

News Release for Immediate Use or Next Issue  
Kaitlyn Hildebrand, Livestock Production Agent  
K-State Research & Extension  
River Valley District  
April 1, 2024

### **Tractor safety classes offered by K-State Research and Extension Districts for 2024**

This summer, thousands of Kansas teenagers will begin their first job working for a farmer or rancher. For those that are ages 14 or 15, they must complete a tractor safety course in order to be legally employed. A thirteen-year-old may enroll in the training if turning 14 before the next year's class is offered, but the certificate will not be issued until their fourteenth birthday.

To help prepare some of those youth for the upcoming work season, several K-State Research and Extension Districts are collaborating and will be hosting four in-person tractor safety classes. The River Valley Extension District will host their training on **April 27<sup>th</sup> in Washington** at Bruna Implement. The day will start at 8:00 am with attendees arriving and the welcome will begin at 8:15 am. A meal will be provided for lunch and the day will conclude at 4:30 pm. If you cannot attend April 27<sup>th</sup> there are three other training courses for April 20 (Beloit), May 4 (Great Bend) and May 23 (Salina).

This course will meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of Labor's Hazardous Occupations Order for Agriculture (HOOA). The HOOA regulations state that youth 14 and 15 years of age, who wish to work as a hired employee for someone other than a parent or legal guardian and operate a farm tractor that is 20 HP or greater, must successfully pass a tractor safety training program.

The cost of the program is \$15 to cover the cost of materials for the course. Those wanting to enroll simply go online at <https://bit.ly/2024-tractor-safety> and complete the registration at least 5 days prior to the scheduled course. The book for the course is available at your local Extension District office and will need to be purchased prior to the first class as participants are encouraged to go through the "safety activity sheets" at the end of each chapter prior to Saturday's session.

-30-

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.