



River Valley District

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K-State Research and Extension News

*Knowledge
for Life*

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‘STAYING COMPETITIVE IN THE SWINE INDUSTRY’ IS THEME FOR THE K-STATE CONFERENCE



Kansas State University’s 2017 Swine Profitability Conference is planned for Tuesday, Feb. 7. This year’s event will be hosted at a new location — the Stanley Stout Center in Manhattan.

Each year the Swine Profitability Conference focuses on the business side of pork production. “Attendees will have a chance to learn ideas for improving their businesses from leading producers, veterinarians, and economists,” said Mike Tokach, K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry distinguished professor and swine extension specialist. “This conference is designed to help producers stay competitive in today’s swine industry.

The conference will feature speakers from an array of businesses, including:

- * Brad Greenway, the National Pork Board 2016 Pig Farmer of the Year, will discuss his family business and how he has tried to increase transparency and openness of his farm to build public trust in producers.
- * Barry Kerkaert, vice president of Pipestone Veterinary Services, will discuss how Pipestone works with producers to keep them competitive in a rapidly-evolving swine industry.
- * Kent Bang, vice president of AgStar Financial Services, will provide a pork market strategy update on an increase in pork production and whether new packing plant capacity will be enough for the increased pig numbers.
- * Serving eight years as leadership director of Kansas Smith Farms, Nathan Smith, says he has had an attitude change from thinking working in animal agriculture was boring, discouraging, ungrateful, and a stinky industry to now loving hog farming, ag leadership, and living in the Great Plains. Smith will share his thoughts on the power of the past, as well as tips for leading people on the farm, and surviving an unknown future.
- * The final presentation will be by Chef Alli who will share strategies for advocating in ways that make sense for producers and their operations. With “Rise of Real” sweeping America, she says consumers don’t want producers to educate them, they want the kind of advocacy that tells what the real day-to-day of running a modern farm looks like — how it gets done and why producers do what they do

The conference’s new location, the Stanley Stout Center is at 2200 Denison Avenue. The day begins with coffee and donuts at 9:15 a.m. with the program starting at 9:30 a.m. Lunch is included in the conference, which will end at 3pm.

Pre-registration is \$25 per participant and due by Jan. 30. Attendees can register at the door for \$50 per participant. More information, including online registration, is available at www.KSUSwine.org or contact Lois Schreiner at 785-532-1267 or lschrein@ksu.edu.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION AND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE



2017 Winter Ranch Management Seminar Series

HOSTED BY:

River Valley,
Central KS, Post
Rock and Midway
Extension Districts

FEBRUARY 14, 2017

11:00 AM — 3:15 PM

K-State Salina
Polytechnic
Conference Center
2310 Centennial Drive
Salina, KS 67401

RSVP by Feb. 7, 2017
Please Contact:

River Valley Ext. District
Katelyn Brockus
785-325-2121;
kbrockus@ksu.edu

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Anthony Ruiz
785-392-2147; anruiz@ksu.edu

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785-738-3597; ncates@ksu.edu

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Kashly Schweer
785-483-3157;
kschweer@ksu.edu

'Successful Strategies for Enhancing Profit'

Any and all beef cattle producers welcome! We will be discussing a variety of beef topics focused on development and implementation of profit enhancing strategies.

Registration cost per person: \$5 in advance; \$10 at door. Please RSVP by February 7, 2017.

SCHEDULE:

11:00 am Registration Begins

Lunch in cafeteria
(come and go as you like)

12:15 pm Successful Strategies for Enhancing Profit
"Town Hall" style Q&A meeting with
specialists

BRING QUESTIONS for Q&A!!!

3:00 pm Conclusion/Wrap Up

3:15 pm Adjourn

Sponsored by:



LEASING DONE RIGHT

It is that time of the year again when tenants and landowners are interested in what the “going rate” for pasture and cropland will be for the upcoming year. While we are fortunate in the River Valley District to have a local survey, it is hard to anticipate what the upcoming year’s rate will look like. In order to have an appropriate lease, here are some guidelines and recommendations for this upcoming years lease.

Step one: Have a conversation with your landlord/tenant. This is the most crucial step in the process. Make sure that this line of communication is always open. For example, if the landlord is informed on how the markets have gone over the past year, then they could be more apt to work with you. If you only talk to your landlord/tenant once a year, then they aren’t going to be as informed about the operation and as accommodating to the current financial situation. If the cattle market is up, then offer to pay a little extra that year for a piece of ground. Hopefully these landlords will remember that in the future when times are a little tougher and you may not be able to afford the same rental rate as in previous years. The key to a great lease is a great relationship with your tenant/landlord. That is worth more than any amount of money in the end.

Step two: Decide on which type of lease works best for both the landowner and the tenant. If a written lease works well, then be sure to outline such things as water, especially in years of drought. A written lease has its advantages as everything has the ability to be written down and referred back to at a later date if necessary. The thing to remember about written leases is that just because it is written, does not make it a great lease. There have been many written leases that have not outlined any specifics and the oral lease has worked better in this scenario. The advantage to the oral leasing agreement is that it is based off of the “cowboy handshake”. In the farming and ranching world, we like to refer to ourselves as honest and upright citizens. This is something a lot of producers like to hang their hat on. While written leases work well for some people, it could feel as though one of the parties is not trusted to hold up their end of the lease. This is one big disadvantage to a written lease over an oral lease. The advantage an oral lease has over a written lease is the fact that it forces both the landowner and the tenant to communicate on at least a yearly basis. Both written and oral leases are viable options, but ultimately it comes down to what works best for both parties involved.

Most producers have probably been involved in a leasing arrangement where they ended up losing that piece of land. There could be various scenarios as to why and how this could happen. The key to terminating a lease is by going through the correct steps. In order to terminate a lease, the landowner must do three important steps. The first step is to have the termination in writing. The landowner may not terminate a lease legally by word of mouth. The second step is to have it in writing at least 30 days prior to March 1. This can get tricky in some years depending on how many days are in February, so please make sure to count accurately the days in which you

have to terminate the lease. The third and final step is to fix March 1 as the termination date of the tenancy. The final recommendation, but not mandatory to terminating a lease, is to serve notice of termination by registered mail as the tenant must sign a receipt for the notice. If the termination is given to the tenant by the landowner and not by registered mail, then there is a possibility that they never received the termination letter. River Valley Extension would be happy to help tenants/landowners with any questions they might have regarding leases. Please feel free to contact Katelyn Brockus at 785-325-2121 or kbrockus@ksu.edu.

PROFITABILITY WORKSHOP SET FOR MARCH 8TH

Kansas State Research and Extension is partnering with AM 580 WIBW on a profitability workshop.

There will be plenty of opportunities to learn about the topics of weather and the current state of the farm economy. This workshop will be held in Washington, and it will be an evening meeting with a meal provided. Full details are soon to come. Please follow the River Valley District Facebook page and check back in next month’s River Valley newsletter for updates on this meeting!

FREE BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAININGS OFFERED

The Kansas Beef Council (KBC) will host advanced beef cattle care and health training sessions across the state during January, February, and March. In addition, KBC will host an online training session for Kansas FFA members. Kansas State University veterinarian, Dan Thomson, will lead the training. The curriculum will include Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) recommendations on animal husbandry best management practices; downed animal care and humane euthanasia; and low-stress cattle handling techniques. Those attending the sessions will earn BQA certification, which is valid for three years.

Dates and locations of upcoming meetings are:

February 6 - Paola Livestock Auction, Paola

February 9 - Winter Livestock, Dodge City

February 20 - Clay Center Livestock Sales, Clay Center

March 7 - Rawlins County Fair Building, Atwood

An online training for FFA members will be held February 13. All the workshops start at 6:00 pm, are free to attend, and include a meal. Pre-registration one week or more prior to the chosen session is requested by calling KBC at 785 -273-5225 or emailing john@kansasbeef.org.

IDENTIFYING A TREATMENT PLAN FOR CALF SCOURS

After attending one of the Calving Schools put on by Kansas State Research and Extension, I realized how much of an issue calf scours can be for producers. Dr. Hanzlicek, Kansas State University Veterinary Medicine, had plenty of tips and management practices to assist in the prevention and treatment of calf scours. While it is not the most pleasant topic to write about, increasing awareness of the severity of calf scours can put money back in the producers pocket if managed correctly for prevention and treatment.

Twenty-nine percent of operations report that more than 5% of the calves born alive are dead or lost before weaning. Thirty percent of the calves lost before weaning are due to scours. This is a large percentage and can have a huge effect on the balance sheet at the end of the calving season.

Bacteria, Viruses, and Protozoa are all associated with calf scours. Most of these are on every cow calf operation, so the key is to prevent high concentrations in one area. The primary focus when dealing with calf scours is to focus on the environment. According to Dr. Hanzlicek, if a calf is diagnosed within the first five days of life, it is almost always *E. coli*. This is caused by an extremely contaminated calving area. One way to prevent this from happening is by scraping the area in an attempt to keep the area free of pathogens. The key is not to let the pathogen get too concentrated. If the calf gets diarrhea after the first five days of life, it is probably a combination of pathogens. A fecal culture is still valuable at this point as the producer would want to know if this is a zoonotic disease or not. If it comes back as zoonotic, then this means that the pathogen can be transferred from the calf to a human. An example of this would be Cryptosporidiosis, commonly referred to as Crypto, has the ability to transfer from cattle to humans. While this might be an added expense for the producer to do a fecal culture, it is one that is worth knowing as humans can become very ill from zoonotic diseases.

The number one cause of death from scours is dehydration. Even if it is possible to kill the pathogen, which you can't in most cases, the dehydration will still plague the calf. If you have a calf that has scours, the first mode of treatment should be to eliminate the dehydration. This is done by giving oral fluids. If the calf no longer has a suckling response, then administration of a drench is suggested. Dr. Hanzlicek stated that you should never try to drench a calf while it is laying on its side. Be sure to place the calf on its sternum between your legs and hold the calf upright if it is unable to stand on its own. If you are unsure if the calf is dehydrated or not, a simple way to test is by skin tenting. This works the same as if you were to pinch your younger sibling. If you pinch the skin and it takes longer than one second to go back to normal, then the calf is dehydrated. This can also be a great indicator of how much electrolytes are needed in an effort to eliminate dehydration. If it takes 1 to 2 seconds to go back to normal then 2 quarts of electrolytes are needed twice a day. If it takes 2 to 3 seconds to return to normal then 3 quarts of electrolytes are needed three to four times a day.

If the skin tenting doesn't disappear after 3 seconds or more, then the calf needs IV fluids and should be seen by a veterinarian. Another tip from Dr. Hanzlicek was to never give more electrolytes at one time, but rather provide the electrolytes more often throughout the day. It is recommended that producers never feed more than 2 quarts of electrolytes at any one feeding. If you notice that the calf is urinating, then you have given enough electrolytes. Dr. Hanzlicek also discourages taking the calf off of the cow to treat scours. If at all possible, leave the calf with the cow and supplement with electrolytes if needed. If producers have questions regarding which products Dr. Hanzlicek recommends then please feel free to contact me.

In addition to electrolytes, an antibiotic can also be used. If no antibiotic is given then the intestinal bacteria will move from the intestines into a scouring calf's blood stream. This occurs in 20-30% of scouring calves. Dr. Hanzlicek recommended the use of Ampicillin as it works well. However, Dr. Hanzlicek also encourages talking to your practicing veterinarian on his or her treatment plan for calf scours.

The prevention and treatment of calf scours really boils down to three things: Clean environment, dehydration treatment, and a veterinarian's recommendation for antibiotic treatment. While this might seem like a small management issue, it can make a big difference on the percent and pounds of calf weaned. If you have any additional questions on scour management please contact Katelyn Brockus or your local veterinarian.

CATTLEMEN'S DAY 2017
FRIDAY, MARCH 3
TRADE SHOW BEGINS 8am
WEBER HALL, K-STATE CAMPUS
10am-3pm

TRI-STATE COW/CALF SYMPOSIUM
SET FOR FEBRUARY 10TH

The topic of this year's Tri State Cow/Calf Symposium is succeeding in a Challenging Beef Industry. The program will take place at Goodland Elks Lodge and will begin at 9:00am MST on February 10th. This program will be a joint effort of Extension Research between Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado. Prominent beef cattle industry leaders will share valuable information on integrating crop and livestock systems, the use of technology to improve cowherd efficiency, and opportunities and challenges in rural America. In addition, producers will have the opportunity to visit with numerous vendors at the trade show throughout the day. Preregistration for this event is \$30, which also includes lunch. You can preregister at www.sunflower.k-state.edu or by contacting Marty Fear at 785-332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu.

NEW DICAMBA PRODUCTS LABELED FOR USE ON XTEND SOYBEANS AND COTTON

Two new low-volatile formulations of dicamba products designed specifically for use on dicamba tolerant soybeans (Roundup Ready 2 Xtend soybean varieties) and cotton (XtendFlex cotton varieties) have now been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This means that the traits, export approvals, and some herbicides for use on varieties with these traits have finally been approved.

22 to 44 oz/acre preplant or preemergence with a maximum total of 44 oz

22 oz/acre postemergence with a maximum of two applications

Roundup Ready 2 Xtend (RR2X) soybeans are resistant to both dicamba and glyphosate, while XtendFlex cotton is resistant to dicamba, glyphosate, and glufosinate (Liberty). The two dicamba products that have been approved for use on Xtend soybeans and cotton are XtendiMax from Monsanto and Engenia from BASF. XtendiMax and Engenia have significantly lower volatility than other dicamba products such as Clarity and Banvel, which are not approved for use on Xtend crops. Use of dicamba products not specifically labeled for use on Xtend crops is an illegal treatment.

Both products have regular labels that are similar to the Clarity label, but use on Xtend crops is addressed in supplemental labels with very specific guidelines for applications to Xtend crops. In addition, there are associated websites which will allow for possible modifications and updates to the supplemental labels over time.

Below are some of the specific guidelines currently listed on the supplemental labels for XtendiMax and Engenia use on Xtend crops.

Rates-

XtendiMax rates:

22 to 44 oz/acre preplant or preemergence with a maximum total of 44 oz

22 oz/acre postemergence with a maximum of two applications

Engenia rates:

12.8 oz/acre preplant or preemergence with a maximum of two applications

12.8 oz/acre postemergence with a maximum of two applications

Note: 22 oz of XtendiMax and 12.8 oz Engenia both provide 0.5 lb ae dicamba

Application timing-

Application Timing to Xtend Soybeans: Preplant through R1 soybeans

Application Timing to Xtend Cotton: Preplant until 7 days prior to cotton harvest

Application Timing to Weeds: Less than 4 inches tall

Other label requirements-

Do not apply with ammonium-containing additives such as ammonium sulfate. These products destabilize dicamba salts and significantly increase volatility.

Do not tank-mix with any pesticide or adjuvant unless that product is listed as an approved tank-mix partner at these associated websites : www.engeniatankmix.com or www.xtendimaxapplicationrequirements.com

Do not apply with any spray tip other than TTI11004 at the maximum spray pressure specified unless other approved spray tips are listed at the associated websites above.

Apply in a minimum spray volume of 10 gallons per acre.

Do not exceed 15 mph ground speed.

Do not apply during temperature inversions (most likely in the evening hours with calm conditions).

Spray only when wind speed is between 3 and 15 mph.

Do not spray if wind speed is greater than 10 mph in the direction of sensitive areas.

Do not apply this product when the wind is blowing toward adjacent commercially grown dicamba-sensitive crops, including but not limited to, commercially grown tomatoes and other fruiting vegetables (EPA crop group 8), cucurbits (EPA crop group 9), and grapes.

Protection of sensitive areas:

Maintain a 110-foot downwind buffer (when applying 22 oz/acre XtendiMax or 12.8 oz/acre Engenia) or a 220-foot downwind buffer (when applying 44 oz/acre XtendiMax) between the last treated row and the closest downwind edge (in the direction in which the wind is blowing). If any of the following areas listed below are directly adjacent to the treated field, the areas can be considered part of the buffer distance.

- Roads, paved or gravel surfaces,
- Planted agricultural fields containing: corn, dicamba-tolerant cotton, dicamba-tolerant soybean, sorghum, proso millet, small grains, and sugarcane. If the applicator intends to include such crops as dicamba-tolerant cotton and/or dicamba-tolerant soybeans in the buffer distance calculation, the applicator must confirm the crops are in fact dicamba tolerant and not conventional cotton and/or soybeans.
- Agricultural fields that have been prepared for planting.
- Areas covered by the footprint of a building, silo, or other man-made structure with walls and or roof

Two additional dicamba products may be improved for use on Xtend crops in the future. DuPont is anticipating a label for FeXapan with Vapor Grip Technology, which will likely be labeled similarly to XtendiMax. Roundup Xtend is a pre-mix of glyphosate plus dicamba with Vapor Grip technology from Monsanto that is also awaiting EPA approval.

General considerations for use of Xtend technology-

The Xtend crop technologies and associated herbicides provide a new tool to help manage hard to control weeds, especially glyphosate resistant weeds, but also will require greater stewardship. Spray drift and tank contamination have long been a concern with dicamba herbicides. The new formulations and strict application guidelines are in place to help minimize the potential for off-site movement. Following the label guidelines and using good common sense will be important to help steward the new technologies and avoid potential problems and negative publicity. The illegal applications of non-labeled dicamba products on Xtend crops last summer in the southeast U.S. resulted in major crop damage issues in surrounding fields, and consequently, serious conflicts and

It is important to communicate effectively with neighbors and commercial applicators regarding the presence of susceptible crops and which technologies have been planted in each field. No new technology should be considered a stand-alone solution to weed management as we have learned with the development of glyphosate resistant weeds. Xtend technology should still be a part of an integrated weed management program that includes good cultural practices and a diversified herbicide program with multiple effective herbicide sites of action, residual herbicides, and timely application.

Dallas Peterson, K-State Weed Management Specialist
Doug Shoup, Southeast Area Crops and Soils Specialist

APPROACHING A TIME FOR PEACH LEAF CURL CONTROL

Have you ever noticed developing peach leaves that are puckered, swollen, distorted and a reddish-green color? If you have, then you have seen peach leaf curl. Peach leaf curl is a disease that affects the blossoms, fruit, and leaves of peach and nectarine trees. If this disease is left uncontrolled, it causes untimely leaf drop in the spring which can severely weaken the tree and cause less fruit production.

Fortunately, peach leaf curl is not difficult to control if a fungicide is applied early enough. However, by the time you see symptoms of peach leaf curl it is too late to treat. Peach leaf curl appears in the spring with reddish areas on the leaves. These areas will then begin to thicken and swell causing the leaves to curl and be distorted. The infected leaves will turn yellow/brown and fall off the tree. Infected leaves are often replaced by a second set of leaves that should develop normally. The loss of the leaves in the spring will affect the growth of the tree and how much fruit is produced.

Peach leaf curl can be controlled by a single application of a fungicide in the spring. You can do an application in the fall after the leaves have dropped but spring application often works better. The hardest part of this disease is catching it before it's too late to spray. Fungicides are ineffective if applied after buds begin to swell, and reddish areas are developing on leaves. There are several fungicides labeled for control of this disease. Don't spray when temperatures are below 40° F or if temperature will fall below freezing before the spray dries. Usually we can wait until March to spray, but an extended warm period in February will encourage early bud swelling that may require spraying in late February. When spraying your tree, you want to be sure to thoroughly cover the entire tree during application. If your peach trees need pruning, you should prune them before you spray as it will be easier to get better coverage.

If you notice your trees have peach leaf curl and it's too late to spray them in the spring, be sure to remember which trees are showing the symptoms of the disease so you can spray them the following year. If the disease is left uncontrolled the tree will start to decline and will need to be removed before it spreads to other trees. There are peach and nectarine trees that are resistant to peach leaf curl, so when planting, look for this characteristic to save yourself some time and trouble.

TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP

River Valley Extension District is partnering with the Kansas Forest Service and the City of Clay Center to offer a tree pruning workshop. This workshop will be held in Clay Center at the Utility Park, adjacent to the Clay Center zoo.

This training will provide hands-on experience about how to properly prune ornamental trees. We will be showing the proper way to prune a tree and then participants will get the chance to practice those pruning techniques and ask any questions they may have regarding tree care.



This training will begin at 1:00pm on Tuesday, February 7th and conclude at 4:00pm. This is an outside event so participants should dress for working outside. Please bring your own gloves and eye protection. Tools will be provided but attendees may bring their own if they prefer.

This event is offered at no cost and is open to the public. Participants are asked to register by calling the River Valley Extension Office at 785-632-5335 or by emailing Horticulture Agent, Kelsey Hatesohl, at khatesohl@ksu.edu.

TRACTOR AND MACHINERY SAFETY

Federal Law requires youth ages 14 and 15 to participate in a Hazardous Occupations Training and become certified in order to work for hire for anyone other than their parents. Youth must pass a safe tractor and machinery operation program to be certified. To meet this requirement the RVED will conduct a district-wide Hazardous Occupations Training/tractor and machinery safety training in May. The training provides trainees with knowledge of tractor, machinery, and other farm hazards to reduce the farm accident rate. It also provides sufficient information to pass a written examination and an opportunity to demonstrate their ability to pass a safe tractor driving examination.

The training will be: Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at CTI in Concordia.

Youth must pre-register at any RVED office by Monday, May 1st. Cost of the course is \$20 and includes materials and refreshments. You must provide, name, address, date of birth, and contact information as well as pay the fee at registration time.

Youth must complete assignments before coming to class, must attend the entire day, and then must complete a driving requirement in order to receive certification.

Alternative tractor safety trainings in Kansas can be found listed on this site: <http://www.bae.ksu.edu/extension/fs/khot/>
Contact Kim Kohls with any questions.

BUILDING EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY BOARD LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Imagine this common scenario. You have found yourself elected to a community board. This is your first time to ever be on a board and you are just not sure what your role is. The Community Board Leadership Series is what you need.

K-State Research and Extension is conducting a series of Community Board Leadership workshops designed to provide basic training for members of community-based boards across the state on February 21, 23, 28 and March 1, 2017.

“Informed and committed board members are the key to healthy, effective boards and committees in our Kansas communities. K-State Research and Extension’s Board Leadership Series will provide an opportunity for board members to learn the basics of being a good board member,” said Trudy Rice, extension community development specialist. “Whether you are a member of a church board, a township board, a United Way agency board, or a rural water board, this training is appropriate for you.”

The series will kick-off on February 21 with Conducting Effective Meetings. During this session, participants will learn about their roles and responsibilities as a board member, basics of parliamentary procedure, and strategies to make meetings more productive and effective.

The February 23 session will cover Understanding Fellow Board Members and Conflict Management. Participants will explore how personalities and generational differences affect the decision-making process, and learn how to manage conflict in a way that is productive, not destructive, to the board.

On February 28, the topic will be Fundraising, Management of Funds, Legalities and Ethics. This session will explore a board’s options for raising and managing money, as well as understanding such things as articles of incorporation, bylaws, and policies.

Strategic Planning will be the final topic on March 2. Participants will learn about establishing a common mission and vision for the board, and how to plan priorities for the future.

All sessions will be conducted from 6:00-8:00 pm. Workshop participants will meet at host sites throughout the state to take part in web-based instruction and locally facilitated discussion. The River Valley Extension District #4 will be hosting a site at the Cloud County Courthouse Basement Meeting Room, 811 Washington Street, Concordia, KS.

Pre-registration for the event is required by Friday, February 10. A \$40 registration buys a seat for all four sessions. Individuals may choose to attend on their own or boards may buy a seat and send a different board member to each session. Boards sending 2 or more members may negotiate a group rate. Registration should include: name, phone number, email address, and board you represent. Registrations may be sent to John Forshee at 785-632-5335 or jforshee@ksu.edu or contact Forshee for more information or to negotiate group rates. Registration Fees are payable at the door and includes a light meal, four educational sessions, and Board Basics materials.

MILFORD RESERVIOR FORUM FEBRUARY 9, 2017

Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) and the Kansas State University Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy will co-host a discussion forum with Milford Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) and Clay County Conservation District at 6pm on February 9, 2017 at Scanolli’s in Wakefield. This event will include a light supper and guided discussion exploring the health and future of Kansas Reservoirs, with a local focus on Milford Lake

This forum is free and open to the public, and reservations are required by February 1. No prior experience or expertise with reservoir health are needed, just a willingness to participate in the discussion. Please contact Melissa Arthur, KACEE, 785-597-5452 or marthur@kacee.org to reserve your space by the February 1 deadline.

This is an opportunity for Milford Lake area communities to engage in facilitated community dialogue to:

- Increase shared understanding of the issues impacting our reservoirs
- Explore possible solutions and examine drawbacks to a variety of actions
- Discover common ground for community decision making

A team of Kansas educators has been working in partnership with the [North American Association for Environmental Education](#) and the [Kettering Foundation](#) to develop a process to engage local community members in productive dialogue around environmental issues. These [Environmental Issues Forums](#) are designed after a [National Issues Forums](#) model, and the Kansas team has designed a local discussion framework specific to Kansas reservoir health. KACEE Director of Operations Melissa Arthur explains, “In short, these forums are a valuable tool for community members to discover common ground on an issue guided by what we value most, and reveal more possibilities for how we can work together to address these complex issues.”

For more information, or to register for the event (deadline February 1), please contact Melissa Arthur at 785-597-5452 or marthur@kacee.org.

2017 CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL MANUAL

For Field Crops, Pastures,
Rangeland & Noncropland

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Pick up this valuable reference publication today!

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**RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT
“2017 UP-COMING MEETINGS & EVENTS”**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION
Feb. 3	9:30-2:30pm	Sorghum School	Concordia-Cloud County Community College
Feb. 2-Mar. 9	3:30-8:30pm	Women in Ag Series (Thursdays for 6 weeks)	Washington-KSDS Meeting Room
Feb. 7	9:30-3pm	Swine Profitability Conference	Manhattan–Stanley Stout Center, 2200 Denison Ave.
Feb. 7	1-4pm	Tree Pruning Workshop	Clay Center– Utility Park (Adjacent to Clay Center’s Zoo)
Feb. 10	9am MST	Tri-State Cow/Calf Symposium	Goodland-Goodland Elks Lodge
Feb. 14	11-3:15pm	Winter Ranch Management Seminar Series	Salina-K-State Salina Polytechnic Conference Center
Feb. 20	6pm	Beef Quality Assurance Training	Clay Center-Clay Center Livestock
Feb. 21– Mar.2	6-8pm	Community Board Leadership Series	Concordia–Cloud County Courthouse Mtg. Room
Mar. 3	10-3pm	Cattlemen’s Day 2017	Manhattan– Weber Hall-1424 Claflin Road
Mar. 19– May 13		Walk Kansas	Statewide Program
Mar. 29-May 19	9-10am	Strength Training (Wednesday & Friday mornings)	Cuba-Cuba City Hall
May 13	8:30-4:30pm	Tractor and Machinery Safety Training	Concordia-CTI

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact John Forshee, Director, River Valley Extension District # 4, 322 Grant Avenue, Clay Center, KS 67432. Phone 785-632-5335.