Country living is a beautiful thing, until a wildfire is “running” towards your home threatening your property. If you live in the country, here are a few tips from the Kansas Forest Service to help prepare and protect your property from an uncontrolled fire:

- Weed around the property regularly, and mow the lawn regularly to keep grasses shorter than 4 inches tall around the home.
- especially areas that a lawn mower is not appropriate for.
- Remove leaf litter and other debris that accumulates around buildings, under vegetation, and in other collection areas.
- Propane, gasoline, and wood should be stored 30 ft. from structures.
- If your property has no large year-round water source, consider working with neighbors or an HOA to install one.
- Maintain power line clearance.
- Make sure your address is clearly visible from the road.
- Develop a home emergency preparedness plan that includes: emergency phone numbers, designated escape routes and meeting places, maintained fire extinguishers and smoke alarms.
- Teach children fire safety. Remember, children learn by example!

More information can be found at:
https://www.kansasforests.org/fire_management/fire_docs/ReadySetGoGuide.pdf

---

**4-H & Youth Development**

**Spring is great time to plan projects** and the Kansas 4-H program offers 35 project areas for youth to participate in. Kansas 4-H staff have developed spark pages for nearly all of those projects, helping youth with ideas on things to explore, learn, practice or experience. The content is appropriate for beginning, intermediate and advanced project members. The pages also list resources and events that might be available, including curriculum, record-keeping and project exhibit ideas. We also have some project challenges, which provide young people an introductory activity in several project areas. One thing we talk about with 4-H projects is the idea of the project pathway. We are interested in what creates a spark for young people; that is, something that they're very interested in. Then, we help them gain knowledge and mastery of the subject as they continue in the project. Completing a project helps youth build career skills, whether they pursue a career in the given subject area or not, because many skills are transferrable. We think it’s great for young people to start seeing the possibilities! That deeper learning might spark them toward a career!

---

**Family Consumer Sciences**

**Tornadoes and Floods and Earthquakes….OH, MY!**
If you had only a few moments to evacuate your home, would you have access to the cash, banking services and personal identification needed to conduct your day-to-day financial life? If you can’t answer this question with a definite “YES,” then here are some tips for you.

1) **Where? Choose a location that works for YOU:**
   Use a waterproof, fireproof container that can be taken with you at a moment’s notice. Scan and store information safely online. Store the items in a safe deposit box in your bank. Now, regardless of your method of storage, get your records in order!

2) **What should I save? Here’s a list to get you started:**
   - Personal Identification - copies of driver’s licenses, passports, social security cards
   - Insurance cards and policies
   - Household inventory (serial #’s, photos)
   - Immunization records
   - Bank account numbers, cash
   - Copies (front and back) of debit, and credit cards
   - Family records - birth, marriage, death certificates
   - Will, stocks, bonds, deeds
   - Prescriptions for medications
   - Pet ID’s

---

**Agents & Staff:**
Charlene Miller, Director/Ag Agent - cmmiller1@ksu.edu
McKenzie Smithson, 4-H & Youth Agent - msmithson@ksu.edu
Barb Roths, FCS Agent - broths@ksu.edu
Andrea Perry, Office Professional - aperry1@ksu.edu
Darla Deaton, Financial Secretary - ddeaton@ksu.edu