



DONIPHAN COUNTY 4-H PARENT STARTER GUIDE

4-H Age – We use this term to classify age divisions as the 4-H calendar year begins on Oct 1st and ends on Sept 30th. It is your age on or before January 1st of a year. If you turn 7 on Jan 2, of 2025, you are still 6 is 4-H age. 4-H youth are 7 to 18 years old. Cloverbuds are 5-6 years old.

Terms to know: **AGNR** – Agriculture and Natural Resources; **FCS** – Family and Consumer Science

Communications and Resources –

Your club leader!

Doniphan County Extension Office (8 am to 4:30 pm) – 105 S. Liberty Street, Troy, KS (785)-985-3623

Angela Stock – Office Professional – astock@ksu.edu

Kathy Tharman – FCS & 4-H Extension Agent

Katharine Sharp – AGNR & 4-H Extension Agent – kgsharp@ksu.edu

Website: <https://www.doniphan.k-state.edu/>

Facebook: Search: Doniphan County K-State Research and Extension

A TYPICAL DONIPHAN 4-H CALENDAR YEAR:

OCTOBER

October 1 – Enrollment begins. Doniphan County 4-H Council usually pays \$15 state enrollment fee if enrolled by November 30. (Enrolling by this date also helps your club earn points towards an Achievement Award for the year).

4-H record books will be due in the Extension office if 4-H'ers are wanting to submit for judging. Record books are a good way of keeping track of the projects that were worked on through-out the year and entered in fair. (tip: they are helpful when graduating high school and filling out scholarships for college!). The office sells the cover for the record books - \$3.50. Forms for record keeping are available at <https://www.doniphan.k-state.edu/4-h/> under Record Keeping Links (most are form fillable pdf)

Achievement Plan forms are also due in October. Each year your 4-Her can fill out the form to receive a pin for the just completed 4-H year. Plan 1 is very simple to fill out and receive, but each year's plan after adds a few more requirements. There are plans 1-9 and the Key Award. These forms are also available on our website. These are prestigious awards and help with college scholarships.

4-H Council Officer Training - If you would like to participate in 4-H Council, training of the various offices is held prior to October's 4-H Council meeting. You can then run for the office of your choice. The 4-H Council meets about 5 times throughout the year.

NOVEMBER

Achievement Night – usually scheduled for a Sunday evening. There is usually a catered meal at the fairgrounds. Winners of the Record Books are awarded a pin for their project and Achievement Plan pins are handed out. Other various recognitions are also given.

KYLF – Kansas Youth Leadership Forum – this is held at Rock Springs Ranch 4-H camp in Junction City, KS, overnight on Saturday & Sunday. Opportunity for 4-Hers to build leadership skills through workshops. There is a cost but 4-H Council pays ½. Enrollment is done on the State 4-H site. Watch for enrollment date deadline. Must be 14 years.

DECEMBER – 4-H Ice skate night – usually a week night between Christmas and New Years. It's free for all 4-H members at Bode Ice Arena in St. Joseph.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY – CIA – Citizenship in Action enrollment usually toward end of month but the event is held in February.

Enrollment fills up before enrollment deadline. It is an over night event in Topeka with 4-Hers participating at the State Capital senate/representative chambers. CIA is always SUNDAY/MONDAY OF PRESIDENT'S DAY IN FEBRUARY. Must be 13 years. Cost involved but 4-H Council pays 1/2.

County 4-H Day – usually held end of FEBRUARY/beginning of MARCH – Saturday evening or a Sunday afternoon. 4-Hers can showcase their talents in contests such as an instrument, vocal, speaking, club group talent, etc. Letters for sign up usually available 3-4 weeks prior to the event. Top winners for County 4-H day can then go to Regional 4-H day held in MARCH in Atchison to compete with other area county 4-H winners. There is no contest after Regionals but gives 4-H youth a chance to compete and do public speaking.

MARCH – Beef Weigh-In day is usually scheduled for a Saturday morning. All market beef must be weighed in.

APRIL – Sheep/Goat weigh In. Usually the last Sunday of the month. All market sheep and goats must be weighed in.

MAY 1 – DEADLINE FOR ENROLLMENT IN 4-H ONLINE FOR FAIR. You must be enrolled in any project you want to participate in at the fair on 4-H online.

⇒ Also, ALL livestock tags must be bought for animals going to fair by this date. This includes beef, bucket calf, dairy cow, swine, sheep, goats and dairy goats. These are purchased at the Extension Office. In case of death in tagged livestock, call Katharine AGNR extension agent. *There are more deadline date requirements for State Youth Livestock Shows (9 years and older).*

⇒ **Horse Papers** are due May 1 if participating in the fair horse show. Available on the county website.

JUNE – 4-H Project Day – certain projects are high-lighted to enhance the 4-Her's fair project entries. Even if you do not do participate in a project, you can learn about a project before county fair.

This year's date is June 21 – time and high-lighted projects to TBA.

Fairbooks – Each family is allotted a physical copy from Extension Office usually available by June 1.

Discovery Days – this is held in Manhattan on K-State's campus for 3 days. Must be 13 years. Discovery Days is basically a mini college experience. 4-H Council will pay ½ cost. This year is June 4-6 and cost \$235.

JUNE/JULY – 4-H camp at Rock Springs Ranch in Junction City. There are multiple weeks of camp to choose from but the Extension office will choose one week and transport 4-Her's. You can attend any week however. 4-H Council will reimburse ½ the cost of camp.

Rambling Travelers Group – Extension agent Kathy Tharman takes 4-H'ers on a Wonders of Kansas trip. Deadline this year is May 1. Cost involved. Call extension office for more info. Must be 14 years.

JULY – FAIR – WATCH FOR FAIR LETTERS about deadlines for fair related projects for fair week. There will be a livestock pen form to fill out and return to office.

4-H Swim Party - Usually in July - Free to all 4-H'ers at the Hiawatha Aquodoc Center

AUGUST – Kansas State Fair entries are due to the extension office. Requirements for state fair entry are must be 9 years (4-H age) old and received a purple ribbon at county fair. If you choose to send your projects to state fair, the extension office will take your project to Hutchinson in September. (Watch for deadlines for when this is due).

SEPTEMBER – Kansas State Fair and State Youth Livestock Shows

There are several other state sponsored project events available and can be found on their website:

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/>

*Doniphan County 4-H council will pay ½ cost of all state events. 4-H youth pay other ½ cost of fees.