

Post Rock Extension District

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Horticulture Extension Agent

Growing Perfect Tomatoes

Tomatoes are the most popular vegetable grown in Kansas. Nothing beats the fresh taste of a homegrown tomato picked straight from the garden. They are easy to grow, productive in small garden areas, and used in a wide variety of ways. Tomatoes require a location that is fairly fertile, well-drained, and sunny, getting at least half a day of sun or more. By this time of year, most of us have tomatoes setting and will soon be ripening. Here are some tips on how to keep your plants healthy and some problems you may encounter during the growing season.

Spider mites seem to be a problem every year. It is inevitable that with hot and dry weather, spider mites will make an appearance. Look for stippling on the upper surface of the leaves as well as some fine webbing on the underside of the leaves. These tiny arthropods (they are not true insects) are often difficult to see due to their size and their habit of feeding on the underside of leaves. If you think you have spider mites, hold a white piece of paper under the leaves and gently tap the plant. Mites will be dislodged and can be seen as tiny specks on the paper that move about.

Spider mite control can be challenging. A strong jet of water can be used to remove the mites, but it may not be as easy as it sounds. A high-pressure directed spray is needed to dislodge the mites. Since spider mites feed on the underside of the leaves, the spray is most effective if it comes from below. This can be difficult to accomplish with a thumb over the end of the hose.

Some gardeners use a water wand hooked to a shut-off valve. The water breaker is then replaced by a brass nozzle. Horticultural oils and insecticidal soaps (Safer's, for example) can also be helpful. Spray early in the morning when temperatures are cooler and plants have rehydrated. You will likely need to treat more than once.

Something we often see in Kansas, during hot summer weather, is that our tomatoes are not setting fruit. Temperatures that remain above 75°F at night and day temperatures above 95° F with dry, hot winds will cause poor fruit set on tomatoes. In extreme summer heat, blossom drop is common. At temperatures above 90°F and with low humidity, poor pollination causes blossom drop and poor fruit set. It usually takes about 3 weeks for tomato flowers to develop into fruit large enough to notice that something is wrong and an additional week before tomatoes are full size and ready to start ripening.

Though there are "heat-set" tomatoes such as Florida 91, Sun Leaper and Sun Master that will set fruit at higher temperatures, that difference is normally only 2 to 3 degrees. There really isn't a quick cure for this tomato problem, we must wait for cooler temperatures which will allow tomatoes to resume fruit set.

This time of year, two common leaf-spot diseases appear on tomato plants. Septoria leaf spot and early blight, both show up as brown spots on the leaves. Septoria leaf spot usually appears earlier in the season than early blight and produces small dark spots. Spots made by early blight are much larger and often have a distorted "target" pattern of concentric circles. Heavily infected leaves eventually turn yellow and drop. Older leaves are more susceptible than younger ones, so these diseases often start at the bottom of the plant and work up.

Mulching, caging, or staking keeps plants off the ground, making them less vulnerable. Better air circulation allows foliage to dry

Hansen Museum announces beginner friendly painting class

The Hansen Museum Continuing Education Program is delighted to welcome certified Bob Ross instructor Hope Blakely of Arvada, Colorado, for two Magic of Painting classes on June 21 and 22. On Saturday, participants will create a Wilson Bickford-inspired painting titled Night Ride, while Sunday's session will focus on the Marion Dutton-inspired piece Lilacs. Both classes will take place in the Hansen Museum Community Room, located at 110 W. Main Street in Logan, Kansas, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, with a one-hour lunch break.

These classes offer a fun, beginner-friendly introduction to painting. Students will be guided step-by-step through the process of completing a finished painting each day. No prior experience is necessary, and all supplies are provided. Participants need only bring a roll of paper towels. Open to individuals aged 13 and older, these sessions provide a relaxed, supportive atmosphere that



Saturday: Night Ride

fosters creativity and camaraderie.

Registration is available online at hansenmuseum.org under the "Classes & Workshops" section. Discounts are offered to Patron and Sustaining Members of the Hansen Museum. These classes are part of the Hansen Museum Continuing Education Program and are made possible through generous support from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. For more information, call 785-689-4846.

The Hansen Museum is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 12:00 and



Sunday: Lilacs

1:00 to 4:00, Saturdays from 9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 5:00, and Sundays and holidays from 1:00 to 5:00.

Cawker City Methodist Church

Sunday June 8, 2025, Pentecost Sunday, Steve Richardson played "Every time I Hear the Spirit" for our special.

Pastor Ian's message was from Judges 4: Deborah: Judge, Prophet, Leader...But here's the onion.

After 20 years of oppression the Israelites cry out for God to help them. The first onion layer is peeled: Sisera has 900 iron chariots and a dominating army, so Barak goes to Deborah for help. She tells him get 10,000 men and go fight but he won't unless she goes too!

She tells him the Lord will sell Sisera into the hands of a woman. So they go and the Lord delivers Sisera into their hands. Sisera runs away and hides in a tent that is Jael. He asked her to hide him which she does but while he sleeps she pounds a tent stake into his temple.

Another layer of the onion peeled! Obedience doesn't always look playing safe but looks like stepping where others won't. Bod chooses the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, He chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

Jesus was not with hammer in His hand, but with nails driven through them. The cross is our tent peg. Live out the lesson of the onion, be available, use what you have and be bold.

Legal Notice

Cawker City	Glen Elder	Solomon Rapids	Plum Creek	Lulu
Carr Creek	Walnut Creek	Turkey Creek	Beloit	Asherville
Pittsburg	3rd District	Center	2nd District	1st District
Custer	Blue Hill	Round Springs	Salt Creek	Eureka

RESOLUTION NO 25-17
COMMISSION REDISTRICTING

Now on this 2nd day of June 2025, the Board of Commissioners, Mitchell County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Tom Claussen presiding. Others present were members Mike Riemann and Cole Eberle.

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 19-204(a), the Board of County Commissioners of Mitchell County, Kansas on the day of the organization of the board or as soon thereafter as may be possible, shall meet and divide the county into three commissioner districts as compact and equal in population as possible, and number them. Such districts shall be subject to alteration at least once every three years.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Mitchell County, Kansas, finds the current district boundaries no longer adequately represent the population distribution within the county.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Mitchell County, Kansas, have define the boundaries of the three commission districts as such:
Commission District 1 – Lulu Township, Asherville Township, Logan Township, Eureka Township, Salt Creek Township, and east side of Beloit Township and Beloit City as shown by the map in attachment A
Commission District 2 – Plum Creek Township, Bloomfield Township, and the west side of Beloit Township and Beloit City as shown by the map in attachment A
Commission District 3 – Solomon Rapids Township, Turkey Creek Township, Center Township, Round Springs Township, Blue Hill Township, Hayes Township, Walnut Creek Township, Glen Elder Township, Cawker Township, Carr Creek Township, Pittsburg Township, and Custer Township

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Mitchell County hereby adopts the following new commissioner district boundaries, as described in Attachment A to this resolution, in accordance with K.S.A. 19-204a and amendments thereto. Resolution 25-17 is entered into the official minutes of the June 2, 2025 board meeting.

Adopted this 2nd day of June, 2025.

County Attorney: Mark J. Noah

Attest: County Clerk

Published in the Cawker City Ledger
June 5 and June 12, 2025

Board of Commissioners
Mitchell County, Kansas
Chairman
Member
Member

THIS TOWN'S BEEN TOO GOOD TO US

2025 DOWNS ANNUAL CELEBRATION •• DOWNS, KANSAS

Thursday, June 19

1:00 pm - Free - Swimming at Downs City Pool - Sponsored by Brush Art

6:00 pm - Moore's Greater Shows Carnival - Opens on Whiteway

6:30 pm - Kids Bike Races - Sponsored by State Bank of Downs

7:00 pm - BINGO at City Pool Shelter - Hosted by Lakeside FCCLA

7:30 pm - Kids Pedal Pull (Registration at 7:00 pm) - Railroad Street in front of pool
Kids Ages 4 to 13 - Prizes in each division; Qualify for Kansas State Fair

8:00 pm - Beer Garden opens (Must be 21 to enter)

Friday, June 20

1:00 pm - Free Swimming at Downs City Pool - Sponsored by Brush Art

6:00 pm - Moore's Greater Shows Carnival - Opens on Whiteway

6:30 pm - Golf Cart Poker Run - Register next to City Pool - Hosted by Brush Art Corp.

7:30 pm - Happy D Klown Magic Show & Balloon Artist - Whiteway Stage

8:00 pm - Beer Garden opens (Must be 21 to enter)

9:00 pm - Stage 5 Clinger - Live in the Beer Garden - no cover charge

Saturday, June 21

7:00 am - Junior Chamber Fun Run/Walk (Registration 6:30 am in beer garden)

9:00 am - Two-Person Golf Tournament - Downs Golf Club
Register - Cory Beougher - 785-545-6043 or Heather Hancock - 785-454-1237

9:00 am - Celebration Car Show - Located on south Kansas Street
Bikes, Cars, Muscle & Classic cars, Pickups, Rat Rods & more

9:00 am - Vendor Fair Open - Railroad Park - Open 'til 2 pm

10:00 am - Downs High School Alumni Open House - Memorial Hall

10:00 am - 5th Annual Art in the Park - Railroad Park
Hosted By Rose Valley Methodist Church

1:00 pm - Free Swimming at Downs City Pool - Sponsored by Brush Art

6:00 pm - Moore's Greater Shows Carnival Opens on Whiteway

7:00 pm - Downs Lions Club Parade - Registration begins at 5:30 pm at St. Mary's Church

8:00 pm - Beer Garden opens (Must be 21 to enter)

9:00 pm - Velvet Elvis - Live in the Beer Garden - no cover charge

MORE DETAILS AT WWW.DOWNSCHAMBER.COM

Sponsored by Downs Chamber of Commerce and these sponsors:

McFadden Charitable Trust • Osborne County Community Foundation • Sarver Charitable Trust • Applequist Manufacturing, Inc.
Boxum Insurance • Corner Drug & Gift, Inc. • Farmers & Merchants Bank, Cawker City • State Bank of Downs
First National Bank & Trust/ Smith County Bank/ Solomon Valley Bank • Goheen & Slavik CPAs, LLC • Great Plains Manufacturing
Outdoor Obsessions • Schoen's Auto & Repair • The Brush Group • Sims Fertilizer & Chemical Company • Bob's Inc. - Downs
Calico Hill Creative • Cunningham Fiber • Downs Super Foods/Food Court • Midway Co-op Inc.
Osborne County Memorial Hospital • Osborne Industries • Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Remus Plumbing & HVAC • The Hair Shop/Boutique 602 • Waconda Water
L&M Liquor • City of Downs • R&R Refuse • Nex-Tech • KDNS/KZDY • ViaMedia