

News Column for Use Week of 3/1/2021  
Rebecca Zach, Extension Agent: Crop Production  
River Valley District  
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### **Virtual and In-person Tractor Safety Classes**

This summer thousands of Kansas teenagers will begin their first job working for a farmer or rancher. Youth that are 14 or 15, must complete a tractor safety course to be legally employed.

To help prepare some of those youth for the upcoming work season, we will be hosting a virtual tractor safety class using Zoom, a web conferencing technology that will allow students to participate in the session from their home or another remote location – they just need a reliable internet or cellular connection. These virtual sessions will take place on March 27th and April 10th.

We will also have two in-person meetings. One will be May 8th in Smith Center and the other will be May 22nd in Minneapolis. More details will follow.

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. This year the local curriculum will combine at-home study with an interactive distance presentation.

Prospective students can check availability and ask questions prior to registering by contacting one of the following:

- River Valley District-785-527-5084 or by emailing Rebecca Zach at [zrebecca@ksu.edu](mailto:zrebecca@ksu.edu).
- Post Rock District-785-282-6823 or by emailing Sandra Wick at [swick@ksu.edu](mailto:swick@ksu.edu).
- Central Kansas District-785-309-5850 or by emailing Cade Rensink at [crensink@ksu.edu](mailto:crensink@ksu.edu), Jay Wisbey at [jwisbey@ksu.edu](mailto:jwisbey@ksu.edu), or Justine Henderson at [jwh04@ksu.edu](mailto:jwh04@ksu.edu).
- Midway District- 785-472-4442 or by emailing Clinton Laflin at [cllaflin@ksu.edu](mailto:cllaflin@ksu.edu) or Craig Dinkel at [cadinkel@ksu.edu](mailto:cadinkel@ksu.edu).
- Cottonwood District- 620-793-1910 or by emailing Alicia Boor at [aboor@ksu.edu](mailto:aboor@ksu.edu).

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