



# Wichita County

**K-State Research and Extension News**

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*Knowledge  
for Life*

## **May 2015 Wichita County Extension Office**

Courthouse  
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Allen Baker  
CEA, Agriculture and  
Natural Resources

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## **American Implement Donates to 4-H Council**



Back Row: Terry Bloedorn, Kelsie Conard, Kolton Sheppard, DW Baker, Pacen Smith, Justin Perry, Brad Shields, Myles Conard, Cody Meese, Ana Lamaster, Waylon West.  
Front Row: Abby Bishop, Gentry Porter, Avry Pulido, Tristen Porter, Abigail Meese, Zane Gerstberger, Iseral Pulido, Gannon West, Tayden West, Lincoln Lamaster.

American Implement this year implemented a program to farmers an opportunity by keeping their equipment well maintained and ready for the upcoming season that will reduce major break downs and maximize critical uptime. An exciting component of their winter service program was for each winter service inspection completed, American Implement would donate \$100 to a local charity or organization selected by the farmer.

As of the middle of April, American Implement donated over \$79,000, shared by 51 local organizations. Locally our Leoti location gave \$1900 too the Wichita County 4-H Council.

The check was presented to Kelsie Conard, 4-H Council President by Brad Schields and Terry Bloedorn from American Implement.

The Wichita County 4-H Council would like to say thank you to American Implement for their past, current and future support of Wichita County 4-H.



# Family and Consumer Sciences



Kansas Association For  
Family & Community Education

Next meeting will be May 13th at 10:30am at the Community Building.

Tammy Simons will present "Managing Obesity" at the Community Building on Wednesday May 13th at 12:00pm. Please RSVP by May 12th by calling the Extension Office. Bring a salad to share.

## FoodKeeper App to Reduce Food Waste

How many times have you gone into your pantry or refrigerator, only to find that what you were going to use in your meal was spoiled? The USDA, Cornell University and the Food Marketing Institute would like to help avoid that problem in the future with the new application, the FoodKeeper.

Every year, billions of pounds of good food go to waste in the U.S. because home cooks are not sure of the quality or safety of items. USDA estimates that 21% of the available food in the U.S. goes uneaten at the consumer level. In total, 36 pounds of food per person is wasted each month at the retail and consumer levels!

The FoodKeeper app features include:

- Find specific storage timelines for the refrigerator, freezer, and pantry;
- Get cooking tips for cooking methods of meat, poultry and seafood products;
- Note in your devices' calendar when products were purchased and receive notifications when they are nearing the end of their recommended storage date.



## Summer Food Program Feeds Kids for Free in Leoti



(LEOTI, Kansas) – With summer right around the corner, it's time to think about keeping children eating healthy while school is out. Wichita County AIM Coalition in partnership with the Kansas Food Bank provides free meals to children during the summer. The Wichita County Ministerial Alliance is also partnering to provide servings of fresh produce each day.

This summer, meals will be served at the Wichita County Courthouse lawn on Monday through Friday from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. beginning Monday, June 1. The program will run until Friday, July 24. In case of rain, the lunch will be served at the Wichita County Fitness Center. There are no income requirements or registration. Any child under age 19 may come to eat.

Volunteers will be needed throughout the summer to help serve meals, supervise children, and do outreach in the community. For more information, contact Wichita County Health Department at 620-375-2289 or visit [facebook.com/wichitacountyaim](https://www.facebook.com/wichitacountyaim).

Additionally, the Wichita County Library will also be having the Summer Reading Program on Thursdays in June and July beginning at 12:45 p.m. The Summer Reading Program will begin on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, so children are encouraged to come for lunch at 12 and head to the library for the reading program. This summer's theme is "Every Hero Has a Story". For more information, contact Stephanie Snell or Jana Harris at the Wichita County Library, 620-375-4322, or like the Wichita County Library Facebook page.

Each year, the United States Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations like Wichita County AIM Coalition to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer. Any child under age 18 may come and eat. For more information about the Summer Food Service Program in Kansas visit [www.kn-eat.org/SFSP\\_menus/SFSP\\_Promotion.htm](http://www.kn-eat.org/SFSP_menus/SFSP_Promotion.htm).





## AG WOMEN CONFERENCE

"HUMOR, HOPE, HELPFUL IDEAS"

June 5-6, 2015

Clarion Inn  
Garden City, KS

### AG WOMEN OF THE HEARTLAND

How to Make Social Media  
Work for You



Featured Speaker  
Jolene Brown  
Iowa Farmer and Champion  
for Agriculture presenting:

"The Balancing Act:  
10 Ideas to Relieve Stress  
and Bring Renewal to  
your Farm and Family Life"

"Wrinkles of Wit and Wisdom"

And Moderating a Panel  
of Expert Family Business  
Advisors

Wine & Jewelry  
Vendors on Display



Finney County  
Conservation  
District



#### Friday, June 5, 2015

2:30 - 3:00 pm	Registration & Welcome
3:00 - 4:30 pm	Erin Petersille <i>Social Media for Agri Women</i>
4:30—7:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 - 8:30 pm	Wine & Jewelry Enjoy some wine while making your very own jewelry

#### Saturday, June 6, 2015

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration & Welcome
9:00 - 9:10 am	Keynote Introduction JOLENE BROWN
9:10 - 10:30 am	Jolene Brown <i>The Balancing Act: 10 Ideas to Relieve Stress and Bring Renewal to Our Farm Family</i>
10:30 - 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Key Advisor Panel Moderator - Jolene Brown Attorney - Susan Richmeier Accountant - Financial Advisor -
12:30 - 2:30 pm	Lunch: Provided Vendors on Display
2:30 - 3:30 pm	Jolene Brown <i>"Wrinkles of Wit and Wisdom"</i>
3:30 pm	Closing Remarks and Evaluation

# Cultivating the County

Allen Baker, CEA, ANR

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## Ash/Lilac Borer

Note: Ash/Lilac Borer is different than Emerald Ash Borer. Ash/Lilac Borer has been around for many years while Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in only Wyandotte, Leavenworth and Johnson counties in Kansas.

If you have had problems with canes or stems of lilac and privet suddenly wilting, or ash trees that show borer holes in the trunk and larger branches, the ash/lilac borer may be to blame. This insect causes the base of infested lilac stems to swell and the bark to separate from the wood. A fine sawdust-like material is present around holes in the canes. Ash and mountain ash also are affected. The borer attacks the trunk, which may cause bark to swell and crack if there are repeated infestations.

Ash/lilac borers overwinter as larvae in infested trees and shrubs. Moths generally begin to emerge in mid to late April. Emergence peaks in May, dwindles by mid to late June and ends by the first week of July. However, this varies by year. The moth has clear wings and resembles a wasp. There is one generation per year.

Public and commercially managed properties often use pheromone traps to determine the presence of adults. Spray treatments are started seven to 10 days after capture of the first moths.

Sprays also can be timed using phenology, the practice of timing one event by another. The first spray for ash/lilac borer should be applied when the Vanhoutte spirea is in full to late bloom. This is often about the third week in April but can be as early as late March and as late as mid-May. Apply a second spray four weeks after the first. To see a photo of Vanhoutte Spirea, go to:

[http://plantsci.missouri.edu/ps2210/list9/spix\\_van.htm](http://plantsci.missouri.edu/ps2210/list9/spix_van.htm) .

Thoroughly treat the trunk and larger limbs of ash or the lower portion of the stems of lilac or privet. Heavily infested ash should be cut and burned during the fall and winter. Infested stems of lilac or privet should be removed as well.

Bifenthrin or permethrin (Hi-Yield Garden, Pet, and Livestock Insect Control and 38 Plus Turf, Termite and Ornamental Insect Control) are labeled for control. Though there are a number of homeowner products that contain one or the other of these two active ingredients, the permethrin products listed above are the only ones I've found that specifically lists the ash/lilac borer on the label with directions for control

## Borers on Pines?

If you see a row of holes on pine trees, the problem is not borers. Borer holes will be randomly spaced over the trunk. Holes that are in a horizontal (most common) or vertical row are caused by the feeding of the yellow-bellied sapsucker. This woodpecker makes shallow holes and then feeds on the sap released from the wounds or on insects attracted to the site. Holes may vary in size as illustrated by the two photos above.

Other trees this bird often attacks include apples, maples, and Bradford pear, but about any tree species is a potential target. Surprisingly, certain trees may become favorites to the exclusion of nearby trees of the same species. Damage to mature, established trees are usually slight and temporary though small trees may be girdled and killed.

These birds are migratory and are usually present from October to April. Therefore, they should not cause any more damage until next fall. If you feel that damage is severe enough to warrant control, you may want to try one of the following remedies next October.

- Wrap the trunk with fine wire mesh in the area of damage. This may discourage them if left in place for several months. The mesh **MUST** be adjusted every six months or removed when no longer needed. If the mesh is left in place, the tree will likely be girdled. The mesh may potentially be more deadly than the sapsucker.

- Use Tanglefoot on the area of damage. This is a sticky material that is applied to tree trunks to capture insects that crawl up the trunk. Yellow-bellied sapsuckers do not like to put their feet in the sticky material. This material may lose stickiness due to dust or other materials and require additional applications.

## **Controlling Broadleaf Weeds in Lawns in the Spring**

Broadleaf weeds such as dandelion, henbit and chickweed become very visible in the spring but, unfortunately, are also very difficult to control. Early November is the most effective time to control these broadleaf plants. The winter annuals (henbit and chickweed) germinate in the fall and are weak and easily killed. The perennial dandelion moves materials from the leaves to the roots in the fall to survive the winter and will carry a herbicide into the roots and thereby kill the plant from the roots up.

So, what do you do in the spring? First, realize that even if you do everything right, you may not obtain good control. Let's look at what we can do to maximize our chances of success.

Apply your herbicide early but be sure the weeds are actively growing. The better the weed is growing, the more herbicide is taken up and the more likely you are to see good control. Therefore, do not spray too early in the spring.

On the other hand, the longer the delay once weeds are growing well, the more time the weed has to build up energy reserves and the harder it will be to control. We must also be concerned with drift when we apply herbicides later in the spring. Certain plants are very sensitive to many of our broadleaf herbicides and can be harmed. For example, grapes, tomatoes and redbuds are indicator plants for 2,4-D damage. In other words, they will suffer greater harm than other plants from the spray. Try to apply your herbicide before the grapes and redbuds have broken bud and before tomatoes are planted.

The next question is what do we use? Use products that contain a mixture of herbicides such as Trimec, Weed-B-Gon, Weed-Out, Weed-Stop and Weed Killer for Lawns. These products contain 2,4-D, MCPP and Dicamba. Weed Free Zone (also sold under the name of Speed Zone) contains the three active ingredients mentioned above plus carfentrazone. It gives a quicker response than the other products mentioned and will work better when temperatures drop below 50 degrees.

As I mentioned before, even if everything is done correctly, success is difficult. Remember that henbit and chickweed are winter annuals and will die naturally when the weather turns hot.

The long-term solution for weeds is a good, thick lawn. Consider overseeding or redoing your lawn next September in order to avoid weed control problems. If you do have thin areas in the lawn and broadleaves invade, spray in late October to early November on a day that is over 50 degrees. Control at that time is easy and effective. The hard part is to remember to look for the weeds in the fall as they are small and easily overlooked. Mark your calendars now as a reminder.

## **Setting Out Tomatoes Early**

Gardeners often try to get a jump on the season by planting tomatoes as early as possible. Though this can be successful, there are certain precautions that should be observed, especially this year with the abnormally cool spring.

**Adequate soil temperature:** Tomato roots do not do well until soil temperatures reach a fairly consistent 55 degrees F. Use a soil thermometer to check the temperature at 2 inches deep during the late morning to get a good average temperature for the day. Most soil temperatures in Kansas now are in the 40's. Plastic mulch can be used to warm soil more quickly than bare ground. Purple leaves are a sign of phosphorus deficiency due to cool soils.

**Harden off plants:** Plants moved directly from a warm, moist greenhouse to the more exposed and cooler conditions outside may undergo transplant shock. Transplant shock causes plants to stop growing for a time. Plants can be acclimated to outside conditions by placing them outdoors in a location protected from wind and full sunlight for a few days before transplanting.

Another way to harden off plants is to transplant them and place a cardboard tent or wooden shingle to protect them from wind and sun for 2 to 3 days. The best conditions for transplanting is an overcast, still day. **Protection from frost:** Tomatoes cannot tolerate frost. Watch the weather and cover the plants if frost threatens. A floating row cover or light sheets can be used for protection. Actually a floating row cover can be left on the plants for two to three weeks to increase the rate of growth and establishment.

Other tips for getting tomato plants off to a fast start include:

1. Use small, stocky, dark green plants rather than tall, spindly ones. Smaller plants form roots rapidly and become established more quickly than those that are overgrown.
2. Though tomatoes can be planted slightly deeper than the cell-pack, do not bury the plant deeply or lay the stem sideways unless the plant is very leggy. Though roots will form on the stems of tomatoes, this requires energy that would be better used for establishment and growth.
3. Use a transplant solution (starter solution) when transplanting to make sure roots are moist and nutrients are readily available.
4. Do not mulch until the plant is growing well. Mulching too early prevents soil from warming up.



# 4-H News



## 4-H Calendar 2015

### May

- 1 Deadline to add or drop projects,  
Horse & Dog papers due.
- 2 Shutterbug Workshop
- 14 4-H Council Meeting
- 26-29 Discovery Days in Manhattan
- 31-June3 4-H Adventure Photo Camp

### June

- 9-12 4-H Camp at Rock Springs
- 25-27 Jr. Sewing Camp

### July

- 29-Aug1 Wichita County Fair



## JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING

### 2015 GRADUATES

#### 8th Grade

Ana Lamaster  
Brayden Bollwinkel  
Lane Wells  
Nicole Biermann

#### High School Graduate

Hannah Fairchild  
Alexandria Harp

**Congratulations!!!!**

## Wichita County 2015 Fair Dates

**July 29-August 1**

## Packing for Camp

### PACKING LIST

We always have some "unclaimed freight" when camp is over. Label everything with your child's name! You also might consider writing our county's initials (WH). This is a suggested list; you might want more or less.

- ✓ Sleeping Bag (Bedding) & Pillow
- ✓ Towels & Washcloth for bathing & swimming
- ✓ Personal toiletries (toothbrush, soap, etc.)
- ✓ Comfortable Clothing for 3 days
- ✓ Pajamas
- ✓ Swimming suit
- ✓ Long pants
- ✓ Light jacket
- ✓ Rain coat
- ✓ Sun screen
- ✓ Insect repellent
- ✓ Flashlight
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Tennis shoes or other closed toed/laced shoe (required for riding horses, crocs & other water-type shoes are NOT considered closed-toed!)
- ✓ Second pair of shoes
- ✓ Some money (snacks, craft items, souvenirs)
- ✓ Personal prescriptions with CLEAR directions
- ✓ Plastic bag or zip lock bag to bring home wet swimming suit and/or towels.

### DO NOT BRING

- ✓ Radios, CD players, iPods, skateboard, skates, jewelry, expensive clothing, or CELL PHONES. Campers with Cell Phones will turn them into their County Agent, and will receive them back on the last day of 4H Camp.
- ✓ Over the counter medications (see enclosed list of what the nursing staff will already have available.)

# Wichita County Extension

## May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 <i>Ext.. Council Meeting 8:30am @ Ext. Office</i> <hr/> <i>Ext Council Budget Mtg. 9:15am @ E xt. Office</i>	5	6 <i>Fair Board Mtg @ 12:00pm @Ext. Office</i> <hr/> <i>Community Gardens Tour 5:30-6:30pm</i>	7	8	9
10 	11	12	13 <i>FCE Meeting @ Community Bldg. 10:30am</i> <hr/> <i>Tammy Simons "Managing Obesity" @ Comm.Bldg @ 12:00pm</i>	14 <i>4-H Council Meeting 6:00pm Ext. Office</i>	15	16  <i>High School Graduation</i>
17	18	19	20	21 <i>Last Day of School!!!</i> 	22	23
24	25 <i>Extension Office Closed</i>  <i>Memorial Day</i>	26 <i>Tractor Safety Comm. Bldg. 8:00 a.m</i> 	27	28	29	30
31						

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PERMIT NO. 38  
ZIP CODE 67861

# Tractor Safety Training



**Tuesday, May 26, 2015  
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Wichita County Community Bldg.  
502 East M St.  
Leoti, KS**

*If you are 14 or 15 years or older, planning on doing farm work for someone other than a parent or legal guardian, you must take a Tractor Safety Course according to U.S. Department of Labor requirements.*

Please pre-register by calling your local Extension Office by May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Students will need to bring
- Social Security number
- Sack lunch
- \$10 to cover the cost of the training.

**There is a minimum number that must pre-register  
in order to hold this training.**

Contact your local Extension Office for more information.

Scott County Extension Office: (620) 872-2930

Wichita County Extension Office: (620) 375-2724

***Sponsored by Scott and Wichita Counties.***



Cooperative Extension Service, Manhattan, KS

*All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.*