

# Holt-Boyd Counties

## 2025 Impact At-A-Glance



[holt-boyd.unl.edu](http://holt-boyd.unl.edu)



Nebraska's rangelands cover nearly half the state, from shortgrass to tallgrass prairies, and are vital for wildlife, soil, water, and ranching. As grasslands shrink worldwide, the need for knowledgeable caretakers and conservationists continues to grow. For more than 70 years, Nebraska Range Judging Contests have helped meet that need, hosting seven contests annually with 2,000 youth participating in 2025. Students head outdoors to identify native plants, analyze soils, and examine how grazing, weather, and management decisions shape the land. Along the way, they learn from one another, solve real-world problems, and build conservation and leadership skills. "Range judging boils down to learning in a competitive way," says Jerry Volesky, Nebraska Extension Range Specialist and longtime committee member. These contests connect young Nebraskans to the land, inspiring care for the prairies that define our state's history—and its future.

**NEBRASKA EXTENSION is  
RELENTLESSLY RELEVANT.**



**EXPLORE ALL 2025  
IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS**

**948**

youth participated in Extension programming in Holt and Boyd counties.

**5,003**

childcare providers hours were awarded from "Fit and Healthy Kids" programming.

**410**

youth participated in traditional 4-H in Holt and Boyd counties.

**STRENGTHEN NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS**

**INSPIRE NEBRASKANS &  
THEIR COMMUNITIES**

**ENHANCE THE HEALTH  
& WELLBEING OF ALL  
NEBRASKANS**



Nebraska 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. Nebraska Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture. ©2025