5-2012

The NEBLINE, May 2012

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/neblines

"The NEBLINE, May 2012" (2012). The NEBLINE Newsletter Archive from UNL Extension in Lancaster County. 263.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/neblines/263

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in The NEBLINE Newsletter Archive from UNL Extension in Lancaster County by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.
Lincoln’s Biosolids Land Application Program is 20 Years Old

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator
Dave Smith
UNL Extension Technologist

On May 12, 1992, the first truckload of the City of Lincoln’s dewatered biosolids was delivered to farmland in Lancaster County. This event ended a decade of planning by Lincoln’s sanitary engineers to dispose of this municipal organic waste in a more environmentally responsible, beneficial manner — rather than being buried in the landfill. In the last 20 years, more than 100 area farmers have applied nearly 600,000 tons of biosolids to their cropland, improving their soil and increasing yields.

Biosolids are organic solids separated from wastewater and biologically processed to make them safe to use as an organic fertilizer for crops not in the human food chain.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County has worked with cooperating farmers since the beginning of this program, taking soil tests, making sure biosolids are not applied too close to sensitive environmental features that might compromise surface and groundwater, determining application rates, and calibrating equipment. Program goals are to encourage more farmers to use biosolids, in 1993, to offer educational services, and enough time to apply the biosolids wholeheartedly right away. Others adopted a wait-and-see attitude; they sat back and watched their neighbor’s corn grow faster and larger and produce higher yields before they were convinced about biosolids.

What’s in Biosolids That Makes it So Good?

Biosolids contain significant quantities of all macro and micronutrients needed for crop growth. One application typically increases organic matter in soil about 0.6%, which increases water infiltration and improves soil tilth. For highly eroded or confined soils, a single biosolids application can immediately make them productive.

Demand for Biosolids

There is more demand than ever for biosolids, but most cooperating farmers are not using biosolids for nitrogen (N). It is the readily available phosphorus (P) that cooperators want. After a single application of biosolids, a P deficient soil typically increases 30–40 ppm (Bray-P test). With average crop removal rates, it will take 10–12 years for the soil tests to return to original levels.

Farmers are Paying for Biosolids

At the beginning of the program, it was tough to find farmers who were willing to use biosolids because they had to have a loader, spreader and enough time to apply the material. To encourage more farmers to use biosolids, in 1993, the city began paying cooperators to defray application costs. Twenty years later, there is so much demand for biosolids, cooperators are actually paying the city for it. Biosolids are delivered to field storage sites, but cooperating farmers are still responsible for application — either applying it themselves, or see BIOSOLIDS on page 10.

Teaching An Old Guy New Tricks

My favorite biosolids story is about Wally Hansson, who lived in Wahoo, but had 145 acres on Ashland Road, just inside the Lancaster County line. In 1993, I met Wally at his farm to flag storage sites.

“Wally, we will bring enough biosolids so you won’t need to apply any other fertilizer,” I said. "In fact, I don’t want you to add other fertilizer to this field."

Wally looked at me and said, "I can’t believe it. Surely, I need to add something more. Are you sure?"

“Yes, Wally, I am quite sure,” I said. "I know it is hard to believe, but trust me, and let’s just see what happens.”

After his 1994 corn crop was harvested, Wally stopped by the office to sign paperwork. He said, "I didn’t add any other fertilizer, just like you said. But, you were right ... I just harvested the best corn crop I ever got off that field.”

As I recall, 1994 was an exceptional year for growing crops in eastern Nebraska. Rains came periodically and at just the right time for growing crops, but Wally credited the biosolids application for his best corn crop ever. Wally passed away in 2010 at age 88. He used to stop by the office sometimes just to pass the time.

Biosolids Also Benefit Pastures

Mark Benes is a grain and livestock farmer north of Lincoln. He has been using biosolids for 10 years on crop fields and about eight years ago tried biosolids to fertilize a pasture for summer grazing of his cow/calf pairs.

“My normal stocking rate for that pasture is about 20 pair,” Benes says. “Biosolids made that field so lush and productive I could have increased my rate. Even after I got my cows off in the fall, there was so much forage left, I was tempted to take a hay cutting.”

Since pasture is normally on poorer soils the benefits of using biosolids for both pasture and hay fields can be substantial in increased yields and soil improvement.

Dave Smith
LINCOLN EXTENSION
University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County

May 2012

444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528 • 402-441-7180 • http://lancaster.unl.edu

IN THIS ISSUE

Environmental Focus .... .2
Urban Agriculture ........ 3
Food & Fitness ............ 4
Horticulture ............... 6
4-H ........................ 7
Community Focus ......... 10

CLOVER COLLEGE
Hands-on workshops
June 12–15
—see page 9

GPS/GIS technology is used to map storage (indicated above in purple) and application sites (indicated above in green).

Soil samples are taken to determine the amount of biosolids to apply per field.

A hauling contractor transports biosolids to approved fields.

Farmers either apply biosolids themselves or hire a custom applicator. Spreaders can be rented for a reasonable cost from the City of Lincoln.
Hummingbird Watch!
Sonni Cochran
UNL Extension Associate

The ruby-throated hummingbird migration in Nebraska peaks about May 5-17 and Sept. 2-18. Their northward migration may occur from April to June and then southward, from August to early October. Some lucky Lancaster County bird watchers enjoy hummingbirds at their feeders all summer.

Early in the season, these feisty little birds are very territorial. They won’t share a large feeder. If you want to feed hummingbirds, put out several small feeders for the little birds. Spread the feeders throughout your yard to reduce competition. You can always put out a larger feeder depending on how quickly the birds empty a small feeder.

There are a number of plants and trees that also benefit hummingbirds. Here are a few species to use:
• zinnias, and more.
• nasturtium
• foxglove
• clematis
• bee balm
• American columbine
• American dogwood
• gladiolus
• amaryllis
• hollyhock
• honeysuckle
• asters
• nectarine
• penstemon
• petunia
• salvia
• sunflowers
• zinnias, and more.

It is best to avoid insecticide use around the flowers you’ve planted to attract hummingbirds, because hummingbirds depend on small insects as part of their diet.

Make Your Own Hummingbird Nectar
Recipe: Mix one part granulated white sugar (common table variety) with four parts water. For example, mix 1/4 cup sugar with one cup water. Boil the water, dissolve the sugar, and allow to cool before filling feeders. You don’t need to add red dye to the water. Keep leftover “nectar” refrigerated. Change the mix in your feeders every few days, more often in hot weather. Be sure to clean the feeder each time before refilling to prevent harmful molds.

Ticks: Reaching Out To Touch Someone
Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

Ticks are small arthropods similar to insects. But instead of having six legs and the body parts as insects do, ticks have eight legs and two body parts. All ticks are blood feeders; some species are important vectors of diseases in humans and other animals. The black-legged tick — aka deer tick — (Ixodes scapularis), vectors Lyme disease. We are lucky this species is not found in Nebraska.

Even though spiders have eight legs and two body parts, ticks are more closely related tomites. In addition to having eight legs, both mites and ticks have mouthparts with similar structures. Ticks mouthparts are located on the capitulum — or head — and can be easily seen from above. During feeding, the hypostome, the feeding apparatus firmly anchored in the skin because of backward directed spines on it. These projections makes removing a tick cleanly — without leaving mouthparts embedded in the skin — hard to do.

Ticks most commonly encountered in southeastern Nebraska are the American dog tick and the lone star tick. Both species are hard ticks which have a scutum just behind their head. It is easy to tell the difference between adult male and female hard ticks. The male tick is smaller than the female. His scutum covers the entire surface of his body and constricts the blood meal. The female has a smaller scutum which allows the body to expand greatly so she can ingest enough blood to produce thousands of eggs.

Ticks undergo four stages: egg, larva, nymph, and adult. The first stage larval ticks have 6 legs; nymph and adults have eight. All stages of ticks must feed on blood to molt to the next life stage.

Most hard ticks are “three-host” ticks. During its lifetime, a tick will feed on three different hosts, one for each of its active stages. After feeding, the tick will drop from its host into the leaf litter to either molt or lay eggs, in the case of a female.

Because a blood meal is required for each stage of development, the entire life cycle, from egg to adult, may take two years or more to complete.

During periods of adverse environmental conditions (heat, drought, cold), ticks will live in leaf litter which provides enough moisture and protection against the elements so they can withstand a colder than normal winter or dry spell.

How do ticks find their host? When I was a kid living in northern Michigan, I was told ticks fall off trees. This isn’t true and falls into the realm of an old wives tale. Ticks do not jump or fly either. To find a blood meal, ticks must literally come in contact with a host and have developed strategies to help them find a host.

The most interesting behavior is called “questing.” Questing means to crawl up the stems of grasses and hang onto the blade with their front legs extended. Their front legs have specialized organs on them to detect carbon dioxide gradients from approaching hosts. When a host approaches against the extended front legs, the tick quickly clings to the animal or human. Favorite vegetation sites for adult questing ticks include tall grasses and shrubs. Immature ticks may remain lower in the vegetation near the leaf litter where they may come into contact with small rodents and ground-feeding birds.

Do ticks have ways of knowing where animals and humans are more likely to walk? Maybe. Last summer at Ashfall Fossil Bed State Historical Park, I saw a questing American dog tick hanging onto a blade of grass next to a photo. I then decided to check other plants along the pathway and found questing ticks spaced every 6 feet or so on grasses right next to the pathway. It’s a good reason to stay in the middle of the path.

Ticks are a common nuisance among the squirrels. Visible symptoms of squirrels with mange are loss of hair, thick scars, and a wrinkled appearance.

Squirrels cut off tips of branches by the limb, chew the bark on tree bark, as well as, gnaw on house siding, decks, bird feeders, etc. Metal flashing can be used to help protect an area, as well as commercial repellents.

What do you do when squirrels are chewing on your deck or tearing apart your lawn furniture? Cover the area on your deck where the squirrels are chewing with hardware cloth (keep in mind, they may just move to another spot). As for the furniture cushions, bring them indoors or put them in the garage while you are gone. If squirrels are chewing on vehicle wiring, move the vehicle into a garage or to another location. You may need to call a pest control professional to help you.

Excluding squirrels is challenging! They are difficult to manage and will usually overcome the barriers you’ve created to exclude them.

American dog tick “questing” with front legs extended.

Tree Squirrels — Tricksters and Troublemakers
Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

Tree squirrels are known as backyard wildlife and in public parks. They are valued by Nebraska squirrel hunters for the meat and fur, and they can also be a public nuisance. Tree squirrels damage personal property and cause a lost estimated of $500,000 per year to public power facilities in Omaha alone.

Wildlife control operators regularly rate tree squirrels as a significant nuisance problem in the United States. Tree squirrels can cause a variety of problems, including damage to trees, flowers, lawns, gardens, vehicles, and homes. They eat acorns, nuts, fruit or vegetables in home gardens and become a nuisance at bird feeders. Squirrels can cause extensive damage to attics and spaces between walls and floors.

Most people who feed birds, are already familiar with the many ways squirrels find access to bird feeders. The key to squirrel feeding is to respect the athletic abilities of squirrels. You’re trying to outwit an animal that can jump 8-10 feet, straight up 4 feet, and down 15 feet, then hang on where it lands.

Don’t hang your bird feeders from trees. Use a metal pole with a squirrel baffle to hang your feeder — your feeder must be at least 5 feet off the ground and 10 feet away from trees, bushes, or structures. You can also enclose your bird feeders in 2-inch wire mesh. Small birds can still feed and a good reason to stay in the middle of the path.

How do ticks find their host? When I was a kid living in northern Michigan, I was told ticks fall off trees. This isn’t true and falls into the realm of an old wives tale. Ticks do not jump or fly either. To find a blood meal, ticks must literally come in contact with a host and have developed strategies to help them find a host.

The most interesting behavior is called “questing.” Questing means to crawl up the stems of grasses and hang onto the blade with their front legs extended. Their front legs have specialized organs on them to detect carbon dioxide gradients from approaching hosts. When a host approaches against the extended front legs, the tick quickly clings to the animal or human. Favorite vegetation sites for adult questing ticks include tall grasses and shrubs. Immature ticks may remain lower in the vegetation near the leaf litter where they may come into contact with small rodents and ground-feeding birds.

Do ticks have ways of knowing where animals and humans are more likely to walk? Maybe. Last summer at Ashfall Fossil Bed State Historical Park, I saw a questing American dog tick hanging onto a blade of grass next to a photo. I then decided to check other plants along the pathway and found questing ticks spaced every 6 feet or so on grasses right next to the pathway. It’s a good reason to stay in the middle of the path.

Ticks are a common nuisance among the squirrels. Visible symptoms of squirrels with mange are loss of hair, thick scars, and a wrinkled appearance.

Squirrels cut off tips of branches by the limb, chew the bark on tree bark, as well as, gnaw on house siding, decks, bird feeders, etc. Metal flashing can be used to help protect an area, as well as commercial repellents.

What do you do when squirrels are chewing on your deck or tearing apart your lawn furniture? Cover the area on your deck where the squirrels are chewing with hardware cloth (keep in mind, they may just move to another spot). As for the furniture cushions, bring them indoors or put them in the garage while you are gone. If squirrels are chewing on vehicle wiring, move the vehicle into a garage or to another location. You may need to call a pest control professional to help you.

Excluding squirrels is challenging! They are difficult to manage and will usually overcome the barriers you’ve created to exclude them.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
UNL Extension NebGuide “Control of Tree Squirrel Damage” (G1924) available at the extension office or online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/pest/squirrels.shtml

American dog tick “questing” with front legs extended.

Include tall grasses and shrubs. Immature ticks may remain lower in the vegetation near the leaf litter where they may come into contact with small rodents and ground-feeding birds.

Do ticks have ways of knowing where animals and humans are more likely to walk? Maybe. Last summer at Ashfall Fossil Bed State Historical Park, I saw a questing American dog tick hanging onto a blade of grass next to a photo. I then decided to check other plants along the pathway and found questing ticks spaced every 6 feet or so on grasses right next to the pathway. It’s a good reason to stay in the middle of the path.

Ticks are a common nuisance among the squirrels. Visible symptoms of squirrels with mange are loss of hair, thick scars, and a wrinkled appearance.

Squirrels cut off tips of branches by the limb, chew the bark on tree bark, as well as, gnaw on house siding, decks, bird feeders, etc. Metal flashing can be used to help protect an area, as well as commercial repellents.

What do you do when squirrels are chewing on your deck or tearing apart your lawn furniture? Cover the area on your deck where the squirrels are chewing with hardware cloth (keep in mind, they may just move to another spot). As for the furniture cushions, bring them indoors or put them in the garage while you are gone. If squirrels are chewing on vehicle wiring, move the vehicle into a garage or to another location. You may need to call a pest control professional to help you.

Excluding squirrels is challenging! They are difficult to manage and will usually overcome the barriers you’ve created to exclude them.
Starting Spring Chicks

Shelia Purdum
UNL Poultry Specialist

This time of year, many households are brooding a new batch of chicks. Raising poultry is a great family adventure. Young children learn how to care for an animal and parents interact with their children in a learning and nurturing environment. The family eventually benefits from fresh eggs and/or meat. If raising poultry is also a 4-H project, many other benefits can be realized from this experience.

It is very important to get these chicks off to a good start before they are introduced to the “old flock” environment. If you already have a mature flock of chickens, it is best to start the new batch in a separate barn area that can be sanitized and cleaned without contact with the older flock.

Once the new brood has a good start, they can be introduced to the older flock environment. It is important to allow a young flock to build immunity to diseases for which the older flock has already built up resistance.

The following management tips are suggested to help you start a healthy crop of chicks this year.

1. Provide a clean, sanitized, dry, and warm environment for the new batch of chicks preferably in a separate space from your mature flock of chickens. Provide a properly heated brooding space that allows adequate space for movement of the little chicks around feeders and water.

2. Provide adequate fresh bedding for the new flock of chicks. This may be a 3–4 inch base of fresh wood shavings or a 2–3 inch base of straw. It is important to stir wet spots from drinker spills or manure buildup to avoid excessive moisture in the brooding space where chicks can become chilled. Close attention to the replacement of wet litter until chicks reach 3–4 weeks of age.

3. Provide a light source for a minimum of 12 hours per day. It is hard to get adequate feed intake and growth without supplemental light.

4. Provide fresh, clean water and feed daily. When using bell-type drinkers, place the drinker above the litter on a board, to keep the chicks from kicking litter into the drinker. If litter is kicked into the drinker, wash it out and re-fill with clean water. Keep feed pans clean of manure and litter on a daily basis too.

5. Move the feeders and waters around the pen regularly to avoid a build-up of manure and moisture. Aerate the litter with a rake or stick when you move equipment to help keep the litter in good condition.

6. At 3–4 weeks of age, provide more space for your chicks. At this time, they are growing very fast, and they need less heat and more space to exercise and move. At this time, they may be ready to introduce the chicks to a separate pen in a mature flock space. Keep the chicks separate until about 8–10 weeks of age.

7. Once your new chicks are about 8–10 weeks of age, introduce them to your adult environment. If you plan to have layers, introduce them to their nest boxes at this early stage for acclimation to potential laying sites.

8. Fresh air/ventilation of your brooding and adult facilities is important to the long-term health of your flock. One of the most common health issues in poultry is respiratory disease. Adult farm flocks need constant fresh air to avoid a build-up of noxious ammonia gases and dust. An open inlet and fan in an enclosed pen/barn will help facilitate a good air environment.

9. Clean up: Equipment maintenance is important once a month of wet spots. Wet litter breeds bacteria and disease along with other pollutants. Equipment maintenance is important to both your bird’s health and your comfort while working in the chicken coop.

For MORE INFORMATION visit our website at http://animalscience.unl.edu/ or contact your local County Extension Office.
Kids in the Kitchen — Part 1

What are some of your favorite memories you have helping in the kitchen? Having children help with mealtime and cooking does more than just making your life less stressful at the end of a busy day. It adds purpose to kids’ lives and gives them something constructive to do. By giving them responsibility and helping them rise to it, they will build self-esteem and confidence.

If you’re a single parent, you may especially need the extra help from your children at home. You’re all trying to make your family and together time work.

Getting involved with cooking is also a great opportunity to instill the importance of eating nutritious foods. As kids get older and need help developing healthy eating habits, their skills can be used to teach them. As we get older and cooking becomes second hand it’s easy to forget the skills it takes to prepare meals. As a cook, it’s important to be creative, understand math, science, nature, have hand-eye coordination, and be attentive to reading and writing.

Teaching your children how to cook is one of the best life skills you can teach them. As we get older and cooking becomes second hand it’s easy to forget the skills it takes to prepare meals. As a cook, it’s important to be creative, understand math, science, nature, have hand-eye coordination, and be attentive to reading and writing.

Pizza Kabobs

Preheat oven to 350°F. Thread bread, meat, vegetable, and fruit alternately on 6-inch wooden skewers. (Soak wooden skewers in warm water 30 minutes before using to prevent them from burning in the oven.) Arrange kabobs in single layer on foil-covered baking sheet. Brush evenly with dressing, sprinkle with cheese. Bake 20 minutes or until kabobs are heated through and cheese is melted.

Adapted from Nutrition Education Program 2012 Calendar
FEC News & Events

FCE Scholarship Applications Due May 1

A $400 scholarship provided by the Lancaster County FCE Council is available for a graduate of a high school in Lancaster County or a permanent resident of Lancaster County majoring in Family and Consumer Science or a health occupation. This is open to full-time students beginning their sophomore, junior, or senior year of college in the fall of 2012 or who have completed two quarters of study in a vocational school. Applications are available at the extension office and online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/home/fce. Deadline is May 1.

Save the Date: Sizzling Summer Sampler, July 11

The 2012 Sizzling Summer Sampler will be Wednesday, July 11 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Watch for details in upcoming Nebraska News & Events.

FCE News & Events

GETTING A WORKOUT WITH HOUSEWORK

One way to get more exercise in your daily life is to combine this goal with something we all need to do: clean the house. So here are a few ideas:

Perfect your posture: As you sweep or dust, tighten your abdomen and keep your knees slightly bent. This will strengthen your stomach muscles and take the strain off your back.

Choose the old-fashioned way: Using a broom or a carpet sweeper requires more muscles and energy than an electric vacuum cleaner. Chop food by hand rather than using a food processor. Whip eggs and cream with a whisk rather than a mixer or substitute a hand mixer for the standing mixer.

Use a daily shower cleaner: Regular use will help keep shower and tub surfaces free of soap scum, mildew stains, and hard-water deposits. Mist surfaces right after showering. Be soap-smart: The way your family uses the soap may influence your choice. Bar soaps are great if they find their way back to the soap dish. Pump dispensers may be neater if the user's aim is accurate!

Keep a bleach pen on hand: It’s a great tool for spot-cleaning mold and mildew.

Get a hand-held vacuum: When you think of vacuuming, the bathroom isn’t the first room that comes to mind. However, consider the hair, dust, and pollen powder and more that finds its way to the floor. A small, hand-held vacuum makes quick pickups a breeze.

Rinse the tub: Doing this after each use helps keep soap film and hard-water deposits from forming.

Keep shower doors and curtains open after use: This allows them to air-dry and helps prevent mildew.

Simple Steps to Cleaning Electronic Screens

To clean an LCD laptop or flat-panel monitor screen, use a soft, lint-free cloth or a microfiber cloth that’s been slightly moistened with plain water. Do not use paper towels, as they can scratch the monitor’s surface. Wipe the screen gently to remove dust and fingerprints.

For glass CRT (television-style) monitors, use an ordinary household glass-cleaning solution and a soft, lint-free cloth or microfiber cloth. Never spray the cleaner directly onto the screen — spray the cloth instead.

For more information or if you have questions how to recycle or dispose of items not accepted, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 402-441-9021.

Saturday, April 28 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Walmart South, 87 St. & Highway 2

Saturday, May 19 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Pfizer Inc., 601 W. Cornhusker Highway

Saturday, Aug. 25 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Veyance Tech, 4021 N. 56 St.

Saturday, Sept. 22 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Lincoln Industries, 600 W. E St.

Saturday, Oct. 13 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Woods Park (31 & J Streets)

Take usable latex paint to EcoStores Nebraska at 530 W. P St. Call 402-477-3606 for details.

MEMBERS OF THE NEBRASKA FAMILY HELP LINE ARE Trained counselors 24/7/365 – no restrictions.

• Parent/child conflict resolution

• Trained counselors 24/7/365 – no restrictions.

• Youth mental health services

FAMILY & COMMUNITY EDUCATION (FCE) CLUBS

President’s View – Marian’s Message

May basket time. I always enjoy helping the kids make May Baskets. We would pop corn, add peanuts and M&M’s. The Lily of the Valley were usually in bloom so we would add flowers. I still plant a small rose garden. My daughter helps me gather the seeds planted. Fresh vegetables are so good and it’s fun to watch things grow. I enjoy being outside. It’s been nice having the early warm weather.

Our household is quiet now. This is my great grandson’s first year in school. No more bedtime routines or songs and nursery rhymes. No more stories that end with ‘the end’ and ‘The moral of the story’ words.

Hang a squeegee in the shower: Use it to quick-clean the walls and glass doors before stepping out of the shower.

Use wipes: These are handy for cleaning around toilet rims, tanks, faucets, sinks, and basins. Check the label for household hazards.
Managing Pastures in Lancaster County — Part 3: Weed Control

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

This is the third of a three part series.

What is a weed? A weed is defined as a plant out of place. For example: if a corn seed sprouts and grows in your bluegrass lawn, it would be classified as a weed. Likewise, plants which would be classified as a weed in the garden or corn field can be a valuable forage source in a pasture, especially when the animals are able to graze the “weed” when it will provide good nutrition and is palatable. For many forage plants, timing is key. The nutritive value and palatability nearly always declines as a plant matures and enters the reproductive stage.

One example of weeds that can be utilized with proper timing is the two winter-annual brome species, Downy brome and Japanese brome. These two weedy bromes germinate from seed in the fall, survive the winter, and begin growing rapidly in the early spring. When these annual bromes are succulent and lush, cattle and horses will readily graze them, especially since they are some of the first plants to green up in the spring, so are welcomed by the livestock.

Early spring grazing of winter-annual bromes not only provides some early-season forage, grazing them helps to reduce the amount of seed the plants will produce. When these annual bromes begin to produce a seed head, they become unpalatable and cattle and horses will no longer graze them. Another example of a weed that can provide forage is foxtail. Foxtail germinates in late May or early June. It will be grazed readily when the leaves are fresh and the seed head has not begun to emerge. Later, the foxtail will not be utilized unless nothing better is available.

If a grazing animal will eat a plant and it is not toxic to them, why should you try to control it in a pasture? Some plants that definitely should be controlled include weeds on the noxious weed list. In addition to the noxious weeds that must be controlled by law, I have listed some selected problem pasture weeds along with treatment suggestions.

Eastern Red Cedar

I get more calls from rural residents about eastern red cedar trees taking over pastures and other untilled land than any other single plant species. There are several approaches to getting control of red cedar. Where the site allows, a good management tool is to conduct a controlled burn. To be effective, there must be enough dry residue to make a hot fire and the trees can’t be too tall. Often trees over 5 to 8 feet tall will not burn all the way to the top, depending on whether there is enough dry residue to make a hot enough fire. If any of the tree remains green, the tree will live on.

Broadcast herbicide application to Eastern Red Cedar (Trees less than 24 inches tall) mix 2 pints Tordon 22K to 25 gallons water) or mix 3 pints of Surmount to 25 gallons of water. Individual trees too large to kill with a broadcast spray can be killed using Tordon or Velpar. Apply full strength product at 4 ml per 3 feet of tree height. Apply to the soil inside the drip line of the tree.

For More Information

- Lancaster County Weed Control Authority’s “Weed Awareness” special section published in the March Naurus, and many more resources online at http://lancaster.ne.gov/weeds.
- UNL Extension’s 2012 Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska (EC130) is online free at http://go.unl.edu/3ea.

To avoid disappointment, read the ads closely. Find out everything you can about the plant being sold. First, find out what the plant is. Plant ads that use common names and do not give the botanical names of the plants being sold make it difficult or impossible for you to learn more about the plant from other sources. The same common name may apply to several plants or a cute, catchy name may be made up for advertising purposes to attract potential buyers. Study the ad copy, what is missing may be more important than what is there.

Before you order plants, it is a good idea to comparison shop. Get catalogs or view on-line from several companies and compare plant sizes, ages, hardiness zones, growing conditions, warranties, shipping or handling details and costs. Educate yourself before you purchase plants and then enjoy the quality plants you receive.

**Wildflower Week Plant Sale**

**Flowers That Tower**

**Educate Yourself Before You Buy Plants**

**Mary Jane Frogge**

**UNL Extension Associate**

Tall perennial plants in your flower beds can bring a sense of drama to your landscape. If you have the space, consider a few of these giants. **Boltonia** (Boltonia asteroides) — This plant has showy, white, aster-like flowers in late summer. It will get 5–7 feet tall and may need staking. Thrives in any garden soil and spreads rapidly in moist conditions. Prefers full sun.

**False Indigo** (Baptisia australis) — Tall and wind tolerant. Reaches heights of 6–8 feet tall. Flowers are large, 6–9 inch, pink clusters. Prefers moist-wet conditions and full sun to part shade.

**Goatsbeard** (Aruncus dioicus) — Stately perennial that produces creamy-white plumes of blossoms in early summer. Will grow in sun to part shade. Reaches heights of 4–6 feet.

**Joe-Pye weed** (Eupatorium purpureum) — Very showy with purple flower clusters in the fall. Grows 4–7 feet tall. Prefers moist soil and full sun to part shade. **Plume poppy** (Macleaya cordata) — Handsome, large perennial that grows 5–10 feet tall. Does best in rich, well-drained soil and full sun. Blossoms are creamy-white plumes that reach nearly a foot in length. Warning! This plant spreads vigorously.

**Queen-of-the-prairie** (Filipendula rubra) — Tall and wind tolerant. Reaches heights of 5–7 feet tall. Flowers are large, nearly a foot in length. Warning! This plant spreads vigorously.

**Russian sage** (Perovskia atriplicifolia) — This sage has aromatic green-gray leaves and pale blue flowers in the summer. It prefers well-drained soil and full sun. Russian sage will grow to be 3–5 feet tall.

**White Mugwort** (Artemisia lactiflora) — Creamy white flowers appear in late summer. Attractive foliage reaches 4–6 feet tall. Grows in full sun or part shade.

**Garden Guide**

**Things to do this month**

**May 2012**

**By Mary Jane Frogge, UNL Extension Associate**

- Make successive plantings of beans and sweet corn to extend the harvest season.
- Harvest rhubarb by cutting or by grasping the stalk and pulling up and gently to one side.
- Watering roses with water hose or drip irrigation will spread the spread of black spot disease.
- Set out marigold, petunia, ageratum, and fibrous begonia transplants.
- Plant gladiolus bulbs in mid May.
- Grow your own dried flowers. Raise statice, globe amaranth, straw flowers and other everlasting to provide flowers for this year’s arrangements.
- Plant ground covers under shade trees that do not allow enough light. Seed lantana, verbena, morning glory, nasturtium vine, and scarlet runner bean.
- For maximum landscape interest in a small, vertical space, try annual flowers and other everlastings to provide flowers for this year’s arrangements.
- Grow your own dried flowers. Raise statice, globe amaranth, straw flowers and other everlasting to provide flowers for this year’s arrangements.
- Before you buy plants, read the ads closely. Find out everything you can about the plant being sold. First, find out what the plant is. Plant ads that use common names and do not give the botanical names of the plants being sold make it difficult or impossible for you to learn more about the plant from other sources. The same common name may apply to several plants or a cute, catchy name may be made up for advertising purposes to attract potential buyers. Study the ad copy, what is missing may be more important than what is there.

Before you order plants, it is a good idea to comparison shop. Get catalogs or view on-line from several companies and compare plant sizes, ages, hardiness zones, growing conditions, warranties, shipping or handling details and costs. Educate yourself before you purchase plants and then enjoy the quality plants you receive.

**For more information, go to http://arboretum.unl.edu or call 402-472-2971**

**For more information, go to http://arboretum.unl.edu or call 402-472-2971**

**Wildflower Week Plant Sale**

**Leadplant** (Amorpha canescens)

**Canellaflower** (Echinacea pallida)

**Shell-leaf penstemon** (Penstemon grandiflorus)

**Goatsbeard**

**Common sneezeweed or False sunflower**

**False Indigo**

**Boltonia**

**Russian sage**

**Joe-Pye weed**

**Queen-of-the-prairie**

**For more information, go to**

**http://lancaster.unl.edu**

**Before you buy plants, read the ads closely. Find out everything you can about the plant being sold. First, find out what the plant is. Plant ads that use common names and do not give the botanical names of the plants being sold make it difficult or impossible for you to learn more about the plant from other sources. The same common name may apply to several plants or a cute, catchy name may be made up for advertising purposes to attract potential buyers. Study the ad copy, what is missing may be more important than what is there.**
Register by May 7 by calling 402-421-7180.

**Furniture Painting Workshop, May 12**

Lancaster County 4-H is presenting a “Junque to Jewels” furniture painting workshop on Saturday, May 12, at 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherryreek Road. Open to all youth ages 8-18 (need not be in 4-H).

Bring a small piece of “junque” (unwanted furniture, such as stool, stand, or chair) turn it into a “jewel!” Choose a “Red, White, & Blue” or a “Black & White” theme and learn how to prepare new and used wood furniture by sanding, sealing, painting, decorating, antiquing, and finishing. All paints and finishes will be provided.

Cost is $5. Adults are welcome to attend to help teach. Bring a sack lunch. Register by May 7 at 402-421-7180.

**4-H Special Garden Project: Firecracker Sunflower**

New leaders, experienced leaders, 4-H members, and parents are invited to a Leader Training on Thursday, May 17, 9:30-10:30 a.m. (you choose which time to attend) at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherryreek Road. Meeting will provide you with statistics, exhibits, opportunities for 4-H members, and more.

New leaders will help start new 4-H garden clubs, and important county fair information. It is a great opportunity to connect with other parents and leaders. MUST preregister by May 15 by calling 402-421-7180.

**Clothing Level 1 Workshop, May 19**

A “Tips and Tricks for Clothing Level 1” workshop will be held at Hancock Fabrics, 6808 P. St., Lincoln on Saturday, May 19, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Workshop is open to anyone but will focus on 4-H clothing competencies. No cost and no preregistration. Learn what types of patterns to choose and what to watch for when choosing patterns. We will also cover techniques you should do that might not be mentioned in the pattern and what the judge is looking for. Did you know you can choose from four different waistband styles for Clothing Level 1? For more information, contact Kath at 402-421-7111.

**New 4-H Clover Kids Curriculum**

A new 4-H Clover Kids (ages 5-7) home environment curriculum is now available. “A Space for Me! Helper’s Guide” is used in conjunction with the “A Space for Me!” member’s manual. Sections include: 1) Hang It, 2) Fold It, 3) Leave It, 4) Save It, 5) Recycle It, 6) Reuse It; and 3) Color It, Paint It, Create It. Copies are available at the extension office.

**4-H Life Challenge Contests**

4-H Life Challenge judging contests help youth learn more about issues related to family, science, and community science (FCS). Contests are open to all 4-Hers, need not be enrolled in a specific project. Contact Tracie at 402-441-7180 for more information.

**Statewide FCS Life Challenge**

(faces 12 and up) will be held Monday, May 25 and Tuesday, June 26 UNL East Campus. To participate, must contact Tracie at 402-441-7180 by June 4. Please note: to participate in Life Challenge quiz bowl, partici-pants must check in by May 11. Information is online at http://pase.unl.edu.

**4-H Stock Show**

A new 4-H stock show will be held Saturday, July 7, 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Pre-register by July 5 by calling 402-441-7180 (there is no entry form). Contact Tracy for study packet after June 1.

**4-H Horse Tack Swap, June 2**

Buyers and sellers of 4-H tack, books, books, and anything horse-y are welcome to the second 4-H Tack Swap which will be held Saturday June 2, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, Pavilion 3 in conjunction with the Lancaster County Horse VIPS Committee pre-district show. Forms are available online at http://go.unl.edu/2pz. More detailed information recommended and due by June 4. For more information, contact Marty at mcruickshank2@unl.edu or 402-441-7180.

**4-H Stock Show**

Lancaster County 4-H Horse VIPS Pre-district Show/ Clinic/ Fundraiser on June 2

To help everyone prepare for districts and state, the Lancaster County 4-H Horse VIPS Committee is hosting a special pre-districts show/clinic/fundraiser on Saturday, June 2 starting at 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, Pavilion 3. 4-H’ers from all counties are welcome to participate.

The show will follow district format and all age groups (elementary, junior, and senior) can participate. All age groups can compete for prizes in a Hippology Contest. This will be an excellent opportunity for all 4-H riders to practice for districts. It will also be a great opportunity for elementary age riders to experience the district format even if they aren’t old enough for state. After this time, the judge will do a little teaching/ comments at the end of each class.

We are also using this as a fundraiser, so there will be a one time office charge of $5 and a $3 charge per class. Horses may be shown off the trailer (no jump-off fee). Stalls are also available. Anyone wishing to reserve a stall will need to contact Marty at mcruickshank2@unl.edu or 402-441-7180 and make arrangements prior to the show.

Stalls are $15 a day and Event Center shavings, $8 a bag, must be used. Campsites are available on arrival through the Event Center.

Pre-registration is not required. Riders must be in 4-H attire. Concessions will be available. Show office is available at http://go.unl.edu/2pz and at the extension office. For more information, contact Marty at mcruickshank2@unl.edu or 402-441-7180.

**Stay for Sunday's Open Horse Show sponsored by Salt Creek Wranglers.**

For more information go to www.saltcreekwranglers.com.
**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

**4-Day Workshops**
All four-day workshops will be held Tuesday through Friday.

**Clover Kids 4-Day Day Camp**
Clover Kids will participate in several hands-on activities while learning about Nebraska Game and Parks, the outdoors, and more. Refreshments provided. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**TUCE, JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**3-Day Workshop**

**Clover Chess Tourney**
Play in a unique chess tournament. Checkmate, Primitive rope making, three days—all ages. Time controls Game20, Swiss system. Brackets provided. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided. INSTRUCTOR: BJ Spring, owner, Mytiny Hands, Primitive Survival Skills.

**Archery**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.

**Money, Money, Money**
Learn the basics of banking and how to manage your money responsibly.

**Outdoor Cooking**
Teach everything you need to know about outdoor cooking. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Terrific Table Setting**
Learn the basics of setting the table and etiquette. TUE., JUNE 12; 10:15–12:15PM; THU., JUNE 14; 8–10AM; FRI., JUNE 15; 12:45–2:45PM.

**Camping 101**
Learn the basic skills needed to be a successful baby-sitter. All equipment provided.
Many myths surround spring severe weather, but knowing all of the facts about safety and preparation can save lives.

Be Prepared
The first thing a family can do to prevent harm is buy a weather radio. A weather radio costs no more than a family of four going to see a movie. Instead of using a phone or looking for information about severe weather through a weather radio.

When traveling in a car during severe weather, make sure to listen to the radio. Take out the CD, the MP3 player, or turn on an FM station to a local AM station covering the weather going on in the area.

A watch is telling citizens to just watch out for the hazard, to be more aware of the weather. A warning means something is happening now and everyone near should seek shelter and safety.

Lightening
Many myths surround lightening from severe thunderstorms. Many people believe no phones are safe during an electrical storm. However, cell phones are safe. Get inside immediately after hearing thunder during a storm.

A house, car, or well-enclosed picnic area in parks are good options. If caught outside, crouch to the ground, don’t lie on it. Lying on the ground puts the heart closer to the ground, which increases the chance of an electrical charge reaching the heart and stopping it.

Trees stand high from the earth. A lightning strike close. Lightning can strike any time of day or night, even when it’s not raining.

Static electricity that attracts lightning. Lightning occurs when thunderstorms. Lightening is more dangerous than tornadoes. Lightning is the number one severe weather killer.

In fact, lightning is more dangerous than tornadoes. Lightning is the number one severe weather killer. Most people think a human body will hold the charge from a lightning strike, but that’s not true. The person struck needs CPR immediately. If he or she may just need a few chest pumps to get the heart going again, but if you don’t, the person could be dead by the time paramedics arrive.

A A R P D r i v e r S a f e t y P r o g r a m, M a y 1 6

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation’s first and largest classroom course designed for motorists 50 and older. The course will be presented in Lincoln as a one 4-hour session on Wednesday, May 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherryvale Road. A certified AARP instructor will teach the course. Cost is $12 for AARP members and $14 for non-members payable at the door. To register for the class, call 402-441-7180.

You will learn:
• defensive driving techniques, traffic rules, and rules of the road,
• how to deal with aggressive drivers,
• techniques to handle driving situations as left turns, right-of-ways, and
• how to safely use anti-lock brakes, air bags, and safety belts.

There is no test. Course participants may be eligible to receive an insurance discount — consult your insurance agent for further details. For more information about the course, go to www.aarpdriversafety.org or call 1-888-227-7669.

B I O S O L D S

continued from page 1

Everyone Wins
This is a program where everyone wins. The City of Lincoln wins because the cost associated with landfiling biosolids is greater than the cost of the biosolids program. It may be hard to believe, but to landfiling biosolids, the City has to pay tipping fees just like any other user. Landfill users — nearly everyone in Lancaster County — win because this program saves landfill space and extends the life of the Bluff Road Landfill. Cooperating farmers win because they get greater yields, which helps. The University of Nebraska—Lincoln Food Process Center’s “From Recipe to Reality” seminar is the first step in developing a food business. The University of Nebraska sponsored and designed to provide businesses with an understanding of the key issues they will need to consider when starting a food business. Participants include individuals interested in marketing a family recipe, individuals with a product idea or concept, businesses considering adding value to an agricultural product, restaurateurs exploring the development of a manufacture specialty, and small businesses exploring the development of a private label product.

“From Recipe to Reality” provides a general overview of the many issues involved in developing a food manufacturing business. Seminar topics address important questions every entrepreneur should consider.

• Market research and selection
• Food processing and product development
• Food regulatory issues and agencies
• Packaging and labeling
• Pricing and cost analysis
• Product introduction and sales
• Promotional material package
• Food safety and sanitation

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
Extension Education Network (EEDN) provides disaster education resources to reduce the impact of natural and man-made disasters; online at http://eden.unl.edu

Lancaster County Emergency Management provides information or presentations. Contact 402-441-7441 or go to www.lanc.ne.gov/City/com/index.htm

The Nebraska LEAD Program is specifically designed for both men and women involved in production agriculture or agribusiness. Nebraskans in the general age range of 25-50 who are interested in providing quality leadership for the future of Nebraska agriculture are encouraged to apply.

Application deadline is June 15.

For application or re-application materials and/or further information, call the Nebraska LEAD Program at 402-472-6810 or email sgerdes2@unl.edu. More information is located at http://lead.unl.edu

From Recipe to Reality Seminar, May 11

A watch is telling citizens to just watch out for the hazard, to be more aware of the weather. A warning means something is happening now...
May
1 4-H Horse Level Testing, Lancaster Event Center - Amy Countryman
Arens…………………... 5:30 p.m.
1 4-H Council Meeting …………………………... 7 p.m.
1 Family & Community Education (FCE) Council Scholarship Applications
Due .
3 4-H/FFA Sheep Weigh-In, Lancaster Event Center - Pav. 2…………………... 6–8 p.m.
11 Extension Board Meeting …………………………... 8 a.m.
11 Lancaster County Deadline for District/State Horse Show
Entries, ID, Level Tests 
12 4-H “Junkue to Jewels” Furniture Painting Workshop ……………………... 9 a.m.
12 Composting Demonstration, Pioneers Park Nature Center’s Backyard
Composting Demonstration Area ……………………... 10 a.m.
15 Guardian/Conservator Training …………………………... 1:30–4:30 p.m.
16 AARP Driver Safety Program …………………………... 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
17 Co-Parenting for Successful Kids …………………………... 9 a.m. –12:30 p.m.
17 4-H Pre-Fair Leader Training …………………………... 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

National Paper Clover Campaign May 2–13

This year marks two years of collaboration between National 4-H Council and Tractor Supply Company (TSC). The spring 2012 4-H Paper Clover Campaign will take place May 2–13. Shoppers at TSC stores will have the opportunity to support 4-H by purchasing paper clovers for a $1 or more at checkout. All funds raised will be donated to 4-H. In just two years, the TSC 4-H Paper Clover Campaign has provided more than $1 million to 4-H across the country, with 70 percent of the funds returning to state and local 4-H programs.

Upcoming Composting Demonstrations

Learn how to be successful with composting by attending a composting demonstration sponsored by University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County and the City of Lincoln Recycling Office. Demonstrations will be held:
Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m.
Saturday, June 9, 10 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 22, 10 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m.

Composting demonstrations are presented at the Pioneers Park Nature Center’s backyard composting demonstration area. You will see three types of composting bins and how to use them. At each composting demonstration two lucky participants will win either a composting thermometer or bin.

Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center Hosts Open House, April 29

To showcase 4-H summer camp programs for the upcoming 2012 camping season, the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center near Gretna will host an open house Sunday, April 29 from 1-4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public and is a great opportunity for parents to bring their children to see all the activities and camps they can participate in this summer.

The 4-H center has dozens of camp programs for kids ages 5–17 (need not be enrolled in 4-H). The Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center is located at 151300 West Highway 31, five miles south of I-80 exit #432, next to Schramm Park. For more information about the open house or the center, go to http://4h.unl.edu/camp or call 402-332-4496.

CLOVER COLLEGE REGISTRATION FORM

SEE PAGE 9 FOR CLOVER COLLEGE PROGRAM INFORMATION

For current class availability, go to http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/programs/clovercollege

To register, complete the registration form (one person per form) and return with payment (make check payable to Lancaster County Extension). Registrations must be received by June 6. Registrations are handled on a “first come” basis and will only be accepted upon receipt of fees. No telephone or online registration. No refunds unless class is already filled or canceled. May photocopy this form if needed.

Assume your registration is confirmed unless we contact you about filled classes.

Registration opens May 2 for currently enrolled 4-H members.
Registration opens May 9 for non-4-H members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents Name(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytime Phone</td>
<td>Email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Needs (allergies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshops(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use additional sheet of paper if needed.

I give permission to use my child’s image in photographs taken at Clover College in publications, news articles, advertisements or Web sites pertaining to 4-H.

I give permission for my child to complete workshop evaluations to assess educational impact and life skills development.

All information is obtained and reported as aggregated data.

Parent/Guardian Signature | Date

Mail or bring registration form and payment to:
UNL Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Rd., Ste. A, Lincoln, NE 68528

EARLY REGISTRATION NOT ACCEPTED!
Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Mark Hurt as winner of May’s “Heart of 4-H Award” in recognition of outstanding volunteer service. A volunteer for more than eight years, Mark helps with the Rabbits R Us 4-H club, is a member of the Rabbit Volunteers in Program Service (VIPS) Committee, a superintendent of the 4-H Rabbit Judging and Breed Identification contests at the Lancaster County Super Fair, and a member of 4-H Council. He has helped with 4-H Council’s food booth at the fair and other Council activities.

“I like being a 4-H volunteer because I believe the kids are gaining experiences in the life skills of confidence in themselves and projecting that on others,” Mark says. “It’s such a positive group to be in with so much potential for urban kids to learn from. 4-H is hands-on and involvement with others, gaining communication skills along the way to use later in life. Every year I help out at the Super Fair with the youth in 4-H, helping answer questions or getting them to make more of effort, boosting their confidence, and showing them they are capable of achieving what they want.”

Congratulations to Mark. Volunteers like him are indeed the heart of 4-H!

Approximately 3,100 Lancaster County fifth graders from 44 schools attended the 18th annual earth wellness festival (ewf) on March 26 and 27 at Southeast Community College. Students learned about the environment and the importance of natural resources in fun, interactive sessions. More than 200 volunteers, area educators, environmentalists, and government representatives make this educational experience possible.

The festival is organized by 10 local agencies, including University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County. Classrooms attending the festival received pre-festival learning kits in October. More photos and a video of the Lincoln Children’s Zoo “Endangered!” presentation are online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/ewf.

In the “Scoop on Poop” session, fifth graders learn about Lincoln’s biosolids program.

Can You Guess It?

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

Did you guess it from the April NebliNe?
The answer was: Spaghetti with sauce and meatball showing portion distortion

Spring Rabbit Show Gives Youth Jump Start on Rabbit Project

The Lancaster County Rabbit VIPS Committee hosted a 4-H Spring Rabbit Show on March 24. This was a good opportunity for youth to learn and practice their showmanship as well as show their rabbits. Youth also participated in Breed Identification and Rabbit Quiz contests. 4-H’ers from Lancaster, Adams, Douglas, Gage, Johnson, Saline, and Saunders counties entered 145 rabbits. Proceeds from the show will go toward educational shows/clinics and trophies for the Lancaster County Super Fair 4-H Rabbit Show. More photos are online at http://go.unl.edu/lancoflickr.

4th Graders Gain Understanding of Agriculture at Ag Awareness Festival

Nearly 470 fourth graders from eight Lincoln area schools attended the Ag Awareness Festival held on April 3 and 4 at the Lancaster Event Center. Students gained a greater understanding of agriculture and how it impacts their daily lives. Students rotated between the following 10 interactive stations: Nebraska Ag Production Across the State, Grain Products, Farming Technology, Swine, Horse, Dairy Production, Ruminant Nutrition, Dairy Calves, Beef Production, and Hay & Forages.

The Ag Awareness Coalition, led by University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension, organizes the festival with the help of agriculture businesses, commodity associations, and food industry companies. This is the 12th year the festival has been held in Lincoln.

Fourth graders got a close up look at three-month old swine. These swine are offspring of sows bred by UNL students learning to farrow.

Students learned about farm technology and the importance of safety around equipment.

5th Graders Learn About Environment at earth wellness festival

“4th Graders Gain Understanding of Agriculture at Ag Awareness Festival”

Pete, a quarter horse used by the UNL Equestrian Team, was on hand to help students learn about horses.

Can You Guess It?

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

Did you guess it from the April NebliNe?
The answer was: Spaghetti with sauce and meatball showing portion distortion

Spring Rabbit Show Gives Youth Jump Start on Rabbit Project

The Lancaster County Rabbit VIPS Committee hosted a 4-H Spring Rabbit Show on March 24. This was a good opportunity for youth to learn and practice their showmanship as well as show their rabbits. Youth also participated in Breed Identification and Rabbit Quiz contests. 4-H’ers from Lancaster, Adams, Douglas, Gage, Johnson, Saline, and Saunders counties entered 145 rabbits. Proceeds from the show will go toward educational shows/clinics and trophies for the Lancaster County Super Fair 4-H Rabbit Show. More photos are online at http://go.unl.edu/lancoflickr.

4th Graders Gain Understanding of Agriculture at Ag Awareness Festival

Nearly 470 fourth graders from eight Lincoln area schools attended the Ag Awareness Festival held on April 3 and 4 at the Lancaster Event Center. Students gained a greater understanding of agriculture and how it impacts their daily lives. Students rotated between the following 10 interactive stations: Nebraska Ag Production Across the State, Grain Products, Farming Technology, Swine, Horse, Dairy Production, Ruminant Nutrition, Dairy Calves, Beef Production, and Hay & Forages.

The Ag Awareness Coalition, led by University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension, organizes the festival with the help of agriculture businesses, commodity associations, and food industry companies. This is the 12th year the festival has been held in Lincoln.

Fourth graders got a close up look at three-month old swine. These swine are offspring of sows bred by UNL students learning to farrow.

Students learned about farm technology and the importance of safety around equipment.

5th Graders Learn About Environment at earth wellness festival

“The Raptors” presentation by the World Bird Sanctuary of St. Louis, Mo. is the culminating session. Above, a hooded vulture flies above students.