

K-State Extension

NEWSLETTER

Doniphan County

September/
October 2026

www.doniphan.k-state.edu

4-H NEWS

Doniphan County Extension Services

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Doniphan County K-
State Extension

GOOD LUCK

TO ALL WHO ARE PARTICIPATING at THE KANSAS STATE FAIR – Best of Luck!! We are very Proud of you!

CALENDER OF EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER

7- Office Closed for Labor Day
29 -projects needed at the fair building
30 Deadline for Record Books to the office AND Achievement Level Pin forms

30—4H Fall Invitational

OCTOBER

1 - On-line Re-enrollment Open
1 —4H Fall Invitational.
12– Office closed for Columbus Day
12- 6:30 p.m. - Officers Training
7:00 p.m. - Council Meeting
14- Record book judging, 4:00 p.m. at the 4-H building.

NOVEMBER

15 - Achievement Night, 6:00 pm
21 & 22 -KYLF and Leadership Forum
30 - 4H Enrollment Completed
On-line

2026 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum and Leaders Forum

What: Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2026 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected at KYLF.

When: November 21 & 22 2026

Where: Rock Springs Ranch

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2026

*4-H Council pays half cost!

2026 Fees: \$200 and additional optional \$50 for Friday overnight and breakfast.

Registration:

Will open in September



4-H ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT

will be Sunday,

November 15th , at 6:00 p.m.

Council will serve meal. This meal will be catered.



**RECORD BOOKS AND
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS DUE IN
THE OFFICE
BY SEPTEMBER 30TH**



There are 9 different levels of Achievement Awards that 4-H members can earn. These awards are earned by a 4-Her's involvement in the program. The beginning pin levels have simple requirements, as you increase in years the requirements become more challenging. (They must be completed in order, one per year). I strongly urge every 4-H member to fill out the application for an Achievement pin, it is your reward for a job well done. :)

Member Achievement Plan 1 - (Membership Pin) *Member Achievement Plan 2 - (Bronze Pin)*

Member Achievement Plan 3 - (Clover Pin), *Member Achievement Plan 4 - (Emerald Pin)*

Member Achievement Plan 5 - (Silver Pin)

Member Achievement Plan 6 - (Silver Guard Pin)

Member Achievement Plan 7 - (Leadership Pin)

Member Achievement Plan 8 - (Gold Pin)

Member Achievement Plan 9 - (Gold Guard Pin)

The *4-H Key Award*, the highest pin a 4-H member can earn, is also due by **SEPTEMBER 30TH**. You must be 16 by January 1st of the current year before applying for this award.

These plans can be picked up at the office or downloaded from the 4-H website:

www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-library/awards-and-recognition/index.html or <https://bit.ly/3278Lgd>

***ALL FORMS ARE ALSO ON OUR WEBSITE:**

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

**4-H Record books will be judged
Wednesday, October 14th starting at 4:00
p.m. at the Extension Office. All Club
leaders are needed to help judge.**

**RECORDBOOK'S will be due in the
office by September 30th**

**We will be using the project report forms
listed below. Please go to this website and
click on the fillable pdf for your age.**



Go to: www.kansas4h.org –
[https://www.kansas4-h.org/re
sources/awards-and-recogniti
on/ProjectRecognition.html](https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ProjectRecognition.html)

OPTION B

Permanent Record (fillable Word)

Z Books Option C

Z books are acceptable - Record books will be judged in the same manner, with no advantage given to either method. Z-Books need to be printed and included in your recordbook.

Project Record Report Forms

revised January 2022 versions

Junior General Project Report Form (ages 7-9)
fillable PDF

Junior Animal Project Report Form (ages 7-9)
fillable PDF

Intermediate General Project Report Form (ages
10-13) fillable PDF

Intermediate Animal Project Report Form (ages
10-13) fillable PDF

Senior General Project Report Form (ages 14-18)
fillable PDF

Senior Animal Project Report Form (ages 14-18)
fillable PDF

*****You will still fill out the Kansas 4-H
Personal Information Page and Permanent
Record sheet that begins your recordbook.
These fillable pages are on the same site.**

*****Tip: If you did not complete a
project, have no project work to show,
then do not take time to fill out a**

record on that project. Focus on the project work that you completed.

- * You can purchase 4-H Recordbook binders at the Extension office for \$3.83

ON-LINE ENROLLMENT BEGINS OCTOBER 1!!

Kansas State 4-H will be continuing on-line enrollment for the new 2026 - 2027 4-H enrollment year.

What you need to know now:

*You cannot start the 2026 enrollment until October 1st.

*Please re-enroll, on-line by November 30th.

*Each 4-H family will be submitting one enrollment, listing children and their projects

* *Kansas Participation forms will be part of the online system.*



2026- Kansas 4-H has a \$15 enrollment fee for each

4-Her. The fees will be used for program

enhancement, project support, and volunteer development. While the funds are collected at the state level, the state office intends to get input from counties across the state to set priorities for the funds, to ensure that everyone benefits.

**4-H STIMULUS PACKAGE!!
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! 4-H COUNCIL IS
PAYING ALL ENROLLMENT FEES FOR
THOSE WHO ENROLL BY
NOVEMBER 30TH
YOU WILL HAVE TO CALL THE
OFFICE TO GET THE WAIVER CODE!**

Paying for the fee is done during annual re-enrollment on 4-H Online. Towards the end of the enrollment process, you will be asked how you intend to pay. Options list: use a credit or debit card online, mail in a check to the state office, no fee (for Cloverbuds), request a waiver, or USE A COUPON CODE IF

SPONSOR IS paying your fee. (ONLY FOR THOSE WHO ENROLL EARLY, BY November 30th. Our office will send a check in for all enrolled. Both the local and state offices approve enrollment, and enrollment is not complete (you won't be an "active" member) until payment is received.

The 4-H Year begins October 1st, 2026. National 4-H Week is the first full week of October. What a wonderful time to ask a friend to join the Doniphan County 4-H

2026 4-H FALL INVITATIONAL WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 30TH and OCTOBER 1ST

We will need 4-H members to bring to the building inside exhibits to be displayed. Please bring them to the office or the 4-H building on Tuesday September 29th from 4-7 p.m

*If you would like to do a demonstration during the rotations, please talk to Kathy.

*This event will be open to all Doniphan Public Schools, ages K-5.

Doniphan County 4-H Club Officer's Training

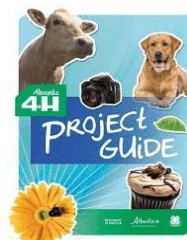
Please mark your calendar for October 12th at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Building. Learn and have tons of fun, so make sure your officers can make it!

4-H PROJECT GUIDE

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/project-guides/ProjectSelectionGuideColor.pdf>

Exploring your interests through 4-H project work is an excellent way to discover new skills and potential careers. While projects can vary depending on your local program and availability, this guide offers a starting point for each of the official state 4-H projects. Resources for each project can be ordered through your county or district extension office.

Enjoy your 4-H project experience!





Doniphan County

Agriculture & Natural Resources News

Katharine Sharp
Doniphan County Agriculture Agent



Thank you – Paige Urban!

A very special thank you to Ms. Paige Urban! She was this year's fair intern and helped with preparing for fair and during the week of fair. Paige was our 2026 Pet Show judge as well. She did a fantastic job! If you see her out and about, please tell her thank you for her hard work. Paige is studying Animal Sciences at Kansas State University.

K-State Garden Calendar

- Plant leafy greens in the fall garden, including lettuce, mustard, Swiss chard, and bok choy.
- Harvest crops on a regular basis for season long production.
- Check plants for insects such as spider mites and aphids.
- Control black spot and other rose diseases.
- Fertilize mums, hardy asters, and other fall blooming perennials.
- Water tall fescue lawns one to two times per week, applying a total of 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week.
- Start planning for fall lawn renovation projects such as aerating, seeding, and fertilizing.
- Prune and shape hedges one final time before winter.
- Avoid fertilizing ornamental trees and shrubs now so they harden off before winter. Instead, plan to fertilize trees and shrubs as fall color begins to develop later this fall.

- Make houseplant cuttings and repot plants before summer sun slips away.

Doniphan County 4-H Facebook Group

In case you have missed it, we do have an informative Facebook group called: "Doniphan County 4-H". If you want to keep up with all things Doniphan County 4-H, please join!

Also, 4-H youth please be sure that you have written up your thank you notes!



The Invasion of the Brown Stink Bug

Every fall, I receive a few phone calls about what to do about Asian Multi-colored Lady bugs, and Brown Stink bugs invading someone's house! I am going to share with



you some information about Brown Stink bugs to help prepare our county residents for the upcoming seasonal invasion.

Identification: _____ Brown

stink bugs are also known as Brown Marmorated Stink bugs. They are not like our native green stink bugs. Brown marmorated stink bugs are exotic, and invasive. They are originally from Asia. They do not cause destruction in households. Their destruction is focused on consuming crops and outdoor plants. They become an indoor pest when the temperatures begin to change. They have a distinct odor that earns them the rightful name: stink bug. Adults begin to search for their winter home, starting in September through October.

How to control: Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs have a routine life cycle where they overwinter outdoors in tree bark, wood and brush piles, leaf litter, and other places where they are least likely to be disturbed. While they are indoors, Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs are not destructive and will not be chewing on fabric or destroying the home. They will be a pest in that they stink and are not easily controlled in the home. Because their source is outside of the home, insecticides will not be a successful method of control. The best control is to make sure all gaps, cracks, and crevices are sealed with caulking and bigger gaps filled with steel wool. To help control them inside, a dish of soapy water under a bright light can be used to attract and trap the insects that made their way indoors. Vacuuming the insects is also way to easily collect and dispose of them, but their odor can remain in the vacuum.

Vacuuming them up with a dry or wet vac is efficient. The bugs will cause the collection canister or bag and other parts of your machine

to smell, but the odor is temporary. Some people have solved this issue by slipping a knee-high stocking over the outside of their vacuum tube and securing it with a rubber-band. The stocking is then stuffed into the tube and captures the sucked-up bugs before they get into the canister or bag. Turn off the vacuum to empty the bugs into a container of soapy water (University of Maryland Extension).

If you can find their source outdoors, an insecticide treatment can be used on the host plant/overwintering site to control them at the source. Researchers have listed over 170 plants that are used for food and reproduction, so finding their host plant could be a tricky endeavor.

Once they are indoors, it is too late: It is not advisable to use an insecticide inside after the insects have gained access to the wall voids or attic areas. Although insecticidal dust treatments to these voids may kill hundreds of bugs, there is the possibility that carpet beetles will feed on the dead stink bugs and subsequently attack woolens, stored dry goods or other natural products in the home. Although aerosol-type pyrethrum foggers will kill stink bugs that have amassed on ceilings and walls in living areas, it will not prevent more of the insects from emerging shortly after the room is aerated. For this reason, use of these materials is not considered a good solution to long-term management of the problem. Spray insecticides directed into cracks and crevices will not prevent the bugs from emerging and is not a viable or recommended treatment (Penn State Extension).

Sources: K-State Extension – Johnson County, Penn State Extension, & University of Maryland Extension Services.

SWEETS & YOU!



**Doniphan County
Homemakers Club Council is
excited to bring all EHU club
members our 4th Annual Social
Event: Sweets & You!**

**All club members are invited to
attend our get together at
Star Diner 36 in Wathena on
Tuesday , September 22nd
at 2:30 p.m.**

**Our afternoon will be a chance to meet new
people in other clubs, play a game and treat
yourself to the diners many dessert choices.**

DRIVE BY FLU VACCINATIONS will be
offered by the Doniphan County Health
Department on Friday, October 9th back alley
of Healthy Dept., enter from the South. 7:30
a.m. -5:00 pm. Forms can accessed on-line by
middle of September at www.dpcountyks.com
There will also be consent forms at area banks,
post offices and senior citizen sites.

FALL EVENT "BE HEALTH, BEE HAPPY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

All EHU members and guests are welcome to join
us for a morning of fun lessons and laughter! We
will start the morning at 9:30 a.m. with
registration, coffee, juice & cookies.

We will also be having Holiday craft/food booths.
Please call the office to reserve a table if you
would like to set one up.

***Guest Speaker - To Be Determined but promise
to be interesting!**

Amy Masters will teach us a Make n Take Craft.

***Each Club needs to provide a \$10 door prize.**

**We will have a noon luncheon, provided by
DCHC Council!**

Club Duties:

Moray - Paper Products

Helping Hands - Morning cookies & juice

Helping Hands- Table Decorations

Bendena - Registration & Name tags

Pollyanna- Set up Lunch- Drinks



**4-H FALL
FESTIVAL**
will be
Tuesday,
September 30th
Wednesday,

October 1st at the Troy Fairgrounds. All
Elementary Schools are invited to this Fun Filled
Activity Field Trip.

One of the rotation spots for the kids will be the
concession stand where they watch a short movie
and have a treat and water.

If you can volunteer your time to be at the
concession stand and help with that rotation spot,
please contact Kathy at the Extension office.

Thank You for being such Wonderful Volunteers
and supporting Youth Development in Doniphan
County!



HANDWASHING IS THE NUMBER 1 WAY TO STAY HEALTHY!

Help your child develop handwashing skills

Parents and caretakers play an important role in teaching children to wash their hands. Handwashing can become a lifelong healthy habit if you start teaching it at an early age. Teach kids the five easy steps for handwashing—wet, lather, scrub, rinse and dry—and the key times to wash hands, such as after using the bathroom or before eating. You can find ways to make it fun, like making up your own handwashing song or turning it into a game.

Give frequent reminders

Building handwashing skills takes time. At first, your child will need regular reminders of how and when to wash hands. It is especially important to remind children to wash their hands after using the bathroom, before eating, after touching pets, after playing outside, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing their nose. But once handwashing becomes a habit and a regular part of your child's day, they will practice it throughout their lives.

Lead by example by washing your hands

Young children learn by imitating the behaviors of adults in their lives. When you make handwashing part of your routine, you're setting an example for your children to follow.

If soap and water aren't available

Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to get rid of germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that has at least 60% alcohol, and wash your hands with soap and water as soon as you can.

Baby wipes

Baby wipes may make your hands look clean, but they're not designed to remove germs from your hands. CDC recommends washing hands with soap and water when possible.



THE COST OF PETS IN YOUR BUDGET

Almost 85 million households in the United States in 2017 share their lives with at least one pet. For many people, pets are not just companions — more than 63 percent of pet owners consider their pet to be part of the family. While dogs and cats may dominate — with more than 60 million households having dogs and more than 47 million households with cats — reptiles (4.7 million), birds (7.9 million), and fish (15 million, fresh and salt water) are also common pets.



Regardless of the type of pet, the average American spends approximately \$500 per year on pets — more than they spend on toys,

hobbies, and footwear. Specialty items for pets are growing at an increasing rate. In addition to the basic costs of pets, other pet-related expenses may be overlooked or forgotten in pet family budgets.

Expenses such as annual wellness checks, preventative medicines, regular dental cleanings, and pet food, among others, are costs absorbed, but commonly not included in the family budget. As with other aspects of the household spending plan, it is helpful to plan for and track your monthly and periodic pet costs.





K-State

Research and Extension

Doniphan County Office

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105 S. Liberty

Troy, KS 66087-0487

September/October 2026

Dear Friends,

The beauty of Autumn is just around the corner. We are looking forward to harvest, apple cider, football and all Extension programs! Have a Great Season!

Sincerely,

Kathy Tharman

County Extension Director

