

4-H Family Guide



Welcome to Golden Prairie District 4-H!

This guide has been prepared to help you gain a better understanding of the Golden Prairie District 4-H Program. The Golden Prairie Extension District includes Logan, Gove, and Trego counties. Each county within our district has its own unique 4-H program, but together, these programs make up the Golden Prairie District 4-H program. Some of our 4-H events are held together as a district and others will be held within your county.

This handbook will not have all of the answers, but hopefully it will provide an insight on the 4-H Program. All of us involved with the Golden Prairie District 4-H program feel we have much to offer our members (and potential members), and want to make your family's 4-H experience worthwhile.

4-H is a Family Affair! Every member of the family, youngsters and parents alike, can benefit from belonging to and participating in 4-H. Parents of a 4-H member are extremely important. Your children need your support, help and guidance to get the most out of any experience.

No one can influence or do as much for children as their own parents. The 4-H program is adults and youth, parents and children, working together to accomplish goals. 4-H provides an opportunity for youth to have other significant adults in their lives that have a positive impact on their life skill development.

The 4-H program, projects and activities offer many opportunities for parents to positively influence their children. Please join our 4-H program with the understanding that the whole family involvement is the key to developing youth and helping our 4-H program remain progressive and educational. 4-H is a family affair--we are proud of the need for parents and children to work together.

This guide will be supported monthly with a newsletter from the Golden Prairie District Extension Offices. When questions arise, please feel free to contact us.

Again, welcome! We are glad to have your interest in the Golden Prairie District 4-H Program.

Sincerely,

The Golden Prairie District 4-H Program Managers

Ashley Conness

Trego County

Kristy Packard

Gove County

Logan County

Golden Prairie Extension District

The Golden Prairie Extension District is part of the Kansas State Research and Extension (KSRE) land-grant university initiative. Gove, Logan, & Trego counties make up the district and have worked together to provide research-based information to our communities since 2011. The Golden Prairie District is governed, administered, and delivered by KSRE and local Extension Board.

Gove County Office

230 Main Street
PO Box 173
Grainfield, KS 67737
(785) 673-4805
Open M-F, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Closed During Lunch)

Kelsi Wertz, *Livestock Production Agent*
Kristy Packard, *4-H Program Manager*
Jennifer Ackerman, *Office Professional*

kjwertz@ksu.edu
kristy2@ksu.edu
jmackerm@ksu.edu

Logan County Office

710 W 2nd Street
Oakley, KS 67748
(785) 671-3245
Open M-F, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Closed During Lunch)

Taylor Ziegelmeier, *Family & Consumer Science Agent*
Jake Faulkender, *4-H & Youth Development Agent*
Kathy Katt, *Office Professional*

taylorz@ksu.edu
faulkend@ksu.edu
kakatt@ksu.edu

Trego County Office

216 Main Street
WaKeeney, KS 67672
(785) 743-6361
Open M-F, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Closed During Lunch)

Ryan Engel, *Horticulture Agent*
Ashley Conness, *4-H Program Manager*
Lucy Conness, *Office Professional*

rpengel@ksu.edu
acoker@ksu.edu
lucy80@ksu.edu

The Golden Prairie Extension District staff provides leadership for the 4-H youth activities on a county-wide basis conducting leader training, planning activities, and just keeping everything organized. In addition, the extension staff provides leadership and support for special interest youth programs throughout the county. Golden Prairie Extension District Staff is available to answer any questions you might have concerning the 4-H youth program.

If at any time throughout the 4-H Year if you have a question or concern please follow the chain of command below:

Chain of Command

- 4H Club Leader
- 4H Program Manager
- Director
- Board Chair
- Director or Board Chair brings it to GPED board, or parent can bring it to the board in writing.

*Note: If this is a complaint about a policy, no changes will be made during the current 4-H year. Policy changes may be presented with the intent of changing





Who's Who in 4-H

4-H Member – Any child 7-18 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.

4-H Cloverbud Member – A child who is 5 or 6 years of age as of January 1 of the current year. Cloverbuds join a club and participate in activities during the regular club meeting.

Cloverbud activities focus on:

- Fun, age appropriate activities – as a result Cloverbuds don't participate in Livestock or small animal projects.
- Cooperation, NOT competition
- Success-oriented
- Safe environment
- Family & Community involvement

Community Club Leader Member – An adult volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club

Project Leader – A volunteer who helps to teach kids the projects. This person is often a 4-H parent, Jr. Leader, or a person from the community who agrees to help with a project in which they have knowledge

Jr. Leader - 4-H Member who is 13 years old and enrolled in the leadership project. They take an active part in helping the younger members in the club. By doing this, they grow, mature and learn leadership skills

Parents - The important ingredient to the success a child will have in the 4-H program. Parents are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and project meetings with their child. All county-wide events are open and parents are encouraged to attend.

4-H Council - 4-H Clubs each have youth representatives that make up this group. The group plans 4-H activities and events that take place on a county wide basis. They organize fund-raising to raise money to pay for county wide activities.

4-H Ambassadors - Members 14 and older are eligible to serve as Ambassadors for their respective county. The Ambassadors help promote 4-H throughout the year.

4-H Program Development Committee (PDC) – This group is an elected body of people. They are responsible for the program direction on a county wide basis. They implement and help carry out new programs and suggest improvements for 4-H and other Youth programs conducted by the Extension Service

4-H Program Managers – They are the professionals who help carry out the 4-H PDC'S objectives. 4-H Program Managers provide leadership for the 4-H youth activities on a county-wide basis – conducting leader training, planning activities, and keeping everything organized. They provide leadership and support for special interest youth programs throughout the county. They are available to answer any questions you might have concerning the 4-H youth program.

Fair Board – Board Members carry out and plan the County Fair each year

State 4-H Specialists – These people have the responsibility for the 4-H program on a state-wide basis. Each specialist is responsible for a specific part of the total 4-H program. They are based at Kansas State University, Manhattan and regionally throughout Kansas.

Kansas State University – This land grant college has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H Program is part of that mission.

Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Center – The State of Kansas 4-H Camp, Located near Junction City, Kansas. Camp is considered open enrollment; sign up for the session that works for your family's schedule. Travel arrangements are available. All inquiries can be directed to the Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Camp website. <https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/>

Cloverbuds

The 4-H Cloverbuds program is part of the overall Kansas 4-H program. Youth ages 5-6 as of January 1st of the current program year can participate in many of the same activities as their older counterparts, with a few areas of exclusion for safety purposes. 4-H Cloverbuds embrace the same core values as 4-H membership. This program is developed for the growth in cooperative learning and not competition.

Cloverbud Goals

- Self-understanding Skills: Initiating independence and self-direction.
- Social Skills: Getting along with others.
- Decision-Making Skills: Making positive choices.
- Learning Skills: Learning to learn
- Mastering Physical Skills: Enjoying constructive and creative play

Cloverbud Principles

- Fun
- Activity Focused
- Noncompetitive
- Group-centered Learning
- Leader Direction
- Positive
- Success Oriented

Cloverbud Project Participation

4-H Cloverbuds exhibits can be showcased at fairs and public events, but a 4-H Cloverbuds member may not participate as a competitive exhibitor in traditional 4-H events. The 4-H Cloverbuds member may exhibit or showcase activity-related items from their 4-H Cloverbuds' experiences at appropriate locations. The 4-H Cloverbuds member is not eligible to receive premiums or awards like traditional 4-H events. The 4-H Cloverbuds member may receive a 4-H Cloverbuds ribbon. The 4-H Cloverbuds member can showcase a pet from the approved list in accordance with 4-H Cloverbuds pet policies. The 4-H Cloverbuds member may NOT have 4-H Livestock exhibits that require long-term ongoing care or weigh-ins, nor can the member participate as a competitive 4-H exhibitor within livestock divisions.

For more information on the Cloverbud Program: <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H1077.pdf>

4-H is a Family Affair.....Something for the whole Family

Parents – Partners on the 4-H Team

4-H parents are the most important in their 4-H'ers lives. By making 4-H a family affair, you will be able to take an active role in your children's' activities. Few other programs allow children and their parents and other adults to work side by side, play together and watch each other develop skills and talents. You need to know three things before many of you will be willing to cooperate with 4-H club work. They are:

1. What is expected of your children in 4-H
2. What is expected of you as parents of 4-H Club members
3. That you as a parent have an active, not passive, part in the 4-H Club's Leadership Team.

Specific Areas of Area Responsibility

Enrollment

- ✿ Learn what 4-H is about, its purpose, its objectives.
- ✿ Assist your children in selecting projects they like, that they have the ability to do, and one for which you can furnish needed materials.
- ✿ Show a genuine interest and enthusiasm in 4-H and in your children.

Club Meetings and Activities

- ✿ Encourage your child's participation in 4-H Club activities.
- ✿ See that your child has a way to get to club meetings and that he/she attends regularly.
- ✿ Attend club meetings with your child.
- ✿ Be willing to provide transportation for both your children and others. (Share this responsibility throughout the club year.) Be willing to volunteer for tasks that you can accomplish on the club and county level.

Project Activities

- ✿ Give encouragement and guidance in your children's project work by showing enthusiasm and interest in their work with record keeping, Project Record forms, demonstrations, judging, etc. Help them understand what to do -but give them the responsibility for the actual work that is to be done.
- ✿ Show a personal interest in your children. Show an interest in the projects which they select and other events in which they participate.
- ✿ Inspire and encourage your boys and girls to keep up with their 4-H records and complete their work. Familiarize yourself with project materials so you can help when needed.
- ✿ Provide for ownership and growth. Make it possible for your children to own their projects and help them plan for expansion of their project work.
- ✿ Share your talents & skills and become a 4-H Project Leader.

Liaison

- ✿ Keep in close touch with all members of the 4-H Leadership team.
- ✿ Inform and remind your children of communications that they have received.
- ✿ Response to correspondence from the Extension Office, or if the communication was to your children, see that necessary communication takes place.

Club Meetings

Purpose

The purpose of 4-H meetings is to help youth acquire new information, learn to use leisure time creatively, develop social skills, and increase leadership & citizenship traits. 4-H Members are given the opportunity to learn and practice decision making in group situations by using the knowledge and skills acquired at these meetings. 4-H members are expected to attend the monthly meetings. Parents are encouraged to attend meetings with their youth. 4-H is family friendly.

Club Meeting Schedule & Structure

Each 4-H club in the Golden Prairie District has set their own meeting dates and times. (i.e., 2nd Mondays of the month at 7 p.m.) Please check in with a Club Leader to inquire about meeting schedules.

Club Meetings include General Business (small democracy in action), Educational Programming, and Recreation. Meetings will follow Parliamentary Procedure for all member to have a change for discussion and follow “Robert’s Rule of Order” for their agenda schedule. Meetings typically last 1-1 ½ hours long.

Educational Programming is designed to help members learn more about subjects of general interest in the entire 4-H program. 4-H teaching strategy is “learn by doing”. Programming can include but are not limited to the following categories:

- Demonstrations: A “show and tell” type presentation where the 4-H youth share some of the things they have learned in their selected project area.
- Illustrated Talks: Different from demonstrations in that they tell how rather than show how. Charts, models, and other visuals are encouraged.
- Project Talks: A talk given about the member’s project. The project talk can relate things experienced in the project, or give information relating to the project.
- Outside Speakers: 4-H encourages learning from others. Clubs can invite speakers to come discuss topics of interest and engage in active learning.

Recreation portions of the meeting distinguish the 4-H meeting from other educational activities. Recreation may include challenges, group singing, dodge ball, etc. Everyone gets to play! Recreation can also include group philanthropic work to encourage Leadership/Citizenship qualities (i.e., door hangers for local hospital or nursing home, Thank You cards, painting at fairgrounds, etc.) Clubs can decide what type of recreation works for their setting and availability.

Refreshments may also be included at club meetings. However, this is not essential or mandatory.

Club Leadership

Each club normally elects officers at the beginning of the 4-H year (October 1). Officers elected may include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reports, Historian, Recreation/Song Leader, Council Representative, or Fair Board Representative.

Each club typically has 2 Co-Club Leaders to provide leadership at club meetings. These are normally parents of 4-H members but not always. Other friends of 4-H such as parents of former 4-H members, retired persons, and young adults are often willing to help with the program. Each adult volunteer must go through the registered volunteer screening provided through their local Golden Prairie Extension District Office.

4-H Projects

The 4-H project is the “gateway” to the rest of the 4-H program. Projects provide the basis of the 4-H program by offering various educational experiences. Carrying out a project will help the member “learn by doing” as well as learn “why” things happen the way they do.

What are Projects?

Projects are real life experiences that help 4-H'ers learn to make sound decisions. Projects put the hands and mind to work. There are over 30 different projects with a variety of different phases or degrees of advancement. Most of the projects have been planned with several phases so that a member may advance to more difficult and challenging activities. 4-H projects take on a wide variety of interests and activities and are designed to attract members regardless of their place of residence, economic status, or race.

What are the objectives of 4-H projects?

1. Create a sense of ownership.
2. Give a feeling of achievement.
3. Strengthen family and community ties.
4. Provide members the opportunity to:
 - A. Learn project skills
 - B. Develop and understand project knowledge
 - C. Develop good attitudes
 - D. Assume responsibility
 - E. Provide healthful competition
 - F. Make meaningful decisions
5. Provide leisure time activities
6. Explore career opportunities and thus the need for continued education. All projects are, in a sense, career explorative, giving each member a taste of the work and responsibilities involved.

What is the "Project Guide"?

The guide lists guidelines and suggested learning experiences for every project. Copies are available at the Extension Office or at Kansas4H.org. Be sure to look at a copy before making your project choice.

How do you select projects?

Parents and members should know and fully understand what is expected of the 4-H'er before enrolling in the project. Projects are selected early in the 4-H year when enrollment is submitted. Generally, younger members should limit their projects to one or two. Older, experienced members are able to complete several different ones, including those that are more difficult.

In selecting projects, consider:

1. Does it meet the needs and interests of the member?
2. Is the project in keeping with age and ability of the member? Will it challenge him/her educationally?

3. How much time does the member have and how much time does the project require?
What season of the year has most of the activity of the project?
4. Is the project acceptable to you as parents and does it fit into the family needs and situation?
5. How much will the project cost?
6. Are adequate space and equipment available?
7. Is there an opportunity for ownership and management responsibility?
8. Are there leaders to help with the project or are you willing to help the member with the project?

How are Projects Conducted?

Project work is conducted through various activities and events such as:

- ✿ Projects meetings/workshops
- ✿ Tours
- ✿ Demonstrations and talks at regular club meetings
- ✿ Family activities or individual work at home
- ✿ Exhibiting at shows and fairs
- ✿ Record keeping

What is the role of the project leader?

4-H Project Leaders are people who have an interest in a particular area. They are willing to share their time, talents, and efforts with a group of young people.

You could be a project leader! It doesn't take an expert to be a project leader. The most important ingredient for project leaders is that they are interested in working with youth. If you would consider being a project leader, visit with your club's community leaders or parent advisory committee members.

Many projects have leader's guides to assist leaders. You might also check with the Extension Office as sometimes project leader's trainings are available.

The project leaders will notify members when and where the project meetings will be held.

4-H members may add projects no later than May 1 of the current year.

Record Keeping in 4-H

Each 4-H Member must keep a record of his 4-H work. Records are not an extra task, but a part of 4-H work. Few young people (adults are no exception) enjoy record keeping. However, record keeping skills are quite valuable. As adults, we use them every day.

- ✿ Each 4-H'er should keep a record of his 4-H work. Records are not an extra task, but are a part of 4-H work
- ✿ A good 4-H Record is a measuring stick. One can measure progress and help stimulate self-improvement.
- ✿ A good 4-H Record is a mirror. It will reflect accomplishments and, therefore, serve as a basis for trips and awards
- ✿ Teaches a desirable habit. Developing this habit early in life is a valuable asset.
- ✿ New record sheets are issued each year for projects in which the member enrolls
- ✿ THE 4-H YEAR RUNS FROM OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR.
- ✿ Younger members can complete their record in pencil. Older 4-H'ers records should be written in ink or typed by the member. Parents may assist with completing records, but should not fill them out for the member.
- ✿ Completed Project Record Books are turned in to the Extension Office in October.
- ✿ If a 4-H member is interested in applying for an award in a specific project area, a Project Record Book must be completed. After approval by the Extension Office, these applications will be awarded accordingly.

What Different Records are there?

4-H'ers are asked to keep a record of their 4-H work. This will be useful to them as they complete scholarship applications or job applications.

4-H Personal Page	It contains space for a photo of the member, listing of projects enrolled in. This is completed annually.
Permanent Record	The Summary of all projects, exhibits made, offices held, events attended and other participation for the entire year is made on the permanent record. Only one such record sheet is necessary for all the years that a youngster may be a member.
Project Record Book	This is a form which allows you to keep records while also applying for awards at the end of the 4-H year.
4-H Reflection	This is an accounting of your 4-H activities throughout the year. The story's focus is on one project area. Write your goals, successes, learning experiences, challenges and results of your project work. Include your leadership and citizenship experiences in that project area.

When Should 4-H Project Record Books Be Completed?

4-H members are strongly encouraged to work on records and Project Record Books throughout the year as they do their project work. Many project leaders will have the 4-H'ers work on their records at the project meetings. Records should include all activities regarding the 4-H'ers and his/her project(s) that occur during the 4-H year. Older and younger members can complete their records in pencil, either printing or script. Records are for the purpose of self-information and for helping the 4-H'er fill out Project Record Books forms. Most clubs ask that completed Project Record Books (not records) be turned into the community leaders just after the county fair. You should specify to the club leader whether to consider the Project Record Book for county award judging. The completed Project Record Book may be submitted by the club leaders to the County Extension Office for county champion and other awards and recognition consideration.

General County Fair Information

The County Fair provides an opportunity for youth to show their project work. Exhibits are evaluated by judges and receive a ribbon denoting its quality in comparison to a standard. Each county in our district holds a 4-H fair each July. The 4-H Fair for Trego County is held in WaKeeney, the 4-H Fair for Gove County is held in Grainfield and the 4-H Fair for Logan County is held in Oakley.

Fair Books

A fair book is made available in May/June to each 4-H family. Each county in our District has its own 4-H fair book. Generally, the rules in the fair book will be similar to those of the Kansas State 4-H Fair Book but there may also be county specific rules included for some projects.

Fair Pre-Entries

Pre-entry is needed for all projects that will be exhibited in the 4-H divisions of the fair. Pre-entries are completed online by the 4-H families on the FairEntry.com website. Pre-entries are usually due in late June.

Ribbons

Our 4-H programs use the Danish Ribbon System. This means that: All exhibits receive a ribbon. Exhibits are judged in comparison with an ideal standard, not to each other. Exhibits are placed in 4 ribbon groups - purple, blue, red, white.

- ✿ **Purple** (can be called Superior, State Fair Blue or 4-H Days, Top Blue) means that the exhibit is outstanding on all standards. Most exhibits that receive a Purple ribbon are eligible for exhibition at the Kansas State Fair.
- ✿ **Blue** means the exhibit exceeds the minimum standard; may have minor flaws where improvements can be made.

✿ **Red** means the exhibit meets all minimum standards; may show visible signs of needed improvements.

✿ **White** means the exhibit meets minimum standards; obvious improvement is needed.

Remember, it is one person's opinion on that particular day that provides the ribbon placement. A 4-H member may really like that judge's opinion, or would rather seek another judge's opinion. It is most important to remember what you learned and gained from the project involvement rather than the ribbon placement of one person's opinion.

4-H Trips, Awards & Scholarships

What 4-H Awards Are Available?

Achievement Pins

Membership, Bronze, Clover, Emerald, Silver, Silver Guard, Leadership, Gold, and Gold Guard. 4-H'ers need to fill out a **Pin Application Form** for these awards. Details about what 4-H'ers must do to qualify for these awards are available from the Extension Office and from your Club Leader.

Key Award

Given to the top 10% of 4-H'ers 16 years and older. Special attention is given to leadership and achievement in all project areas. 4-H members must have been enrolled in the Leadership Project for at least 4 years to qualify. A Special application form is required.

Area Awards

The top Project Record Book in most of the project areas who are 14 years and older are sent to the area level, where they are judged against the top Project Record Books from the other 21 counties in the Northwest area. No prizes or special awards are presented.

State Awards

The top 2 Project Record Books from the area judging are sent to the State level, where they are judged against other top Project Record Books from the other 4 areas in Kansas. The members with the top Project Record Books will submit a video detailing their project work to assist in identifying the state champion. Champions are recognized at the **"Emerald Circle Banquet"** in early June each year in Manhattan.

What 4-H Scholarships Are Available?

Senior Scholarships

Trego County – the Trego County 4-H Development Fund has a scholarship available to Seniors each spring. Scholarship applications are DUE at the beginning of March.

Logan County - The Logan County 4-H Council Academic Scholarship. Scholarship applications are DUE May 1st.

Local Event Scholarships

Trego County – the Trego County 4-H Development fund has funds available to 4-H youth who are planning to attend 4-H events. You will need to fill out an application and return it to the Extension office. The Development Fund board will make the decision on how much will be awarded to each applicant.

Gove County – Gove County Council Events Scholarship. It is a scholarship that 4-H'ers can fill out to help pay for event activities and registrations. Contact the office for more information.

Logan County – Logan County Council Events Scholarship. It is a scholarship that 4-H'ers can fill out to help pay for event activities and registrations. Contact the office for more information.

State Scholarships

Scholarships ranging from \$100 - \$1000 are available to outstanding 4-H Members. Applications are due in the Spring.

4-H Events & Activities

There are a wide variety of events & activities that are offered to 4-H members and their families. Participation in these activities is encouraged, but not required. For many events there are pre-entry need, and for some a cost to participate (especially trips). The following is a list of events & activities offered on the local, regional, state, national, and international levels. This list is designed to give you a little bit of information on each opportunity. More information will be supplied in the Golden Prairie Extension District monthly newsletter, or by contacting your local office.

Local Events & Activities

Officer Training: All club officers are asked to attend this yearly event to learn more about their office duties and leadership development. Typically held in November after all clubs have held elections in the new program year.

Club Tours: Many of the 4-H clubs hold a 4-H tour during June or July each year. Tours provide an opportunity for 4-H youth with animal, garden, etc., projects to “show & tell” their projects to other members and parents in their club. Many clubs include picnics, swimming party, or some other family activity.

Club Projects: Each year, clubs select a project that the members work on as a group. Examples of projects might include conservation, safety, people – to- people, or citizenship. The purpose of this club project is to perform a service to the community and to encourage unity and fellowship between 4-H youth.

District Club Days: 4-H members make public presentations to share things learned while in 4-H. Presentations include: Speaking (show & tell, project talks, illustrated talks, demonstrations, public speaking categories), Talent and Musical Numbers (solo and group), and Model Meetings. Presentations are evaluated and awarded Top Blue, Blue, Red, or White ribbons. 4-H youth are divided into age divisions for competition and judged against a standard (not against each other). This event is usually held in March. Top Blue recipients will get to advance to Regional 4-H Club Day (see Regional Events).

County Fairs: In cooperation with each local county fair board, 4-H youth have the opportunity to exhibit their project learning from the current program year. Consultative judging will be used during these events. The judge and 4-H youth visit about the exhibit being evaluated and understand “why” they receive the ribbon awarded. This greatly increases the learning experience. Parents are encouraged to listen in on these consultations.

Achievement Celebration: This event is held at the end of each 4-H program year (fall), to recognize 4-H youth individually for their accomplishments throughout the year. Parents and other interested persons may attend.

Day Camps: Project learning opportunities in a shorter time frame. Day Camps allow youth of all ages to come explore what 4-H has to offer and learn more about a certain subject being presented.

Regional Events & Activities

Regional Club Days: 4-H youth earning a Top Blue at District Club Days are invited to participate in Regional Club Days. It is held in late March or early April.

District 4-H Horse Show: District shows are a preliminary for the Kansas State Fair Horse Show. 4-H youth 9 years and older compete in performance classes to qualify. The shows are held in various locations each year. Youth must complete Horse Level Testing written & riding through Level 1 to compete. Prior registration is required.

Super Saturday NW Area Judging Day: Judging contests provide a fun way for 4-H youth to learn more about their projects and how to make decisions. Super Saturday is an all-day event held in Hays, Ks each spring. It challenges youth through contest judging of horticulture, crops, entomology, photography, life skills, & livestock.

Fiber Arts Day: This regional event travels around the NW area each year provided many classes to held further develop youth fiber arts projects.

STEM Day Camp: Formally knowns as Space Tech Day Camp, held in the NW area each year to held youth learn about and discover all the project availability in the STEM project area.

Cedar Bluff Overnight Camp: Designed to give younger 4-H members a taste of overnight events. Jam packed full of learning, swimming, and fun! Youth ages 5-10 years old will experience “family groups” like Rock Spring Ranch. This can be used a steppingstone to the longer overnight adventures or just a fun getaway camp close to home. This camp is held in junction with Walnut Creek District.

State Events & Activities

Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Camp: This camp is for youth ages 7-18. Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Center is located south of Junction City, KS. Enrollment is open; choose dates that work for your summer schedule and bring non-4-H friends. Transportation may be an option provided by Rock Springs Ranch.

Discovery Days: State-wide conference open to all youth ages 13-19 years old. It is located on the Kansas State University campus in Manhattan. Activities include group assemblies, community service projects, various workshops, a career fair, talent show, dances, formal dinners, and recognition programs. It gives youth the opportunity to meet other 4-H members from across the state while developing their leadership skills. (Fee is charged)

4-H Citizenship in Action (CIA): This two-day event is held the 3rd weekend in February at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka. All youth 14- 19 years old are eligible to attend. The purpose of this event will be for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process. More information can be found on the state 4-H website. Registration will be due in January and a fee is charged.

Kansas State Fair: Starts the first Friday after Labor Day, held in Hutchinson. Pre-entries are taken right after local 4-H fairs. 4-H members, 9 and older, who receive Purple Ribbon awards at their local county fair are eligible to exhibit in the 4-H division at the Kansas State Fair. Livestock entries have special requirements and earlier deadline. Please check with your local Golden Prairie Extension District office for all project exclusions, nomination papers, and deadlines.

Kansas Jr. Livestock Show: 4-H youth can enter beef, sheep, and swine in this livestock show held in Hutchinson. Competition is stiff. Entry is required by August 15, there is a cost. There are also nomination requirements for this show.

Kansas Youth & Volunteer Leadership Forum: Held annual each fall at Rock Spring Ranch 4-H Center. Open to all youth ages 13-18 and any volunteer looking to build their leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. Candidates for Kansas 4-H Youth Council & National Congress will give their presentations for consideration and be voted on by their peers during this event.

Horse Panorama: Available for any 4-H Members ages 7-18 and adult volunteers. Horse Panorama is a compilation of various contests related to the Horse Project. Contests include quiz bowl, hippology, public speaking presentations, photography, and educational posters. There will also be educational activities for 4-Hers of all ages.

Livestock Sweepstakes: All Kansas 4-H youth are invited to participate in a livestock learning and competition experience. 4-H members can test their knowledge in Livestock Judging, Meats Judging, Livestock Skillathon, and Livestock Quiz Bowl. Prizes will be given in each contest, with the addition of overall Sweepstakes buckles to the team and individual placing the highest in all four contests. Registration is directed through your local Golden Prairie Extension District offices.

48 Hours of 4-H: State- wide philanthropic initiative through a national campaign. Each club, council, or group of 4-H individuals can join to help their local communities with great service projects. Held each year during National 4-H Week!

Other State Events: All other state events and contest may be found on the Kansas 4-H webpage or by contacting your local Golden Prairie Extension District office.

National & International Events & Activities

National 4-H Week: A week is set aside each year at the beginning of October to recognize and promote 4-H across the country. Each club works to promote 4-H in their community and school.

National 4-H Congress: Each year, National 4-H Congress is attended by nearly 1,500 4-H members from all states and territories. To attend, 4-H you must complete the Project Report Forms (formerly known as KAPs) and be selected as the State Project Winner.

National 4-H Conference: Each year in the spring, delegates from each of the 50 states meet in Washington, D.C. to share ideas and plan for future 4-H programs. Kansas selects up to 6 youth, ages 15 years old and older to attend this conference held in April. Applications are due in early October, there is a cost.

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF): Each year Kansas selects 55 youth to travel to Washington, D.C. over a two-week period to attend this citizenship experience at the National 4-H Center. Delegates are involved in citizenship, leadership workshops, in addition to viewing the historic areas. Applications are due in early January, there is a cost.

International 4-H Youth Exchange: For 19-25 Year Old's Only - IFYE's live with families abroad from three to six months in an adventure of a lifetime. Contact your local Golden Prairie Extension District office for more information on how to register for exchange or sign up as a host family!

Japanese Inbound: Kansas 4-H has been participating with the Kansas 4-H-Japanese Exchange since 1977. The Kansas 4-H Japanese Exchange is a vibrant two-way exchange program. If your family would like to get involved or you would like to know more details about hosting a Japanese youth in your home, please contact [Aliah Mestrovich Seay](#), Extension 4-H Specialist and Faculty Liaison for Global Citizenship and Exchange Programs.

4-H Calendar Year

Below is a compiled a month-by-month activity list for you. Remember, all of these events may not apply to you, but they will give you an idea of what happens when. It is important for you to attend your club meeting each month.

September

4-H Club meeting
Logan County 4-H Peaches Delivered
Kansas State Fair
Kansas Jr. Livestock Show
Officer Election for 4-H clubs
Complete Project Record Books/Pin Applications
State Council Applications

October

4-H Club meeting
National 4-H Week
4-H Sunday
Re-enrollment/enrollment in 4-H
State 4-H Dog Conference and Quiz Bowl

November

4-H Club meeting
Achievement Night
Officer's Training
4-H Ambassador Applications Due
Kansas Youth Leadership Forum
State Leaders' Forum

December

4-H Club Meeting
Logan County 4-H Christmas Party

January

4-H Club Meeting
Project Record Books (area screening)
State Horse Panorama

February

4-H Club Meeting
Prepare for 4-H Club Days (entries due)
4-H Ambassador Training

March

4-H Club meeting
4-H Club Days
Regional 4-H Club Days
Large Animal Check In

April

4-H Club Meeting
Discovery Days Registrations due

May

4-H Club meeting
Market Beef Nominations Due for KSF, KJLS
Horse ID's due to Extension Office
Last Day to add or drop project, May 1
Small Animal Check In

June

4-H Club Meeting/Tour
Discovery Days
Logan County 4-H Day Camp
Great Northwest Camp at Rock Springs
Citizenship Washington Focus
Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep, & Meat Goat
Nominations Due for KSF, KJLS.
State Horse Judging Contest
Cedar Bluff 4-H Camp

July

4-H Club meeting
District 4-H Horse Show
Logan County Fair (pre-entry needed for 4-H projects)

August

Submit Entry Info for Kansas State Fair
Kansas Junior Livestock Show

