



Clover Corner

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



It's May! We want to start off by saying a big "CONGRATULATIONS!" to our Seniors! We are moving into summer which means it's time to focus on the completion of those 4-H projects. Fair will be here before we know it and we are excited! Make sure to check e-mails and read upcoming newsletters carefully for all the important upcoming dates and events. As always, please reach out to us if you have questions!

Farm Safety Day Camp

Monday, June 5, 2023
8:30-8:45 AM-Sign-in/Drop-off
2:45-3:00 PM-Pick Up/Leave For Home
Ages: 8-12



Registration forms are at the Extension Office. **Registration Deadline is May 22nd.**

Sponsored by McPherson County Farm Bureau, McPherson County Jr. Leaders and Mid-Kansas Coop in collaboration with K-State Research & Extension.

Helpers Needed!

We are seeking Superintendents, volunteers and helpers in many areas for the upcoming 4-H Fair! Please reach out where you or someone you know may be interested in helping!

YQCA

Remember Youth Quality Care for Animals is required for livestock members showing at the 4-H Fair! Create your account if you do not have one at: <https://yqcaprogram.org>

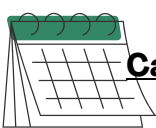
McPherson County 4-H Fair July 21-24

"Barn in the U.S.A."

Be brainstorming ideas for a club booth, banner or cookie jar!

McPherson County Fair in Canton:

July 12-16



Calendar of Events

May

- May 1 Add/Drop Enrollment Deadline
- May 1 Livestock IDs Due
- May 12 Office Closed-All Schools Day
- May 29 Office Closed-Memorial Day

EDUCA-FUN! [Ed-U-Kay-Fun]
You know, educational, but fun!

YOUTH DAY CAMP

DATES: JUNE 5TH-16TH
AGES: 9-12
MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS AVAILABLE
COOKING AND STEM ACTIVITIES

More Information Coming Soon!

Get Published

Have project news or reports of fun 4-H happenings? Please email or bring in any articles to Lauralee at Lhelm@ksu.edu by May 22 to get them into the Clover Corner!

THE KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY HORSE JUDGING TEAM PRESENTS:

HORSE JUDGING CAMPS



Advanced
JUNE 13-14
2023

Beginner
JUNE 14TH
2023

Registration Due May 20th

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT:

DR. CELSEY CRABTREE 785-532-1193 CELSEYB@KSU.EDU

Website link with all information and registration:

<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/.../events/judging-camps.html>

GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP



REGISTRATION
COMING SOON
June 9-11th, 2023 •
Manhattan, KS

K-STATE | 
Research and Extension

For more information visit:

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/geology-field-trip/index.html>

SPREAD YOUR WINGS
AT



Insect Spectacular

JUNE 16 & 17, 2023

MANHATTAN, 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.

It's time to get registered for the 31st Insect Spectacular, which will be held Friday and Saturday, June 16th and 17th. The event will be held in and around Manhattan & Wamego, KS. This event is open to all youth and adult volunteers interested in 4-H entomology!

For event info, and to register, visit:
<https://bit.ly/2UewHuq>

Rock Springs 4-H Camp

You know the drill! Camp is coming and we have \$125 scholarships available! To receive this scholarship, you must be fully registered for a session with confirmation turned into the Extension Office as well as a paragraph about your favorite 4-H event or activity and why! ***If for any reason you are unable to attend camp, the scholarship must be returned.***

You can find more information and available sessions as well as registration information at
www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/





AG NEWS

SHAD MARSTON
COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Mark your calendars! K-State Research & Extension's Annual Wheat Plot Tour is coming! Join us on Friday, May 19th starting at 9:00 AM. We have three amazing speakers and a **FREE** lunch sponsored by MKC that will be held at Black Kettle Park in Moundridge. Make sure to check your mailboxes, our social medias and future newsletters for more information on other extension happenings!

You can also tune in to KMPK 96.7 FM at 7:40 AM OR KMCP 98.9 FM at 8:30 AM every Monday to hear Shad's Extension News Radio Spots!



K-State Research & Extension

ANNUAL WHEAT PLOT TOUR
Friday, May 19

9:00 A.M.
PATRICK PLOT
Marquette on Highway 4

12:00 P.M.
LUNCH
A free lunch sponsored by MKC will be held in Moundridge at Black Kettle Park

1:00 P.M.
GALLE PLOT
Cheyenne Road & 23rd
3 North, 3/4 East

3:30 P.M.
SCHROEDER PLOT
4th and Cheyenne Road
4 West and 1 North of Inman

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Romulo Lollato:
Asst. Professor,
Extension Specialist,
Wheat & Forages

Dr. Kelsey Andersen
Onofre, Asst. Professor,
Plant Pathology

Allan Fritz, Professor:
Wheat Breeding

May Garden Calendar

Vegetables and Fruits

- Plant tomato, pepper, and eggplant transplants in early May
- Seed sweet corn, cucumbers, squash, beans, and other warm season vegetables
- Lightly cultivate soil with a hoe to control weed growth
- Mound soil around potato plants to encourage tuber formation
- Harvest fresh asparagus until the spear size decreases
- Remove rhubarb seed stalks to encourage leaf growth
- Plant kitchen herbs for summer use in dishes or food preservation
- Treat fruit trees with needed pesticides to control insects and disease
- Thin heavy fruit set on apples to increase fruit size and next year's crop



Flowers

- Plant annual flowers for summer color
- Continue to plant and divide perennials
- Mulch perennial and annual gardens for weed control and moisture retention
- Begin pinching chrysanthemums for bushier plants
- Do not remove foliage from spring bulbs until it dies down naturally, this develops stronger blooms for next year
- Plant container gardens and hanging baskets using a good quality potting mix
- Keep a garden journal for permanent reference



Lawns

- Reduce thatch layers from zoysia by verticutting or core aerating
- Sod or sprig zoysia lawns to fill in bare areas
- Fertilize zoysia lawns with high nitrogen to promote green up and summer growth
- Mow zoysia at 1 to 2 inches tall
- Apply slow release nitrogen fertilizer to bluegrass and tall fescue to promote summer growth if watering during the summer. Lower maintenance lawns skip this application
- Mow bluegrass and tall fescue at 3 inches
- Spot treat broadleaf weeds
- Withhold early summer watering until needed to promote more drought tolerant lawns

Houseplants

- Move plants outdoors for summer by gradually increasing the exposure to sunlight
- Fertilize plants to promote summer development
- Rotate plants to develop a well-rounded plant
- Wash dusty leaves in the shower under room temperature water
- Four to six inch cuttings are a great way to start new plants, root in potting mix under low light
- Repot plants into a one inch larger pot
- Check for insects



Trees and Shrubs

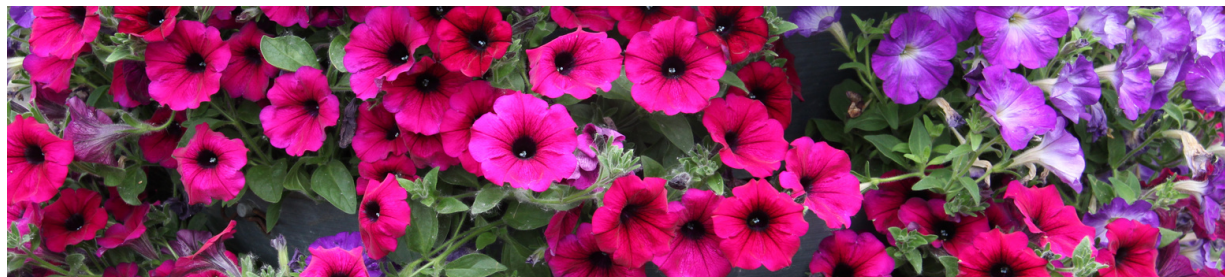
- Plant new trees and shrubs
- Prune spring flowering shrubs after bloom to shape plant and encourage flowers next year
- Mulch around young trees and shrubs to conserve moisture and control weed growth
- Water young ornamentals as needed
- Remove tree wraps for summer growth
- Remove tree stakes that have been in place more than one growing season
- Fertilize trees to help increase growth rates
- Caution, use line trimmers around trees and shrubs so as not to damage tender bark

Gardening for butterflies

Attracting butterflies to the garden through plant selection has grown in popularity, said Kansas State University horticulture instructor Cynthia Domenghini. Knowing what species of plants butterflies prefer can help gardeners with their selections, she said.

Annual plants that attract butterflies include:

- Ageratum
- Cosmos
- French marigold
- Petunia
- Verbena
- Zinnia



"Group similar species of annuals together to create a planting more likely to attract butterflies," Domenghini said. "Including a mix of annuals with varying bloom times can lengthen the butterfly season."

Early blooming perennials that attract butterflies include:

- Allium
- Chives
- Forget-me-not
- Lilac

Gardening for butterflies (cont'd)

Mid-Season blooming perennials include:

- Bee balm
- Butterfly bush
- Black-eyed Susan
- Buttonbush
- Butterfly weed
- Daisy
- Daylily
- Gaillardia
- Lavender
- Lily
- Mint
- Phlox
- Privet
- Sunflower
- Veronica



Late-Season blooming perennials include:

- Aster
- Glossy
- Abelia
- Sedum

“Other features you can incorporate in the garden to appeal to butterflies include areas of full sun. Butterflies are cold-blooded so they seek sunshine for warmth,” Domenghini said. “Shade is also necessary so they can escape from intense sun.”

Water is also important for butterflies and can be provided with a birdbath or water-filled saucer on the ground, Domenghini said.

Domenghini and her colleagues in K-State's Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources produce a weekly **Horticulture Newsletter** with tips for maintaining home landscapes and gardens. The newsletter is available to view online or can be delivered by email each week.

Visit: <https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/horticulture-resource-center/horticulture-newsletter/>

Restricted Use Pesticides

As field season 2023 gets into full swing, it's a good time for a refresher on restricted use pesticides (RUPs) and pesticide applicator licenses. There are lots of ways to categorize pesticides, one of which is general use vs restricted use. In short, a general use pesticide is one that can be used without any special training. A RUP, on the other hand, should only be used by an individual who either is a certified pesticide applicator or who is under the direct supervision of a certified pesticide applicator. RUPs are classified as such due to their potential to cause 'unreasonable adverse effects' on the environment, the applicator, or bystanders if appropriate precautions are not taken when using the product.

There are two types of certifications that will allow you to use a RUP. A private applicator license allows you to use or supervise the use of a restricted-use pesticide to produce an agricultural commodity on property owned or rented by you or your employer. However, a commercial license is needed if you are going to apply pesticides on someone else's property and charge a fee for the service. You can contact your local Extension office if you need to obtain or renew a private applicators license.

Restricted Use Pesticides (Cont'd)

Also remember, there are some extra record keeping requirements for individuals who apply RUPs. There is no standard form, but within two weeks of the application, you should document what was sprayed, including: the date and location of the application, brand or product name and EPA registration number, total amount applied and size of area treated, the site to which the application was made, and the name and certification number of the applicator.

Active Ingredient	Example Product
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Herbicides:

Atrazine	Aatrez 4L
Isoxaflutole	Balance Flex
Metsulfuron	Ally XP
Paraquat Dichloride	Gramoxone, Firestorm
Picloram + 2, 4-D	Grazon P + D
Picloram	Tordon 22K

Insecticides:

lambda-cyhalothrin	Warrior II, Karate, Silencer
Chlorpyrifos	Lorsban, Duraguard
Bifenthrin	Sniper, Brigade, Capture
Permethrin	Reality, Pounce, Ambush
Methomyl	Lannate
Zeta-cypermethrin	Mustang, Stallion

Fungicides:

Triphenyltin	Agri Tin Flowable
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Soybean seed treatments: Avoiding seedling disease **Rodrigo Onofre, Row Crop Plant Pathologist**

As producers start planting soybeans in Kansas, it is important to consider common causes of seedling damping off and potential management strategies. This article addresses some frequently asked questions concerning the use of seed treatments.

What causes poor soybean stand establishment?
Although a few diseases may cause poor stand establishment, it is important to also consider other factors that may be causing it, including herbicide damage, soil compaction, high residue, flooding, cold stress, drought, planting depth, and seed quality. Proper identification of the cause of poor stand establishment will be crucial for current and future management decisions.

What are the main soybean seedling diseases in Kansas and what seed treatments are effective?
The most common pathogens causing seedling diseases in Kansas are: Phytophthora, Pythium, Fusarium, and Rhizoctonia. Although they have different names, the symptoms can be similar. Each of these may result in post-emergence damping off (Figure 1). Although there are seed treatments that are effective against each of these diseases, it is important to remember that these species often require different fungicide products. It is important to carefully check the label of seed treatments and to select a seed treatment product with multiple active ingredients that have efficacy against these common pathogens.

For example, if Phytophthora and Pythium have been a problem in the past, products should be selected with the active ingredients mefenoxam, metalaxyl, or ethaboxam. For Rhizoctonia, the active ingredient sedaxane has shown excellent efficacy. Strobilurin active ingredients such as azoxystrobin, trifloxystrobin, or pyraclostrobin are effective against other fungal pathogens.



Figure 1. Characteristic symptoms of Pythium damping off. Photo from Kiersten Wise, University of Kentucky.

Seed treatments are not the only tool in the toolbox for managing seedling diseases. Variety selection, crop rotation, high seed quality, proper drainage, and seed treatments all make up the best management practices for seedling diseases in Kansas. A combination of these factors will help ensure a high-quality soybean stand.

What conditions favor seedling diseases?
Each disease has slightly different environmental requirements, but seedling diseases are generally favored by planting in cool soil with poor drainage. Spotty occurrences of infected plants may be most pronounced in low or poorly drained portions of the field. When soil temperatures are cool, soybeans planted early should always consider a seed treatment to avoid early-season losses.

Are there any other diseases to consider when using seed treatments?

Seed treatments are not only effective against the pathogens that cause early-season emergence problems. Two products on the market, ILEVO®, and SALTRO™, also provide protection against sudden death syndrome (Figure 2) and soybean cyst nematode. These products should be considered for fields with a previous history of either of these diseases.

To know if soybean cyst nematode is a problem in your field, take advantage of the soybean cyst nematode testing program offered by K-State Research and Extension. Contact your local extension agent for more sample submission information.



Figure 2. Classic soybean sudden death syndrome foliar symptoms development. Infection typically occurs early in the season, but foliar leaf scorch symptoms are most visible at reproductive growth stages. Photos by Rodrigo Borba Onofre, K-State Research and Extension.

Now is a great time to clean winter feeding sites.

Shad Marston

With the cold weather behind us, and the cows at to grass, now is an ideal time for livestock producers to do some cleaning of their winter feeding areas. Manure accumulation occurs in the areas around where livestock owners have fed animals over the winter months. There are several reasons for cleaning the manure from these sites but the two most important are to lower the impact of nutrient and fecal bacteria runoff to surface water and reducing stable and house fly production

Areas of manure accumulation over the winter months have substantial levels of fecal bacteria and nutrients accumulated. There are approximately 4.5 million fecal coliform bacteria per lb of manure/wasted feed material at a typical winter-feeding site. If we assume 50 square feet for a single hay feeder and a total of 10 tons of wasted hay and manure mixture from this site, this equals approximately 90 billion fecal bacteria. Fecal bacteria present on these sites can survive in the manure/wasted feed material, especially surrounding round bale feeders due to the moisture that is held in that material for numerous months.

From an environmental standpoint, research clearly shows increased fecal bacteria levels in surface water in Kansas during the spring and early summer months. One contributing factor to this is the runoff of fecal bacteria from the multitude of winter-feeding sites, which are generally located in lower, sheltered areas that also have drainage to open water surfaces.

Since intense rainfalls should occur in spring and into the summer, runoff will occur if the manure is not properly cleaned.

Site cleaning options:

- **Spreading:** By cleaning and spreading the material over a larger land area, the material will dry and be exposed to sunlight, thus killing the fecal bacteria and spreading out the manure so limited nutrient accumulation occurs. This is the ideal method of disposal, but limitations of producer's access to a manure spreader may prevent its use in some situations.

- **Piling and composting:** Composting generates heat and kills fecal bacteria and prevents their use as a larvae food source. This may be a practical alternative to complete removal of material. The pile must be turned after a couple weeks of initial composting to incorporate the outside material.

Along with the environmental concerns, the abundant production of certain flies that occurs at these sites is also a major problem.

These sites serve as an ideal breeding ground for both stable flies and house flies due to the combination of a food source (manure and wasted forage) as well as an ideal moisture level of the soil from the covering from both manure and wasted forage. Entomologists at Kansas State University that have trapped flies emerging from winter feeding sites estimate more than 1 million stable flies can emerge from a single hay ring feeding site.

The economic threshold for a reduction in weight gain for cattle is five stable flies per leg. Thus, if these areas are not cleaned and cattle are grazed in areas surrounding these sites, it is likely there would be a loss of performance during the summer grazing period. House flies feed on organic waste material, which includes eye and nose mucous of cattle. When present in large numbers, house flies are annoying to cattle. The house fly can transmit more than 65 human and animal diseases.

Fly control reminders for cattle producers for Stable, House, Face and Horn Flies

- Clean up winter feeding sites quickly to reduce flies breeding sites.
- Rotate insecticide classes in fly tags appropriately to reduce resistance.
- Read labels and apply products as stated when using a pour-on on cattle or premise control for flies.
- Work with your local veterinarian to create your fly control plan.

Now is the correct time to clean-up the winter feeding sites. Scraping, composting and stockpiling the waste not only improves livestock health, but can also protects the surface water from a nearby stream or pond. I've already seen too many flies for my liking around the barnyard, let's all do our part and clean up the winter feeding sites.





FCW News

CHUCK LAUGHLIN
COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
FAMILY & COMMUNITY WELLNESS



Walk Kansas: Walk 56 in 56 March 26, 2023 - May 20, 2023

For those following along with our Walk 56 in 56 as a part of Walk Kansas. Get ready for **McPherson May** as you hit Day 37! That's right if you have been hitting your targets, on May 1st you will enter McPherson County at mile 414 of your 640.25 mile walk across US Route 56. You are also entering the final 20 days of Walk Kansas.

- **Day 37** you will enter McPherson County west of Windom and travel across the city of McPherson.
- **Day 38** you will hit the east side of McPherson and travel across to just west of Galva.
- **Day 39** you will complete the walk across McPherson County arriving at the Historical Marker for the intersection of the Chisholm Trail and Santa Fe Trail 3 miles east of Canton on the McPherson County and Marion County line.

Then you are in the final 194.36 miles of Route 56. When you leave Kansas you will have traveled a total of 637.302 miles (55.75 days) adding the 4th state, KANSAS, to your list of five states.

As you cross over into the last state on your trail, Missouri, you will complete the final 2.98 miles (0.25 days) of your journey along the inaugural walk across US Route 56 as a part of Walk Kansas.

Reach a Crisis Counselor

First, you're in a crisis. Crisis doesn't just mean thinking about ending your own life. It's any painful emotion and anytime you need support. So, you reach out to a volunteer Crisis Counselor.

Your opening message can say anything. Keywords like "HOME," "START" and "HELLO" just help us identify how people hear about us.

The first two responses are automated. They tell you that you're being connected with a Crisis Counselor and invite you to share a bit more.

The Crisis Counselor is a trained volunteer, not a professional. They can provide support, but not medical advice.

First Friday e-Call



Mark your calendars for April's call which will be Friday, May 5 at 9:30am to 10:30am. Paul Cloutier, Partner and Co-Founder, will tell how A Bolder Humboldt is reimagining our 165-year-old rural Kansas town for a new generation of vibrancy and relevance.

Registration link:

https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/community/business/entrepreneurship/#sign_up

CRISIS TEXT LINE |

Text HOME to 741741

to connect with a crisis counselor to receive high quality text-based mental health support and crisis intervention.

It's free and 24/7.

Teach & Taste

Creamy Avocado Chicken Salad


May will continue our series on recipes from the My Hometown: Kansas 365 Calendar. This recipe will continue as HANDS ON as each participant will get to make their own Creamy Avocado Chicken Salad. We look forward to seeing you May 10, 2023 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

This recipe is...

Gluten Free (option available)

Vegetarian (option available)

Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/TeachandTasteMay>



TEACH & TASTE
Creamy Avocado Chicken Salad

May 10, 2023
6:30 PM
McPherson County Extension Office
600 W. Woodside
McPherson, KS

REGISTER AT:
<https://tinyurl.com/TeachandTasteMay>

CLASS IS FREE!

Did you know?

- Avocados are in the same family as cinnamon. No, really.
- Before the name "avocado", Sir Hans Sloane, coined the fruit "alligator pear" due to its shape and bumpy exterior.
- At the height of avocado toast's popularity, more than 3,000,000 photos of avocado toast were uploaded to Instagram every day during the summer of 2017.

SCAN ME!

K-STATE Research and Extension
SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

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

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Grant Writing Online Workshop

Grants are a vital piece in your community's funding...and you can do it.

Dates: June 12 and 14

Time: 1:30-4:30 pm

Cost: \$60

Two 3-hour Online courses

Many Downloadable Resources
Payment is made online.

What you will learn:

- To conquer your fears and start writing.
- Sources of data for community needs,
- Where to find grants.
- How to develop the grant elements: problem, outcomes, activities, evaluation and budget.



Presented by: Nancy Daniels

Community Vitality Specialist
K-State Research and Extension

Questions: Chuck Laughlin

Contact Email: claughlin@ksu.edu

[Register and Pay Here](#)



Monday, June 12 and Wednesday, June 14 from 1:30 -4:30 pm each day.

Two 3-hour live sessions of online Grant Writing Training

You will learn:

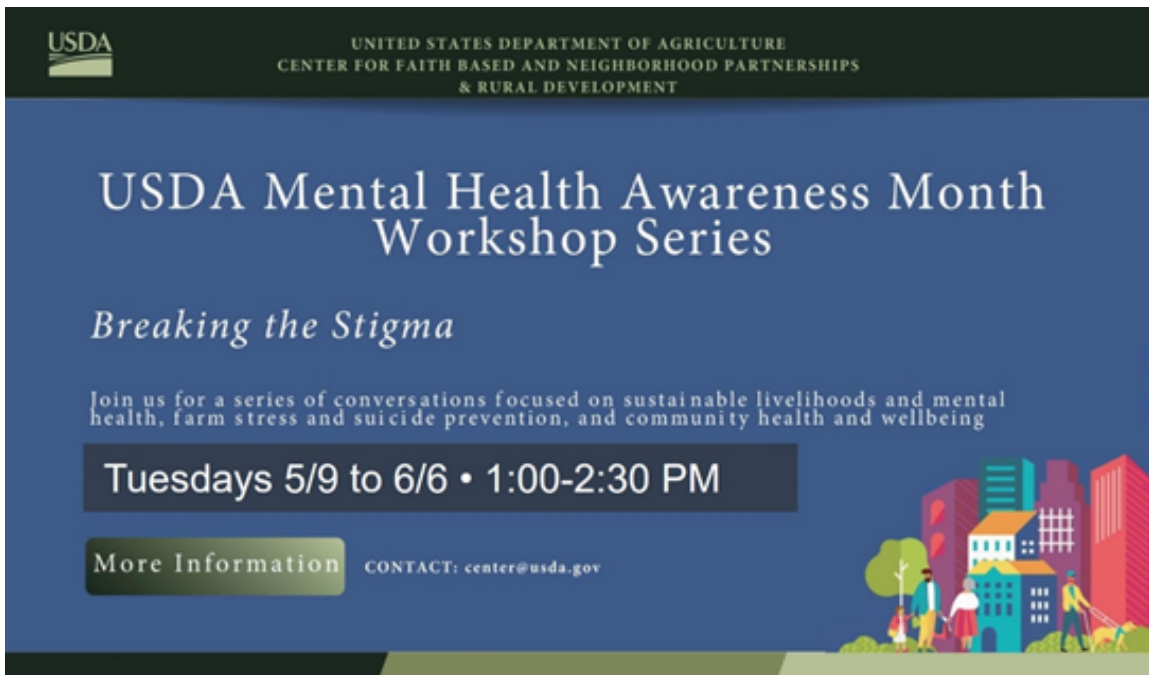
- To conquer your grant writing fear and start writing,
- Sources of data for community needs,
- Where to find grants
- Practice writing the grant elements: Problem, Outcomes, Activities, Evaluation and Budget.

As of 12/15/22, K-State Research and Extension has taught 76 in-person and virtual workshops to 2146 people. The 35% who responded to a follow-up survey reported bringing \$38 million into their communities within one year of taking the workshop.

In 2021, we took the workshops ONLINE in two 3-hour live sessions. The workshops are hosted and promoted by local extension agents, but anyone is welcome to join - from anyplace on the globe.

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the Nancy Daniels at ndaniels@ksu.edu or 785-419-6952 two weeks prior to the start of the event. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service



You're invited to the USDA Mental Health Awareness Month Workshop Series taking place on Tuesdays starting May 9 through June 6, 2023 from 2:00-3:30pm ET. The workshop series convenes farmers and ranchers, faith leaders, rural health providers, USDA employees, and Federal, state, and university partners to dialogue and discuss mental health challenges, stressors, and the resources and services available to address them.

Visit <https://www.usda.gov/eia/fbnp> to learn more and register.

**Farm Stress and Suicide Prevention:
Data, Challenges, and Opportunities
co-hosted by the American Farm
Bureau Federation**

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

**Rural Mental Health Matters: Challenges,
Opportunities & Resources for Communities
cohosted by the National Association of
Behavioral Health and Development Disability
Directors**

Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

**Veteran's Mental Health and Suicide
Prevention Workshop**

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

LGBTQ+ Mental Health in Rural Communities

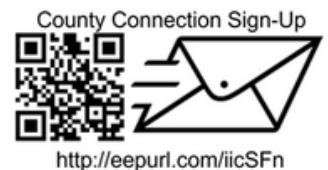
Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Farm Stress and Suicide: Faith, Place, and Community Health

Tuesday, May 30, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

County Connection E-News

To register to receive updates on upcoming events, calendar updates, webinars, senior and military discounts available, county resource phone numbers, as well as tips and tricks to make life easier.





K-State Research & Extension
McPherson County
600 W. Woodside
McPherson, KS 67460

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Shad Marston
County Extension Agent
Agriculture & Natural Resources

smarston@ksu.edu

Radio Every Monday:

7:40 AM-96.7 KMPK

8:40 AM-98.9 KMCP

Ad Astra Radio Station

Chuck Laughlin
County Extension Agent
Family & Community Wellness

claughlin@ksu.edu