

Flint Hills District 4-H Newsletter

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March 2026

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Livestock Tagging

Livestock tagging dates are coming up. Mark these dates on your calendars and please make every attempt to be at the tagging event for your livestock and county.

Tags are \$3 per tag. Bring exact change.

Morris County Beef Tagging and Weigh-In is Thursday, March 19, 2026

Chase County Beef Tagging and Weigh-In is Friday, March 27, 2026

Morris County Small Livestock Tagging and Weigh-In is Wednesday, April 22 and Saturday April 25, 2026.

Chase County Small Livestock Tagging and Weigh-In is Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2, 2026.

Additional information with times and locations is on the county specific pages under the Livestock Deadlines heading.

Regional Club Day

Regional Club Day will be held on **March 28, 2026**, at Madison High School in Madison, KS. 4-H members who received top blue at our District Club Day are eligible to attend Regional Club Day. If you qualified and are planning to compete at Regionals please let the Extension Office know as soon as possible.

Ag Tech Day

What: Ag Tech Day is an opportunity for youth (and their families) to explore how technology is shaping modern agriculture. From drones and sensors to robotics and insect-tracking tools, participants will get an up-close look at both new and established technologies that help make farm management more efficient.

When: April 4, 2026 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Where: Flickner Innovation Farm, Moundridge, KS

Who: This come-and-go event is open to the public, but registration is required.

Please register by Wednesday, April 1. You can register as an individual or as a group. Group registration allows up to five people at a time. Educational stations are geared towards youth in grades 5-12.

Cost: This is a FREE event, but registration is required.

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/AgTechDay>

There will be no agent attending and no transportation provided.

Discovery Days

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days will be held **June 3-5** on Kansas State University campus. Discovery Days is a mini college experience designed for youth who are 13-18 years of age as of January 1. Youth will have the opportunity to select classes and attend social functions. The primary purpose of 4-H Discovery Days is to gain new ideas and expand your 4-H experience. More information coming soon!



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Extension
Flint Hills District

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Kansas4-H.org

District News

Kansas 4-H Shutterbug Event

There will be only one state-wide 4-H Shutterbug event this year. It will be held **April 11, 2026** at Midwest Dream Car Museum in Manhattan, KS. More information to come soon.

YQCA Training

Mark your calendars! There will be two training sessions for those needing to become YQCA certified. YQCA stands for Youth for the Quality Care of Animals. Any individual that plans to show market animals, commercial breeding females, and/or purebred breeding females at the 2026 Kansas State Fair or Kansas Junior Livestock Show must be YQCA certified to participate. However, anyone is welcome to attend a training session to become certified. One session will be held in the Council Grove Extension Office on **Thursday, March 19, 2026** from 10:00-11:00a.m. The other session will be held in Cottonwood Falls at the Pendergraft Building on **Friday, April 3, 2026** from 9:30-10:30a.m. Both locations are open to both counties; please attend whichever one fits your schedule best. You only need to attend one. Use the following link to register online <https://yqcaprogram.org/>. The cost of the training is \$3 which you will pay online when you register. As a reminder, you can take the training online or at the K-State Junior Producer Days if that fits your schedule better.

State Livestock Nomination

Information new to 2026 will be released in March.
Official DNA envelopes MUST be ordered in advance.

DNA envelope order deadlines:

Beef - April 20

Small Livestock - June 5

Nomination deadlines:

Market Beef - May 1

**Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep,
and Meat Goat - June 15**

For more information on the Kansas State Livestock Nomination System: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>

Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Camp

Registration for 4-H Camp at Rock Springs Ranch is currently open on their website. There was no early bird registration available this year. At the time of registration, campers will be required to make a 10% deposit, with the rest paid in full by May 1st. Regular and specialty camp options are available for 4-H members who will be going into 3rd-12th grade for the 2026-27 school year. There is a mini camp option for rising 1st through 3rd graders. The Leaders in Training and Counselors in Training options are also available again this year, more information is on the Rock Springs Ranch website. An agent will not attend camp this year as Rock Springs provides counselors. Please let the Extension Office know if you have any questions. For more information and to register for camp please visit the Rock Springs website: <https://rockspringsranch.org/>



UAS Workshop

What: Central Kansas District 4-H is hosting a UAS (Uncrewed Aircraft Systems) Workshop. The day will feature sessions covering the basics (including rules and flight overview), flight competition, and prizes. Also included this year is a UAS workshop for parents.

When: **March 14, 2026 from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM**

Where: K-State Salina Campus, Salina, KS

Who: Youth ages 7-18 who have an interest in Uncrewed Aircraft Systems.

Cost: \$15 per person, includes lunch and contest fees. Payment must be made to Central Kansas District 4-H Council and needs to be received by the registration deadline. Payments may be mailed or dropped off to the Central Kansas District 4-H Council at 2218 KState Road N; Salina, KS 67401.

Registration: Each individual (including parents/guardians) will need to register. Registrations are due online by March 9, 2026. For questions call 785-309-5850. Registration link: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3l37gpLlFA7kJ3o

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the Extension Office two weeks prior to the start of the event at 620-767-5136. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

District 4-H Dates

March 2026

March 1 - 4-H Day with K-State Women's Basketball Team
March 1 - Youth Meat Judging Contest - Manhattan, KS
March 7 - Junior Beef Producer Day - Manhattan, KS
March 7 - Shooting Sports Match - Holton, KS
March 19 - YQCA Training - Council Grove, KS
March 19 - Morris County Beef Tagging and Weigh-In
March 21-22 Shooting Sports Match - Manhattan, KS
March 27 - Chase County Beef Tagging and Weigh-In
March 28 - Regional Club Day - Madison, KS
March 30 - Chase County 4-H Council Meeting

April 2026

April 3 - YQCA Training - Cottonwood Falls, KS
April 4 - Ag Tech Day - Moundridge, KS
April 11 - Junior Sheep Producer Day - Manhattan, KS
April 11 - Photography Shutterbug Event - Manhattan, KS
April 14 - Morris County 4-H Council Meeting
April 18 - Spring State Shooting Sports Match - BB, Air Rifle,
Air Pistol - Great Bend, KS
April 20 - Morris County 4-H Foundation Scholarship
Deadline
April 22 & 25 - Morris County Small Market Livestock
Tagging and Weigh-In
April 25 - Spring into Volunteering - Salina, KS
April 28-29 - Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC) -
Manhattan, KS

Junior Beef Producer Day

What: Presentations will cover topics that may include selection, nutrition, daily care, meat science, reproduction, health, grooming, and showmanship. An optional YQCA certification class will be offered at the end of the day.

When: Saturday, March 7, 2026

Where: Bilbrey Family Event Center, Manhattan, KS

Who: This is a family event! Anyone attending the event must register, including youth and adults.

Cost: The registration fee is \$20 per person for those who sign up by February 13. The fee will increase to **\$30 per person for those who register after the deadline**. Lunch and a t-shirt will be provided. Only those who register by February 13 will receive a t-shirt.

May 2026

May 1 - Deadline to Add or Drop Projects
May 1 & 2 - Chase County Small Market Livestock Tagging and Weigh-In
May 25 - Extension Offices Closed - Memorial Day
May 26-28 - Tractor Safety School - Emporia, KS

June 2026

June 1 - Horse IDs Due
June 2 - Chase County Project Day
June 3-5 - Discovery Days - Manhattan, KS
June 12-14 - State 4-H Geology Field Trip - TBD
June 19 - Extension Offices Closed - Juneteenth
June 19-20 - Insect Spectacular - Yates Center, KS

Project Add/Drop Deadline

Remember that you can add and/or drop projects in 4-H Online until **May 1st**. Please update 4-H Online when you have decided to add or drop a project. This helps keep project leaders, club leaders, and the Extension office up to date as meetings are scheduled and plans continue to move forward for 2026 Fairs.

Junior Sheep Producer Day

What: Presentations will be provided by featured guests, as well as K-State faculty, staff, and students. This event will be an educational day of activities in which youth, parents, extension agents, ag teachers, and sheep project leaders can increase their knowledge of youth sheep project selection and management. A variety of topics will be shared, including an optional YQCA certification at the end of the day.

When: Saturday, April 11, 2026

Where: Bilbrey Family Event Center, Manhattan, KS

Who: All ages and skill levels are invited! Anyone attending, including both youth and adults, must register.

Cost: The registration fee is **\$20/person** for those who sign up by **March 20** or \$30/person for those who register after that date. Lunch and a t-shirt are included. Only those who register by the deadline will receive a t-shirt.

Registration information for both Junior Producer events can be found at the following link:

<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/ks-jr-producer/>

You are responsible for registering your youth for the junior producer events. If you have questions please reach out to the Extension Office. There will be no agent attending the above events and no transportation provided.

4-H Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for **March 30, 2026 at 6:30pm** at the Pendergraft Building. If the 4-H Council Rep is unable to attend from your club, please have the alternate attend.

2026 Livestock Deadlines

- Market Beef tagging /ownership deadline for the Chase County Fair is **March 27th**. Tagging will be held at Mushrush Ranches Friday evening from 5-7pm. **Tags are \$3 per tag. Please bring exact change.**
- Small Animal (sheep, swine, goats, & bucket calf) tagging / ownership deadline for the Chase County Fair is May 2nd. Weigh-In will be held **Friday, May 1st** at the Fairgrounds from 5-7pm and **Saturday, May 2nd** from 8:30-10:30am. **Tags are \$3 per tag. Please bring exact change.**
- Ownership deadline for breeding livestock of any species for the Chase County Fair is **May 1st**.
- Poultry and Rabbit ownership deadline for the Chase County Fair is **May 1st**.

Save the Date - Project Day!

What is Project Day you might ask? Well, it's a morning where youth can learn about either the projects they are enrolled in, or projects they may be interested in. We also give youth the opportunity to partake in Photography Judging and new this year Horticulture Judging. The judging contests and project day can all be recorded in their record books and are all great learning opportunities. Every year we select a handful of projects to showcase, so even though we may not select projects that a 4-H'er is currently enrolled in, they are still encouraged to attend and learn about other projects and take part in the learning opportunities offered. You never know what project may spark an interest you didn't even realize you had. Make sure to put it on your calendars now so you don't miss out! Chase County Project Day is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 2, 2026**.



**Beyond
Ready**

Check Sheet Update for 2026

There have been a few updates made to the Chase County Record Check Sheet. The check sheet can be found in the 4-H Youth Development section of the website, under District Record Keeping, near the bottom with county specific documents, or follow this link: <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/district-record-keeping/recordbooks.html>. The check sheet on the website is the new updated version. Please print an updated check sheet and make a note of the changes when planning your 4-H year. If you need a check sheet printed for you, stop by the Extension Office.

2026 Fair Changes

- **2026 Fair Dates: July 23-30, 2026**
- Horse Show will begin at 9 am on Sunday, July 26th at the Strong City Rodeo Grounds
- All projects except for Food & Nutrition are required to be checked in either between 1-4pm on Sunday, July 26th or on Monday, July 27th between 8:30 and Noon.
- Food Flop entry is being added back to the Fair Book. In the instance your food entry is a flop, still bring it!
- Visual Arts and Building Block Engineering will both be required to sign-up for Consultation with the judge in order to be eligible for Champion Awards.
- Consultation Judging for other static exhibits (Electricity, Robotics, Woodworking, Welding, Rockets) is up to the individual 4-H'er and is not a requirement.
- All youth who qualify to show in the Round Robin must be able to show all species of animals which include: horse, swine, sheep, goat and beef. A youth who is uncomfortable with showing all these species can pass and the opportunity will go to the next youth who qualified. Once the show order and animal selection is completed there will be no changes.
- Poultry Judging will start at 8:30am on Wednesday morning and Rabbit Judging will start at 9:30am.
- Minimum Weights for Market Animals
 - Beef: 1100 lbs - **New Weight**
 - Lamb: 100 lbs
 - Goat: 50 lbs
 - Swine: 220 lbs
- **No waddle swine breeds will be accepted by the floor buyer in 2026. Families can still show them and take them through the premium sale.**

**Chase
County**

MARCH 2026



1 Youth Meat Judging Contest Manhattan, KS 4-H Day with K-State Women's Basketball Team Manhattan, KS	2	3	4	5	6	7 Junior Beef Producer Day Manhattan, KS
Daylight Savings Time Begins 8	9	10	11	12	13 No School - USD 284	14
15	16	St Patrick's Day 17	18	19 YQCA Training 10:00-11:00 a.m. Council Grove Extension Office	First Day of Spring 20	21
Spring Break No School - USD 284						
22	23	24	25	26	27 Beef Tagging 5:00-7:00 p.m. Mushrush Ranch No School - USD 284 unless makeup day is needed	28 Regional Club Day Madison, KS
Palm Sunday 29	30 4-H Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. Pendergraft Building	31				

MORRIS COUNTY

Morris County Extension Office Location:

315 W. Main St. Ste A, Council Grove, KS

Office Phone Number: 620-767-5136

Morris County 4-H Foundation

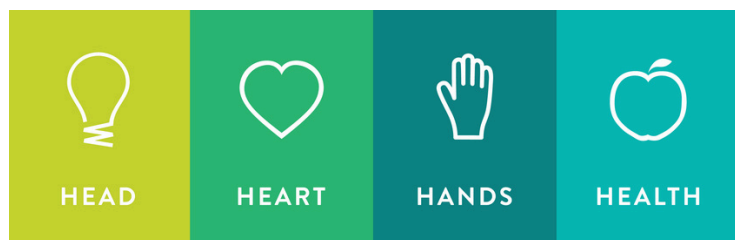
Scholarships

Applications for Morris County 4-H Foundation Scholarships are available on our website or by contacting the Extension Office. In addition to the Morris County 4-H Member Scholarship there is now also a scholarship for Morris County 4-H Alumni. **The application deadline for both scholarships is April 20, 2026.**

Konley Harding Memorial Scholarship

Applications for the Konley Harding Memorial Scholarship are available on our website or by contacting the Extension Office. This scholarship is for current or former 4-H members who are from Morris, Marion, or Dickinson counties who are seeking post-secondary education. Preference is given to students applicants who are pursuing an agricultural-related field of study. **The application deadline is May 8, 2026**

Applications for both scholarships can be found on our website at <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/morris-county/scholarships/>



A Note About Camp Registration Fees for Morris County 4-H'ers

Morris County 4-H'ers who plan to attend Discovery Days or 4-H camp at Rock Springs Ranch should contact the Extension Office about discounted registration rates thanks to the generosity of the Morris County 4-H Foundation. Morris County is blessed to have the support of an active 4-H Foundation and we need to remember to show our appreciation through thank you notes.

4-H Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for **April 14, 2026 at 6:30pm** at the Morris County Community Building at the Morris County Fairgrounds.

Dog Project Meeting Dates

Dog project members, mark your calendars now. The February Dog Care and Training project meeting will be held **Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 5:00 pm.**

Future meeting dates are listed below.

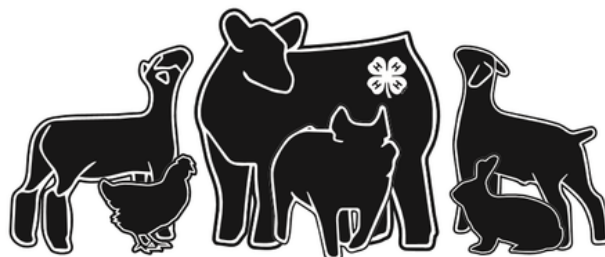
June & July meeting dates will be Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Actual dates will be announced at a later date. All meetings are at the Community Building at the Morris County Fairgrounds.

- Sunday, April 19th at 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 27th at 6:30 pm



2026 Livestock Deadlines

- Market Beef weigh-in, tagging, and ownership deadline for the Morris County Fair is Thursday, **March 19th** from 5:00-7:00 pm. Tagging will be held at Derek Schrader's house. **Tags are \$3 per tag. Please bring exact change.**
- Small Animal (sheep, swine, goats & bucket calves) ownership deadline for the Morris County Fair is April 25th. Weigh-In and tagging will be held **Wednesday, April 22nd** from 5:00-7:00 pm and **Saturday, April 25th** from 9:00-11:00 am at the Morris County Fairgrounds. **Tags are \$3 per tag. Please bring exact change.**
- Breeding livestock of any species ownership deadline for the Morris County Fair is **May 1st.**
- Poultry and rabbit ownership deadline for the Morris County Fair is **May 31st**, except for meat pens and pre-junior rabbits, which should not be over 70 days old from the date of judging at the fair. *Note this is a new date.*



2026 Fair Dates

- Tri-County Fair: July 9-11, 2026
- Morris County Fair: July 18-27, 2026
- Kansas State Fair: September 11-20, 2026

**Morris
County**

MARCH 2026



1 Youth Meat Judging Contest Manhattan, KS 4-H Day with K-State Women's Basketball Team Manhattan, KS	2	3	4	5	6	7 Junior Beef Producer Day Manhattan, KS
Daylight Savings Time Begins 8	9	10	11	12	13 No School - USD 417 & 481	14
15	16	St. Patrick's Day 17	18	19 YQCA Training 10:00-11:00 a.m. Council Grove Extension Office Beef Tagging 5:00-7:00 p.m. Derek Schrader's Farm	First Day of Spring 20	21
	No School - USD 417 & 481					
22 Dog Project Meeting 5:00 p.m. Fairgrounds Community Building	23	24	25	26	27 No School - CGJSHS Only	28 Regional Club Day Madison, KS
Palm Sunday 29	30	31				

Flint Hills District 4-H News

Flint Hills Extension Office

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KANSAS STATE
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