Kearny County lies in the Southwest part of the State of Kansas. We are located seventy (70) miles North of Oklahoma and forty (40) miles East of Colorado.

Climate

Precipitation (average) - 17 inches annually
Temperature - Winter 49 degree average
Spring 74 degree average
Summer 85 degree average
Fall 62 degree average

Annual Events

Special Events that draw friends, families and visitors to our county are scheduled each season.

Spring:
- Easter Egg Hunts
- Lenten Luncheon Series
- Commencement Exercises
- Memorial Day Celebrations
- Jellybean Jamboree
- Springorama
- School Reunions

Summer:
- Rodeos
- Horse Show
- One Last Blast
- Swim Meet
- Fourth of July
- County Fair
- Summer Celebration
- Car Show
- One Last Blast
- Summer Celebration
- Car Show

Fall:
- Golf Tournament
- Hunting Season
- Labor Day Celebration
- Moonlight Madness
- Santa Visits with Treats
- Groundhog Supper

Winter:
- Holiday Celebration
- Bucko Drawing
- Holiday Parade
- Merchant Drawing
- Holiday Parade
- Merchant Drawing
- Holiday Celebration
- Bucko Drawing
- Holiday Parade
- Merchant Drawing

For more information please contact
Kearny County Community Development
Kearny County Courthouse
304 N. Main
P.O. Box 86
Lakin, KS 67860
Phone 620.355.7358
Fax: 620.355.7382
e.mail kecodev@pld.com
www.kearnycountykansas.com
Schools

Kearny County is served by two school districts Deerfield USD # 216 and Lakin USD #215. Both of these very fine school districts are top-rated in the state for academics, athletics and fine arts. With lower numbers of students enrolled in these schools, the Lakin Broncs and the Deerfield Spartans welcome participation in all of the extra curricular and fine arts activities the two schools offer without the burden of tryouts.

Our schools are pleased to offer a balance of curriculum between the traditional and modern along with a low pupil to teacher ratio. We offer high-tech learning labs, have high speed internet in all buildings and feature courses through two-way interactive television that allow the students and teacher to interact as they are instructed. In addition, both school districts are proud to provide pre-Kindergarten curriculums.

College level classes are offered in both districts through cooperation with Garden City Community College. These classes are taught in each community during the school day to qualified high school students and offered as to adults in the evenings. Schedules of classes are dependent on interest; however each district offers a wide array of programming each semester. Both districts boast a high graduation rate and our alumni have made impacts throughout the nation and world.

Recreation

Recreational opportunities abound here in Kearny County. From hunting for deer, upland game birds, migratory birds and small animals to fishing, camping and riding ATVs. Beyond that there is the opportunity to participate in a myriad of recreational activities including but not limited to golf, bowling, trap shooting and swimming. In addition, the two recreation commissions in Kearny County a number of coordinated sports programs. The number of recreational activities expands beyond the visible horizons on a clear blue Kansas day.

In Deerfield, citizens find the use of the swimming pool and the new double water slide or the possibility of pool rental as well as use of the Fitness Corner occupies their recreational times.

In Lakin, golf, bowling, trap shooting as well as adult sewing, basketball, volleyball, and softball provide but a few of the options to have fun while keeping physically health. The Lakin Recreation Commission also has available a Wellness Center open for public use.

For more information on any of these programs or to find answers to recreational questions, please contact:

Deerfield Recreation  Lakin Recreation
P.O. Box 259  702 N. Campbell
Deerfield, KS 67838  Lakin, KS 67860
620.426.6373  620.355.7039
e.mail: drec@pld.com  e.mail: lakinrec@pld.com

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Health Services

Health care in Kearny County provides many wonderful opportunities for residents to remain close to home while receiving quality health care. Our board certified family physicians can meet your family’s health care needs, from birth to geriatrics. Round the clock emergency care, medical/surgical, pain management and anesthesia services and birthing center/obstetrics are available from Kearny County Hospital. Our patient services include laboratory, radiology, physical therapy, hydro therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and cardipulmonary rehabilitation. The Area Mental Health Center offers satellite services inside of Kearny County Hospital.

Our local clinic, the Family Health Center, with locations in both Lakin and Deerfield, sees patients throughout the week and offers a Saturday morning walk-in clinic. For your convenience in Lakin, the hospital, clinic, pharmacy and long term care facility are all adjacent to each other.

Every August, the health care providers in Kearny County sponsor a health fair. This very popular and well attended event is an opportunity for residents to have their health checked and visit with professionals about concerns and needs.

In addition, the High Plains Retirement House offers full term and long term nursing care for those who desire or have a need. High Plains offers a full range of care from some of the most modern independent living apartments to full term care to a special needs section of the home.

Kearny County Emergency Medical Service provides ambulance service to residents in the county with equipment stationed in both Lakin and Deerfield. Air ambulance landings are provided at the local airport.

For further information the Kearny County Hospital may be reached at 620.355.7111 or visit their website, www.kearnycountyhospital.com.
Public Safety

Kearny County’s Public Safety ranks among the finest in the state. By utilizing agreements between local units of government, our citizens feel safe and enjoy life. Our county provides to all of its citizens Fire, Law Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services to the entire county. This allows for efficient operations while providing protection throughout the large geographic area.

Local law enforcement service is provided to citizens through dispatch operated from within the County Sheriff’s office. In addition to staffing the dispatch center, the Sheriff’s office provides round the clock protection to our communities, 365 days a year. They also provide school resource officers to all of the schools in the county and staff a jail. This is all done with trained, certified law enforcement professionals. The Sheriff’s office also utilizes an active reserve department.

Emergency Medical Services are provided with a mixture of full time and volunteer staff that ensures response when requested.

The County Fire and Rescue Departments are made up of dedicated volunteers who respond from stations in both Deerfield and Lakin and from rural stations located throughout the county.

Civic Organizations

Kearny County appreciates the dedicated work and volunteer spirit of its many civic organizations. Opportunities exist for anyone to serve from youth to senior citizen. In addition, many church and other organizations are always welcoming new faces.

Churches

More than a dozen churches across our county afford citizens the opportunity to attend and participate in this part of the Bible Belt. Regardless of the name on the shingle, attendees know that once inside they are among peaceful, caring congregations who also are their neighbors.

The Kearny County Ministerial Fellowship cooperates to provide a number of services and programs to the county. These would include the help-a-traveler program and the Kearny County Food Pantry. The Fellowship also provides community services during Advent and Lent.

Business

The Kearny County business community offers many opportunities to its citizens. Our service industry continues to grow and provide essential services to Kearny County. Farming, ranching, custom feeding of livestock, dairy production and the natural gas industry continue to provide economic stability to the county.

Many programs are available for those with the entrepreneurial spirit to bring or start a business. We offer large locations or available space to build your business on.

While currently our major employers outside the agriculture and natural resource industry would include the health care profession, schools and local units of government, we offer a wide variety of businesses that are willing to serve our citizens. These would include but are not limited to abstractors, agricultural related services, appraisal services, attorneys, auto service and repair, banking facilities, beauticians, bed and breakfast, carpentry, chiropractic services, construction services, car washes, catering, cleaners, computer sales and service, convenience stores, day care providers, floral, gift and craft stores, funeral home, grocery stores, hardware stores, insurance sales, laundromat, library, meat processing, motels, newspaper, pawn shop, pyrotechnics, realtors, restaurants, veterinarian service, video rentals, and welding and fabrication.

Businesses find that more opportunities exist in smaller populations without the hassles of large urban areas. There are a number of agencies available to help you start or expand your business. In Lakin, the Chamber of Commerce is active and throughout the county the office of Community Development will strive to accommodate your needs. In addition, Kearny County participates in a program of five counties called Enterprise Facilitation™ that offers free business coaching to clients confidentially.

Kearny County
Lakin

In 1873, Lakin was founded by its first settler, John O’Loughlin, to serve the needs of the pioneer spirit sweeping the nation. Named for a trustee with the Santa Fe Railroad, David Long Lakin, Mr. O’Loughlin’s trading post was established as a stop for the railroad. Lakin, the current county seat of Kearny County, has a current population near 2,500.

Our history is preserved by the hard work of the county historical society. Our city maintains a number of essential services and provides for quality of life with beautiful parks, gorgeous golf course and an aquatics center that houses both an indoor and outdoor swimming pool. Families can enjoy any of four superbly maintained parks to host picnics, take children to play ball, utilize play ground equipment, skate or walk on the walking track.

Quality educational opportunities abound through the pre-kindergarten through 12th grade programs provided by USD #215. Additional recreational and extra-curricular activities complete the educational process, providing athletic and academic competition for the pupil and a social climate for district patrons. The business district includes a vast array of existing business and offers room for new opportunities to prosper.

Deerfield

While the origin of this attractive town’s name is still arguable among some, this beautiful small community affords an excellent opportunity for a quality of life that is second to none. Some say the town is named for an official with the Santa Fe Railroad. Others maintain that the name originates from a large herd of deer that grazed here regularly in the 1880s.

The first post office was established March 3, 1882, and the founding fathers filed for record the City of Deerfield on October 27, 1885. Soon after its recorded beginning, a church, school and general store were the early start of this community.

This wonderful friendly small farming community offers many opportunities to those who have an interest in a slower paced neighborhood community that is inclusive of the entire town. Among the many amenities offered in Deerfield, one can enjoy a spacious park with playground, picnic and recreational areas. Across the street is a wonderful swimming pool complete with water slide and offering a myriad of swimming programs.

A quality school system that provides educational opportunities for pre-kindergarten through 12th grades in three buildings and a myriad of extra curricular activities for students to participate in creating a positive learning atmosphere for pupils and an enjoyable experience for patrons.

Lakin Independent

A Wonderful Life Opportunity

History

The opportunity to explore Kearny County's rich history can begin by stopping by the Kearny County Historical Society's Museum Complex in Lakin. It is during this step back in time that you will learn of the early one room school house, visit the oldest house in Lakin, tour the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad depot, the Conestoga wagons that hauled the freight delivered to town by the train, and view attractions dating back to the mid- and late-1800s.

Worth taking time to visit is the very unique 12-sided barn. This barn was built by a surveyor who served as superintendent of the Amazon Ditch Company. Also one may visit the farm machinery shed and learn about machines that plowed the prairie into the massive farm operations of today.

Our rich history has been extraordinarily preserved and displayed by members of the Historical Society. In addition to the museum complex, there are several Santa Fe Trail landmarks and attractions in Kearny County. Declared a National Historic Landmark May 8, 1987, the Santa Fe Trail was the primary route through Kearny County from the east. These landmarks would include Chouteau’s Island, Indian Mound and Bluff Station where the caravans sometimes journeyed south via the Bear Creek Pass to the Cimarron Trail near Wagon Bed Springs.