

Little Arkansas River WRAPS

Fall 2025

Volume 7, Issue 4

ModernAg Event in Moundridge



In August, the Little Arkansas River Watershed WRAPS program was part of the K-State team attending the 2025 ModernAg Autonomy Showcase in Moundridge. Over two days, producers, landowners, and other interested stakeholders stopped by to learn more about precision agriculture technologies. Companies like Topcon, 360 Yield Center, and Newland Ag Drones were on hand to demonstrate their newest technologies. K-State's booth included information about the WRAPS program, the Flickner Innovation Farm, and the work of the Institute for Digital Agriculture and Advanced Analytics (ID3A). The K-State team met with local producers to discuss their goals for using precision ag tools and how K-State can support those efforts.

Article and photos provided by Melissa Harvey of K-State.



Canadian College Students Visit the Area for a Field Tour

On August 28th, 48 college students and two professors from Canada found themselves in the Heartland. Canada's 2025 Midwest Tour had these bright young adults travelling across the U.S. and the Little Arkansas River WRAPS group felt fortunate to co-host field tour with the Flickner Innovation Farm (FIF)! These students woke up in Stockton, MO, had lunch in Fort Scott, KS and landed in Hutchinson around 6:00 PM. Days of travelling might wear a person out but these students showed up energized and ready to learn! They did not let the weather that turned their fun-filled-field day on the farm into an indoor event slow them down one bit.

The group had the opportunity to listen to our very own WRAPS Coordinator, Ron Graber, explain what the WRAPS program was and how it positively impacts water quality in our Watershed. Ray Flickner of FIF, along with Ron Graber and Rick Schlender talked to the students about 360 Rain, moisture sensors, Subsurface Drip Irrigation, the Hagee-Montag Inter-seeder, drones and imagery, as well as the use of robotics. K-State studies taking place on the farm to include Peter Tomlinson's Surface Water Monitoring and Deanne Presley's Soil Health studies were shared with the group. Then Mr. Flickner pulled out the big news about NASA and their work with the FIF. Prairie Land Partners presented their exciting new farming technologies to include the See and Spray, protein monitoring combine, and autonomous tractor technologies. Once the storms had passed, Prairie Land provided the students with an on-site tour, giving them a chance to get an in-person look at all the equipment they were discussing.

Graber noted that he was impressed with how engaged these students were throughout the whole evening, even staying late with extra questions. The Little Ark WRAPS group firmly believes that any time we can share our work with people from around the world, it benefits our environment as a whole. Learning from one another is how positive change in conservation commences.



Photos provided by Erica Schlender.



Join us in January!

The Flickner Innovation Farm team invites you to our winter meeting to learn more about our on-farm projects, technology implementation, and natural resource use.

- ▶ Paired Watershed Study
- ▶ Herbicide Regulations
- ▶ Cover Crops for Soil Health & Economics

- ▶ Cover Crop Research
- ▶ Carbon Estimation & Cropping Systems + Carbon Intensity
- ▶ Climate Smart Farming
- ▶ Producer Panel

January 27, 2026

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Inman Community Building
406 E. Center Inman, KS
Lunch is provided.

RSVP by: QR code,
email: aschielk@ksu.edu or
call/text: 785-313-3462



Scan this code
for a quick
way to
register!

Stakeholder Leadership Team Meeting

Who: You, everyone is invited!
Where: Opera House Venue, 101 S. Christian, Moundridge, KS
When: February 12, 2026 at 7:00 AM
Why: As always, we value your input when setting goals and water quality priorities in the Little Arkansas River Watershed. As we embark on our next 3-year KDHE/EPA 319 funded project period, we would like to convene and provide program updates and plan for the future of the program. Discussions will include priority areas for BMP implementation, incentive funds, agency updates and more! If nothing else, come join us for breakfast, coffee, and learn about our WRAPS program!

How did the farmer find the cow?
He *tractor* down.

Contacts

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For more information, visit our website at www.kcare.k-state.edu. We are on social media, too!
Follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook under the name: @KStateKcare.

