

COVID-19 Resources

K-STATE

Research and Extension

Wild West District

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AGRICULTURE

YOUTH &
FAMILIES

COMMUNITIES

We're here for you, as always

K-STATE RESEARCH & EXTENSION
WILD WEST DISTRICT

The agents of the Wild West Extension District are dedicated to ensuring you have the support you need during these trying times. Please browse through these resources we have provided for you, and let us know if you have any additional questions.

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In-Person Events Banned Through July 4

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to work its way across our nation, we are monitoring developments and adapting. As of early April, many of our nation's large cities see their medical communities stretched to – and, in some cases, beyond – their capacity to meet vital needs. Kansans are facing the pandemic as well, but experts say the major impact of the virus' spread remains ahead of us.

While we all want to return to normal, that appears to be well ahead of us, too – several weeks, at least. Because of this, K-State Research and Extension will extend its ban on all face-to-face extension programs, meetings and events through July 4, 2020.

We did not take this decision lightly. We are doing this for three main reasons:

- The health and well-being of our participants, employees and volunteers must be our top priority.
- Presently, we cannot assure the well-being of our participants, employees and volunteers with an acceptable level of certainty.

In order to ensure quality programs for late spring/early summer, we need to shift from preparation and planning for face-to-face activities to alternative activities.

This includes several 4-H camps and in-person events as well as agricultural field days, health-oriented events, food-safety trainings, county fair judge trainings, and more.

Please note that this does not include county fair season. Fairs are governed by local county fair boards, not K-State Research and Extension. Preparation for fairs will continue as much as possible. In case it becomes necessary, we are looking at alternative methods that would enable 4-H youth to showcase their projects.

We will make every effort to shift as many of these events as possible to internet-based training sessions. But in some cases, such as youth camps, we are heartbroken to know there is not an adequate online replacement for those lifelong memories.

Instead, we look forward to a time, hopefully soon, when all of our in-person activities can begin again, and we can greet you with a smile – face to face.

Would you rather LISTEN to your Extension Resources?

Check out the Extension Files Podcast

K-State Research and Extension is here to serve you in a number of different ways and in a number of different topics. The Extension Files podcast covers topics such as gardening, childcare, personal finances and overall well being. Have a listen by going to the link below!

<http://extensionfiles.libsyn.com/>



Babysitting Resources for Older Children

During these uncertain times, many of us are stuck at home feeling “cagey” or just downright scared. Lately, we’ve focused many resources on how to handle COVID-19-related stresses. One new program has even stemmed from this need. Cue Suddenly in Charge: a program designed to help teens and tweens be better prepared to take care of younger children, especially while Mom and Dad are stuck in front of their computers, working from home.

<https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/families/suddenly-in-charge/index.html>



USDA Implements Measures to Help Rural Residents, Businesses and Communities Affected by COVID-19

WASHINGTON, April 8, 2020 – USDA Rural Development has taken a number of immediate actions to help rural residents, businesses and communities affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Rural Development will keep our customers, partners, and stakeholders continuously updated as more actions are taken to better serve rural America.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/USDA_RD_SA_COVID19_ProgramImmediateActions04082020.pdf

Impacts of Covid-19 on the Agricultural Industry

Glynn Tonsor's discussion of COVID effects on livestock markets:

<https://agmanager.info/news/recent-videos/ongoing-effects-livestock-markets-covid-19-pandemic>

Illinois Extension discussing agricultural lending and markets: <https://farmdoc.illinois.edu/event/impacts-of-covid-19-on-agricultural-assets-and-lending-markets>



CARES Act and Family First Act Programs Will Directly Benefit Producers

\$9.5 billion in direct relief to livestock producers, dairy and specialty crops (including those who sell to farmers markets and direct to schools/restaurants) was included in the CARES Act. We are still waiting on how that will be divided among producers. That will come through USDA-FSA.

There are other programs, namely the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), and other small business loans that will benefit producers. They will need to talk to their lender (they have to apply through SBA, but not all lenders will be able to do this) and accountant/tax preparer to help make these decisions.

There are a couple of good Kansas resources explaining these programs and how they work:

Webinar and factsheet on AgManager:

<https://www.agmanager.info/news/recent-videos/government-stimulus-programs-ag-producers-and-co-ops>

Kansas Corn just recently hosted a webinar as well and has the recording as well as factsheets and information here:

<https://kscorn.com/2020/04/06/agricultural-producers-are-eligible-for-sba-forgivable-loans-regardless-of-farm-size/>

Mini Grants from the Kansas Volunteer Commission

We are living through very challenging times. As we get through the days, weeks and months ahead, there is so much we can do as a community to support those who may be disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

To support this purpose, the Kansas Volunteer Commission announces grants to support volunteer initiatives that mobilize residents to address significant needs in their community as a result of the novel coronavirus. Grant awards will range between \$500 to \$1,000, and projects must take place prior to June 30, 2020. To apply, please visit <https://kanserve.org/Funding-Opportunities/Mini-Grants-Series>



Kansas Health Foundation-Grantee Information COVID-19 Response

<https://kansashealth.org/grantees-covid-19/>

In addition, our KHF 2020 Impact and Capacity Grants (ICG), totaling \$2 million, have been repurposed to focus on supporting COVID-19 response efforts in Kansas. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded to eligible nonprofits. We are working to create a simple application, with the broader criteria and an expedited process; we will make applications for this funding available to you very soon. Please watch the KHF website, social media and other announcements for this ICG information.



Fundraiser site to help Seward County people impacted by COVID 19

A fundraising site, “Response to COVID-19: Seward County, Kansas” has been set up to leverage dollar-for-dollar matching funds (up to \$10,000) from the Kansas Health Foundation. The site, <https://ioby.org/pro.../response-covid-19-seward-county-kansas>, is now active and accepting donations. All donations are tax-deductible and will be matched up to \$1,000 per donor. The goal set is \$20,655.

The funds will be managed by Genesis Family Health, Seward County United Way, and the Liberal Area Coalition for Families. They are currently developing the criteria and procedure for how the funds will be distributed to individuals.

Coronavirus and Food Safety

by Karen Blakeslee

A novel coronavirus is a new coronavirus that has not been previously identified. The virus causing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is not the same as the [coronaviruses that commonly circulate among humans](#) and cause mild illness, like the common cold.

Can a person become sick with COVID-19 from food? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention “We are not aware of any reports at this time of human illnesses that suggest COVID-19 can be transmitted by food or food packaging. However, it is always important to follow [good hygiene practices](#) (i.e., wash hands and surfaces often, separate raw meat from other foods, cook to the right temperature, and refrigerate foods promptly) when handling or preparing foods.”

Handwashing is important in every day life. This includes:

- Food preparation and eating
- Caring for someone who is sick
- After using the bathroom or changing a diaper
- After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- Touching animals, pet waste, pet food
- After handling garbage.

[Hand sanitizers](#) can be effective, but not if your hands are visibly dirty. Learn more at www.cdc.gov/handwashing/.

Starting a Home Based Business?

UMaine Extension resource for starting a Home Based Business when considering transitioning online: <https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/3007e/> as well as a Business Continuity Plan from ready.gov <https://www.ready.gov/business-continuity-plan>

Student Loan Relief

Student loans were included in the March 27 CARES Act. Budgets might have a bit of relief if you do not have these payments until Sept. 30th. Check with [StudentAid.Gov](https://studentaid.gov) [for full details](#). Only your loan servicer can confirm if this applies to your loans.

Student Loan Relief

Many federal student loans are in administrative forbearance through September 30, 2020. That means NO payments are required at this time and 0% interest on existing balances.

Contact your loan servicer online or by phone for details.

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FINANCIALLY \$PEAKING

K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION FAMILY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

USDA Announces Online Tool to Help Families Find Meals for Kids During COVID-19 Emergency

Interactive map finds free meals during school closures

WASHINGTON, April 3, 2020 –The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced the launch of an online tool – the “Meals for Kids” Site Finder – to help families find meals for children while schools are closed during the coronavirus pandemic. This is the latest in a series of swift actions USDA has taken to keep children and low-income individuals fed during the ongoing health crisis.

The “[Meals for Kids](#)” [interactive map](#) directs people to local sites where kids can get free meals. The site finder currently lists more than 20,000 meal sites from 23 states, and more sites will be added as states submit data each week. The map is available in both English and Spanish at www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids.

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4-H & Youth Development Activities

[National 4-H](#)

[K-3rd Grade Activities](#)

[Smithsonian Virtual Access](#)

Agriculture

[Production Commodity Resources](#)

[Ag Taxation and New Legislation](#)

[National Council of Farmer Cooperatives](#)

Children and Families

[Emotional Well-Being Support](#)

[Family Resources](#)

[Well-Being Tool Kit](#)

[Covid-19 Coping Resources](#)

Financial Security

[COVID-19 Funding Opportunities](#)

[Money Management in Tough Times](#)

[Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program](#)

General Information

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[Paycheck Protection Program](#)

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[USDA Info](#)

[Spanish Resources](#)

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[Center for Disease Control-general info](#)

Mental Health

[Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)

