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University of Nebraska Lincoln

Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County

Annual Report 2002–2003

444 Cherrycreek Rd., Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528 • (402) 441-7180 • Web Site: lancaster.unl.edu

Extension Provides Reliable, Research-Based Information

Horticulture

- Horticulture education
- Plant problem diagnosis
- Master Gardener volunteers
- Yard waste management

4-H Youth Development

- Hands-on projects
- Gaining life skills
- Career development

Pest Management

- Insect pest identification
- Low-toxic solutions
- Wildlife educational resources

Food, Nutrition & Food Safety

- Nutrition, food safety and food preparation
- Stretching food dollars

Farms & Acreages

- Farm management
- Crop & livestock production
- Acreage owner programming

Strong Families

- Parenting/child care
- Marriage relationships
- Resource management

Environment of the Home

- Indoor air quality
- Home maintenance and safety
- Reduce, reuse, recycle

Leadership Development

- Families and youth
- Neighborhoods
- Organizations

New to Extension in 2003

UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County is committed to being relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of Lancaster County residents. Here are some new developments in extension programs.

Heart of 4-H Award

Lancaster County 4-H and 4-H Council established the monthly "Heart of 4-H Award" in January 2003 to recognize outstanding volunteers. Information about all 12 of this year's honorees are online at lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Clubs/ClubSpotlights. More than 750 adults volunteer their time and talents through 4-H to help youth develop life skills.

NEP Program Kits for Early Head Start

This past year, the Lancaster County Nutrition Education Program (NEP) developed and piloted 12 Early Head Start kits which rotated monthly between five child development centers.

Each kit focuses on a nutrition-related topic and includes a teacher's curriculum, supplies needed for hands-on activities, a supplied snack and a parent letter. While the kits emphasize healthy eating and food safety practices, the activities are also aimed at developing literacy and improving fine/gross motor skills.

More than 400 youth participated in kit-related activities.

NEP Teams Up With Every Woman Matters

New this year, NEP collaborated with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department to provide nutrition education for participants in the Every Woman Matters program (women age 40–65 who are low to moderate income level). Each session encourages women to **A**im for Fitness, **B**uild a Healthy Base and **C**hoose Sensibly.

Food Safety for Home Cooking on Web Site

In May 2003 a special section on "Food Safety for Home Cooking" was added to extension's Food Web site at lancaster.unl.edu/food/foodsafety.htm. Consumers can find information on everything from storing to preparing foods safely. It also includes food safety recommendations on everything from canning and freezing instructions to microwave, slow cooker and grilling guidelines. Content for the site is provided in partnership with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

"Ask Lorene"

For years, Extension Educator Lorene Bartos has given expert information on household management, shopping smart and recycling through The Nebline, her Sunday column in the "Journal Star" and via phone inquiries to extension. Starting in April 2003, people could get answers online via a new feature on extension's Web site, "Ask Lorene."

One of this year's "Can You Guess It?" photos. *Answer — it is a close up of moldy bread from a 4th grade classroom doing an experiment from a Nutrition Education Program (NEP) School Enrichment kit.*

Preschoolers at Carol Youkam Early Head Start place picture pieces on a magnet board as the book "Big Hungry Bear" is read to them. This activity is part of the "Fun With Fruit" kit developed by the Nutrition Education Program.

"Can You Guess It?"

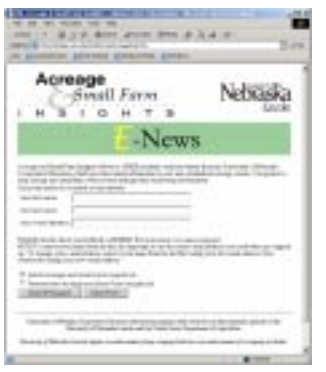
"Can You Guess It?" — focusing on a timely topic — debuted in September in The Nebline and on extension's Web site. Each answer provides related educational information.

Nitrogen & Irrigation Management Training

In cooperation with the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County presented "Nitrogen and Irrigation Management Training" seminars as part of the educational requirements for agricultural producers in the Lower Salt Creek groundwater management area.

4-H Involvement in "Holiday of Trees"

For the first time, 4-H became involved in Heritage League of Lincoln's *Holiday of Trees* which raises funds for various community projects. 4-H'ers created homemade ornaments and decorated three trees: "4-H is Alive at the County Fair," "4-H Memories" and "The Wild Side of 4-H." Funds benefitted the Salvation Army After School Hot Lunch Program.



Acreage & Small Farm Insights eNews

University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension began publishing a free monthly e-mail newsletter in March 2003. "Acreage & Small Farm Insights eNews" helps acreage and small farm owners better manage their rural living environment. People can sign up for the e-newsletter by going to dodge.unl.edu/Webforms/AcreageSub.htm.

4-H'ers decorated hundreds of ornaments for Heritage League's *Holiday of Trees* fundraising event.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Elbert C. Dickey, Director of Cooperative Extension, University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

We assure reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; for assistance contact UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507, 402-441-7180. TDD capability available.

Pioneering New Frontiers

University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County accomplishes the University of Nebraska's land-grant mission by delivering reliable, research-based information that you can use every day. Extension uses multiple delivery methods, ranging from direct teaching and publications to exciting new technologies such as satellite delivery and the Internet to link information of value to you and your family.

In our mission of "Putting Knowledge to Work," we've collaborated with more than 240 agencies, organizations, businesses and schools to develop and deliver educational programs which strengthen individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Many of our local extension programs have attracted statewide, regional, national and international attention.

During a recent tour, elected officials and UNL administrators and faculty were able to experience first-hand some of Lancaster County extension's programs.

With this annual report, we invite you to take an in-depth look at our program accomplishments over the past year.

Gary Bergman,
Extension Educator and Unit Leader

Local Extension Programs Attract Regional, National & International Attention

"Ants: Know Your Target" — training materials developed by UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County were integrated into a pest control operators recertification course delivered live via the Web to locations in South and North Dakota.

"Cockroach Control Manual" — this manual written by extension educators is being used as the basis of a fact sheet about cockroach control for the Washington, D.C. Asthma Coalition and is used extensively by many states in training activities.

earth wellness festival — organizers of Earth Awareness Researchers for Tomorrow's Habitat (Wichita, Kansas) and Georgia Children's Water Festival (Atlanta, Georgia) have patterned their events after Lincoln's successful **earth wellness festival**.

4-H Embryology Web Site (with Egg Cam) — one of 22 Web sites selected for inclusion in the American Library Association's 2003 Great Web Sites for Kids; Egg Cam was highlighted on goCyberCamp, a virtual camp for youth developed by University of Minnesota Extension Service.

Food Web Site — Continues to be rated "Among the Best" by Tufts University Nutrition Navigator; Cook It Quick section selected as "Site of the Day" by Refdesk; 72 other Web sites link to UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County's Food Web site.

Food-related Educational Materials — three handouts and a PowerPoint developed for local classes were selected for inclusion on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) "Resource CD" sent to all 5 A Day (of fruits and vegetables) coordinators nationwide.

Handwashing Poster — the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food Safety Training & Education Alliance Web sites link to handwashing posters developed by UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County and Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department for county use and shared worldwide via the Internet.

Grain Storage Management — University of Missouri Outreach & Extension incorporated UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County's presentation, "Grain Storage Management to Minimize Molds and Mycotoxins," into a regional certified crop advisor training.

Nutrition Education Program (NEP) School Enrichment Curriculum & Kits — extension offices and schools from 13 states and Canada have requested information about NEP's School Enrichment kits and may replicate the program.

"Removing Head Lice Safely" — more than 1,600 videotapes of this award-winning video has been sold nationally. The Korean Broadcasting System and French Société Radio Canada have requested to use the video in documentaries about head lice.

Termite Control — the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the City of Windom requested a termite workshop developed by UNL Cooperative Extension be conducted in Windom, MN; extension offices from Maryland, Florida, Arkansas have requested information and may replicate program; termite information was presented at national meeting of Entomology Society of America.

Web Site Has Over 3,750 Pages, 2.5 Million Hits Annually

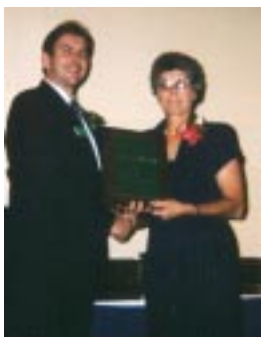
UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County's Web site, **lancaster.unl.edu**, has more than 3,750 pages of content and receives nearly 2.5 million hits annually.

Visitors can easily navigate the site and find extensive educational resources in extension's program areas. The site is updated daily and has interactive features such as movie clips, virtual panoramics, online registration forms, quizzes, searchable database and Master Gardener Diagnostic Center.

Not only do Lancaster County residents, Nebraskans and Americans utilize the site, the site also has Web users from more than 100 countries monthly.

"Thank you for globalizing your knowledge! I'm a mum living in London, England who had an unexpected visitor in my home last night — a spider ... I stumbled across your Web site and with your help have found it to be a harmless wood louse hunter! I only wish we had such a comprehensive and expansive link here in the UK."

UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County 2002–03 Honors and Awards



Extension Educator Lorene Bartos — 4-H Meritorious Service Award presented by National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA); Outstanding Service Award presented by Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (NCEA)

Extension Educator Gary C. Bergman — Epsilon Sigma Phi certificate of achievement; selected to co-present poster session at national Urban Extension Conference; appointed Lancaster County representative to Nebraska Great Plains Resource Conservation & Development

Extension Educator Tom Dorn — Regional Finalist, Fact sheet category, National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) Communication Award

earth wellness festival — special honor for achieving nearly 6,000 volunteer hours, presented by Ventures in Partnerships

Graduate Assistant William Freitas — selected to co-present poster session at national Urban Extension Conference

Extension Associate Arlene Hanna — Continuing Service Award presented by Ventures in Partnerships

Extension Educator Alice Henneman — selected to co-present poster session at national Urban Extension Conference; selected to co-present poster presentation at national meeting of Food and Nutrition Extension Educators and meeting of Society for Nutrition Education

Extension Assistant Vicki Jedlicka — Commissioner's Award of Excellence presented by Lancaster County Commissioners

Extension Educator LaDeane Jha — selected to present workshop and co-present two poster sessions at national Urban Extension Conference; co-authored article in national "Journal of Extension"

Extension Associate Deanna Karmazin — co-authored article in national "Journal of Extension"

Extension Associate Tracy Kulm — Achievement in Service Award presented by National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA)

Extension Associate Karen Wobig/Extension Educator Maureen Burson — selected to present workshop and poster presentation at Urban Extension Conference

About the Extension Board

The extension board serves as an advocate for UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County. The board provides assistance to extension staff in establishing and accomplishing extension education program goals and objectives. Annually, it assists in developing an operating budget and local educational priorities.

The 2003 Extension Board members were:

- Wayne Heyen (pres.)
- Deb Arends (vice pres.)
- Sheila Kepler (sec./treas.)
- Keith Dey
- Alice Doane
- Dean Lesoing
- Kendra Penrod
- Phil Rooney
- Clarice Steffens
- Gaylan Suhr
- Jay Wilkinson

Helping Every Time People Eat!

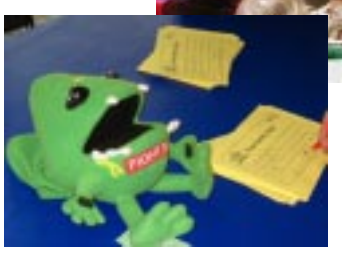
Two messages are emphasized in all of UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County's food programs — the importance of **nutrition** as well as **food safety**.

The Great Taste of Good Nutrition

Eating a healthy diet helps promote good health and reduces risk for chronic diseases such as heart disease, certain types of cancer, diabetes, stroke and osteoporosis — the leading causes of death and disability among Americans.

Extension Educator Alice Henneman helps people select and prepare healthy, enjoyable foods. One of her programs this year was "Eat Smart: How to Fill Up, Not Out."

Alice Henneman presenting a free class "Healthy Cooking with Spices & Herbs" at BryanLGH Medical Center.



Displays at health fairs include food safety quizzes.

Handling Food Safely

An estimated 76 million cases of foodborne disease occur each year in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). On a yearly basis, foodborne diseases are related to an estimated: 325,000 hospitalizations, 5,000 deaths, $3 billion cost of hospitalizations, $20–40 billion cost of lost productivity.

Extension is the lead agency in Lancaster County for educating consumers about food safety. Many consumers call the extension office with home food safety concerns.

Henneman, in partnership with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, has developed several educational materials to promote food safety, including articles, posters, flyers and table tents.

Blending It All Together

In food preparation, nutrition decisions and food safety procedures go hand in hand. Extension blends nutrition, food safety and food preparation information in user-friendly ways.

Extension's Food Web site, lancaster.unl.edu/food, offers a variety of materials to help people select and prepare healthy food. The site received more than 650,000 hits last year.

"Food Reflections," an e-mail newsletter, is sent to more than 8,500 health professionals, educators and consumers. Articles are also archived on the Web site.

"Cook It Quick" is a section of the Web site with a monthly e-newsletter which has more than 6,600 subscribers.

"Oh my gosh what a wonderful web site! You have no idea how much I NEEDED this information."

—"Cook It Quick" e-newsletter subscriber

"You provide the most practical and easy-to-understand information I have found online. Thank you!"

—"Food Reflections" e-newsletter subscriber

Spotlight on Extending Program Outreach: Cooking with Spices & Herbs

By using multiple media formats and distribution channels, extension is able to extend the outreach of programs from hundreds of people to thousands.

Extension Educator Alice Henneman presented a free class "Healthy Cooking with Spices & Herbs" as part of BryanLGH Medical Center's Wellness series. 350 people attended the program. A radio program was also done on the topic.

The Lancaster County Nutrition Education Program incorporated materials into their lessons.

Program handouts were posted on extension's Food Web site and have received a total of 12,297 hits. One Web user responded, "My husband is recuperating from triple bypass cardiac surgery. I am always looking for ideas to keep him on track nutritionally. Thank you for this series."

The PowerPoint slideshow was posted online for other nutrition educators to use in their programming. It has been downloaded 2,540 times.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) saw the materials and included them on a "Resource CD" sent to all 5 A Day coordinators nationwide.

Limited-Income Residents Stay Healthy Through Nutrition Education Program

Lancaster County Nutrition Education Program (NEP) helps limited resource families learn to prepare nutritious and safe foods while stretching their food dollars.

In NEP, qualifying adults learn through small groups at agency or community sites, or individually through home visits, mail lessons or phone consultations.

This past year, the Lancaster County NEP staff taught 2,014 nutrition education lessons to 1,844 people who care for 6,845 family members.

NEP partners with more than 165 agencies, classrooms and coalitions and receives funding from the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) through USDA, the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP) through Health and Human Services, Lincoln Housing Authority, Early Head Start through Lincoln Action Program and other sources. Women, Infants and Children (WIC) continues to be a primary partner.

Participants in a Nutrition Education Program class learn about the Food Guide Pyramid.

New this year, NEP was able to provide classes in Arabic and Persian.

Program evaluations show graduates made positive changes in nutrition practices, food resource management and food safety.

"I've eaten a veggie at every meal and have added fruit to breakfast," one participant reported. She almost always plans meals ahead of time as a result of the program and saves money by eating most meals at home.

Research shows for every dollar invested in NEP programs, there is a projected health care cost savings of $8.82.

Promoting Healthy and Safe Homes

Extension Educator Lorene Bartos modeled a dress made from highway department scrap during WasteCap's Business R&R Event.

In the past year, Extension Educator Lorene Bartos has disseminated information on home maintenance, indoor air quality, lead paint hazards, safety in the home, shopping smart and recycling through The Nebline, extension's Web site, her weekly column in the "Lincoln Journal Star" and other outreach methods.

Bartos is a member of the advisory board for WasteCap of Lincoln. WasteCap promotes waste reduction and recycling by providing local businesses technical assistance and recycling services. The training and education committee (of which Bartos is also part of) developed a technical guide, "Recycling 101: Train and Maintain."

More than 220 child care providers gain inservice hours by participating in three day-long Child Care Conferences organized by extension and other Lincoln agencies. The conferences help increase participants' knowledge and skills in the areas of child development and age related activities.

Extension Builds Strong Families, Communities

Extension partners with a variety of community agencies to strengthen families and communities.

This year, Parents Forever classes, part of the Lancaster County Coalition to assist Children of Parents Experiencing Divorce (COPED), taught 75 divorcing parents how children might be affected by divorce. According to one participant, "These programs have taught us some positive techniques to strengthen our family, thank you."

Through Real Colors Matrixx workshops conducted by extension staff, more than 270 people gained a better understanding of people and personalities, and how to communicate better.

Extension promotes character education of youth and adults with Character Counts! and other character education programs.

The Neighbors Working Together (NWT) Project — one of four projects in the Community Outreach Partnership Center's (COPC) program — collaborates with other partners such as the Community Learning Centers (CLC) and Neighborhoods, Inc. to help develop leadership through trainings and other methods.

A Community Outreach Partnership Center meeting for community leaders.

Family and Community Education Clubs

FCE members collected 160 pounds of food for the Food Bank at this year's Achievement Night.

Family and Community Education (FCE) clubs are an educational, social and community-oriented program designed to meet the needs and interests of Nebraska homemakers. FCE members help strengthen communities and families through education, leadership and action. Community service continues to be a major emphasis. FCE awards an annual scholarship to a student majoring in Family & Consumer Science or a health occupation.

To become involved in FCE, contact a current member or the extension office at 441-7180 .

The Buzz on Controlling Insects and Other Pests

Invaded by ants? Mortified by mice? Spooked by spiders? UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County has extensive resources to help identify pests and suggest management options.

Last year, Extension Educator Barb Ogg and Extension Associate Soni Cochran responded to more than 2,500 phone calls, 750 walk-in identifications and 400 e-mail requests for information. Extension's pest and wildlife Web pages received more than 1.4 million hits.

Ogg often works with community organizations and industry professionals in training and disseminating pest control resources and assistance.

She is part of a team which recently authored results of a survey of Nebraska school officials about pest management practices. She also contributed material for several chapters in "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools: A How To Manual." The IPM in Schools team is comprised of UNL faculty, Nebraska Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health and Human Services and other organizations.

At this year's Home & Garden Show, Extension Educator Barb Ogg (right) educated attendees about home pest problems.

A "Cockroach Control Manual," written by extension educators, has been widely acclaimed as an easy-to-read manual that teaches low-toxic methods of controlling cockroaches. Translated into Japanese, both versions on the Internet receive more than 600,000 hits annually.

Ogg and Cochran have developed extensive head lice resources, including printed material, photos and an award-winning video, "Removing Head Lice Safely." Translated into Spanish and Arabic, it plays more than 27 times per month on Lincoln Cable Channel.

Or, just V. Pedibhotla, Ph.D., Product Development - The Scotts Company, wrote, "I am a frequent visitor to your Web page. Being an entomologist, I am particularly interested in the insects and the information that goes with your publications. I hope a lot of homeowners would find your web-page useful just like I did."

Termite Workshops Help Consumers Make Better Decisions

Since 1995, "Everything Homeowners Need to Know About Termites & Termite Control," has been presented 35 times in Lincoln, Omaha and greater Nebraska. More than 1,450 people have attended.

UNL Cooperative Extension conducts the workshops to educate consumers to make more informed decisions about termites and termite control options. The program covers termite biology and behavior, preventing termite damage, inspecting homes, and understanding treatments and termiticide labels.

According to a post-workshop survey, 98 percent of those attending had more confidence in their ability to make decisions about termite control and 82 percent said the workshop helped save them money.

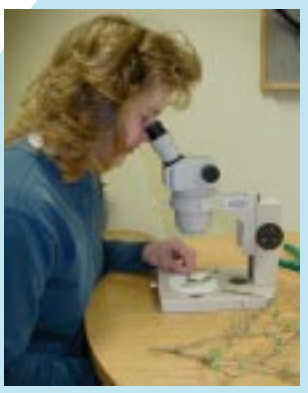
Because applications are so expensive, educated consumers can save thousands of dollars.

Extension also has a manual, "Subterranean Termites: A Handbook for Homeowners," which is available on the Internet.

Tim Creger, Nebraska Department of Agriculture Pesticide Program Manager, credits the termite workshops for making consumers more aware about improper applications and helping his department uncover compliance problems with termiticide applications. The problem with termiticide misapplications are not new, but people who are better educated about them understand what constitutes a proper application.

Termite swarmers (above) in a Lincoln home with an extensive termite infestation. There was more than $30,000 of damage to the house, including a destroyed house beam (below).

Plant and Pest Diagnostic Services



Extension Associate Mary Jane Frogge looks at a plant specimen.

Throughout the year, Lancaster County residents bring sick plant parts and an assortment of insects, pests and wildlife "signs" to the UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County office.

A free service, extension horticulturists and entomologists identify insects, weeds and diseases in and around the home and garden and make recommendations about the best way to help manage these problems.

People can save money, protect trees and ornamentals and their home and eliminate nuisance pests — often with less pesticides — by having a correct diagnosis and using expert recommendations.

Photo of a drugstore and cigarette beetle taken with a digital microscope and used to illustrate educational materials.

"Soni Cochran and Barb Ogg have been 'regulars' on KFOR's "Problems & Solutions" show, answering a variety of calls from our listeners. Whenever they are on, we know it will be wall-to-wall phone calls — and their wealth of knowledge (with no notes) never ceases to amaze me."

—Cathy Blythe, host of "Problems & Solutions" weekdays 9:10–10 a.m. on KFOR 1240AM

Cultivating Smart Yard and Garden Practices

Gardens and other green spaces help make cities more enjoyable, liveable and sustainable. UNL Cooperative Extension plays a vital role in teaching communities horticulture issues customized for local weather, water, soil and pest conditions.

Extension also helps property owners develop healthy, diverse and functional landscapes that are energy efficient and less dependant on pesticides.

In 2003, Extension Educator Don Janssen and Extension Associate Mary Jane Frogge, with the assistance of Master Gardeners:

- Presented 104 educational programs to groups and through other venues such as home and garden shows.
- Disseminated information through the media, such as "Garden Gossip," a weekly column in the "Lincoln Journal Star;" "Lincoln Live" on KFOR radio; and "Backyard Farmer" on Nebraska ETV.
- Answered more than 7,200 telephone calls.
- Diagnosed problems via samples brought to the extension office or on-site.
- Continued adding educational resources to the gardening section of the Web site.

Extension also educates employees in the horticulture industry through the Nebraska Commercial Horticulture Clinics and videos. This year, two videos were developed: "Annuals for the Landscape" and "Perennial Selection and Care."

A teaching curriculum, "The Dynamics and Profitability of Landscaping: Beyond Escrow Flowers," was presented to 125 real estate and land appraiser professionals to promote functional and sustainable landscapes.

Managing Yard Waste

Extension conducted 18 hands-on composting presentations throughout Lincoln to teach citizens how to successfully compost yard waste in their own backyards. More than 350 residents attended these presentations. An estimated 3,000 residents participate in an informal, self-guided tour of the composting demonstration site at University Place Park, 50th and Colby Streets.

Extension Educator Don Janssen in "Perennial Selection and Care," a video developed to educate employees in the horticulture industry.

Extension horticulturists also educate the public on the benefits of mulching grass clippings through a "Bag-No-More" campaign.

The City of Lincoln Recycling Office estimates these educational programs will extend the life of the Bluffs Road landfill by three to five years over the next 25 years.

Master Gardeners Field Calls from Public

The Master Gardener Training Program is a volunteer program where people are given training by University of Nebraska personnel and then in return provide 40 hours of volunteer time to educational extension programs such as:

- Answering horticulture phone calls
- Presenting educational programs and workshops
- Assisting in 4-H and other youth programs
- Establishing and maintaining community beautification projects

Extension Associate Mary Jane Frogge coordinates the Master Gardener program for Lancaster County.

The City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department offer support to the Master Gardener trainings and in return, Master Gardeners provide educational information at public gardens.

In 2003, 40 Lancaster County Master Gardeners logged 2,028 volunteer hours and had 12,429 direct clientele contacts.

Master Gardeners answer horticulture calls during the growing season.

Agricultural Programs Support Nebraska's Premiere Industry

Lancaster County has approximately 1,540 commercial farms covering 421,000 acres — farm products bring in more than $82 million annually. UNL Cooperative Extension continues to make agricultural profitability and sustainability a priority issue. Extension Educator Tom Dorn fulfills this goal through numerous workshops and meetings, educational resources, person-to-person contacts and a Web site.

A Crop Protection Clinic was offered to help ag producers make informed weed, insect and disease management decisions. Participants reported an estimated value of the program to be $5.37 per acre — a total benefit of $1.6 million to participants.

Financial Record Keeping workshops help farm operators develop more accurate financial records.

A series of four Financial Record Keeping workshops were offered in the surrounding counties to farm operators. Of the responses, 82 percent said they learned to create reports that will help them make better management decisions and 58 percent expected to save time and/or money when preparing their income tax return.

Crop producers continue to take the Irrigation Home Study Course (developed by UNL Cooperative Extension in 1998) which teaches irrigation management schemes. Responses indicate an average savings of $4.22 per acre. — an estimated annual savings of $3.5 million to participants.

Two Waste Pesticide Collections in Lancaster County last year safely disposed of 17,331 pounds of pesticide products and PCB's. These collections were held in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Fertilizer & Ag Chemical Association and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

Through the Pesticide Container Recycling program, about 9,500 pounds of pesticide containers were collected and recycled in Lancaster County last year.

Understanding the 2003 Farm Bill

Six seminars were presented to help farmers take advantage of the new farm legislation to reduce risk and maximize profitability. There were 316 producers, ag lenders and farm managers who attended. These seminars were presented in cooperation with the Lancaster County Farm Service Agency.

Information on the farm bill was also made available through UNL Cooperative Extension's Web site, including a link to the Texas A&M Base and Yield Analyzer (BYA). The BYA Web site was accessed 2,304 times for farms in Lancaster County reflecting 459,580 acres (represented essentially all of the crop land in the county).

In one case, Extension Educator Tom Dorn helped two brothers who are farming more than 3,500 acres. The calculated program payments using the best option according to the BYA were more than $10,000 per year higher ($60,000 over the six years of the farm bill) than the option they were previously considering.

Biosolids Program Saves $4.5 million

After the 2003 harvest, Mark Benes had one field that yielded 10 percent more corn than ever before. This fact was even more amazing considering the lack of rain during the heat of the summer. He also had 50 acres of pasture that grew grass so lush that he could have grazed more cattle on it. He believes Lincoln's nutrient-rich biosolids, which were applied to these fields, was the reason for the increased yields.

Extension Technologist Dave Smith (above) takes soil samples to determine the amount of biosolids to apply.

Biosolids are organic solids that are separated from wastewater and biologically processed during wastewater treatment to make them safe for land application.

UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County coordinates distribution and application of biosolids to agricultural cropland for the City of Lincoln Wastewater and Solid Waste Division.

Mark Benes was one of 20 farmers who used biosolids in 2003. This past year more than 37,000 tons of biosolids were delivered and/or applied to 55 fields and 1,319 acres of crop land.

While results vary, Mark is not alone in seeing a significant improvement in crop yields. Most farmers report higher yields for several years after just one biosolids application. Studies have shown the nutrient value of biosolids is worth at least $25 per acre for the first year's crop.

Since 1992, when the City of Lincoln's Biosolids Land Application program began, more than 285,000 tons of biosolids have been distributed to crop fields. This program has saved taxpayers $4.5 million by keeping this recyclable material out of the landfill.

Mark says biosolids are "worth their weight in gold" and will continue using them to improve his soil and crop yields.

Increasing Outreach Through "Training the Trainer"

In addition to direct outreach, UNL Cooperative Extension trains individuals who, in turn, impact or teach others. This includes teachers, business professionals, food and other service industry workers, government employees, health professionals, childcare providers, master gardeners and community volunteers.

Here are some ways Cooperative Extension "trains the trainer" in Lancaster County:

- Provides integrated pest management (IPM) educational resources for **pest control professionals, health care professionals** and **social workers**.
- Provides training for **Commercial Pesticide Applicator** certification. More than 300 people were trained or recertified at the Lancaster Extension Education Center in 2003.
- Provides training for **Master Gardener volunteers** who then share the information with the public through phone calls, direct contacts, educational programs and special events.
- Offers termite and landscaping workshops which **Real estate licensees** receive continuing education credits from the Nebraska Real Estate Commission for attending.
- Educates **Commercial horticulture industry employees** on localized horticulture issues with commercial horticulture clinics and videos.
- Offers extensive resources on the Food Web site and e-newsletters for **health professionals** and **educators** to use for more successful food, nutrition and food safety programming.
- Presents leader training lessons to **Family and Community Education club members** and other **community leaders.**
- Through 4-H, provides ongoing leadership training to **4-H leaders and parents** and Livestock Quality Assurance training to 4-H farm families.
- Through 4-H School Enrichment, provides **1–5 teachers** with curriculum, training and materials for hands-on classroom activities.
- In cooperation with other agencies, offers child care conferences which **Child Care Providers** gain inservice hours for attending.
- Developed head lice resources used by many **health professionals**.
- Developed a teaching program for **real estate** and **land appraiser professionals** to help promote functional and sustainable landscapes.
- Developed an award-winning game "Don't Get Bugged by a Foodborne Illness," for **nutrition educators** to teach consumers important food safety practices. More than 3,000 copies of the game have been sold to educators nationally and internationally.
- Through Neighbors Working Together, has led or facilitated several leadership trainings for **neighborhood leaders**.
- Has conducted Success Marker/Journey Mapping trainings for **extension staff** across the state.

Extension Educator Tom Dorn demonstrates protective clothing and equipment during a pesticide certification training.

"Extension's programs turn knowledge into action which helps create a stronger Nebraska."

—Wayne Heyen,
Lancaster County Extension Board

Volunteers Contribute to Extension's Success

4-H clubs and activities, such as Clover College (above), are made possible by numerous volunteers donating their time and talents.

Last year, UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County programs benefitted from 1,320 volunteers investing 29,127 hours of time for a total value of $481,761.* Extension trains and supports, as well as coordinates the efforts of, a variety of volunteers: 4-H leaders and superintendents, Master Gardeners, Family Community Education (FCE) volunteers, NEP volunteers and **earth wellness festival** presenters and assistants. 4-H and FCE members often volunteer in community-related projects. Thanks to all these volunteers who help make extension's programs successful!

*Independent Sector values volunteer time at $16.54/hour.

4-H Teaches Science and Life Skills in

4-H is University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension's youth development program. In the past year, 4-H reached 22,994 youth in Lancaster County (44 percent of the eligible youth).

HEAD HEART HANDS HEALTH

"4-H scholarships give high school students an incentive to stick with 4-H throughout high school. I am grateful now that I stayed in 4-H until senior year because of all the skills that I have received from the program."
—Rebecca Fiala, 4-H Council and Teen Counci member

4-H Clubs and Projects Emphasize Learning By Doing

Youth ages 5–19 can become 4-H members by joining one or more 4-H clubs or becoming an independent member who works on projects individually. Some clubs complete several projects a year and some focus on one particular project area.

4-H has more than 150 project areas available, including: bicycles, chess, child development, clothing, computers, electricity, entomology, flowers/gardening, foods, home environment, horses, household pets, livestock (beef, dairy, swine, sheep, goats, llamas), photography, rocketry, small engines and woodworking.

In addition to teaching practical skills, 4-H develops life skills such as thinking critically, solving problems, respecting self and communicating.

The Checkmates chess club sponsored their first statewide tournaments this year.

Youth enjoy 4-H because they choose which projects they participate in and they receive personalized attention from their leaders and parents while working on projects. These adult/child mentoring relationships are crucial to the positive learning experiences youth gain in 4-H. Youth also have fun in 4-H and develop new friends.

In 2003, Lancaster County had 99 active 4-H clubs. Independent membership was up 23 percent.

Youth interested in joining 4-H can contact Tracy Kulm at 441-7180 or visit the Web site at lancaster.unl.edu/4H.

"4-H teaches responsibility and citizenship. Clubs actively involve youth in service projects so 4-H'ers have opportunities to give back to the community."
—Keith Dey, 4-H Council president

Spotlight on a 4-H Club: Pet Pals

The members of Pet Pals 4-H Club share an interest in learning more about the health and well-being of their small pets. The club holds meetings 8 to 10 times a year. A typical meeting is attended by 5 to 12 of its 22 members, with many parents and siblings joining them.

Sheri Ramirez and Shirley Condon are co-leaders. Meetings follow an agenda of old and new business, announcements, the evening's activity, treats provided by a family and scheduling the next meeting date. Often 4-H'ers bring their pets to show.

Meeting activities range from guest speakers to community service projects. Past speakers have included a chinchilla breeder, a graduate student from Wesleyan with rats from the Rat Olympics, a researcher who studies bees (he brought a box of bumblebees!), a specialty pet food manufacturer and representatives from animal rescue organizations. One meeting was held at a pet store where club members were given a tour and tips on animal care.

This year's community service projects included organizing the club's annual petting zoo at the Lincoln Children's Museum, staffing a game booth at the Kiwanis Karnival and decorating a tree at the Heritage League's "Holiday of Trees."

Members of the 4-H Pet Pals Club organize a yearly petting zoo at the Children's Museum.

Club members also brought pets and answered questions at the 4-H Kick Off. The club donated money from its treasury for special ribbons awarded at the Lancaster County Fair 4-H Household Pet Show.

This year, club members exhibited a total of 10 animals and three educational posters at the Lancaster County Fair 4-H Household Pet Show and Quiz Bowl. All animals earned purple ribbons, in addition to six rosettes and a Grand Champion trophy.

For 4-H'ers, however, the best rewards are learning about taking responsibility for the health and care of their pets, and receiving unconditional love from their pets in return.

About 4-H Council

Paula Peterson (left) was one of many 4-H Council members who assisted at this year's 4-H Kick Off.

Lancaster County 4-H Council is responsible for determining long- and short-term goals and policy for Lancaster County 4-H. They also raises funds by staffing a snack booth at the Lancaster County Fair. These funds help support 4-H programs and activities.

The 2003 4-H Council members were:

- Keith Dey (pres.)
- Emily Veburg (vice-pres.)
- Karen Rutt (treas.)
- Connie Lemke (sec.)
- Deb Arends
- Kathleen Arends
- Rebecca Fiala
- Cindy Fiala
- Jolene Fujan
- Monica Fujan
- Jean Pedersen
- Nicole Pedersen
- Paula Peterson
- Denise Schachenmeyer
- Gene Veburg

Opportunities for Personal Growth and Leadership

4-H offers youth a variety of activities and opportunities which help teach youth decision-making skills and build self-confidence.

Record keeping of projects teaches 4-H'ers record keeping, writing and responsibility.

Youth learn public speaking in the **Speech** and **Demonstration Contests**. Ian Badeer says, "By participating in the Speech Contest, I learned the ability to write and deliver a speech properly. These speaking abilities will help me the rest of my life."

Livestock exhibitors have several opportunities to participate in activities across the state, including **progress shows**, the **District Horse Show, State Fair** and the **Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Expo**.

Fifty-one 4-H'ers currently participate in **Citizen Washington Focus** (CWF), which organizes an educational trip to Washington D.C. every three years. This year, CWF members raised $60,000 through various fundraisers for their June 2005 trip.

4-H Council includes youth members (see left). **4-H Teen Council** members assist with many 4-H activities such as Speech Contest and Fair Fun Day. They also plan, organize and lead a 5th and 6th grade overnight Lock-In.

This year, more than $6,100 in **4-H scholarships** was given to graduating seniors.

4-H Teen Council hosted many activities at the 2003 Lancaster County Fair, including the Ice Cream Social.

Open to All Youth

Many activities are open to 4-H and non-4-H youth. **Clover College** is a four-day series of workshops held each June. The annual overnight **5th & 6th Grade Lock-In** is held in January. More than 35 **4-H Camps** are offered each summer at the three Nebraska 4-H camp facilities.

The Lancaster County Fair has one of the largest county fair horse shows in the state.

County Fair Showcases Projects

The County Fair marks the end of the activity year for 4-H members, who work the rest of the year on projects, many of which are exhibited. Winners at the county level go on to State Fair.

At the 2003 Lancaster County Fair, 3,866 exhibits were showcased by 632 4-H members.

This fair marked the start of a new, local Future Agriculturist Incentive and Rewards (F.A.I.R.) program funded, in part, by Alumni Showmanship contests.

New this year was a potato bar sponsored by 4-H Council.

Clubs, Schools and on the Web

4-H School Enrichment Programs Feature Hands-On Learning Activities

School Enrichment programs have been a part of Nebraska's 4-H program since 1974. These programs include teacher guides, videos, books, posters, experiments, games and more. Extension staff develop the programs, train teachers on their use and go into the classrooms for hands-on activities with students.

In the 2002-03 school year, UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County educated 17,498 youth in 61 schools through the following science-oriented School Enrichment programs:

Embryology

Through incubating and hatching baby chicks in the classroom, third graders study life-cycles. A core (required) subject in the science program of the Lincoln Public Schools, Embryology meets the National and Nebraska Learning Standards of Excellence.

Garbology

Garbology is a curriculum and kit with hands-on activities which introduces second graders to solid waste management and the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. This unit is a core subject in the science curriculum at Lincoln Public Schools.

2nd graders at McPhee discover vermicomosting with worms.

Vermicomposting

Second graders learn a new way to compost in Vermicomposting. About 1,000 red wigglers can eat up to three to five pounds of kitchen scraps a week. Their castings can then be added to potting or garden soil for richer plantings.

Blue Sky Below My Feet

Blue Sky Below My Feet links space technology to the everyday interests of fourth grade students. Youth learn about gravity, taste space food and communicate with NASA via the Internet.

4-H Water Riches

With an emphasis on quantity and quality, 4-H Water Riches looks at the complexities of one of our most precious resources — water.

"The 4-H school enrichment program is a tremendous asset to the Lincoln Public Schools science curriculum. Students truly benefit from and enjoy using the following materials."

—Lois Mayo, science curriculum specialist at Lincoln Public Schools

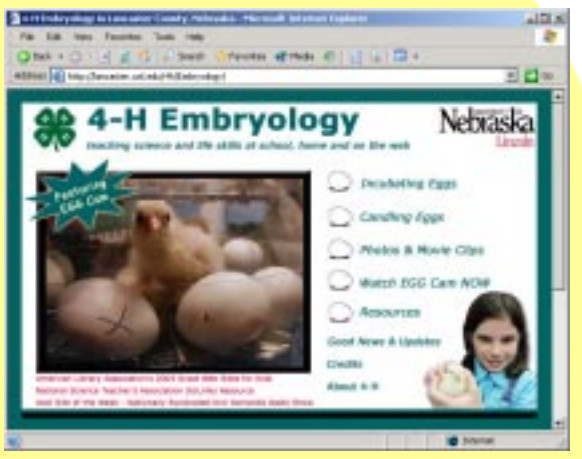
earth wellness festival

5th graders from Maxey explore "Furs, Feathers and Scales!"

Extension collaborates with 10 community partners to present the **earth wellness festival (ewf)**, a yearlong school curriculum with a one-day festival offering approximately 3,000 fifth graders hands-on experiences to discover the interdependency of land, water, air and living resources.

Egg Cam Provides Bird's Eye View of Chicks Hatching on Web

Web viewers can take part in the 4-H Embryology program via Egg Cam and other embryology resources online. Youth, families and classrooms can access information (including photos and movies) about incubating, candling and hatching eggs. Egg Cam has featured chickens, ducks, turkeys, peacocks, quail, pheasant and Guinea fowl successfully hatching.



Nathan (age 8) e-mailed, "It is cool to watch the chicks hatch. Since almost all the kids are just thinking about when is the chick going to hatch they don't think about themselves learning."

A parent wrote, "Great site! I'm helping my daughters' classes hatch duck eggs as a parent volunteer project. I've looked *all* over the web and your site is by *far* the best."

Ag Awareness Festival

4th graders from Hamlow learn about changes in farm technology.

Fourth graders who attend the Ag Awareness Festival gain a greater understanding of agriculture and how it impacts their daily lives. This is the third year the festival has been held in Lincoln.

Nutrition Education Program Teaches Healthy Eating

Lancaster County's Nutrition Education Program (NEP) offers several School Enrichment programs to qualifying, limited-resource schools.

During the 2002-2003 school year, 1,900 Lancaster County youth in 104 classrooms participated in NEP youth presentations. Teachers averaged 11 hours of nutrition instruction in their classrooms per school year, up from two hours in 1998/99.

5th Graders from Norwood Park make yogurt parfaits.

NEP has developed supplemental kits of hands-on educational experiences designed to enhance first, fourth and fifth grade school health curriculum. Teachers may request these kits for three-week periods, and an extension staff member presents a handwashing and healthy snack food preparation activity in the classrooms as part of the program.

For grades kindergarten, second and third, NEP offers classroom presentations teaching proper handwashing and healthy eating through the food guide pyramid.

In addition to School Enrichment programs, NEP provides nutrition programs at a variety of community sites such as summer youth camps, preschool and school-age childcare centers and teen residential treatment programs.

Thanks to Sponsors

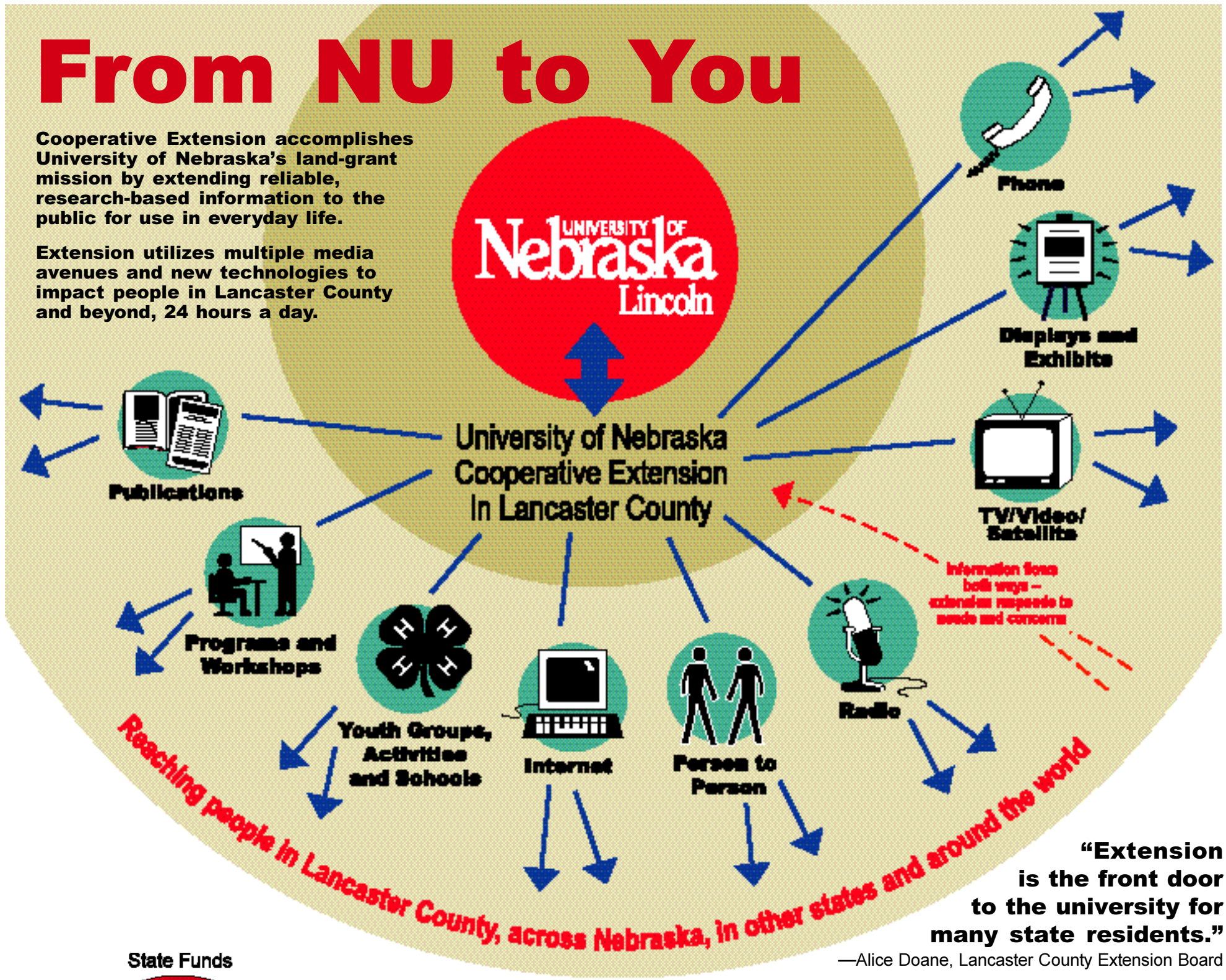
The educational experience of 4-H'ers is enhanced by support from business and individuals who donate money or in-kind gifts to 4-H events, activities and programs. Lancaster County 4-H would like to thank all of its sponsors.

Amigos, Inc.
Animal Care Clinic
Animal Pet Haven Hospital
Anonymous
Joel Armstrong
Rebecca L. Arnold, D.V.M, Ph.D.
Applebee's
Audio-Visual
Avon - Holly Wittstruck
Awards Unlimited
Chet Axthelm Memorial Cup
Grimm-Axthelm Memorial
Jim and Cindy Bauman
Bauman Livestock Feed & Supply - Martell
Beacon Hills
Belmont Veterinary Clinic
Krystal Bloomquist
Blue Stem Valley Farm
John & Pam Branson
Burden Sales, Inc.
Burlington Northern Railroad
Buzzard Billy's
Cabin Realty and Ag Services
Campbell's Cultivating Ideas
Capitol Animal Clinic, P.C.
Capitol Aviation, Inc.
Capitol Pork Producers
Kathy Calvert, D.V.M.
Chapelle Polled Herefords
David and Kim Cheney Family
Warren Cheney Family
Circle D Ranch
City of Lincoln Citizen Information Center
City of Lincoln Recycling Office
Clear Choice Water
Comfort Inn
Condon Family
Cook's Family Foods
The Cookie Company
Cornhusker Bank
Crawford Family Shorthorns
DJTJ Angus
Dairy Council of Nebraska
Ted DeHass & Sons
Designs By Yvonne
Ted and Alice Doane
Don Dierberger Family
Dorchester Farmers Cooperative
Douglas Theatre Company
Ron Dowding Family
Robert & Sandra Dresser
Eagle State Bank
Dick Earl
Earl May Nursery & Garden Centers
Experian
Environmental Health Systems, Inc.
Environmental Protection Agency – Region 7
4-H Council
4-H Teen Council
4N Angus
Fairbury Hotdogs
Famous Dave's
Farm Bureau Lancaster County
Farm Credit Services of America
Farmers Bank of Cook
Farmers Bank - Waverly
Farmers Cooperative Co. - Waverly
Farmers National Company
Finke Gardens & Nursery
First State Bank - Hickman
Firth Cooperative Co.
Fitch Trucking, Inc.
Forney Animal Center
The Fort Western Outfitters
Four Winds Farm
Joe, Lois and Julia French
Julia French Show Cattle
Melvin and Linda Gagner
Gagner Construction
Gana/Nisley Show Cattle
The Garden Café
Gateway Bowl
Blayne Glissman Family
Godfather's Pizza
Goodrich Dairy
LaKaBrTyDe Farms
Laverne Grage Family
Haes Contracting, Inc.
Hancock Fabrics
Hanna Architects
Linda Hanigan
Livestock Alumni Show participants and donors
Harlan's Automotive, Inc.
Heidtbrink Feeds
Irene Heidtbrink Memorial
Hobby Lobby
Rod Hollman
Holthus Family
Hoppe & Harner, Attorneys at Law
Wayne, Joyce and Eric House
Larry and Senator Carol Hudkins
Husker Electric Supply
Hyline Hatchery
Deanna and Steve Karmazin Family
Jaycees of Waverly
David and Tina Johnson
Keech Trees
Kent Feeds
Lancaster County Agricultural Society
Land for the Seventh Generation
LAN-OTOE Farm
Lazlo's
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lessmann
Lincoln Center Kiwanis Club
Lincoln Paint Center, Inc.
Lincoln Public Schools
Lincoln Solid Waste Management Association
Lincoln Women's Chamber of Commerce
Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
Mail Plus
Misty's Restaurant & Lounge
Macaroni Grill
Cleo and Don Madden
McDonald's Restaurants
Merle's Food & Drink
Messick Quarter Horses
Modern Methods
Mueller Farms
Clyde & Helen Naber
NE Beef Council
NE Corn Growers Association
NE Department of Environmental Quality
NE Environmental Trust
NE Humanities Council
NE Pork Producers
NE Soybean Board
NE Water Environment Association
Abbey & Cortney Neemann
Ian Neemann
Steven & Stephanie Nelson
Nisley Brother's Shorthorns
Norris FFA Alumni
Novartis Consumer Health, Inc.
Oak Creek Plants & Flowers
Oak Creek Valley Bank
Barb and Clyde Ogg
Paragon Sanitation
Duane Parrish Family
Parrott Family
Patterson Supply Company/ Tom Filipi, agent - Davey
Larry Pershing
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company
The Pet Ark
Pet Pals 4-H Club
The Pet Stop
Pfizer Global Manufacturing
Pineland Tree Farm
Pinnacle Bank
Pitt's Veterinary Hospital
Lois Princ
Radio Shack
Rainbows End
Raymond Central FFA Alumni
Recycling Enterprises, Inc.
Rick, Tammy, Nick and Andra Rasby
Rixstine Trophy Co., Inc.
Roberts Dairy Co.
Rock Creek Ranchers
Ervin Rolofson/Raymond Grand
Rotellas Bakery
Ruby Tuesday
Russell Princ Registered Angus.
Russ's IGA
Pat and Larry Ruth
Saline State Insurance Agency/Dan James, agent
Salt Valley Grange #413
Sandhills Publishing Company
Schaefer's TV and Appliance Center
Sew Creative
Allen and Charlene Sieck
Sieck Show Cattle
Shepherd of the Hills Church - Hickman
Skeeter Barnes
Deb Snell Memorial
Ron and Donna Snover
Southeast Community College – Lincoln
Sprague Country Club
Star City Dog Agility Club
Staybridge Suites
Steele Business Services
TGI Friday's
Kaye Thurston
TierOne Bank
Tractor Supply Co.
Triple RRR Farms
Union Bank and Trust Company
Union Bank & Trust Co., Ag Loan Dept.
UNL Department of Animal Science
Valentino's Inc.
Michael Vaughn Family
Vo-Acres Dairy
Wachal Pet Health Center
Wal-Mart
Waverly FFA
Waverly Grange #369
Weavers
Wells Fargo Bank NE
Welp, Inc.
Westfield Shopping Center - Gateway
Wether-Ewe Farm — Doug and Cheryl Johnson
Wilkinson Sheep Farm
Dwayne and Joan Wittstruck
Wolfe Ace Hardware

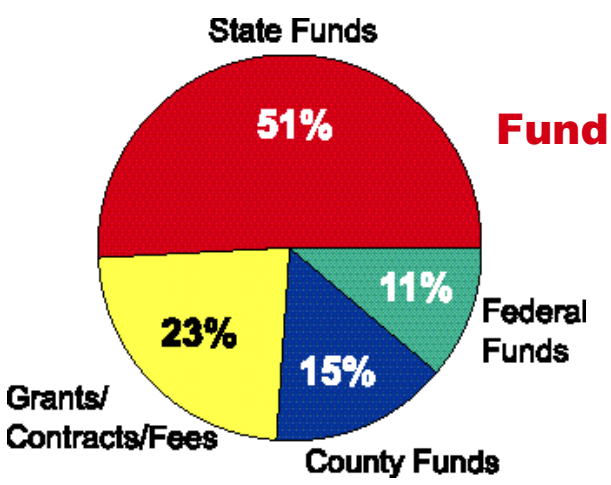
From NU to You

Cooperative Extension accomplishes University of Nebraska's land-grant mission by extending reliable, research-based information to the public for use in everyday life.

Extension utilizes multiple media avenues and new technologies to impact people in Lancaster County and beyond, 24 hours a day.



"Extension is the front door to the university for many state residents."
—Alice Doane, Lancaster County Extension Board

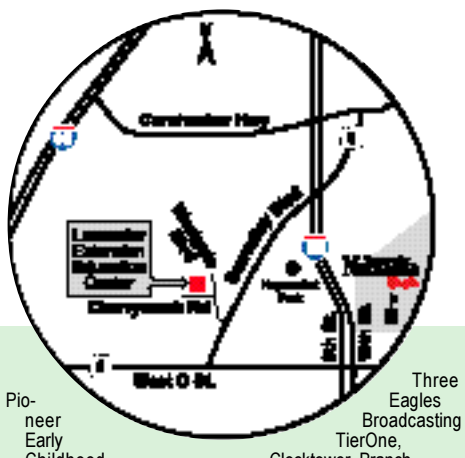


Funding Sources

Extension's work is carried out in accordance with state, federal and county laws and agreements. Funding for Cooperative Extension, which is part of UNL's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is shown on the pie chart.

Lancaster Extension Education Center Facilitates Community Programs

As part of extension's commitment to community learning, the conference facilities at Lancaster Extension Education Center are made available to other nonprofit and governmental organizations at a nominal cost. Last year, more than 2,100 hours of meetings were held at the Education Center.



Partnering with the Community

Through numerous partnerships and collaborations, Cooperative Extension leverages its resources and those of the community to reach larger audiences and maximize impact. In the past year, UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County has partnered with the following organizations, agencies, businesses and schools:

A Page in Time
Agriliance (Farmland and Cenex Land O'Lakes)
Alltel Communications
America Recycles Day
American Dairy Association/ Dairy Council of Nebraska
American Heart Association – Lincoln Division
Americorps/VISTA
Arends Interiors
Asian Cultural and Community Center
Asset Building Coalition
Audubon Spring Creek Prairie
Audubon Nebraska
Blessed Sacrament School
Kate Brooke - Opossum Track Press
BryanLGH Medical Center
Burke Plaza Senior Housing
Burton Tyrrell's Flowers
Cabin Realty & Ag Services
Capitol Child Care
Carol Yoakum Family Resource Center
Cathedral of the Risen Christ School
Cedar Ridge Spraying – Ashland
Cedars Centennial Mall Child Care Center
Cedars Youth Services
CenterPointe
Cheney Elementary School
City of Lincoln Animal Control
City of Lincoln Citizen Information Center
City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department
City of Lincoln Public Works and Utilities
City of Lincoln Recycling Office
City of Lincoln Wastewater Division
City of Lincoln Water System
Clinton Neighborhood Organization
Commodity Supplemental Food Program
Community Health Partners Foundation
Community Learning Centers
Community Outreach Partnership Center
Council of Family Centers
Crossroads House Senior Housing
Dairy Council of Nebraska
Doane College
Downtown Neighborhood Organization
Eagle Elementary School
Early Head Start
East Campus Neighborhood Organization
Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center
Employment First
Everett Neighborhood Organization
4-H Council
4-H Teen Council
F Street Recreation Center
Faces of the Middle East
Faith Lutheran School
Family Service
Farm Credit Services of America
Farm Service Agency
Farmers Cooperative Co. – Waverly and Bennet
Farmers & Merchants Bank – Firth
Farmers National Company
Farmers Union Coop – Gretna
First Plymouth Church
Firth Adolescent Treatment Center
Firth Coop
Folsom Children's Zoo and Botanical Gardens
Food Bank of Lincoln
Friendship Home
Giffard Farm
Good Neighbor Community Center
Goodwill
Gordon Chapelle Hoof Trimming Inc.
Great Plains Girl Scout Council
The Groundwater Foundation
Hamlow Elementary School – Waverly
Hartley Neighborhood Organization
Head Start
Heartland Center
Helen Hyatt Elementary School
Henry Doorly Zoo
Hispanic Community Center
Human Services Federation
INFORM
Irvingdale Neighborhood Organization
Iowa State University
Indian Center JTPA
Keep America Beautiful
Keep Lincoln-Lancaster County Beautiful
Keep Nebraska Beautiful
Lancaster County Red Cross
Lancaster County Agricultural Society
Lancaster/Saunders School to Career
Lancaster Event Center
Lincoln Action Program
Lincoln Center Kiwanis Club
Lincoln Children's Museum
Lincoln Christian Schools
Lincoln Community Development Block Grant Program
Lincoln Council on Alcohol and Drugs
Lincoln Dietetic Association
Lincoln Housing Authority
Lincoln Indian Center
Lincoln Interfaith Council
Lincoln Journal Star
Lincoln Lancaster County Food and Hunger Coalition
Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department
Lincoln-Lancaster Immunization and Vaccination Effort
Lincoln Literacy Council
Lincoln Medical Education Foundation Pathways Program
Lincoln Pantry Network
Lincoln Public Schools
Lincoln Saltdogs
Lincoln Women's Chamber of Commerce
Lower Platte North Natural Resources District
Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
Lutheran Family Service
Mahoney Manor Senior Housing
Malcolm Public Schools
Malone Neighborhood Organization
March of Dimes
Matt Talbott Kitchen
McCullough-Landell Implement
Mediation Center
Messiah Lutheran School
Metropolitan Community College
Midland Recycling
Milford Elementary School
NASA
Natural Resources Conservation Service – Lancaster and Nebraska
Near South Neighborhood Organization
NE Ag in the Classroom
NE AgRelations Council
NE Agribusiness Association
NE Beef Council
NE Beekeepers Association
NE Cattleman's Association Lincoln/Seward County Affiliates
NE Community Nutrition Partnership Council
NE Cooperative Development Center
NE Corn Development, Utilization & Marketing Board
NE Corn Growers Association
NE Corn Fed Beef
NE Credit Union League
NE Department of Agriculture
NE Department of Education
NE Department of Environmental Quality
NE Department of Health and Human Services
NE Department of Natural Resources
NE Department of Tourism
NE Farm Bureau - State Office and Lancaster County Chapter
NE Fertilizer & Ag Chemical Association
NE Game and Parks Commission
NE Great Plains Resource Conservation & Development
NE Home Builders Association
NE LEAD Program
NE Nurserymen Association
NE Pest Control Association Members
NE Pork Producers
NE Real Estate Commission
NE Restaurant Association
The NE Rural Development Commission
NE School Age Childcare Association
NE State Forester
NE Statewide Arboretum
NE Soybean Board
NE Well Drillers Association
NE Wheat Board
Neighborhoods Inc.
Norris High School Vocational and Industrial Clubs of America
Norris Public Schools
North American Martyrs School
North Bottoms Neighborhood Organization
Northeast Family Center
Northwood Early Head Start Center – Cedars
Novartis Consumer Health, Inc.
Oak Valley School
Olsson Associates
Otte Oil, Fertilizer, and Propane – Wahoo
Omaha Agri-business Club
Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
Parkview Christian School
Partners for a Safer Community
People's City Mission
Pioneer Early Childhood Development Center
Pioneer HiBred International
Pioneers Park Nature Center
Professional Lawncare Association
Providers Network
Psychotherapy Associates
Raymond Central School – Valparaiso
ReBuild Associates
Real Estate Owners and Managers Association
Red Hawk Nursery
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
Rotary Club #14
Sacred Heart School
SAFE Kids Coalition
Salvation Army
St. Elizabeth's Regional Medical Center
St. Elizabeth Burn Center
St. John's Catholic School
St. Joseph's Catholic School
St. Mark's Methodist Church
St. Mary's Catholic School
St. Patrick's Catholic School
St. Peter Catholic School
St. Teresa's Catholic School
School Districts #69, #152, #153, #158
South Salt Creek Neighborhood Organization
Southeast Community College – Lincoln
Southeast Nebraska Area Producers Cooperative
Southpointe Family Resource Center
Southwood Lutheran Church
State Farm Insurance
State Fire Marshall's Office
Tabitha Intergenerational Program
Taylor Productions
Teddy Bear Cottage
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Council
Three Eagles Broadcasting
TierOne, Clocktower Branch
TLC Child Development Center
Touchstones
Transitional Living Group – Cedars Youth Services
Trinity Lutheran School
Trinity United Methodist Church
Turning Point – Cedars Youth Services
University of Minnesota Extension Service - Center for 4-H Youth Development
University of Nebraska Collegiate 4-H
University Place Neighborhood Organization
Urban Indian Center
US Army Corps of Engineers
US Environmental Protection Agency
US Department of Agriculture
Ventures in Partnerships
Wachiska Audubon Society
WasteCap
Water Environment Federation
Waverly FFA
Waverly Public Schools
Wise Woman - Lincoln/ Lancaster County Health Department
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Advisory Committee
Williams Garden Center
Women Involved in Farm Economics
Woods Park Neighborhood Organization
World Bird Sanctuary
Young Families Program – LMEF
YWCA