

meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-H

4-H News

Meadowlark District

Nemaha County Fair Edition - July 2026

DATES AT A GLANCE

July 11 – Dog Show @ **8:30 am**

July 20 – Consultation judging beginning at **9:00 am**

July 20 – Making chili for the concession stand at Community Building

July 22 – Fair set-up @ **6:00 pm**

July 23 – Judging of Foods, Poultry, Rabbits, and Horse Show

July 24 – All entries must be checked in **before 10:00 am**

July 24 – Mandatory meeting for all Livestock Exhibitors at **1:00 pm** in the Show Arena

July 27 – All entries to be picked up between **3:00-4:00 pm**

July 27 – Clean-up building @ **4:00 pm**

July 28 – Fair Clean-up @ **6:00 pm**

August 7 – State Fair pre-entries due

August 10 – 4-H Council meeting at **7:30 pm**

August 15 – State Horticulture Judging in Manhattan

August 22 & 23 – Livestock Sweepstakes in Manhattan

September 9 – State Fair exhibits due in the office by **Noon**

September 11-20 – Kansas State Fair

Dear 4-H Family,

The FAIR is just around the corner. Please read this newsletter carefully! This letter and your fair book will answer most of your questions about the fair and help you to have a successful fair season. If you have misplaced one of your important sheets, everything can be found at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html>

EXHIBIT ENTRY CARDS

All exhibits **must** have an entry card. The Extension Office will print entry cards based on the entries you submitted online. Through FairEntry.

You may pick up your entry cards at the Extension Office during the week of July 13. Otherwise, you will receive them when you check in your exhibits for judging. A table will be available with exhibitors' cards arranged alphabetically, along with string and tape to attach cards to exhibits before judging.

Livestock entries will not have entry cards, except for swine. You will pick these up at the announcer's booth prior to the show.

All exhibits, except food and livestock entries, must have a sticky label attached. Labels do not need to be official 4-H labels, but they must include the exhibitor's name, address, and class number. Labels can be printed from the district website, and sticky labels are also available at the Extension Office.

Food preservation exhibits require a special label on each jar. These labels are available at the Extension Office and on the district website.

CONCESSION STAND

We will be making chili for the Concession Stand on **Monday, July 20th**, during judging. We need everyone's help, so PLEASE take your turn and help that day.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS WILL BE JUDGED ON MONDAY, JULY 20th AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING IN SENECA

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| * Banners and Books | * All Posters | * Photography | * Visual Arts | * Fiber Arts |
| * Shopping in Style | * Sewing & Textiles | | * Building Block Engineering/ Legos | |
| * Rockets & Robots | * Geology | * Entomology | * Reading | * Shooting Sports |
| * Fashion Revue | * Wildlife | * Self-Determined (farm displays) | * Interior Design | |

See the enclosed schedule for these judging times in the packet

Make sure ALL your entries are checked into their designated areas before the deadline.

CONSULTATION JUDGING

When you arrive for consultation judging, please sign in at the table for each division in which you are exhibiting. You will also pick up your pre-printed entry cards at this table.

It is the exhibitor's responsibility to attach entry cards to exhibits before judging. Once all entry cards are attached, exhibitors will be called for judging in the order listed on the sign-in sheet.

We will need extra help at the check-in tables, please consider helping when you are not having exhibits judged.

Parents and project leaders are welcome to observe consultation judging. However, the conference is between the 4-H member and the judge.

CONSULTATION JUDGING SCHEDULE

A schedule for Monday, July 20, is included in this packet. We understand that the schedule may not work perfectly for every family, but judging these projects on Monday will help free up time on the first day of the fair.

If you cannot attend at your assigned time, you may drop off your exhibits at the Extension Office, and we will ensure they are judged.

CLOTHING & BUYMANSHIP CONSULTATION JUDGING

Clothing and Buymanship consultation judging will begin at **9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 20**, at the Nemaha County Community Building. All clothing exhibits must be checked in by **11:00 a.m.** to be eligible for judging.

All clothing exhibits will remain at the Community Building after judging.

Please arrive a little early, as we will try to stay on schedule.

You will need to bring the following to the consultation judging on **Monday, July 20th**

1. Your outfit(s)
2. "Cost Per Wear" form for each outfit. Enclosed in your packet
3. A picture of you wearing the outfit mounted on the Cost per Wear form.
4. The accessories you will wear with the outfit for judging only. **DO NOT BRING ACCESSORIES TO THE FAIR.**
6. Do not bring your records; only the "cost per wear" form.
7. Savvy Shopping class, please have the form filled out and bring <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html>
8. When exhibiting at the fair, clothing can only be placed in a see-through bag.

Make sure all garments are securely hung on hangers for the fair! If possible, please hang your clothing on a swivel hanger. Be sure each piece of clothing has some type of label with your name and address on it. Labels can be made of cotton, and info can be written with a Sharpie marker. Each exhibit will need a “cost per wear”.

FIBER ARTS EXHIBITORS

There will be one judge designated for all Fiber Arts. Please take all Fiber Arts to that judge. All exhibits must be labeled before judging. If the exhibit is intended to be hung but is not ready to hang, it will be lowered by one ribbon placing. All exhibits must have a label with the exhibitor’s name and address. Entry cards must be attached to the exhibit before judging, PLEASE! **All fiber arts must be checked in by noon on July 20th and will remain after judging.**

TABLE SETTING

Table Settings judging will be on **Thursday, July 23rd, see the included schedule.** Exhibitors must bring a card table for judging **and** displaying. Tables will be set up in the display area when judging.

BUILDING BLOCK ENGINEERING

Members exhibiting a Lego project in Class 708 do not need to bring all of the paperwork required for Classes 5710 and 5711.

For Class 708, please bring a note card that includes:

1. The cost of the kit
2. What you enjoyed about putting the exhibit together
3. The instructions for the kit

If possible, place your exhibit in a Rubbermaid tote. Put the display on the lid and place the case over it. Some display cases are available, but there are not enough for every exhibit.

VISUAL ARTS

Please make sure all Visual Arts projects are clean. Exhibits with fingerprints or other marks may not present well to the judge.

All exhibits must include a description card explaining how the item was made, supplies used, cost, and other important information. Please use complete sentences and check grammar and spelling carefully. Learning to complete write-ups correctly is an important part of the project.

Only the purple ribbon exhibits will remain on Monday. All other exhibits will be taken home and must be returned to the fair and **checked in by 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 24.** Exhibits not checked in by that time will not receive a premium.

Please remember:

- Sticky labels, entry cards, and description cards must be attached before judging.
- Pictures, drawings, paintings, and other wall-hanging exhibits must have a hanger attached to the back.
- Exhibits may not be displayed on easels unless they are smaller than 8 x 10 inches. Larger exhibits displayed on easels will be lowered one ribbon placing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Each photo must have a release strip on the front. The release strip can be found on the district website.
- Photos must also have a label on the back with the exhibitor’s name, class number, and description.
- Please check in at the superintendent’s table before judging to pick up entry cards and make sure your photos are ready for judging. Superintendents will check mounting, photo release strips, and labeling.
- Please use only Scotch tape to attach the release form to the bottom of the photo board.

- Photos marked “Picked for Traveling Display” during the fair will be displayed around Nemaha County during the following year. These photos should be placed in the box on the desk in the fair office during fair tear down on Monday.
- Eight photos from the Kansas Pride class will also be selected for display at the Extension Office. Please place these photos in the same box in the fair office.

FASHION REVUE

- Fashion Revue judging will be held **Monday, July 20**, at the Nemaha County Community Building. Judging will begin at **12:30 p.m.**
- All contestants are asked to remain at the Community Building until judging for their division is complete.
- Please bring your outfit description to the judging. The description should be typed in third person, using **16-point font, double-spaced, on 8½ x 11-inch paper**. Be sure to include your name in the write-up.
- A fill-in-the-blank modeling script is available on the district website to help with your write-up.
- Exhibitors who do not turn in a write-up that afternoon will be lowered one premium placing.
- The public Fashion Revue will be held on **Sunday, July 26**, at the Community Building. It will begin at **1:30 p.m. Please be dressed and ready by 1:15 p.m.**
- All 4-H members who model during Monday’s judging must participate in the public Fashion Revue, or premiums and awards will be forfeited.

FOODS JUDGING SCHEDULE

A schedule for food consultation judging on Thursday, July 23, at the Nemaha County Community Building is enclosed with this packet.

Please be courteous to others & wait until exhibitors ahead of you have finished judging before getting in line.

Check in with the superintendents before judging to pick up entry cards. There will be a judge for each food level and for perishable foods. Please go to the appropriate judge, as champions will be selected from each level.

Decorated Cakes, Bread Baskets, and Cookie Jars will be judged on **Friday, July 24, beginning at 9:00 a.m.**

All food exhibits must be checked in by 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 23.

Please remember:

- Recipes are required for all food exhibits.
- All food must be presented in a disposable container or bag. Containers will not be returned.
- Food entries not in a bag or container will not be judged due to food safety requirements.
- Pies may be exhibited in glass pie pans, but pans will not be returned. Glass pie pans are available at the Extension Office if needed.
- Recipes will remain with purple ribbon exhibits. Please bring a photocopy of your recipe and make sure your name is on it.

Perishable Foods at the Fair

This year, 4-H members will be able to exhibit perishable food items at the fair. Examples of cold perishable foods include cheesecake, coconut cream pie, and fruit pizza. These items must be brought to the fair in a cooler with ice to keep them at a safe temperature.

Examples of hot perishable foods include chicken noodle soup and casseroles. Hot items must be brought in an insulated hot container to maintain the proper temperature.

Temperatures of all perishable food exhibits will be checked at the fair. Members are responsible for keeping their food items at the correct temperature and for taking all perishable exhibits home after judging.

Food Exhibit Containers

All food items brought to the fair must be in a sealed container and remain in that container until the member is seated in front of the judge. A sealed container may include a zip-top bag or a disposable cake box.

Whatever container is used to bring the item to the fair will remain with the item if it is sold. Please choose a container that you are willing to send with the food item.

Pies may be baked and exhibited in a glass pie plate. Glass pie plates can often be found at thrift stores. The Extension Office also has a limited number of glass pie plates available for members to use.

DECORATED CAKES, BREAD BASKETS, AND COOKIE JARS

If you plan to sell a decorated cake, breadbasket, or Cookie Jar, you must have submitted the “Meadowlark District 4-H Premium Auction Requirement” form by July 1st.

All Decorated Cakes and Mayor’s Bread Baskets will be auctioned off before the Swine Show **on Friday night, beginning at 6:00 pm.** Members planning to sell their items must be present on Friday night. Please have your picture taken before going to the auction so that it can be displayed during the fair. Each exhibitor is responsible for bringing their cake to the livestock arena before the auction.

The top Commissioner Cookie Jar exhibit will be presented to the commissioner on **Monday evening before the auction.** All Cookie Jars will be auctioned off before the livestock auction on Monday.

FROSTING SAFETY

For food safety purposes, frostings and fillings must include a calculation of the frosting recipe's sugar percentage. This requirement does not apply to Decorated Cake classes. The calculation must be attached to the entry. If it is not included, the exhibit will be lowered one ribbon placing.

Frostings and fillings must contain more than 65% sugar for safety. Examples of how to calculate the percentage are available in the publication on the district website. Two frosting recipes with the sugar percentage already calculated are included in this packet.

Frostings that do not meet the 65% sugar requirement must be entered in the perishable foods class.

FOOD SALE

Food exhibits brought for judging will be sold to the public after judging. If someone you know would like to purchase your food entry, they may do so once it has been judged. Purple ribbon exhibits must remain until the end of judging so judges can select champions.

The following clubs are scheduled to help with the food sale on **Friday, July 24:**

- 9:00 – 10:00 am – HHHH
- 10:00 - 11:00 am – Busy Jayhawkers
- 11:00 – noon – Kelly Twilighters
- Noon – 1:00 pm – Trailblazers
- 1:00 – 2:00 pm – Woodlawn Meadowlarks
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm – Red Rustlers
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm – Achievers

Please provide at least one adult and one youth during your club’s assigned time. Clubs not listed are also welcome to help.

FOOD STAND SCHEDULE

We need someone to grill hamburgers during the fair. If you know someone who is willing to help, please contact Deb or Hannah as soon as possible. Otherwise, clubs will be responsible for grilling during their scheduled shifts.

The food stand schedule was included in the previous fair newsletter, in the back of the fairbook, and on the district website.

Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled shift. Before leaving, make sure supplies are restocked, including pop, water, chips, and other items.

Please also check the restrooms and trash cans when working at the food stand. Extra help may be needed Sunday evening following the parade. If you would like to help, please contact the Food Stand Committee.

Each club should have:

- At least four adults and five youth are working in the building
- At least two adults and two youth working in the trailer

Every 4-H family is asked to work at least one shift. Funds raised through the concession stand help provide trainings, Achievement Awards, travel scholarships, and other 4-H opportunities.

A sign-up sheet will be available at the concession stand for those willing to help with extra shifts or serve as backup.

If your club is assigned to empty trash cans, please make sure all barrels around the fairgrounds are emptied into the dumpsters. Contact the Extension Office with questions.

CLOVERBUDS

Cloverbuds will be interviewed on Friday, July 24th at 11:30 pm in the Community Building. Please refer to the 2026 fairbook for exhibit details. No live pets may be brought. Instead, members may bring pictures, a notebook, a poster, or a display. Cloverbuds exhibits will remain on display during the fair. Each Cloverbud should have an entry card attached to the exhibit and will be at the check-in table.

THANK YOU NOTES

If you receive an award or plaque at the fair, please stop by the fair office and write a thank-you note before receiving your award.

A large black file box in the fair office contains thank-you cards organized by project. After writing your note, place it in the basket marked "Completed Thank You."

Sponsors provide funding for many awards, and it is important that they know their support is appreciated. The Extension Office will mail thank-you notes to sponsors on your behalf.

If you would also like to write an additional note at home or deliver treats after the fair, that would be appreciated as well.

Thank you for helping make the fair a success. We look forward to a great fair week!

4-H'ER POOL PARTY!

Each 4-H'er will receive a one-time pass to use the Seneca Pool during the fair. The pool will have a list of 4-H members' names. Please tell pool staff that you are a 4-H'er and provide your name when you arrive. This opportunity is sponsored by the 4-H Council.

WANNA DONUT

The family of Leon Mosteller invites 4-H families to a light, come-and-go breakfast on Friday, July 24, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the north barn at the fairgrounds.

Join the family as they continue Leon's tradition of sharing donuts, fruit, and fellowship with 4-H families.

SMALL PET PARTICIPANTS

Small pets must be species that cannot be exhibited in another fair division. Rabbits, poultry, swine, goats, sheep, beef, dairy cattle, and horses are not eligible for the Small Pet division.

Dogs not participating in the dog show on July 11 may participate in the pet show on Monday, July 27.

Bring proof of vaccinations for your pet, make sure your animal is groomed, and keep it in a cage until called for the show.

PREPARING HORTICULTURE FAIR ENTRY RESOURCES

As fair season approaches, Plant Science members, please be aware of some resources available to you. K-State Research & Extension publications, Exhibiting Fruits and Vegetables and Preparing Cut Flowers for Exhibit, are

excellent resources for 4-H members and adults who are planning to exhibit their vegetables or flowers. These publications are often used by judges as they evaluate fair entries and can be found on our web page.

<http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore/pubs/C405.pdf>

Some of you may be more visual learners. The University of Illinois Extension has prepared a series of YouTube videos on how to prepare produce for the fair. These videos provide step-by-step instructions for selecting and grooming various types of vegetables for exhibit. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6H5dIS-kgLI>

Make sure that you have your exhibits on a plate and entry card attached before you take them to the display to be judged. This is the member's job and not the superintendent's!

REMINDER TO SUPERINTENDENTS

Please check the superintendent and helper assignments to see where you are scheduled to assist. All parents have been assigned specific areas to help with during the fair.

4-H members are asked to help with all projects in which they are enrolled. Members enrolled in livestock projects should help with weigh-in and assist younger members. If you are unable to work your assigned time and cannot find a substitute, please contact the Extension Office. Assignment lists are available on the district website and were included in the first fair packet.

SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

Fair set-up will begin **Wednesday, July 22, at 6:00 p.m.** Everyone should meet at the Community Building. Assigning families to set up and clean up has worked well in the past, so please plan to attend and do your part.

Barn Set-Up - Please bring pliers, baling wire, gloves, and any other useful tools. Pickups will also be needed to haul supplies and equipment.

Community Building Set-Up - The Community Building crew will clean display cases and racks and set up tables and cases for judging. Please bring old rags or towels, a small bucket, and, if possible, a broom.

Monday Night Clean-Up - Monday night clean-up will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Building. We will tear down displays, pack away cases and racks, and pick up trash near the horse arena.

Tuesday Barn Clean-Up - Barn clean-up will begin on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Please bring gloves, pliers, pitchforks, and shovels.

We have been short on help for Tuesday's clean-up in the past. Please check your assignment. If you cannot help during your assigned time, please trade with another family for a different time.

A successful fair takes everyone's help. Please do your part and do not rely on someone else to complete your assignment. Set-up and clean-up schedules are available on the district website and were included in the previous packet.

EARLY CHECK-IN

Exhibits may be brought to the Community Building early on **Thursday, July 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** If you would like to bring exhibits when you bring food entries for judging, that is fine. Please make sure an entry card is attached to each exhibit. All exhibits must be in the appropriate judging location by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 24.** If you have questions, please contact the Extension Office.

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

MANDATORY LIVESTOCK MEETING

All livestock exhibitors, including Beef, Bucket Calf, Dairy, Goats, Horse, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, and Swine members, must attend a mandatory meeting on **Friday, July 24, at 1:00 p.m.** in the show arena. Please arrive on time and sit in the bleachers.

SHOWMANSHIP

If your child wins their age division in showmanship for a species, they will advance to the Round Robin competition on **Monday at 9:30 p.m.** If a member wins showmanship in more than one species, they must choose which species they will enter in Round Robin. We must know before Sunday which members will participate in the Round Robin competition. There will be a mandatory meeting for all Round Robin exhibitors at **3:30 p.m. Sunday** at the fair office in the Community Building. Parents are welcome to attend.

HORSE SHOW

Horses must be on the fairgrounds and checked in **one hour** before show time on **Thursday, July 23.** Horses selected to be stalled during the fair must remain on the grounds until release time at **3:00 p.m. Monday** or they will forfeit their premium.

REMINDERS FOR THOSE EXHIBITING ANIMALS

- Please review the animal health requirements and guidelines in this year's fairbook.
- **All animals must be on the fairgrounds by 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 24.**
- Before the show, it is a good idea to take your animals into the show ring several times and walk around so they are comfortable with the fan, noise, and smaller show area.

Livestock weigh-ins will be held at the fairgrounds at the following times:

Swine **8:00–9:00 a.m.**

Sheep and Goats **9:00–10:00 a.m.**

Beef and Carcass Scanning **10:00 a.m.**

Please have animals clean and free of mud so accurate weights can be recorded.

INTENT TO SELL CARDS

If you plan to take market livestock through the premium auction, you must turn in an Intent to Sell card by **8:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 25.** Cards will be available at the announcer's booth and must be placed in the white box in the north barn. If you know in advance that you will take an animal through the auction, please turn in your card early. The success of the livestock auction depends on 4-H and FFA members inviting bidders to attend. Remember, this is a premium-only auction; there will be no floor buyers.

HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT THE LIVESTOCK AUCTION

- Visit businesses before the fair. Do not wait until auction day to ask them to bid on your animal.
- Write a letter about yourself and your 4-H experience to leave with potential buyers. A sample letter was included in the first newsletter.
- Tell buyers about your livestock project, including your market animal and any additional livestock you raise.
- Be sure to thank buyers in writing and/or in person. Include a photo of yourself with your project animal if possible. Buyer addresses are available at the Extension Office.
- Consider delivering a plate of home-baked goods when thanking buyers. Their support is an important contribution to your project.
- Banners will be available for buyers on auction night. Please check with the Fairboard at the announcer's booth to get a banner for your buyer.

SPECIAL LIVESTOCK NOTES

- Livestock stalls that are reserved but not used will be subject to a fine equal to a blue-ribbon premium if they are not canceled by **4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20.** Please notify the Extension Office as soon as possible if you will not need your stall.
- Ultrasound scanning for steers and market heifers will begin at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 24.**
- Sand will be supplied in the south beef barn. If you do not want sand, please contact the Extension Office.

- Sand will not be used in the north barn.
- Hog Slat hopes to provide one bag of wood chips for each swine exhibitor. Bomgaars will provide one bag of chips for each exhibitor of horses, poultry, rabbits, sheep, goats, and swine. Exhibitors must provide their own bedding after that.
- Skid steer loaders and manure spreaders are needed for set-up and clean-up. We need at least one, preferably two, skid-steer loaders to move sand and gravel, as well as three manure spreaders.
- Help is needed **Monday, July 27**, for the livestock judging contest and Round Robin. If you know of 4-H alumni or other adults who may be willing to help, please let them know.

BARN SUPPLIES

The 4-H Council has purchased shovels, rakes, brooms, and wheelbarrows for the barns. These are marked and will be kept in barrels in each barn. You are welcome to use them, **BUT PLEASE RETURN TO THE BARRELS!**

BUCKET CALF KNOWLEDGE CONSULTATION

The Bucket Calf Consultation is required for all members showing bucket calves at the fair. The consultation will begin at **2:00 p.m. on Friday, July 24**. A schedule is included in this packet and will be posted on the bulletin board on the east wall of the north barn. Please check in at the announcer’s booth on Friday.

All Bucket Calf exhibitors must pick up their exhibitor number at the announcer’s booth before the show on Saturday. Exhibitor numbers must be worn before entering the show ring. Bucket Calf exhibitors do not need an entry card to enter the show ring.

ANIMALS ON PARADE

Animals on Parade will take place on **Sunday, July 26, at 11:00 a.m.** Members interested in visiting local nursing homes, displaying animals, and brightening residents’ day should sign up and indicate which animal they plan to bring. Members without animals are also welcome to help. This is a great activity to include in record books.

We will leave the fairgrounds at **11:00 a.m.** Half of the group will visit Credo, while the other half will visit Life Care. If possible, a trailer with smaller animals may also visit Crestview.

CLEANING THE LIVESTOCK WASH RACKS

Livestock members are asked to help keep the wash racks clean during the fair. Wash racks are visible to the public, so please make sure manure and trash are picked up.

Clubs are assigned the following wash rack cleaning times:

North Barn		South Barn	
Friday am – CA & PE	Friday pm - TB	Friday am - WM	Friday pm - BJ
Saturday am -AC	Saturday pm – WM	Saturday am – CA & PE	Saturday pm – KT
Sunday am - HH & KT	Sunday pm – RR & ST	Sunday am – RR & TB	Sunday pm – AC & ST
Monday am - BJ	Monday pm – everyone	Monday am - HH	Monday pm - everyone

FAIR SHOW PHOTOGRAPHER

This year, former 4-H member Emilie Strahm will be taking photos during our shows. Emilie has interned with Legacy Livestock Imaging this past year and is working to build her photography portfolio. Photos will be available for purchase through her website.

BUILDING CLEAN UP

Please clean and pick up the restrooms when they are scheduled to work at the concession stand. If you need toilet paper or paper towels, please see Deb. Cleaning supplies are available in the janitor’s closet. The Community Building floor is swept each evening around 9:30 p.m. Helping sweep the floor can count toward 4-H

achievement pins and is a good junior leadership activity. Anyone interested in helping should meet at the Community Building at 9:30 p.m.

STATE FAIR ENTRIES REQUIRED

The Kansas State Fair will be held **September 11–20** in Hutchinson. The State 4-H Office requires all State Fair exhibits to be pre-entered through the Extension Office. If you receive a purple ribbon at the county fair in an exhibit with a State Fair class number, and you are 9 years old or older in 4-H age, you may exhibit the item at the State Fair. Only one entry per project division is allowed. Visual Arts exhibits are an exception.

Members who receive a purple or blue ribbon for demonstrations, project talks, or readings at Club Days may also be eligible to exhibit at the State Fair.

To make a State Fair entry, complete the pre-entry form by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7**. A table will be available near the fair office during the county fair for members who would like to pre-enter. The only exception is livestock, which is shown in a combined 4-H and FFA show:

- Market animal entries are due July 15.
- Horse entries are due August 1.

State Fair exhibits may be left in the fair office after the county fair. A box will be available for photos. Be sure to complete and sign State Fair release forms. All State Fair exhibits must be at the Extension Office by **noon on Wednesday, September 9**. Returning State Fair entries may be picked up beginning **September 22**.

The Kansas State Fair will no longer pay premiums for 4-H exhibits. Instead, each exhibitor will receive two free admission passes to the State Fair. Please notify the Extension Office by August 7 if you plan to exhibit. For more information, visit: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/index.html> Please contact the Extension Office with questions.

4-H LIVESTOCK SWEEPSTAKES

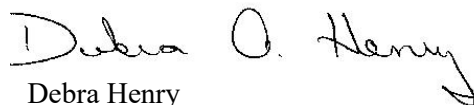
The Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes will be held **August 22–23** on the K-State campus in Manhattan, Kansas. The event includes the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, Meat Judging Contest, Livestock Skillathon, and Livestock Quiz Bowl. Please notify the Extension Office by July 28th if you are interested in participating.

If you've made it this far, you're ready for the fair!!! I hope we are too! If you have any questions, please give us a call. Remember, your FAIRBOOK is your book of knowledge. Please read it! Also, make sure to check the website for forms, flyers, updated information, and records!

Sincerely,



Abbie Burger
4-H Agent



Debra Henry
4-H Program Manager

KANSAS STATE | Extension
UNIVERSITY | Meadowlark District

ENCL:

Consultation Judging Schedules
Bucket Calf judging schedule

Food Stand schedule – Set-up / Clean-up schedule
KSF information sheet – Ways to kick up your food entries

WHY DO WE RECEIVE PURPLE, BLUE, RED, AND WHITE RIBBONS IN 4-H

4-H uses the Danish judging system at county and state fairs. This means that exhibits are judged against a “standard” rather than against other exhibits. For example, a dresser that has been refinished by a 4-Her is not compared to other dressers. Rather, it is judged according to what characteristics of the dresser meet standards of quality for refinished furniture.

- A Purple ribbon means that the exhibit meets superior standards and quality.
- A Blue ribbon means that the exhibit meets high standards and good quality work is shown.
- A Red ribbon means average to above-average quality work is shown, but improvement is needed in some areas.
- A White ribbon signifies below average in quality, and the exhibit does not meet standards.

You’ll notice that the Danish judging is very different from a contest where there is one “winner” whose exhibit is the best of all those present. In the Danish judging system, there could be any number of purples, blues, reds, or whites because one exhibit is not compared to another. In 4-H, we believe that using the Danish judging system gives every 4-H member the recognition they deserve for the work they do. It also helps young people recognize the need to improve their skills within a non-competitive atmosphere. Relevant to the judging of exhibits, we believe:

- 4-H members are more important than 4-H exhibits.
- Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself.
- There is more than one good way to do most things.
- A balanced program of work and play, geared to individuals’ needs, is more important than winning.
- Every youth needs to be noticed, to feel important, to experience success, and to be praised.
- A blue ribbon 4-H member with a red ribbon exhibit is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-H member with a blue-ribbon exhibit

’Twas the Night Before Fair

*’Twas the night before Fair and all through the house ... Not a person was sleeping – not even the mouse
The unfinished clothes were hung with care, ... In hopes to be finished in time for the fair.
The children were hustling, making mother see red, ... When visions of blue ribbons danced in their heads.
As Chloy sewed jumpsuit and Drew knitted a cap, ... Mom and Dad wished for a long winter’s nap.
When out on the lawn, there arose such a clatter, ... Those darn steers were out again! That was the matter.
Away to the window flew Mom like a flash, ... Pulled open the drapes and threw up the sash.
The mom on the breast of the lawn freshly mowed, ... Gave a luster of mid-day to creatures below.
Bill ran for the halter, Dad put on his shoes, ... The girls smelled bread burning – there went the blues!
More rapid than eagles, the steers, running, came ... As Dad whistled, shouted, and called them bad names.
Back to the barn, the steers quickly flew, ... Followed by Dad, Mom, and all of us too.
Bill came in covered with hay from head to his boots, ... So Mom quickly scolded and told him to “Scoot!
’T’ss finish the tags, you finish your sewing, ... Dad’ll help John wash sheep, where is this night going.”
The bread is a bit brown, but preserves looked quite merry, ... Drew iced coffee cake, topping it with a cherry.
Now blouses have buttons, skirts hemmed at last, ... The dress looks better with seams pressed flat.
By two in the morning, the sheep clean at last, ... John sat in the kitchen and took a short nap.
Bill said his toolbox paint was still very wet, ... But Mom said, “At this hour – too late to fret
Go take your showers” – and she tweaked her nose, ... With yawns and a stretch, the children arose.
Mom cleaned the kitchen while Dad sipped iced tea, ... Glanced at his watch and said, “You’ll agree,
We’ve finally done it – We’ve got time to spare, ... 4-H really is a family affair.”
With a wink of his eye and a nod of his head, he said, ... “Let’s go be, Mother, we’ve a big day ahead.”*