage Building, Holton

Adding Your Office Position in 4HOnline

As the 4-H year begins, new officers will be getting elected. To help expedite processes within the office, we request that you put your new office into 4HOnline when the new year starts.

The following are instructions on how to do this:

1. Go to <https://v2.4honline.com>.
2. Sign in to your 4HOnline profile.
3. Go to and click on the 4H'er that holds the office.
4. On the left menu, select Clubs.
5. On the blank space below Volunteer Type, left click on your mouse.
6. On the dropdown menu under Volunteer Type, select their office.
7. Click Save

Reminder of Officer Duties and Responsibilities

As the new 4-H year starts, new officers will be taking their seats in club meetings. There are traditionally four offices. Each of these offices hold unique roles vital to ensuring that meetings and clubs are ran well. The four offices are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

- The **President** of a club acts as a leader to the club and meetings. She or he will be responsible for presiding over meetings which includes building the meeting agenda, running the meeting in an orderly manner, and ensure that each voice is heard. The President should also be familiar with the order of business and Parliamentary Procedure. In addition to this, they can be responsible for creating and appointing people to committees.
- The **Vice President** of a club must understand the position of the President as they will conduct meetings in the absence of the President. Additionally, the Vice President can be given additional responsibilities such as: following-up with any committees, serve the role of introducing guests and presenters, and having them oversee any educational portion of the meeting.
- The **Secretary** needs to hold a different set of skills. They will oversee recording the information that the meeting holds. They will record the attendance of members at the meetings. They will also present the minutes from the prior meeting whether this be oral or via a hand-out. Once minutes are approved, they become the official record of the business that was conducted at the meeting. During and after the meeting, Secretaries will record the minutes of the meeting and keep them safe so they can be referenced later.
- The **Treasurer** is responsible for maintaining the financial records of the club. This includes the income and expenditures of the club. The Treasurer oversees balancing the check book, writing checks and making deposits into the club account. In addition to this, they also will provide a treasury report that includes a summary of income, expenses and balances of accounts since the last meeting of the club.

For more information on the aforementioned offices and other offices that your club might offer, please visit:

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/leader-resources/clubcorner/officer-resources/index.html>.

4-H Officer Training/Orientation

Hopefully, by October all 4-H clubs have elected new club officers, have done or will do an installation ceremony and are planning to educate officers about their specific roles. Officer Training/Orientation will be done in-person in each county of the Meadowlark Extension District.

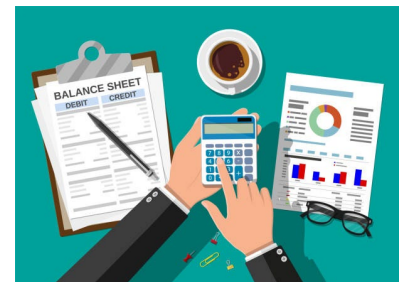
- Jefferson County – **October 4, Valley Falls Fairgrounds**
- Jackson County – **October 18, NE Kansas Heritage Complex**
- Nemaha County – **October 27, Northridge Church**

If you have interest in Club-based officer training options, please visit with your local 4-H Program Manager. All 4-H Clubs have been provided with the National 4-H Officer Training Resource book. If you can't find these, talk to your Club Leader. Kansas 4-H officer publications are available on District 4-H website at https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/Officer_Resources.html, as well. If you prefer printed copies of the publications, we do have a limited supply of printed copies in the office. Refer to local pages of this newsletter and email updates for more information.

4-H Financial Reviews

Attention 4-H Treasurers, Club Leaders & Financial Review Committee members!!! Start planning now for the annual 4-H Club financial review. A review of financial records is required for all non-appropriated funds generated for Extension programs. This includes funds raised/collected by 4-H Clubs, project clubs, affiliated groups, etc.. The 4-H Club Financial Review Form, https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/club_resources.html, needs to be completed by club Treasurer of each 4-H club and affiliated group. Every District club/group is asked to have a committee review the club financial records annually.

Committee members should NOT be family of the treasurer or signatories on the account. The committee should be composed of TWO 4-H MEMBERS and TWO ADULT VOLUNTEERS. Adults—please work to include youth in the process of the review. This is an important life skill and learning opportunity. All Financial Review paperwork is due **November 1** to your local Extension office.





Project Spotlight

4-H Projects

Animal Science

Beef
Dairy Cattle
Dairy Goat
Dog
Horse
Meat Goat
Pets
Poultry
Rabbit
Sheep
Swine
Veterinary Science

Consumer & Family Science

Sewing & Textile Design
Shopping in Style
Family Studies
Fiber Arts
Foods & Nutrition
Health & Wellness
Interior Design & Architecture

Engineering & Technology

Ag Mechanics Welding
Astronomy
Building Block Engineering
Computer Science
Electric & Renewable Energy
Robotics
Rocketry/Aerospace
Small Engines
Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
Wood Science

Communication & Expressive Arts

Communications
Performing Arts
Photography
Visual Arts

Leadership & Personal Development

Civic Engagement (Citizenship)
Leadership
Reading Adventures
Self-Determined

Natural Resources

Environmental Science
Geology
Shooting Sports
Wildlife

Plant & Environmental Science

Agronomy
Entomology
Forestry
Horticulture & Landscape Design

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)

Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2027 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.

When: November 21-22, 2026

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Center

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2027

2026 Fees: \$215 and an additional option \$55 for Friday overnight and breakfast

Registration Link: Coming Soon!

Registration Deadline: Monday, October 15, 2026 by 11:59 PM

Objectives:

- Broaden your understanding of the meaning of leadership and the qualities of a leader.
- Practice leadership skills you can use in other situations, like your local club, school and community.
- Improve interpersonal communication skills.
- Gain confidence.

Go to <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/> for more information.

Family Resources for 4HOnline 2.0

Guidebooks have been posted for families and volunteers to include:

- **Family Enrollment**
- **Returning Adult Volunteer Re-enrollment**
- **New Adult Volunteer Enrollment**

Please visit the 4-H Online Family Resources webpage at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online/index.html>.

Jackson County News

2026 State Fair Items

Congratulations to all 4-H members who exhibited at the 2026 Kansas State Fair! We had 81 exhibits in Demonstrations, Livestock Show, Static Exhibits, and the Fashion Revue. Exhibits are available to pick up at the Extension Office. Club leaders will have your score sheets, if provided.

Recycle and Save the Council Money

We can reuse the bags photo display bags! Bring them, along with unwanted ribbons, plaques, or achievement pins, to the Extension office for reuse or recycling.

Upcoming Events

National 4-H Week | October 4-10

Need ideas or materials to promote 4-H in your community or school? Contact Cara or Megan. Posters, stickers, and bookmarks are available for clubs.

Record Book Judging

October 12, | 10:00 AM-4:30 PM

October 18 | 1:00-5:00 PM

NE Kansas Heritage Building

Volunteers are needed to help judge county record books. Older 4-H members, parents, grandparents, and volunteers are welcome. The more volunteers we have, the faster the process will go. Judging is come-and-go. Please let Cara or Megan know who from your club can help. Each club is asked to provide 4 volunteers.

Fair Prizes

Champion winners will receive their prizes at the Achievement Program on **November 1** at the **NE Kansas Heritage Building**.

2026 Achievement Program

Join us at **3:00 PM Sunday, November 1**, at the **NE Kansas Heritage Building** for the 2026 4-H Achievement Program. Members will receive fair prizes, record book awards, and membership pins. Everyone is Welcome!

Club duties:

- Lucky Stars - set up & take down tables and chairs
- Hoyt Livewires - sweep floors
- Pleasant Valley Rustlers - set up & take down stage
- Mayetta Mustangs - take out trash
- Delia Early Birds - refreshments
- Straight Arrows - decorations

Cloverbuds

Leaders, please review the Cloverbud list before **November 1** to ensure everyone is included in the Achievement Program recognition.

Paisley Amon	Taylor Hamm
Abigail Anderson	Paisley Jost
Jep Bagby	Clint Mattox
Carter Bailey	Jaydon Mewhinney
Barrett Bontrager	Mason Noe
Rielynn Bowe	Nova Pruett
David Foster	Braelynn Ribelin
Henri Fox	

10-year members

These members will be recognized for their 10 years of 4-H membership at the **November 1** Achievement Program. Please contact the office as soon as possible if anyone has been omitted.

Teagan Bowhay	Tucker Terry
Abigail Milroy	Gracie White
Lilly Stous	

End of 4-H Year / Start of 2026-2027

Club audits, officer lists, and leader lists are due to the Extension office by **November 1**. Audits are required for all non-appropriated funds generated for Extension programs, including 4-H clubs and project clubs. Materials are included in the club leader packet.

November 4-H Council Meeting

Thursday, November 12 | 7:00 PM.

All club council representatives are encouraged to attend. Council officer elections will be held, so each club should have its **four representatives** present – at least one adult and three youth. Only these four representatives may vote.

Officer Training

October 18 | 2:00 PM during record book judging at the **NE Kansas Heritage Building**.

Livestock Summit - SAVE the DATE

Saturday, November 7 | Holton Livestock Exchange
More details coming soon!

New Family Orientation

Welcome, new 4-H families! Join us **Wednesday, November 18 at 6:30 PM** at the **NE Kansas Heritage Building** to learn what to expect during your first year of 4-H.

Please RSVP to Megan by **Friday, November 13** at 785-364-4125 or mvrba@ksu.edu.

Jefferson County News

2026 State Fair Exhibits

Congratulations to all 4-Hers who exhibited at the 2026 Kansas State Fair! We had 53 static entries, plus 4-Hers competing in Project Talks, Dog Show, Livestock Shows, Fashion Revue, and Crops Judging. State Fair exhibits available for pick-up at the Extension office.

Congratulations to our 2026-2027 4-H Ambassador Team!

- Aurora Hoffman

- Brayden Winsor

Recycling old ribbons

Have ribbons in good condition you no longer need? Bring them to the Extension office so we can put them to good use! We also welcome old achievement pins and photography sleeves.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Officer Training

Sunday, October 4 | 3:00-4:00 PM | Fairgrounds

This early training will help newly elected officers get started in their roles. Officers who cannot attend may participate in Jackson or Nemaha County trainings. Please let the office know attendance plans by **October 1**.

4-H Week

Help promote 4-H during **October 4-10, 2026**. Wear green and/or a 4-H shirt on **Monday, October 5**, for "Go Green" Day. You can also set up a hometown display, paint a business window, or find another way to show your community what 4-H means.

Farm Bureau 4-H Appreciation

Clubs should select at least one youth representative to attend the Jefferson County Farm Bureau 4-H Appreciation event **October 10** to qualify for a club donation. The pizza party begins at **5:00 PM** at the **Ozawkie Township Community Building**.

Record Book Judging

Monday, October 12 | 1:00 PM to completion

Each club should send four representatives to assist with judging. Please sign up to help us plan shifts. If we wrap up judging early, we can notify the later shift(s) of the progress:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054BADAD23A7FCC34-65345688-2026>.



2026-2027 Family Calendars

The calendar is back! It provides a monthly overview of events, deadlines, and important 4-H tasks. Enrolled families can pick up a printed copy at the Project Fair and Family Resource Night on **October 25**.

Fall Project Fair and Family Resource Night

Sunday, October 25 | 5:00-7:00 PM | Fairgrounds

Explore 20+ 4-H projects and topics! Family Resources for newer families will be from

5:00-5:30 PM, followed by a booth-style fair from **5:30-7:00 PM**.

Open to all Jefferson County youth. 4-H members are encouraged to bring non-4-H friends.

Achievement Banquet

November 7 | 6:00 PM |

Oskaloosa Schools Multi-Purpose Room

Join us for a meal and award presentations celebrating the 4-H year. Registration is open **October 1-26**. Members who submitted a record book, certified leaders who submitted a service form, and children age six and under are eligible for a free meal. Register:

https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ezGsXNZLqnAh9Qi.



2027 Fair Theme Design

After the theme is selected at the September Council meeting, 4-H members may submit fair logo and T-shirt designs by **Monday, November 9**. Designs should use no more than three colors, fit the theme, and include the names of all nine county clubs.

Designs may be hand-drawn or digital but **may not be AI-generated**. The selected designer will receive a **\$25 prize** from Council.

Fair Book Edits

Suggested edits for the 2027 Fair Book are welcome through **January 1**. Suggestions may come from superintendents, leaders, families, or others involved with the fair.

Dates to Know

November 2: Club Financial Reviews due

November 23: 4-H Council Meeting

January 4: Club Goals due

January 4: Project Committee sign-ups due

January 20: Tentative Jefferson County 4-H Foundation Annual Meeting

Nemaha County News

Kansas State Fair

This year, over 100 exhibits were taken to the Kansas State Fair, including 5 public presentations and 1 Fashion Revue participant. Members also participated in photography, crops, and poultry judging, while several showcased dogs, rabbits, and poultry. Exhibiting at the State Fair is one of the highest honors and a goal every 4-H member should strive for by submitting at least one project each year.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the 2026 Kansas State Fair! We hope even more members make this a goal for 2027.

2026-2027 Ambassadors

We would like to announce the new Ambassadors for Nemaha County. Congratulations to All!

- Anna Jost, Stateliners
- Carson Edelman, Trailblazers
- Cora Langill, Trailblazers
- Ella Sourk, Woodlawn Meadowlarks
- Jacob Stallbaumer, Red Rustlers
- Kadence Buessing, Achievers
- Kaydence Stallbaumer, Red Rustlers
- Kyra Niehues, Red Rustlers

Yearly Calendar

We have put together a calendar of important 4-H dates. Please note that dates may change. Find the calendar on our website under the 4-H/Seneca office page. It's a great resource for keeping track of 4-H events for your record books.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Record Book Judging

On **October 12**, we will judge record books from another county and need volunteers to help. Each club is required to provide two adult volunteers and 8 total hours of judging time. More volunteers, including adults and older 4-H members, will help the process go faster. Judging will take place from **9:00 AM until ???** in the large room at the Extension Office. If arriving later, call the office to check the workload status.

Officer Training

We will be holding an Officer Training with Brown County on **October 27** at **Northridge Church**. The event will begin at **6:30 PM** and is open to all 4-H members.

4-H Council Meeting

4-H Council consists of two youth representatives from each club. Youth participation is important, as council members – not community leaders – make the decisions. Anyone may attend Council meetings, but each club has four votes. Club representation at all meetings is also part of the purple seal requirement.

The next 4-H Council meeting is **November 3** at **7:30 PM** in the large room at the **Extension Office**. This is the first meeting for the 2026-27 Council, and officer elections will be held. If you are interested in running for an office, plan to attend all meetings. We will also vote on the 2027 Fair Theme, so share your ideas with your club's council representative.

Club Financial Audit

As we wrap up the 2026 4-H year, please remember that the 4-H Club Audits are due to the Extension Office before **November 1**. Information should have been sent to your club's treasurer and leaders.

4-H Achievement Event

Mark your calendars for the 2026 Nemaha County 4-H Achievement Event on **Tuesday, November 24**, at **6:30 PM** at the **Nemaha County Community Building in Seneca**.

The Achievement Banquet celebrates the accomplishments of all 4-H members during the past year. We hope all 4-Hers, families, and grandparents will join us!

The Council will provide the meat, table service, and drinks. Families are asked to bring a covered dish:

- **Potatoes:** Achievers, Pony Express, Woodlawn Meadowlarks, Red Rustlers
- **Vegetables/Other Side Dish:** Busy Jayhawkers, HHHH, Kelly Twilights
- **Dessert:** Centralia Aces, Stateliners, Trailblazers

Achievement Club Duties:

- **Set-up: HHHH:** Set up tables, chairs and stage on **Monday, November 23**, after school. Contact Deb or Abbie of your planned set-up time.
- **Drinks & Meal: Pony Express:** Oversee drinks and the meal, including keeping meat stocked, uncovering dishes, and evenly distributing dishes on both serving lines.
- **Clean-up: Kelly Twilights:** Put away tables, chairs, and stage, sweep the floor, and take out the trash.



Holton Office
114 W 5th St.
Holton, KS 66436
Address Service Requested

Calendar of Events

- Oct. 1:** 4hOnline Open Enrollment
Youth Council/National Conference applications due
Club Officer Training RSVP due, JF
- Oct. 1-26:** Achievement Banquet registration, JF
- Oct. 1-31:** 4-H Enrollment
- Oct. 4:** Club Officer Training, JF
- Oct. 4-10:** 4-H Week
- Oct. 7:** Wear 4-H shirt to school, NM
- Oct. 10:** Farm Bureau Pizza Party, JF
- Oct. 10-11:** 48 hours of 4-H
- Oct. 12:** Record Book judging, JA, JF & NM
- Oct. 15:** Kansas Youth & Volunteer Leadership Forums deadline
- Oct. 18:** Record Book Judging, JA
Club Officer Training, JA
- Oct. 25:** Fall Project Fair/Family Resource Night, JF
- Oct. 27:** Club Officer Training, NM
- Oct. 29:** Club Leader Forum, JA
- Nov. 1:** Financial Review paperwork due to office
- Nov. 1:** Financial Review paperwork due to office
Achievement Program, JA
- Nov. 2:** Club Financial Reviews due, JF
- Nov. 3:** 4-H Council meeting, NM
- Nov. 7:** Achievement Banquet, JF
Livestock Summit, JA
- Nov. 9:** Fair logo & t-shirt design deadline, JF
- Nov. 12:** 4-H Council meeting, JA
- Nov. 13:** New Family Orientation RSVP due, JA
- Nov. 18:** New Family Orientation, JA
- Nov. 21-22:** Kansas Youth Leadership Forum
- Nov. 23:** 4-H Council meeting, JF
- Nov. 24:** Achievement Event, NM
- Jan. 1:** Fair Book edits due, JF
- Jan. 4:** Club Goals due, JF
Project Committee sign-ups due
- Jan. 20:** Tentative 4-H Foundation Annual meeting, JF

Holton Office
114 W 5th St.
Holton, KS 66436-1778
785-364-4125

Oskaloosa Office
100 E Washington
Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0326
785-863-2212

Seneca Office
1615 Branch St.
Seneca, KS 66538-1504
785-336-2184

District Office Hours:

Open Monday-Friday; 8:00 AM-Noon & 12:30-4:30 PM

Closed on designated holidays

Websites:

<https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/KStateExtensionMeadowlarkDistrict>

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