

Cherry County 4-H Alert

Spring Edition



Contact Information

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Want to stay up-do-date via text messages? Contact Andrea to sign up for our Remind App system!

Calendar of Events

UPCOMING DUE DATES (Bold=Local)

April 11 - CEA Contest Pre-Entry Deadline

May 1 - Cherry Co. 4-H Council Project & Club Grants

May 15 - Summer Sign-Up Deadline

June 1 - Livestock & Horse ID Forms

June 15 - 4-H Enrollment Deadline

June 15 - State Fair Livestock Nomination Deadline

June 30 - Clothing & Special Foods Contest Pre-Entry Forms

July 14 - Pre-Fair Entry Forms, YQCA, and Horse Levels

LOCAL EVENTS

* = open to Clover Kids ages 5-7

April 11 - *Jr. Robotics @ Ext. Office, 3:45-5:15 pm CT

April 12 - Sandhills Production Meeting @ VHS, 3:30-5:30 pm CT (Cody/Kilgore date coming soon)

April 14 - *CEA Contest @ Valentine Methodist Church, 5:00 pm CT

April 17-21 - Volunteer Week Zoom Lunch & Learn Sessions

April 18 - *Jr. Robotics @ Ext. Office, 3:45-5:15 pm CT

April 25 - *Jr. Robotics @ Ext. Office, 3:45-5:15 pm CT

May 1 - *Barn Quilt Kick Off Parent Meeting @ Ext. Office, 12:00-1:00 pm CT

May 20 - Thrift Store Challenge Field Trip (Upcycling Garments) to Rapid City

May 22 - Babysitting Basics Class @ Valentine, 8:30-4:30 CT

May 23 - *Niobrara Council Summer Camp Pre-K @ Valentine

May 24-25 - *Niobrara Council Summer Camp Grades K-1 @ Valentine

May 30 - *Livestock Judging Contest & Clinic @ Cherry Co. Fairgrounds, 9:00 am

May 30 - YQCA @ Cherry Co. Fairgrounds, 1:00 pm CT

May 31-June 1 - Regional LOG-N Leadership for Grades 5-7 @ Valentine

June 5-18 - Cherry Co. CWF Trip

June 5-6 - Design Camp @ Valentine

June 7 - *4-H Leads Summer Reading Program @ Valentine Library, 10:00-11:00 am

June 7 - *Clover Kid College @ Ext. Office, 1:00-5:00 pm

June 8 - Babysitting Basics Class @ Cody TBD, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm MT

June 9-10 - Heart City Cattle Battle w/ Showmanship & Fitting Clinics @ Cherry Co. Fairgrounds (not a 4-H sponsored event)

June 12 - Clothing 1 and Shopping in Style/Modeling Workshop @ Valentine, time TBD

June 13 - *Dog & Small Animal Workshops @ Valentine, TBD

June 14 - *4-H Leads Summer Reading Program @ Valentine Library, 10:00-11:00 am

June 15 - *Sign Workshops with Joanna Connot @ Cody & Valentine, TBD

June 19-23 - Missoula Children's Theater (not a 4-H sponsored event)

June 26-27 - Niobrara Council Summer Camp Grades 4-5 @ Valentine

June 28-29 - Niobrara Council Summer Camp Grades 2-3 @ Valentine

July 6-11 - Potential Photography, Foods, and Horticulture Workshops, TBA

July 12 - YQCA and *Clover Kid College @ Kilgore, TBD

July 13 - Clothing & Textiles Judging Day @ Ext. Office

July 17-18 - Mech Tech Field Trip (Tentative) for STEM & Robotics

July 19 - *Robotics Exploration Day @ Cody, 8:00-11:00 am MT

July 19 - *Clover Kid College @ Cody, 12:00-4:00 pm MT

July 20 - Special Foods Day & Cupcake Wars Contests @ Valentine, TBD

August 4-5 - Cherry Co. Fair Shooting Sports Contests

August 8-13 - Cherry Co. Fair 4-H Events

HIGHLIGHTED REGIONAL/STATE/NATIONAL EVENTS

May 22-June 8 - Tractor Safety Training (various locations/options)

May 25 - NCTA Animal Science Day

June 11-16 - Big Red Academic Camps (High School) @ Lincoln, NE

June 19-21 - State 4-H Youth Leadership Conference @ Camp Comeca

June 21-22 - PASE (Premier Animal Science Event) @ Lincoln, NE

June 23 - State Presentation & Speech Contest @ Lincoln, NE

June 27 - Agronomy Youth Field Day @ Curtis, NE

July 15-19 - State 4-H Horse Expo @ Grand Island

New - summer sign up form for 2023!

Our summer dates are almost set! We are going to try something NEW this year to help all of us plan. There will be a special form available on **May 1** with ALL summer learning experiences listed. Please mark everything you hope to attend and return the form to the Extension Office by **May 15**. Any workshops fees are due upon arrival at the event unless otherwise stated.



Some events are highlighted in this newsletter. Additional events will be highlighted with the release of the sign up form. Let us know if you have any questions on items on the current calendar. A few items are still in development such as horse practices/clinics, dog practices, and shooting sports practices.



4-H enrollment open, all volunteers MUST do DHHS screening this year in Cherry Co.!

Anyone participating in activities (Quilts of Valor, CWF, robotics, etc.) MUST re-enroll immediately, along with any active volunteers. Enrollment stays open through June 15 and you can add and drop projects during that open time. Don't forget that you must pay your \$5 enrollment fee to the Extension Office for the process to be complete. Plus, it's always best to work on your projects year-round, so don't hesitate to get started! **VOLUNTEERS - PLEASE NOTE THAT IN 2023, CHERRY COUNTY IS DUE IN THE 5 YEAR ROTATION FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS TO DO A NEW BACKGROUND CHECK THROUGH DHSS.**



Cherry County 4-H Council welcomes several new leaders!

The 4-H Council is here to serve YOU! Be sure to visit with members about ideas or suggestions you have for Cherry County 4-H. These individuals help lead committees, organize the annual Luck of the Draw fundraiser, play multiple roles at Fair and year-round events, handle decisions/issues related to the program, manage the program budget, and much more. We are pleased to announce that our two youth rep seats are filled this year!!! Youth ages 14 and up can run for 1-year terms.

President- Connor Barnes

Vice President - Sherry Slagowski

Treasurer- Laura Willert

Secretary- Hope Ramm

Additional members: Melanie Radant, Tami Danielski, Shalee Arendt, Katie Garwood, Billy Weller, Bodell Bachelor, Amanda Jones

Youth Members: Wesley Willert and Jocelyn Jordan

Grant money available for youth projects and clubs

The Cherry County 4-H Council has youth project grants and club grants available! Please see <https://extension.unl.edu/.../cherry-county-4-h-resources/> for more information and an application form. Applications are due May 1. Youth who receive funding for a project are expected to have a presentation board at the 2023 Achievement Day in the fall.



CWF sign up for 2025!

We are actively seeking more youth to enroll in the CWF 2025 cohort, and some youth are already fundraising for this trip. If you know of someone who will be 14 by June of 2025, have them get involved in this once-in-a-lifetime experience! The trip costs approximately \$3,000, so we encourage youth to start fundraising as soon as possible. Simply contact the office at 402-376-1850 to enroll. Youth do NOT need to be current 4-H members.

NEW age of eligibility for 4-H State Fair contests!

From the Nebraska State 4-H Office

With each new State Fair season, brings new possibilities and opportunities for 4-H families in Nebraska. The opportunity for 4-H to continue having its own weekend allows more flexibility for new events, entry limits, schedules, and space. We want to continue to take advantage of that!



As part of that process, we continue to explore age eligibility requirements for State Fair participation. After garnering user input, researching data from other events/shows/states, and looking that overall impact on youth development, the decision has been made to change **the age of eligibility in 2023 to be 9 years of age before January 1 (of the current year) for all in-person events (livestock, contests, fashion shows)**

More information will be forthcoming.

Please note, this change applies to State 4-H contests. The eligible age range for 4-H project enrollment is still 8-18, as of January 1. Clover Kids must be 5-7 years of age as of January 1.



Plan Your Year with the 4-H Diamond Clover Program

Want to learn how to start the Diamond Clover program for 2023?? Visit <https://4h.unl.edu/diamond-clover> and talk to Michelle! It's a great way to plan out your 4-H year and goals and take better advantage of everything 4-H has to offer (camps, after school, online, clubs, school enrichment, traditional clubs, etc.). Levels 4-6 are perfect for youth wanting to plan their own service projects and grow leadership skills. And after working your way through the 6 levels, you earn a Diamond Clover pin!

Communications & Expressive Arts Contest April 14, 2023

The annual Communications and Expressive Arts Contest will start at 5:00 pm CT at Valentine Methodist Church on April 14. 4-H leader, Angie Jordan, is willing to help edit your speech, give you pointers, etc. if you set up an appointment with her: 402-322-1233. Don't forget, there is a local cowboy poetry category too! *The PSA theme for 2023 is "Discover Your Spark in Nebraska 4-H" and the final electronic copy of your PSA must be e-mailed as a MP3 file to mgarwood3@unl.edu by April 11. All entry forms are also DUE April 11. See the [Cherry Co. 4-H website](#) for entry forms and a set of guidelines, or stop in the Extension Office for a copy.*



NEW for 2023!!! State Presentations Contest combined with State Speech June 23

The Nebraska State 4-H Presentations Contest will partner with the State 4-H Public Speaking Contest to create a combined state-level communications event – this event will be called the [Premier Communication Event](#) and will be held on the **University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus** on **Friday, June 23, 2023**.

Qualification will be similar to previous years and will be outlined in our county CEA guidelines.

Activities:

- Team Games
- Canoeing
- Hiking
- Service Learning Project
- Leadership Skills
- Creating Memories!
- And More!



LOGN

Leadership Opportunities for Growth in Nebraska 4-H

In partnership with the Niobrara Council

"RESILIENCE ON THE RIVER"

Location: Valentine, Nebraska

Date: May 31st-June 1st

Cost: \$80

(Scholarship maybe available, contact your local 4-H Council)

Grades: 5th-7th grade in 2022-2023

The University does not discriminate based upon any protected status. Please see go.unl.edu/nondiscrimination. Copyright (c) 2023



To Apply Contact:

Nebraska Extension-
Garden County - Sarah
308-772-3311

Box Butte County - Melissa
308-762-5616

Cherry County - Michelle
402-376-1850

Registration Form:

<https://go.unl.edu/logn2023>

Barn Quilt Kick Off Parent Meeting

Join us at lunch to learn about making quilts without sewing a stitch! We have traditionally offered this project in an ongoing "lab" setting during the summer with leader, Rhonda Cherry. Meet at the Extension Office from 12-1 on May 1 to discuss scheduling, supplies, techniques, and possible pattern choices. Barn Quilts come in different sizes and Clover Kids are welcome! Families are responsible for purchasing paint and the 4-H Council provides the other materials.





Thrift Store Challenge Field Trip to Rapid City May 20

Upcycling and vintage are all the rage! Did you know there is a 4-H project for that? Kick off the summer with a day trip to Rapid City to explore hidden treasures in thrift stores and dream up ways to upcycle or style your finds. This trip will be open for ages 8-18 and adult chaperones are encouraged. Register for this event on the Summer Sign Up form coming May 1. Families will be responsible for meals and garment purchases. Carpooling will be arranged or families may choose to travel on their own.

Babysitting Basics Classes

Want to start a new business venture this summer or boost your confidence to help out with your younger siblings? Become a UNL Extension Certified Babysitter through this course that covers the basics from safety to nutrition and age-appropriate activities. There will be an option to become certified in CPR and First Aid at a later date, if interested. This class is for ages 12 to 18. The class will be taught all in one day with two chances to join the fun.

May 22 @ the Extension Office, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

June 8 @ Cody/Kilgore site TBD, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm MT

Watch for the summer sign up form coming May 1 to register for this activity. This class is free.



Important Livestock Info!

Are you planning to take the **Sandhills Production** project for any species in 2023? There will be an informational meeting on **April 12 from 3:30-5:30 pm** (come and go as you can) in Mr. Nollette's room at Valentine High School. Please contact the Extension Office by that time if you plan to take this project in the Cody-Kilgore area so we can coordinate a second meeting time out West.

Parents/guardians/leaders are encouraged to attend with the youth.

Be sure to stop into the office soon to get **Livestock ID forms** (also available on our website) and **ear tags** for market animals. If you are planning to compete at State Fair, please let us know and pick up e-ID tags and DNA envelopes.

Sharpen your skills at the annual **Livestock Clinic & Judging Contest on May 30**. Doug Smith from NCTA will be our clinician again this year. The day will begin at 9:00 am at the Cherry County Fairgrounds. Clover Kids and adults are welcome! After Judging, there will be an in-person **YQCA** class at 1:00 pm at the Fairgrounds.

YQCA is required each year for all youth ages 8-18 enrolled in

class online at yqca.org or participate in an in-person class. In addition to the class offered after Livestock Judging, a second class will be offered in Cody on July 12, time TBD.

Important deadlines:

- **June 1** - All livestock IDs and Horse IDs due (includes photos of tagged market animals)
- **June 15** - State Fair Nominations Due (please inform Extension Office by June 1 if you are planning to nominate)
- **July 14** - Fair Pre-Entry Forms DUE along with proof of YQCA completion. Photos of tagged Feeder Calves due.

Stay in the loop!

- Watch your e-mail for **instructions on how to submit photos** of tagged market animals!
- We have a Cherry Co. 4-H Livestock **private Facebook group** - let us know if you want to join! It's a great way to keep up-to-date, especially with fast-moving information around Fair time.
- Also consider signing up for **Remind text messages** - contact Andrea at 402-376-1850.

Changes to the Horse program were in the last newsletter - basically there are no longer District Contests. The Cherry Co. 4-H Horse Packet will be coming soon! Visit the State website to learn about the State 4-H Horse Expo, along with deadlines and requirements!



Niobrara Council Summer Camp Partnership

We continue to enjoy a close partnership with Niobrara Council. If you are taking Outdoor projects in 4-H, these camps are a great way to work on your exhibits! Watch your backpacks for papers to come home from school, or contact the Niobrara Council at 402-376-2793. See dates on the calendar above.

Town & Country 4-H Club

The Town & Country 4-H Club continues to meet monthly to work on projects and help new and veteran families bond and learn more about the program! They meet from 3:45-5:00 pm at the Valentine Methodist Church during the school year. The last two school year dates are:

April 17

May 15



Summer meeting details:
12:30-3:00 pm
Valentine Methodist Church
June 15
July 11

Do you have 4-H club announcements? Send them to the Extension Office so we can include them in our newsletter and help you recruit new members!

Call for State Contests! Let's practice and develop teams!

Are you interested in participating in a State 4-H Competition this summer? Let us help you prepare and/or connect you with teammates! There are several to choose from, but here are a few highlights or learn more from the [State Fairbook](#):

- [Premier Animal Science Event](#) in Lincoln, June 21-22
- Horticulture Judging @ State Fair
- Weed and Grass ID, Tree ID @ State Fair
- Culinary Competition @ State Fair
- Robotics Showcase @ State Fair

2023 Special Gardening Project

This year, 4-H horticulture members will work with the Mrs. Burns' Lemon Basil which is a versatile plant that can add a lemony flavor to any recipe or a fresh scent to floral arrangements.

Visit 4h.unl.edu/sgp to learn more about the Special Garden Project and how to get started. Seeds are now available at the Extension Office.



2023 Special Agronomy Project

Youth taking the Special Agronomy Project this year will work with Tepary Beans (pronounced tep-uh-ree). These are among the most drought-tolerant legume crops in the world, but at one time, they were almost an endangered species in the United States.

Visit 4h.unl.edu/sap to learn more about the Special Agronomy Project and how to get started. The Cherry Co. Extension Office currently has seeds available.



Tractor Safety Training 2023

Tractor and farm equipment safety courses are now open for registration!

Teens 14 or 15 years of age who work on farms, or others who are interested in learning about tractor and farm equipment safety practices, can register for a safety training course offered at seven locations across Nebraska from May 22 through June 8.

Learn more at go.unl.edu/2023tractorsafety.

Nebraska State 4-H Youth Leadership Conference for High School Students

We have a new location and date for the 2023 Youth Leadership Conference (after the Halsey fire)! It will be held June 19-21 at [Comeca Camp and Retreat Center](https://www.comeca.org/).

The YLC Ambassadors are currently planning the conference, and more details will be shared as plans are finalized. Stay tuned to 4h.unl.edu/ylc for updates. Michelle is on the planning committee and carpooling will be available.





Calling all Nebraska 4-H volunteers!

You're invited to our Week of the Volunteer Lunch & Learn Series! We'll help you excel in your volunteer role and maximize your impact!

4-H Club Meeting 101 - Monday, April 17

Creating a Vibrant 4-H Club Experience - Tuesday, April 18

YOU Help Youth Thrive - Wednesday, April 19

Shared Leadership & Succession Planning for 4-H Clubs - Thursday, April 20

Find more details and register at 4h.unl.edu/volunteer-lunch-learn.



SAVE THE DATE

4-H HORSE CAMP

June 8-10, 2023

Fort Robinson State Park

Crawford, NE



*"Through These Doors Have Walked
Some of the World's Finest Horsemen"*



ANIMAL SCIENCE DISCOVER DAY



Youth ages 8-18 will interact with Animal Science faculty and educators, gain knowledge of the livestock industry and explore careers in animal science.

May 25, 2023

9:00am - 3:00pm CT

NCTA Campus in Curtis, NE

Cost: \$15 includes lunch

Register by May 21

Late registrations \$20

Registration link:

<https://cvent.me/mP1GMA>

When registering you will need a separate email for each child. To pay for multiple children register first child then click "Add Group Member" to add next child.



Tuesday, June 27, 2023
9:00 am - 3:30 pm
NCTA's Educational Center,
Curtis, NE



7TH ANNUAL AGRONOMY YOUTH FIELD DAY



Two Different Age Tracts

Open state wide to ALL youth ages 9-18 as of 1/1/23. Parents and adults are welcome! FREE event with lunch provided by Ag Valley Coop.



Hands on Activities

Learn how agriculture is changing with precision technology; benefits of cover crops; how to tell if soil is healthy; explore plant growth by dissecting plants; understand importance of weeds & herbicide application technology; how to scout crops for insects; & fly a miniature drone!

Sign Up

Register Today!

Register online at go.unl.edu/agronomy-youth-field-day or by scanning the code by June 20th. For more information, contact Nebraska Extension-Frontier County at (308)367-4424 or email kathy.burr@unl.edu.



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ADVENTURE TOGETHER ACROSS NEBRASKA WITH 4-H CAMP



Chadron

June 5-9

Experience Nebraska via horseback, hiking, and with a trip down the Super Slide! Then see the prehistoric Agate Fossil Beds for a week of exploring Nebraska's wilderness; both past and present.



Cozad

June 16-20

Challenge yourself with high ropes, zipline, and a rock wall! Work together with your new friends for a canoeing adventure, and round out your day with gaga and 9 square in the air!



Ashland

June 26-29

Have an "in-tents" outdoor adventure at Mahoney State Park. Cook by the campfire, explore the tree canopy on the ropes course, and make a splash going down the slide at the pool!



Burwell

July 16-20

Explore the flora and fauna with a week on the river front! Explore the North Loup River, go geocaching, tracking, and don't forget about playing an epic game of capture the flag!



Louisville

July 27-30

Close out the summer with an "in-tents" experience at Platte River State Park. Practice your aim at the archery range, investigate the aquatic life at Crawdad Creek, and enjoy s'mores and songs with your new friends!



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4h.unl.edu/camp

