



OSU EXTENSION KAY COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

August/September 2023

Summer is a great time to hone natural resources

We're almost through summer vacation and it's likely many parents have heard "I'm bored" more than once from their children.

There are many things youth can be doing this summer that relate to 4-H projects in the natural resources project area, said Kevin Allen, [Oklahoma State University Extension](#) youth wildlife specialist and professor in the [Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management](#).

"These are activities that will get kids up and active and will help them develop life skills," Allen said. "While many of them are geared toward outdoor activities, there are some that can be enjoyed from the comfort and air conditioning of your home. Whether you're into entomology, camping, fishing, birding, hiking, wildlife, environmental sciences or other things related to natural resources, there are 4-H projects for your interests."

Do you like fishing? Check out the Wildlife and Fisheries section on the [Environmental Science Curriculum](#) page on the [4-H Youth Development](#) website. Even if there isn't a lake, pond or river nearby, 4-H'ers can still work on fishing skills such as casting or knot tying.

Oklahoma has received quite a bit of rain this year, especially compared to last year. Club members can make a rain gauge and compare the amount of rain collected to what the weatherperson says on the local news.

Allen said another fun activity is mapping the land. This could be as simple as mapping your backyard, or perhaps mapping the neighborhood or even several acres. Youth can map anything, including the types of trees in the area, streams or rivers, birds they find or wildlife habitat.

"Working on a mapping project is a

good time to learn how to read a compass. This is an important skill to know because technology isn't always available in some areas," he said. "If you're on a camping trip in a remote area, the GPS on your phone may not work."

Take a close look at the leaves from the various trees in the area and observe their similarities and differences. Make a [leaf press](#) to preserve the leaves for a 4-H project that can be entered into the county fair. Club members can learn about the various characteristic of trees to help them with their tree identification skills.

Are there a lot of birds in the neighborhood? Learn [how to use binoculars](#) to help with [bird identification](#). Add a birdhouse and different types of birdfeeders to attract more feathered friends to the area. Look at the different beaks on birds to help determine what they eat.

Who doesn't like a creepy, crawly insect? Capturing insects for an insect board is a great entomology project and could also be a fair entry.

"Summertime is a great time for camping but check your equipment to make sure it's in good condition before heading off into the great outdoors," Allen said. "You don't want to set up camp and get ready to cook supper only to discover your camp stove doesn't work."

Geocaching, learning about geology, looking for animal tracks, planting wildflowers or growing a garden can be a lot of fun. Take a day trip to one of Oklahoma's state parks or take advantage of parks and other natural areas in your hometown.

"Summer is going by quickly, so get outside and enjoy some of these natural resource projects. It's a great chance to learn something new and get a head start on that fair project," he said.

Kay County

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Kay County 4-H

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4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



**4-H ACHIEVEMENT BANQUET
MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023
"Under the Sea"
Newkirk Sr. Citizens Center**



RSVP by August 14th by calling 5803623194 or coming by the Kay County OSU Extension.

Clubs will be making food donations for the meal and donations of Bingo gifts for the Sr. Citizens Center will be also taken at the door.

**OKLAHOMA 4-H
2023-2024
ENROLLMENT**



OPENS AUGUST 1




OSU EXTENSION
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**4-H TUESDAY
TOOL TIME**



For Volunteers, Parents and Extension Professionals

**2023 Quarterly Schedule
Registration Necessary**

- January - Project WILD (*Recording Posted*)
- **April 11 - Jr. Master Gardener Resources**
- June 13 - Engaging Volunteers Meaningfully
- November 14 - Social and Emotional Learning Lessons: From 4-H at Home to Clubs and Schools



REGISTER and Recordings

MINI VOLUNTEER CONFERENCES

DATE: 8/22/2023

TIME: 6:00 pm

LOCATION: Adair County Courthouse/OSU Extension Office

- Working with Minors and Title VII & IX
- State Volunteer Board
- ZSuite help & More



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**Kay County Free Fair
September 11-16, 2023**

It's time to start preparing for the county fair! If you are in need of a 4-H fair book please contact our office. 4-H entries must be filled out on the entry sheet for each 4-H member when you bring your items on September 11 or 12 to be entered into the fair. We need volunteers to help with entries and club demonstrations each evening of the fair. Please call or email if you want to volunteer or have any questions.

DATE: October 11, 12 and 13, 2023

PLACE: Fin and Feather Resort,
Lake Tenkiller (near Gore, OK)

AGE: 7th - 12th Grade

COST: \$120/Delegate -

T-shirt cost is separate \$10-\$12

HAPPENINGS: Motivational Speakers; Recreation; Entertainment; Dance;
New Friends; **Fun!!**

Submit an application form, including Forms 1 (Youth Participation Form)
plus \$120 fee to the Kay County OSU Extension Office by September 1



New Mexico Senior Leadership Retreat January 18-22. This year, they will be traveling to Las Cruces, New Mexico and are making plans to see Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands National Park along the way. Cost of the trip will be \$900 for youth participants. Last year's delegation felt that the workshops were worthwhile and enjoyed interacting with 4-H youth from a different state. As NMSLR provides different opportunities each year.



CALENDAR

August

9 & 28- District officer workshops

14- Teen Leader/PLO Meeting

21- Achievement Banquet

September

1- Youth in Action Registration Due

11-16- Kay County Free Fair

14-17- EYO at Oklahoma State Fair

26- 4-H entries go to Tulsa State Fair

28- Oct. 8- Tulsa State Fair

October

11-13- Youth in Action

November

14-4-H Tuesday Tool Time

December

2- Horse Volunteer Conference Stillwater

Teen Leader/PLO Meeting

August 14, 2023

Kay County Extension Office

Multipurpose Room

The Teen Leader Meeting will be held at
6:30 PM

The PLO Meeting will be held
at 7:00 PM

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