



K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION WALNUT CREEK EXTENSION DISTRICT October 2024 Monthly Newsletter

Upcoming Dates

October 4 - Chalk the Walk 4-H event
October 6-12 - National 4-H Week
October 7-10 - WCED Ag Bus Tour to Iowa
October 14 - Office Closed for Columbus Day
October 21-24 - All Agents at Annual Conference
October 25 - RSVP deadline for Mystery Trip - \$30
October 27 - Rush Co. 4-H Achievement - 2 pm
October 28 - Extension Board meeting - 6:30 pm
October 29 - 2024 Mystery Tour to ????
November 3 - Lane Co. 4-H Achievement - 5:30 pm
November 10 - Ness County 4-H Achievement

SCHICK Appointments with Kristen.

SCHICK -Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas

This is an opportunity to talk with Kristen about your questions on your Part D Prescription drug coverage and assist you in making informed decisions.

Please call to reserve your time with Kristen.

Kristen will be in these towns on the following days:

October 16 & November 20 - Ransom
October 25 - at Otis Library - Call 785-387-2287
October 30, Nov. 13, 27 and Dec. 4 - Dighton
November 1, 15, 22 and Dec. 6 - Ness City
November 12, 19, 26 and Dec 3 - LaCrosse

Remember to bring the following with you:
Social Security Card, Medicare Card, Part D prescription card, List of all medications, Medicare.gov username and password.

www.walnutcreek.ksu.edu

LANE COUNTY OFFICE

144 S. LANE, COURTHOUSE
P O BOX 487
DIGHTON, KS 67839
620-397-2806

- LACEY NOTERMAN, DIRECTOR AND AGRICULTURE EXT. AGENT - LNOTE@KSU.EDU
- CHELSEY SHAPLAND, 4-H PROGRAM ASSISTANT - CSHAPLAND@KSU.EDU
- DONNIS MAUGHLIN, OFFICE PROFESSIONAL DMAUGHLI@KSU.EDU

NESS COUNTY OFFICE

503 S PENNSYLVANIA AVE
NESS CITY, KS 67560
785-798-3921

- ROBYN TRUSSEL, 4-H AND YOUTH AGENT RDEINES@KSU.EDU
- KRISTEN SCHMIDT, FCW EXTENSION AGENT KBSCHMIDT@KSU.EDU
- RANDAE RUFENACHT, OFFICE PROFESSIONAL RRUFENAC@KSU.EDU

RUSH COUNTY OFFICE

702 MAIN, P O BOX 70
LACROSSE, KS 67548
785-222-2710

- JARED PETERSILIE, AGRICULTURE EXT. AGENT JAREDP11@KSU.EDU
- BERNY UNRUH, OFFICE PROFESSIONAL BUNRUH@KSU.EDU

CLOVER CONNECTION



FROM THE 4-H AGENTS DESK

OCTOBER 1ST MEMO

It's Enrollment Time

October 6-12 is National 4-H Week, and October is recruitment of new 4-H members. We want you to come Join us. In Walnut Creek District we have eight 4-H Clubs, reaching most of the communities in our area.

- Otis Go Getters
- Lone Star Rangers
- Rush County Roadrunners
- Walnut City
- Clever Clovers
- Busy Beavers
- Eager Beavers
- Shields Jayhawks

Being part of a 4-H club gives youth social skills, the sense of belonging, and a 4-H family for support and growth.





BEYOND READY

We are Beyond Ready and would love to have your family be a part of a great youth program. There are so many opportunities for your children and you as an adult to become involved.

Kansas 4-H has a Cloverbud program which is a non-competitive, educational and an opportunity for participation for 5 and 6 year old youth. 4-H members are youth age 7-18 by January 1 of the current year (Jan. 1, 2025) and then there are volunteer opportunities for adults.

When asked "Why did you join 4-H?" this is what Jordan Johnson said "My mother was in 4-H when she was younger and knew the positive impact it would have on our lives and enrolled my siblings and I."

When asked "What did you gain from 4-H?" this is what Rusty Swonger said "Life long lessons I use everyday as a parent. Now my kids are in 4-H carrying on the family tradition. We Bleed Green!"



Upcoming Events

- Chalk the Walk - Oct 4th
- 4-H Sunday Oct 6th
- 4-H School Assemblies Oct 7-12

Do You Have ?'s

rdeines@ksu.edu

4-H Achievement Banquets

Rush County - Oct. 27, 2:00pm at Rush Center
Township Hall

Lane County - Nov. 3, 5:30pm at Lane County
Fairgrounds

Ness County - Nov. 10 at Ness County Fairgrounds

Bread Baking Workshop

Save the Date:
November 1st at
1:00pm, Rush County
More details coming
soon!



**REGISTER
TODAY**



4-H PHOTOGRAPHY SHUTTERBUG EVENTS

Saturday, October 5 in Oskaloosa, Ks.
Saturday, October 26 in Hays, Ks.

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service.
K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Live Well, Lead Well

A Day full of interactive, hands-on activities designed to help you build a Strong Mind, Active Heart, Helping Hands and Healthy Lifestyle.

Location: Agriculture Research Center , 1232 240th Ave, Hays

Time: 1:00 - 5:00 pm

When: Saturday, October 26th

Who: All 4-H Members



Considerations when Planting Wheat into Dry Soil

Topsoil conditions are now very dry in many areas of Kansas. For wheat yet to be planted in these areas, producers are left with a few options.

#1: "Dust in" the wheat

Producers can choose to "dust in" the wheat at the normal seeding depth and normal planting date and hope for rain.

#2: Plant deeper than usual into moisture with a hoe drill

Planting deeper than usual with a hoe drill can work if the variety to be planted has a long coleoptile, the producer is using a hoe drill, and there is good soil moisture within reach. The advantage of this option is that the crop should come up and make a stand during the optimum time in the fall.

#3: Wait for rain before planting

To overcome the risk of crusting or stand failure, producers may decide to wait until it has rained and soil moisture conditions are adequate before planting. Under the right conditions, this would result in good stands, assuming the producer uses a high seeding rate and a starter fertilizer, if appropriate. Keep in mind, crop insurance considerations and deadlines will play a role in these decisions.



Lacey Noterman
District Director
Agronomy/Horticulture
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Grasshoppers are ABUNDANT

It is well understood that weather patterns can have a significant impact on grasshopper populations year to year. Warm, dry weather increases the survival of nymphs and adult grasshoppers, leading to increased egg production during the growing season. Another factor influencing grasshopper populations is an abundance of food, especially broadleaf weeds. As these weedy sources of food are exhausted or controlled, grasshoppers may shift their grazing over to anything still growing in the landscape. In areas with greater grasshopper pressure, seedling alfalfa and wheat could be at risk. Please refer to the most recent Alfalfa and Wheat Insect Management Guides for specific control information.

Alfalfa Insect Management Guide <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF809.pdf>

Wheat Insect Management Guide <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF745.pdf>



Kansas Forest Service's Conservation Tree Planting Program

The Kansas Forest Service's Conservation Tree Planting Program offers tree and shrub seedlings, as well as other items for use in conservation plantings. Plantings may function as wildlife habitat, windbreaks, wood lots, timber plantations, or educational and riparian (streambank) plantings. Find out more and order trees by visiting: https://www.kansasforests.org/conservation_trees/



MEDICARE PART D OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open enrollment for Medicare Part D begins October 15, 2024 and runs through December 7, 2024. Medicare drug plans and premiums change yearly. Now is the time to compare drug plans to find the best plan to meet your needs.

K-State Research and Extension can navigate you through the comparison and enrollment process from start to finish. Appointments are available in LaCrosse, Ness City, Dighton, Otis and Ransom.

**PLEASE CONTACT
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
WELLNESS AGENT
KRISTEN SCHMIDT AT
785-798-3921 TO
SCHEDULE.**



KRISTEN SCHMIDT
Family and Community
Wellness Agent
kbschmidt@ksu.edu

2024 MYSTERY TOUR

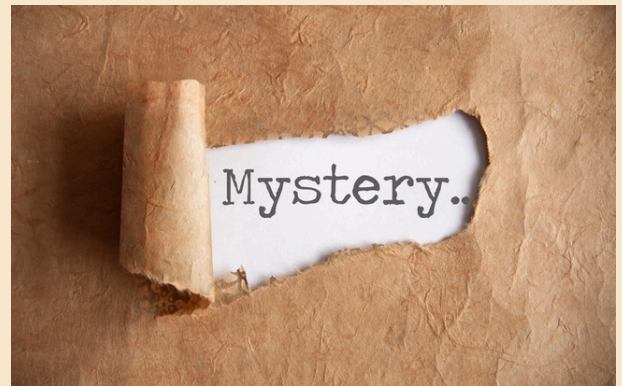
Ready for a little mystery in your life?

Come join us for the Walnut Creek Extension District Family and Community Wellness Mystery Tour! A fun day of site seeing, lunch and time to visit and explore a few places our great State of Kansas has to offer has been planned.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 29th!

There is a \$30 fee to cover fuel and lunch.

**Please contact Family and Community Wellness Agent
Kristen Schmidt at 785-798-3921 to RSVP.**



IMPROVING YOUR FARM LEASE CONTRACT

Every few years new farm legislation is passed which requires landowners and tenants to make decisions about program participation. This may require changes in your farm lease contracts.

Under a cash rent lease, the farm program benefits usually are paid to the operator, because that is the person bearing the risk. With a flexible cash lease, the commodity program payment can be included in the gross revenue used to determine the rental rate each year.

Under a crop share lease the owner and tenant usually share in the program benefits in the same proportion as they share the crop. If there is a cost to participate in the program, the owner and tenant must carefully analyze the potential benefits to each party. Government program decisions can affect the rental value of a farm for several years.

Conservation programs may offer short-term payments for following certain practices, as well as long-term benefits in the form of reduced erosion, increased fertility, and cleaner water. If the incentive payments do not completely offset any extra costs or reduced income to the tenant for following the conservation practices, he or she may be reluctant to participate. If the lease has only a short duration, such as one year, the long-term benefits of the practices do not offer much incentive to the tenant. The landowner may have to reduce the cash rent to offset the tenant's short-term loss of net income

Good communication between tenants and landowners is essential for building a successful leasing relationship. Landowners are concerned about the use and care of their farm. Nonresident owners cannot observe conditions first hand. Some spouses or children who have not been heavily involved in the management of the property may feel unsure about how to proceed with decisions

Have a Written Lease

Written leases make the lease terms more definite and leave less chance for disagreement and misunderstanding. People tend to selectively recall only those portions of conversations that reinforce their point-of-view. It protects not only the original parties, but also assignees and heirs in case either party should die, or the farm is sold.

A written lease encourages both parties to consider all aspects of the lease before the lease period begins. Decisions are made before the problems occur. In subsequent years, it provides a basis for changing provisions when conditions change. Written leases also provide documentation in case of a tax audit or for settling an estate. Lease agreements that cover more than one crop year are required to be in writing, and leases written for five years or more must be notarized and recorded at the county recorder's office by the tenant.

The document should meet at least the following minimum requirements:

- It should contain an accurate description of the property.
- It should specify a definite period for which the lease is to run.
- It should state the kind and amount of rent, and time and method of payment (cash lease).
- It should specify how production, USDA payments, and input costs are to be shared (crop share lease).

Source: Improving Your Farm Lease Contract - FM1564 Reviewed July 2024 - Iowa State University



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JOIN US!

2024

MYSTERY TOUR

OCTOBER 29TH

**A FUN DAY OF SITE SEEING, LUNCH, AND
TIME TO VISIT AND EXPLORE A FEW
PLACES OUR GREAT STATE HAS TO
OFFER HAS BEEN PLANNED**

**CONTACT FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS AGENT
KRISTEN SCHMIDT FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RSVP
AT 785-798-3921**

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

**\$30 FEE TO PARTICIPATE
FEE INCLUDES LUNCH AND FUEL**

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Walnut Creek District

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 EVENT CONTACT, KRISTEN SCHMIDT TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE EVENT AT 785-798-3921. REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE HONORED WHEN IT IS FEASIBLE TO DO SO. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION AND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE. K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.