

THE 4-H NEWSLETTER

**AUGUST
2025**

A Minute with Madeline

Reflecting on the 2025 Butler County Fair

As the dust settles and the banners come down, I want to take a moment to reflect on another unforgettable Butler County Fair! This year's fair was packed with moments of growth, celebration, and community — from the first static exhibit entry to the final sale in the livestock arena. Thank you to every 4-H member, parent, volunteer, superintendent, judge, and supporter who made this fair possible.

Over the course of all the fair fun, I saw incredible displays of hard work and learning. Our 4-H youth showcased their talents through clothing construction, photography, public speaking, livestock showmanship, and more. Their poise during judging and their willingness to support one another—whether in the show ring or behind the scenes — made us all proud.

The Clover Café was once again a success, with members stepping up to serve the community and gain valuable real-world skills. The new additions to this year's schedule were well received, and it was heartening to see such strong attendance at events like the Fashion Revue, Barnyard Olympics, and the 4-H Food Auction.

County fair is more than just ribbons and awards—it's about personal development, responsibility, and the relationships built along the way. I am especially proud of how our members represented themselves and their clubs with respect, kindness, and integrity.

Thank you for making the 2025 Butler County Fair a celebration of youth, learning, and community. We can't wait to see what you'll do next. Let's carry this momentum forward into a strong new 4-H year!



I pledge my



head

to clearer thinking



heart

to greater loyalty



hands

to larger service



health

to better living

for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

LEADER'S LOUNGE

August Check-Up

- Encourage 4-H'ers to invite their friends to attend a meeting & join 4-H!
- Ask your 4-H parents to encourage others to get involved.
- Have a club information booth at your local schools.

Review

- Read the 4-H Newsletter and mark important dates on the calendar
- Review highlights from the 4-H Newsletter at your club meeting
- Participation and awards earned at the County Fair

Promote/Recruit

- Club participation at the Kansas State Fair
- Record Book Workshop on August 27th
- Encourage older 4-H'ers to apply to be an Ambassador

To-Do

- Check in with Project Leaders to ensure they are on task and holding meetings
- Check club mailbox at the Extension Office
- Check club's progress toward goals
- Remind families to "Subscribe" to the 4-H Online broadcast messages. This is where all newsletters and important information is sent out to families!
- Help 4-H'ers plan and prepare record books
- Begin preparing yearly Club Summary
- Check out the Kansas 4-H Club Resources page [HERE](#)

Remember

- Work with your co-leader!
- 4-H Families to prepare and submit record books and award scholarship forms
- Pick-up of buyers' cards, ribbons, and returning signed buyers' cards by deadline

If your Club is planning to have a bake sale, fundraiser, make t-shirts, etc., please contact our office prior to doing so!



IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

August

- August 1: Kansas Junior Livestock Show Entries Open
- August 6: Kansas State Fair Entry Due to the Extension Office
- August 7: State 4-H Wheat Expo - South Hutchinson
- August 15: Kansas State Fair Open Livestock (4-H Dairy Project) Entries Due
- August 16: State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest - Manhattan
- August 23-24: 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes - Manhattan
- August 27: Record Book Workshop, 6 p.m.
- August 30: Kansas State Fair Dog Show - Hutchinson

October

- October 1: The 2025-2026 4-H Year Begins!
- October 3-5: Kansas Junior Livestock Show - Hutchinson
- October 11-12: State Shotgun Match
- October 15: Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF) Registration Deadline
- October 18-19: 4-H Dog Conference - Rock Springs
- October 25-26: Shooting Sports Leaders Updates & Full Training - Cimarron, KS

September

- September 1: Labor Day - Extension Office Closed
- September 2: State Fair Project Drop-Off 3-6 p.m.
- September 3: State Fair Project Drop-Off 12-5 p.m.
- September 5-14: Kansas State Fair - Hutchinson
- September 9: 4-H Council Meeting
- September 20 State Archery Match - T.H.E. Wakarusa, KS
- September 22: All Pin Applications, Scholarships, Record Keeping Forms, Special Award Applications, Club Summaries, and Ambassador Applications Due by 5 p.m.
- September 27 State Fall Small Bore/Muzzleloading Match - Topeka



2025 Kansas State Fair Information

Dairy Exhibitors:

- ☐ Entries are not done through the Extension Office. These entries are all online through the Kansas State Fair.
- ☐ The Kansas State Fair open class information and registration can be found here:

<https://www.kansasstatefair.com/p/competitions/livestock-competitions>



Volunteer Information:

Teen and adult volunteers are absolutely vital to the 4-H Division at the State Fair! If you would like to volunteer at the Kansas State Fair, please see the Extension Office to see where the needs are the greatest. This will also include the option to help with Centennial Hall set up on August 27th. Each volunteer will receive an admission ticket once the Fair has started.

Ticket Ordering:

- ☐ We will be ordering additional 4-H State Fair Tickets if you would like to purchase them. Please note that each static exhibitor will receive two free tickets in lieu of premium money.
- ☐ Adult Gate Tickets are \$7 and Youth Gate Tickets are \$4. There will be a \$2 handling fee for all ticket orders; this fee is per order, NOT per ticket. Tickets must be ordered by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 6th. Orders and money for the tickets will need to be paid by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 6th. Cash or checks only. Checks will need to be made payable to: Butler County 4-H.



- ☐ Ticket orders can be placed here:

<https://forms.gle/oNrJt196mxTZsTCn9>

Entry Information:

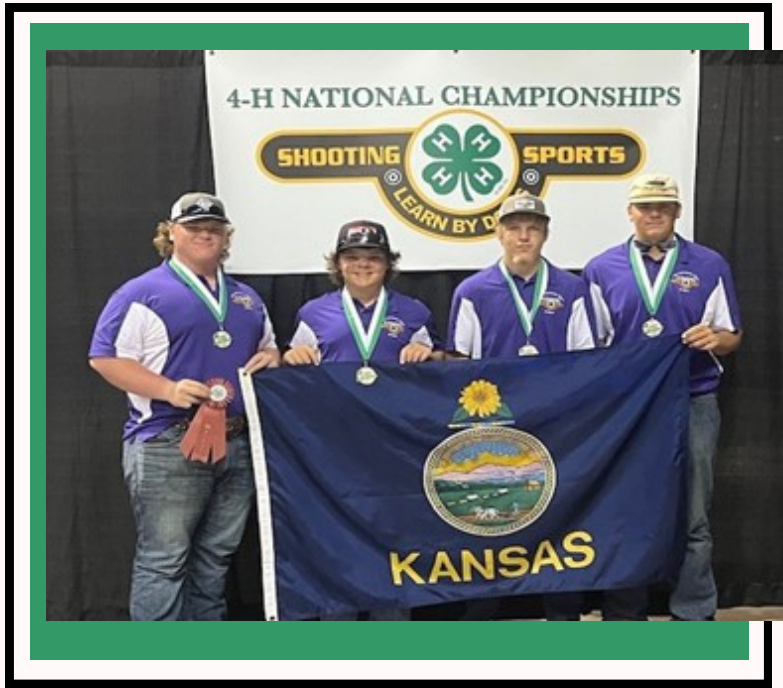
- ☐ The Butler County Extension Office will be accepting Kansas State Fair Entries through 5:00 PM on August 6th. https://www.butler.k-state.edu/ks_state_fair/ksstatefair.html
- ☐ Please read the General and Division rules in the State Fair Book. You can find a link to that here:
 - *To be eligible for State Fair entry you must 1) Be 9 years old 4-H age and 2) Receive a purple ribbon at the Butler County Fair.*
 - Division rules will detail any labeling and forms required for exhibits. Please read this carefully as accurate forms and labeling are the responsibility of exhibitors.



- ☐ Complete the entry collection form for your entries. Please make sure that you have all fields as required on the second page.
 - You can log into 4-HOnline to check each 4-Her's years in project. You can print this form and drop it off during office hours, mail it to our office, or attach it to an email. If you choose email, please send to both mgwallac@ksu.edu and aemclaughlin@ksu.edu.
- ☐ Exhibitors will receive two free entry tickets per exhibitor in lieu of premiums. We will order these and notify exhibitors when they are available for pickup.
- ☐ Entries may be dropped off at the 4-H Building on Tuesday, September 2nd from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. AND Wednesday, September 3rd from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Further instructions about entry preparation for transit will be sent to exhibitors.
- ☐ Please note that some divisions, such as Fashion Revue and Visual Arts, only allow a certain number of entries per county. Those entries are preselected and eligible 4-Hers have been notified.



Butler County 4-H Shotgun Project Member Competes at 4-H National Shotgun Championship



***In the photo, Tyler Batson is on the far left side.

99/100 in trap, earning a tie for 4th place (a new personal best). The Kansas team tied for 2nd place in trap overall, and after a shoot-off, took home the 3rd place medal. Other members of the team include Joshua McKenzie and Tyler Wagoner from the Goodland area, and Jarett Abel from north of Topeka.

Tyler was offered a shooting scholarship and has signed with Butler Community College for the upcoming school year. He looks forward to continuing to shoot with 4-H this year and furthering his education and shooting career at the collegiate level.

The Butler County 4-H shotgun team is growing and beginning to practice for State Qualifiers and the State Match this fall, with hopes of earning top honors and sending more shooters to the National event next year.



The 2025 regular season is just starting, but one local Butler County 4-H Member, Tyler Batson, just wrapped up his 2024 season as he was selected to represent Kansas at the 4-H National Shooting Sports Shotgun Championship in Grand Island, NE, June 22-27.

Four of the top 4-H members are selected from each participating state to compete based on their previous State Match scores. Forty states and 115 shooters competed in sporting clays, skeet, and trap disciplines. Tyler was the top shooter in all three disciplines for team Kansas with a 76/100 on a tough course in sporting, 96/100 in skeet (a new personal best), and

Thank you to all our supporters!



The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum will be November 22-23, 2025, at Rock Springs 4-H Center. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18, as of January 1, 2025. Registrations will be due on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. This event will include: speakers, workshops, consulting groups, and election of the State 4-H Council, and is a great opportunity for youth to build their leadership skills! Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 by January 1, 2025, may apply to be a council member. The duties of the Council Members include planning the next Youth Leadership Forum and other events, and may include assisting the State 4-H functions, working with 4-H public relations, and speaking at local achievement programs, forums, and other workshops or conferences. Applications for the State 4-H Youth Council will be available in the registration materials on the State 4-H website at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/>

4-H Ambassadors

4-H Ambassadors—What are they?



The 4-H Ambassadors are a group of 4-H'ers between the ages of 14 & 18 (as of January 1) who are interested in being the face and voice of promotion for Butler County 4-H Activities.

They participate in and host events. Some events include Ambassador Day Camp, Barnyard Olympics at the Fair, Mini-Fair, help with the achievement banquet, and officer training. They also help promote 4-H! They have a lot of fun!

If you are interested in applying to become a member of the Butler County 4-H Ambassadors, applications are due in the Extension Office on September 22nd by 5:00 p.m. The Ambassadors are an energetic, fun group to be a part of. The application can be found online at <https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4-h/ambassadors.html>, or you can pick one up at the Extension Office. Join this fun group today!



RECORD BOOKS, PINS, APPLICATIONS, AND AWARDS

**It's time to get your record book and
pin applications updated!**



Recordbook Workshop

Are you new to 4-H and wondering what record books, pins, and awards are? Do you need a refresher course? Then the Recordbook Workshop scheduled for August 27th, 6:00 p.m., might just be for you!

ALL SUBMISSIONS DUE ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

All KAPs (record books), pin applications, ambassador applications, club summaries, college scholarship applications, reporter and secretary notebooks, and special award applications are due in the K-State Extension Butler County office no later than **5:00 p.m., Monday, September 22nd**. Don't miss this deadline! All forms can be found online [HERE](#).

WANT TO HELP JUDGE RECORD BOOKS?

If you are interested in helping judge record books, adult or teen leader over the age of 13, please let Madeline know! This is a great learning experience. Those who have participated in the past really enjoyed the opportunity, as well as picked up ideas and lessons learned from judging them.

Don't worry if you have never judged before, we will help you get started! This is a great opportunity to learn, volunteer, and give back!

We will judge the end of September/first week of October. Stay tuned for the exact date!





RECORDBOOK WORKSHOP



**BUTLER
COUNTY
4-H
BUILDING**



**MAY 27TH
AUGUST 27TH**



**6:00 P.M. -
7:30 P.M.**

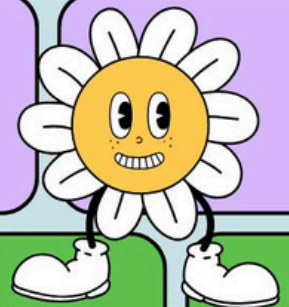
**PICK THE DATE THAT
WORKS FOR YOU!**



REGISTER VIA THE QR CODE

<https://forms.gle/QrjcmHTKqUWWj6Ym9>

**UNDERSTANDING THE
RUBRIC**



**WHAT EVALUATORS ARE
LOOKING FOR**



**GET FEEDBACK FROM THE
AGENT ON YOUR BOOK**

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 event contact Madeline Wallace four weeks prior to the start of the event (April 29 and June 30, 2025) at mgwallac@ksu.edu or 316-321-9660. 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.

Butler County Fair Thank You's



Fair is over, and the dust has settled. The Fair takes a plethora of volunteers and support from buyers to make it successful. Have you sent your thank-you notes? Do you know who to send thank-you notes to? Here is a list of suggestions that we strongly encourage you to write a note of Thanks. Without the support of these individuals, the Fair would not be as successful as it is:

- **Food Buyers** (we will have a list available of those who purchased food). Even if you don't know who bought your food – you are encouraged to pick out 4 or 5 random names and write notes of Thanks. DID YOU KNOW – the food auction helps support scholarships for you to attend 4-H Camp and other activities?
- **Project Buyers** – You are required to get the buyer's signature on your Thank You List if you wish to participate in next year's event. How many of you went out into the crowd, found the buyer of your project, and said THANK YOU immediately following your project exiting the sale ring and/or even offered to get them a drink? Our buyers are our heart and soul of our auction. Without them, the premiums won't be there. Did you have an add-on (you will know when you pick up your Thank You List)? If so, you need to write a Thank You to them as well. If you need addresses, please contact our office – we can help you out.
- **Fair Board** – There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes getting everything ready for the Fair, A LOT: scheduling, awards, organizing set-up and clean-up, sponsors and everything in between!
- **Superintendents** – I encourage you to write a thank-you note to the Superintendents of the divisions you participated in. Volunteers are a critical aspect of the Butler County Fair.
- **The Extension Office staff and the Extension Board** – these individuals work year-round to help the 4-H'ers out.
- **Auctioneers** – Our auctioneers from Sundgren Realty Inc. Land & Real Estate Brokers do a fabulous job getting the most they can for the youth and the projects. We need to let them know our Thanks!
- **Judges** – Why not write a letter to the judge and thank them for helping out, even if you aren't happy about your placement! Without judges, we wouldn't have a Fair!
- **Project Leaders and Community Leaders** – need we say more?
- **Butler County Board of County Commissioners** – they support our program. We need to let them know just how much we appreciate their support.





ANATOMY OF A GOOD THANK YOU LETTER

Why write thank you letters?

- To give buyers recognition for their support of the program.
- To thank them for their support of your project.
- To show you care and are willing to go the extra mile.
- To make a connection even after the show ring.

Make your greeting respectful and personalized.

Dear Mr. Smith,

I would like to thank you for helping to support the Anywhere County 4-H and FFA Livestock Auction and for buying my lamb. Your support means a great deal to me personally and to the 4-H and FFA programs.

I am a junior in high school this year, and the money that I receive from your purchase will go towards purchasing a livestock project for next year, and helping to pay for college.

Once again, thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Bob Johnson

Thank them for their support of the program and specifically for their support of your project.

Share a little about yourself and what their support will help with.

Thank them again, close with a respectful salutation and sign your first and last name.

Hand sign the letter!



Other things to remember:

- Use nice stationery or a notecard and handwrite your message.
- Use your best handwriting and proofread for spelling errors.
- Mail the thank you or hand deliver it, but be sure that it is received in a timely manner.

bomgaars.

SHARE YOUR FAIR

Enter your *2025 Fair Project*
for a chance to **WIN** prizes
for you & your club!

PRIZES

26 - \$500 Bomgaars Gift Cards

plus

18 - **4-H** and/or **FFA** Clubs/Chapters
will be chosen to receive **\$1000 EACH!**

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 GOLD SPONSORS



<https://www.bomgaars.com/fair-contest>

Scan the QR Code or
visit www.bomgaars.com



Contest Open
July 1 - September 30, 2025

Kansas Wheat Expo

The wheat expo will be a fun, educational and hands-on program for all Kansas 4-H members, siblings, parents, grandparents, and KSRE Extension staff. You do not have to be enrolled in crops/plant science projects to participate. 4-H members enrolled in Food and Nutrition, Photography and Field Crops are encouraged to participate.

The Kansas 4-H State Wheat Expo is a wheat fun day showcasing all things wheat. Lunch and refreshments are sponsored, and tours will be available.

Find more information here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/wheat/>

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Kansas 4-H WHEAT EXPO

This event is open to all 4-H & FFA members, Family Members, 4-H Leaders, Vocational Education Staff and Extension Staff.

Thursday, August 7, 2025
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

- **South Hutchinson Community Center**
101 W. Avenue C, South Hutchinson, KS
- **\$15/person registration**
payable at the door
- **Includes lunch, tours,**
wheat judging, food contest,
photography contest
and judging contest!



4-H Scholarship Opportunities

Did you know that the Butler County 4-H Council has event scholarships available to all Butler County 4-H members?!

Scholarship Requirements:

- Any current 4-H member (includes Coverbuds) is eligible to apply for a scholarship.
- 4-H'ers are limited to 2 event scholarships per 4-H year.
- Completed forms are to be submitted to the Butler County Extension Office with event payment prior to event registration deadline.



Scholarship Details:

- If you did not submit a KAP and pin application *or* did not receive a pin within the past year for a \$100 scholarship
- Submitted a KAP and received a pin within the past year for a \$200 scholarship. Those that have already received their 10-year pin are exempt from pin requirement.

You can find the scholarship application here:

<https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4-h/Scholarships.html>

You can find more Kansas 4-H State Event Opportunities here:

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/index.html>

4-H Scholarship Update

E.W. Nath

4-H Foundation Scholarship

The E.W. Nath 4-H Foundation Scholarship can now be used towards trade schools, professional programs, or technical degree programs. This scholarship is no longer limited to a two- or four-year college or university.



HPAI:

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

Highly pathogenic avian influenza, or HPAI, is a rapidly spreading viral disease that can infect many types of birds. Avian influenza, often called avian flu or bird flu, can be common, but some strains are highly pathogenic, which means they are more deadly. Introduced by migrating wild birds, HPAI can spread through spring migration and affect **all** domestic poultry — small and backyard flocks as well as commercial industries.

Poultry with HPAI **do not** survive the illness. Vaccines for HPAI are not readily available.

Signs of Avian Influenza

- Coughing and sneezing
- Difficulty breathing
- Extreme depression
- Lack of energy
- Decrease in feed or water intake
- Swelling or purple discoloration of head, eyelids, comb, wattle and legs
- Decrease in egg production
- Sudden unexplained death

Biosecurity is your best option to prevent HPAI from entering your small or backyard poultry flock.

Here is what you can do:

Protect Your Small Flock from Avian Influenza

1

Avoid attracting wild birds and waterfowl to your home or farm. Song birds, sparrows, starlings, etc. are **low risk**.



2

Limit or **halt** travel with your birds to sales, shows and swaps.

Ensure you have clean hands, clothes, and footwear before handling your birds if you attend events. **Do not** allow others to handle your birds.



3

Limit your birds' visitors.

If someone must visit your birds: discuss where they have been. Have them wash their hands and wear clean clothes and footwear.



Call your veterinarian if your flock shows signs of influenza or you suspect exposure. No veterinarian? Call the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Animal Health at 785-564-6601.



APPLY FOR
THE KANSAS
4-H YOUTH
LEADERSHIP
COUNCIL
TODAY



K-STATE
Research and Extension
Youth Leadership Council



The Kansas 4-H Youth Council and National 4-H Conference Applications are open! Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2026, may apply as a Council Rep, and those 15-18 before January 1, 2026, may apply for National 4-H Conference.

Learn more here: https://kansas4h.org/educational-experiences/teen-leadership-opportunities/youth-leadership-council/?fbclid=IwY2xjawLH9M1leHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETF1ZlJwRXdlVTf2UVJWeUZfAR5uf41Q-kwebxLzGr_nSG_W5xeOfntCrLowQJ-yorsuEUeOP4QAxbWI55BIUQ_aem_r7FumxMWcRycwmKfJLUwnA

The deadline will be October 1, 2025.



LUNCH & LEARN

Bring your lunch and join Horticulture Agent, Calla Edwards, over the lunch hour during our monthly Lunch & Learn Program. This will be held over the lunch hour and will cover a variety of horticulture topics.

August 13th
12:15-12:45 p.m.

Andover Public Library
1511 E Central Ave
Andover, KS

August Topic: Cut Flowers

Start your own cut flower garden to bring the beauty of flowers indoors! This session covers the basics of establishing a cut flower garden. Learn ideas for preparing soil, seed starting, flower varieties, irrigation set-up, maintenance, and even marketing tips for your floriferous crops.

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

Coffee Mugs Now Available!

Get yours today at the K-State Research and
Extension - Butler County Office
206 North Griffith, Suite A
El Dorado, KS 67042



LUNCH & LEARN

Bring your lunch and join Horticulture Agent, Calla Edwards, over the lunch hour during our monthly Lunch & Learn Program. This will be held over the lunch hour and will cover a variety of horticulture topics.

August 18th
12:15-12:45 p.m.

Lori's EMPORIum!
1604 Custer Ln.
Augusta, KS

**August Topic: Squash &
How to Use It**

Squash is a very fragile vegetable in the garden. Learn tips on preventing insect issues & recipes to use your surplus of squash this season.

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



2025 Hunter Education Course

The Hunter Education courses are open to anyone. No fee is required. No one under the age of 11 will be certified in Hunter Education. Those under age 11 may take the course with special permission from the instructor. Anyone taking the Hunter Education courses prior to age 11, will be required to take the course again for certification after turning 11. All courses are being held at the Butler County 4- H Community Building located at 200 N. Griffith in El Dorado. Call the Butler County Extension Office at 316-321-9660 to pre-enroll! Enrollment is limited, so call early! No Drop-Ins Will Be Accepted.

****Pre-enrollment is required for all courses****



Internet Assisted Course #1: September 27, 2025

Check-in: 7:30-8:00 AM

Field Day: Saturday, Sept 27th, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Lunch: 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Pre-enroll between June 23rd – Sept 24th, 2025.



Internet Assisted Course #2: October 25th, 2025

Check-in: 7:30-8:00 AM

Field Day: Saturday, Oct 25th, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Lunch: 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Pre-enroll between June 23rd – Oct. 21st, 2025

You will need to have access to a computer and a printer in order to complete the online portion of an Internet-Assisted course. This independent study method requires pre-registration in an Internet-assisted Field Day and Testing Session and completion of the Kansas online hunter education course. **DO NOT TAKE THE ONLINE COURSE UNTIL YOU HAVE PRE-REGISTERED FOR THE INTERNET-ASSISTED HUNTER EDUCATION FIELD DAY AND TESTING SESSION OF YOUR CHOICE.**

Pre-Enroll at Butler County Extension Office or call 316-321-9660

Field Day Instructions:

1. Pre enroll for the field day at the Butler County Extension Office
2. Go to the Kansas Wildlife, Parks & Tourism website at ksoutdoors.com
3. Follow the prompts to access the on-line test and complete it. Education - Hunter Education - Internet Assisted Course - Free Kansas Internet Assisted Course (Yellow box at the bottom of the page) - take the test.
4. After completing the test, print the completion certificate and bring it with you to the field day.

