9-2010

The NEBLINE, September 2010

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Wildlife Rescue Team
Helps Orphaned and Injured Wildlife

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

After I finished yard work one Saturday morning in June, a baby mourning dove was sitting on the ground next to the grill. It had some body feathers but no flight feathers. Roaming neighborhood cats would love to have this defenseless baby bird for lunch. What should I do? I looked around and didn’t see the parents. I thought about putting the baby bird back in its nest, but couldn’t find it in our yard.

I called Wildlife Rescue to have someone take care of it until it could fly on its own.

Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc (WRT) provides care for injured and orphaned animals for release back into the wild. I was directed to take the bird to the house of Lois Moss who is the primary bird caregiver in Lincoln.

Lois greeted me at the door, welcomed me inside and recognized it was a baby dove. She has a wealth of information about birds—she informed me doves and pigeons need a special diet. She showed me baby robins who were feathers yet and she could see the bones. She also showed me some baby birds so small she didn’t know exactly what species they were.

WRT is an independent, non-profit, completely volunteer organization sanctioned by the Game and Parks Commission, which means Lois and other caregivers have the permits required to house wild animals and keep them safe.

This organization is always looking for people willing to care for injured or orphaned wildlife. They welcome donations and are always looking for supplies. A few items they need include cages, heating pads, latex/rubber gloves, bird seed, and dog food. For a more complete list, check out their wish list at http://wildliferescue/nebraska.org. All donations are tax deductible.

It is easy to join and help Nebraska’s wildlife. For more information about WRT, contact Diane Bohling at (402) 435-0994 or saveawildchild@gmail.com. Or call the WRT Hotline at (402) 473-1951.

Orphaned or Injured Animal if...

• A bird fully feathered on his body with evidence of tail feathers, hopping on the ground but unable to fly. These are fledglings and should be left alone. They are learning to fly and parents will care for them until they fly, which should be in a few days. Keep children and pets away. If you want to do something, watch, listen, and keep track of the time that goes by that the bird has not been communicating with its parents.

• A rabbit, 4” long with open eyes and erect ears, is independent and can fend for itself. Nests of younger rabbits should remain undisturbed. The mother rabbit returns to the nest to feed babies only twice a day: at dusk and dawn. She stays away the rest of the time to distract predators from the nest. One way you can tell if mother rabbit is returning to take care of her young is to cross-cross yard or sticks over the nest. If the yarn or sticks have been disturbed, you know she has returned. Another way to tell is to observe if their bellies are plump early in the morning (do this without handling the bunnies). If not, then it is likely the mom is gone.

• A squirrel with a full fluffy tail and is able to run jump and climb is independent. A squirrel with a full fluffy tail and is able to run jump and climb is independent.

What to Do When You Find an Orphaned or Injured Animal
Call WRT as quickly as possible at (402) 473-1951. Do not give any food or water unless directed by WRT because the wrong food or water can often do more harm than good. Do not attempt to remove fishing line or anything tangled around the animal. Place the animal in a box, appropriately sized so it will not be able to thrive around and injure itself. Put small air holes in the box. If the animal is cold, place the box on a heating pad set to low or fill a bottle with warm water wrapped with a towel. Keep the animal in a warm, dark, quiet place and transport it as soon as possible.

Rescue a Wild Animal if...

• it is presented to you by your pet

• it is bleeding or has an obvious broken limb

• it is a featherless or nearly featherless bird on the ground

• it is a nocturnal animal in the open during the day

• the animal is shivering

• there is evidence of a deceased parent nearby

Injured wild animals may bite. Before you pick it up, put on gloves to prevent getting bitten.

Don’t Rescue These Animals...

• A fawn (baby deer) curled up in the grass appears approachable. His mother is most likely out of sight but nearby and watching. Fawns don’t have flight instincts until a couple weeks after they are born.

• A bird fully feathered on his body with evidence of tail feathers, hopping on the ground but unable to fly. These are fledglings and should be left alone. They are learning to fly and parents will care for them until they fly, which should be in a few days. Keep children and pets away. If you want to do something, watch, listen, and keep track of the time that goes by that the bird has not been communicating with its parents.

• An opossum, 9” to 10” or longer (not including the tail) is independent and can fend for itself. Nests of younger opossums should remain undisturbed.

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Black Walnut

Black walnut (Juglans nigra L.) is a valuable nut and hardwood lumber tree. In the home landscape, black walnut is grown as a shade tree and, occasionally, for its edible nuts. While many plants grow well in proximity to black walnut, there are certain plants whose growth is hindered by this tree. The type of relationship between plants in which one produces a substance which affects the growth of another is known as "allelopathy."

The Source of Toxicity

Plants adversely affected by being grown near black walnut trees exhibit symptoms such as foliar yellowing, wilting, and eventual death. The causal agent is a chemical called "juglone" which occurs naturally in all parts of the black walnut. The largest concentrations of juglone occur in the walnut's nut, hulls, and roots. However, leaves and stems contain a smaller quantity; juglone is slightly soluble in water and thus does not move very far in the soil.

Since small amounts of juglone are released by live roots, particularly juglone-sensitive plants may have toxicity symptoms anywhere within the area of root growth of a black walnut tree. However, greater quantities of juglone are generally present in the area immediately under the canopy of a black walnut tree, due to greater root density and the accumulation of juglone from decaying leaves and nut hulls. This distribution of juglone means some sensitive plants may tolerate the amounts of juglone present in the soil near a black walnut tree, but may not survive directly under its canopy. Alternatively, highly sensitive plants may not tolerate even the small concentration of juglone beyond the canopy spread. Because decaying roots still release juglone, toxicity can persist for several years after a tree is removed.

Species survival near or under black walnut trees is further complicated by the fact the amount of juglone present in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture present in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms. Competition for light and moisture in the soil depends on soil type, drainage, and soil micro-organisms.

Other trees closely related to black walnut also produce juglone, including butternut, English walnut, pecan, shagbark hickory, and bitternut hickory. However, all produce such limited quantities compared to the black walnut toxicity to other plants is rarely observed.

Implications for Horticulture

Gardens should be located away from black walnut trees to prevent damage to susceptible plants. If proximity to such trees is unavoidable, then raised beds afford a means of protection. However, the bed must be constructed in such a way to minimize tree root penetration into the raised portion. Care must then be taken to keep the beds free of black walnut leaf litter or nuts. If a garden is separated from a black walnut tree by a driveway or other physical barrier, then root extension growth into the garden area may be limited and juglone toxicity problems minimized.

From observation of native stands of black walnut, decreased toxicity seems to be associated with excellent soil drainage, even among sensitive species. Thus, any steps that can be taken to improve drainage, such as additions of organic matter or replacement of existing soil with a lighter type, should tend to minimize toxicity problems in a garden area.

Leaves, bark, or wood chips of black walnut should not be used to mulch landscape or garden plants. Even after a period of composting, such refuse may release small amounts of juglone.

Juglone Sensitivity in Plants

Few plants have been experimentally tested for tolerance or sensitivity to juglone. Thus, the following table should be used for guidance, but not regarded as definitive.

PLANTS TOLERANT OF JUGLONE

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PLANTS SENSITIVE TO JUGLONE

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Weedy Vines Identification and Control

This time of year it is common to see mature evergreens or windbreak trees covered with weedy vines. A common question is what are they and more importantly, how do you get rid of it? Weedy vines, like burcucumber and honeyvine milkweed, are more prevalent in wet years. Burcucumber is an annual vine with 5-lobed leaves, whitish flowers and small prickly seed pods that grow in clusters. It is common in shelterbelts. In trees, control with hoeing or the pre-emergent herbicide Princep (active ingredient = simazine) applied in May.

Honeyvine milkweed is a perennial broadleaf vine with heart-shaped leaves and no milky sap. Fruit pods resemble common milkweed, but are light green, shiny, and smooth on the outside. Control with post-emergence applications of glyphosate or 2,4-D applied before the vines begin to climb.
You Can Help Prevent Invasive Species From Entering Nebraska Waterways

Soni Cochran
UNL Extension Associate

There’s nothing better than getting out the boat, kayak, or canoe and heading out to enjoy our local recreation areas and waterways. After having fun at the lake, make sure you check your equipment. You may not know it, but you could be bringing home unwanted hitchhikers. These could include some invasive bait fish, aquatic plants and mollusks, and even freshwater jellyfish.

Aquatic hitchhikers cost millions of dollars in ecological and economic damage. These known invaders harm native fish populations and threaten your waters, your wallet, and the economy. The best way to prevent these invaders is to check your equipment for hitchhikers. Remove any visible mud, plants, fish, or animals. What may appear harmless could be an invader like the zebra mussel (a small invasive shellfish) or Eurasian watermilfoil (an aggressive water weed). Both of these species have been known to travel in ballast water, attach themselves to boats, and be transported around reservoirs. Some other invading species of plant and animals cannot be seen by the naked eye, so take extra precautions whenever possible.

Clean, dry, and drain. If there is a place for water to collect on any equipment you’ve put in the water, there is a chance you could transport something harmful. Be sure you check boats, trailers, equipment, boots, clothing and even your dogs if they enter the water. Again, some of these costly invaders are not visible to the naked eye, and are transported unknowingly. For detailed information on how best to clean your equipment (and pets), visit www.protectyourowaters.net/. If possible, let your equipment dry five days before entering another body of water.

Dispose of all bait on dry land. Do not release plants or animals into any lake or water supply including storm drains and sewers. Bristly crayfish and white perch hitchhike in bait buckets hidden amongst the bait. If your bait appears dead, don’t be fooled. Many bait animals and plants can appear dead but still survive if put into the water. Dispose of bait on dry land far away from water sources. Be aware of any bait regulations because in some waters, it is illegal to use live bait. Tired of the family goldfish? Just like other invasive species, do not release any pets, fish, or aquarium plants into the environment. Find a good home for them or contact your local Humane Society.

By following a few simple rules, you can protect your waters and prevent harmful species from damaging local fish and plant populations, and ruining your fishing and boating experiences. For more information on invasive species in Nebraska, including range maps and photos to help you identify invasive species, visit Nebraska Invasive Species Project http://nisp.unl.edu/invasives/.
**Food & Fitness**

**Frozen Peanut Butter and Jelly (or Honey) Sandwiches**

Make a whole batch of these in advance for “bag” lunches, freeze, and thaw as needed.

### The ingredients and general procedure:

Jelly sandwiches typically appear in a list of foods that don’t qualify during longer term freezer storage. They seep into the bread and make it soggy. The trick to making this sandwich successful is spreading peanut butter on BOTH sides of the bread slices; then, spread jelly or honey in the middle so the peanut butter keeps it from soaking into the bread.

### Specific steps for successfully freezing these sandwiches:

1. Make your sandwiches “assembly line” fashion, completing one step for all sandwiches before moving on to the next step.

2. A quick way to freeze sandwiches is to:
   - Place them in zip-top/self-sealing type plastic sandwich bags, and label the bag with the date and type of sandwich. Squish out as much air as possible before sealing them.
   - Lay them in a single layer in the freezer on a cookie sheet or flat surface and freeze them for about an hour until they hold their shape. Then place the sandwich bags in a larger freezer-quality bag, such as a gallon freezer bag. Squish out extra air before sealing. The thin sandwich bags aren’t satisfactory for maintaining food quality.

3. Use frozen sandwiches within one to three months for best flavor and quality.

4. Thaw individual sandwiches in their sandwich bag or other wrapping in the refrigerator. Transfer them to the refrigerator the day before you plan to eat them.

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**Keeping “Bag” Lunches Safe**

Whether it’s off to school or work we go, millions of Americans carry “bag” lunches. Food brought from home can be kept safe if it is handled properly. Here’s how:

1. Why keep food cold?

   - Harmful bacteria multiply rapidly in the “Danger Zone” — the temperatures between 40 and 140°F. So, perishable food transported without an ice source won’t stay safe long. Here are safe handling recommendations to prevent foodborne illness from “bag” lunches.

2. Begin with Safe Food

   - Perishable food, such as raw or cooked meat and poultry, must be kept cold or frozen at the store and at home. In between, transport perishable food as fast as possible when not refrigerated or frozen. At the destination, it must be kept cold. Food should not be left out at room temperature for more than two hours (one hour if the temperature is above 90°F).

   - Prepackaged combos that contain perishable meats along with crackers, cheese, and condiments must also be kept refrigerated. This includes luncheon meats and smoked ham which are cured or contain preservatives.

3. Keep Everything Clean

   - Wash your hands before you prepare or eat food. Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and countertops with hot, soapy water after preparing each food item and before you go on to the next item. A solution of one tablespoon of unscented, liquid chlorine bleach in one gallon of water may be used to sanitize surfaces and utensils. Keep family pets away from kitchen counters.

4. Don’t Cross-Contaminate

   - Harmful bacteria can spread throughout the kitchen and get onto cutting boards, utensils, and countertops. Always use a clean cutting board. When using a cutting board for food that will not be cooked, such as bread, lettuce, and tomatoes, be sure to wash the board after using it to cut raw meat and poultry. Use one cutting board for fresh produce and a separate one for meat and poultry.

   - At lunchtime, discard all used food packaging and paper bags. Do not reuse packaging because it may carry harmful other food and cause foodborne illness.

5. Packing Lunches

   - Pack just the amount of perishable food that can be eaten at lunch. That way, there won’t be a problem about the storage or safety of food in the refrigerator.

   - It’s fine to prepare the food the night before and store the packed lunch in the refrigerator. Freezing sandwich ingredients helps them stay cold. However, for best quality, don’t freeze sandwiches containing mayonnaise, lettuce, or tomatoes. Add these later.

   - Insulated, soft-sided lunch boxes or bags are best for keeping food cold, but metal or plastic lunch boxes and paper bags can also be used. If using paper lunch bags, create layers by double bagging to help insulate the food. An ice source should be packed with perishable food in any type of lunch box or bag.

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**Keeping Cold Lunches Hot**

Use an insulated container to keep food like soup, chili, and stew hot. Fill it with boiling water, let stand for a few minutes, empty, and then put in the piping hot food. Keep the insulated container closed until lunchtime to keep the food hot — 140°F or above.

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**Microwave Cooking/Reheating**

When reheating a food that does not contain raw or undercooked meat, it is not necessary to boil the food. Food should be steaming hot when it is taken from the microwave. Use an insulated container to keep food hot. Defrost foods first. Add cold water if necessary.

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**How Much Do You Know About Dietary Fats?**

- Fat aids in the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E, and K. It doesn’t take much fat, by the way, to help the absorption of these important vitamins and nutrients. Fat is also very essential for brain and nervous system development for children under age two. This is why toddlers have more fat, and older kids can drink low-fat or skim milk. Foods from animal products usually contain this type of fat include beef, veal, lamb, pork, lard, poultry fat, and most nuts and seeds are examples of monounsaturated fats. Buttery, fried foods, french fries, onion rings, and donuts are examples of products made from trans fats. AHA and the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend keeping the amount of trans fat you consume to less than 1% of your total daily calorie intake.

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**Tips for a Healthy Lifestyle**

- You are what you eat. In order to maintain a healthy lifestyle, try to follow the recommendations for dietary fat intake for your age and sex. See DIETARY FATS on page 11.
President’s View — Irene’s Items

Irene Colborn
FCE Council Chair

By now, those of you that have school age children or grandchildren have had to get those back packs ready. It has been a long time since I have had to do that, but it does bring back memories. We always looked forward to that last camping trip over Labor Day before school started. Hopefully, by the time you read this, you will have the information about the state convention for FCE at Grand Island and that you are making plans to attend. Found this “item.” If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else’s, we’d grab ours back.

Leader Training, Sept. 28

The FCE and Community Leader Training Lesson “Purchasing Green — What Does It Really Mean” will be Tuesday, Sept. 28, 1 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Road.

Extension Educator, Lorene Bartos will present the lesson. This lesson will help consumers learn about the concept of purchasing ‘green’ to save energy and resources. Participants will learn how to determine if products are indeed green or just part of the hype and if switching to green products is a smart way to protect the environment. If you are not an FCE member and would like to attend, call Pam at 441-7180, so informational packets can be prepared.

Council Meeting, Sept. 27

The next FCE Council meeting will be Monday, Sept. 27, 1 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center and hosted by Home Service FCE Club. The program will be presented by Jo Sheets, Public Relations Director for City Impact. The business meeting will include election of officers and State Convention Reports. All FCE members are invited to attend.

2010 State Convention

The 2010 State FCE Convention will be held in Grand Island, Sept. 17–19. For details, see your FCE Speaks. FCE members are encouraged to attend as Lancaster County will be hosting the 2011 State Convention in Lincoln.

Re-organizational Packets

Presidents of FCE clubs can pick up their packets to reorganize for 2011 the last week of August. There are October deadlines within the packet. If you have questions, call Lorene or Pam at 441-7180.

Disaster Supply Kits

You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own food, water, and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least three days.

Every family will have different needs for a disaster supply kits so it is important that each family assess their personal needs.

Basic Kits Include:

- Water/food/can opener
- Radios/flashlight/batteries
- First aid kit/medicines
- Personal hygiene/waste disposal supplies
- Whistle/refective item
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Blanket/towels/extra clothing
- Rain gear
- Books
- Flashlight/radio/batteries

Pet Kit:

- Food/water
- Medicines/Medical Records
- Collar/Leash/ID tags/carryer
- Waste disposal supplies
- Picture with pet/toys/comfort item

Basic Car Kit:

- Traction items/tow cable
- Fluorescent flag/reflactive items/ flares
- Scraper/shovel/gloves
- Space blanket/first aid kit/ snacks/water
- Flashlight/radio/batteries

For additional items to consider, please visit www.ready.gov.

Enter Disaster Preparedness Challenge to Win Prizes!

September is National Preparedness Month. Preparing for a disaster makes sense. The major steps are get a kit, make a plan, and be informed. The Lincoln Community Organizations Active in Disaster (LCOAD) invites local residents to participate in a Disaster Preparedness Challenge Sept. 5–25 for a chance to win prizes! For more information how to prepare for an emergency, visit www.ready.gov.

Eligibility Information:

1. You must live, work or attend school in southeast Nebraska to participate and be eligible for prizes.
2. Individuals, families, classrooms, or workgroups are eligible to participate.
3. Only one scorecard per individual, family, classroom, or workgroup.

Prizes will include:

- Weather Radios with batteries
- Smoke Detector with batteries
- First Aid Kits
- Fire Extinguisher
- Car Disaster Preparedness Kit

Prize winners will be notified by mail or phone. Grand prize winners will be announced in October 2010. Individuals need not be present to win.

Please keep this portion of the scorecard for information on prize drawing.

Directions:

1. Give yourself one point for each completed activity.
2. Total your points at the end of each week. (4 point maximum per week).
3. On September 25, 2010 add up the total points for the 3 weeks (12 point maximum).
4. If you have accumulated at least 8 points, return your scorecard to be eligible for the 2010 Disaster Preparedness Challenge drawing.
5. Tear or cut your scorecard on the dotted line. Fold and tape your scorecard, place a stamp on it, and mail. All scorecards must be postmarked or delivered by September 30, 2010 to be eligible for prize drawings. Mail to:

Lancaster County Extension
Attn: Lorene Bartos
444 Cherry Creek Road, Suite A
Lincoln, NE 68528

Scorecard:

Please Print:

Name
Signature (Must be 18 years of age)
Home Address
School/Busines Name
City
State
Zip Code
Crayon Color
Phone Number
Individual
Family
Classroom
Workgroup
Number in your group:

Activity (1 point per activity):

1. Assemble disaster kit by purchasing containers and getting two items from the list or update/add to current kit.
2. Learn about fire/emergency to your area.
3. Complete a Family Communication Plan (how to contact family member in case of disaster — out of town contact)
4. Learn or review the meanings of Watch and Warning.

Week 1 (September 5–September 11)

1. Add at least 3 more items to your disaster kit. If yours is complete check it for outdated items.
2. Learn about tornadoes and steps to take if one is approaching.
3. Review your family plan for fire and tornado.
4. Learn the signs of a Thunderstorm and what precautions to take

Week 2 (September 12–September 18)

1. Add at least 3 more items to your disaster kit. If yours is complete, check it for out of date items.
2. Discuss winter storms and learn/ discuss how to be safe during a storm.
3. Help a friend, relative or neighbor prepare a disaster kit.
4. Learn about steps to take in case of a flood.

**These weekly deadlines are just a suggestion. Points can be scored for any of the above activities that are completed between September 5–25, 2010.

Cleaning Greasy Granite Countertops

To remove greasy film from your granite countertops fill your sink with warm water and add two tablespoons of a mild dishwashing detergent. Dip a cloth into the soapy water, wring it out and wipe the countertop. Continue dipping and wiping until the greasy film is removed. Rinse the countertop with cool water and a clean cloth. Dry with a soft dry cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners, scouring pads and acid-based products such as those with lemon-based or vinegar-based ingredients.

Disaster Supply Kits

Pet Kit:

- Food/water
- Medicines/Medical Records
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- Waste disposal supplies
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Storing Vegetables and Fruit

Mary Jane Frogge
UNL Extension Associate

After a successful garden season, you may have vegetables and fruits you would like to store until you are ready to use them. Proper storage conditions are needed for vegetables and fruits that are not consumed immediately after harvest. The key to good storage is in controlling the temperature and relative humidity of the storage area. If not stored properly, they will rot and you will lose your produce.

Vegetables

Carrots: Trim carrot tops to one inch. Layer unwashed carrots in a container of moist sand. Carrots can be stored in a cool place, 35–40°F for 4-5 months.

Onions: Store cured onions in a dry location at 35–40°F. Layer unwashed onions in a paper bag and store in a dry, dark location at 40–50°F.

Sweet potatoes: Cure fresh dug sweet potatoes at 80–85°F for 10 days. Store cured sweet potatoes in a dry, dark location at 55–60°F for 4–6 months.

Turnips: Store in a dark, cool location at 55–60°F for 5–6 months.

Tomatoes: Cure fresh dug potatoes 1–2 weeks in a dark, dry location at 50–60°F. Store cured potatoes in a dark location at 45–50°F.

Fruits

Apples and pears will likely last through the fall and winter if stored properly. Apple varieties should be harvested firm and ripe to insure the longest storage possible. Harvest pears when they are fully mature but still green and hard. Pears ripen quickly at 60–65°F. Grapes will usually keep for one or two months. Grapes should be stored alone because they pick up odors of other fruits and vegetables.

COMPOSTING

COMPOSTING

Fall Composting Workshops and Demonstrations

Each spring and fall as you clean-up your yards and gardens, there is always a large pile of leaves, grass clippings and other debris material to be removed. Instead of throwing it away, recycle it. One of the key components of good composting is brown or dried organic matter as well as green grass clippings. So, now is the time to utilize these materials in a compost pile. Learn how to be successful with composting by attending a composting demonstration sponsored by UNL Extension in Lancaster County and the City of Lincoln Recycling Office.

COMPOSTING WORKSHOPS

Composting Workshops are held at various Lincoln locations. At conclusion of the workshops, participants will receive a complimentary compost bin or composting thermometer.

• Tuesday, Oct. 12 – Loren Carey Esley Library, 1930 Superior Street, 6:30 p.m.
• Wednesday, Oct. 13 – Bess Dodson Walt Library, 6701 S. 14th Street, 6:30 p.m.
• Thursday, Oct. 14 – Anderson Library, 3635 Twouzlin Ave., 6:30 p.m.

COMPOSTING DEMONSTRATIONS

Composting Demonstrations are presented at the Pioneers Park Nature Center’s backyard composting demonstration area. These demonstrations will show you how to be successful with backyard composting. You will see three types of composting bins and how to use them. Demonstrations will be held:

• Saturday, Sept. 11, 9:30–11:30 a.m.
• Saturday, Oct. 9, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Answers to Composting Questions

Mary Jane Frogge
UNL Extension Associate

What kinds of materials can be composted?

Yard and garden residues and other organic materials are suitable for composting. This includes leaves, grass clippings, straw and hay, sand, dust, and finely chopped or shredded tree and shrub prunings.

Can kitchen scraps be added to a compost pile?

Certain kitchen scraps can be added to the compost pile, such as fruit and vegetable trimmings, coffee grounds, and eggshells. Bury them in the pile to prevent odors and flies. Do not add meat scraps, bones, grease, whole eggs, or dairy products to the compost pile because they are slow to decompose, will cause odors, and can attract rodents.

What is the optimum size for a compost pile?

The best size of an enclosed compost pile is between a 3 ft. x 3 ft. x 3 ft. If any smaller, it will dry out too fast; any larger and there will be poor air movement and it will be difficult to turn the pile.

How can I avoid problems with unpleasant odors from the compost pile?

Odors may arise either from the addition of excessive amounts of wet plant materials like fruits or grass clippings, from overwatering the pile, or by not turning an actively decomposing pile periodically. A properly prepared and adequately-turned compost heap will generate little if any objectionable odor. Good aeration, provided by regularly turning over the materials in the pile, is essential for good, rapid decomposition. Also, keeping the compost damp, but not waterlogged, will go a long way toward preventing unpleasant odors.

How long does it take to reach a finished product?

Generally, a compost pile that contains a good mixture of finely chopped materials, is turned regularly and kept moist, will be ready in about 2–4 months. A pile or bin left unattended and material not shredded, may take a year or longer to decompose. Piles prepared in the late fall will not be very well decomposed by the spring. When the compost is finished, the pile will be about half its original size and have a pleasant, earthy smell.

Of what value or use is the finished compost product?

Compost is used as an organic amendment to improve the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the soils. For example, adding compost to garden soil will increase the moisture-holding ability of sandy soils and improve the drainage and aeration of heavy clay soils. Over time, yearly additions of compost will create desirable soil structure making the soil easier to work.

Horticulture

UNL Center for Grassland Studies Seminar Series

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Center for Grassland Studies Fall 2010 Seminar Series will be held at the East Campus Union, 3–4 p.m., on the Mondays below. The seminars are free and open to the public. For more information, call (402) 472-4101 or go to http://grassland.unl.edu.

• Aug. 30 – “Some Challenges Facing the Future of Turfgrass,” Zac Reichert, Professor, UNL Dept. of Agronomy and Horticulture
• Sept. 13 – “Bush Control and Fight for Grasslands in Namibia,” Larkin Powell, Associate Professor, UNL School of Natural Resources
• Sept. 20 – “Grassland Management Plans for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Wildlife Management Area,” Gerry Steiner, Botanist, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
• Sept. 27 – “Native Grass Seeding and Other Observations at the Prairie Plains Resource Institute,” Bill Whitney, Executive Director, Prairie Plains Resource Institute
Control Winter Annual Broadleaf Weeds in Pasture

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

Winter annual broadleaf weeds such as henbit, marestail and the mustards (field pennycress, shepherds purse, tansy mustard, etc.) germinate in the fall, overwinter as a green plant, begin growing again in early spring, then complete their life cycle and go to seed in the spring or early summer.

The best time to apply post-emergent control measures to winter annuals is in the fall when the seedling plants are small and the plant has not had time to store much energy in the root system. Timing is not critical, so there is an extended window to apply herbicides after harvest in most years. Best control will be achieved if daytime temperatures are above 60°F, but good control can be obtained even when temperatures are in the 50s.

Too often, producers wait until spring to attempt control of winter annual weeds. Unfortunately, several factors are working against you in the spring. In the early spring, the weather is more unpredictable. It can be warm one day and cold the next. Second is the growth stage of winter annual weeds. In the spring, winter annuals are in the reproductive mode. They bolt quickly, flower, and before you know it, they are setting seed. The plant is larger with a more developed root system and is flowering, so it is less likely to receive a lethal dose of herbicide from your application.

In the south, the weather is usually more cooperative and weeds are in the rosette (vegetative) stage and more susceptible to herbicides. Winter annuals can typically be sprayed from late September to early October after the weather has cooled down.

By mid-October after the warm-season grasses have completely dormant and the weedy grasses have some top growth. This treatment will also kill perennial cool-season grass species like smooth bromegrass and Kentucky bluegrass, so only use this treatment if you want to reduce or eliminate the cool-season grasses in your warm-season pasture along with the annual bromes. For best control, pick a day with temperatures in the 60’s.

Studies have shown the level of dormancy. The annual bromes such as henbit and marestail are nearing the end of their life cycle, killing the top at this growth stage should keep them from producing seed. The top growth of the perennial grass species will be killed as well, but these species should regrow from the crowns in two to three weeks (about like regrowing following a controlled burn).

Cool-Season Pastures

Getting control of grassy weeds in cool-season grass pastures is trickier than in warm-season pastures. Since the cool-season grasses don’t go dormant, you can’t use glyphosate without killing most or all of the cool-season species in the sprayed area. Gramoxone is a better herbicide choice in cool-season pastures because it only kills the plant tissue it comes in contact with. Spray Gramoxone in the spring when the weedy grasses are about to form seed heads. Since the weedy bromes are nearing the end of their life cycle, killing the top at this growth stage should keep them from producing seed. The top growth of the perennial grass species will be killed as well, but these species should regrow from the crowns in two to three weeks (about like regrowing following a controlled burn).

Non-Chemical Control

Downy brome and Japanese brome will be utilized by grazing animals early in the spring when other grasses are just coming out of dormancy. The annual bromes also make acceptable grass hay when cut early — before the seedheads appear. Since the goal is to reduce the weedy brome invaders and increase the desirable species, it makes sense to get as much utilization from the weedy species as possible letting the desirable species grow as long as possible. You likely will need to put up temporary electric fences to confine the animals on the weedy brome areas. Use small acreages, consider staking your cow or horse to confine their grazing to the weedy brome spots in early spring.

The weedy bromes will become less palatable as they mature. Once the seedhead emerges, they are essentially worthless as a forage. When the winter annuals start to head out, allow the animals to graze the entire paddock and begin mowing the weedy spots to prevent seed production. Mow the weedy area whenever the plants start to produce a head. You might need to mow a couple of times between mid-April and July.

Practical Good Pasture Management

Be sure to graze the pasture properly to maintain the vigor and competitive ability of your desired grasses. A best management practice, no matter the size of the farm, is to cross-fence the pasture creating two or more paddocks. Confining the animals to a 25-30% forage utilization of all species of plants. It also allows the most palatable species an equal chance to recover when the paddock is not grazed.

Testing and Feeding Tobacco-Brown Hay

The wet spring and early summer caused many producers to bale hay too wet. Now the hay has heated and turned brown.

Hay baled too wet or silage chopped too dry can get excessively hot and cause certain chemical reactions to occur. These chemical reactions and the heat that produces them change the taste and smell of the hay and make it smell sweet like caramel.

Livestock often find such hay or silage very palatable. However, the reaction that caused this heat-damaged forage, also makes some of the protein become indigestible. Unfortunately, tests for crude protein cannot distinguish between regular crude protein and this heat-damaged protein. As a result, your forage test can mislead you into thinking you have more usable protein in your forage than actually is there.

If your forage test is done using NIR, heat-damaged protein is one of the analyses reported. If the heat-damaged protein is high enough, the test also will report an adjusted crude protein lower than the regular crude protein. However, I’ve found the NIR test for heat-damage may not be accurate enough for all farms. If your ration contains a lot of this forage and your ration has little or no extra protein, you need to have your ration analyzed.

What you need to do when heat-damaged protein is suspected; request from your lab a chemical analysis for heat-damage. Then have them use this test to correctly adjust the amount of crude protein your animals will actually provide to your animals. Forage tests can tell us a lot about the nutrient-supplying ability of our forages. But we need to make sure we use the right tests and then use the results wisely.

Source: Bruce Anderson, UNL Extension Forages Specialist
The heart of 4-H brings to the 4-H’ers an experience as a 4-H volunteer is seeing the joy a job well done involved in the good things in life,” Elva says. “My favorite with various proj were members and daughter years. Her son outstanding “Heart of 4-H of September’s Janak as winner is proud to Lancaster

HORSE BITS

INDIVIDUAL TOP PLACINGS

Brittany Allen – 3 year old Western Pleasure Reserve Champion
Ashley Anderson – Western Pleasure Ponies Reserve Champion
Josie Ang – Jr. Western Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Working Ranch Horsemanship
Chelsea Beach – Jr. Showmanship Reserve Champion
Ashley Danzinger – Jr. English Equitation 15 & Up Reserve Champion
Courtney Goering – Jr. Showmanship Reserve Champion
Danielle Harder – Jr. Showmanship Reserve Champion
Alyssa Heusinger – Jr. English Equitation 15 & Up Reserve Champion
Anna Heusinger – Jr. Showmanship Reserve Champion
Kaylee Golding – Jr. English Equitation 15 & Up Reserve Champion
Becky Hughes – Jr. English Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Josh Krueger – Jr. English Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Avery Madsen – Jr. English Equitation 15 & Up Reserve Champion
Mattison Mertt – Jr. English Equitation 15 & Up Reserve Champion
Advanced Western Pleasure
Sierra Nelson – Jr. English Equitation 12-14 Reserve Champion
Bailey Peters – Jr. English Equitation 12-14 Reserve Champion
Bailey Peterson – Jr. Western Horsemanship 12-14 Reserve Champion
Blaise Preston – Jr. Western Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Brooke Preston – Jr. Western Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Katie Rawlinson – Advanced English Pleasure Reserve Champion
Hannah Ronnau – Jr. English Equitation 12-14 Reserve Champion
Camille Stock – Jr. English Equitation 12-14 Reserve Champion
Alex Schedler – Advanced Western Horsemanship Reserve Champion
Hannah Scoow – Jr. English Equitation 12-14 Reserve Champion
Sydney Scoow – Jr. Western Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Jessica Smith – Elementary Dressage Reserve Champion
Bailey Sobottka – Jr. English Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion
Heather Welch – Jr. Western Pleasure 12-14 Reserve Champion

HORSE JUDGING RESULTS

1st Place Team: Hannah Ronnau (1st Place Individual), Elli Daemstrom (2nd Place Individual), Megan Luedtke (3rd Place Individual), Bailee Peters (5th Place Individual)

Level Testing, Oct. 2

The final 2010 4-H group level testing will be held Saturday, Oct. 2 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Event Center – Pavilion 3. Please RSVP at least by Sept. 24 with Marty at mcruickshank2@unl.edu or 441-7180.

Horse Awards Night, Oct. 5

Mark your calendars!! The annual Lancaster County 4-H Awards Night will be Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center. A ceremony honoring achievements of the area’s outstanding 4-H members will be followed by the Lancaster County 4-H Horse Show Awards Night.

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HORTICULTURE
Vegetable Entry - Jordan Bottrell and Herb Exhibition - Hannah Rohda
Annual Flower Exhibit - Caleb Nelson and Perennial Flower Exhibit - Rachel Pickrell
Rose Exhibit - Hanna Rohda
Specimen Plant - Jessica Stephenson
CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE AND FORESTRY
Conservation and Wildlife Exhibit - Starr Fawler
Forresty Exhibit - Morgan Cuttlers

Contest Top Awards
PRESENTATION
Senior Presenter and Premier Presenter - Jessica Stephenson
Junior Presenter - Jacobus Ruzhoma

PLANT SCIENCE CONTESTS
Intermediate Plant Science Contest - Emily Steinbach
Tree Identification Contest - Helen Spath

STYLE REVUE
Grand Champion Style Revue - Emily Steinbach
Reserve Grand Champion Style Revue - Molly Kasperek

Grand Champion Shopping in Style - Paige Roach
Clothing I - Chloe Hammond
Decorate Your Dining - Emily Steinbach
Make One/Buy One - Jessica Albin
Attention Shoppers - Chloe Hammond
Recycled Garment - Paige Roach

TABLE SETTING
Junior Casual - Valerie Spath
Junior Casual - Alyssa Zimmer
Junior Casual Reserve Champion - Jordan Nelson
Junior Birthday - Chloe Hammond
Senior Picnic - Karlee Brown
Senior Casual - Emily Steinbach
Senior Birthday - Paige Roach
Senior Farmall - Rachael Pickrell

BEEF
Champion Supreme Breeding Heifer - Kylie Green
Champion Supreme Breeding Heifer - Dylan Hafer
Champion Supreme Feeder - Logan Parde
Reserve Champion Supreme Feeder - Payton Goracke
Grand Champion Market Heifer - Caitlyn Dubreuil
Reserve Grand Champion Market Heifer - Jordan Nelson
Grand Champion Market Steer - Dylan Hafer
Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer - Payton Goracke
Junior Champion Senior Showmanship - Noah Jurgenson
Senior Champion Showmanship - Jacklyn Heinrich

DAIRY CATTLE
Grand Champion and Senior Holstein Champion - 3 Year - Old Lauren Chapman
Champion Reserve Senior Jersey Champion - Dry Cow - Justin Harper
Top Champion Cowing - Ben Briere
Champion Advanced Showmanship - Tessa Klein
Junior Champion Senior Showmanship - Trevor Cochrane
Champion Intermediate Showmanship - Ben Rice
Junior Champion Junior Showmanship - Matson Anderson

SHEEP
Grand Champion Market Lamb - Riley Scott
Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb - Madelyn Scott
Supreme Champion Breeding Ewe - Jaime Arends
Junior Champion Ewe - Jared Nelson
Senior Champion Showmanship - Alexis Johnson
Junior Champion Senior Showmanship - Logan Parde

LIVESTOCK
Champion Intermediate Showmanship - Trevor Cochrane

RABBIT
Grand Champion - In Memory of Allen D. Sieck
Reserve Grand Champion - Reserve Champion Supreme Breeding Heifer - Kylie Green
Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship - Jacie Prange
Junior Champion Junior Showmanship - Bailey Gunnerson

POULTRY
Champion Overall Poultry Pet Class - Shelby Brus
Champion English Senior Showmanship - Danielle Hardesty
Champion Young Showmanship - McKenzie Beach
Champion English Intermediate Showmanship - Ashley Bradbury
Champion Western Senior Showmanship - Amber Stalder
Champion Western Junior Showmanship - Ashley Anderson
Champion Western Elementary Showmanship - Michael Anderson

Other top livestock awards will be announced at Honorable Awards Night.
**Tips and Tricks to Save Gas and Reduce Pollution**

**Speed** — Driving at high speeds causes the engine to work harder, decreasing fuel efficiency. For the average car, every five miles per hour (mph) increases over 60 mph costs an additional 24 cents per gallon. That means, driving at 80 mph costs almost a dollar more per gallon than at 60 mph! “Jackrabbit” starts and rapid braking is also hard on the engine. Gradual speed changes are better for your car and your wallet. Using cruise control is also a good idea on level highway terrain as it further reduces changes in speed. Be careful to disengage it on hilly terrain or you might use more gas than by operating the accelerator yourself. By maintaining speed while climbing up a steeper incline, the engine will work harder and less efficient.

**Cooling** — On hot summer days it’s tempting to crank up the air conditioning, but what kind of effect does it have on your fuel efficiency? Depending on the vehicle, air conditioning can cut down on efficiency by three to ten percent and even more in extreme heat. On the other hand, rolling down the windows isn’t always the best option either, as it creates drag on the car at high speeds. A good rule of thumb is to roll down the windows when in town and use the air conditioning on the highway.

**Idling** — Idling equates to wasting gas. According to the Consumer Energy Center, idling for two minutes uses the same amount of gas as driving a mile. While a short amount of gas used to re启动 the engine! Unless you drive a car before 1990, the process is very efficient and it doesn’t use much gas to start up. While it is true that excessively turning the car on and off can wear on the car over time, reasonable use will have minimal effect. A general rule of thumb is to turn off the car if waiting for more than 30 seconds.

**Extra Weight** — Carrying extra weight in the cargo or items in the cargo rack is a drag on fuel efficiency. An extra 100 pounds in the back of the car reduces fuel efficiency by two percent. A loaded cargo rack can cut it by five percent. When possible, opt to store these items in the trunk.

**Conclusion** — There are many ways to add fuel efficiency to your daily driving and improve fuel economy. Even though these tips will help you while on the road, the best way to save money on gas is to avoid driving! When possible, replace driving with biking, carpooling or public transportation. Combining trips is another way to reduce miles driven. For more information about fuel efficiency and for other energy savings tips, visit www.fueleconomy.gov.

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**Lancaster County Public Rural Transit**

**Route Schedule**

**Lancaster County Public Rural Transportation** provides riders with an early morning curbside pick-up and a midafternoon curb-side return.

Lancaster County is divided into two areas: The City of Lincoln and points north and the City of Lincoln and points south.

**Transportation Service North:** Monday and Wednesday, beginning or ending in Lincoln, includes the communities and rural residences of Agnew, Cresco, Davey, Eagle, Emerald, Greenwood, Malcolm, Prairie Home, Raymond, Walton, Waverly, and points in between.

**Transportation Service South:** Tuesday and Thursday, beginning or ending in Lincoln, includes the communities and rural residences of Adams, Bennett, Cheney, Corrland, Denton, Firth, Hickman, Holland, Kramer, Martell, Panama, Princeton, Roca, Rokeby, Seward, and points in between.

Call (402) 441-7031 to schedule transportation and additional information.

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**Lancaster County Public Rural Transit put two new buses into service July 1 thanks to funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.**

The new buses feature increased headroom, as well as 12-passenger seating and two wheelchair accessible seats.

**Stairs make it easy for passengers to both board and disembark the buses.**

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**John Ward**

**UNL Pollution in Prevention Program (PS) intern**

With rising gas prices and increased awareness of pollution, fuel efficiency is becoming a big topic. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), every gallon of gas releases 19 pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, one of the leading contributors to global warming. With gas usage at 375 million gallons per day and rising, it’s easy to see why automobile emissions are one of the leading man-made contributors to the phenomenon. The good news is pollution can be reduced by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and/or increasing fuel efficiency — which also saves money on gas. What’s good for your wallet is also good for the environment.

As car manufacturers are racing to put more fuel-efficient and environmentally-friendly vehicles on the market, consumers are looking for ways to save money on gas and become more fuel efficient. You can start saving now by observing these fuel efficiency ‘best practices’.

**Maintenance** — Performing scheduled maintenance improves performance as well as gas mileage. Regular oil and air filter changes are particularly important for engine efficiency. Check your owner’s manual for recommended maintenance schedules. Proper tire inflation and alignment are also important and can save an additional three percent in fuel efficiency.

**Don Janssen Retires**

Don Janssen Retires

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Horticulturist Don Janssen retired July 31. After earning a Bachelors Degree in Agronomy and Master’s Degree in Horticulture and Forestry from UNL, he worked nine years for the UNL Horticulture and Forestry Departments before joining Lancaster County Extension in 1980.

Throughout his career, Don diagnosed thousands of plant diseases, insects and related turf, tree, fruit, and garden problems while conducting numerous timely clinics and workshops within the Lincoln and Lancaster County area. He also promoted ornamental plants and their landscape value to property owners for their aesthetic and functional needs. To advance the public’s horticultural knowledge, he served as a panelist for Backyard Farming, started the Lancaster County Master Gardeners Program and authored numerous extension publications, and the Garden Gossip featured in the Sunday Lincoln Journal Star.

In most recent years, he has also concentrated on an Acreage Owners newsletter, Web site, and series of related workshops through the Southeast Extension District.

We wish Don the very best in his retirement.
NCR-SARE
Listening Session on Sustainable Agriculture, Sept. 23

The North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NCR-SARE) in cooperation with the Nebraska Great Plains Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC&D) and Iowa Golden Hills Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) will be conducting public listening sessions at three locations to discuss increasing the sustainability of their agriculture. The first session will take place on Thursday, Sept. 23, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Road, Lincoln.

The NCR-SARE listening sessions serve as an opportunity to bring together people with differing viewpoints within a community of place to share their perspectives of sustainability and agriculture. Topics of discussion could include new production, processing, distribution, food safety, and security, and public information. These listening sessions are open to the public.

For more information, contact Gary Bergman at (402) 441-7180. Please preregister by calling (402) 441-7180.

Dietary Fats
continued from page 4 and don’t forget to be physically active. Below are tips promoting a healthy lifestyle for you and your family:

- Read nutrition fact labels before purchasing any food items to help in selecting healthy products.
- Remove the skin from fish and poultry and the visible fats from meat.
- Use cooking methods such as baking, broiling, grilling, stewing, boiling, and steaming instead of frying.
- Use olive oil or a vegetable substitute for butter.
- Consume two servings of fish a week to get an adequate amount of omega-3 fatty acids.
- Add flaxseeds to your salad, cereal, and bread to obtain essential fatty acids.
- Limit consumption of fried fast food.
- Choose food rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grain products, high-fiber food, and low-fat dairy products.
- Keep an eye on your portion size intake.

Experience the Power of Red
An open house for high school students and their families
Sponsored by the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Saturday, Nov. 6
9 a.m.-2 p.m. • Nebraska East Union

- Learn more about how we prepare students for careers in everything from animals to plants, soil to climate, golf to business, mechanization to leadership, food to forensic science
- Meet current students, faculty and staff
- Experience East Campus
- Register for a scholarship and other cool prizes

To register or more information, (800) 742-8800, ext. 2541 or go to casnr.unl.edu/openhouse
Registration deadline: Nov. 1

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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Lancaster Extension Education Center Conference Facilities
444 Cherry Creek Road, Lincoln

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The Nebline
The Nebline is published monthly (except December). Mailed to more than 12,000 households in Lancaster County and can be read online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/nebline

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Mail Subscriptions
To Tie Nebline, via mail are free to Lancaster County residents. There is an annual $15 mailing and handling fee to addresses in zip codes other than 68803, 68804, 68805, 68807 and 68809.

Order subscription ——— Change of address

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Phone:

We will only use your phone number in case there is a problem with your mailing address.

Mail to: UNL Extension in Lancaster County
444 Cherry Creek Road, Suite A • Lincoln, NE 68528-1507

The Nebraska
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture. We assure reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; for assistance contact UNL Extension in Lancaster County at (402) 441-7180.

For more information, go to http://statefair.org
For information about 4H at state fair, go to http://4h.unl.edu

The 4-H Teen Council invites new members!
The Lancaster 4-H Teen Council is a leadership organization for youth in grades 7-12. Meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Road, Lincoln. 4-H Teen Council members:
- participate in several community service activities
- organize the Ice Cream Social and Cattle Eating Contest at the Lancaster County Fair
- plan, set up and facilitate the annual 4th & 5th grade Lock-In
- are involved in other leadership activities

The next meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 12 at 3 p.m. Call Tracy at 441-7180 for more information or to join!
4-H Youth Showcase Skills at Super Fair

Many 4-H youth choose to exhibit their project(s) and participate in contests at county and state fairs. The 2010 Lancaster County Super Fair was held Aug. 5–14 at the Lancaster Event Center. This was the first year the Lancaster County Fair was expanded to ten days. 4-H & FFA exhibits and events were held Aug. 5–8. Nearly 700 exhibitors showcased more than 5,000 4-H/FFA exhibits (includes static exhibits, Clover Kids, animals, and contest entries). Complete 4-H ribbon results, more photographs, and some videos are online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h.

Since 4-H static exhibits were not displayed at the same time as Open Class, all static exhibits gained more space. 4-H top exhibits were prominently displayed, including top Table Settings. New display boards were built for photographs and also used by 4-H posters and some home environment projects.

New this year, the 4-H livestock booster committee established a 4-H and FFA livestock auction in Lancaster County. The auction gave top market beef, sheep, and swine exhibitors financial incentives for their hard work and dedication to the livestock industry. A portion of all proceeds was set aside to start a scholarship program for local 4-H and FFA members.

Nearly 160 youth and adult volunteers helped staff the 4-H food booth. A fundraiser for 4-H Council, all proceeds support 4-H youth programs, activities, and scholarships.

4-H horse shows spanned five days.

19 Nineteen 4-H’ers participated in the Pick-a-Pig Project for urban youth, now in its second year.

Rabbit races were a new addition to the 4-H Rabbit Show.

Nearly 160 youth and adult volunteers helped staff the 4-H food booth. A fundraiser for 4-H Council, all proceeds support 4-H youth programs, activities, and scholarships.

Can You Guess It?

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

The answer was: a hampshire gilt being shown at the Lancaster County Fair