

Big Kansas Road Wheat Scoop: **Trip Schedule**



MORTON COUNTY

Get ready to explore the cornerstone of Kansas - Mortor County! You'll find a schedule of vents and anytime adventures or this sheet to plan your trip!



A STARTING POINT TO EXPLORE

1:30PM 5-10PM 5PM 7PM 7:30PM 5:30 & 8AM	Behind the Scenes - Mitchell Theatres Skating in Rolla \$1 for non-Rolla residents includes skate rental or bring your own Golf at Point Rock Golf Course Bring your clubs and meet up for 9 holes, \$5 Trivia at Big C's, 969 U.S. 56 Hwy, Elkhart Movie at The Doric Theatre
5PM 7PM 7:30PM	\$1 for non-Rolla residents includes skate rental or bring your own Golf at Point Rock Golf Course Bring your clubs and meet up for 9 holes, \$5 Trivia at Big C's , 969 U.S. 56 Hwy, Elkhart
7PM 7:30PM	Bring your clubs and meet up for 9 holes, \$5 Trivia at Big C's, 969 U.S. 56 Hwy, Elkhart
:30PM	
	Movie at The Doric Theatre
30 8 8AM	
	Birdiest Site in Morton County Meet at North St and Lagoon Lane, (37.012213, -101.892218) Led by Jackie Augustine, Audubon of Kansas
0-11AM	Kansas Explorers Club Kickoff and The Stump Whistle Stop Park, Elkhart - Buy Explorer Gear here!
PM	Bird Watching at Middle Spring Led by Jackie Augustine of Audubon of Kansas
:30-4PM	Thane Baker Book Signing Morton County Historical Museum, 370 US 56, Elkhart 1952 Olympian, Thane Baker & Catherine Baker Nicholson will sign copies of <i>Running in Borrowed Shoes</i> by Catherine Baker Nicholson
2-3PM	Ice Cream Social Richfield United Methodist Church, 451 Walnut, Richfield Step inside Morton County's oldest building and view the beautiful multi-colored stained glass windows
BPM	Kid-Friendly Bird Watching at Middle Spring Led by Jackie Augustine of Audubon of Kansas
BPM	Behind the Scenes - Mitchell Theatres
5-10PM	Skating in Rolla
δPM	Pie Night - Sponsored by the Morton Co Chamber Morton County Fairgrounds, 440 E Orchard Enjoy pie by the slice while you get to know the locals
'PM	Trivia at Big C's, 969 U.S. 56 Hwy, Elkhart
8:30PM	Sunset bird walk at Point of Rocks
OPM	Karaoke at Pour Decisions, 820 Border Ave, Elkhart
	РМ :30-4РМ :-3РМ яРМ :-10РМ :>10РМ :2РМ

For more details and updates about these events, check out **Big Kansas Road Trip** on Facebook





Where to Eat:

Evening Entertainment

Drought Conditions Stressing Kansas Wheat Crop

Written by Julia Debes for Kansas Wheat

While parts of wheat country received spotty rains overnight on Wednesday, an overall lack of April showers does not bode well for May flowers or for the Kansas wheat crop. The latest reports on crop conditions and weather, in addition to firsthand producer observations, indicate the 2025 wheat crop is showing clear signs of drought stress, at the same time as unseasonably warm temperatures followed by a quick pivot to chilly weather are hitting the state.

According to the latest Kansas Crop Progress and Condition report, released on April 14 by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, winter wheat conditions were rated at 43 percent good to excellent — a significant drop from 51 percent the week prior. The NASS report also noted declines in both topsoil and subsoil moisture.

The report matches data from the Kansas Mesonet, accessed on April 17, which shows varying moisture conditions across the state. Bands of rain showers lit up the sky Wednesday night, giving relief to some growers, particularly in the eastern side of the state. Still, the majority of the central and western parts of the state have received only very small amounts of moisture (.10 inches) in the past two weeks. Overall, it's been a long time since much of wheat country has had a good drink.

Looking at the Mesonet data, around 150 days appears to be a very common number. As in, for many parts of wheat-growing country, it has been nearly five months since any significant moisture was received, somewhere between a quarter inch to a full inch of rain.

That's exactly the case in Hoisington in central Kansas, where the Mesonet station reported a oping quarter inch of rain just over two weeks ago but come grain fill. On her quickly hit the 150-day there is still some very mark for anything more than that. It's no surprise good-looking wheat in then that producers are the countryside, likely losing their hope for what the result of management started out as a promising practices aimed at conwheat crop. serving soil moisture. According to area pro-"We always joke that wheat has nine lives," Falk-Jones said. "Wheat ducer Josh Debes, farmers planted into moisture and had well-established is a pretty dynamic plant stands through the winter. in response to stress. A month ago, he could That's part of the reason still find moisture four to it fits well in western five inches deep. Kansas.' Since then, conditions Keep track of this have deteriorated with year's harvest as the crop cracks reappearing in the progresses with Kansas Wheat at kswheat.com soil, the wheat visibility slowing its growth and and stay tuned for field the bottom leaves of the tour dates as they are anplant turning yellow. He nounced. noted the problem spots in fields are now easily visible, where cattle were fed and soil was compacted or where terraces were reworked in the past five years. Wednesday's storm clouds were beautiful to watch, but ultimately skipped over Barton County. "We started seeing issues two to three weeks ago, but the wheat has looked progressively worse as we've missed all of the rain," Debes said. "In the northern part of the county, the wheat is no longer looking so promising. We're now on par with the previous three summers of abnormally dry, drought-limiting crops. This situation tracks with the U.S. Drought Monitor's update on April 17, 2025, which lists nearly 84 percent of the state as abnormally dry — drought ratings of D0-D4. Compared to the drought ratings from this year at this time, the overall dry conditions are similar, but more of the state is edging into moderate drought ratings (55 percent in 2025 compared to 30 percent in 2024).

specialist Jeanne Falk-Jones hit the road this week from her home base in Colby to Garden City to Tribune, allowing her to take stock of what the wheat crop looks like in western Kansas. The drought stress is evident even from the road ---yellow leaves showing up at the bottom of the stems, fields that are losing that deep, green color and poorer areas becoming more evident. According to the US-

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DA-NASS report, 46 percent of the Kansas wheat crop has now jointed, on pace with last year but ahead of the five-year average of 34 percent. Falk-Jones noted that the wheat crop is now pushing that second joint above ground and the stem is being formed. The wheat plant at this stage needs more moisture, magnifying the impact of drought stress and the hot temperatures hitting Kansas this week. Remember, at this

stage, the wheat plant Subscribe To The Elkhart has already set the total Tri-State News. A great gift potential kernels that idea for everyone. It's a letwill develop in the wheat ter from home they get evhead. Any stress from ery week. Call 697-4716. here until harvest will drop that number down, although the impact of the current dry weather Legal Notice and temperature swings will not be realized until

the plant is more fully developed. She also cautioned producers to not assume all yellow leaves are due to drought stress. Scouting is necessary to determine the source of the plant stress. Yellow leaves at the bottom of the plant indicates drought stress or nitrogen deficiency, but yellow and green mottling on parts of the leaf (versus the whole leaf) could be the result of disease showing up, particularly Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus (WSMV) or a related disease like Triticum Mosaic Virus (TriMV) or High Plains Mosaic Virus.

Falk-Jones also reminded producers that any moisture event will aid that plant in develthose kernels and plumping them up



Needed Landfill Operator pick up application at the Morton County **Courthouse or Morton County** Landfill.

Employment Opportunity

The City of Elkhart has an opening for a full-time laborer. Full benefits are included with a competitive salary. Applications may be picked up at the Elkhart City Hall or online @ www.ci.elkhart.ks.us. Job descriptions are available upon request. (link to the online application located at the bottom of the web page)



Syracuse Dairy Morton County location is now accepting applications for milking positions starting at \$14.00 an hour with a \$250.00

Case No. MT-2025-CV-000002

Title to Real Estate Involved

signing bonus. Benefits include 401K, health insurance, dental insurance, and life insurance. Please apply in person at our office (751 SE CR 36, Syracuse, KS 67878) or call 620-492-2525.

First published in the Elkhart Tri-State News, Thursday, April 24, 2025, Thursday, May 1, 2025. Thursday, May 8, 2025.

> IN THE TWENTY-SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT, MORTON COUNTY, KANSAS **CIVIL DEPARTMENT**

DREAM FIRST BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, successor in interest to Heartland Tri-State Bank, f/k/a First National Bank of Elkhart. Plaintiff. EZ CATTLE FEEDING L.L.C. a Kansas limited Liability company; CRAIG ERIN POULSON;

LELA POULSON, a/k/a Lela Gae Poulson, a/k/a Lela G. Poulson; SMOKY Y RANCH, INC., a Kansas corporation; SMOKY Y RANCH RED ANGUS, L.L.C., a Kansas limited liability Company; and D. L. EVANS BANK, an Idaho Banking corporation,

Filed Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Defendants.

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the District Court of Morton County, Kansas, of the Morton County Courthouse, 1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS 67950 in the City of Elkhart, Kansas, offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand all of the right, title and interest of the Defendant(s) above named in and to the following described real property located in Morton County, Kansas ("Subject Property"):



8 miles west of Elkhart on State Line Road **Buy Stamps** Post Offices in Elkhart, Rolla, and Richfield Shop in Downtown Elkhart Golf at Point Rock Golf Course Explore Cimarron National Grassland Visit Point of Rocks

Gravel Cycle in Cimarron National Grassland

Find the Murals in Rolla 215 Washington, Rolla

- Visit the Morton County Historical Museum Open Friday 10-3 PM, Saturday 8AM -7 PM
- Visit the Richfield United Methodist Church Open on Saturday all day - Don't miss the ice cream social at 2PM

The BKRT Pop Up is a project of the Kansas Sampler Foundation

Morton County Extension News Crystal Bashford Agent

Managing Spring Flowers and Weeds

K-State Research and Extension news service

MANHATTAN, Kan. Most years, Spring signals the start of a colorful garden and a host of blooming flowers.

Yet, at this point in the season minimal care is needed for spring-flowering bulbs, Kansas State University horticulture expert Cynthia Domenghini said. To enjoy blooms in April, Do-menghini suggests following simple care tips to ensure roots are taking in the nutrition to support future growth.

Roses

Before new leaf buds open (bud break), roses should be fertilized and pruned.

"April is a great time to plant new roses in the landscape as well," Domenghini said. "Specific maintenance practices vary based on the classification, or type, of rose."

Domenghini recommends tips from the Growing Roses publication, available from the K-State Research and Extension bookstore.

Easter Lilies

Containerized lilies are common in the spring as they are used to celebrate the Easter holiday.

"This perennial bulb can be grown in the landscape to enjoy for years to come," Domenghini said.

The Easter Lily Fact Sheet provides care in-

structions. Henbit and Chickweed Henbit weed is in

bloom, creating waves of purple through the landscape. "Weeds drive most but

gardeners crazy, but many weeds provide food for pollinators," Domenghini said. "Henbit is one of the first sources of pollen and nectar for honey bees and bumble bees after the long winter."

Henbit and chickweed are winter annuals that germinate in the fall but become more noticeable in the spring, Domenghini added. Treating these weeds is best done by

applying a pre-emergent in the fall. "Controlling for these

weeds this time of year is much less effective," Domenghini said.

Manual removal is recommended if the plants can't be tolerated in the landscape.

The henbit and chickweed fact sheet provides tips for prevention and management in the spring.

Grassy Sandbur

Another annual -grassy sandbur -- is a grassy weed commonly found in lawns, and spreads profusely as the stickers produced attach to clothing and pets.

"Maintaining a dense lawn is the best defense against this weed," Domenghini said. Alternative solu-

tions can be found in the Grassy Sandbur fact sheet.

Domenghini and her colleagues in K-State's Department of Horti-culture and Natural Resources produce a weekly Horticulture Newsletter with tips for maintaining home landscapes and

gardens. Interested persons can subscribe to the newsletter, as well as send their garden and yard-related questions to hortsupport@ksu.edu, or contact your local K-State Research and Extension

office. K-State Horticulture Newsletter, https://hnr.kstate.edu/extension/ info-center/newsletters/

index.html Growing Roses, https:// bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/ pubs/mf799.pdf

Easter Lily Fact Sheet, https://hnr.k-state.edu/ extension/horticulture-resource-center/horticulture-newsletter/documents/2024/april2024/ *Easter%20Lily%20*

Fact%20Sheet.pdf Henbit and chickweed, https://hnr.k-state. edu/extension/horticulture-resource-center/ common-pest-problems/ documents/Henbit%20 and%20Chickweed.pdf

Grassy Sanbur, https:// hnr.k-state.edu/extension/ horticulture-resource-center/common-pest-problems/documents/ Grassy%20Sandbur.pdf

K-State agronomy

Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Section 25, Township 33 South, Range 40 West of the Sixth P.M., Morton County, Kansas

The Subject Property is levied on as the property of the Defendant(s) above named and will be sold without appraisement to satisfy said Order of Sale

Defendant-owner(s) is/are granted a three (3) month redemption period.

Thad Earls, Sheriff Morton County, Kansas

Karl R. Swartz, #12532 MORRIS LAING LAW FIRM 300 North Mead. Suite 200 Wichita, KS 67202 (316) 262-2671 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Got News? **Phone:** (697-4716) E-Mail: tristate@elkhart.com or **Snail Mail: Tri-State News P.O. Box 777 Elkhart, KS 67950**