



**COTTONWOOD DISTRICT – BARTON
4-H NEWSLETTER
October –November 2023**

A new 4-H year!

A new year brings new projects, new goals, and new members to our 4-H community. We have excellent resources for setting project goals. As funny as it seems (especially since you just turned in record books), now is a great time to begin planning your record book for NEXT year which helps you identify opportunities to complete sections including photos of project learning and events. This is also a good time to begin thinking of potential topics for a project talk, demonstration, or illustrated talk and those are great additions to your record book also!

Additionally, we have several exciting events coming up in the next few months for our older 4-H members and I hope our younger ones will ask them about these events and their participation. The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum is an action-packed weekend of leadership learning and growth and the Kansas Volunteer Forum is held at the same time with both hosted at Rock Springs Ranch. Citizenship In Action will be coming up February and is a great event for youth to learn about the legislative process and make connections across the state!

As always, look out for new members and families. We often talk our own “language” and at top speed which can be very overwhelming for new families.

Life is a Grand Adventure – Make every day count!



Family Resource Page



- Oct 1 2024 4-H Enrollment begins
- Oct 1 Record Books and Pin Applications **DUE**
- Oct 1-8 National 4-H Week (WEAR YOUR 4-H SHIRT ON WEDNESDAY!)
- Oct 7/8 484H
- Oct 10 4-H Club Officers and Leaders form to Extension Office
- Oct 21/22 Kansas 4-H Dog Conference, Rock Springs
- Oct 25 4-H Ambassador applications due
- Oct 28 4-H Shutterbug at Big Creek, KSRE Research Center, Hays
- Nov 1 **Financial Reviews DUE**
- Nov 5 Achievement Celebration
- Nov 10 Cottonwood Extension Office CLOSED
- Nov 18/19 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF), Rock Springs
- Nov 20 4-H Livestock Committee Meeting
- Nov 23/24 Cottonwood Extension Office CLOSED
- Dec 1 4-H2O Ambassador Applications DUE
- Dec 2 NW Leadership Day? - watch for more details

The Achievement Celebration will be held Sunday, November 6, at the 4-H Educational Buildings at 6:30 pm. We will have a soup supper followed by fun, fellowship, and awards. Watch for an invitation and RSVP information!.

Do you have an interest in natural resources or water management and conservation? Then the 4-H2O Ambassador program may be just the opportunity you are looking for! Check out more information on Page 4!

Applications are due Dec. 1.

https://cottonwood.k-state.edu/ellis-county4h/4-hforms/2023_4-h_forms/4HWaterAmbassadorInfoApp2023Fillable.pdf

4-H Ambassadors!

Barton County 4-H Ambassadors were a great help with Fair Activities. They recorded promotional pieces for the radio, planned and coordinated the Youth Rally, helped promote activities throughout the week (check out their emoji photos), and assisted with the Business Breakfast! GREAT JOB to each and every one and to their adviser, Hayley Dicks!

If you are interested in serving as a 4-H Ambassador, see the [application](#) and contract for selected Ambassadors for more information. (<https://cottonwood.k-state.edu/barton-county4h/Form%20fillable%20Ambassador%20Contract%202024%20Final.pdf>)

The deadline for submitting the application is Oct. 25!



LEADERSHIP GROWS HERE.

Kansas 4-H programs help kids grow into confident, capable and caring adults. Give your child the skills to lead for a lifetime.

Visit www.Kansas4-H.org

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Interested in Junior Leaders but aren't sure where to start?

- 1) Be thirteen in 4-H age
- 2) Enroll in the Leadership Project
- 3) Attend the October meeting on 10.16 at the 4-H Educational Building and
- 4) JOIN IN THE FUN!!

Contact Melissa Woydziak or Michelle Beran for more information!



What is a 4-H Water Ambassador?

The 4-H Water Ambassador program is a leadership opportunity for teens 13 and older, focusing on the importance of water quality, water conservation and water careers. It is a project for teens in the Cottonwood Extension District (Barton & Ellis counties.)

If selected, the first step will be to attend two (2) training sessions. This team of trained teens will be expected to return to their communities and lead other young people in water educational activities at one or more of the following:

- World Water Day Fun Fest at Sternberg Museum (tentatively, March 2024)
- Wetlands Education Center – Earth Day Celebration
- Classroom presentations
- After school programs
- 4-H Club meetings
- County Fair displays at the Barton and Ellis County Fairs
- Other activities where youth are willing to learn!

Teens involved with the 2024 4-H Water Ambassador Team will:

- Learn about the water cycle
- Learn about ways to conserve water
- Learn about the use of technology to monitor water resources
- Learn how everyone can contribute to caring for our shared water resource
- Learn about potential careers in water
- Learn ways to use social media, videos, and other technology platforms to spread the word about the importance of our most precious resource – water!

Are you willing to take on the challenge? Will you step up and take the lead? Complete the application and sign it. Have your parent sign the application, too. You may scan and return the application with one letter of recommendation by email to mberan@ksu.edu or tarobertson@ksu.edu or return your application to either Cottonwood District Extension office:

- In Great Bend, 3007 10th Street, Great Bend, KS 67530
- In Hays, 601 Main Street, Hays, KS 67601

Teen Leader applications are due December 1st Interviews will be held in December via Zoom to determine the team members.

LEADERS' CORNER



CLUB LEADERS—It is very important that you set up a Volunteer Profile in 4-H Online and verify that you have completed the volunteer training in 4-H Online! This helps us manage volunteer resources, training, and certification. Please remember that in order for a 4-H Club to be in good standing you must have TWO leaders who have current 4-H volunteer certification. **Be watching for additional resources and organizational meetings this fall. Whether you have been a leader for several years or a fairly new, we can always learn something new to share with 4-H youth!



Please note—It is very important that the 4-H Club Officer and Leader form be turned in on time as this allows us to update the website and emailing lists for 4-H Council



Please visit with your club's 4-H Council Representatives so that they are aware of their role and responsibility to attend 4-H Council and fulfill their elected duties. They serve as the conduit of information between the club and the county-wide 4-H Council.



Club Resources—are you stretched finding new ways to engage 4-H members at meetings? Check out these great resources!! <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/leader-resources/clubcorner/index.html>



Are you a member of the Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers? Would you like to know more? Check out the information at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/volunteers/volunteer-association/index.html>. The association meets at least annually during KYLF in November.

Junior Leaders

Oct 16

6 pm

4-H Council

Oct 16

7:30 pm

Council committees meet before the meeting or at 7 pm on meeting nights or may schedule meetings at other times.

Meetings are held at the 4-H Education Building (Hwy 281) OR Zoom Conference Call



**COMPASSION
GROWS HERE.**

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Visit www.Kansas4-H.org

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Barton County 4-H Members