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The NEBLINE

August 2009

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2009
LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 5–9
Lancaster Event Center

Special Section
In This Issue!



4-H results, photos & videos will be posted at <http://lancaster.unl.edu>

Landscape Water Saving Methods

Don Janssen
UNL Extension Educator

It is estimated that nearly 50 percent of the water used by the average household goes for the outdoor landscape and turfgrass areas. Any improvements that homeowners make to conserve water in the home landscape can result in significant savings.

Water conserving landscapes don't have to look any different or cost any more than water wasting ones. A well thought-out design, along with soil improvement, careful watering, use of mulches and proper selection of plants can make a big difference in your water use.

Plan for Water Conservation

Plans can be simple or elaborate, but every plan should take into consideration the factors that affect water use.

First start with a soil test. Soil tests tell you the nutrient level of your soil as well as soil type, organic matter content and soil pH. When the soil testing laboratory knows the intended use of the soil they can give recommendations appropriate for your needs.

Identify the primary source of water (municipal, well, surface) and investigate alternative ways of obtaining water irrigating plants. Alternative sources of water may be rainwater harvesting and storage or collecting air-conditioner condensate.

Make lists of plants you want to plant in your landscape based on their water needs (low, medium or high) and sunlight requirements. By grouping plants with similar water and light needs in the landscape you will reduce the amount of water applied to the landscape. The concept of “right plant–right place” allows you to match water needs with irrigation and reduce the water applied to areas with plants having low water needs. This improves the health of individual plants, reduces disease and environmental stress by preventing over watering and under-watering.

Place plants with low water needs at high elevations and plants with high water needs in flat areas or at lower elevations. Irrigating sloped land will result in less efficient irrigation. Place sun-loving plants where they get 6 to 8 hours of full sun and shade-loving plants where they will be shaded from the hot afternoon sun.

Proper Planting to Reduce Watering

Incorporating organic amendments to the soil improves its physical and chemical



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properties. Amendments help the soil hold water and nutrients and they improve water movement through the soil. Adding soil amendments results in a healthier plant environment, allowing easier root development and fewer soil related problems. Incorporating 3 inches of compost to a depth of 8 inches will improve the drought tolerance of landscape plants. As a matter of fact, for every 1% increase in organic matter content, an acre of soil can hold as much as 16,500 gallons of water.

Apply 3 to 5 inches of mulch or compost on the soil surface after planting trees, shrubs and ornamentals. Mulch helps conserve moisture and it maintains a uniform soil temperature. Mulching also reduces weeds that compete for light, water and nutrients. The roots of established trees and shrubs extend two to three times their canopy spread therefore apply mulch to as large an area as possible.

When planting container plants, watering is very important. Reduce the stress of transplanting by watering the plant in the container at least one day before planting. During planting add water to settle the soil and eliminate air pockets as you fill the planting hole with soil. And last but not least, water again after planting. Supplemental watering to these new plants is needed to establish a good root system during the first and possibly second growing season.

Managing the Landscapes Water Needs

Water plants only when they require it. This results in a deep, strong root system that helps the plant tolerate dry periods. Look for moisture stress symptoms before irrigating. An abnormal gray-green color or obvious wilting are good indicators of moisture stress.

Irrigate from midnight to 6 a.m. to conserve moisture and to reduce evapora-



Mulch helps conserve moisture and it maintains a uniform soil temperature.



It is best not to irrigate based on a schedule. Irrigate based on plant need.

tive losses of water. Watering during this period helps reduce water related diseases.

Use slow-release type fertilizers. They release nutrients slowly over an extended period of time resulting in more uniform growth rates and more water-efficient plants. Excess nitrogen causes rapid growth and increases a plant's demand for water.

Continue to mulch. Add one to three inches of additional mulch each year. Maintaining a uniform layer of mulch over plant roots is one of the best water conservation practices for your landscape.

Regardless of drought conditions, allow the grass to dry and become stressed *see LANDSCAPE WATER on page 3*

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Pumping Water For Ponds

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

Occasionally, I visit with an acreage owner who would like to build a small fishing/swimming pond on their property, but their land area or topography is such they cannot count on surface runoff or natural springs to contribute any significant portion of the water needed to fill the pond or keep it full. Eventually, the discussion turns to the feasibility of using a well to pump the water for the pond. Invariably, the acreage owner is surprised by the amount of water it takes.

Let's crunch some numbers for a square pond 150 feet on a side. This pond would have a surface area of just over half an acre. If the depth in the middle of the pond is 10 feet and the sides have a 1:3 slope (one foot vertical drop for each three foot horizontal run), the volume of the pond would be 153,000 cubic feet or a little over 1.1 million gallons.

Domestic pumps usually deliver between 8–12 gallons per minute (gpm) but let's assume the well driller can find an adequate aquifer and installs a 20 gpm pump. Assuming the full 20 gpm flow goes only to the pond (not split between domestic needs and the pond), it would take between 40–60 days of continuous operation to fill the pond initially, depending on initial seepage losses.

If we assume 30 inches of direct annual rainfall per year but no appreciable runoff into the pond, the evaporation and seepage losses not made up by rainfall will average about 1/4-inch per day, year round. A 1/4-inch of loss per day over a half acre is equal to 3,400 gallons of water per day. This would require running the 20 gpm pump about 1,000 hours a year to keep the pond full.

Each half acre pond requires about 1.1 million gallons of water to fill initially and about 1.2 million gallons of pumped water a year to keep full. By way of comparison, a family of four will use about 250 gallons of water per day (91,250 gallons per year) for domestic uses. If the family also irrigates a 10,000 square foot (0.23 acre) lawn an average of 3/4-inch per week from May 1 through September 30, the total water used for the acreage more than doubles, (194,000 gallons).

A half-acre pond, therefore, "consumes" about as much water to fill initially as a family of four would have used for the household and lawn in six years. It will then require as much water each year to keep full as the family would have used in 6.5 years. A question I always ask an acreage owner considering a groundwater fed pond are, "Is this a sustainable use of our limited groundwater resource in eastern Nebraska?"

Natural Sources of Nitrogen for Plant Growth

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

Some plants "make their own nitrogen." If a legume (i.e., clovers, soybeans, alfalfa) is colonized by certain strains of Rhizobium bacteria, nodules will form on the plant roots where the bacteria live and reproduce. Within these nodules, a symbiotic relationship develops between the bacteria and the host plant. The bacteria utilize plant sugars as a source of energy and, in turn, "fix" nitrogen, converting nitrogen gas in the soil into forms of nitrogen that can be used by the plant. Once nodules form, the plant usually receives all of the nitrogen necessary for plant growth from that "fixed" by the bacteria. When planting a legume crop, UNL recommends inoculating the

seed with the appropriate strain of Rhizobium bacteria unless the same legume crop has been planted in the field within the last three years. Given the small expense for inoculant, especially as compared to making a nitrogen fertilizer application in the absence of sufficient nodules to supply the needs of the crop, many folks will "play it safe" and inoculate every time they plant a legume.

Other crops, including all grass crops (e.g., corn, sorghum, wheat, forage grasses, etc.) and non-leguminous broadleaf crops (e.g., sunflowers, potatoes, sugar beets, cotton, etc.) are not colonized by nitrogen fixing bacteria and must obtain the nitrogen they need from the soil.

In addition to nitrogen fixed by Rhizobium bacteria, other natural sources are

used as a source of nitrogen. These sources include: mineralization of organic matter which releases nitrogen that can be utilized by plants and nitrogen released as plant residues are broken down in the soil.

Animal waste is a good source of natural nitrogen as well. Barnyard or poultry manure and other animal waste products (e.g., bat guano) were used as a source of supplemental nitrogen long before inorganic nitrogen fertilizer came into popular use. Biosolids, a bi-product of the sewage treatment process, are utilized by many farmers in Lancaster County. Manure and biosolids supply nitrogen, phosphorus and many other nutrients required for plant growth. Repeated applications of manure and/or biosolids also increase soil organic

matter levels over time and improve water infiltration and cation exchange capacity in the soil.

Organic Sources of Nitrogen

Composted plant residues, legume crops, such as red clover or vetch are plowed under as green manure and animal wastes are used as a source of nitrogen by organic crop producers. A small amount of nitrogen (a few pounds per acre per year) is also contributed by rainfall in the form of nitric acid (HNO_3), which when dissolved in the water in the soil disassociates into hydrogen and nitrate ions. The nitric acid is formed when nitrogen and oxygen gases are combined with rain water by the intense heat of a lightning bolt during a thunderstorm.

Commercial Nitrogen Fertilizer Sources

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

Green plants require more nitrogen than any other nutrient with the possible exception of potassium (see Table 1).

TABLE 1.
Total Crop Removal, lb/acre of Essential Soil Nutrients by a 150 bushel corn crop.

Nitrogen	200
Phosphorous (P_2O_5)	85
Potassium (K_2O)	200
Calcium	42
Magnesium	44
Sulfur	25
Zinc	0.15
Iron	0.10
Manganese	0.08
Boron	0.06
Copper	0.05
Molybdenum	0.03
Chlorine	unknown

The air we breathe is about 78% nitrogen in the form of N_2 gas and about 21% oxygen in the form of O_2 gas. The remaining one percent of the atmosphere is a combination of all the other gases, (including carbon dioxide which is the source of carbon used by green plants). Even though there are 33,000 tons of nitrogen in the atmosphere over every acre on earth, the nitrogen gas is so chemically stable, plants cannot directly use it as a nutrient. Plants readily take up and use two forms of soil nitrogen, ammonium (NH_4^+) and nitrate (NO_3^-). Other forms of nitrogen must be converted to one of these compounds by natural or artificial means before plants can utilize them directly as a source of nitrogen for plant growth.

Anhydrous Ammonia

Anhydrous ammonia (NH_3) is produced commercially by reacting nitrogen gas (N_2) from the atmosphere in the presence of a catalyst



with steam and with methane (natural gas, CH_4). The tonnage of anhydrous ammonia used in agriculture is greater than any other form of nitrogen fertilizer due to its lower cost per pound of nitrogen and its relative nutrient density (82% nitrogen by weight) which keeps the transportation cost per ton of nitrogen as low as possible.

Anhydrous ammonia is a gas at normal temperatures and atmospheric pressure, but converts to the liquid state when sufficiently pressurized. The need for pressurized containers and additional personal safety precautions reduces some of the advantages for anhydrous ammonia over more easily handled forms of nitrogen. All other forms of inorganic commercial nitrogen fertilizer are derived from anhydrous ammonia. They are more expensive per pound of nitrogen because of the additional processing steps involved in their manufacture and greater transportation costs because they have lower nutrient density (pounds of Nitrogen per pound of product) than anhydrous ammonia. These other forms of nitrogen fertilizer have advantages in terms of personal safety and ease of storing, handling, and application which make them attractive to many farmers in spite of the higher cost per pound of nitrogen.

Urea and Urea - Ammonium Nitrate

Urea ($\text{CO}(\text{NH}_2)_2$) is produced by combining anhydrous ammonia (NH_3) with carbon dioxide (CO_2). (Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is a byproduct of the anhydrous ammonia production process. It is produced by combining oxygen from the air (O_2) with the carbon atom that remains after stripping the hydrogen from the methane molecule). Fertilizers which contain urea and urea-ammonium nitrate (UAN) solution are the most widely-used nitrogen fertilizers in Nebraska after anhydrous ammonia. Dry pelletized urea is popular as a nitrogen fertilizer compared to other forms because of its relatively high nitrogen content (46% of the total weight is nitrogen), good storage and handling properties and widespread availability.

Urea-ammonium nitrate (UAN) is made by dissolving urea and ammonium nitrate in water. This results in an aqueous solution usually containing 28% nitrogen by weight (a more concentrated product containing 32% is also available in some locations). Liquid UAN solution is popular because of the versatility of a liquid fertilizer source, as well as widespread availability. The urea form of nitrogen cannot be utilized directly by plants. It must first be converted to the ammonium form by chemical processes in the soil.

Ammonium, in turn, may be directly used by the plant or converted

to the nitrate form by microbiological processes in the soil. The conversion of urea ($\text{CO}(\text{NH}_2)_2$) to ammonium (NH_4^+) occurs in a two-step process. When the urea combines with water (hydrolyzes) it forms ammonium carbonate ($(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$). Ammonium carbonate is unstable and decomposes to form ammonia gas (NH_3) and carbon dioxide (CO_2). The ammonia gas produced is chemically identical to anhydrous ammonia. If the ammonia gas is in physical contact with water, it reacts to form the ammonium ion (NH_4^+). If the ammonium ion is in contact with the soil, it is attracted to the negatively charged clay and organic matter particles and is held in the cation exchange complex.

Broadcasting urea-based fertilizers without incorporating them with tillage carries the risk of nitrogen loss to the atmosphere by ammonia volatilization. If just enough moisture is present to hydrolyze the urea but not enough to convert it to ammonium and carry it to the soil, the ammonia gas can escape into the atmosphere (volatilize). Volatilization is favored by high soil pH, warm temperatures, wet soils under drying conditions and crop residues that insulate the urea from the soil. Under extremely unfavorable conditions,

see COMMERCIAL NITROGEN on page 3

Canning Fruits and Vegetables

Julie A. Albrecht
UNL Extension Food and Nutrition
Specialist

Canning can be a safe and economical way to preserve quality food at home. Home-preserved foods can help provide a variety of nutritious meals for your family all year long.

How Canning Preserves Foods

The high water content of most fresh foods makes them very perishable. Foods spoil or lose their quality for several reasons:

- growth of undesirable micro-organisms—bacteria, molds and yeasts
- activity of food enzymes
- reactions with oxygen
- moisture loss

Micro-organisms live and multiply quickly on the surfaces of fresh food and on the inside of bruised, insect-damaged and diseased food. Oxygen and enzymes are present throughout fresh food tissues.

Proper canning practices remove oxygen, destroy enzymes, prevent the growth of undesirable bacteria, yeasts, molds and help form a high vacuum in jars. Good vacuums form tight seals which keep liquid in and air and micro-organisms out.

Ensuring Safely-Canned Foods

Growth of the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum* in home canned food may cause botulism—a deadly form of food poisoning. These bacteria exist either as spores or as vegetative cells. The spores, which are comparable to plant seeds, can survive in the soil and water for many years. When ideal conditions exist for growth, the spores produce vegetative cells



Photo courtesy of National Presto Industries, Inc.

which multiply rapidly and may produce a deadly toxin within three to four days in an environment consisting of:

- a moist, low-acid food;
- a temperature between 40 degrees F and 120 degrees F; or
- less than 2 percent oxygen.

Botulinum spores are on most fresh food surfaces. Because they grow only in the absence of air, they are harmless on fresh foods.

Most bacteria, yeasts and molds are difficult to remove from food surfaces. Washing fresh food reduces their numbers only slightly. Peeling root crops, underground stem crops and tomatoes greatly reduces their numbers. Blanching also helps, but it's vital to make sure recommended processing procedures and times are used.

Processing Methods

Whether food should be processed in a pressure canner or boiling-water canner to control botulinum bacteria depends on the acidity in the food. Acidity of foods is

measured by pH.

Low-acid foods contain too little acidity to prevent the growth of botulinum bacteria. Low-acid foods have pH values higher than 4.6. They include red meats, seafood, poultry, milk and all fresh vegetables except most tomatoes. Most food mixtures have pH values above 4.6 unless the recipes include enough lemon juice, citric acid or vinegar to make them acid foods.

Botulinum spores are very hard to destroy at boiling-water temperatures. Therefore, process all low-acid foods using 10–15 pounds of pressure to attain temperatures of 240 degrees F to 250 degrees F. To assure micro-organisms in low-acid foods are destroyed, use the correct time and pressure specified for your altitude.

Acid foods contain enough acidity to inhibit botulinum spores and vegetative cell growth or destroy them more rapidly when heated. The pH value of acid foods is 4.6 or lower. Acid foods include fruits, pickles, sauerkraut, jams, jellies, marmalades and fruit butters. Tomatoes are usually considered an acid food, although some varieties are known to have pH values slightly above 4.6. If tomatoes are to be canned as acid foods, these products must be acidified to a pH of 4.6 or lower with vinegar, lemon juice or citric acid. To destroy micro-organisms in acid foods processed in a boiling water canner, you must process jars for the correct number of minutes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The following University of Nebraska-Lincoln publications are available at the extension office and online at <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendlt/foods/>:

- Let's Preserve: Canning Basics (EC434)
- Let's Preserve: Vegetable and Vegetable Products (EC435)
- Let's Preserve: Fruit and Fruit Products (EC436)

Landscape Water

continued from page 1
before applying irrigation. This actually causes the grass plant to explore deeper soil depths for moisture and nutrients. It is best not to irrigate based on a schedule. Irrigate based on plant need. When properly managed, turfgrass is more tolerant of drought conditions than you think.

Cultural practices like aeration, mowing and fertilization can affect the root depth. Aerify to improve water and air entry into the soil. Raise the mowing height to the upper limits of your mower to encourage deep rooting during periods of heat stress. During periods of moisture stress limit nitrogen fertilizer application.

To avoid runoff, apply water gently and slowly at a rate the soil can absorb. Use a soaker hose or drip irrigation to water trees, shrubs and flowers. When using sprinklers, make sure the water reaches your lawn and plants, not the sidewalk, driveway or street. When you notice water runoff stop irrigating.

Even when water is in ample supply, reducing water use is a good idea. It lessens the demand on rural and municipal water supplies and treatment plants. It can greatly decrease your maintenance time and equipment costs.

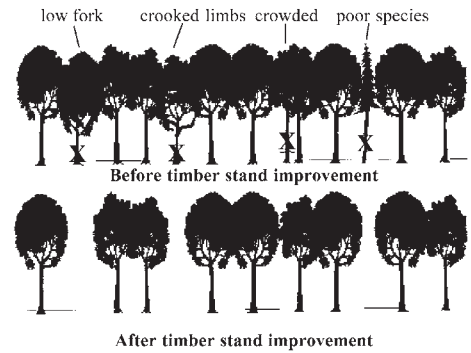
Heating With Wood

Scott DeWald, UNL District Extension Forester;
Scott Josiah, Nebraska Forest Service Director;
Becky Erdkamp, UNL Publications Assistant

Our forefathers heated their homes with wood because it was the only energy source available. Today, most people heat their home with electricity or natural gas, but wood heat remains a viable home heating alternative.

Heating with wood provides several advantages over other sources of energy. Wood heat does not stop working when there is a blackout. With electric heat, you may find yourself in the cold when severe winter weather interrupts electrical service.

Heating with wood is also environmentally friendly. Burning wood produces little pollution, especially with modern high-efficiency stoves. Additionally, ashes from your fireplace or wood stove may be used in your garden to prevent pests and enrich the soil.



Thinning can greatly improve the quality of remaining trees in a woodland. (Image: *Woodland Stewardship: A Practical Guide for Midwestern Landowners* (1993) by M. Baughman, et al. Minnesota Extension Service, St. Paul, Minn.)

Wood is a renewable resource, as compared to finite fossil fuels, such as coal or gas. Fuelwood can be harvested from low-quality trees in woodlands, providing more space for the remaining healthier, higher quality trees.

Species Characteristics

Each species of wood differs widely in its characteristics. For example, a cord of white oak firewood produces 29 million

BTUs of heat, while one cord of linden firewood produces 13.8 million BTUs. High-density hardwoods, such as hickory, oak, ash, red elm and walnut, produce the most heat per cord and burn slowly and cleanly. In general, if heating efficiency is important, high-density woods, particularly hardwood species, are more desirable. Softwoods, such as most spruces, pines and junipers and low-density hardwoods, such as cottonwood and willow, burn quickly and produce less heat per cord than dense hardwoods.

Because of resins in softwoods, they tend to smoke and spark and may present safety hazards. Softwoods also produce more creosote, a sticky tarlike substance that clings to chimneys and increases the risk of chimney fires.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

University of Nebraska-Lincoln NebGuide G1554, "Heating With Wood: Producing, Harvesting and Processing Firewood," available at the extension office and online at <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/live/g1554/build/g1554.pdf>

Commercial Nitrogen

continued from page 2
urea fertilizer broadcast to the soil surface with no mechanical incorporation can have volatilization losses exceeding 75%. On the other hand, surface-applied urea followed by sufficient rainfall or irrigation to hydrolyze the urea and to incorporate the resulting ammonium into the soil (one-half inch is usually sufficient) will suffer very little volatilization loss.

Phosphorus / Nitrogen Sources

Some fertilizers applied primarily as sources of phosphorus also contain significant levels of nitrogen. Diammonium phosphate (DAP) contains 18% N and 46% P₂O₅ by weight (18-46-0). Monoammonium phosphite (MAP) is usually formulated as 11-52-0. Other common phosphorus sources that contain nitrogen include 10-34-0 and 11-37-0. If any of these compounds are applied as a source of phosphorus, one should credit the nitrogen contained in these compounds when computing total nitrogen fertilizer to apply.

Fall Prairie Seeding Site Preparation

Steve Lekwa
Story County, Iowa Conservation Director

Fall is a wonderful time to plant a new prairie. It's less hurried since seeding can occur right up to freezing. Forbs, flowering prairie plants, do particularly well when seeded in the fall after soil temperatures are cool enough to prevent germination, usually after mid October. Site preparation needs to begin in late summer in order to

be ready in time.

The goal in any prairie seeding is to start with a firm, weed-free seedbed. Soybean stubble is a nearly perfect seedbed with little additional work. A light disking or dragging may be desirable if the rows are too rough. Corn stubble is more difficult to prepare and has a higher probability of damaging chemical carry over. Conversion of turf grass to prairie requires suppression of the perennial cool-season turf prior to seeding prairie. This can be accomplished with a

chemical like Roundup® applied at labeled rates, and/or by conventional tillage. Direct seeding into dead sod is possible if a no-till planter is available. If not, the sod must be broken up sufficiently to form the desired firm seed bed. It will likely take multiple passes with conventional farm equipment (plow, disk, drag), but a large rototiller can break it up faster. Rototilled soil tends to be too fluffy for good prairie seeding, so a firming pass or two with a roller may be needed before and after seeding.



By Alice Henneman, MS, RD, UNL Extension Educator

Leafy Green Lettuce Salad with Apple Cider Vinegar Dressing

Use a mild, delicate-flavored, lettuce in this salad—such as loose leaf lettuce or a butterhead (includes Boston and Bibb) lettuce.

The sweet, tangy taste of this apple cider vinegar dressing is a perfect quick and easy complement to these varieties of salad greens.



For each 2 cups of lettuce (measured after leaves have been torn into pieces to equal 2 cups), use the following proportions to make the dressing. **Note: This amount of dressing makes one generous-sized side-dish salad; increase amount proportionately for more lettuce.**

- 2 teaspoons mild-flavored vegetable oil, such as canola oil
 - 1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar
 - 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- Possible add-ins:
- sliced radishes
 - apples, with peels, cut into thin slices
 - dried cranberries
 - mandarin oranges
 - chopped pecans

Whisk oil, vinegar and sugar together in a small bowl. Mix with lettuce and any additional salad ingredients, tossing to coat. Serve right away.

TIP: Remove leafy radish tops before storing them in the refrigerator. Radishes don’t keep as well if their tops are left on. Store unwashed radishes in an open or perforated plastic bag in a refrigerator drawer that is separate from the one in which you store fruits. Wash radishes and trim their roots just before serving.

\$tretch Your Food Dollar by Packing Your Lunch

Helping limited-resource families learn to prepare nutritious and safe foods while stretching their food dollars.

Emily Hulse
UNL Extension Assistant
Shana Kraus
UNL Dietetic Intern

Tired of racing around to find something to eat while on your lunch break? Tired of how much it costs to eat out? Tired of eating fast food meals which are typically high in fat and low in fruits and vegetables? Tired of not having a chance to relax and enjoy your lunch break? If you answered YES to these questions we have an easy solution for you. PACK YOUR LUNCH! Below are the top 3 reasons to pack your lunch:

1. Save Money

Save some of your hard earned money by packing your own lunch. On average, packing your lunch will cost you anywhere from \$2 to \$3. Going out to lunch at a fast food restaurant, on the other hand,

usually costs at least \$5. If you do the math, you’ll discover you can save around \$800 in one year by just packing your lunch instead of eating out.

2. Health Benefits

Fast food meals often fall short on providing you with food from each of the 5 food groups (grains, vegetables, fruits, milk, meat & beans). Not to mention most fast food meals are high in fat and low in important nutrients like vitamins and minerals. By packing your own lunch you can ensure you eat healthy by including something from each of the food groups, especially those juicy fruits and crisp veggies, along with eating foods lower in calories and fat.

3. It’s Easy

One of the easiest ways to make your lunch is by packing your leftovers from dinner. Make sure to cook an extra serving at dinner and then you’ll have your lunch for the next day ready to go. This is a great way to save money and not waste food. If you don’t take leftovers, make sure to plan for your lunches when you do see PACKING LUNCH on page 5

Handling Food Safely on the Road

V-A-C-A-T-I-O-N! Oh, how we long for the eight letter word every summer, when millions of us eagerly get away from school and work. We take to the road in cars or recreational vehicles; live on boats; relax in beach or mountain vacation homes; and camp.

No matter where we go or what we do, there is a common denominator that runs through all of our summer travels and relaxation — it’s called F-O-O-D!

The “road” to food safety, however, can either be a bumpy one or smooth — depending on what precautions are taken handling meals as we travel this summer.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s nationwide, toll-free Meat and Poultry Hotline reminds everyone some simple, common-sense food safety rules can save a vacation from disaster. Following this advice could make the difference between a vacation to remember and one that is remembered because people got sick from improperly handled food.

First, some general rules, while traveling this summer:

REMEMBER!

In hot weather (above 90 degrees F), food should never sit out for more than 1 hour.

Discard any food left out more than 2 hours (1 hour if temperatures are above 90 degrees F).

Plan Ahead...

If you are traveling with perishable food, place it in a cooler with ice or freezer packs. When carrying drinks, consider packing them in a separate cooler so the food cooler is not opened frequently. Have plenty of ice or frozen gel-packs on-hand before starting to pack food. If you take perishable foods along (for example, meat, poultry, eggs and salads) for eating on the road or to cook at your vacation spot, plan to keep everything on ice in your cooler.

Pack Safely...

Pack perishable foods directly from the refrigerator or freezer into the cooler. Meat and poultry may be packed while it is still frozen; it stays colder longer. Also, a full cooler will maintain its cold temperatures longer than one partially filled. Be sure to keep raw meat and poultry wrapped separately from cooked foods, or foods meant to be eaten raw such as fruits.

If the cooler is only partially filled, pack the remaining space with more ice. For long trips to the shore or the mountains, take along two coolers — one for the day’s immediate food needs, such as lunch, drinks or snacks and



If you take perishable foods along (for example, meat, poultry, eggs and salads) for eating on the road or to cook at your vacation spot, plan to keep everything on ice in your cooler.

the other for perishable foods to be used later in the vacation. Limit the times the cooler is opened. Open and close the lid quickly.

Now, follow these food safety tips:



When Camping...

Remember to keep the cooler in a shady spot. Keep it covered with a blanket, tarp or poncho, preferably one light in color to reflect heat.

Bring along bottled water or other canned or bottled drinks. Always assume streams and rivers are not safe for drinking. If camping in a remote area, bring along water purification tablets or equipment. These are available at camping supply stores.

Keep hands and all utensils clean when preparing food. Use disposable moist towelettes to clean hands. When planning meals, think about buying and using shelf-stable food to ensure food safety.

When Boating...

If boating on vacation, or out for the day, make sure the all-important cooler is along.

Don’t let perishable food sit out while swimming or fishing. Remember, food sitting out for more than 2 hours is not safe. The time frame is reduced to just 1 hour if the outside temperature is above 90 degrees F.

Now, about that “catch” of fish — assuming the big one did not get away. For fin fish: scale, gut and clean the fish as soon as they are caught. Wrap both whole and cleaned fish in water-tight plastic and store on ice. Keep 3–4 inches of ice on the bottom of the cooler. Alternate layers of fish and ice. Cook the fish in 1–2 days, or freeze. After cooking, eat within 3–4 days. Make sure the raw fish stays separate from cooked foods.

Crabs, lobsters and other

shellfish must be kept alive until cooked. Store in a bushel or laundry basket under wet burlap. Crabs and lobsters are best eaten the day they are caught. Live oysters can keep 7–10 days; mussels and clams, 4–5 days.

Caution: Be aware of the potential dangers of eating raw shellfish. This is especially true for persons with liver disorders or weakened immune systems. However, no one should eat raw shellfish.

When at the Beach

Plan ahead. Take along only the amount of food to be eaten to avoid having leftovers. If grilling, make sure local ordinances allow it.

Bring the cooler! Partially bury it in the sand, cover with blankets and shade with a beach umbrella.

Bring along disposable moist towelettes for cleaning hands.

If dining along the boardwalk, make sure the food stands frequented look clean, and hot foods are served hot and cold foods cold. Don’t eat anything that has been sitting out in the hot sun for more than 2 hours (1 hour when the temperature is above 90 degrees F) — a real invitation for foodborne illness and a spoiled vacation.

When in the Vacation Home or the Recreation Vehicle...

If a vacation home or a recreational vehicle has not been used for a while, check leftover canned food from last year. The Meat and Poultry Hotline recommends canned foods which may have been exposed to freezing and thawing temperatures over the winter be discarded.

Also, check the refrigerator. If unplugged from last year, thoroughly clean it before using. Make sure the refrigerator, food preparation areas and utensils in the vacation home or in the recreational vehicle are thoroughly cleaned with hot soapy water.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service

FAMILY & COMMUNITY EDUCATION (FCE) CLUBS

President’s View — Bonnie’s Bits

Bonnie Krueger
FCE Council Chair

Well, the good old summertime is about to wind up, hope everyone has had a good vacation. There are lots of things to do before school starts. The Lancaster County



Fair begins Aug. 5 and runs thru the 9. Lots of things are happening this year at the beautiful Lancaster Event Center. Take your children out and show them what 4-H is all about. 4-H is a great

organization to get them involved. While learning new things they will have fun and meet new friends. Summer Sizzler in July was a great event, hope everyone enjoyed it. A big thanks for all the help to make it a success.



FCE News & Events

2009 FCE
Scholarship Winner

Josiah Unger of Sprague received this year’s \$400 FCE scholarship. He is working toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at BryanLGH College of Health Sciences. This is the second year Josiah is receiving the FCE scholarship. Josiah says “This scholarship provides me with the ability to continue school without the added stress of paying for school or bills at home. It also allows me to be a better provider for my wife and children.” Alice Doane and Lorena Maxon are co-chairs



of this year’s FCE Education and Scholarship Committee.

Re-organizational
Packets

Presidents of FCE clubs can pick up their packet to reorganize for 2009 after the last week of August. There are October deadlines within the packet. If you have questions, call Lorene or Pam at 441-7180. It is time to look forward and plan an exciting and educational year for FCE.

September Leader
Training

The FCE and Community Leaders Training Lesson “Design on a Dollar” will be Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 1 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Extension Educator Lorene Bartos will present the lesson.

Participants will get ideas on how to make their dollars go further by using what they have around the home, recycling items, being a wise shopper. Bring your ideas. If you are not an FCE member and would like to attend call Pam at 441-7180 so informational packets can be prepared.

September Council
Meeting

The next FCE Council meeting will be Monday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. The business meeting including election of officers will follow the program. Attorney Andrew Loudon will present the program on Estates, Wills, Trusts and Medicare. All FCE members are invited to attend.

Sizzling Summer Sampler

The Family & Community Education (FCE) Sizzling Summer Sampler held on July 9 was a success with 120 FCE members and friends in attendance.



Anne Bremer presented musical entertainment.

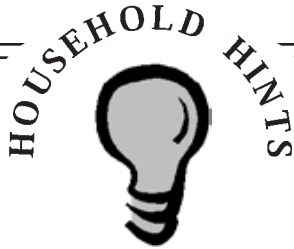


Richard Kimbrough presented “Why We Laugh”

Eighteen baskets were raffled off, raising \$403 for the FCE Scholarship Fund.



Sheila Green demonstrated “Asian Cloth Wrapping Techniques”



by Lorene Bartos, UNL Extension Educator

During BBQ season, as well as baking, oven mitts are well used. Mitts can be easily cleaned depending on their fabric.

Cloth mitts are usually made from several layers of fabric and insulated material, quilted together and treated with a flame-retardant finish. This type of mitt should be machine-washed frequently in hot water.

Neoprene mitts are made from the same material as wetsuits. They’re machine-washable and can also be put in the dishwasher.

Silicone mitts are made by an injection mold process, using food-grade silicone. The easiest way to clean them is to put them in the dishwasher.

Driver Safety Course, Sept. 15

The AARP Driver Safety Program the nation’s first and largest classroom driver refresher course designed for motorists age 50 and older. The course will be presented in Lincoln as a four-hour session on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road. AARP certified instructor Dwaine Alcorn will teach the sessions. Cost is \$10 payable at the door. To register for the class call 441-7180.

The course is designed to help you:

- Understand the effects of aging on driving.
- Learn driving strategies that take into account the changes we experience as we age.
- Identify the most common crash situations we face and reduce the changes of having a crash.
- Update your knowledge and understanding of today’s roads, vehicles and other road users.
- Think about how you drive and identify when driving may no longer be safe.

Packing Lunch

continued from page 4
your grocery shopping. Making your lunch the night before will help save you time in the morning.

Now that you’re convinced packing your lunch will save you time and money, be better for your health and is easier, here are three general tips to keep in mind:

- When packing your lunch, mix things up by using a variety of different lunch items. For example, instead of your typical sandwich try something like this: Mix low-fat cream cheese with dill weed and garlic powder. Spread inside a pita and stuff with chopped zucchini, tomatoes and green pepper.

- Keep costs low and your lunch simple by enjoying fresh fruits and vegetables when they are in season. Plus most fruits and veggies are easy finger foods.
- Keep it safe. Use an insulated lunch bag if you are packing items needing to stay cold. Don’t forget to include an ice pack if you are not able to store your lunch in a refrigerator.

Sources:

- *Smart Food: Brown Bag Lunches* August 2008, Volume 12 Issue 8
- *Smart Food: Pack your Lunch!* 2006
- *8 reasons to pack your lunch.* By Shelley Boettcher, *Calgary Herald* http://www.canada.com/story_print.html?id=1303313&sponsor
- *5 Reasons to Pack Your Lunch* http://kidshealth.org/teen/school_jobs/school/packing.html

Financial Security: Consumer Credit

Credit can be a successful financial management tool. Using credit allows you flexibility in managing your budget to purchase goods and services when they are needed the most, not when you have the cash on-hand to pay for them. You are offered credit because people trust you to repay them within a stated period of time.

Consumer credit takes many forms, including installment loans, credit cards, department store revolving charge accounts, home equity loans and other kinds of time payment plans.

Wise consumers keep credit use at a safe, manageable level, but this is difficult because reading contracts can be confusing and calculating the actual cost or finance charges requires knowledge and math skills.

It is Important to
Remember:

- Budget your credit spending carefully.
- Shop around for the lowest total finance charges.
- You should establish a debt limit and stick to it.
- Credit contracts should be read carefully and questions

answered before you sign.

- Do not depend heavily on credit to pay for day-to-day living expenses.
- Pay your bills on time to insure you can continue to use credit.
- Credit is best used for items where their value will outlast the installment payments.
- Buying on credit nearly always costs more than buying the same item with cash.

Credit Management
Strategies can be Used to:

- Avoid the overuse of credit.
- Lower the total amount of debt.

- Shorten the term of debt.
- Reduce interest and finance charges paid for the use of credit.

Periodically, get a copy of your credit report and check it for accuracy and completeness. This is especially important before making large purchases where you plan to use credit, such as for a car loan or a mortgage. In many cases credit reports have minor inaccuracies that need to be corrected. Sometimes there are errors that might result in your being turned down for a loan (to correct an incorrect credit

report, use the form provided by the credit reporting agency).

If you have recently been denied credit, employment, insurance or rental housing based on information contained in your credit report, you are entitled to a copy free of charge from the company that issued the report on which the credit denial was based.

Credit Reporting
Agencies:

- *Equifax*, 1-800-685-1111
- *Experian*, 1-888-397-3742
- *Trans Union*, 1-800-916-8800.

Source: eXtension.org

Running Out of Time for Bagworm Control

Bagworms have been feeding on landscape plant material for several weeks now. If you have an infestation, the bags and damage should be very noticeable at this time.

Insecticide applications applied now in late summer when bagworms are larger, will be less effective in controlling them. Bifenthrin will work in early August. Use the higher dosage rate. Bifenthrin is also an irritant. It causes bagworms to move around, exposing them further to the insecticide.

By mid to late August, chemical control is no longer effective, since most bagworms will have stopped feeding and pupated in their bags.

— Mary Jane Frogge, UNL Extension Associate



Mature larva

Soni Cochran, UNL Extension in Lancaster County



Completed bag in which a bagworm pupates.



Bagworm damage to spruce

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Additional photos and video are online at <http://lanaster.unl.edu/hort> and color brochures are available at the extension office.



Harvesting and Preserving Herbs

Becky Seth
Naturalist, Pioneers Park Nature Center

Preserving the bounty of summer provides a lift to the spirit in the gray days of winter. The tastes and smells of herbs can be a special gift on a cold day.

Optimum harvesting times depend on the individual herb and the part of the plant involved. If you are harvesting for culinary purposes it is best to harvest before the plant blooms and in the morning as soon as the dew is dried, since the essential oils are at their peak then. Most herbs benefit from being harvested often since cutting encourages new growth and delays flowering. You can harvest as much as the top half of herbs such as mint, tarragon, basil, sage, oregano and thyme. Harvest the outer leaves of herbs like parsley and sorrel that grow from a central point. Cut chives about one inch from the ground. Trim the branch tips of woody perennials such as rosemary, making sure there is green growth below. Herbs such as dill, fennel and coriander can be grown for both the leaves and seeds. If growing for seed, you can harvest a few lower leaves, but then allow the seed head to turn brown before snipping it off.

To clean your herbs, swish them gently through water and pat dry. Your harvest can then be dried on screens, in the oven at the very lowest setting, or in a food dehydrator. I prefer to

freeze or process them. Mince the herbs and place them loosely in a jar or bag to freeze. You can also cover minced herbs with water or whirl them in the blender with water and put them in ice cube trays, yielding little nuggets of flavor to add to soups and stews.

Herbal flavors can also be preserved in oil or vinegar. Simply tear or bruise the leaves and fill a jar with them. Cover with olive or vegetable oil or wine-based vinegar and store for about two weeks in a warm dark place. Strain the oil or vinegar, put in decorative bottles and add fresh decorative sprigs of herbs. Oils and vinegars can be made from a single herb or a combination.

Making pesto is another great way to preserve the taste of herbs for later use. Although basil pesto is most common, try

making pesto from other herbs as well, particularly cilantro, tarragon, oregano and sage. Pesto freezes well.

Herbs for potpourri or decorative uses such as lavender, artemesias and yarrow are harvested when flowering but before the blooms are fully open. Cut them with enough stem so that you can strip the lower leaves from the stem and gather them into small bunches. Tie the bunches with string or a rubber band and hang them upside down on wire clothes hangers. Place them in a warm, dry place where there is air circulation. If dust is a problem you can place the bunches in paper bags. Punch holes in the bags to increase circulation. Scented geranium leaves can be dried in a similar way. Collect rose petals in full bloom and screen dry.



The Louise Evans Doole Herb Garden at Pioneers Park Nature Center has over 175 kinds of herbs, many of them labeled. Visitors can enjoy the garden from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

A Morning with Herbs

Saturday, Aug. 15 • 9:30–11:45 a.m.
Pioneers Park Nature Center Prairie Building
\$10/person • Register by Aug. 10

Pioneers Park Nature Center
Phone: 441-8708 • Fax: 441-6468
Mailing Address: 2740 'A' Street, Lincoln, NE 68502

Join us for two workshops highlighting the versatility of herbs.

9:30 a.m. workshop: Clean with Green (Cleaners, that is) with Cynthia Conner
Demonstrations, "secret ingredients" and a sample to take home (please bring a small container with lid) should pique your gentler nature.

10:45 a.m. workshop: Sizzling Sauces with Janet Buck and Becky Seth
Explore herbal sauces from several ethnic cuisines that will add new flavors to your cooking. Demonstrations, recipes and samples.

Garden Guide

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH
By Mary Jane Frogge, UNL Extension Associate

- Check deciduous trees for fall webworm. Use a broom or rake to get them out of small trees.
- Check on water needs of hanging baskets daily in the summer. Wind and sun will dry them much more quickly than other containers.
- Every weed that produces seed means more trouble next year. Control weeds before they go to seed.
- Remove old vegetable plants which have stopped producing to eliminate a shelter for insects and disease organisms.
- Hand pick bagworms from your evergreen and deciduous trees.
- Clean up fallen rose and peony leaves. They can harbor disease and insect pests over the winter if allowed to remain on the ground.
- Mound soil over the lateral or brace roots of corn stalks for extra support against strong winds.
- Pick summer squash and zucchini every day or two to keep the plants producing.
- Water the garden early in the day so plants can absorb the moisture before the hot sun dries the soil. Early watering also insures that the foliage dries before night. Wet foliage at night increases susceptibility to fungus diseases.
- Many herbs self-sow if the flowers are not removed. Dill produce seeds that fall around the parent plant and come up as volunteers the following spring.
- To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.
- Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) is used by many gardeners to protect cole crops from chewing caterpillars.
- White flies are attracted to yellow, so use yellow sticky boards to reduce their populations.
- Do not add weeds with mature seed heads to the compost pile. Many weed seeds can remain viable and germinate next year when the compost is used.

Sign Up for Free E-mail Horticulture Newsletter

HortUpdate is a FREE e-mail newsletter from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension which provides timely information to the lawn and landscape industry. This e-mail includes current lawn and landscape problems with control recommendations and a seasonal 'To Do' list. To subscribe, go to <http://extensionhorticulture.unl.edu>



2009

LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 5-9

COMING NEXT YEAR!

SUPER FAIR

LANCASTER COUNTY
AUGUST 6-15, 2010

LANCASTER EVENT CENTER
84th & Havelock, Lincoln

www.superfair.org
(402) 441-6545

Get Ag-cited!

SCHEDULE & MAP

Does not include check-in
and release times

**New
this year**

**Gate admission
tickets will be required!**

Get gate admission tickets **FREE**
at these locations July-Aug. 9

U-STOP
CONVENIENCE SHOPS

16 convenient locations
in Lincoln

**Russ's
MARKET**

6 locations in Lincoln

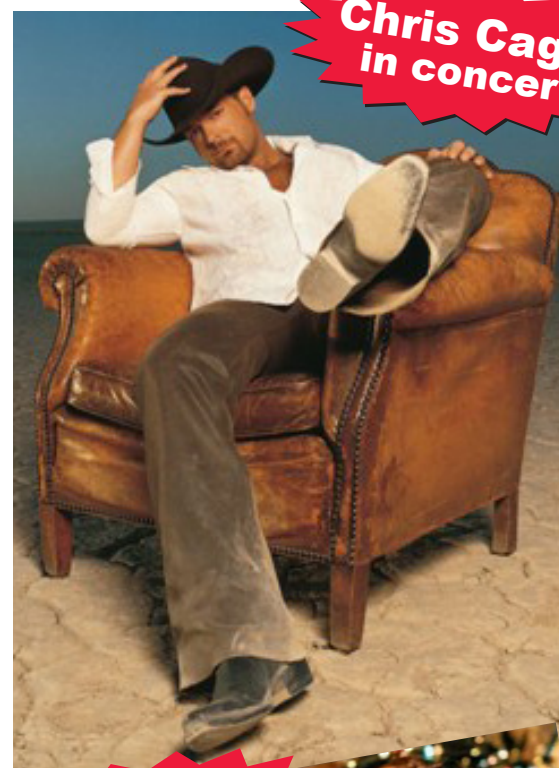
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FROGGY98

Pick up tickets at the radio
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live remote locations

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WESTERN**
Est. 1972

5601 South 56th St., Alamo #4

**Chris Cagle
in concert**



**with special guest
Candy Coburn**



Chris Cagle in Concert
Saturday, Aug. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

General admission tickets are
\$18 before July 6 / \$25 after July 6.

**Purchase tickets at Fort Western,
Lancaster Event Center
or by phone at 402-441-6545.**



The Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc. (Fair Board) thanks all our community partners!

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**4-H thanks
our sponsors!**



FREE Entertainment Tent

Aug. 5 — Ziv in Concert

**Aug. 6 — U-Stop's "Monsters of
Rock - Battle of the
Bands" Grand Finale
Watermelon Feed
Cactus Hill Band**

**Aug. 7 — Jim Rice and the Final
Round Band**

Aug. 8 — TBA

Tent by Midwest Tents & Events

NEW!



Antique Tractors on Display and on Parade



Figure 8 Races and Demolition Derby



Open Class and 4-H Animal Shows



NEW!

FREE

ALL NEW!



Carnival

PRE-FAIR SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 1 — Open Class Dairy Goat Show (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) 8 a.m.
Caprine Cornhusker Classic — Saturday is a double show, the first one is sponsored by the Lancaster County Ag Society and second show is sponsored by the Nebraska Dairy Goat Association and sanctioned by the American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA). Exhibitors of all ages show their dairy goats and compete for championship honors.

Open Class Horse Dressage Show (Pavilion 3 - Arena) . . . 7:30 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages compete in Open Dressage Schooling. This show is a recognized Nebraska Dressage Association schooling show.

Open Class Horse Performance and Speed Events (Multipurpose Arena) 9 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages compete. Speed Events include: Poles, Stake Race, Keyhole, Flag Drop Race and Barrels. Performance events include: English Equitation, English Pleasure, Walk Trot, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship and Reining.

Sunday, August 2 — Open Class Dairy Goat Show (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) 8 a.m.
Caprine Cornhusker Classic — this show is sponsored by the Nebraska Dairy Goat Association and sanctioned by the American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA). Exhibitors of all ages show their dairy goats and compete for championship honors.

Monday, August 3 — Static Exhibit Check-in — 4-H & Open Class (Lincoln Room) 4-8 p.m.
Open Class categories are open to anyone. For complete information on how to enter exhibits in the Lancaster County Fair, pick up a 2009 Lancaster County Fair Open Class, 4-H & FFA Fair Book. Fair Books are available at the Lancaster Event Center or online at www.superfair.org

Tuesday, August 4 — 4-H Horse Dressage Show (Pavilion 3 - Arena) 8:00 a.m.
Dressage is the performance of a specific pattern of movements — horse and rider are judged on presentation, accuracy and obedience of the horse. English attire and tack are used.

4-H Horse Hunter Hack Jumper Show (Amy Countryman Arena) immediately following 4-H Horse Dressage Show
Hunter Hack classes showcase a combination of skills — jumping, horse movement & attitude, and exhibitor horsemanship (skill at riding horses). Uses hunter-type horses. English attire and tack are used.

4-H Horse Hunter Show—Hunter/Equitation (Amy Countryman Arena) immediately following 4-H Horse Hunter Hack Jumper Show

New this year! Hunter is the term used for the controlled, balanced, rhythmic manner in which the horse completes the course of jumps. The hunter round is judged on the horse's movement and the rider's ability to safely maneuver the course in a consistent manner. Equitation is judged on the rider's position in the tack and accuracy of the course ridden.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

Capital City Kiwanis Breakfast (Concession Stand Between Pavilions 1 and 4) 7-11 a.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair!

4-H English Horse Show—English Showmanship/English Pleasure/English Equitation (Amy Countryman Arena) 8 a.m.
These classes showcase horse manners, movement & attitude and exhibitor's horsemanship (skill at riding horses). English Horse Show uses hunter-type horses. English attire and tack are used.

Static Exhibits on Display (Lincoln Room) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Come see the very best Lancaster County has to showcase! Residents exhibit their talents and earn ribbons! Open Class categories of Horticulture, Foods, Textiles and Fine Arts are open to anyone. 4-H youth enter exhibits in more than 100 4-H project areas. FFA youth exhibit projects in FFA Ag Mechanics.

Antique Tractors on Display (North of Buildings) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display and parade (4 p.m.) at the Lancaster County Fair! See more than 75 tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology. The Larsen Tractor Museum will bring significant tractors such as the 100-year-old Minneapolis Ford tractor which started Nebraska's Tractor Testing!

NEW!

Petting Zoo and Pony Rides (Pavilion 1) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
This year's FREE petting zoo includes a wide variety of farm and exotic animals! Pony rides offered daily — times to be announced. Proceeds from the pony rides go toward Lancaster County Fair funds.

Lancaster County Fair Arts & Crafts Sale (Pavilion 4) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Quality arts and crafts for sale direct from local artists!

Army Climbing Wall (Family Fun Court) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Test your climbing ability — see if you have what it takes to get to the top. Must be age 18 or above. FREE!

Open Class Poultry Show (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) 9 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages show their large fowl, bantams, feathered-legged, ducks, bantam ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea fowl to compete for championship honors.

4-H Household Pets Show/Quiz Bowl (Lancaster Room between Pav. 1 & 4) Noon
4-H members exhibit a wide variety of household pets, including guinea pigs, hamsters and caged birds. Judges interview exhibitors on overall care of and knowledge of their little critters. Quiz bowl follows.

Rainforest Encounters Exhibit (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) Noon–8 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Families are able to get up close and personal with over 20 species of rainforest animals on display! FREE!

4-H Poultry Show (Pavilion 1 - West Arena & Walkway) 12:30 p.m.
4-H'ers show their poultry projects in the categories of: large fowl, bantams, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowl and pet class.

Rainforest Experience LIVE (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) . . . 3 p.m., 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! The Rainforest Experience is a FREE 30-minute, fun, educational show which explores the tropical rainforest. Special appearances by 20 rainforest animal friends such as Treetop the singing toucan, Archie the Two-Toed Sloth and Maddie a Ring-Tailed Lemur. Audience participation gives kids an opportunity to interact with the animals! Air-cooled tent seats 500.

Racing Pigs (Family Fun Court) 4 p.m., 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.
A long-time favorite with fair-goers is Daryl's Racing Pigs. Audience members guess which pig will finish first. Fun, FREE event to watch!

Antique Tractors on Parade (Around the Fairgrounds) 4 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display (9 a.m.–9 p.m.) and parade at the Lancaster County Fair! See numerous tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology. These models are in showcase condition and roar into action as they roll on parade!

Carnival (North of Buildings) 5 p.m.–Midnight
The Lancaster County Fair is featuring an ALL NEW carnival from Heart of America Shows with over 25 thrill-filled rides, games and concessions! Rides include the Gravitron, Tsunami, Kami Kaze, Gondola, Gator Roller Coaster, Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel and a whole lot more! Unlimited rides with a wristband (good for one day only). Wristbands are available for \$15 before Aug. 5 at U-Stops, Russ's Markets or Fort Western (while supplies last), and available for \$22 at the carnival.

Dunk Tank (Family Fun Court) Evening
Test your aim while helping the Rabbits R Us 4-H club raise funds for community service projects.

4-H Horse Show—Horsemanship Pairs/Freestyle Drill Teams (Multipurpose Arena) 5 p.m.
In Horsemanship Pairs, two riders must ride a pattern in synch. In the freestyle drill teams, three to 25 riders perform a show set to music and choreographed by the youth. Horses and riders are often in costume.

4-H Rabbit Breed Identification Contest/Quiz (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) 6:30 p.m.
In the Breed Identification contest, exhibitors must correctly identify 10 breeds, including variety and color. 4-H members test their rabbit knowledge.

4-H Style Revue (Exhibit Hall) 7 p.m.
4-H'ers model their clothing projects with pride and style. Judges look for selection, fit, creativity and accessories.

Figure-8-Races (East of Amy Countryman Arena) 7 p.m.
Who doesn't enjoy a race? And better yet — a race with lots of crashes! Figure 8 is a demolition derby and a race! As these vehicles circle the track (which is shaped like an 8), there's sure to be plenty of banging around at the intersection. Drivers need to out-think and out-maneuver their competitors in order to win. Gates open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$10, kids 5 and under are free. Pit passes available for \$20. Concessions and beer available.

Ziv in Concert (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 9 p.m.
FREE entertainment! Ziv is a solo male singer, songwriter and recording artist, fitting into the rock/alternative/pop genre. His sound has the feel of a U2 meets Coldplay and Seal. He has written, arranged and produced every song on his albums. He plays the piano/ keyboards in entirety and played about 80% of the guitars. He has self-released two albums, "Fearless" (winner of album of the year for independent artists) and "Paper and Sound."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

Capital City Kiwanis Breakfast (Concession Stand Between Pavilions 1 and 4) 7–11 a.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair!

Exhibitors Breakfast (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent). 7–8:30 a.m.
All county fair exhibitors, superintendents and volunteers are invited to a FREE breakfast.
PRESENTED BY CAPITAL CITY KIWANIS BREAKFAST

4-H Dairy Goat Show/Costume Contest (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) . . . 8 a.m.
4-H'ers show their dairy goats and miniature goats. Afterwards is a "Best Dressed Kids" costume contest and quiz bowl.

Static Exhibits on Display (Lincoln Room) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Come see the very best Lancaster County has to showcase! Residents exhibit their talents and earn ribbons! Open Class categories of Horticulture, Foods, Textiles and Fine Arts are open to anyone. 4-H youth enter exhibits in more than 100 4-H project areas. FFA youth exhibit projects in FFA Ag Mechanics.

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NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Test your climbing ability — see if you have what it takes to get to the top. Must be age 18 or above. FREE!

4-H Western Horse Show—Western Showmanship/ Groom and Care/Halter (Amy Countryman Arena) 8 a.m.
Western Horse Show uses stock-type horses. Western attire and tack are used. Showmanship is an in-hand class which demonstrate the ground manners of the horse. Groom & Care classes are for first-year exhibitors. In Halter, the confirmation (build, breeding and movement) of the horse is judged.

Dairy Cattle Showmanship Clinic (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) 10 a.m.
This is an opportunity for 4H and FFA members to learn and/or review the basics and essentials of properly presenting their dairy animals and project to the judge.

4-H Meat Goat Show (Pavilion 1 - West Arena). 11 a.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! 4-H'ers show their meat goats.

4-H/FFA Sheep Show (Pavilion 1 - West Arena). Noon
4-H and FFA members show their sheep in breeding classes and market classes.

Rainforest Encounters Exhibit (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) Noon–8 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Families are able to get up close and personal with over 20 species of rainforest animals on display! FREE!

Racing Pigs (Family Fun Court) 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.
A long-time favorite with fair-goers is Daryl's Racing Pigs. Audience members guess which pig will finish first. Fun, FREE event to watch!

Rainforest Experience LIVE (Between Pavilions 1 & 2). . 3 p.m., 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! The Rainforest Experience is a FREE 30-minute, fun, educational show which explores the tropical rainforest. Special appearances by 20 rainforest animal friends such as Treetop the singing toucan, Archie the Two-Toed Sloth and Maddie a Ring-Tailed Lemur. Audience participation gives kids an opportunity to interact with the animals! Air-cooled tent seats 500.

Antique Tractors on Parade (Around the Fairgrounds) 4 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display (9 a.m.–9 p.m.) and parade at the Lancaster County Fair! See numerous tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology. These models are in showcase condition and roar into action as they roll on parade!

U-Stop's "Monsters of Rock - Battle of the Bands" Grand Finale (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent). 4–8 p.m.
This is the culminating event after weeks of local video game competition. Come vote for your favorite group and see who is the best of the best!
PRESENTED BY U-STOP AND MONSTER ENERGY

Watermelon Feed (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 4:30 p.m.
All the FREE watermelon you can eat! This annual event draws large crowds.
PRESENTED BY FAIR BOARD WITH THE HELP OF THE LANCASTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Carnival (North of Buildings) 5 p.m.–Midnight
The Lancaster County Fair is featuring an ALL NEW carnival from Heart of America Shows with over 25 thrill-filled rides, games and concessions! Rides include the Gravitron, Tsunami, Kami Kaze, Gondola, Gator Roller Coaster, Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel and a whole lot more! Unlimited rides with a wristband (good for one day only). Wristbands are available for \$15 before Aug. 5 at U-Stops, Russ's Markets or Fort Western (while supplies last), and available for \$22 at the carnival.

Dunk Tank (Family Fun Court) Afternoon–Evening
Test your aim while helping the Rabbits R Us 4-H club raise funds for community service projects.

Face Painting (Family Fun Court) Evening
FREE to all youth! Choose from a selection of artwork and colors!
PRESENTED BY FAIR BOARD, FACE PAINTING DONE BY LANCASTER COUNTY CITIZEN WASHINGTON FOCUS 4-H'ERS.

4-H Horse Trail Show (Amy Countryman Arena) 5 p.m.
4-H'ers ride their horses through a course with six to ten obstacles which would naturally spook a horse.

4-H Table Setting Contest (Exhibit Hall) 5 p.m.
4-H'ers set up theme tables in either formal, casual, picnic or birthday style — accompanied by a planned menu. Tables will be on view for the public approximately 7–7:30 p.m.

Spaghetti Feed (Exhibit Hall) 5:30 p.m.
Spaghetti dinner at a reasonable price. This is a fundraiser to help support Lancaster County 4-H programs and activities. *PRESENTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL*

4-H Rabbit Judging Contest/Breeder's Choice Show (Pavilion 1 - Walkway). 5:30 p.m.
In the Judging Contest, 4-H members try their hand at judging rabbits — this event emphasizes how much youth know about rabbits. In the Breeder's Choice Show, each exhibitor shows a rabbit and one of its parents to showcase choices made in their breeding program.

4-H Llama/Alpaca Show (Pavilion 1 - East Arena). 6 p.m.
Lancaster County 4-H is one of the only Nebraska counties with a county fair llama show. NEW this year — alpaca have been added to the 4-H Llama show! An obstacle course tests how well exhibitors and llama/alpaca work together. Also new this year is a pack class which is the same as obstacle course except animal carries a pack.

4-H Horse Roping/Working Ranch Show—Roping/Goat Tying/ Working Ranch (Pavilion 3 - Arena) 6 p.m.
These classes emphasize skills used by ranchers. Cattle are brought in. In roping, beginning ropers use dummies and the more advanced youth rope calves. In Working Ranch, 4-H'ers are assigned a cow to work through an obstacle course.

Town Hall Meeting (Lancaster Room) 6:30–8 p.m.
The Lancaster delegation of State Senators will hold a Senators' Town Hall meeting at the Lancaster County Fair. The meeting will offer residents an opportunity to hear about issues currently impacting our state and to express their views.

Demolition Derby (East of Amy Countryman Arena) 7 p.m.
Demolition Derby is a smash'em crash'em endurance run! Last car able to move is the winner! Gates open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$10, kids 5 and under are free. Pit passes available for \$20. Concessions and beer available.

4-H Rabbit Pet Class (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) 7 p.m.
Pet Class rabbits are judged on their acceptability as pets and exhibitors are asked about the care of their rabbits.

Cactus Hill Band (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 9 p.m.
FREE entertainment! Cactus Hill is the most visible country act in the five-state region. Based in Lincoln, Cactus Hill has played aside Nashville notables such as Lonestar, Brad Paisley, Rascal Flatts, Montgomery Gentry, Gary Allan, Phil Vassar, Joe Nichols, Chris Ledoux, Mark Wills, Darryl Worley and Blake Shelton, just to name a few.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

Capital City Kiwanis Breakfast (Concession Stand Between Pavilions 1 and 4) 7–11 a.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair!

4-H/FFA Swine Show (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) 8 a.m.
4-H and FFA members compete for championship honors with their market hogs. The people choice award is judged by the public. All youth are invited to show a hog in the pee wee showmanship contest — hogs will be provided (ask at judges table for information).

4-H Rabbit Market/Breed/Fur Show (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) 8 a.m.
Market class includes purebred or crossbred commercial rabbits. Breed class is for purebred rabbits only. Rabbits in the fur show are judged for the quality of their coats.

4-H/FFA Dairy Cattle Show (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) 8 a.m.
4-H and FFA members compete for championship honors in the dairy breeding classes.

Static Exhibits on Display (Lincoln Room) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Come see the very best Lancaster County has to showcase! Residents exhibit their talents and earn ribbons! Open Class categories of Horticulture, Foods, Textiles and Fine Arts are open to anyone. 4-H youth enter exhibits in more than 100 4-H project areas.

U-Stop's "Monsters of Rock - Battle of the Bands" Your Turn (near Corporate Tent) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! This is your chance to show your stuff on this popular video game! FREE!
PRESENTED BY U-STOP AND MONSTER ENERGY

Wakeboard Pool Jam (near Corporate Tent). 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
First time in Lincoln and NEW at the Lancaster County Fair — one day only!
Come see pros in the sport demonstrating exciting tricks!
PRESENTED BY U-STOP AND RED BULL

Antique Tractors on Display (North of Buildings) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display and parade (4 p.m.) at the Lancaster County Fair! See more than 75 tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology.

Petting Zoo and Pony Rides (Pavilion 1) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
This year's FREE petting zoo includes a wide variety of farm and exotic animals! Pony rides offered daily — times to be announced — proceeds go toward County Fair funds.

Lancaster County Fair Arts & Crafts Sale (Pavilion 4) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Quality arts and crafts for sale direct from local artists!

Army Climbing Wall (Family Fun Court) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Test your climbing ability — see if you have what it takes to get to the top. Must be age 18 or above. FREE!

4-H Dog Obedience/Showmanship/Costume Contest Show (Exhibit Hall). 9 a.m.
In obediences, dogs and exhibitors are judged on their training.

4-H Western Horse Show—Bareback Equitation/Western Pleasure/ Western Horsemanship (Amy Countryman Arena) 9 a.m.
In Western Pleasure, horses are judged based on manners, movement and attitude. In Western Horsemanship, riders are judged on their horsemanship (skill at riding horses).

4-H Rabbit Showmanship Show (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) 10 a.m.
In Showmanship, 4-H'ers are judged on ability to handle and present their animal.

Open Class Dairy Cattle Show (Pavilion 1 - East Arena). 11 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages show their dairy cattle and compete for championship honors.

Rainforest Encounters Exhibit (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) Noon–8 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Families are able to get up close and personal with over 20 species of rainforest animals on display! FREE!

4-H Dog Agility Show (Exhibit Hall) 1 p.m.
This is what you see on TV with dogs maneuvering through obstacles, jumps and tunnels.

4-H Horse Judging Contest (Pavilion 3 - Arena)Not to start before 3 p.m.
4-H'ers try their hand at judging horses — this event emphasizes how much youth know about horses.

Racing Pigs (Family Fun Court) 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.
A long-time favorite with fair-goers is Daryl's Racing Pigs. Audience members guess which pig will finish first. Fun, FREE event to watch!

Rainforest Experience LIVE (Between Pavilions 1 & 2). . 3 p.m., 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! The Rainforest Experience is a FREE 30-minute, fun, educational show which explores the tropical rainforest. Special appearances by 20 rainforest animal friends such as Treetop the singing toucan. Audience participation gives kids an opportunity to interact with the animals! Air-cooled tent seats 500.

Antique Tractors on Parade (Around the Fairgrounds) 4 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display (9 a.m.–9 p.m.) and parade at the Lancaster County Fair! See numerous tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology.

Cookie Eating Contest (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 4 p.m.
Contest is open to all youth. Pre-register at 4-H Information Booth, which opens Wednesday, Aug. 1 at 9 a.m. (number of participants is limited so sign up early). No entry fee. Fun, FREE event to watch! *PRESENTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H TEEN COUNCIL*

Carnival (North of Buildings) 5 p.m.–Midnight
The Lancaster County Fair is featuring an ALL NEW carnival from Heart of America Shows with over 25 thrill-filled rides, games and concessions! Unlimited rides with a wristband (good for one day only). Wristbands are available for \$15 before Aug. 5 at U-Stops, Russ's Markets or Fort Western (while supplies last), and available for \$22 at the carnival.

Dunk Tank (Family Fun Court) Afternoon–Evening
Test your aim while helping the Rabbits R Us 4-H club raise funds for community service projects.

Face Painting (Family Fun Court) Evening
FREE to all youth! Choose from a selection of artwork and colors!
PRESENTED BY FAIR BOARD, FACE PAINTING DONE BY LANCASTER COUNTY CITIZEN WASHINGTON FOCUS 4-H'ERS.

Family Barbeque (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 5:30 p.m.
A perennial community favorite! Enjoy a very reasonably-priced meal (barbecued pork sandwiches, barbecued beans, chips and a drink) at \$5 per ticket.
PRESENTED BY FAIR BOARD WITH THE HELP OF LINCOLN CENTER KIWANIS.

Ice Cream Social (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent). 5:30 p.m.
Follow the Family Barbecue with ice cream at \$1 a cup. This is a fundraiser to help support 4-H Teen Council programs and activities. *PRESENTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY 4-H TEEN COUNCIL*

Nebraska Pioneer Farm Awards (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 5:30 p.m.
The Nebraska Pioneer Farm awards program honors farm families in Nebraska whose land has been owned by members of the same family for 100 years or more. This year's Lancaster County honorees are John & Mary Anne Juricek and Ardell & Fran Sieck.
PRESENTED BY KNIGHTS OF AK-SAR-BEN FOUNDATION AND THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF FAIR MANAGERS.

4-H Rabbit Specialty Show—Best Matched Pair/Tricks/ Costume Contest/Pee Wee (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) 6 p.m.
Judged by local celebrities. The costume contest and tricks are fun, must-see events! In the pee wee class, anyone age 7 and under can participate.

Antique Tractor Pulls (East of Amy Countryman Arena). 6 p.m.
Come watch local antique tractor enthusiasts compete to get the longest pull in their weight class! Includes Antique Tractor classes (Classic and Open) and West Central Iowa Pullers classes (3000 RPM and Hot-Stock)! Exciting and action packed! Gates open at 5 p.m. Admission is \$10, kids 5 and under are free. Pit passes available for \$20. Concessions and beer available.

Hay Hauling Contest (Amy Countryman Arena) 7 p.m.
Contest is open to any team of three members, ages 14 and up. Fun, FREE event to watch! Objective is to load 42 bales of hay on a pick-up truck, drive through a designated obstacle course, unload and stack the hay. Best time wins. *PRESENTED BY RAYMOND CENTRAL FFA ALUMNI.*

Jim Rice and the Final Round Band (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) 9 p.m.
FREE entertainment! Jim has the ability to reach listeners with his traditional country-sounding voice and the result has been an overwhelming nationwide response from radio audiences. His music is the result of leading record producers and writers — the best Nashville has to offer. A fourth generation cattle rancher, born in the heart of the Sandhills of Western Nebraska, his smooth baritone vocals deliver the songs that make memories.



Static Exhibits



Petting Zoo

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

- Capital City Kiwanis Breakfast** (Concession Stand Between Pavilions 1 and 4) 7–11 a.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair!
- Open Class Rabbit Show** (Exhibit Hall, South End) 8 a.m.
This official American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc (ARBA) sanctioned show draws a large number of rabbit breeders from all over the region. There are 8 sanctioned breeds — here's your chance to see types of rabbits you've never knew existed!
- 4-H/FFA Beef Show** (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) 8 a.m.
4-H and FFA members compete for championship honors in the breeding, market and feeder calf classes.
- 4-H Miniature Horse Show** (Pavilion 3 - Arena) 8:30 a.m.
Miniature horse events include showmanship, halter, jumping and pleasure driving (in which horses pull drivers in two-wheel carts).
- Static Exhibits on Display** (Lincoln Room) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Come see the very best Lancaster County has to showcase! Residents exhibit their talents and earn ribbons! Open Class categories of Horticulture, Foods, Textiles and Fine Arts are open to anyone. 4-H youth enter exhibits in more than 100 4-H project areas. FFA youth exhibit projects in FFA Ag Mechanics.
- Antique Tractors on Display** (North of Buildings) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display and parade (4 p.m.) at the Lancaster County Fair! See more than 75 tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology. The Larsen Tractor Museum will bring significant tractors such as the 100-year-old Minneapolis Ford tractor which started Nebraska's Tractor Testing!
- Petting Zoo and Pony Rides** (Pavilion 1) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
This year's FREE petting zoo includes a wide variety of farm and exotic animals! Pony rides offered daily — times to be announced. Proceeds from the pony rides go toward Lancaster County Fair funds.
- Lancaster County Fair Arts & Crafts Sale** (Pavilion 4) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Quality arts and crafts for sale direct from local artists!
- Army Climbing Wall** (Family Fun Court) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Test your climbing ability — see if you have what it takes to get to the top. Must be age 18 or above. FREE!
- 4-H Cat Show/Quiz Bowl** (Exhibit Hall, North End) 9 a.m.
Cats and their 4-H owners are judged in this show — proper care of the cat is emphasized. Quiz bowl follows.
- Open Class Pigeon Show** (Pavilion 1 - Walkway) 9 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages show their pigeons in three breed classifications: Utility (raised for commercial uses — also known as squabs), Performing (known for their tumbling, rolling, spinning and diving ability) and Fancy (valued for their unusual appearance).
- 4-H Horse Special Needs Show** (Pavilion 3 - Arena) following the 4-H Miniature Horse Show—not to start before 10:30 a.m.
Now in its third year, the 4-H Horse Show includes two riding classes for 4-H special needs youth. Classes are "Mounted obstacle, assisted" and "Mounted obstacle, non-assisted." Attire and tack can be English or Western style.
- Rainforest Encounters Exhibit** (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) Noon–8 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Families are able to get up close and personal with over 20 species of rainforest animals on display! FREE!
- 4-H Western Horse Show—Working Pleasure/Western Riding/Reining** (Amy Countryman Arena) . . . 1/2 hour after 4-H Horse Special Needs show
Western Horse Show uses stock-type horses. Western attire and tack are used. These classes are all patterns which require a higher level of horsemanship.
- Big Wheel Race** (Exhibit Hall) 1 p.m.
Contest open to all youth ages 3–6! Fun, FREE event to watch! Objective is to race on short, designated course. Best times in each age class wins. Big wheel vehicles will be provided. Register on-site at Noon. No entry fee. PRESENTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU.
- 4-H Clover Kids—Show and Tell** (Lincoln Room) 1 p.m.
Clover Kids are 4-H'ers ages 5–7. In this delightful event, members are invited to show and tell a static exhibit they have entered or a small animal. Clubs may show a group project or perform a short skit or song.
- Racing Pigs** (Family Fun Court) 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.
A long-time favorite with fair-goers is Daryl's Racing Pigs. Audience members guess which pig will finish first. Fun, FREE event to watch!
- Rainforest Experience LIVE** (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! The Rainforest Experience is a FREE 30-minute, fun, educational show which explores the tropical rainforest. Special appearances by 20 rainforest animal friends such as Treetop the singing toucan, Archie the Two-Toed Sloth and Maddie a Ring-Tailed Lemur. Audience participation gives kids an opportunity to interact with the animals! Air-cooled tent seats 500.
- Pedal Tractor Pull Contest** (Exhibit Hall) 3 p.m.
Contest open to all ages 4 and up. Fun, FREE event to watch! Objective is pedal mini-tractors hitched to a special weight transfer sled — sled has a weight box and weights are added for the different age classes. Longest pull in each age class wins. Mini-tractors will be provided. Register on-site at 2:30 p.m. No entry fee.
PRESENTED BY LANCASTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU.
- Antique Tractors on Parade** (Around the Fairgrounds) 4 p.m.
NEW this year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Larsen Tractor Museum is coordinating an antique tractor display (9 a.m.–9 p.m.) and parade at the Lancaster County Fair! See numerous tractors illustrating advancements in agricultural technology. These models are in showcase condition and roar into action as they roll on parade!
- 4-H Horse Games Show—Keyhole Race/Pole Bending/Figure 8 Stake Race/Barrel Race** (Amy Countryman Arena) 4 p.m.
Great to watch — bring the entire family! These are speed events using buckets, poles and barrels to define a pattern. Everyone has fun — rider, horse and audience!
- Carnival** (North of Buildings) 5 p.m.–Midnight
The Lancaster County Fair is featuring an ALL NEW carnival from Heart of America Shows with over 25 thrill-filled rides, games and concessions! Rides include the Gravitron, Tsunami, Kami Kaze, Gondola, Gator Roller Coaster, Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel and a whole lot more! Unlimited rides with a wristband (good for one day only). Wristbands are available for \$15 before Aug. 5 at U-Stops, Russ's Markets or Fort Western (while supplies last), and available for \$22 at the carnival.

- Dunk Tank** (Family Fun Court) Afternoon–Evening
Test your aim while helping the Rabbits R Us 4-H club raise funds for community service projects.
- Face Painting** (Family Fun Court) Evening
FREE to all youth! Choose from a selection of artwork and colors!
PRESENTED BY FAIR BOARD, FACE PAINTING DONE BY LANCASTER COUNTY CITIZEN WASHINGTON FOCUS 4-H'ERS.
- 4-H Bucket Calf Show** (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) 5 p.m.
These are orphaned baby calves bottle fed by the 4-H exhibitors.
- Chris Cagle in Concert with Special Guest Candy Coburn** **NEW!**
(Multipurpose Arena) 7:30 p.m.
Chris Cagle is one of country music's more interesting characters. There aren't many in the industry who can put passion and energy on stage or on record the way he can. But a man doesn't go gold with his first two albums and produce seven hits — including four Top Tens — on nothing more than bravado. Chris's secret weapon lies in his ability to rope the whirlwind, to capture its motion and emotion with his pen and his voice. Producing hits like: Laredo, What a Beautiful Day, Chicks Dig it, Miss Me Baby, and What Kinda Gone. General admission tickets are \$18 before July 6 / \$25 after July 6. Purchase tickets at Fort Western, Lancaster Event Center or by phone at 402-441-6545.



Free Entertainment—TBA (Nebraska Lottery Entertainment Tent) .9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

- Capital City Kiwanis Breakfast** (Concession Stand Between Pavilions 1 and 4) 7–11 a.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair!
- Static Exhibits on Display** (Lincoln Room) 9 a.m.–Noon
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- Petting Zoo and Pony Rides** (Pavilion 1) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
This year's FREE petting zoo includes a wide variety of farm and exotic animals! Pony rides offered daily — times to be announced. Proceeds from the pony rides go toward Lancaster County Fair funds.
- Lancaster County Fair Arts & Crafts Sale** (Pavilion 4) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Quality arts and crafts for sale direct from local artists!
- Army Climbing Wall** (Family Fun Court) 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Test your climbing ability — see if you have what it takes to get to the top. Must be age 18 or above. FREE!
- Open Class Miniature Horse Show** (Pavilion 3 - Arena) 9 a.m.
NEW this year — the Lancaster County Fair American Miniature Horse Registry (AMHR) Miniature Horse Show hosted by the Bluestem Miniature Horse Club! Exhibitors of all ages compete in events including showmanship, halter, jumping and pleasure driving (in which horses pull drivers in two-wheel carts). For more information, call Tracey Slagle at 308-624-0212.
- Open Class Beef Show** (Pavilion 1 - East Arena) 9 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages compete for championship honors in the breeding, market and feeder calf classes.
- Open Class Swine Show** (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) 9 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages compete for championship honors with their market hogs.
- Open Class Sheep Show** (Pavilion 1 - West Arena) 10 a.m.
Exhibitors of all ages show their sheep in breeding (raised for their wool) and market classes, competing for championship honors.
- NBHA Barrel Racing** (Pavilion 4 - Amy Countryman Arena) 10 a.m.
Fun, FREE event to watch! In this National Barrel Horse Association sanctioned event, contestants vie for the fastest time in running a triangular, cloverleaf pattern around three barrels. Two age divisions: Youth ages 18 & under; Open (ages 19 & up). Jackpot cash prizes plus \$250 added money. Open to any NBHA member — memberships will be available at the registration table. No preregistration — enter just prior to event. Fee to enter. For more information, call Tina Backen at 402-332-5838.
- Open Class Dog Agility Show** (Exhibit Hall) Noon
Exhibitors of all ages maneuver their dogs through obstacles, jumps and tunnels.
- Open Class Dog Obedience Show** (Exhibit Hall) Noon
Exhibitors of all ages demonstrate their dog's ability to follow commands. There are nine classes based on dog and handlers' level of ability/title. Exercises include heel on leash, figure eight, stand for examination, recall, long sit and long down, signal exercise, scent discrimination, directed retrieve and directed jumping.
- Rainforest Encounters Exhibit** (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) Noon–8 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! Families are able to get up close and personal with over 20 species of rainforest animals on display! FREE!
- Mutton Busting and Kids Ranch Rodeo** (Amy Countryman Arena) . 2 p.m.
All youth ages 10 and under are invited to participate in these fun, FREE contests! Must preregister prior to event by going to www.superfair.org or www.kztx.com.
• In Mutton Busters, youth ride atop sheep for as long as possible. Safety guidelines are followed. Limited to the first 90 riders to sign up.
• Kids Ranch Rodeo features wooden cows that give real milk and wooden horses everyone can ride! Events include: Goat Tie, Wild Cow Milking, Dummy Roping, Barrel Racing, Egg Race, Flag Race, Wild Cow Branding, Diaper Pinning, Wild Cow Vaccinating and Pony Express Race! No limit to number of participants.
- Rainforest Experience LIVE** (Between Pavilions 1 & 2) 3 p.m., 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
NEW this year at the Lancaster County Fair! The Rainforest Experience is a FREE 30-minute, fun, educational show which explores the tropical rainforest. Special appearances by 20 rainforest animal friends such as Treetop the singing toucan, Archie the Two-Toed Sloth and Maddie a Ring-Tailed Lemur. Audience participation gives kids an opportunity to interact with the animals! Air-cooled tent seats 500.
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LANCASTER EVENT CENTER

The general office of LCAS is located at the Lancaster Event Center, P.O. Box 29167, Lincoln, NE 68529 • Phone: 402-441-6545 • Web site: <http://www.lancastereventcenter.com>
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Ron Dowding (President and Fair Manager), Chet Hill (Vice-President), Trudy Pedley (Secretary), Karen Rutt (Treasurer), Tom Messick, Frank Mitchell, Nancy Moser, Keith Schomerus, Jay Wilkinson



The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development program is open to all youth ages 5–18.
UNL Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, 68528 • Phone: 402-441-7180 • Web site: <http://lancaster.unl.edu>

The National FFA Organization is an agricultural education program which applies classroom instruction to hands-on opportunities • Web site: <http://www.ffa.org>



Summertime Bug Bites

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

The extension office has recently had a rash of phone calls about bug bites. Summertime brings people into more contact with outdoor insects that bite and sting. This article will give tips to help determine what could be the source of the bite.

Before you treat, be sure you know what the pest is. This is the first rule of managing pests. A woman hired a pest control company to treat her house and yard for fleas. After the treatment, she called the extension office because she was concerned about the insecticides used inside their home.

After asking several questions, I was fairly sure this family didn't have fleas at all, but were getting bitten by chiggers when doing yard work. Clues which helped me decide the bites were from chiggers were:

- She and her husband were both getting bitten, but never saw anything. Fleas are small, but can be seen, especially when they are biting.
- Second, the location of the bite suggested these were chigger bites. Both were getting bites on ankles, under socks and underwear elastic.
- Third, the bites showed up in the morning so they thought they were getting bitten in bed. The fact is chigger bites don't usually appear until a day after the actual exposure. This couple spent \$200

to treat fleas, and treated both indoors and outdoors. The indoor treatment was a waste of money and unnecessarily exposed the inhabitants to chemicals. I question whether the outdoor flea treatment had much effect on chiggers.

Chiggers

A chigger is the larval stage of a velvety red mite (*Trombicula alfreddugesi*) that lives in the soil. It is so tiny humans can't see it with the unaided eye. The chigger stage is the only parasitic stage of this mite; it attacks rodents, birds, poultry, rabbits, livestock, snakes, toads, as well as humans. The chigger crawls onto feet or legs and moves about until it reaches a place where it is confined, particularly around ankles, under socks, behind knees, under the belt-line and elastic bands of underwear. More infrequently, chiggers move to the upper torso and attack the armpits. Chiggers become active from June through the end of summer.

Chiggers do not burrow under the skin. Instead they crawl into a hair follicle and pierce the skin. During its feeding activities, the chigger injects anti-clotting substances, which results in a bite, which is often painfully itchy and lasts for a week or two, or longer. Insect repellents may prevent bites.

Fleas

Fleas are more active in warmer months. They are almost always associated with pet or wild animals and can

be "dropped off" by animals wandering through the yard. Fleas prefer pets or wild animals, but will also jump and feed on people.

Flea bites are painful and, even though they are small (pinhead size), fleas are visible so the person getting bitten should be able to see the flea biting him. The most common place for flea bites is on the legs and ankles, which are usually closer to the carpet or soil, but they will feed on any convenient location.

Many years ago, a mother brought her baby into the extension office to have an insect identified she found in her baby's hair. The insect was a cat flea. The baby normally slept on a blanket placed on a carpeted floor. With the exception of the baby's diaper area, her body was completely covered with flea bites. This family did not have a pet.

Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes are associated with outdoor activities in the summertime. Abundant rainfall brings more mosquitoes. Mosquito repellents do a good job of preventing mosquito bites. Repellents should be used; however, some people, especially small children, may be sensitive to repellents. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends two "conventional" repellents (DEET; picaridin) and two "biopesticide" repellents (oil of lemon eucalyptus; IR3535). For more information about active ingredients in these repellents go to <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/repellentupdates.htm>. Follow label directions before using any repellent.

cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/repellentupdates.htm. Follow label directions before using any repellent.

Bed Bugs

Some recent phone calls have been from people who have gotten bitten and worried the bites could be from bed bugs. Dr. Annette Bredthauer, Health and Human Services System conducted a survey of pest control companies. In the last five years, in Nebraska, there has been a 12-fold increase in number of bed bug treatments. These infestations disproportionately impact people who live in high-density housing, apartments, hotels and motels. Only about 20 percent of last year's treatments were in single-family homes.


Bed bugs hide during the day in cracks and crevices near the bed and feed at night. Bites are found on the arms, shoulders, torso and legs. Bites are not often on the face. Because people have variable reactions to bed bug bites, it is difficult, if not impossible, to identify bed bugs from bites alone. Bed bug adults are 1/4-inch long, but immatures are smaller. Small infestations may be hard to find. Eventually, bed bug populations will increase and will be easier to find.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County entomologists identify pest problems at no cost to the public. Bring samples to the office at 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays.




Chigger — highly magnified above. Not visible to human eye.




Cat flea (male adult) — highly magnified above. Approximate size = 



Mosquito — highly magnified above. Approximate size = 



Bedbug (adult) — highly magnified above. Approximate size = 

Taking Insect Photos at Spring Creek Prairie

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

On Saturday, June 27, Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center was the location for the second annual Insect Photography Workshop presented by University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension. This is an excellent facility for an educational program and the prairie served as a great location to practice what we had learned. The weather cooperated too — it was cloudy, but bright, just perfect for taking photos.

Jim Kalisch, who is a masterful photographer, presented information useful

for beginners and more advanced photographers and served as resource during the six hours we spent there.

Spring Creek Prairie, three miles south of Denton, is an 808-acre tallgrass prairie. Visitors can enjoy miles of walking trails, nearly 650 acres of native (never plowed) tallgrass prairie, ponds and wetlands, wildflowers and grasses, a diverse assortment of birds and other wildlife, historic 19th century wagon ruts, peaceful surroundings and beautiful scenic vistas. Volunteer opportunities are available and education programs for all ages are offered year-round.

Spring Creek Prairie

is open seven days a week, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 1–5 p.m., except major holidays. A small fee is charged to defray operating costs, but Tuesdays are free. I was also told if you come before they open, you don't have to pay. It is okay to wander the prairie, even if the education center is closed. This also means there is no shelter and no rest rooms. They charge \$50 to rent the education room for five hours. For more information, go to www.springcreekprairie.org or call 797-2301.

To see more photos from the Insect Workshop, go to <http://lanaster.unl.edu/pest>.



Jim Kalisch (right) and Francisco Arroyo.

After the educational part of the workshop, attendees took photos of insects at the prairie. Photo by John LeSage.



Bee fly (family *Bombyliidae*) on a flowering milkweed. Photo by Jeremy Lewis.



Resting 12-spotted skimmer dragonfly (family *Libellulidae*). Photo Lorvey Stark.



Immature assassin bug (family *Reduviidae*). Photo by Sek Yee.



4-H Council Scholarships Available for Volunteer Forum Oct. 1-4

The North Central Region 4-H Volunteer Forum is a conference to enhance 4-H volunteer education and to promote adult-youth partnership in the 4-H program. The forum will be held Oct. 1-4 in Lincoln. Educational sessions will focus on activities which can be used in clubs. There will also be keynote speakers, tours, networking and entertainment. Lancaster County 4-H Council will pay the \$200 registration fee (as a scholarship) for the first 11 Lancaster County 4-H volunteers to register for this forum. Early bird deadline is Aug. 11. Contact Tracy for more information. For a schedule, go to <http://4h.unl.edu/volunteers/forum.htm>

Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth Expo

The 82nd Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth Livestock Exposition will be held Sept. 22-27 at the Qwest Center in Omaha. Categories of this 4-H only competition are dairy, feeder calf & breeding beef, horse, market beef, market broilers, meat goats, market lamb, market swine and breeding swine. Livestock exhibitors must be at least 10 years of age as of January 1.

Horse exhibitors do not need to have qualified at districts to enter the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Horse Show! Horse exhibitors MUST be 12 years of age as of January 1 AND have passed Level 2 for English and Western Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Reining, Barrel Racing and Pole Bending. Level 3 must have been passed to enter Hunter Hack and all the Advanced classes. For more information, entry forms and tentative schedule, go to <http://aksarben.org/4-H>

Entries Due Aug. 9

Entries from Lancaster County 4-H'ers are due to extension staff no later than Sunday, Aug. 9 (may give to them at the Lancaster County Fair). Please make sure to include all entry fees, chutes and parking fees. Ak-Sar-Ben will require 15-day health certificates for livestock and horses! *Note: Horses do not require an EIA (coggins) test.* Please call 441-7180 if you have questions.

August

Deb Badeer

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Deb Badeer as winner of August's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Deb has been a 4-H volunteer for 20 years and has helped with the Home School Express club (which had nearly 150 members) and Clover Buds club, and is currently leader of the High Flyers club. When Nebraska 4-H started the Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest, Deb wrote introductory materials and for many years coached youth on PSAs and speeches at workshops and club meetings. In 1995, Deb wrote and produced a promotional video for 4-H Clover Buds (now called Clover Kids). As part of the Citizenship - Public Adventures 4-H project, she takes youth to the State Capitol to meet Senators, learn the legislative process, learn to speak out on issues/lobby and observe legislative debate. She has also volunteered in several 4-H areas at the Lancaster County Fair.

"I strongly believe in the educational benefit of 'learning by doing,'" says Deb. "4-H is an excellent way of enriching a child's life and education while building closer relationships with them. They also 'master' the material they are learning by putting it to use while completing projects and receiving input and rewards at the fair. My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was showing students they could write and speak before an audience. To see the light in their eyes and joy at their new found skill is truly rewarding."

Her clubs have put in many community service hours singing and performing at nursing homes.

Congratulations to Deb. Volunteers like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

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



4-H'ers Test Animal Science Skills at PASE

Lancaster County 4-H Livestock Judging teams competed in various events at this year's Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) on June 29 & 30 at UNL East Campus.

Lancaster County had one intermediate livestock judging team competing in the state contest. Team members were: Chandler Kramer, Trevor Spath, Matthew Grimes and Rachel Johnson. The team finished 3rd overall. Individual honors went to Rachel Johnson, 4th place individual overall, Trevor Spath, 3rd place Sheep, and Chandler Kramer, 5th place Oral Reasons. All four individuals did a great job. Congratulations to the 3rd place Intermediate Livestock



Lancaster County 4-H'ers who participated in the Premiere Animal Science Events.

Judging Team.

Lancaster County had two Senior Livestock Judging Teams. Team members were:

Erica Peterson, Grant Schrick, Ryan Nelson, Emilia Woepfel, Cody DeWald and Taylor Johnson. All did a great job.

4-H'ers Test Family and Consumer Sciences Skills at Life Challenge

The 4-H Life Challenge contests focus on Family and Consumer Science project areas. Youth answer written questions and give an oral presentation applying what they have learned in their 4-H projects to a real-life situation.

The county senior Life Challenge contest was held May 30. Jaime Stephenson was awarded the Grand Champion rosette.

The county junior Life Challenge contest was held July 11 and Mary Dowd was awarded the Grand Champion rosette.

The state Life Challenge contest for seniors was held at UNL



Lancaster County 4-H'ers who participated in the state Life Challenge for seniors.

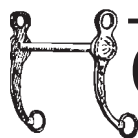
East Campus June 29 and 30. Three Lancaster County Teams participated. Team 1 participants were Anne Greff, Antonio Hoover, Charles Dowd and Molly Noel. Team 2 participants were Angelica Hoover, Helen

Dowd, Jaime Stephenson and Jessica Stephenson. They received 1st place out of 28 teams in the Wardrobe Challenge. Team 3 participants were Ceirra Austin, Dylan Hoover and Maddie Gabel.

4-H Bicycle Safety Contest

The 2009 4-H Bicycle Safety Contest was held on June 27 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Part of the Lancaster County Fair, the contest consists of a bike inspection, bicycle riding skills and a written

quiz. Top winners were Jaime Stephenson (senior champion), Anne Greff (senior reserve champion), Joshua Hoover (junior champion) and Michaela Hoover (junior reserve champion).



HORSE BITS

County Fair Horse Exhibitor Dress Code

Western Attire:

Shirts and blouses must be all white, including button, thread, etc., with convertible collars (one that is meant to be folded at the seam) and long sleeved. Tuxedo, turtleneck or other stand-up collars are not permitted. No national, county or club emblems, medals, etc., permitted. Shear, see-through or form-fitting blouses are inappropriate and not permitted. The bottom line — the traditional "pearl snap" western shirt or a white cotton oxford-type shirt are permitted. Plain, dark-blue denim jeans must be worn. No fringe is allowed nor are jeans that button down the side. A Western hat or a safety helmet must be worn. Hats and helmets are optional in the speed events. A belt, tie, 4-H armband (left arm above the elbow) and riding boots must be worn.

Boots with waffle-type tread greater than or equal to 1/8" will not be allowed in riding classes. The judging event requires a long-sleeved white

shirt with 4-H armband or the short-sleeved white 4-H T-shirt, blue jeans, belt and boots. A tie must be worn with the long-sleeved shirt.

English Attire:

1. Helmet — ASTM approved helmet required in all jumping classes.
2. White or light colored shirt with stand up collar — can be long or short sleeves or sleeveless. If the weather is extremely hot, the judge may waive the jacket. In which case, the white or light colored shirt or a short sleeved polo shirt in any color is acceptable.
3. Armband — left arm above the elbow — must be worn with long or short sleeves or sleeveless.
4. Broach or pin for collar
5. Jacket
6. Breeches
7. Belt if breeches have loops
8. Long boots or half chaps with a paddock boot or garter straps with paddock boots are acceptable!

2009

LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 5–9

LANCASTER EVENT CENTER • 84TH & HAVELOCK • LINCOLN

The Lancaster County Fair Book has complete information about entering exhibits or participating in contests. Fair Books are available at the extension office and online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair>. Most of the following information is compiled from the Fair Book.

Change in Premium Payouts Procedure

All 4-H & FFA animal exhibitors will receive premium payouts as they exit the show arena. Participants in 4-H contests held DURING the county fair will receive their premium payout at the contest.

Premium payouts for all static exhibits and 4-H contests held PRIOR to the fair (such as Speech or Bicycle Safety) must be picked up on Sunday, Aug. 9, Noon–4 p.m. in the Fair Board Office. Premiums will not be paid out after 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug 9. With proper identification, parents, guardians, 4-H club leaders, FFA chapter advisors will also be permitted to pick up and sign for exhibitor premiums. No checks will be issued! No changes or corrections will be made on premium amounts after 14 days.

NEW!

New this year, gate admission tickets will be required at the Lancaster County Fair. The extension office has gate admission tickets FREE, available through Aug. 9.

For other locations to pick up gate admission tickets FREE, go to www.superfair.org
For same-day exit and re-entry, you can get a hand stamp from the gate attendant.

Livestock Changes

There have been several changes to the fair book for Livestock exhibitors. Here are some of the changes, please check your fair books for more details.

All Species: All animals must be stalled in the barns. Beef are allowed to stall outside in designated cattle tieout area.

Beef: No feeding animals in show arena. *Beef are not allowed in the show arena any time Friday morning before the dairy show.*

Blow and Go Rule: All beef exhibitors will be allowed only to wash, blowout and or/comb their animals. Any use of adhesives is prohibited. Exhibitors will be allowed to use coat dressings, conditioners and shaving creams only. *No use of products containing color additives or color transfer allowed.*

Swine: No feeding allowed in wash rack area to help eliminate clogging of the drain.

Babe Contest: There has been a new class added to this years Swine show. Please see page 61 of the fair book for more information.

Changes for Horticulture Exhibits

Changes have been made in the Horticulture area. Please keep these changes in mind when you are preparing your exhibits for the Lancaster County Fair.

1. Containers for flower exhibits will not be provided. Exhibitor must provide own container. Please have containers be the appropriate size for your flower exhibit. Make sure the container will not tip over when the flowers are put inside. The container will not be judged.
2. Paper plates for vegetables and fruit exhibits will not be provided. Exhibitor must provide sturdy, white paper plates.
3. Exhibits need to be ready to enter when you arrive at the fair. There will not be a preparation area to prepare your exhibits.
4. Entry cards must be completely filled out before arriving at the fair.

Entomology

4-H Entomology should have been included in the Fair Book. A Fair Book Entomology Addition is available at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair> and the extension office.

Photography Forms Online

4-H County Fair photography data tag forms parts A & B are now available as a fill-in PDFs online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair>

Furnishings on a Shoestring

The former Furnishings on a Shoestring project classes can now be found under Design Decisions:

- (C257014) Recycled or remade **article for the home**, made or finished by using common object or material in a creative way. Could be made from reused or recycled products.
- (C257015) Recycled or remade **piece of furniture** for the home, made or finished by using common object or material in a creative way. Could be made from reused or recycled products.

Food Booth Training, July 30

The 4-H food booth at the county fair is the primary fundraiser for Lancaster County 4-H Council. **New this year, 4-H Clover Kitchen will be located in the Exhibit Hall (see back page).** 4-H Council asks clubs to help by staffing a 3–4 hour shift at the Clover Kitchen. At any given time, 3–5 youth (age 9 & up) are needed with 2 adults supervising. Youth gain practical experience handling food safely and counting change. They also gain life skills, such as responsibility, critical thinking and social skills. For more information, call Robin Ambroz-Hollman at 540-2736. ALL food booth volunteers are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to attend the training on Thursday, July 30, 6–7 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, Exhibit Hall. Learn about food safety, customer service and volunteer responsibilities.

Static Exhibit Check-In Monday, Aug. 3, 4–8 p.m.

Static exhibits do not preregister, but MUST be physically checked in during Static Exhibit Check-in on Monday, Aug. 3 between 4–8 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln Room. An adult — such as a club leader or parent(s) — should assist 4-H members in entering exhibits. All entry tags, additional information, recipe cards, data tags, etc. MUST be attached at this time.

Interview Judging, Aug. 4

Interview judging is Tuesday, Aug. 4 starting at 9 a.m. in the Lincoln Room. 4-H'ers have the opportunity to talk to judges about their fair exhibits and share their trials and lessons they learned. 4-H'ers also learn what the judge looks for and how to improve skills. 4-H'ers may interview judge ONE exhibit from each project area. Refer to page 37 of the Fair Book for project areas which have interview judging. Members, parents or leaders can call the extension office at 441-7180 to sign up members for a five-minute time slot—preregister between July 6 and 31. If slots are still available, may sign up during Static Exhibit Check-in on Monday, Aug. 3, 4–8 p.m.

Volunteers Needed

Adults *and* youth are needed to help during the Lancaster County Fair. If you can help, please contact the extension office at 441-7180. Help is especially needed in the following areas:

- **Static exhibit set-up days** on Thursday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m. (pizza will be served) and Saturday, Aug. 1 at 8 a.m. (doughnuts will be served) in the Lincoln Room
- **During judging of static exhibits** on Tuesday, Aug. 4 in Lincoln Room
- **Teen tour guides are needed for Fair Fun Day** for child care groups on Friday, Aug. 7 at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Lil' Green** mascot and escorts on Friday, Aug. 7 for 1 or 2 hours shifts between 5:30–9 p.m. To be inside, should be age 14+, 5'3"–6'3" and waistline 38" or less.

Clover Kids Show & Tell, Aug. 8

All Clover Kids, youth age 5-7 by January 1, 2009, are invited to show & tell their 4-H exhibits at the Lancaster County Fair, Saturday, Aug. 8, starting at 1 p.m.

Clover Kids Show & Tell is held in the Lincoln Room at the Lancaster Event Center. Youth are also invited to do a skit or song at this time. See page 33 of the Fair Book for more information. To register, call 441-7180 by July 31, or sign up at the static exhibit area Monday, Aug. 3, 4–8 p.m.

Static Exhibit Release Time Sunday, Aug. 9, Noon–2 p.m.

All static exhibits will be released on Sunday, Aug. 9 between Noon–2 p.m. This includes 4-H and Open Class exhibits.



Get ready for fun at the 2009 Nebraska State Fair Friday, Aug. 28 through Monday, Sept. 7! For a schedule of 4-H at the state fair and more, go to <http://4h.unl.edu/programs/statefair>

Animal Entries Due Aug. 9

4-H & FFA animal exhibitors ages 10–18 are eligible to participate at the Nebraska State Fair regardless of county fair placing. **State Fair 4-H & FFA animal entry forms are due to Lancaster County 4-H staff no later than Sunday, Aug. 9 at the county fair.** Forms will be available online or at the livestock office at fair. Registration fees must be included with entries.

Static Exhibits

At the county fair, 4-H static exhibits will be selected for the Nebraska State Fair by the judges in the respective areas. A state fair sticker will be placed on all exhibits selected for state fair. 4-H members with qualifying static exhibits will receive information in the mail after County Fair about entering at the State Fair.

State Fair Gate Passes

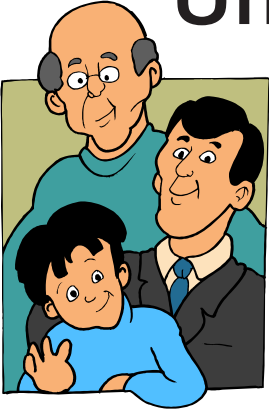
State Fair gate passes may be purchased and picked up at the extension office AFTER County Fair. These passes are for 4-H members and their immediate family only.

Volunteer at the 2009 Nebraska State Fair!

Hundreds of people volunteer their time and energy in making the 4-H section at the Nebraska State Fair incredibly successful. Along with the opportunity to participate in this great event, meet new people and provide assistance to fairgoers, each volunteer will receive a free parking pass and gate entrance pass to the State Fair for the day(s) they volunteer.

A schedule of events and volunteer times, as well as a volunteer interest form are online at <http://4h.unl.edu/programs/statefair>. For more information, contact Doug Swanson at 472-2805.

Understanding Generational Differences



How did you receive graduation invitations this year? You answer may be influenced by the year you were born. If you’re a member of Generation Y (1978–2003) & X (1961–1980), your answer may be through “Facebook,” an online social networking site or e-mail. Builders (1922–1943) and Baby Boomers (1943–1964) may prefer to get a personally addressed graduation invitation in the mail.

This is just one of many examples of ways people communicate differently based on their generation. In order to understand why different generations act the way they do, identify where you fit into the “Generation Timeline” on this page. Timelines vary slightly from research study to research study and specific cut-off dates are not absolute.

Generations take on specific personalities. The way we think and approach situations is influenced by what we have experienced during our place in history. Embracing what each generation contributes, improves relationships at home, work and in the community.

Resources:
• *Generations at Work: Managing the Clash of Veterans, Boomers, Xers and Nexters in Your Workplace*; Ron Zemke, Claire Raines, Bob Filipczak, 2000, American Management Association
• Suzanne Drew, Director of Staff Development and Management Facilities Management and Planning, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Presentation at Fall Conference

	BUILDERS 1922–1945 1922–1943	BABY BOOMERS 1943–1964	GENERATION X 1961–1983 1960–1980	GENERATION Y 1978–2003 1980–2000
Also known as	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TraditionalistsVeteransMatureWW II Gen.Silent GenerationSeniorsLoyalists“Greatest Generation” (Brokaw)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Boomers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">XersTwenty-somethingsPost BoomersBustersGen X	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MillenialsBridgersNextersGeneration YGeneration 2001Nintendo GenerationGeneration NetInternet Generation
Formative Experiences Defining events and trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none">WW I & WW IIRoaring TwentiesGreat DepressionPearl HarborRationingKorean WarAtomic BombFDR YearsGolden years of radioSilver screenRise of unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cold WarCivil RightsSpace RaceVietnam WarEnergy CrisisWatergate/ NixonTV in every homeRock & RollPolio vaccineProsperityChildren in the spotlightSuburbiaWomen’s LibSexual revolution (pill)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Roe vs WadeChallenger disasterFall of Berlin WallPersian Gulf WarClinton AdminKennedy/King AssassinationMoon landingWoodstockWater Gate/ NixonSingle momsLatch key kidsMTVAIDSComputers - Information explosionMc Jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9/11Oklahoma bombingsInternet accessKids shooting kidsPrincess Diana deathGlobalizationDesert StormIt takes a villageTV talk showsMulticulturalismGirls movementMcGuire & SosaIraq WarDownsizingLiving at home longer
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A dream	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A birthright	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Way to get there	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Incredible experience
Role of career	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Means for a living	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Central focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Irritant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Always changing
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hope to outlive it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Master it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enjoy it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Employ it
Defining idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Duty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Individuality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Relationship & family
Leisure is a	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reward for hard work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Point of life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Interwoven with work
On the job assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">StableDetail orientedThoroughLoyalHardworking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Service orientedWilling to go the extra mileGood at relationshipsGood team players	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AdaptableTechno-literateIndependentNot intimidated by authorityCreative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Collective actionOptimism; tenacityHeroic spiritsMulti-tasking capabilitiesTechnological savvyQuick decision making
On the job liabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inept with ambiguity and changeReluctant to buck the systemUncomfortable with conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Not budget mindedUncomfortable with conflict- reluctant to go against peersMay put process ahead of resultOverly sensitive to feedbackJudgemental of those who see things differently	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ImpatientPoor people skillsInexperiencedCynical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Need for supervision and structureInexperienced — particularly with handling difficult people issues
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Close familyMarriage honored	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Divorce increasesDispersed family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Latch key kidsNon-existentDysfunctional	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Comfortable with loose family structureNew respect for family
Mother	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Homemaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Working mother	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Single mother	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Single mother/single father
Marriage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Married once	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Divorced/ remarried	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Single parent/blended families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Undetermined
Major influences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Family & church	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Family & education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The media	<ul style="list-style-type: none">FriendsSimpson’sMedia & super stars
Entertain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Radio - no TV	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TV - 3 channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">30+ channels TVVCRNintendo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Surfing the netDVDPlay Station & X Box
Purchasing`	<ul style="list-style-type: none">With cash	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Credit card	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Struggling to purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Purchase online
Work is	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inevitable obligation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exciting adventure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Difficult challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Means to an end
Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Large teams with command & control (like the military)Like football & baseball - big teams with specialized roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">“It takes a village” — interconnected like a commune shared leadershipSmaller teams — like basketball — the person with the ball is in charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Small teams — can be virtual — no leadershipSolitary sports — like rock climbing & roller blading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Probably will be large and civic mined like VeteransTeams that include everyone — expect to see a resurgence of big teams again
View of future	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rainy day to work forSeek to stabilize	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Now is more importantCreate it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Uncertain but manageableHopeless	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AmbivalentOptimisticHopeful

Energy Vampires: Are Electrical Appliances Sucking Energy From Your Home?

Michael McKinney
UNL Partners in Pollution Prevention (P3) Intern

As I turn off the lights to go to sleep, my room is filled with an eerie blue- green glow. Cell phone charger and standby lights flicker, while the whir of electronics adds dull white noise to the scene. These sights and sounds are the calling cards of energy vampires.

Energy vampires are electrical devices that use energy even when not in use. Because these devices are always ready to operate or receive a signal, they constantly pull energy, even when turned “off”

Like vampires, they silently suck energy from your home, wasting energy and adding to your electric bill.

According to the EPA, an average American household spends about \$100 per year on this wasted energy. Sometimes called ‘phantom’ or ‘standby’ energy loss, this energy waste represents a small percentage of a household’s electrical use, but nationwide, the effect of energy vampires is adding up.

The EPA estimates in the United States, phantom energy loss results in 100 billion kilo-watt hours of energy waste annually. This waste costs consumers more than \$10 billion and releases over 70

million metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere annually.

The major energy wasting culprits in most homes are chargers for electronic devices which contain rechargeable batteries; things like cell phones, digital cameras, MP3 players and laptops. Most of these chargers pull the same amount of energy at all time—even when the device is not connected. Other places to look for energy wasters would be the home entertainment system, the computer desk and the night stand. Any electronic device with a standby or an energy saving mode is an energy vampire.

There is only one way to kill a vampire — unplug it. The simplest solution to phantom energy loss is to unplug all chargers and electronic devices. To save yourself the trouble of crawling under your desk and behind your entertainment system every day, simply plug all energy vampires into a surge suppressor power strip that has an on/off switch. Flip the switch before you go to work or before you go to bed and your house will be vampire free.

Eliminating energy wasters in your home is one small step towards energy conservation. It is a simple way to both prevent energy waste and save money.



EXTENSION CALENDAR

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

July

- 23 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest. 10 a.m.–12 p.m.**
28 4-H Horse Course Challenge 9 a.m.
29 County Fair 4-H Style Revue Judging, Lancaster Event Center,
Exhibit Hall 8 a.m.
30 4-H Food Booth Training, Lancaster Event Center,
Exhibit Hall 6–7 p.m.

August

- 2 County Fair 4-H Horse Show Pre-Fair Brief, Lancaster Event Center,**
Multipurpose Arena. 2:30 p.m.
3 Entry Day for County Fair Static Exhibits, Lancaster Event Center,
Lincoln Room. 4–8 p.m.
4 County Fair 4-H Horse Check-In, Lancaster Event Center
5–9 Lancaster County Fair, Lancaster Event Center
14 Extension Board Meeting 8 a.m.
18 Guardian/Conservator Training 5:30–8:30 p.m.
Aug. 28–Sept. 7 Nebraska State Fair, State Fair Park, Lincoln

Planning Department Seeks Input Expanded Rural Business in Lancaster County?

Working with the Lancaster County Board and the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission, the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department is looking at expanding the language in the current Lancaster Zoning Resolution for home occupations. There has been discussion of making more accommodation for home based business in the agricultural areas to allow employees and expand what could be done with an expanded home occupation. This would give home owners more flexibility in carrying on a business.

A report on “Expanding Home-Based Business in Rural Lancaster County” has been prepared by the Department and is available at <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/study/ruralbus/>

lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/study/ruralbus/

Currently a home based business or “home occupation” is limited to family members only, residing at the residence. No more than 20 percent of the total square footage of all buildings can be used for the business. Some residents have requested this be expanded to allow the hiring of employees, allow a larger area and allow more business uses. Currently such a change would require a change of zone to Business Zoning.

The Department has met with the County Board, Planning Commission, county agencies and many towns to define what might be desirable and what problems might arise. It appears there is a desire in the county to allow a more intense home based business if it is limited, has conditions and buffers and there is a public hearing and notification of neighbors. The Department is currently developing a draft change to the Zoning Code.

The Lincoln /Lancaster County Planning Department is very interested in comments and suggestions on how this might be crafted and issues to be addressed or avoided. If you have some ideas on this, please contact the department via the link on the Web site above and use the “comments” page, or contact:

Michael DeKalb
Lincoln\Lancaster County Planning Dept
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 441-6370

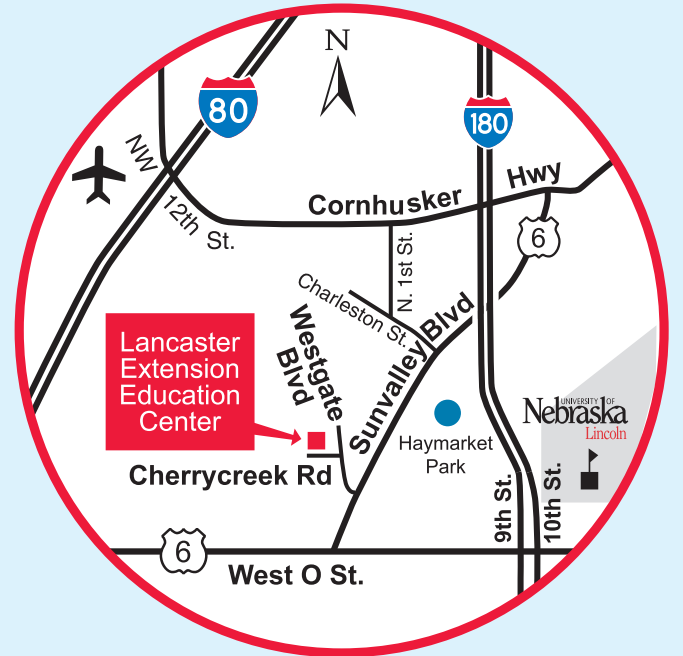


Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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Lancaster Extension Education Center Conference Facilities
444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln



UNL 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 441-7180.

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THE NEBLINE

THE NEBLINE is published monthly (except December) and mailed to more than 11,000 households in Lancaster County.

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Household Hazardous Waste Collections

No latex paint will be accepted at these household hazardous waste collections. These collections are for household only; not for businesses. Only residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County can bring items to collections. For more information, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 441-8040.

Saturday, Aug. 29
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Lincoln Industries,
600 W. E St.

Saturday, Sept. 19
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Veyance Tech,
4021 N. 56 St.

Saturday, Oct. 24
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Woods Park (31 & J St.)

Usable Latex Paint Exchange

Only full or nearly full cans of good usable latex paint will be accepted. Donated paint is free — if you need it, come and get it!

Friday, Sept. 18
3–7 p.m.
EcoStores, 530 W. P St.

Food Entrepreneur Assistance Program Seminar, Aug. 15

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Food Processing Center is offering a one-day seminar for all individuals interested in exploring the idea of starting a food manufacturing business. The “From Recipe to Reality” seminar will be offered on Saturday, Aug. 15. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Registration deadline is Aug. 3. Contact Jill Gifford at 472-2819 or jgifford1@unl.edu for an information packet.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Thursday, Aug. 6 • 6:30–8 p.m.
Lancaster Event Center, Lancaster Room



The Lancaster delegation of State Senators will hold a Senators’ Town Hall meeting at the Lancaster County Fair. The meeting will offer residents an opportunity to express their views and learn about issues currently impacting our state.

4-H Clover College is Hands-On Learning & Fun

Held each June, 4-H Clover College is a four-day series of hands-on workshops for youth presented by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County. Emphasis is on developing life skills through learning-by-doing. This year's Clover College, held June 16-19 featured 49 workshops and 726 total registrations! A special thank you to the 72 instructors and assistants! More photos are online at <http://lanaster.unl.edu/4h>



Rocketry



Basketball



Horse of Course



Perfect Purses



GPS Basics



Clover Kids

Photos by Vicki Jedlicka, UNL Extension in Lancaster County

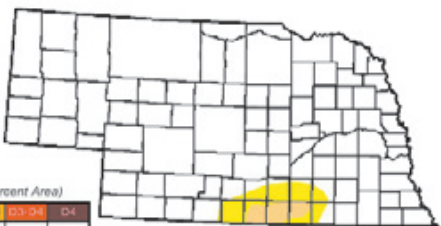
Can You Guess It?



Did you guess it? Find out at
<http://lanaster.unl.edu>
Did you guess it from the July NEBLINE?
Mosquito Larvae

U.S. Drought Monitor Map

As of July 7,
Lancaster County
was not in drought
conditions



	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)						
	None	D0-D1	D1-D2	D2-D3	D3-D4	D4	
Current	94.7	5.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Last Week (6/30/2009 map)	95.3	4.7	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	
3 Months Ago (4/14/2009 map)	89.3	10.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Start of Calendar Year (1/1/2009 map)	89.8	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Start of Water Year (10/1/2008 map)	83.0	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
One Year Ago (7/1/2008 map)	77.0	23.0	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	

Intensity:
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Drought - Moderate
D2 Drought - Severe
D3 Drought - Extreme
D4 Drought - Exceptional

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

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Clover Kitchen

4-H Council's concession stand at Lancaster County Fair



New name!
New location!

The **4-H Clover Kitchen** concession stand at the county fair is Lancaster County 4-H Council's primary fundraiser. A non-profit organization, 4-H Council financially supports several 4-H youth programs and activities such as:

- Achievement Night
- 4-H Kick Off
- Support for state and national contest registrations
- 4-H promotional activities
- College and camp scholarships



Valuable Coupon

\$1 OFF
any purchase
of \$5 or more

Clover Kitchen
in the Exhibit Hall

2009
LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 5-9 • LANCASTER EVENT CENTER
Please present before placing order. Limit one coupon per person per visit.
Good only during 2009 Lancaster County Fair at 4-H Clover Kitchen.