Kids Ag Discovery Zone at County Fair is Interactive Experience

Youth of all ages will have the opportunity to see, touch and smell agriculture at the Kids Ag Discovery Zone at the Lancaster County Fair. Agriculture and agribusiness is Nebraska’s number one industry, with 31 percent of the state’s total employment related to agriculture. Nebraska’s farms and ranches use 43.9 million acres — 93 percent of the state’s total land area. As agriculture moves away from family farms, each generation of kids is getting further removed from the farm. The Kids Ag Discovery Zone is designed to increase awareness about Nebraska’s connection to agriculture.

“While many adults know the primary products which come from livestock and crops, they may not know how many by-products contain ingredients from these products,”

Interactive Displays
The Kids Ag Discovery Zone will be located in Pavilion 1 between the llamas and swine. It will be open 8 a.m.–9 p.m. all five days of the fair, August 2–6. During these times, you can check out the interactive displays — “milk” a wooden cow, climb a kid-sized tractor and test your knowledge on oversized quiz boards. There will also be baby chicks on display if they hatch in time!

Meet & Greet
A special time for people to interact with animals and their owners will be during the Kids Ag Discover Zone Meet & Greet, which will be Thursday, Aug. 3 and Friday, Aug. 4 from 6–9 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 5 from 5–9 p.m. Waverly FFA members, along with their advisor Tony Tyrda, will showcase the livestock they are showing at the County Fair. You can touch the animals, try leading an animal and ask owners questions.

Fun Facts About Farm Animals
Cattle, sheep and goats do not have any upper front teeth.
Each day, a cow spends 6 hours eating and 8 hours chewing its cud.
There are more cattle than people in Nebraska.
One cow hide can make 20 footballs or 18 soccer balls or 18 volleyballs or 12 basketballs.
A dairy cow can make 40 pounds of milk each day. That is 16,000 glasses of milk each year (enough for 40 people). That is 45 glasses of milk each day!
25 gallons of milk can make 9 gallons of ice cream or 25 pounds of cheese or 11 pounds of butter. It takes about 30 cups of milk to make 1 pound of butter.
Pigs can run one mile in 7 minutes.
A pig’s squeal ranges from 110-115 decibels. How loud is that? As loud as a Concorde supersonic jet landing, which is 112 decibels.
Sheep do not see well. However, they hear very well.
A baseball has 450 feet of wool yarn in it.
Llamas are related to camels, but they do not have humps on their backs.
A llama is stronger than a horse. It can carry 30% of its body weight.

Predicting the Last Irrigation for Corn, Milo and Soybeans

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

One thing irrigators must be thinking about around the first week of August is when to shut down the irrigation system for the season. Ideally, you will want to stop irrigating far enough ahead of maturity so the crop will extract as much moisture from the soil and produce the highest yield. This makes maximum use of the moisture present in the root zone, minimizes the amount of water pumped (which saves expense) and gives you the driest possible soil at harvest time, which minimizes soil compaction and harvest problems.

Research has shown a medium-season corn at the beginning dent stage of growth, will take approximately four weeks time and will require an additional 5.3 inches of water to reach physiological maturity. (Gated Pipe). At the full dent stage, it will take about two weeks to reach maturity and will require about 2.5 inches of water.

Grain Sorghum requires about five inches of water to reach maturity from the soft-dough stage, and additional one inch of water from the hard-dough stage of growth.

Beans require about 6.5 inches from the beginning seed fill stage or 3.5 inches from the full seed fill stage to reach maturity. (Check the seed fill stage by examining the development of seeds in the pods at one of the four uppermost rows on the main stem that has fully developed leaves. The beginning seed fill stage is when bean seeds can be detected by squeezing with the fingers in one of the pods. The full seed fill stage is when the pods contain full-sized bean seeds.)

An alternative way to figure when to stop irrigating would be to figure on what date a full soil profile would carry the crop through to maturity. The soil profile is the soil at silty clay soils in southeast Nebraska hold 1.6 to 1.8 inches of available water per foot of soil, respectively; If we assume we have a four foot root zone with 7.2 inches total soil water holding capacity in the root zone. Research has shown that 60 percent of the available moisture in the root zone can be depleted at crop maturity without reducing grain yield. We can utilize about 4.2 inches of the available moisture without hurting yield.

Having discussed the above, we can now predict the day when a full profile on a silty clay soil would carry the various crops through to maturity. For a medium-season corn, the target date would be when half of the corn kernels have dented. For grain sorghum, it would occur about one week after the soft-dough stage. For soybeans, it would be at, or just before the full seed fill stage.

Remember, these guidelines assume you started with a four foot soil profile at field capacity on the day you irrigate. If the profile was not filled to capacity (most likely it won’t be), you must go on the plane to irrigate until you have applied enough water to have filled the profile. For example, if the soil would have held another 2.5 inches on the target date, it would take a total of 2.5 inches of rainfall plus irrigation, in addition to the available soil moisture to finish out the crop.

Predicting the date of the last irrigation is an important water management decision. You can minimize expense and leave your soil in good shape for harvest without harming yields by following these simple guidelines.

Effect of Increasing Energy Prices on Irrigation Costs

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

Question: Diesel prices have increased from about $1.65 in June to $3.45 as this is being written. What effect will this have on the cost of pumping irrigation water? Answer: The cost to pump water depends on the total head the pump must produce to deliver the water and the volume of water pumped. The total head has two components. The lift component is the distance the pump must lift water from the water level in the well to the pump discharge. The second component of head is the system pressure, measured at the pump. The greater the head produced, the greater the cost per acre-inch of water delivered. The greater the volume of water pumped (acre-inches3), the greater the cost. The table below presents several scenarios that represents the effect the increased cost of diesel has had on typical irrigation situations in Nebraska.

### Irrigation Increased fuel cost for an on 8.0 gallon per increase in diesel price

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Irrigation System</th>
<th>Typical of</th>
<th>Lift, feet</th>
<th>Pressure, psi</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Fuel Cost per acre-inch</th>
<th>Fuel Cost per acre-inch at $1.65/gal</th>
<th>Fuel Cost per acre-inch at $3.45/gal</th>
<th>Increased cost per acre-inch</th>
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Fall is the Best Time to Stop Henbit

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

Henbit is a biennial weed normally germinating in the early fall but may germinate in early spring, depending on moisture conditions. It grows in an upright position, seldom reaching heights greater than 12 inches. Typical of plants in the mint family, the upper stems are square. The ½- to 1-inch leaves are opposite, dark green and hairy above and lighter below. The lower leaves have petioles but the upper leaves are borne directly on the stem. The leaves are triangular to oval in shape. The seed heads are carried on a central stem. The leaf edges have rounded teeth and are crinkled.

Pink to lavender to purple flowers are borne in whorls at the top of the plant in April and May. Usually, in Nebraska, the plants go to seed and die by mid June.

Chemical Control

Henbit is most effectively controlled in the fall. In the lawn, the same pre-emergent chemicals effective for crabgrass control, the chemical application must precede henbit germination to be effective. Apply the first pre-emergent treatment around the first of September followed by a second application of pre-emergent herbicide a month later or follow up with a post-emergent application at the end of October. There are no pre-emergent chemicals registered for use in pastures.

Post-emergent control can be achieved with products containing 2,4-D mixed with dicamba, and/or MCPB in late-October followed by a second application, if necessary, in March.

If Henbit was a problem in crop fields, the seed supply will be there to start the cycle again this fall. In crop fields, apply 2,4-D (1 quart), Basis + 2,4-D (0.5 pint + 1 pint), Gyphosate (2 quart), Gyphosate + 2,4-D (1.5 pint + 1 pint), or Gamozone Max (1.3 pint) in late fall after harvest.

You can achieve fair control in the spring with 2,4-D (1 pint) or 2,4-D + Dicamba (1 pint + 0.5 pint). Better control is achieved in the spring with atrazine in combination with 2,4-D or Dicamba but the field cannot be planted to atrazine-sensitive crops. See UNL Extension Publication EC 130 “2006 Guide for Weed Management,” page 41.

Pesticide Container Recycling Program

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension coordinator for the state Pesticide Container Recycling Program for agricultural pesticide containers. Containers may be dropped off at any Extension office or the UNL Extension in Lancaster County office, 444 Cherry creek Road, Lincoln, during business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday, EXCEPT for the week of July 24 and July 31. Please call ahead at 441-7180 to ensure someone will be available to inspect and accept the containers before you come.

A collection will also be held at the Farmers Cooperative Company in Bennet on Friday, Aug. 4 from 9 a.m. until noon. All containers must be inspected to make sure that they have been properly rinsed, with the caps and labels removed before they can be placed in our trailer. (Paper labels one size apart.) Will accept all sizes of agricultural pesticide containers, including 30 gal plastic drums. Yard and garden pesticide containers are brown and cannot be recycled with the white and yellow containers.

Other containers, (used for ammonium sulfate etc.) will not be accepted in this program which is funded by the Agricultural Chemical Manufacturing Association, but domestic plastic containers can be recycled at several locations around Lincoln. Recycled pesticide containers do not enter the general plastics industry. The material is currently being recycled into plastic bags, industrial pallets, field drain tiles, speed bumps, railroad ties and parking lot tire stops.
Add Mulches to Landscapes to Protect Plants from Temperature Changes

Interest in adding mulches to landscapes is growing as gardeners adopt water conserving and soilbuilding environmentally sound practices. Mulch is an organic or inorganic material applied to soil surface during the growing season or applied over plants during the non-growing season. Mulch insulates plants and its roots from the effects of extreme temperature fluctuations and also reduces soil erosion. Other benefits include conserving soil moisture and helping control weed growth.

Ideal mulches must allow water and air to enter and exit the soil. They also should be attractive, odor-free and stay in place. Although no single mulch material will meet all these requirements, select one that best suits the needs of the site.

"Most gardeners use organic mulches derived from plant material," says Anne Streich, horticulture educator. "Organic mulches can be developed by recycling yard waste such as chopped or shredded leaves, branches, wood chips or grass clippings or they can be purchased from garden centers." Inorganic mulches include lava rocks, pebbles and plastic which neither break down and improve soil structure nor add nutrients. Dark-colored inorganic mulches, such as plastics, warm the soil more than organic mulches. Black plastic will raise the soil temperature about five degrees higher than uncovered soil; clear plastic will raise it about 10 degrees.

Plastic is an effective mulch material for some crops, such as tomatoes. Plastic is an effective mulch material for some crops, such as tomatoes.

Woodchips are a good mulch for landscape plants containing trees or shrubs. When people see their woody plants (shrubs and trees) decline, they often want a "magical" treatment to make them lush, green and healthy again, but it usually doesn't work.

All living organisms exist in a world of stresses. Unusual stresses can cause irreversible changes in the health of plants resulting in laminitis in horses.

Consider a plant's native environment. Any time a plant is planted in an environment in which it is not native, you are removing it from conditions that are optimal for that plant. Where it has thrived and are placing it in a stressful situation. In a new location it may be attacked by new insects or diseases or it may affect or be affected by other plants. Imported plants put in areas with soil types and/or climatic conditions similar to their native environment will probably have a better chance of surviving than ones not so well adapted.

Most Penstemon prefer full sun and ample water. They also should be trained to use water and air to enter and exit helping control weed growth.

When dormant season plants, such as tomatoes, apply mulch when soil temperatures reach 70 degrees. Cool-season annuals, such as pansies, are mulched in early spring, as soon as new growth begins. In summer, mulching materials low in nitrogen, such as straw or coarse sawdust, should be fortified with a nitrogen fertilizer. One table- 

Penstemon, a Great Acreage Flower

A great perennial to add to acreage gardens is beard tongued, beardon tongue or Penstemon, pronounced pen-stay-mon. Penstemon is a member of the snapdragon family, having long, tubular flowers that open in five petals. Flowers are produced on tall, showy flower spikes with most species having flowers in shades of red, pink, purple and white. All Penstemon have opposite leaves varying in shape from small to large. Some Penstemon have opposite leaves varying in shape from small to large.

Penstemon grandiflorus 'War Axe', an excep-

Penstemon grandiflorus 'War Axe', an excep-
tional strain of the beautiful native, shell leaf Penstemon. This selection has a wide range of colors including pinks, maroon, reds, purples and creamy white. Plants with dark-colored leaves are nicely complemented by reddish-pigmented stems. This upright perennial has thick, rounded gray-green leaves nearly arranged along the flower stalk with numerous large tubular flowers from mid to late summer. Handsome, robust seed heads remain attractive all through the fall and winter. Plants form a basal rosette the first year and flower the second year, reaching a height of two-three feet. The flower stalks can be removed present in the environment but normally excluded by the physical barrier of intact bark.

Good management of your valuable woody plants may involve a "preventive" and "curative" medicine. First, plant species adapted to Nebraska climate should be selected in situations where they will be able to do well.

"Organic mulches can be developed by recycling yard waste such as chopped or shredded leaves, branches, wood chips or grass clippings or they can be purchased from garden centers." Inorganic mulches include lava rocks, pebbles and plastic which neither break down and improve soil structure nor add nutrients. Dark-colored inorganic mulches, such as plastics, warm the soil more than organic mulches. Black plastic will raise the soil temperature about five degrees higher than uncovered soil; clear plastic will raise it about 10 degrees.
### Summertime Steak Salad

**Total preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes**

**Makes 4 servings**

**Recipe as seen in The Healthy Beef Cookbook, published by John Wiley & Sons, authored by Chef Richard Cham-berlain and Betsy Harnick, M.S., R.D.**

1 beef shoulder steak, cut 1 inch thick (about 1 pound)

1 can (5-1/2 ounces) spicy 100% vegetable juice

**Spicy Tomato Dressing**

1 can (5-1/2 ounces) spicy 100% vegetable juice

1/2 cup chopped tomato

1 cup finely chopped green bell pepper

1 tablespoon red wine vinegar

1 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro

2 teaspoons olive oil

1 clove garlic, minced

8 cups mixed greens or 1 package (10 ounces) romaine and leaf lettuce mixture

1 cup baby pear or grape tomatoes, halved

1 cup cucumber, cut in half lengthwise, then into thin slices

1 cup chopped green bell pepper

Salt and black pepper, as desired

Crunchy Tortilla Strips (recipe follows)

Place beef steak and 1 can vegetable juice in food-safe plas-tic bag; turn steak to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator 6 hours or as long as overnight.

Whisk Spicy Tomato Dressing ingredients in small bowl until blended, refrigerate. Combine lettuce, baby pear tomatoes, cucumber and green bell pepper; refrigerate.

Remove steak from marinade, discard marinade. Place steak on grill over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill steak, uncovered, 16 to 20 minutes for medium-rare to medium done, turning occasionally. Curve steak into thin slices. Season with salt and pepper, as desired.

Meanwhile, prepare Crunchy Tortilla Strips. Add steak to salad mixture. Dress with dressing and top with tortilla strips.

**Crunchy Tortilla Strips**

Cut Healthy Beef in half, then crosswise into 1/4 inch wide strips. Place strips in layer on baking sheet. Spray tortilla strips lightly with nonstick cooking spray. Bake 4 to 8 minutes at 400 degrees F or until crisp.

NUTRITION INFORMATION
- Calories: 242
- Total fat: 9 g
- Saturated fat: 2 g
- Cholesterol: 60 mg
- Sodium: 239 mg
- Carbohydrate: 16 g
- Fiber: 4 g
- Protein: 25 g
- Niacin: 3.9 mg
- Vitamin B-6: 0.5 mg
- Vitamin B-12: 2.6 mcg
- Zinc: 2.7 mg
- Selenium: 0.7 mcg
- Phytochemicals: 2.7 mg

**ALICE’S NOTES**

It was raining the day I made this salad, so I grilled the steak on my indoor 2-sided grill, according to manufacturer’s directions and suggested times. So, don’t let the weather or even the season stop you from trying this salad.

The grocery store was out of cilantro; after some research I bought a bag; turn steak to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator 6 hours or as long as overnight.

While this gave a different flavor, it was still good very much so. This recipe is very easy to cut in half. If there are just two of you eating, don’t feel this has to be a special company meal.

### Are You Winning the “Fruit & Vegetable Bowl Game?”

Alice Henneman

UNL Extension Educator

If your dinner plate were a playing field, would you be winning or losing the “fruit or vegetable bowl game?” Choose the one best answer for each of the following questions.

5. Which of the following are equivalent to 1 cup of vegetables?
   - A. 1/2 cup dry fruit
   - B. 1 cup juice
   - C. Both of the above
   - D. Neither of the above

6. How many cups of fruit should a person eat daily at the 2,000 calorie level?
   - A. 1 cup
   - B. 1 1/2 cups
   - C. 2 cups
   - D. 2 1/2 cups
   - E. 3 cups

7. Which of the following are equivalent to 1 cup of fruit?
   - A. 1/2 cup dry fruit
   - B. 1 cup juice
   - C. Both of the above
   - D. Neither of the above

**BONUS POINT:** Are YOU eating a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables daily?

**ANSWERS**

1. A — All of the above.  
2. C — All of the above.  
3. C — All of the above.  
4. C — All of the above.  
5. B — 1 cup  
6. C — All of the above.  
7. C — All of the above.

### Top Ten Reasons to Eat At Home

Zainab Rida

UNL Extension Assistant

Living a busy lifestyle makes many families rely on fast food or ready-prepared food for their meals. Fortu-nately, families can meet the demands of a busy lifestyle and still make healthy choices by planning and shopping smartly. Here are the most ten important benefits of eating at home.

1. **Family time —** Family meals offer routine and regular family interaction in a modern world. Family time is the opportunity to learn together about communication skills, manners, nutrition and good eating habits, planning meals, and making a grocery list. A fast food environment cannot offer this atmosphere for helping build strong, happy and healthy families.

2. **Save time —** Many people blame their busy life-style for not having time for cooking; however, you would be surprised to know how little time it takes to make a low-fat taco salad, burrito, pasta dish or grilled sandwich.

3. **Save money —** Cooking at home is an excellent way to save money. Many dishes are inexpensive, tasty and very healthy.

4. **Balanced meals —** Fast foods are more likely lacking in fruits, vegetables and milk. Adding these food groups when you cook at home is very easy and inexpensive.

5. **Less fat, sugar and salt —** When you cook at home, you have control of cooking a meal with less fat, sugar and salt. Fast food more likely contains high amounts of fat, especially saturated fat and salt. When eating out, sugary beverages are more often chosen over healthier bever-agles, including milk, water and juice.

6. **Physical activity —** Another benefit of eating at home is you burn calories because of the preparation be-fore and after the meal, such as shopping, cooking, setting the table, serving and cleaning up after the meal.

7. **Instructed children —** Including your child in food preparation is a fun activity. You teach your child about healthy food and you also spend time with your child.

8. **Cook once, serve twice —** Cook twice as much as you need and freeze half. Then, when you don’t have much time, you can simply heat up the dish for a delicious meal. It is very easy to double the ingredients for one recipe to help serve as the basis of the next day’s meal, or it can be served on the nights you won’t be able to cook.

9. **Food safety —** Eating at home maintains an aware-ness of what you are eating and how it is prepared....

10. **Relieve stress —** You cannot find a better place that is more convenient and pleasant as your home.
**President’s Notes — Alice’s Analysis**

Alice Doane  
FCE Council Chair

I have just returned from Seattle, Washington and a one day trip to White Rock, BC in Canada. We attended the closing ceremonies for the Japanese students Ted had in class for three months in Lincoln. They have now returned to Japan. Time is just around the corner. I remember the time and frustration of this time of year. It was busy for me as a 4-H member and then as a leader helping my daughters get all of their projects done and exhibited. By the time you read this analysis, the Sizzling Summer Sampler will be over and plans for next year will be under way again. From the early registration we will have a good size group. At the June meeting, volunteer report forms were passed out. These reports will help to verify FCE is a non-profit organization. When I read over the reports, I see what FCE promotes. The categories we support are organizations and groups such as the Food Bank, Teddy Bear Cottage, Cedar’s Home, Gathering Place and Earth Day. The members do many other activities in the community. I am looking forward to adding up the number of hours Lancaster County members volunteer in the community. Return the forms by the September Council meeting. I hope to report then, rewarding opportunities and experiences. Hope to see you at the County Fair.

**FCE News & Events**

**2006 Scholarship Recipient**

Kerri Merkel of Lincoln received the $300 Lancaster County FCE scholarship for 2006. She is a senior at the Bryan/LGH College of Health Sciences and will graduate County FCE scholarship for 2006. She is a senior at the Bryan/LGH College of Health Sciences and will graduate

**Upcoming Dates**

- **Aug 28** — Reorganizational Packets available.
- **Sept 25** — FCE Council Meeting, 1 p.m.
- **Sept 29** — FCE Council Meeting, 1 p.m.
- **Sept 30-Oct 1** — Nebraska Association for FCE Clubs State Convention, St. Paul, NE

Kerri Merkel received the $300 FCE scholarship.

**Over 120 Attend Summer Sampler**

The Family & Community Education (FCE) Sizzling Summer Sampler held on July 11 was a success with more than 120 FCE members and friends in attendance.

The Family & Community Education (FCE) Sizzling Summer Sampler held on July 11 was a success with more than 120 FCE members and friends in attendance.

Attendees enjoyed a light supper and dessert. Many wore hats to carry out the theme of Applebee’s performance “Hats, Women & Song.”

Fourteen baskets were raffled off, raising $390 for the FCE Scholarship Fund.

**Planning Leaves More Time for Family Fun**

Families are finding themselves frustrated and over-booked with all the activities and obligations necessary day to day. By scheduling events on paper, cutting down on clutter and using technology, families can learn to better manage their time.

Family organization begins with a written master plan or calendar, which lists all projects, meetings and events. It is best if this calendar can be kept close at hand at all times.

Posting a permanent calendar of events in a high-traffic area of the home also is helpful. Each person’s activities should be coded in a different color. This calendar should include a scheduled family time.

To protect family time, let the answering machine take all calls during a family event. The number of evening meetings for family members can be limited and planned ahead of time.

Time management requires not only organization, but the drive to stick to the plan and keep calendars current.

**Benefits of Family Meetings**

Family meetings are an excellent way to practice problem-solving skills, promote communication and build family unity. When a particular plan is in effect and mutually agreed upon in a family meeting, everyone — even the youngest children — feels a sense of ownership and, thus, is more likely to comply with the plan.

Regularity scheduled meetings might deal with daily decisions such as who will drive the car, who’s responsible for sports equipment or how chores are to be distributed. One-time meetings might be called for a specific occasion — like planning a vacation trip, holiday party or family project, solving a problem such as how to make Grandma’s moving in more comfortable for everyone or cleaning the air after a crisis or squabble.

**Energy Management in Automatic Dishwashing**

The heating of water accounts for about 80 percent of the operating cost of a dishwasher. Here are some ways to help save on energy costs:

- Operate dishwasher only when a full load is accumulated. Avoid overloading. Overloading prevents proper water circulation over the dishes.
- Use the “rinse-hold” cycle or hand rinse soiled dishes while accumulating a full load.
- Dishwashers use 6- to 10-gal. lots of hot water per load depending on the cycle selected. When dishes are lightly soiled, use a cycle requiring less water.
- Pretreatment is not necessary. Simply scrape off food particles and bones, let the dishwasher do the rest.
- Dishes and casserole with baked-on foods will probably need pretreating, soaking or prescrubbing.
- Gel automatic dishwasher detergents may be used to pretreat heavy baked-on foods on stainless steel, glass, glass ceramic, porcelain, enamel and other dishwasher safe items. Caution: Avoid direct contact with skin or clothing when using gel automatic dishwasher detergent to pretreat dishes. Wear rubber gloves. If detergent accidently comes in contact with skin, wash immediately with water.
- Use the recommended amount of automatic dishwasher detergent.
- The drying cycle on most dishwashers may account for about 15 percent of the total operating cost, so skip it whenever possible. When there is no “energy saving” air/no heat cycle, simply advance the dial after the final rinse to the “off” position. Use of a rinse agent may help promote drying.
- If necessary, insulate water heater and delivery pipes to avoid heat loss between the supply and the dishwasher.

Source: Soap and Detergent Association
**A Morning with Herbs**

**Pioneers Park Nature Center**

**Saturday, August 26th, 9:30-Noon**

Explore the forms, smells, and uses of scented geraniums - the 2006 Herb of the Year

3:30: Tour of the Louise Evans Doole Herb Garden scented geraniums

10:00: **Workshop** - *‘Scentual’ Delights*

- Make bath balms and scented waters
- Make and use herbal tinctures
- Make herbal soaps

11:00: **Workshop** - Pelargoniums on the Palate

- Garden scented geraniums
- Pelargoniums for the gardener
- How to grow Pelargoniums

Another exciting collaboration between Pioneers Park Nature Center and the Nebraska Herbal Society

Fee: $5/Herb Society members, $8/non-members

* Pre-payment required. Registration deadline: August 21

* Please send membership fees ($8/individual, $10/family) directly to the Nebraska Herbal Society, P.O. Box 4493, Lincoln, NE 68504-0493 before registering at member rate.

Call 441-7895 to register

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**Nasturtiums are Versatile Plant**

The nasturtium is a versatile plant used for edging in flower borders or in window boxes, patio containers or hanging baskets. The abundant and brightly colored flowers are edible and can be cut for use as an elegant entrée garnish or salad decoration. The leaves, which contain a good dose of vitamin C, can be used to add a peppery flavor to fresh salads.

*Tropaeolum minor*, the scientific name for the nasturtium, comes from the Greek word meaning “to twine,” which is descriptive of some of the 50 species in this genus. Nasturtium was first found growing in Mexico and Peru where it was used instead of cress to flavor foods. It was brought to Europe in the 16th century and considered a symbol of conquest and victory in battle. Victorian women later used them in tussie-mussies to ward off bad smells.

Nasturtiums come in three types: dwarf, semi-trailing and single flower climbing.

Dwarf types are bushy and compact and include the cultivars ‘Alaska’, ‘Empress of India’, ‘Strawberries and Cream’ and ‘Whirlybird’. Semi-trailing types reach a length of two to three feet, making them ideal for hanging baskets. The single flower climbing types like *Jewel of Africa* send out six to eight foot runners that climb trellises like vines. Colors of this type are bright and range from yellow and orange to rose and crimson. Vines are strong and have fragrant flowers.

Nasturtium is one of the easiest flowers to grow from seed. The best flowering will be in full sun, but they will tolerate partial shade. Seeds can be sown directly in the garden beginning in late April. Nasturtiums are not choosy about their soil. Do not spoil them with rich, fertile soil and fertilizers as this will only result in lush foliage and few blooms.

**Source:** Dr. Leonard Perry, Extension Professor, University of Vermont

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**Mandevilla’s Showy Flowers**

Mandevilla is known for its showy flow- ers and there are about 100 species of this tropical woody vine. Most spe- cies over-winter only in the tropical South. In Nebraska, they can be treated as an- imals or grown indoors. They can be brought indoors before the first freeze and treated as a houseplant during the winter months. In the spring, mandevilla can be placed outside after the threat of freezing weather has passed. Mandevilla is great trellised in containers or in hanging baskets.

Outdoors, grow mandevilla in partial shade. They need rich, well-drained soil. Provide a frame, trellis or stake for support. Pinch young plants to induce bushiness. Since 45 to 50 degrees F is the minimum tempera- ture that can be tolerated by mandevilla, plants should be moved indoors for the winter. Before bringing them indoors, examine them carefully for pests. Look under the leaves and on the plant stems for insects and their eggs. Remove any diseased or dead leaves by hand. Insect-infested plants can be doused with a forceful spray of water to dislodge the pests, or you can use insecticidal soaps or other ap- propriate insecti- cides labeled for use on your plant. The most common pests are mealy- bugs, scale, white- flies and spider- mites. Move the plants to a lighted location where the temperature is above 55 de- grees F. Reduce the frequency of watering to coincide with the plant’s rest periods induced by the cooler temperatures and reduced light. In late winter or early spring before growth be- gins, prune by removing old, crowded stems and shorten- ing new growth. Even if mandevilla is pruned almost to the ground, it will bloom the same sum- mer on the new shoots, which develop from the base of the plants.

**Source:** Clemson University

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**August Blooming Perennial Flowers**

Mary Jane Froge UNL Extension Associate

Are most of your early summer perennials flowers done blooming for the year? Wouldn’t it be nice to have a selection of perennials that bloomed late in the summer? There are many attractive Au- gust blooming perennials available and many bloom up until frost. Maybe next year you can add a selection of late summer blooming perennials to your flower garden.

Of course this list is not complete. It is just to get you started. Check garden books and catalogs for more late blooming perennials. With these new additions, plan on enjoying your perennial garden until the cold weather sets in.

**COMMON NAME** | **COLOR** | **HEIGHT**
--- | --- | ---
Black Eyed Susan | Yellow | 2-3 ft.
Tall Sedum | Pink, red, white | 2.5 ft.
Lavender Cotton | Yellow | 1 ft.
Goldenerd | Yellow | 5 ft.
Mandevilla | Lavender | 3.5 ft.
Obedient Plant | Pink | 2-4 ft.
Asters | Pink, red, purple | 3-4 ft.
Swallowtail | Pink | 3 ft.
Helic’s Flower | Yellow | 3 ft.
Hosta | Lavender | 1-1.5 ft.
Gayfeather | Rose, purple, white | 1-2 ft.

**Source:** USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

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**Garden Guide THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH**

By Mary Jane Froge, UNL Extension Associate

Check deciduous trees for fall webworm. Use a broom or rake to get them out of small trees.

Check on water needs of hanging baskets daily in the summer. Wind and sun dry them much more quickly than other containers.

Clean up fallen rose and pome leaves. They can harbor disease and insect pests over the winter if allowed to remain on the ground.

Mound soil over the lateral or brace roots of corn stalks for extra sup- port against strong winds.

Pick summer squash and achiunis every day or two to keep the plants producing.

Handle petunias from your evergreen and deciduous trees.

Remove old vegetable plants which have stopped producing to elimi- nate a shelter for insects and disease organisms.

Water the garden early in the day so plants can absorb the moisture before the hot sun dries the soil. Early watering also minimizes the foli- age damage before night. Wet foliage at night increases susceptibility to fungus diseases.

Many herbs self-sow if the flowers are not removed. Dilute produce seeds that fall around the parent plant and come up as volunteers the follow- ing spring.

To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.

*B. Beillei (theringienis)* is used by many gardeners to protect cole crops from chewing caterpillars.

White flies are attracted to yellow, so use yellow sticky boards to re- duce their populations.

Every weed that produces seed means more trouble next year. Control weeds before they go to seed.

**Source:** Clemson University
Common Bees

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

Bees and wasps look similar. Both often have a bright yellow and black stripes—warning coloration. But, most wasps have a narrow “waist” line where the abdomen attaches to the middle body section, the thorax. Bees have a thicker waist. Another difference is that bees feed nectar and pollen to their young (larvae), while wasps feed their larvae insects and spiders. Bees will be found on flowers.

Honey Bees (Apis mellifera)
Honey bees are the most important beneficial insect, providing honey, beeswax and pollinators of many plants we eat. These highly social bees live in large colonies numbering 50,000 or more individuals. Honey bees differ from other bees because the workers survive through the winter and can collect nectar and pollen as soon as the weather warms in the spring. Most honey bees are kept in hives by beekeepers. When

swarming, they may establish hives in tree trunks and buildings, but because of parasites and diseases, feral honey bees do not survive very well. Most species have been bred to be gentle to make it easy to work around them. But, they will sting if provoked. Honey bees have a barbed stinger and die after they sting because the bee becomes eviscerated after the stings.

Bumble Bees
Bumble bees are large hairy bees, with distinctive yellow and black stripes. Unlike honey bees, bumble bees can regulate their body temperatures and can be active in cool weather, even in the rain and on cloudy or windy days, when temperatures are as low as 41 degrees F. Bumble bees are important pollinators of tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, melons, raspberries, blueberries, cranberries, strawberries and many other crops. They are the exclusive pollinators of some wildflowers.

Unlike honey bees, bumble bee queens begin their colonies new each spring.

Most common locations are in the compost or under mulch, an old wooden barrel, a cool, dark place under a large stone or under the wooden floor of a garden shed or other building. Bumble bees do not produce large colonies—the largest nests are only a little bigger than half a grapefruit. Bumble bees are not very aggressive, even more gentle than honey bees.

Sweat Bees (family Halictidae)
People become intimately associated with sweat bees when they are working outdoors hard enough to be hot. These bees are attracted to the salts in human perspiration. Most sweat bees are small to medium sized (1/10 to 1/4 inches). They are black or metallic colored. There are many species of sweat bees in North America.

Most sweat bee species nest in the ground. Nests usually consist of a single main tunnel with one or more clumped cells arising from lateral branches. One sweat bee that has an important role in pollinating alfalfa is the alkali bee, native to the Great Plains of the United States. This bee pollinates alfalfa more efficiently than honey bees. Commercial alfalfa seed growers use the alkali bee for pollination in parts of the West by constructing special alkali bee beds to cultivate thousands of bees. Sweat bees are frequently seen in flowers. They sting only if handled or if squashed.

Leafcutter Bees (family Megachilidae)
In August, young bats begin to leave their nursery colonies. These young bats sometimes become the western bat pest. The bat must be captured, without damaging its head, and then tested for rabies. Do not try to hit or stun the bat. Try to capture the bat gently. If you can, you’ll need to show authorities where the bat is so they can capture it. If you live in Lincoln, contact Animal Control at 441-7900. Authorities will come to your home, capture the bat and test the bat for rabies. If you live outside of the Lincoln area, contact your local county/state health department or police and inform them of your situation. If your pet has been exposed to a bat, don’t handle your pet without proper hand protection. Rabies can be carried in the saliva of the bat. If you must handle your pet, do so with rubber gloves. Contact your veterinarian for the proper course of action. Your chances of contracting rabies from a bat on your pet is remote, but you should still be cautious.

Steps to Take if Exposed to a Bat

• Remain calm
• Do not lose sight of the bat. If you can, you’ll need to show authorities where the bat is so they can capture it
• If you live in Lincoln, contact Animal Control at 441-7900. Authorities will come to your home, capture the bat and test the bat for rabies. If you live outside of the Lincoln area, contact your local county/state health department or police and inform them of your situation
• If your pet has been exposed to a bat, don’t handle your pet without proper hand protection. Rabies can be carried in the saliva of the bat. If you must handle your pet, do so with rubber gloves. Contact your veterinarian for the proper course of action. Your chances of contracting rabies from a bat on your pet is remote, but you should still be cautious.

For more information on bats, visit the Internet Center on Wildlife Damage at http://icwmd.org/wildlife/bat/bat.asp

Sources: UNL Wildlife Damage Program Coordinator Stephen Ventas and Lincoln/Lancaster County Animal Control

That Gunk on Your Car: A Field Guide to Bug Splats

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

Taking a road trip this summer? If so, you’ll probably end up with bug gunk on your windshield and front of the family car. You’ve probably already noticed that some splats are small and almost insignificant; others are large and gooey.

• What exactly are the insects that leave these splats behind? Does any-body care?

Mark Hostetler does. He is the author of That Gunk on Your Car. Hostetler researched his book by spending time at a Greyhound bus station, examining numerous bus grills covered with smashed bugs. The work was done in Gainesville, Florida.

To make this handbook more enjoyable fun things to do.

To make this handbook more enjoyable for people in other geographical regions, he took a 12,000-mile road trip driving across states along the eastern seaboard, Midwest and Great Plains, west coast and southern states. He strapped a netted con-traption to the top of his car which caught insects once they ricocheted off the windshield. After a splat, Hostetler would stop the car and identify the insect in order to match it to the splash. This guide shows how to identify that “gunk” on the car by using colorful illustrations to help match which bugs go with what splash. The book also provides interesting facts about each insect and suggests do-it-yourself experiments with bugs of all kinds. It lists more than 20 different groups of insects with their natural enemies, facts and fun things to do.

For motivation this book came from Hostetler’s desire to spark interest in non-entomologists about insects. He believes the best way to interest people in nature and in animals is to give them something they deal with every day and to add a humorous twist. So, if you want to give the kids something different to talk about during the long road trip, get a copy of That Gunk on Your Car. Identify and learn about those bugs on your windshield. Have a safe trip!
August

Kay Clinch

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Kay Clinch as winner of August’s “Heart of 4-H Award” in recognition of outstanding volunteer service. Kay has been a 4-H leader for 10 years. She was also selected for the Hands Across America 4-H club for one year and organizational leader of Clovers and Company for nine years. Clovers and Company has been recognized four times as an Outstanding 4-H Club based on club participation at county fair. Kay and her husband Ron have been longtime superintendents of the Lancaster County Fair 4-H Bicycle Safety Contest. “I like to see kids having fun while they learn,” says Kay. “It was so much fun to see them learn new skills such as baking, ironing, woodworking, horticulture, etc. My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was all the activities we did as a group: the community service projects, launching rockets, woodworking, baking and especially the mother/daughter breakfasts. Once a year, we would meet in the morning in our pajamas and cook breakfast together — it was a blast!” Kay runs her own business, Kay’s Knits and she belongs to the Quilt Guild. She helps make quilts to give to the poor through organizations such as Quilt Guild, the Linus Project and People’s Mission.

Congratulations to Kay! Volunteer like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h or available at the extension office. Nominations of co-volunteers welcome.

Lancaster County 4-H

Spencer Farley was among 1,500 youth honored nationwide by Kohl’s Departments through the Who Care program. He was recognized for his community service project of organizing installation of a flower garden at Northeast Family Center (see April 2006 Nebline).

The 4-H Life Challenge contests focus on Family and Consumer Science project areas.

The County Senior Life Challenge contest was held June 26–27 at UNL East Campus in conjunction with PASE. 4-H members participating in this contest were Catherine Dowd, Helen Dowd and Jessica Stephenson. Their team received 3rd place in the Clover Challenge, an interactive, computer-based contest where teams of youth test their understanding of family and consumer sciences subject matter. The County Junior Life Challenge contest was held July 7 and Annalise Saathoff was awarded the Grand Champion rosette.

PASE Results

Lancaster County 4-H judging teams competed in various events at this year’s Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) on June 26 and 27 at UNL East Campus. Congratulations to all team members!

The livestock judging team consisting of team members Whitney Davis, Shanya Truax, Whitney Poole and Levi Meyer took 9th place overall. Poole, Davis and Truax all placed in the top 40 in the individual competition. Whitney Davis also placed in the top 10 individuals in the sheep division.

The poultry judging team consisting of members Alex Scheideler, Will Scheideler and Andrea McCain took 3rd place overall. In the individual contest, Alex Scheideler took 7th place and Will Scheideler placed 10th.

Lancaster County 4-H members participated in district shows held across the state during the last week in June. Below are purple ribbon winners. Full results are online at http://4h.unl.edu/disthorse show. Congratulations to all participants!

Lincoln

English Pleasure 14+ up hands
12–14 Alex Scheideler Champion
15 & up Morgan Marshall Reserve Champion
Western Pleasure
15 & up Allisan Hurbut Champion
Western Pleasure 12–14 Allisan Hurbut Champion
Western Horsemanship
12–14 Alex Scheideler Champion
Reining
15 & up Micah Messick Champion
Pole Bending
15 & up Nickol Zuhlke Reserve Champion
Pole Bender
12–14 Dustin Ehrlich Reserve Champion
Barrels
15 & up Amanda Esken Reserve Champion

Beatrice

English Pleasure 14+ up hands
12–14 McKenzie True Champion
15 & up McKenzie True Champion
Western Pleasure
12–14 Alex Scheideler Champion
Pole Bending
15 & up Anna Russell Champion
Barrels
15 & up Anna Russell Champion

Oakland

Pole Bending
15 & up Lyndsey Larson Reserve Champion
Barrels
15 & up Ryan Hagon Reserve Champion
Barrels
15 & up Lyndsey Larson Champion

Lexington

English Equitation
12–14 Cara Peters

Goering Earns Jr. Champion at Pitzer Judging Contest

The 79th Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth livestock Exposition will be held Sept. 26-30 at the Qwest Center in Omaha. More than 2,000 4-H families from an eight-state area participate in the Expo. Categories of this 4-H only competition are Dairy, Feeder Calf & Breeding Beef, Horse, Market Goats, Market Broilers, Meat Goats, Lamb and Market Swine. For more information, entry forms and tentative schedule, go to http://aksarben.org/4-H

Entries Due Aug. 6

Entries from Lancaster 4-H members are due to extension staff no later than Sunday, Aug. 6. Please make sure to include all entry fees, chutes and parking. Please note this year Ak-Sar-Ben will require 15-day health certificates for livestock, and 30 day health certificates for horses! Please call Deanna or Marty if you have questions.

Horse Exhibitor Eligibility

For the Ak-Sar-Ben horse shows, exhibitors are eligible to show only in classes they received a BLUE or PURPLE at in districts. However, only a Level III is needed to enable you to show in the advanced classes (list available on Web site). Each exhibitor is only allowed to show in three classes, regardless of the number of purple or blue awards received at districts.
An Update on Avian Bird Flu for 4-H Poultry Projects

Dr. Sheila E. Schedeller
UNL Extension Poultry Specialist

As 4-H members prepare their 4-H poultry projects for county fairs, the recent press and news about Avian Influenza (AI) is on many of our minds. Fortunately, the highly pathogenic strain of AI has not entered North American at this time and really looks like it will not get here by migration for quite some time (if ever). The spread of Avian Influenza is under relatively good control in Asia and Europe at the present and the main concern on the horizon is the decline in Asia. So the good news is that 4-H members can go about their business as usual showing their prize chickens, county and state fairs. Please be sure to purchase your birds from reputable suppliers that are pullorum free and practice good husbandry when bringing your chicken/poultry to the fair. Do not bring sick chickens to the fair as many poultry diseases such as bronchitis and pullorum are highly contagious and could easily be passed on to other birds.

If the situation for AI changes in North America, 4-H leaders will be notified by the county extension office at 441-7180. If the disease is confirmed, all poultry farms in a 3-mile radius will be quarantined. The quarantined farms will be required to be physically checked in during Static exhibit set-up days. An adult — such as a club leader or parent(s) — should assist 4-H members in entering exhibits. All entry tags, additional information, recipe cards, data tags, etc. MUST be attached at this time.

Static Exhibits

Food Booth Training, July 27
The 4-H Carrie Stop food booth at the county fair is 4-H Council’s primary fundraiser. Volunteers are needed to staff 3-4 hour shifts from Tuesday, Aug. 1 through Saturday, Aug. 5. For more information, contact Jean Pedersen at 420-0573 or jean.pedersen@mac.com. All food booth volunteers are encouraged to attend a training on Thursday, July 27, 6-7 p.m. at the Event Center. Learn about food safety and volunteer responsibilities.

Food Exhibit Check-In Monday, July 31, 4–8 p.m. State Fair volunteers are needed to help during the State Fair. Volunteers MUST be physically checked in during Static Exhibit Check-in on Monday, July 31 between 4 to 8 p.m. at The 4-H Council Event Center, Lincoln Room. An adult — such as a club leader or parent(s) — should assist 4-H members in entering exhibits. All entry tags, additional information, recipe cards, data tags, etc. MUST be attached at this time.

State Fair Gate & Parking Passes
State Fair gate passes and seasonal parking passes may be purchased and picked up at the extensions office after county fair. These passes are for 4-H members and their immediate family only.

Volunteer at the State Fair!
Hundreds of people volunteer their time and energy in making 4-H at the Nebraska State Fair incredible successful. Along with the opportunity to participate in this great event, and meet new people, each volunteer will receive a free parking pass and gate entrance pass to the State Fair for the day(s) they volunteer. Volunteers are needed for:
• Exhibit Work at the 4-H/FFA Fair
• 4-H CyberFair
• Discover 4-H Activity Center
• 4-H Quiz bowl team
• 4-H Meat Judging Team
• 4-H Project Hall Area Team
A schedule of events and volunteer times, as well as a volunteer interest form are on the 4-H Web site at http://4h.unl.edu/programs/statefair. Please fill form no later than Aug. 7. For more information, contact Doug Swanson at 472-2805.

Premium Payouts MUST Be Picked Up Sunday, Aug. 6
Premium payouts to 4-H & FFA exhibitors will be paid in cash on Sunday, Aug. 6, Noon–4 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center Fair Board Office. Subject to identification, premium checks will be cashed at the 4-H/FFA Fair. For more information or to sign up, contact her at 441-7180. NO CHECKS WILL BE ISSUED THIS YEAR! No changes or corrections will be made on premium amounts after 14 days.
Traffic Calming Process Generally Takes Three Years for Neighborhoods Who Want to Control Speeding

Speeding on residential streets is a perennial and apparently growing problem affecting the quality of life in every urban neighborhood. One time or another you have all observed cars speeding on your street. Speeding creates noise, causes difficulties for some residents who are hearing impaired, and jeopardizes the safety of our children. We all want to discourage speeding in and around neighborhoods, especially on the streets we live on.

You see cars speeding down your street or through your neighborhood, what can you do about it? There are several actions that can be taken with your neighbors and city officials. Do you know a vast majority of the people who are caught speeding in neighborhoods are residential drivers?

Some experts claim speeding traffic is a social issue and behavioral problem that cannot be addressed through engineering or enforcement. These experts point out the paradox of human behavior in which a resident wants drivers to drive slowly on their street, however, that same resident will speed in other residential areas. They believe until this issue is resolved, any engineering or addressing speeding problems will persist. Although this issue may not be of a certain degree, many local governments around the world have experienced some success with traditional traffic calming programs.

What is Traffic Calming?

Traffic calming is a way to design streets, using physical measures, to discourage people to do things they would not otherwise do, in an approach to reduce the negative effects of automobile use, alter driver behavior and improve conditions for neighborhood residents, pedestrians, retailers, and other road users. Traffic calming involves the installation or construction of one or more elements that include raised devices, such as speed bumps and raised crosswalks, roadway narrowing, horizontal shifts in the roadway, medians, roundabouts or planting trees along the roadway. A community planner or described of these techniques, visit the following Web site: http://www.saraostogov.com/InsideCityGovernment/Content/Engineering/Pro/grams/TCTechniques.html.

Traffic calming is self-enforcing. The design of the roadway results in the desired effect, without depending on compliance with traffic control devices such as signals, signs and without reduction of speed. While elements such as landscaping and lighting do have an indirect effect on traffic behavior, they can provide the visual signs encouraging people to drive more slowly. For example, mini-circle (raised circular islands constructed in the center of the street) force motorists to maneuver around them and have been found to reduce vehicle speeding at the intersection and to reduce motor vehicle crashes by 90–93 percent. Colorful edges from seasonal plantings on street corners and in median boxes can also calm traffic substantially.

Steps in Traffic Calming Process

1. **Identify problem area and collector streets on the streets on your neighborhood.**
2. **Get involved in your neighborhood** — contact your local city, town, county, association or homeowners’ association to address the speeding problem on your residential streets.
3. **Form a task force or committee which will deal with this problem** — take part in creating a neighborhood task force or committee to educate your neighborhood about the speeding problem.
4. **Educate your neighborhood about the speeding problem** — use a very powerful tool in reducing neighborhood speeding. The community can be very much assisted in reducing speeding by educating the community that speeding is a problem and that there are certain measures that can be taken by the community.

The city will evaluate the project and the follow-up criteria must be met:

- **Street is a through street and not a transit route or primary emergency access route.**
- **Parked speed limit is 25 mph or less.**
- **Traffic-calming devices will not cause safety problems.**
- **Neighborhoods must participate in the design, planning and enforcement process for three to six months.**

The city will pay for and install traffic calming measures if it is a high priority project depending on how serious the speeding problem is and how expensive the measure is. However, if your neighborhood is able to raise some funds the community is more likely to be able to fund the matching funds to construct traffic calming in your neighborhood.

Taking Responsibility for America’s Electronic Waste

Jeff Thiele

UNL Partners in Pollution Prevention

Each year in America, several million tons of elec-
tronic goods become obsolete. This electronic waste, or e-waste, contains hazardous materials such as lead, mercury and many others that can harm the environment. Recycling this material into new electronics is the best options for safely disposing of it, but many Americans are not recycling the e-waste that collect e-waste actually send it overseas. The Basel Ac-
cord (e-waste) Convention (BAN), a group that monitors the interna-
tional trade of toxic materials, estimated between 50 and 80 percent of all e-waste collected in America for recycling was simply exported. Why does America send its e-waste overseas? While recycling the materials in e-
-waste is the best option for our environment, it is not enough for our checkbooks. Due to the low cost of new materials and the price of recycling the e-waste, easily costs a recycler more than they will make by reclaiming materi-
als. For example, on average it costs a recycler $10 or more to recycle one computer monitor, which most consumers aren’t willing to pay. While some recycling is done using inex-
clusive prison labor, domestic recycling is not cheap. It is price and are forced to look for other options, some companies in some countries and some de-
veloping nations welcome the materials. E-waste is sent to nations in Asia and Af-
rica where it is broken down, usually by hand, for the small amounts valuable materials included. The rest of the e-waste is usually thrown into making shift landfills which are often damaged by rainwater, chemical spills. People in the area are exposed to the hazardous materials in e-waste through direct contact or through their polluted environment. They also will not be able to get full benefit from the recycling of e-waste.

Communities with a capacity to develop a plan for their future and work together to plan, manage, and solve traffic and e-waste problems. Strong communities where people have a chance to place and a high value on the quality of their neighborhoods have the very powerful tool in reducing the e-waste problem. Traffic calming helps create livable communities where people have many opportunities to interact with each other and place pleasant places to walk and socialize.


Commuter Transportation

The nonprofit National Center for Transit Innovation (NCTI) has楷体行” width="595" height="863" src="https://saraostogov.com/InsideCityGovernment/Content/Engineering/Programs/TCTechniques.html"

Traffic calming can work in any neighborhood. Communities that are organized, active and motivated are most likely to design and carry out effective traffic calming program. Traffic calming is a process as much as a product. Because traffic calming is a collaborative idea in many communities, most people do not understand its benefits. Identifying will not mean resisting change, often because they do not fully understand how traffic calming improves the quality of life in the neighborhood. For traffic calming to be incorporated into the neighborhood residents must be in favor of the program. Typically, it takes 60-70 percent approval from the community; the percentage depends on the type of traffic calming treatment proposed. The process works best if many people are involved: residents, students and staff from the local school, local business owners and employees, city and county staff, representatives from the emergency response system, including fire and police department and anyone else who uses the streets in the neighborhood on a regular basis.

Community Focus

The City will prioritize the project. The city will pay for and install traffic calming measures if its a high priority project depending on how serious the speeding problem is and how expensive the measure is. However, if your neigh-
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Commuter Transportation

The nonprofit National Center for Transit Innovation (NCTI) has
Electronic Waste
continued from preceding page

live and work in these condi-
tions for a few dollars each day,
happy just to have a job.

What can be done to solve the
problem? Groups such as the
BAN think government
and manufacturers are the an-
swers. They feel enacting federal
laws requiring manufacturers
to take back their products
and recycle them would stop
America’s dumping of e-waste
overseas. Manufacturers would
raise retail prices of their
products enough to cover their
recycling costs. Consumers
may not like the idea, but most
simply won’t notice the extra
$10 to $30 they spend buying
a $2,000 computer. Hope-
fully, if manufacturers recycle
their own products, they will
work to make them using less
hazardous materials and easier
to recycle.

BAN also believes export-
ting toxic materials should
be illegal, which would force
countries to deal with their
waste instead of making it someone
else’s problem. Interestingly,
while the United States is the
wealthiest nation in the world,
it is also one of the few devel-
oped nations still exporting its
e-waste.

While it may take time for
government to solve the prob-
lem, there are things people
can do now to responsibly re-
cycle their e-waste. Consumers
can donate reusable electronics
to non-profit organizations. Also, people can contact recy-
clers to see how they recycle
e-waste. By sending e-waste
to responsible recyclers and
paying the service fee for their
materials, consumers can take
responsibility for their e-waste
instead of making it someone
else’s problem. Information
on organizations accepting
donations as well as recycling
companies can be found at
http://www.wastecapne.
org/pub2016/guidebook.
sh.html, and more information
on e-waste from the Basel Ac-
ction Network can be found at

Lancaster 4-H Team Wins Wildlife Habitat Contest

This year, the 4-H Wildlife
Habitat Evaluation Program was
held in June at Camp Comesa
near Corad. The contest consists of
defining wildlife foods, interpre-
tation of aerial photos for
habitat, designing an urban plan
for benefit of wildlife, evaluating
a field site for the best manage-
ment practices for specific wildlife
and writing a wildlife plan for a
tract of land to meet land owners
objectives.

The Lancaster County 4-H
senior team consisting of Grace
Farley, Carson McNeil, Kaylee Nel-
son and Hannah Spencer was the
winners of this year’s contest! Leah
Spencer coached the team.

Grace Farley, Kaylee Nelson, Hannah Spencer and Carson McNeil was this year’s senior winning team at the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program.

Community CROPS Will Hold a Garden Open House, July 29

Community CROPS, Lincoln’s com-
munity garden and farm project, will host a
garden open house on Saturday, July 29, 10
a.m.–2 p.m. (note: date has been moved
from June as was previously published). Select gar-
dens will be open for viewing, including:
• 46th and Pioneers Community Garden
• 23rd and P Community Garden

Gardens will be on-site to showcase
their plots. There will be various garden
and food-related demonstrations. Refreshments
will be available.
Community CROPS: Combining Re-
sources, Opportunities & People for Sustainability is a Lincoln, Nebraska organization, which
works with local gardeners and farmers to grow and market agriculture products. Now in its
fourth year, Community CROPS has six community gardens throughout Lincoln. For more
information about the open house, go to http://www.communitycrops.org or call 730-2532.
Learning is Fun at Clover College!

Held each June, 4-H Clover College is a four-day series of hands-on workshops for youth presented by University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County. Now in its 10th year, Clover College has grown from eight workshops offered in 1996 to 43 workshops and 572 total registrations this year! Two classes, Bird House or Feeder taught by Shirley Condon and Rockets taught by Ron Suing, have been offered all 10 years! A special thanks to the 76 instructors and assistants who helped make this year’s Clover College a success! More photos are online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h.

Can You Guess It?

Did you guess it? Find out at http://lancaster.unl.edu

Did you guess it from the June NEBLINE?
The answer was anthracnose on hackberry tree leaves.

Penstemon

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to increase longevity of the plant or allow it to self-sow in the garden. Penstemons perform best in full sun and well-drained soil. This great plant was discovered by Harlan Hamernik of Bluebird Nursery near the War Axe Wildlife Management Area in south central Nebraska.

The ‘Prairie’ Penstemon series, including ‘Prairie Dawn’ (pale pink), ‘Prairie Dust’ (clear purple), ‘Prairie Fire’ (coral-red), and ‘Prairie Snow’ (white) are hybrids of mixed parentage. ‘Prairie Splendor’ is a hybrid mix with flower colors including white, rose, lavender and pink. Plants reach between two-four feet in height, with a mounded to upright growing habit and narrow lance-shaped green foliage.

P. mexicaule x ‘Red Rocks’ (bright, rose-colored flowers) and ‘Pike’s Peak Purple’ (violet-purple flowers) have narrow, dark green foliage and grow to 15 inches tall. Finally, P. digitalis ‘Husker Red’, 1996 Perennial Plant of the Year, has deep maroon foliage and spikes of white flowers, growing to 24-30 inches in height.

Since sunny, dry locations in the garden can be challenging for some plants, why not try a Penstemon in one on your acreage?

U.S. Drought Monitor Map

As of July 11, Lancaster County was in moderate drought conditions.

For the most recent map, visit http://www.drought.unl.edu/