

Warnings and watches updated

Despite recent rains, drought conditions in Kansas continue to worsen. Recently Governor Sam Brownback updated the Drought Declaration for Kansas counties with Executive Order 14-04. The update includes all 105 counties either in an emergency, warning or watch status. This order places more than half of Kansas counties in an emergency drought status.

"Kansasans need to know no matter where you live in the state, the drought is not over. Some areas have been experiencing drought for almost five years," said Governor Brownback. "Continued below normal precipitation patterns are not only depleting the little soil moisture we have, but are resulting in below normal levels in our reservoirs and further decline of our stream flow conditions."

The updated drought declaration has moved 26 counties into a warning status and 23 into a watch status while 56 counties are in emergency status. This action was recommended by Tracy Streeter, Director of the Kansas Water Office and Chair of the Governor's Drought Response Team.

"It is imperative we closely monitor conditions for the state as they could deteriorate quickly with no reserves as we start to enter warmer and drier months," said Tracy Streeter. "Some areas

of Kansas are behind more than seven inches in soil moisture and the seasonal outlook shows increased drought conditions shifting farther east than originally projected."

Counties still in emergency stage remain eligible for emergency use of water from certain state fishing lakes due to the Kansas Water Office (KWO) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Kansas Department of Wildlife (KDWPT).

Individuals and communities need to contact Kansas Water Office for a water supply request prior to any withdrawals from lakes. They will in turn be referred to the appropriate Kansas Department of Wildlife office to obtain the necessary permit to withdraw the water.

This Executive Order shall remain in effect for those counties so identified until rescinded by Executive Order or superseded by a subsequent Executive Order revising the drought stage status of the affected counties. Effective immediately:

·Declare a Drought Emergency, Warning or Drought Watch for the counties identified below;

·Authorize and direct all agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor to implement the appropriate watch or warning level-drought response actions assigned in the Operations Plan of the Governor's Drought

Response Team.

The Governor's Drought Response Team will continue to watch the situation closely and work to minimize the effects the drought has on Kansans. Drought Emergency:

Barber, Barton, Butler, Chase, Chautauqua, Cheyenne, Clark, Comanche, Cowley, Decatur, Edwards, Ellis, Ellsworth, Finney, Ford, Gove, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Harper, Harvey, Haskell, Hodgeman, Kearny, Kingman, Kiowa, Lane, Lincoln, Logan, Lyon, Meade, Morton, Ness, Norton, Pawnee, Pratt, Rawlins, Reno, Rice, Rush, Russell, Scott, Sedgwick, Seward, Sheridan, Sherman, Stafford, Stanton, Stevens, Sumner, Thomas, Trego, Wallace, Wichita

Drought Warning: Cherokee, Cloud, Coffey, Crawford, Dickinson, Douglas, Elk, Greenwood, Jewell, Labette, Marion, McPherson, Mitchell, Montgomery, Morris, Neosho, Osage, Osborne, Ottawa, Phillips, Rooks, Republic, Saline, Smith, Washington, Wilson

Drought Watch: Allen, Anderson, Atchison, Bourbon, Brown, Clay, Doniphan, Franklin, Geary, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Marshall, Miami, Nemaha, Pottawatomie, Riley, Shawnee, Wabaunsee, Woodson, Wyandotte

Sharp shooter!



Reilly Manning of Norton enjoyed a morning of 3-D target shooting with her entire family at the May 18 Norton Archery shoot. Reilly already has quite a list of animals taken since taking up archery. What a great way to get outside and enjoy mother nature and family time.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

ACCIDENT REPORT

April 25- A white Chevrolet Impala, driven by Michael McKenna of Jennings, was traveling south bound when he drove up on a deer that had already been hit and was lying in the roadway. McKenna was unable to avoid contact with the deer causing damage to the front and bottom side of the vehicle. No injuries were reported and the accident was investi-

gated by Norton County Sheriff Officer Rich Wenzl.

April 28- A tan 2010 Dodge Journey, driven by Kathy Johnston of Kearney, Neb., was traveling west on K-383 when a deer entered onto the roadway. Johnston was unable to avoid the collision, causing over \$1,000 damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported and the accident was investigated

by Norton County Sheriff Officer Adam Wahlmeier.

April 30- A white 2004 GMC Denali, driven by Kelly Brown of Norton, was traveling east bound when a deer entered onto the highway. Brown was unable to avoid collision causing over \$1,000 damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported and the accident was investigated by Norton County Sheriff Of-

ficer Adam Wahlmeier.

May 5- A gold 1996 Chrysler, driven by Karl Haler of St. Francis, was traveling east bound when a deer ran from the south ditch. Haler was unable to avoid contact with the deer causing over \$1,000 damage to the car. No injuries were reported and the accident was investigated by Norton County Sheriff Officer Rich Wenzl.

May 8- A white 2009 Chevrolet Silverado truck, driven by Larry Pakkebieer of Lenora, was traveling north bound when a deer entered onto the roadway from the east ditch. Pakkebieer was unable to avoid striking the deer causing over \$1,000 damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported and the accident was investigated by Norton County Sheriff Officer Bobby

Annon.

May 16- A grey 2002 GMC Yukon, driven by Daniel Wahlmeier of Clayton, was traveling east bound when a deer ran out in front of him. Wahlmeier was unable to avoid contact, causing over \$1,000 damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported and the accident was investigated by Norton County Sheriff Officer Rich Wenzl.

Fireworks

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the City of Norton, to help fund their services to Norton County. Options provides 24 hour service within the 18 northwest Kansas counties. In 2013, Options served 15 domestic violence and eight sexual assault victims in Norton County. There is a shelter in Hays, which costs \$483.61 per day to operate; the cost of the crisis line coverage per day is \$414.25.

Other council news:
-amended the concrete properties for the pool parking lot

which were specified during the special city council meeting on May 19, by changing the cement content minimum from 6.8 sacks per cubic yard to 6.11 pounds per cubic yard. All other specifications included in the May 19 motion remained the same. The general contractor is in agreement with these concrete properties.

-approved the special event beer license for the Norton Car Show on July 11 and 12, in a confined, roped off area by Norton and Main Street.

-authorized the purchase of a 20-inch walk-behind concrete saw, with water tank and blade, for a total cost of \$6,863.02, with shipping from Northern Tool, to be purchased from the water distribution fund.

-tabled the third reading of Ordinance #1656, designating a stop intersection on S. First at W. Washington.

-tabled the third reading of Ordinance #1657, designating yield conditions when approaching N. Graves.

-tabled the third reading of

Ordinance #1658, designating yield conditions when approaching N. Second.

-approved the May 7, 2014 council meeting minutes as written.

-approved the May 14, 2014 special city council meeting minutes as written.

-approved the May 19, 2014 special city council meeting minutes as written.

-approved Appropriating Ordinance #10 as a whole.

The following building permits were presented:

Don Jones - \$450, roof on existing deck at 708 W. Wilton D.S.N.W.K. - \$2,000, handicap ramp replacement at 115 Eisenhower

Steve Herodsberg - curb cut and street opening at 509 W. Woodsfield

Richard Miller - \$3,000, construct patio pergola at 810 Valley Vista

Valley Hope - \$1,000, demolish building at 705 W. Holme

Pat Morel - \$4,850, re-roofing at 511 N. Grant

Tim Sprigg - \$6,300, re-roof-

ing at 706 N. 2nd Street
Carol Flannigan - \$9,165, re-roofing at 109 E. Woodsfield
Wilmer Severns - \$12,389, re-roofing at 339 W. Lincoln Street
Jay D. Gall - \$2,000, re-roofing house at 206 W. Woodsfield St.

J.D. Daffer - \$16,000, re-roofing at 307 S. Norton

Norton Theater - \$25,000, curb and sidewalk replacement at 215 E. Main

Kyle Jones - \$300, curb cut and sidewalk at 608 Sunset Drive.

Agents

(Continued From Page 1)

to get kids involved with and interested in joining a community club so they can work on leadership things.

VanSlike reported that there are currently 90 to 100 4-H

club members and they hope to see these numbers grow. When working at his job he gets many calls for areas that he isn't responsible for so he said that each agent refers the calls on to the appropriate agent if unable to answer it themselves. Van-

Skike said, "K-State has a lot of resources so stop or call with your questions or concerns."

Shoup reported that the extension office focuses on global food systems, water issues, health, youth leadership and community development. She

is currently working on programs to help people with estate planning, educating people on health insurance and the affordable care act. A lot of their work is done via social media Shoup stated. Fewer people are coming to face to face meetings

and training so more is being offered through other avenues.

Maddy said, "We are trying to give people a face to go with extension and let them know that we are still here to help in any way possible." The group thanked the commissioners for

their time and presented them with summaries of their current projects and said they planned to visit with them on a regular basis.



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