

News Release for Immediate Use or Next Issue
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K-State Research & Extension
River Valley District
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Pond Management Program to be held in Belleville

The drought dried up numerous ponds in the River Valley District and in 2023 many of the ponds were redone. To keep these ponds thriving for years to come now is the time to start planning the management needed to keep these ponds flourishing in the future. Pond management and maintenance can be a tricky process in a perfectly controlled environment. Join K-State Research and Extension fisheries & aquacultures specialist Joe Gerken as he talks about pond management from the ground up. Dr. Gerken will discuss general maintenance of the pond and how to be prepared for drought-like conditions. Topics included for the night are pond depth, aeration, and nutrient loading. Keeping ponds happy and healthy is key to quality water supply for cattle. Rounding out the night producers will hear from K-State Research and Extension wildlife specialist Drew Ricketts on how to take care of those pesky critters that sometimes call ponds home. Beavers can have a big impact on your pond and knowing how to manage them will help keep the longevity of the hard work you did to maintain your pond. Dr. Ricketts will discuss proper trapping, habitat modification, and exclusion. This program will take place Tuesday, February 27th starting at 6:00 pm in Belleville at the fairgrounds inside the commercial building (901 O St). An RSVP is requested by February 23rd to be included in the meal count. There will be a \$10 registration fee payable at the door.

To make a registration or if you have any questions, you can call livestock agent Kaitlyn Hildebrand at the Concordia office at 785-243-8185 or by email at khildebrand@ksu.edu.

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