

LEAVENWORTH COUNTY FAIR 2026

4-H WILDLIFE

Superintendent: Open

Exhibit Check In: Tuesday, July 28th, 10:30am – 1pm; East End Administration Building

Exhibit Judging: Tuesday, July 28th; 1:00pm; East End Administration Building (non - consultation)

This project is for all youth, whether living in the city, the country, or in between. Wildlife is an important part of our state heritage and environment, ranging from birds to bison to fish to deer and more. In this project you will learn about wildlife behavior, habitat requirements, how wildlife species fit into nature's scheme, how they are managed, and how they relate to humans.

Rules

1. Read General Rules. Violation of any of the following rules may result in disqualification. All decisions will be made by a county agent and their decision is final.
2. Exhibitors must comply with state and federal laws. It is illegal to possess threatened or endangered wildlife, or the feathers, nests, or eggs of non-game birds. Game birds and game animals taken legally during an open season may be used. Every wildlife on display must have a statement about how they were obtained legally. The use of live wild animals in educational exhibits is prohibited.
3. Exhibits in this division are open to educational displays, promotional posters, or experiential displays. Exhibits should reflect learning in the project area. Follow copyright laws as explained in the General Rules as you are preparing your exhibit. Take care to select durable materials to withstand State Fair conditions.
4. Wildlife exhibits that reflect harvesting of wildlife must follow National Minimum Standards and Best Practices <https://4-hshootingsports.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/12.13.23-Minimum-Standards-Update.pdf> and Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Handbook https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/kansas-4-h-shooting-sports-handbook_4H1101.pdf and Kansas Fish and Game laws. Exhibits outside these standards will be disqualified.
5. The exhibit size rule will be strictly enforced. Exhibits exceeding the size-guidelines will be disqualified. Maximum exhibit size for all exhibits in this division is 4'X6'. Larger exhibits will be turned away.
6. Educational Display: must be the standard tri-fold board ONLY, must not exceed standard tri-fold: 3'x4' unless there is a topper that sits on top of the board and does not take up additional table space; no additional table space available for promotional brochures or display items; content not to exceed display board borders.
7. Posters: must be flat and no larger than 22"x30"; content not to exceed display board borders. Exhibits may be displayed on wall.
8. Notebooks: no larger than 8 ½" x 11".
9. Exhibits must not display, describe, or depict firearms or firearm components that are not allowed by 4-H Shooting Sports National Minimum Standards.
10. Exhibitors must comply with state and federal laws and Kansas State Fair Management.
11. No "live" ammunition containing propellant or explosive powders may be used in any display. An inert substitution must be used in lieu of powder and "live" ammunition, the substitution must be clearly described on the back of the poster, display or in a notebook.

12. The Kansas State Fair nor the department of 4-H Youth Development, KSRE are liable for the loss or damage of any personal property included as part of your poster, display or notebook.
13. Name, county, age and year in project should be on the back of the poster, display or notebook unless special arrangements are made because of declination of publicity release.
14. Exhibit topics regarding firearm care, handling, and shooting will only be accepted from Extension Units with 4-H Certified Shooting Sports Programs and enrolled 4-H youth in the specific Shooting Sports Project.
15. Exhibits will not be accepted if they are related to reloads.
16. Taxidermy: The exhibitor is responsible for following all laws, rules, and regulations, and when licenses, tags, etc, are required, to include those and/or the information required with the exhibit. For taxidermy, please reference hunting and furbearer laws for Kansas. <https://ksoutdoors.gov/Hunting/Hunting-Regulations/Furbearers>

Scoresheets, Forms, and Contest Study Materials:

[Educational Display Score Sheet](#)
[Promotional Display Score Sheet](#)
[Wildlife Static Exhibit Score Sheet](#)

Display/Notebook Classes

- 5400 Notebook. Contents pertain to some phase, results, story or information about the wildlife project.
- 5401 Promotional Poster. Must be related to something learned in the wildlife project. (Flat poster board or foam board no larger than 22" x 28").
- 5402 Educational Display. Must be directly related to the wildlife project. Maximum tri-fold size is 3' x 4'.

Experiential/Other Classes

5403 Fish Harvesting Equipment - Board exhibit. Display of equipment used in fish harvesting. Examples: fishing knots, hooks (with corks over ends for safety), lures. Label all items displayed. Include in your exhibit the following information: the purpose of each item, when or where each item is used.

5404 Build a Fishing Rod - A fishing rod educational exhibit may not exceed 96 inches in length. Exhibit must be mounted on a board . Include with the exhibit: Explanation of cost of materials/components and how many number of hours required for construction. Label all parts. Necessary components which must be included are grip, line guides (based on manufacturers specifications), guide wraps, and hook keeper. Reel seat needs to be aligned with guides, and guides aligned accurately down rod. Guide wraps of size A to D, nylon or silk thread. Exhibit will be judged on: workmanship, labeling of parts, information, and neatness.

5405 Casting Target - Make a casting target for exhibit and use. Target must be under 48" x 48". The bullseyes must be 2 feet, outer band must be 1 foot in diameter and can have up to 3 rings. The exhibit must be easy to store, durable, and weather resistant. Include the purpose and rules of using your casting target.

5406 Wildlife Harvesting Equipment - Board Exhibit. Display of equipment used in harvesting wildlife. Examples: expended ammunition casings (no live ammunition permitted), steel traps, hide stretchers, fleshers, etc. For displays of shotguns, rifles, or bows, use drawings or pictures. Label all items displayed: the purpose of each item, when or where it is used and personal experiences with the item.

5407 Inventing Wildlife/Fish Harvesting Equipment, Aid or Accessory - Use engineering principles to invent or adapt equipment that helps you harvest fish or wildlife. This could include wildlife calls, adapted fishing pole for shallow water, a blind, decoys, etc. Share your drawing (or adapted plans), how the equipment works, how you tested it, and the results of testing your prototype, and any adjustments you made.

5408 Tanned Hides - Exhibit of a wild animal hide properly processed by the member. If not mounted, must be in a clear clothing bag with hanger. Field experiences, study, OR observations that relate to the exhibit should be included with exhibit.

5409 Taxidermy - Any legal fish, bird, or other wild animal properly processed by the member. No requirement as to mounting. Include the animal's name and the following: information about the exhibitor's personal field experiences, study, OR observations that relate to the exhibit.

5410 Wildlife Tracks - Board or diorama-type box exhibit. Make a display of animal tracks using plaster-of-paris casts. There are 3 options. For all options, include a brief description of your experiences in making the tracks so the judges better understand what you did and learned. Positive casts (impressions as they would be in nature) are preferred. - Option 1 should show plaster-of-paris tracks of five or more kinds of wildlife along with a picture or illustration of each kind of animal. (OR) - Option 2 should show two or more plaster-of-paris tracks of one specific kind of wildlife and should include a picture or illustration of the animal, what the animal may eat, and what may eat the animal. (OR) - Option 3 should show two tracks and include the animal's habitat needs including preferred food, shelter, water, and space in addition to picture or illustration of the animal.

5411 Wildlife Knowledge Check - Use electrical circuits, pictures, or other methods of teaching wildlife identification or other wildlife conservation or shooting sports related knowledge. Plan size and shape to fit transportation and display; maximum size 24 x 24 inches.

5412 - Houses - Make a house for wildlife. Examples: bird house (bluebird, purple martin, wood duck, kestrel, barn owl, etc.) or bat house; no insect houses. Make the house functional so that dimensions, hole size etc. are appropriate to fit the intended species' needs. Include the following information: 1) the kinds of animal(s) for which the house is intended, 2) where and how the house should be located for best use, 3) any seasonal maintenance needed, and 4) any evidence of your personal observations from experiences.

5413 Feeders/Waterers - Make a bird bath or feeder. Examples: seed, suet, or nectar feeders. Squirrel feeder okay; **no insect feeders**. Include the following information: 1) the kinds of animal(s) for which the water/feeder is intended, 2) where are how the water/feeder should be located for best use, 3) any seasonal maintenance needed, and 4) any evidence of your personal observations or experiences.

Resources:

Project Area - [Wildlife](#)