

2026 Madison County Fair

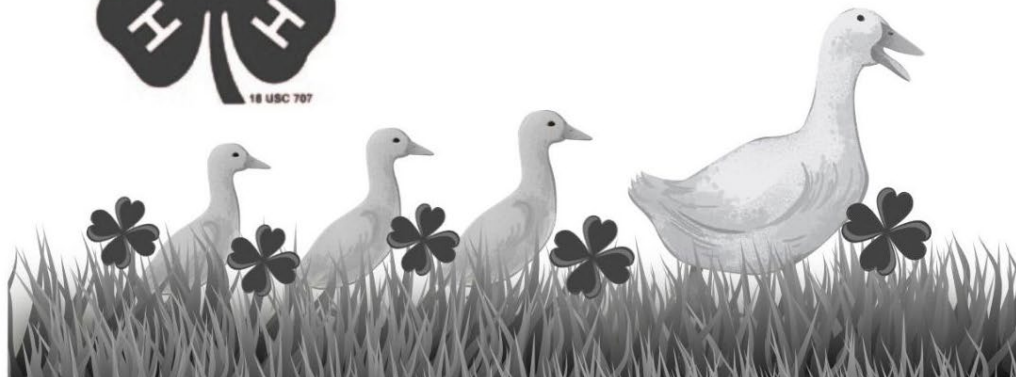
4-H Fairbook



READY TODAY



**LEADING
TOMORROW**



Madison County Fair & Rodeo
July 6-12, 2026

Cover image created by: Aubree Knapp, 4-H Member of the Pioneers 4-H Club

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Betty Books, 4-H Support Staff

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

4-H is "Learning by Doing". Nebraska Extension in Madison County and the Madison County Agricultural Society urges ALL 4-H members to “learn by doing” his or her own project work throughout the year. They also recognize that 4-H is a family affair and that at times 4-H’ers need family ASSISTANCE. They hope that each family will recognize the times that assistance is needed and the times that the member needs to learn on his or her own.

*** Symbolizes entries which are not eligible for State Fair.**

Where 4-H age is specified, the age is before January 1 of the current year. To be eligible to exhibit at county fair, a 4-H member must have reached his / her eighth birthday but not have passed his / her nineteenth birthday by January 1 of the current year.

*If your birthday is on January 1, your 4-H age is the age you were on December 31.

*If you turn eight on January 1, your 4-H age is 7.

*If you turn nine on January 1, your 4-H age is 8.

4-H Cloverbud members age 5–7 before January 1 of the current year may also exhibit projects. Cloverbuds will receive a participation ribbon or prize but no premiums.

The Fairbook can be located at: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/4-h/madison-county-4-h-fairbook/>

Nebraska Extension in Madison County Phone: 402-370-4040

Madison County Fairgrounds Office Phone: 402-454-2144

Tickets for the Madison County Fair and Rodeo
are available for purchase at etix.com.

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GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

Failure to follow rules and regulations could result in the potential dismissal from the 4-H event and / or 4-H program as deemed appropriate by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Staff and Administration.

Rule 1. While the greatest possible care will be executed by the management to protect patrons of the Madison County Fair, each individual will be held personally responsible for his or her actions and the management will not be accountable or responsible for any injury.

Rule 2. Madison County Agricultural Society management assumes no liability for loss or damage to any property to the concessionaire, exhibitor, or patron, due to theft, fire, tornado, weather conditions or other causes.

Rule 3. Deadlines: All pre-entry forms are due or need to be postmarked by June 15, 2026, to the Madison County Extension office to be eligible to exhibit at the 2026 Madison County Fair.

1. If a Livestock ID or Pre-Fair Entry deadline is missed, a \$20 fee per member per occurrence may be paid within seven calendar days without addressing the 4-H Council. A family may file a written excuse with the 4-H Council to justify a missed deadline; the committee will meet to discuss and vote on whether to accept the late entry.
2. All 4-H/FFA livestock, horses and small animals must be in place at the specified time on the 4-H fair schedule. Late entries will be lowered with a ribbon placing in all classes.
3. All 4-H/FFA static exhibits must be judged during the times specified on the fair schedule.
Late entries will be lowered a ribbon placing and will not be eligible for the State Fair.

Rule 4. All entries must be owned by the exhibitors; all agricultural and horticultural exhibits must be products of the present year, except crops not yet harvested in this year or canned goods canned after the 2025 county fair. In such cases, last year's crops or canning may be exhibited.

Rule 5. When there is no competition in a class, and no purple ribbon is awarded, the grand or reserve awards WILL NOT be given. Exhibit or exhibitor must receive a purple ribbon to be awarded the grand or reserve champion award.

Rule 6. In case of protest, a written statement setting forth the reasons for protesting must be filed with the Grievance Committee within 24 hours of the incident. A \$100.00 cash deposit must accompany each protest and is refundable if the protest is upheld. Cash will be deposited into the 4-H Council account.

1. The Extension Office together with 4-H council grievance committee will have the authority to make the appropriate decision. These decisions will be formulated using state 4-H policy and national directives as formulated by this policy or as dictated by law.
2. All protests must include names of persons involved, cause of complaint or appeal, situation and documentation, recommendation for correction, specific action, rule, etc., in question and additional persons the committee may contact for further clarification.
3. Procedures and/or steps carried out by the person involved prior to submission of the protest to the protest committee.
4. Protest will not be accepted after the exhibit or event/activity is completed/released.
5. All protests will be acknowledged after receiving the written protest and deposit and will be responded to in a timely manner.
6. Protests related to judges' integrity, decision, placings, or other evaluations will not be accepted.

7. The committee may call for a face-to-face meeting with affected persons for clarification and to discuss the situation. Failure of the protester to attend the meeting will result in no action and forfeiture of the deposit.
8. In cases of protest, the 4-H member/parent/leader may continue to participate. Results of the participation will be subject to change based on the outcome of the protest process.

Rule 7a. – Static Exhibit Release Times.

1. All static exhibits must remain within the enclosure during the fair and cannot be removed until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday except for those modeling during the fashion show on the Saturday day of the fair.

Rule 7b. – Animal Release Times.

1. Animals will be released at 8am on Sunday morning unless prior approval from Extension staff is approved.
2. If an exhibitor removes an animal or static exhibit without permission, from the extension office staff, before scheduled release time, the exhibitor will forfeit all ribbon placing rewarded to the animal/item removed.
3. NO VEHICLES OR TRAILERS will be permitted on the grounds after 4 PM on Sunday.
4. Animals are welcome to stay on the grounds until the last day of the fair, however, must be removed by 4pm on Sunday.

Rule 8. Superintendents will oversee everything in their respective departments and will make joint decisions with extension staff while abiding by the 4-H Policy and Procedures Handbook.

Rule 9. In case there are insufficient funds to pay premiums in full, they will be prorated and paid accordingly. Premiums are to be picked up either on the last day of fair or at the Extension office prior to October 1. All premiums are forfeited on October 1.

Rule 10. Exhibits can be entered in **ONLY one county fair**.

Rule 11. Supporting information requirements are outlined by each respective department. Requirements at the county fair may differ from those at the state fair. Any exhibit missing required supporting information at the State Fair will be lowered one ribbon placing.

Rule 12. The judge's decision, whatever it may be, should be accepted. When an exhibitor or exhibitor's parent, leader, trainer, or friend is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, such as overt coaching or assistance to the 4-H member while he or she is competing, show management (Judge, 4-H Council, Extension Staff, Superintendent, and / or Fair Board) may suspend such exhibitor's right to participate in future classes or shows. The exhibitor's parent, leader, trainer, or friend can be barred from the show grounds for unsportsmanlike conduct or improper behavior.

Rule 13. Adults will conduct themselves in a manner reflecting a positive model for 4-H Youth.

Rule 14. No firearms, items with a blade (broad heads, knives, saws, etc.) or related items of any other kind, may be exhibited. This applies to actual items, replicated items, and item parts. Shooting sports accessories are permissible as described in the Conservation, Wildlife, and Shooting Sports sections.

Rule 15. All Exhibits must be age-appropriate and contain content suitable for a 4-H member ages 5-18. Questionable content will be discussed for approval at the discretion of the superintendent and 4-H Council, if deemed necessary.

*Note: Throughout the fair book, references to project manuals are made. To purchase these manuals, visit the UNL Marketplace at marketplace.unl.edu/ne4h/ or the 4-H Mall at shop4-h.org.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES & REGULATIONS

Rule 1. Paper copies of Livestock ID Sheets / Affidavits are due to the Extension Office by **June 15** to be eligible to show at the 2026 Madison County Fair.

- a. This includes Horse, Beef, Bucket Calf, Sheep, Goat, Dairy, Swine, Poultry, and Rabbit.
- b. Animals nominated for Ak-Sar-Ben and State Fair must also be included on a County ID sheet to be eligible to show at the County Fair.

Rule 2. Livestock health requirements, if any, will be published before fair; copies will be available at the Nebraska Extension in Madison County.

Rule 3. Mandated Quality Assurance Training:

The 4-H Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Course teaches youth about the quality of meat and food products that come from livestock. Quality assurance for livestock producers means making a promise to the consumers, or the people who consume the meat, eggs, milk, and dairy products from food production animals. The promise is that producers will do everything possible to ensure products from livestock will be the highest possible quality and safe.

Completion Requirements for 4-H Youth

4-H youth ages 8–18 who are enrolled in a livestock project (beef, bucket calf, dairy cattle, dairy goat, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and hogs) are required to complete the Livestock Quality Assurance Online Course by June 15, 2026, to complete the YQCA requirements.

Substitute showmen must also complete YQCA and adhere to the deadline requirements.

Rule 4. Back Tags: Each 4-H and FFA member will have their own unique number printed on a back tag. Exhibitors must wear this number on their backs while exhibiting animals. These tags will be available at the 4-H Office during the fair. Also, substitute showmen must wear the owner's back tag number while in the show ring.

- a. Horse Exhibitors will be required to have three tags; attach one to each side of the saddle blanket and one on the exhibitor's back.
- b. Small Animal Exhibitors (cat, poultry, etc.) will receive a name tag at the show with the exhibitor's number.

Rule 5. Grooming of Livestock: Preparation and grooming of an animal should be the primary responsibility of the exhibitor; however, assistance may be provided by immediate family members of the exhibitor.

Rule 6. Dress Code: When showing large or small animals, exhibitors should prioritize wearing the sponsored exhibitor shirt while showcasing their animals. However, if the shirt becomes unwearable due to dirt, sweat, etc., a 4-H shirt is permissible and will not impact the final ribbon placement. Blue jeans are appropriate. Hats shall not be worn when in the show ring. Boots are encouraged. Tennis shoes or sandals are NOT allowed while showing large animals. (continued on page 7)

- a. Dairy Dress Code: Exhibitors are required to wear long jeans / pants and boots, long sleeves, white button up shirt with 4-H Chevron on sleeve. No hats, caps, or other types of headgear are to be worn during any portion of the show.

b. Horse Dress Code: Dress code is set forth in the “4–H Horse Show and Judging Guide,” available for order at UNL Marketplace.

Rule 7. Code of Conduct: All livestock exhibitors must agree to the conduct by checking and digitally signing your online enrollment. This online form shall also serve as an acknowledgement of having read the fair book and a willingness to abide by the rules.

Rule 8. Feed must be furnished by the exhibitors. NO STRAW will be allowed. All the bedding will be furnished. Additional bedding will be available on the grounds. Shavings will ONLY be used for hogs, sheep, goats, and horses. Beef and dairy bedding will be provided in designated areas.

Rule 9. All livestock exhibitors must clean their stalls / pens.

Rule 10. Livestock can only be shown in one class, with the exception of showmanship. For example, a breeding animal cannot also be shown as a market animal.

Rule 11. The exhibitor will declare whether the animal is a breeding animal or market animal by the county deadline of June 15, 2026.

Rule 12. The first trip over the scale is the weight the superintendent will use.

Rule 13. Once livestock has been unloaded, it is to remain on the grounds until dismissal.

Rule 14. For the safety of people and livestock, fans cannot be placed in the aisle or behind the animal. All working/moving parts must be enclosed.

Rule 15. No electronic communication devices will be allowed by exhibitors while in a class.

Rule 16. To show livestock in Madison County Fair as an FFA Member, you either need to live in Madison County or go to school in Madison County or be a part of an FFA chapter in Madison County. Must be 18 years of age or younger as of January 1 of the current year.

2026 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

***Events subject to change without notice.**

JUNE 15 —Deadline to the extension office for:

- All 4-H and FFA Livestock ID Sheets (Horse, Market Beef, Breeding Beef, Feeder Calf, Cow / Calf Pair, Bucket Calf, Return Bucket Calf, Market Sheep, Breeding Ewes, Market Goat, Breeding Market Goat, Dairy Goat, Market Swine, Dairy, Poultry, and Rabbit)
- Vaccination Forms for Dog and Cat
- 4-H and FFA Pre-entry Forms
- 4-H and FFA YQCA
- County Horse Level Testing
- Fashion show forms (pink sheets)

Thursday, June 25

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Fairgrounds 4-H Clean-up

Friday, June 26

4-H Bucket Calf Record Book due to the Extension Office

Monday, July 6

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Interview judging of **ALL 4-H** static exhibits except Foods and Gardening, Madison County Fairgrounds

1:00 PM-7:00 PM- **OPEN CLASS ONLY:** Exhibit Check In for non-perishable and perishable items. This will coincide with the 4-H judging day of some of the static exhibits, but no judging will occur for Open Class items.

Tuesday, July 7

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 4-H Interview Judging of Foods and Gardening, 4-H Building

8:00 AM -11:00 AM- **OPEN CLASS ONLY:** Exhibit check in all exhibits. Exhibits received after 11:00 A.M. will be displayed but not judged.

1:00 PM - Open Class Judging and 4-H Building set up.

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 4-H / FFA Assigned Stalls and Pens Available for: Horse and Livestock, except Lactating Dairy and Feeder Calves, Small Animals, except Dog, Cat, or Companion Animal.

No Trailers are allowed to enter the grounds after 5pm.

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 4-H Building Open

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Commercial Building Open

7:30 p.m. MID-STATES CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO, Grandstand Arena

10:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Dance with DJ Fraemer, Activity Center

Wednesday, July 8 -- 4-H Day at the Fair

**All Livestock, Horses, and Small Animals Must Be in Place by Noon (refer to General Rule #3)
Except for lactating Dairy, Feeder Calves, Dog, Cat, and Small Animals.**

9:00 a.m. Swine Check-in / Weigh-in

10:00 a.m. 4-H / FFA Dog Show & Open Class Show, TBA

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. 4-H Building Open

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Open Class Building Open

11:00am – 9:00 p.m. Commercial Building Open

12:00 p.m. – All Animals must be in place.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sheep and Goats Check-in / Weigh-in

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Bucket Calf Check-in / Weigh-in

2:00 p.m. Beef Cattle, Breeding Beef, and Market Beef Check-in / Weigh-in

4:30 p.m. 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, South Side of Livestock Arena

6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Heart of America Carnival Open

7:10 p.m. 4-H Members meet by 4-H Office to walk to the Grandstand for introduction prior to the rodeo; wear your 4-H T-shirt.

7:30 p.m. MID-STATES CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO & 4-H NIGHT, Grandstand Arena

10:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Dance with DJ Fraemer, Activity Center

Thursday, July 9

8:30 a.m. Dairy Show, North Side of Livestock Arena

Lactating cows must be in place by 9:00 a.m.

Dairy Goat Show to follow Dairy Show

9:00 a.m. 4-H / FFA Horse Show, Grandstand Arena

ALL CLASSES - All English, Halter, Showmanship, Pleasure, Horsemanship, Trail, Reining, Western Riding, Poles, and Barrels.

9:30 a.m. 4-H / FFA Hog Show, South Side of Livestock Arena

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Open Class Building Open

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. 4-H Building Open

11:00am – 9:00 p.m. Commercial Building Open

1:00 p.m. 4-H / FFA Rabbit Show, Small Animal Building

4-H Bucket Calf Interviews, 4-H Office

2:00 p.m. Cloverbud

3:00 p.m. Beginning Bucket Calf

3:30 p.m. Advanced Bucket Calf & Second-year Bucket Calf

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dairy Educational Event, Northside of Livestock Arena and stalling area

6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Heart of America Carnival Open

7:00 p.m. – Quilt of Valor Presentation, Grandstand Arena

7:30 p.m. MID-STATES CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO & VETERAN NIGHT, Grandstand Arena

10:00 p.m. – 1 a.m. Neon Lights - Dance, Activity Center

Friday, July 10

9:00 a.m. 4-H / FFA Sheep Show (including bottle lamb), South Side of Livestock Arena

4-H / FFA Meat Goat Show to Follow Sheep Show (including bottle goat)

9:00 a.m. 4-H / FFA Cat Show, Activity Center

Open Class Cat Show to Follow

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Open Class Building Open

Friday, July 10 continued.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. 4-H Building Open

11:00am – 9:00 p.m. Commercial Building Open

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Stocker Feeder Weigh-in (must in place by 1:00 p.m.)

1:30 p.m. 4-H / FFA Beef Show, North Side of Livestock Arena

3:00 p.m. 4-H / FFA Companion Animal Show, 4-H Office

6:00 – 11:00 p.m. Heart of America Carnival Open

7:00 p.m. Opening Act – Country Music Singer: **ADAM CALVERT**

8:30 p.m. Main Event: Country Music Artist: **SAWYER BROWN**

10:00 p.m.- 1 a.m. TBA Dance, Activity Center

Saturday, July 11

7:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Breakfast, Food Court

9:00 a.m. 4-H Bucket Calf Show, North Side of Livestock Arena

Show Order (subject to change):

-Cloverbud

-Beginning Bucket Calf

-Advanced Bucket Calf

-Second-year Bucket Calf

10:00 a.m. 4-H / FFA Poultry Show, Small Pet Building

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Open Class Building Open

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. 4-H Building Open

11:00am – 9:00 p.m. Commercial Building Open

1:00 p.m. – Kids Tractor Pull – sponsored by the Madison County Sheriff's Office, TBA

3:00 p.m. – 4-H Fashion Show, Indoor Arena

4:00 – 11:00 p.m. Hearts of America Carnival Open

7:00 p.m. Opening Act: **SONS OF HABIT**

8:45 p.m. Main Event: **OLE 60**

10:00 p.m. – TBA, Activity Center

Sunday, July 12

8:00 a.m. – Release of 4-H Animals

TBA - Church Service, Activities Center

10:00 am. – 4:00 p.m. Open Class Building Open

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 4-H Building Open

11:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. – 4-H Fun Day Events (flyers will be posted with schedule of events)

11:00am – 5:00 p.m. Commercial Building Open

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Payment of 4-H Premiums, 4-H Office

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Release of 4-H Exhibits, 4-H Building

4:00 p.m. – All 4-H Animals and Trailers need to be off the grounds by 4pm.

4:00 – 10:00 p.m. Heart of America Carnival Open

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Payment of Open Class Premiums, Open Class Building

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Release of Open Class Exhibits, Open Class Building

6:00 p.m. 4-H Office Closed

6:00 p.m. – Extreme Rodeo by Double S Bull Co. – gates open at 4 p.m.

Monday, July 13

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Pick up Large 4-H Exhibits at the Fairgrounds

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Pick up Large 4-H Exhibits at the Fairgrounds

DEPARTMENT A – CITIZENSHIP

Superintendent Jamie Thomas

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

DIVISION 120 – CITIZENSHIP

Exhibits are to foster civic responsibility and action within the diverse areas of citizenship including community service, service learning, government, and policymaking.

Supporting Information Required: Entries must include the following: What did you learn about citizenship while creating this exhibit? **References:** All 4-H members should reference material sources or supporting information about if outside sources were used to create exhibits (i.e., if questions from a game were taken from an outside source, they must be referenced). **Label** each entry with the exhibitor's name, club, and county.

State Fair Information: Multi-media presentations are to be uploaded to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing.

Please note: Exhibits are entered at 4-H's own risk. We will not be responsible for loss or damage to family heirloom items or any items in this division. Displays should not be larger than 22" x 28" wide. Display collections securely in an attractive container no larger than 22" x 28". (larger exhibits are acceptable, but not state fair eligible)

Each exhibitor is limited to one item per class.

Classes:

1. Care Package Display – This exhibit is a display about the PROCESS of creating and giving a care package, not the actual care package. You may use a poster, PowerPoint or another multi-media program to describe the process of developing and giving a care package to a service organization. PowerPoint should be saved to a USB / thumb drive. **These options are allowed for county fair only.** All State Fair qualified Multi-media presentations are to be uploaded to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing. Include the following questions in your exhibit:

- 1) How did you select the organization?
- 2) What items did you include in your care package?
- 3) Why did you select those items?
- 4) How did it feel to present your care pack to the organization?
- 5) What did you learn from this experience?
- 6) Other information that you feel is important about the care package or organization.

Examples include: Backpack for school supplies, litter pan for animal shelter items, suitcase for abuse or homeless shelter, etc.

2. Citizenship Game – Design a game which could include but is not limited to symbol flash cards, question and answer board or stimulation with props. Clear game instructions and objectives must be included.
3. Patriotic or Cultural Fine Arts – Design art relevant using any media.
4. Public Adventure Scrapbook – Describe a 4-H member's Public Adventure or Service-Learning Activity. Scrapbook must measure no more than 16" x 16."

5. Public Adventure Poster – Describe your Public Adventure or Service-Learning Activity. Posters must be stiff enough to stand when supported from behind and below. Length and width no more than 24" x 28".
6. Written or Recorded Stakeholder Interview –Follow the outline found in the Public Adventures Curriculum. It may be written or recorded.Recordings can be saved as a .wav or .mp3 file; a USB / thumb drive. These options will be accepted at county level only. State Fair qualified entries must-upload to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing. Voice tone should be normal and conversational. Attach a copy of the written essay.
7. Written Citizenship Essay – Designed to promote good citizenship and patriotism. All essays should be 300 – 400 computer-generated words. This essay is open to all age groups.
8. *For the 9th–12 Grades Only* – address the theme “Freedom’s Obligations” in three to five minutes. No background music, singing or other enhancement allowed. Upload to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing. For county fair only, essays can be saved as a wav or mp3 file; a USB / thumb drive will be accepted. Voice tone should be normal and conversational. A copy of the written essay should be attached.
9. Service Items – Non perishable items created for donation. Examples include but are not limited to lap quilts, Quilt of Valor, and homemade toys. Attach an explanation of who the recipient was and how the service project was made and used. The service item could be part of a larger community service effort.
10. 4–H Club Exhibit – Depict what a 4–H club has done in the area of community service. This item could include but is not limited to a service item, poster, scrapbook, and cultural or creative arts item or care package, or Quilt of Valor.

DIVISION 130 – SEEING i2i

Classes:

1. Cultural Fine Arts – Design a piece of art that reflects and symbolizes a culture's unique identity, using the medium of your choice.
2. How are We Different? Follow the interview guide in the participant manual on page three and reflect on the differences and similarities between you and the person you are interviewing.
3. Name Art – Design a piece of art that symbolizes or explains where your name came from and what it means using the media of your choice.
4. Family History – Create a depiction that highlights a 4-H member’s family cultural history or the ethnic composition of your community. Include details about the first settlers, their origins, and evidence of their cultural background that still exists today—such as community or family celebrations, museum exhibits, educational displays, or historical markers.
5. Cultural Food Exhibit – Share the story of a cultural food that’s meaningful to your family. Your entry can be written as a story or essay.
6. “This is Who I Am” Poem.
7. Poster – Depict what the 4-H member has learned through the Seeing i2i Project.
8. Biography –Written about a historical figure that has made a positive impact on our society or who have made a difference in the lives of others.
9. Play Script – written respectfully about a different culture.

DEPARTMENT A – HERITAGE

Superintendent Jamie Thomas

Purple \$2.50 Blue \$2.00 Red \$1.50 White \$.50

The purpose of the 4-H Heritage project is to acquire knowledge, develop a connection to the past, and share the story of a 4-H member's heritage and history around them. An exhibit may include items, pictures, maps, charts, recordings, drawings, illustrations, writings, or displays that depict the heritage of the member's family or community or 4-H history. Please note: Exhibits are entered at 4-H'ers own risk. We will not be responsible for loss or damage to family heirlooms or any items in this division.

Supporting Information required: All entries must include documentation: birth dates, death dates, marriage dates, identification of individuals included in the exhibit, or stories related to the subject of the exhibit. Pictures and other hanging items must have a wire hanger for display purposes. Display collections securely in an attractive container no larger than 22" x 28". Include Name, County, Age, and Past Experience (years in the project) on the back of the exhibit.

DIVISION 101 – BEGINNING

Classes:

1. Heritage Poster or Flat Exhibit – Entries may be pictures, posters, items that depict family heritage. Exhibit must be supported by a written explanation.
2. Family Genealogy / History Notebook – Include pedigree charts/family group sheets, with documentation for two–three generations of one family line, expanding each year. If multiple books are included in the exhibit, only bring books with most current year's work.
3. Local History Scrapbook/Notebook – Scrapbook or notebook that depicts history of local community or Nebraska that helps youth appreciate their heritage.
4. Framed Family Groupings (or Individuals) – Show family history. Pictures must be supported by a written explanation.
5. Other Exhibits – Exhibit must be supported by a written explanation. May include biographical albums of themselves or another family member, family cookbooks, etc.
6. 4-H History Scrapbook – A scrapbook relating to the 4-H history of a local club or county. Must be work of an individual 4-H member, no club projects. If multiple books are included in the exhibit, only bring books with most current year's work.
7. 4-H History Poster – Relate 4-H history of local club or county or individual.
8. Story or Illustration about a Historical Event.
9. Book Review – Review books about local, Nebraska or regional history.
10. Other Historical Exhibits – Attach an explanation of historical importance.
11. Family Traditions Book – Exhibitor scrapbook depicting family traditions of the past
12. Family Traditions Exhibit – Story or illustration of a family tradition or event. Exhibits must be supported by a written explanation.
13. 4-H Club/County Scrapbook – Scrapbook relating to the 4-H History of local club or county compiled by club historian. If multiple books are included in the exhibit, only bring books with most current year's work.
14. 4-H Member Scrapbook – Scrapbook relating to individual 4-H member's 4-H history. If multiple books are included in exhibit, only bring book with most current year's work.
15. Special Events Scrapbook – Scrapbook relating to a 4-H special event, such as Congress or CWF or a personal or family special event, such as a trip, family reunion, etc.

DIVISION 102 – ADVANCED

Classes:

1. Heritage Poster or Flat Exhibit – Entries may be pictures, posters, items that depict family heritage. Exhibit must be supported by a written explanation.
2. Family Genealogy/History Notebook – Include pedigree charts/family group sheets, with documentation for two–three generations of one family line, expanding each year. If multiple books included in exhibit, only bring book with most current year’s work.
3. Local History Scrapbook/Notebook – Scrapbook or notebook that depicts history of local community or Nebraska that helps youth appreciate their heritage.
4. Framed Family Groupings (or Individuals) – Show family history. Pictures must be supported by a written explanation.
5. Other Exhibits – Depict the heritage of the member's family or community. Exhibit must be supported by a written explanation. May include biographical album of themselves or another family member, family cookbooks, etc.
6. 4–H History Scrapbook – A scrapbook relating to the 4–H history of local club or county. Must be work of an individual 4–H member, no club projects. If multiple books are included in exhibit, only bring book with most current year’s work.
7. 4–H History Poster – Relate 4–H history of local club or county or individual.
8. Story or Illustration about a Historical Event.
9. Book Review – Review book about local, Nebraska or regional history.
10. Other Historical Exhibits – Attach an explanation of historical importance.
11. Historical Landmark – Exhibit depicting the importance of a community or Nebraska historic landmark.
12. Community Report – Document something of historical significance from past to present.
13. Historic Collection – Display securely and attractively in container no larger than 22” x 28”.
14. Video Documentary –Video is to be uploaded to a streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing. Must be produced and edited by 4–H member.
15. 4–H Club/County Scrapbook – Scrapbook relating 4–H history of local club or county compiled by club historian. If multiple books included in exhibit, only bring book with most current year’s work.
16. 4–H Member Scrapbook – Scrapbook relating to individual 4–H member’s 4–H history. If multiple books included in exhibit, only bring book with most current year’s work.
17. Special Events Scrapbook – Scrapbook relating to a 4–H special event, such as Congress or CWF or a personal or family special event, such as a trip, family reunion, etc.

**DEPARTMENT B—
COMMUNICATIONS**
Superintendent Jamie Thomas

PRESENTATION CONTEST

Purple \$8.00 Blue \$7.00 Red \$6.00

Presentation Contest to be held on April 21, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. the Extension Office in Norfolk.

An Illustrated 4-H Presentation, given by one individual or a team of two individuals, is a live presentation with a formal talk where youth will use visual aids (such as props, posters, computer-based visuals, handouts, video, etc.) to show and tell others how to do something. Judge views the entire presentation and engages in a question-and-answer session following the presentation.

Presentations should be related to what the 4-H youth is learning through 4-H educational experiences focused on the priorities of career and college readiness, community development, entrepreneurship, food supply confidence, healthy living, leadership development, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). Organization should include an introduction (the “why” portion of the topic), a body (the “show and tell” portion), and a conclusion / summary (the “what” portion).

The same presentation cannot be given in more than one class.

Live animals may be used in the presentation. All fair livestock health requirements must be followed. Presenters using computer-based visuals may bring files on a USB drive that is PC formatted. Participants may also use their own computer.

No separate class for teams. Each participant is required to wear the 4-H chevron, 4-H emblem, or 4-H shirt during their presentation. Beginners may enter the "Show & Tell" division.

Youth must be 8 years old by January 1 of the current year to be eligible to compete at the State Fair. To qualify for the State Fair, Illustrated Presentation participants must have received a purple rating at the county 4-H presentation contest.

DIVISION 151 – ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATION CONTEST

Youth may only participate in one class within Division 151.

An Illustrated Presentation is a live presentation with a formal talk where youth will use visual aids (such as props, posters, computer-based visuals, handouts, video, etc.) to show and tell others how to do something. The judge views the entire presentation and engages in a question-and-answer session following the presentation. Time limits: Individual (all age divisions): 6-8 minutes. Team (all age divisions): 8-10 minutes

Classes:

113. Illustrated Presentation

*901. Show and Tell competition for first & second year 4-H members (no visual aids required)

DIVISION 900—PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Purple \$8.00 Blue \$7.00 Red \$6.00

Public Speaking and PSA Contest to be held April 21, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. the Extension Office in Norfolk.

All speeches should relate to 4-H. Previously used speeches may not be used verbatim for the 4-H contest. Enough changes should be made to make the speech new to the speaker and audience. Speeches written by a sibling, other 4-H member, or anyone else may be not used. NO costumes, props, visual aids, etc. will be allowed. Note cards are acceptable.

Select the purpose of the speech, whether to inform, entertain, persuade, or motivate the audience. Organization should include an introduction (capture attention and provide central thought of speech), the body (present main points through discussion and examples), and a conclusion (restate central thought and summarize points). Acknowledge the source of information used in the speech. For example, an article from a magazine may be used for reference and should be cited if directly quoted.

Contestants must qualify at the regional contest to compete in the premier event. Only senior division PSA and Speech Regional winners will advance to the Premier Communication Event.

- 900. Cloverbuds – Ages 5 to 7 (reading a poem, story or speech)
- 901. Novice – Ages 10 and under and has never given a speech before (under 3 minutes)
- 902. Junior Division – Ages 8 to 9 as of January 1 of current year; has given a speech before (2 to 3 minutes)
- 903. Intermediate Division – Ages 10 to 13 as of January 1 of current year (3 to 5 minutes)
- 904. Senior Division – Ages 14 to 18 as of January 1 of current year (5 to 8 minutes)
- 905. Public Service Announcement – must be 60 seconds. The state theme for 2025 is “**Ready through 4-H...and beyond**”. Must promote 4-H and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska any time of the year. Include the following tag line in the last 10 seconds of the PSA: “Learn more about the Nebraska Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu”. Include within the 60-second total time limit. Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material may not be used. Radio PSA’s will only be submitted to the state competition electronically as a .wav or mp3 format.

DEPARTMENT B—PHOTOGRAPHY

Superintendent Kathy Neidig

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

The purpose of this project area is to establish basic to advanced knowledge of and abilities in using photographic equipment, lighting, and composition to capture images, express feelings, and communicate ideas. Participants can work through the three project levels, progressing from basic to advanced photography skills and techniques. For help getting started with this project, contact your local Extension Office.

PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES

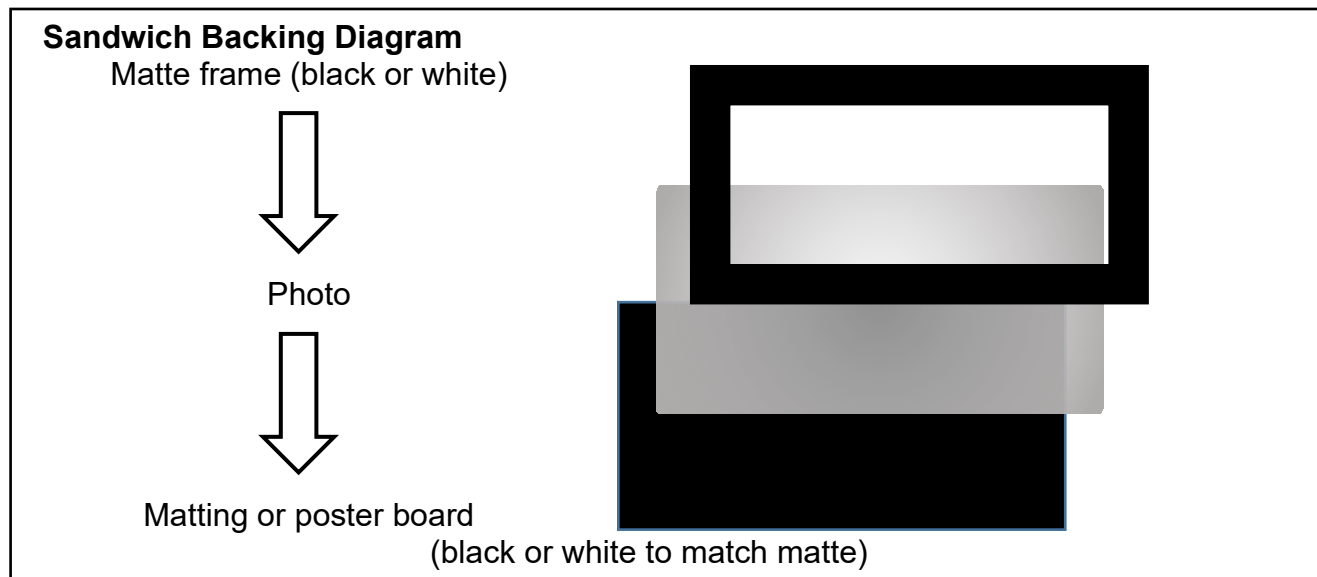
- ◆ 4-H members are allowed to exhibit in only one photography level at the Nebraska State Fair.
- ◆ **4-H members may enter up to four exhibits but no more than one exhibit per class. One of the (4) entries must be in the Favorite Photo Class.**
- ◆ An image may only be used on one exhibit with the exception of Portfolios, which may include images entered in other classes.
- ◆ Cameras – Photos may be taken with any type of film or digital camera, including phones, tablets, and drones.
- ◆ Photos must be shot by the 4-H member during the current project year, with the exception of portfolios, which may include images captured and / or exhibited in previous years.
- ◆ Securely attach photos, mats, backing, and data tags. Exhibits that are poorly attached may be disqualified. Do not use photo corners, borders, or plastic coverings over the exhibits.
- ◆ Portfolios – All portfolios must include the following information:
 1. One page max bio
 2. Table of contents
 3. Year each photo was taken
 4. Title for each image
 5. Device make and model used to capture each image.
 6. Reflections for each photo. When writing reflections, focus on what new photography techniques or skills were practiced when the photo was taken, what makes the image successful, and what could have been done to improve the image.
 7. Portfolios may be presented in either print or digital formats.
 - ◆ Printed portfolios should be presented in a 8.5 x 11” three-ring binder or similar book format. Recommended photo size is 8 x 10. Matting is not necessary.
 - ◆ Digital portfolios may be presented online and must be exhibited along with a single 8.5 x 11” flyer. Flyers must include a link, URL, or QR code that takes users (judges and fairgoers) to their online portfolio.
- ◆ **Display Exhibits** – At the State Fair, display exhibits are only accepted in Level II classes and consist of 4x6 photos mounted on a single horizontal 11" x 14" black or white poster or mat board. Incorrect sizes will not be accepted. No foam board backing should be used. No titles, captions, or stick-on numbers will be allowed. Photos may be mounted vertically or horizontally. Appropriate Data Tags are required.
- ◆ **Print Exhibits** – Print exhibits must be 8x10 prints mounted in 11x14 (outside size) cut mat with a sandwich mat board backing (see diagram). Incorrect sizes will not be accepted. No foam board should be used for matting or backing. Mat openings may be rectangular or oval. Photos may be horizontal or vertical. No frames are allowed. Appropriate data tags are required.
- ◆ **Entry Tags** – Entry tags should be securely attached to the upper right-hand corner of the exhibit for the Nebraska State Fair.
- ◆ **Data Tags** – *Data tags are required on all print and display exhibits.* Data tags are not required for portfolios. Each exhibit must have the appropriate number and level of data tags as outlined below. Data tags should be securely attached to the back of the exhibit. Current data tags and help sheets are available at <https://go.unl.edu/ne4h-photography>

Level 1 Prints – All Level 1 displays must have a Level 1 Data Tag.

Level 2 Prints – All Level 2 prints must have a Level 2 Data Tag.

Level 2 Displays – Each photo of the display must include a separate Level 2 Data Tag. Data Tags should be number with the corresponding photo's number.

Level 3 Prints – All Level 3 prints must have a Level 3 Data Tag.



***DIVISION 180: LEVEL 1 – PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS**

Refer to Book 1 Photography Basics for activity directions. NO editing is allowed in Level 1.

Each class except 912 consists of three 4x6 photos mounted on a single horizontal 11" x 14" black or white poster or mat board. Incorrect sizes will not be accepted. No foam board backing should be used. No titles, captions, or stick-on numbers allowed. Photos may be mounted vertically or horizontally. Data Tags are required.

Unit I Classes:

- *901. Fun with Shadows Display – Three photos that capture interesting or creative use of shadows. (Activity 4)
- *902. Get in Close Display – Three photos of close-up views of the subject(s) or object(s). (Activity 8)
- *903. Bird's or Bug's Eye View Display – Three photos that capture an interesting viewpoint of a subject, either from above (bird's eye) or below (bug's eye). (Activity 10)
- *904. Tricks and Magic Display – Three photos using visual trickery or magic. For example, someone standing in front of a flowerpot to make it appear as if flowers are growing out of his or her head. (Activity 11)
- *905. People, Places, or Pets with Personality Display – Three photos catching the subject's personality or character. Use a distinct focal point. (Activity 13)
- *906. Black and White Display – Three photos showing strong contrast and / or textures in black and white. (Activity 15)
- *907. Telling a Story Display – Three photos that tell a story without words. Capture the beginning, middle, and end of a single story, event, or project. (Activity 14)
- *912. My Favorite Other Picture – Print of any other favorite photo. Exhibit may range in size from 3"x 5" to 8"x10" in an appropriate-sized mat with sandwich backing (no frames).
This exhibit is also open to 4-H'ers taking Unit 2 and Unit 3.

DIVISION 181: LEVEL 2 – NEXT LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Refer to Book 2 Next Level Photography for Activity directions. Level 2 photographers should be utilizing all the skills and techniques they have developed thus far in their photography careers, especially topics covered in Book 1 Photography Basics and Book 2 Next Level Photography.

Classes:

10. Level 2 Portfolio –See general photography rules for what must be included in the portfolio. Level 2 portfolios represent the 4-H member's best work and must include five to-seven different images from the 4-H member's photography career. At least two images must have been taken during the current year. The remaining images may have been taken at any time during the member's 4-H experience and may have been previously exhibited. Portfolios may include photos which are exhibited in other Level 2 classes during the same year. Portfolios must include: 1) 1-page max bio, 2) table of contents, 3) year each photo was taken, 4) title for each image, 5) device make and model used to capture each image, and 6) reflections for each image. When writing reflections, youth should focus on what new photography techniques they were practicing when they took the photo, what makes the image successful, and what could have been done to improve the image.
20. Creative Techniques and Lighting Display or Print – Photos capture a creative use of lighting, such as diffused lighting, backlighting, or hard lighting, reflections, or another lighting technique covered in Book 2 Next Level Photography (Activity 3, 4, 5).
30. Creative Composition Display or Print – Photos capture a creative composition using the Rule of Thirds, Golden Triangle, Golden Rectangle, or another composition technique covered in Book 2 Next Level Photography (Activity 6, 7, 8, 9).
40. Abstract Photography Display or Print: Photos should be abstract or capture a small piece of a larger subject. Abstract photos may not look like anything in particular but should be able to capture a viewer's attention (Activity 11).
50. Candid Photography Display or Print – Candid photos should capture a special moment or meaningful interaction. Photos should be un-posed (Activity 10).
60. Expression through Color Display or Print – Photos capture a creative use of color or a color scheme, such as complimentary, contrasting, monochromatic, warm, cool, primary, secondary, or tertiary (Activity 13).
70. Black & White Photography Display or Print (SF87): A photo should be a black and white photograph that demonstrates strong use of composition, lighting, and contrast. Photos may be taken with any camera type (digital or film) but must be printed in black and white.
80. Creative and Experimental Photography Exhibit Print (SF86): Using original photos a 4-H member has captured, create an exhibit in black and white or color demonstrating the use of creative or experimental technology or techniques. Alterations to the exhibit must be apparent. Examples of methods to use may include using artificial intelligence or software tools to edit or replace the original pixels of the image. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used when creating this exhibit, with adult care-giver permission. Any artificial intelligence work must be referenced. The 4-H member's original work must be the majority of exhibit. Using photos and other work found online is not acceptable. Must include a 4 inch x 6 inch copy of each original images on the back of the matted exhibit, describe how the image(s) were altered and the equipment or software used.

DIVISION 182: LEVEL 3 – MASTERING PHOTOGRAPHY

Refer to Book 3 Mastering Photography for Activity directions. Level 3 photographers should be exploring and experimenting with advanced techniques. This may include but does not necessarily require using an SLR camera, manual adjustments, or other advanced equipment. Level 3 photographers should be utilizing all the skills and techniques they have developed throughout their photography career, especially topics covered in Book 1 Photography Basics, Book 2 Next Level Photography, and Book 3 Mastering Photography.

Classes:

10. Level 3 Portfolio – Level 3 portfolios represent the photographer’s best work. Level 3 portfolios must include 9 to 11 images from the 4-H member’s photography career. At least 3 images should be from the current year. The remaining images may have been taken at any time during the member’s 4-H experience and may have been previously exhibited. Portfolios may include photos which are exhibited in other Level 3 classes during the same year. See general photography rules for what must be included in the portfolio. Portfolios must include: 1) 1-page max bio, 2) table of contents, 3) year each photo was taken, 4) title for each image, 5) device make and model used to capture each image, and 6) reflections for each image. When writing reflections, 4-H members should focus on what new photography techniques or skills they were practicing when they took the photo, what makes the image successful, and what could have been done to improve the image.
20. Advanced Techniques and Lighting Print – Photos should show an experimentation or exploration of advanced lighting, such as low-light or silhouette photography or another advanced photography technique, such as astrophotography, underwater photography, or infrared photography (Activity 3, 4, 5, or 12)
30. Advanced Composition Print – Photos show advanced compositions, such as using diagonal, horizontal, or vertical lines or repeating shapes to frame a subject or lead the viewer’s eye through a scene; breaking the rules of thirds to compose a discordant image; or another advanced composition technique in Book 3 Mastering Photography (Activity 6, 7).
40. Portrait Print – A great portrait captures not only a person’s physical image, but also something of the person’s character or personality. Photos may be either formal or informal but must be of one or more human subjects (Activity 9).
50. Still Life Print – Photos capture non-moving objects that have been arranged in an interesting way. Photos should demonstrate advanced control over lighting and composition (Activity 8).
60. Freeze / Blur the Moment Print – Photos capture a subject in motion. Photographers should adjust shutter speed to either freeze or blur the movement (Activity 11).
70. Black & White Photography Print: (SF89): Photo demonstrates advanced black and white photograph with strong technical ability and creative expression. Photo demonstrates intentional use of contrast, lighting, and composition to create visual impact. Advanced editing is allowed as appropriate for black and white imagery. Creative and Experimental
80. Creative and Experimental Photography Exhibit Print (SF86): Using original photos a 4-H member has captured, create an exhibit in black and white or color demonstrating the use of creative or experimental technology or techniques. Alterations to the exhibit must be apparent and advanced techniques used. Examples of methods to use may include using artificial intelligence or software tools to edit or replace the original pixels of the image or other advanced techniques. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used when creating this exhibit, with adult care-giver permission. Any artificial intelligence work must be referenced. The 4-H member’s original work must be the majority of exhibit. Using photos and other work found online is not acceptable. Must include a 4-inch x 6-inch copy of each original image on the back of the matted exhibit, describe how the image(s) were altered and the equipment or software used.

DEPARTMENT C—HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Superintendent Jamie Thomas

Purple \$ 4.00 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$1.00

Limit of three entries per individual in Human Development – one exhibit per class.

The term Human Development includes childcare, family life, personal development, and character development. Exhibitors in the Human Development project area should focus on designing toys / games / activities that meet the different needs of children.

Categories are based on Early Learning Guidelines in Nebraska, which identify the important areas in which our children should grow and develop. Use the Nebraska Department of Education website and the resources around the Early Learning Guidelines to help understand the six areas and the skills children need to develop to create your exhibit, in conjunction with your project manual. Early learning guidelines can be accessed at <https://www.education.ne.gov/oec/early-learning-guidelines/>

Age Group: ◆ Infant, birth to 18 months
 ◆ Toddlers, 18 months to 3 years
 ◆ Preschoolers, 3 to 5 years
 ◆ Middle Childhood, 6 to 9 years

Supporting Information Required: Final ribbon placing includes the completeness and accuracy of the following information sheets for Classes 1-6:

- 1) Where did I get the idea for this exhibit?
- 2) What decisions did I make to make sure the exhibit is safe for children to use?
- 3) What age is this toy, game, or activity appropriate for and why? (See the above age groups.) 4-H'ers must give at least two examples that help in understanding the appropriateness of this exhibit for the age of the child (see project manuals).
- 4) How is the toy, game, or activity intended to be used by the child?

Information Sheet for Class 8 (Babysitting Kit) should include:

- 1) State which ONE age group (infant, toddler, preschooler, middle childhood) the kit was prepared for.
- 2) What are children this age like? Give two examples to show how the kit would be appropriate for children this age.
- 3) What will the child learn or what skills will they gain by using the kit?
- 4) Which item(s) were made by the 4-H'er? 4-H'er should make one or more items in the kit, but purchased items are also allowed. (It is highly suggested that an inventory list of items in the kit be included).

DIVISION 200 – HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Toy, game, or activity made for a selected and identified age group. The intent is for the toy / game / activity to teach the child in the developmental area related to each class. For example, a game that is developed to help youth learn language and literacy skills would be an exhibit for Class 2. Each area is a different class. Information sheet required or exhibit will be dropped a ribbon placing for classes 1-6.

Classes:

1. Social Emotional Development

Project Ideas: name game, group activity, emotions chart, activities to encourage imaginative play (such as building a kitchen set or Lego table)

2. Language and Literacy Development

Project Ideas: build vocabulary or alphabet, teach nursery rhymes, books, music, or songs.

3. Science

Project Ideas: activity with weight, size, color, etc., explore measuring cups, pulleys, or magnets, teach natural phenomena (seed growth or lifecycle of a tadpole)

4. Health and Physical Development

Project Ideas: “Quiet Book” with zippers, buttons, tying, etc., puzzle, bean bag toss, physical activity, teach handwashing or other hygiene, nutrition game (sort health from junk food)

5. Math

Project Ideas: matching, counting, addition or subtraction, activity with geometric shapes.

6. Creative Arts

Project Ideas: create musical instrument, artistic supplies, imaginative play, construct puppet

7. Activity with a Younger Child – Poster or scrapbook showing 4–H member working with a child age 0 to 8 years. May show making something with the child, or childcare or child interactions. May include photos, captions, story or essay. Size of exhibit is your choice. Other people may take photos so 4–H member can be in the photos. 4–H member must make scrapbook or poster. No information sheet needed for Class 7.

8. Babysitting Kit – Purpose of kit is for the 4–H member to take this with them when they go to someone’s home to babysit. Do not make a kit for a combination of ages or for your own family to use. 4-H’er must make one or more items in the kit, but purchased additional items are also allowed. A list of items in the kit is suggested to be included. Display in a suitable box or bag. Size no larger than 12"x15"x10". All items in the kit must be safe for the child to handle. Most importantly, the kit should serve a defined purpose, not just be a catch all for several items. *Information Sheet above with questions that need to be included

9. Family Involvement Entry – Scrapbook, poster, or story describing an activity the family did together. It might include making something such as a doll house or feed bunk. Items may be exhibited, if desired. Other possibilities include a house or farm cleanup project, a family reunion, a celebration of a family milestone, a trip or vacation, moving, or a community service project. Photographs are encouraged. Visuals should show family participation; participation by all family members is important. Include a list of family members and what each person did to participate in the event.

4–H’ers taking any of the projects in Human Development may enter:

10. Growing with Others – Scrapbook, or poster. Examples: How to decide if it’s time you may be home alone, and related activities. How responsibilities and privileges are related. Friendships. Working with others. Understanding rules and boundaries. A family tree. A family rules chart. A family meal plan, with pictures of a special family meal. A home safety checklist. Being street smart (safety). A school scrapbook showing yourself and your school activities, memories and special interests.

11. Growing in Communities – Scrapbook, or poster. Examples: A career study. A photo story about your own growth and development, not only physically but emotionally, socially, mentally. A television evaluation (see project manual). How have you overcome obstacles. Friendships. A community profile. A community service project. Working with parents. Teaching experiences. Understanding discipline. Playground safety check.

DEPARTMENT C—TEXTILES

Superintendent Karen Grant

IDENTIFICATION LABELS – Attach a label to the back neckline or waistband of the garment stating: county, exhibitor's name and 4–H age, project name, class in which garment is entered, and number of years enrolled in project. Each clothing exhibit must be described on the entry tag (for example: dark blue wool skirt and jacket) to prevent misplaced items. Wool entries must have the fiber content listed on the identification label. Attach labels on every component of the exhibit using safety pins or basting. Not responsible for unlabeled items.

4–H'ers are encouraged to attach a permanent care label to all garments. Ask for them when purchasing fabric.

Once you win champion in your unit, please move to the next unit. (i.e. If you receive construction champion in Sewing for Fun, enroll in Clothing Unit 1 the following year. Clothing Level III does not have to advance.)

Bring garments on wire hangers. Do not use wooden or fancy hangers as they may get lost. If more than one hanger is used for an entry, fasten the hangers together with twist ties. As you look at the garment, place the hook of the hanger to the left. Fasten skirts, shorts, and pants to skirt / pant hangers or safety pin on a hanger.

Garments as listed may be made for self (4–H member) or another person. 4–H'ers enrolled in clothing projects should continue their skill development. For a complete list of skills in each level, contact the Extension Office.

DIVISION 221 – BEYOND THE NEEDLE

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$1.00

***** Supporting Information is optional at the county fair. If your exhibit is chosen for the State Fair, the Design Data Card is required.**

Classes:

*900. Simple Embellished Garment – An article of clothing decorated with simple techniques.

1. Design Portfolio – Complete at least three different samples or activities. Refer to the project manual for activity ideas. The Portfolio should be placed in an 8 ½” x 11” three–ring binder. Include an appropriate cover. (Additional pages can be added each year but should be dated.) See pages 14–16 for portfolio formatting.
2. Color Wheel – Create your own color wheel, complimentary color bar or color scheme using pages 27–39 in the project manual. The Exhibit may be a notebook, poster, or small display. Exhibits should not exceed 22” x 30”.
3. Embellished Garment with Original Design – Create a garment using techniques as defined in the project manual. Designs are the original idea of the 4–H'er using the elements and principles of design to make an original statement. ***
4. Original Designed Fabric Yardage – Fabric yardage is designed using techniques such as those found in the manual. Other embellishments may be added. Exhibit consists of at least one yard of finished fabric. ***
5. Item (Garment or Non-clothing Item) Constructed from Original Designed Fabric – Fabric yardage is designed first, then an item is constructed from that fabric. Other embellishments may be added. ***

6. Textile Arts Garment or Accessory – A garment or accessory constructed using new unconventional materials. Examples: rubber bands, plastic, duct tape. ***
7. Fashion Accessory – An accessory designed and constructed using elements and / or principles of design; can be textile or non-textile based. Examples: shoes, bracelets, scarves, etc. ***
8. Wearable Technology Garment or Accessory – Technology is integrated into the garment or accessory in some way. Examples: LEDs, charging capabilities, sensors, etc. ***

DIVISION 220 – GENERAL CLOTHING

Purple \$3.50 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$1.50

4-H members in all skill levels may exhibit in this area.

Classes:

1. Clothing Portfolio – Complete at least four different samples / activities from Chapters 2, 3, OR 4 of the STEAM Clothing 2: Simply Sewing project manual. The Portfolio should be placed in an 8½” x 11” three-ring binder. Include an appropriate cover. Portfolio should build upon itself each year (additional pages can be added each year but should be dated).(See pages 9-11 in STEAM Clothing 2: Simply Sewing project manual for portfolio formatting.
2. Textile Science Scrapbook – Must include at least 10 different textile samples. Use Textile Information Cards template on page 39 in STEAM Clothing 2: Simply Sewing project manual to identify fabric swatches. Completed textile card should be placed in an 8½” x 11” three-ring binder. Include an appropriate cover. Textile Science Scrapbook should build upon itself each year (additional pages can be added each year but should be dated). See project manual for fabric suggestions.
3. Sewing for Profit – Using pages 161-167 in the STEAM Clothing 2: Simply Sewing project manual, display what products you posted online and analyze the cost of goods purchased to determine the appropriate selling price for your product. The exhibit may be a notebook, poster, or small display. Exhibits should not exceed 22” x 30”.

***DIVISION 901 – SEWING FOR FUN**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

A limit of three entries per exhibitor. One to three years sewing experience is recommended.

Classes:

- *901. Needle book or Pincushion.
- *902. Bag (tote, laundry, everything, sleeping)
- *903. Pillow (straight, square, diagonal, patchwork)
- *904. Pillowcase
- *905. Envelope back pillow
- *906. Rail fence Pillow
- *907. Other item

***DIVISION 902 – CLOTHING UNIT I**

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.50 Red \$3.00 White \$2.50

Enter a single garment, either a top or bottom.

Three to four years’ sewing experience is recommended. Construction skills need to reflect the learning from the Clothing Construction Skills checklist.

Fabric choice – firm, medium–weight, woven fabric. Inseam or patch pockets and lined simple vests are acceptable, as are elastic waistbands. Fabric with plaids and stripes or patterns with collars, set–in sleeves, set–in waistbands, and / or zippers should be entered in a more advanced clothing level.

Classes:

*908. Simple Top

*909. Simple Bottom

*910. Simple Upcycled Garment or Accessory – Original used item must be redesigned, not just decorated. Include a “before” photo with description of the design process.

*911. Other item – Simple dress, romper, apron, etc.

DIVISION 222 – STEAM CLOTHING UNIT 2 – SIMPLY SEWING

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00 White \$2.00

Four to six years of sewing experience recommended. Exhibits entered in this project must reflect at least one new skill learned from the STEAM Clothing 2 manual. See the project manual or contact the Extension Office for the manual skill–level list.

Garments listed below may be from any woven or knit fabric appropriate to the garment’s design and should demonstrate sewing more advanced skills, such as inserting buttonholes or zippers, using patterns with collars, set–in waistbands, darts, or serging.

STEAM Unit 2 Classes:

1. Design Basics, Understanding Design Principles – 4–H members enrolled in STEAM Clothing 2 may enter an exhibit sharing a learning experience from pages 17–20 in the project manual. Include answers to questions found on page 20 of the manual. Exhibit may be a notebook, poster, or small display. Exhibits should not exceed 22” x 30”.
2. Pressing Matters – 4–H members enrolled in STEAM Clothing 2 may enter a ham or sleeve roll from pages 21–25 “A Pressing Matter” in the project manual. Exhibit should include answers to lesson questions that are most appropriate to include.
3. Upcycled Garment – Create a garment from used textile-based items. The original used item must be redesigned using skills learned in STEAM Clothing 2 (not just decorated) in some way to create a new wearable piece of clothing. The finished garment must reflect at least one skill learned in this project. A Design Data Card **must** be included with this project including a “before” picture no larger than 4.25” x 5.5”.
4. Upcycled Clothing Accessory – A wearable accessory made from a used item. The item used must be changed in some way in the redesign process using skills learned in STEAM Clothing 2. The finished accessory must reflect at least one skill learned in this project. A Design Data Card **must** be included with this project including a “before” picture no larger than 4.25” x 5.5”.
5. Textile Clothing Accessory – Textile accessory is constructed using at least one skill learned in this project from materials appropriate for STEAM 2. Entry examples include: hats, bags, scarves, gloves. No metal, plastic, paper, or rubber base items allowed (i.e. barrettes, headbands, flip flops, duct tape, etc.)
6. Top (vest acceptable)
7. Bottom (pants or shorts)
8. Skirt
9. Lined or Unlined jacket
10. Dress (not formal wear)
11. Romper or Jumpsuit
12. Two–piece Outfit

13. Alter Your Pattern – Garment constructed from a significantly altered pattern. Entry must include both the constructed garment and the altered pattern. Appropriate skills for altering / designing a pattern in STEAM 2 include: moving darts, merging two patterns together, altering a pattern for a woven or knit material, adding a lining, etc. Include information sheet that describes:
 - ◆ How the pattern was altered or changed
 - ◆ Why the changes were needed /wanted
14. Garment Constructed from Sustainable or Unconventional (Natural or Synthetic Fibers) – Fabric / fibers used in this garment must be manufactured / purchased. Examples: bamboo, banana, cornhusk, and recycled fibers. Garments that are constructed out of the unconventional items themselves should be exhibited under Beyond the Needle.

DIVISION 223 – STEAM CLOTHING UNIT 3 – A STITCH FURTHER

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00 White \$3.00

Five or more years of sewing experience is recommended. Exhibits entered in this project must reflect at least one new skill learned from the STEAM Clothing 3 manual. See the project manual or contact the Extension Office for the manual skill–level list.

Garments listed may be made from any pattern or any fabric and should demonstrate advanced sewing skills, including inserting boning, finishing seams with flat–felled or rolled hems, or tailoring (lapels, shoulder pads). Entry consists of completely constructed garments only.

STEAM Unit 3 Classes:

1. Upcycled Garment – Create a garment from used textile based items. The original used item must be redesigned (not just decorated) in some way to create a new wearable piece of clothing. The finished garment must reflect at least one skill learned in this project. A Design Data Card **must** be included with this project including a “before” picture no larger than 4.25” x 5.5”.
2. Upcycled Clothing Accessory – A wearable accessory made from a used item. The item used must be changed in some way in the redesign process. The finished accessory must reflect at least one skill learned in this project. A Design Data Card **must** be included with this project including a “before” picture no larger than “4.5” x 6”.
3. Textile Clothing Accessory – Textile accessory is constructed using at least one skill learned in this project from materials appropriate for STEAM 3. Entry examples include: hats, bags, scarves, gloves. No metal, plastic, paper, or rubber band items allowed (i.e. barrettes, headbands, flip flops, duct tape, etc.)
4. Dress or Formal
5. Skirted Combination (skirt with shirt, vest or jacket OR jumper and shirt)
6. Pants or Shorts Combination (pants or shorts with shirt, vest or jacket)
7. Romper or Jumpsuit
8. Specialty Wear (includes swimwear, costumes, hunting gear, or chaps)
9. Lined or Unlined Jacket (non-tailored)
10. Coat, Blazer, Suit Jacket, or Outerwear Coat – A tailored blazer or suit jacket or coat.
Wool entries must have fiber content listed on label for the *Make it With Wool* Award.
11. Alter / Design Your Pattern – Garment constructed from a significantly altered pattern. Entry must include both the constructed garment and the altered pattern. Appropriate skills for altering / designing a pattern in STEAM 3 include: moving darts, adding a zipper, merging two patterns together, altering a pattern for woven or knit material, adding a lining, designing your own pattern, etc.

- ◆ How the pattern was altered or changed
- ◆ Why the changes were needed /wanted

12. Garment Constructed from Sustainable or Unconventional (Natural or Synthetic) Fibers – Fabric / fibers used in this garment have to be manufactured / purchased. Examples: bamboo, banana, corn husk, and recycled fibers. Garments that are constructed out of the unconventional items themselves should be exhibited under Beyond the Needle.

KNITTING AND CROCHET

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

Garments as listed may be made for self (4-H member) or another person.

IDENTIFICATION LABELS – Each exhibit must have a label attached stating: county, exhibitor's name and 4-H age, project name, class in which item is entered, and number of years enrolled in project. Wool entries must have the fiber content listed on the identification label. Attach label on every component of the exhibit using safety pins or basting. Not responsible for unlabeled items.

Criteria for Judging: design and color, neatness, mechanics, trimmings, and construction finishes.

DIVISION 225 – LEARN TO KNIT

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

Each knitted exhibit must include the following information with the entry tag or exhibit will be lowered one ribbon placing:

- 1) Why did you choose to create this exhibit?
- 2) What steps did you take as you created this exhibit?
- 3) What were the most important things you learned?
- 4) Gauge-Number of rows per inch; number of stitches per inch.
- 5) Size of needles, finger knitted, arm knitted, loom or machine knitted
- 6) Kind of yarn – weight and fiber content.
- 7) Names of stitches used.

Classes:

*920. Level 1 Knitted Clothing or Home Environment Item – Knitted item or garment using basic pattern stitches such as knit (K), purl (P), or combination of these basic stitches.

1. Level 2 Knitted Clothing – Knitted item or garment using pattern stitches such as diamond, block, twist, or seed/moss stitches. Basic stitches [including Knit (K), Purl (P), Slip Knit Pass Over (SKPO), Knit Two Together (K2Tog), Yarn Over (yo)] to form patterns.
2. Level 2 Knitted Non-Wearable Item – Knitted items using basic stitches [including: Knit (K), Purl (P), Slip Knit Pass Over (SKPO), Knit Two Together (K2Tog), Yarn Over (yo)] to form patterns.
3. Arm or Finger Knitted Item – wearable or non-wearable item.
4. Loom Knitted Item – wearable or non-wearable item (can use a Knifty Knitter)
5. Level 3 Knitted Clothing Item – Knitted item or garment made from advanced knitting stitches such as pass slip stitch over, double-pointed needle knitting, cable, Turkish, Tamera, plait, Germaine, feather and fan or knitting with one or more patterns, such as Aran or Fair Isle made by using stitches learned in Level 2 while advancing to circular knitting, double pointed needle knitting, knitting with multiple pattern stitches, and changing colors throughout the garment, such as argyle knitting and chart knitting.

6. Level 3 Knitted Non-Wearable Item – Knitted item made by using stitches learned in Level 2 while advancing to circular knitting, double pointed needle knitting, knitting with multiple pattern stitches, and changing color throughout the garment, such as argyle knitting and chart knitting.
7. Level 3 Machine Knitting

DIVISION 226 – CROCHET

Purple \$3.50 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$1.00

Each entry must include the following information or will be lowered one ribbon placing:

- 1) Why did you choose to create this exhibit?
- 2) What steps did you take as you created your exhibit?
- 3) What were the most important things you learned?
- 4) Gauge and size of hook or type of crocheting tool.
- 5) Kind of yarn – weight and fiber content or other material used.
- 6) Names of stitches used.

Classes:

*900. Level 1 –Crocheted Clothing or Home Environment Item – Crocheted item or garment using basic pattern stitches such as chain stitch, single crochet, etc.

1. Level 2 Crocheted Clothing Item – Crocheted garment using basic stitches (including chain, single, double, half-double, treble) to form patterns.
2. Level 2 Crocheted Home Design & Restoration Item – Crochet item using basic stitches (including chain, single, double, half-double, treble) to form patterns.
3. Level 3 Crocheted Clothing – Crocheted garment using stitches learned in Level 2 while advancing to use afghan stitch, broomstick lace, hairpin lace, design motifs, and multiple pattern stitches.
4. Level 3 Crocheted Home Design & Restoration Item – Crochet item using stitches learned in Level 2 while advancing to use afghan stitch, broomstick lace, hairpin lace, design motifs, and multiple pattern stitches.

DIVISION 410 – FASHION SHOW

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

Show will take place Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in the indoor arena at the fairgrounds. 4–H exhibitors enrolled in following 4–H projects will be eligible to compete in the 4–H Fashion Show: Sewing for Fun, Clothing 1, 2, & 3, Beyond the Needle, Shopping in Style, Knit, Crochet, and Quilt Quest.

The 4-H Fashion Show is an opportunity for youth to showcase their clothing construction and consumer management skills. Construction garment exhibitors are judged on fit, construction, poise, and overall look of the garment on the individual. Shopping in Style exhibitors are judged on garment fit, the overall look of the outfit, and poise, as well as record keeping skills in the written report.

Advanced registration (pink forms) **MUST** be postmarked to Nebraska Extension in Madison County by **JUNE 15, 2026** to be eligible for the contest.

For judging purposes, the 4–H'er must bring a complete outfit to model in front of the judge. Example: Make a skirt, wear a constructed or purchased complementary top with the skirt. Modelers will be judged for modeling skill, fit, and appearance of the outfit and accessories.

MODEL BEYOND THE NEEDLE

10. Model Embellished Garments with an Original Design – Garment is created using intermediate or advanced techniques as defined in the project manual. Designs are the original idea of the 4–H'er using the elements and principles of design to make an original statement. Upcycled garments are NOT accepted.
 15. Model Garment Constructed from Original Designed Fabric – Fabric yardage is designed first, then a garment constructed from that fabric. Other embellishments may be added.
 20. Model Textile Arts Garment(s) – Garment is constructed using new and unconventional materials. Examples: rubber bands, plastic, duct tape.
 25. Model Wearable Technology Garment – Garment has integrated technology into the design.
- *902. Other Accessory.

*MODEL SEWING FOR FUN

- *901. Carry any of the projects constructed, such as a bag, pillow, etc.

*MODEL CLOTHING STEAM UNIT I

- *902. Model STEAM Clothing Unit 1 Garments or Items

MODEL CONSTRUCTED STEAM CLOTHING UNIT 2

4–H members who have enrolled in or completed STEAM 3 projects are not eligible to enter STEAM 2.

30. Model STEAM Clothing Unit 2 Garment(s) – Dress; OR Romper or Jumpsuit; OR Two–piece Outfit (skirt with top, vest, or lined / unlined jacket); Jumper and Shirt; Pants or Shorts Outfit (pants or shorts with top, vest, or lined / unlined jacket). Or a purchased top can be worn to complete a vest or lined / unlined jacket outfit with a constructed bottom; OR Upcycled Outfit Combination which must contain a complete constructed outfit (examples: if the top is upcycled, must include a constructed bottom, upcycled dress)

MODEL CONSTRUCTED STEAM CLOTHING UNIT 3

A purchased top can be worn to complete a vest or jacket outfit with a skirt, pants, or shorts.

40. Model STEAM Clothing Unit 3 Garment(s) – Dress or formal; OR Skirt Outfit Combination (skirt with top, vest, lined / unlined jacket or jumper and shirt; OR Pants or Shorts Outfit Combination (pants or shorts with shirt, vest, or lined / unlined jacket); OR Romper or Jumpsuit; OR Specialty Wear (swim wear, costumes, western wear–chaps, chinks, riding attire, or hunting gear); OR Non–Tailored Lined or Unlined Jacket or Coat; OR Tailored Coat, Blazer, Suit Jacket, or Outerwear. (Additional pieces with blazer, jacket, or coat may be either constructed or purchased.) OR Upcycled Outfit Combination which must contain a complete constructed outfit (examples: if the top is upcycled, must include a constructed bottom, upcycled dress)

MODEL KNITTED OR CROCHETED CLOTHING

Garment can be a sweater, cardigan, dress, coat, a top and bottom, or a two-piece ensemble.

*905. Other knit, crocheted, or woven item (scarf, hat, baby blanket, etc.)

50. Model knitted garment using pattern stitches such as diamond, block, twist or seed/moss stitches or advanced knitting stitches such as pass slip stitch over, double-pointed needle knitting, cable, Turkish, tamerna, plait, germaine, feather and fan or knitting with one or more patterns such as Aran or Fair Isle. Model crocheted garment using pattern stitches such as texture, shell, cluster or mesh stitches or advance crochet stitches such as afghan, broomstick, hairpin lace, design motifs or pattern stitches.

MODEL SHOPPING IN STYLE (Age 8 and over)

*906. Fifteen Dollar Challenge Outfit (See Consumer Management, Class *901)

60. Participants must be enrolled in the Shopping in Style 4–H Project to enter. The curriculum is developed and designed for youth ages eight and older to help strengthen consumer skills when purchasing clothing. Participants must model a complete outfit. All pieces of the garment must be purchased. Purchase of accessories is optional.

*MODEL QUILT QUEST

*907. Quilt Quest – Any quilt, quilted jacket / vest, quilted accessory, or other quilted item.

DEPARTMENT C—CONSUMER MANAGEMENT

Superintendent Karen Grant

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.50 Red \$3.00 White \$2.00

DIVISION 240 – SHOPPING IN STYLE

If the exhibit is a poster, it should be on a 14” x 22” poster board. If a three–ring binder is used, it should be 8 ½” x 11.” Folders with or without fasteners should NOT be used and entries will be lowered with a ribbon placing. Video exhibits should be less than five minutes in length and be able to be played on a PC using Window Media Player, Real Player, or QuickTime Player.

Classes:

1. Best Buy for Your Buck (ages 8-13 as of January 1 of current year) – Provide details of the best buy you made for your buck this year. Consider building the ultimate wardrobe by adding to this entry each year by dividing it into Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, etc. Put the story in a 3-ring binder or video; no posters. Provide details about wardrobe inventory which indicates the following:

- ◆ Why you selected the garment
- ◆ Clothing budget
- ◆ Cost of garment
- ◆ Conclusion or summary statement(s) why you selected your “best buy for your buck.”

Provide three color photos of you wearing the garment (front view, side views, back view).

2. Best Buy for Your Buck (ages 14-18 as of January 1 of current year) – Provide details of the best buy you made for your buck this year. Consider building the ultimate wardrobe by adding to this entry each year by dividing it into Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, etc. Put the story in a 3-ring binder or video; no posters. Although both entries do share some information, there are differences in content and format for this class. Provide details about wardrobe inventory which indicates the following:
- ◆ Body shape discussion
 - ◆ Construction quality details
 - ◆ Design features that affected your selection
 - ◆ Cost per wearing
 - ◆ Care of garment.
 - ◆ Conclusion or summary statement(s) why you selected your “best buy for your buck.”
- Provide three color photos of you wearing the garment (front view, side views, back view).

3. Revive Your Wardrobe – Take at least two items in your wardrobe that still fit but that you do not wear anymore and pair them with a new garment or garments to make them wearable once again. Create a photo story which includes before and after photos and a description of what was done. Put in a 3-ring binder, poster, or video.
4. Show Me Your Colors – Select six to eight color photos of you wearing different colors. Half should be what you consider to be good personal color choices and half should be poor personal color choices. Write a brief explanation with each photo describing your selections. Refer to the manual page 23 for more information. Entry should be a poster.
5. Clothing First Aid Kit – Complete a clothing first aid kit. Include a list of items in the kit (pins, needles of several sizes, buttons, hooks and eyes, snaps, seam ripper, fabric scissors, thread of assorted colors, tape measure, seam gauge, iron on tape, fusible tape) and brief discussion of why each was included. Put in an appropriately sized box or tote with a lid. No larger than a shoe box. Refer to page 73 of the manual.
6. Mix, Match, & Multiply – Take at least five to ten pieces of clothing and create new outfits. Use imagination to show various looks (i.e. on a clothesline, tree, mannequin). Include a brief discussion of each outfit which demonstrates what you have learned by completing this entry. Entry can be a 3-ring binder, poster, or video. Use this concept from page 32 of the manual.

*901. \$20 Dollar Challenge – Purchase an outfit for \$20 or less, not including shoes, accessories, or undergarments. Can be selected and purchased from garage sale, thrift store, consignment store or resale shop (such as Goodwill or Salvation Army). Purchasing accessories for the outfit at a thrift store is encouraged but not required. Consider why the outfit is needed and how it fills a void in your wardrobe. Take into account fit, quality, and care of the garment(s). Exhibit must include \$20 Challenge Report found at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/4-h/madison-county-4-h-fairbook/>

DIVISION 247 – MY FINANCIAL FUTURE

Entries should be typed and attached to a piece of colored card stock or colored poster board (limit size to 14” x 22” or smaller). You may use the front and back of the poster board.

BEGINNER / INTERMEDIATE CLASSES:

1. SMART Goals – Write three SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Time-bound) financial goals for yourself (one short term, one intermediate, and one long term). Explain how you intend to reach each goal you set.

2. Income Inventory – List sources and amounts of income you earn / receive over a six month period, using page 13 as a guideline. Answer the following questions: What were your income sources? Were there any steady income sources? What did you do with the income you received? Include your income inventory in the exhibit.
3. Tracking Expenses – Use an app or chart like the one on page 17 to track your spending over two months. Answer the following questions: What did you spend most of your money on? What did you learn about your spending habits? Will you make any changes in your spending based upon what you learned? Why or why not? Include your chart in your exhibit.
4. Money Personality Profile – Complete the money personality profile found on pages 21–22. Answer the following questions: What is your money personality? How does your money personality affect the way you spend / save? Have a friend or relative complete the money personality profile. Compare and contrast (how are you alike and different) your money personality profile with theirs.
5. Complete Activity 8 “What Does It Really Cost?” on pages 39–40.
6. My Work; My Future – Interview three adults in your life about their careers or jobs using the questions on page 51 and record the answers; in addition, answer the following questions on your display: What did you find most interesting about these jobs? Were there any positions you might want to pursue as your career? Why or why not? What careers interest you at this point in your life? What are three steps you need to do now to prepare for this career?

INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED CLASSES:

7. Interview someone who is paid a salary; someone who is paid a commission; and someone who is paid hourly wage. Have them answer the following questions:
 - ◆ What are some benefits of receiving pay how you do (salary, commission, hourly wage)?
 - ◆ What are some negative outcomes for getting paid the way you do?
 - ◆ Does your pay keep pace with inflation? Why do you think this?
 - ◆ Ask any additional questions you may have.
 - ◆ Summarize: Based on your interviews, which payment method would suit you the best? Discuss your answer.
8. The Cost of Not Banking – Type your answers to the questions about Elliott found on page 50.
9. Evaluating Investment Alternatives – Complete the case study of Jorge on page 64. Answer all three questions found at the bottom of the page.
10. Understanding Credit Scores – Watch the video and read the resource listed on page 71. Answer the following questions:
 - ◆ Name three prudent actions that can reduce a credit card balance.
 - ◆ What are the main factors that drive the cost of credit? List one personal financial goal that you could use credit or collateral to purchase.
 - ◆ Discuss possible consequences that might happen with improper use of credit for your purchase.
11. You be the teacher – Create an activity, storyboard, game, or display that would teach another youth about “Key Terms” listed on page 62. Activity / display must include at least five of the terms (i.e. teller, ATM, deposit, withdrawal, principle, interest, compound interest, APR, APY)

***DIVISION 906 – MAKING CENTS OF IT**

Classes:

- *901. Draw and label at least five different objects used as money before coins and paper currency were made.
- *902. Make a wants / needs poster.
- *903. Decorate a savings bank.

DEPARTMENT C--HOME DESIGN & RESTORATION

Superintendents Christy Owen & Kristen Sindelar

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.50 Red \$3.00 White \$2.50

**Only one entry per class number. Five entries allowed in Design Decisions. (county only)
Limit of two entries in ALL home design & restoration projects per exhibitor at the State Fair.**

- ◆ Label each separate piece of the exhibit with the exhibitor's name and county.
- ◆ All Home design & restoration entries must be items designed for home decorating, home furnishings or home management (no clothing, purses, note cards, scrapbooks / photo albums, etc.).
- ◆ Accessories should be of high quality (as compared to quick simple crafts) suitable for use in the home several months throughout the year. Holiday specific items are not eligible for State Fair classes. Exhibits made from kits are also discouraged as kits limit decision making in the design process.
- ◆ Youth are required to include design elements and principles they used along with simple explanation of how they designed their project with their exhibit. Information on the elements and principles of design may be found in the Design Decisions manual, as well as Portfolio Pathways and Sketchbook Crossroads manuals.
- ◆ Items should show creativity and originality, along with the application of:
 - 1) Elements of design (the building blocks of design):
 - Color (hue—red, green; value—light or dark; intensity—bright or dull)
 - Texture (surface characteristic that can be seen and / or touched)
 - Shape (flat, closed line) / Form (three-dimensional)
 - Line (creates the design)
 - Space (area between and around objects)
 - 2) Principles of design (how to organize the elements):
 - Balance (symmetrical or asymmetrical around a focal point)
 - Proportion (compares amount, size, or number)
 - Rhythm (how the eye follows the objects, including repetition or patterns)
 - Emphasis (focal point) Unity (how the parts look as a whole)
- ◆ **Supporting information is required for certain classes, but not all classes at the county fair if you participate in an in-person interview during the designated judging times for this project area; however, you are encouraged to review the questions in advance. If your project is selected for the State Fair, supporting information is required. Information must include the elements and principles of design used and steps taken to complete the project. Exhibits at the state fair without supporting information will be docked one ribbon placing.**

- ◆ Home design & restoration tag supporting information can be copied (below) or printed from: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/4-h/madison-county-4-h-fairbook/>
- ◆ Enter in correct class: What medium was changed or manipulated? From what medium is most of your exhibit made?
- ◆ Items should be ready for display: pictures framed; wall hangings ready to hang. No single mat board or artist canvas panels allowed. Wrapped canvas (if staples not visible on edge) is accepted without framing. Make sure hangers are strong enough to support the item. Command strips are not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.
- ◆ Items should not be made for beginning level or other projects (ex: simple ten-minute table runners or woodworking). Exhibits from the beginning level project, Design My Place, are county-only and not eligible for State Fair.
- ◆ Exhibits may be no taller than 7 feet and no wider than 6 feet. All exhibits must be able to be easily lifted by two 4-H staff.
- ◆ Label each separate piece of the exhibit with the exhibitor's name and county. For the State Fair, an entry tag which includes a clear description of the entry must be securely attached to each Home Environment exhibit. Use color, pattern, or picture descriptions to aid in identification. No straight pins.

DIVISION 229 – QUILT QUEST

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00 White \$3.00

In Quilt Quest, 4-H'ers learn skills as they progress through the project. The least experienced 4-H exhibitor will select fabric, cut, and sew together only squares or rectangles in making the quilt top. They may have additional guidance in piecing the quilt block and layering together the quilt top, inner batting and the quilt bottom. Another person can do the quilting for them. **If someone else does binding, the quilt must be entered in the intergenerational class.**

In the Premier Class, the 4-H'er has developed skills to be able to do all of the work by himself / herself. This includes pattern and fabric selection, cutting and sewing individual pieces, layering the quilt top/batting/backing together, and quilting. Quilting may be done by hand, by sewing machine or by a commercial-grade quilting machine. After quilting, the 4-H'er must finish the quilt by "squaring it up," putting binding on the edge, and placing a label on the quilt which provides details about the quilt making process for historical purposes. For all classes, 4-H'ers can choose fabrics for the quilt by selecting fabric from fabric bolts.

Please note the description of classes, which denote the degree of difficulty in construction and not the number of years in the project. A quilted exhibit consists of three or more layers. All quilted exhibits must be quilted (machine or hand) or tied. All quilt piecing and finishing must be the sole work of the 4-H member. Quilting, whether machine or hand quilted, may be done by another individual, except for the Premier Quilt class. No pre-quilted fabric may be used. Wall quilts must have a hanging sleeve on the back of the quilt or some method for hanging. All quilted exhibits must be clean and finished for intended purpose.

Supporting Information Required: On a half sheet of 8.5-inch x 11 inch paper, include an explanation answering the following questions: A) How and why did you select the design? B) Why did you select the materials and what materials did you use? C) Explain what you did and what was done by others. D) What did you learn that could be used on your next project? Exhibits without supporting information will be lowered a ribbon placing.

All entry cards and support information must be attached using a safety pin. No straight pins. Home design & restoration tag templates can be copied (below) or printed from: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/4-h/madison-county-4-h-fairbook/>

4-H'ers may also use "fabric collections" offered by manufacturers in a particular designer or fabric line. Examples of fabric collections include:

- ◆ Jelly Rolls are made of (up to) 40 different strips of 2 ½" wide fabric laying on top of one another and rolled up to look like a jelly roll. The fabric is created by one designer or fabric line and compliments each other. In many cases, less skilled 4-H'ers find it difficult to cut narrow strips with a rotary cutter and ruler, so this fabric selection may make it easier as they learn.
- ◆ Honey Buns are made like the Jelly Rolls with 1 ½" strips of fabrics.
- ◆ Layer Cakes are 10" squares of fabric from a manufactured designer or fabric line with different pieces of fabric "layered" on top of one another to look like a piece of cake.
- ◆ Charm Packs are made of 5" squares of coordinating fabric and may be tied with a string or fabric scrap.
- ◆ Candies are 2 ½" squares of fabric from a manufactured designer or fabric line.
- ◆ Turnover is a collection of coordinating fabrics that are cut into 6" triangles.
- ◆ Fat Quarters are ½ yard cuts of fabric which are cut in half to make a rectangle that is approximately 18" x 21". (One half yard of fabric yields two fat quarters). The "fat quarter" can be more economical to purchase for a smaller quilt because the purchaser does not have to buy the entire yardage width.
- ◆ Fabric Kit is a collection of fabrics cut in large pieces to accommodate the requirements of a particular quilt pattern. The 4-H'er must cut out all of the smaller squares, rectangles, etc. to make the quilt top according to the pattern directions.

After fabric selection, youth can use a variety of tools for cutting the fabric and completing the quilt. Cutting into pattern pieces may include hand roller die cutting machines that cut various shapes which can be applied to fabric. This is allowed in the construction of the quilt.

A quilted exhibit is made up of at least three layers. Quilts or quilted items must be quilted or tied through all layers. No fleece blankets: these should be placed in Design My Place.

Quilts must have a permanent label on the back in the bottom right corner with quilter's name and date of completion.

Classes:

10. Exploring Quilts – Illustrate some aspect of quilts or quilt making. Examples include, but are not limited to, language arts, quilts of different cultures, chemistry, design, preservation, history, construction, math conversion of quilt patterns, textiles/fabrics, computerization, and entrepreneurship. History may include history of an old quilt or history/research of a particular style of quilt (such as Baltimore album quilts, or Amish quilts.) Exhibits may be a 14x22" poster, a 3-ring notebook that is 8.5x11" , or the use of a digital platform. Multi-media presentations and exhibits are to be uploaded to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing. All items in an exhibit must be attached together and labeled. No quilted items should be entered in this class.

Guidelines for Classes 20-42 and 901

Quilt Design Other than Fabric – Supporting information to include (only required if selected for state fair): 1) how and why did you select the design? 2) how and why did you select the color choice? 3) explain what you did and what you learned by doing this project.

Classes:

20. Two- or three-dimensional item with quilt design made using medium other than fabric such as wooden quilt block, stained glass, paper, etc.
21. Barn Quilt – Piece of wood less than 4' x 4' painted to look like a quilt block.
22. Barn Quilt – Piece of wood 4' x 4' or larger painted to look like a quilt block.
30. Computer Exploration – Notebook (3-ring, 8.5x11") or poster (14x22") with a minimum of six computer-generated quilt designs or color variations on a quilt design. Include information of the type of program used, process used to generate designs, or how you used color to create different quilt designs.
40. Wearable art – Quilted clothing or clothing accessory which must have a recognizable amount of quilting and may include fabric manipulation. Quilting must be done by 4-H member. On a half sheet of 8½" x 11" inch paper, tell how you selected the design and fabrics including whether or not you used a kit, jelly roll, charm squares, etc.
41. Inter-Generational Quilt – A quilt made by a 4-H member and family members or friends of different generation. On a half-sheet of 8½" x 11" inch paper, include an explanation answering the following questions: A) How was the quilt planned and who did what in the construction of the quilt? B) How did you select the design and fabrics including whether or not you used a kit, jelly roll, charm squares, etc.? C) What did you learn that you can use on your next project?
42. Service Project Quilt – A quilt constructed by a 4-H member or group to be donated to a worthy cause. On a half sheet of 8½" x 11" inch paper, include an explanation answering the following questions: A) Why was the quilt constructed and who will receive the donated quilt? B) How did you select the design and fabrics used including whether or not you used a kit, jelly roll, charm squares, etc.? C) What did you do and what was done by others? D) What did you learn that you can use on your next project?
- *901. Quilted Accessories. Examples include table runners, place mats, play mats, toy, and soft sculpture. This class does not include wall hangings. May be two- or three-dimensional.

Guidelines for Classes 50-83

The description of classes which denote the degree of difficulty in construction and not the number of years in the project.

All quilted exhibits must be clean and finished for intended purpose. A quilted exhibit consists of three or more layers. All quilted exhibits must be quilted (machine or hand), or tied. All quilt piecing and finishing must be the sole work of the current 4-H member. Quilting, whether machine or hand quilted, may be done by another individual except for the premier quilt class.

No pre-quilted fabric may be used. Wall quilts must have a hanging sleeve on the back of the quilt, or some method for hanging. All quilted exhibits must have a permanent label on the back in the bottom right corner with quilters name and date of completion.

On a half sheet of 8 ½" x 11" paper, include an explanation answering the following questions: A) How did you select the design and fabrics? B) Did you use a kit, jelly roll, charm squares, etc.? C) Explain what you did and what was done by others. D) What did you learn that could be used on your next project?

Indicate size (a, b, or c) with each entry number. Quilt sizes:

a. Small – maximum length + width = 60"

Includes miniature quilts, wall hangings, table runners, placemats (4), and pillows.

All items must be quilted. Pillows must have quilted top, not just pieced patchwork.

b. Medium – maximum length + width = from 61" to 120"

c. Large – length + width over 120"

Quilted Exhibit – Pieced quilts made of squares and / or rectangles.

50. Small

51. Medium

52. Large

Quilted Exhibit – In addition to squares or rectangles, quilts may have triangles, and / or may be embroidered.

60. Small

61. Medium

62. Large

Quilted Exhibit – In addition to any of the methods in Classes 50 – 62, quilts may have curved piecing, applique, Celtic style, stained glass style, paper piecing, art quilt style, or other non-traditional styles. (An art quilt is an original exploration of a concept or idea rather than the handing down of a “pattern”. It experiments with textile manipulation, color, texture, and / or a diversity of mixed media. An art quilt often pushes quilt world boundaries.)

70. Small

71. Medium

72. Large

Premiere Quilt – Entire quilt is the sole work of the 4–H member, including quilting (hand or machine). Youth may receive guidance but no one else may work on the quilt. No tied quilts.

80. Hand quilted

81. Sewing machine quilted

82. Long arm quilted – non-computerized / hand guided

83. Long arm quilted – computerized

***DIVISION 251 – DESIGN MY PLACE**

Supporting Information not required.

Classes:

*901. Needlework accessory (made with yarn or floss)

*902. Simple fabric accessory (pillow, laundry bag, pillowcase, table runner, fleece blanket, etc.)

*903. Home accessory made with original batik or tie dye

*904. Simple accessory made by 4–H'er' using wood, plastic, glass, clay, or paper.

*905. Storage item made or recycled.

*906. Bulletin or message board

*907. Metal tooling or metal punch accessory

*908. Holiday décor

*909. Original drawing

*910. Other accessory related to home decorating / design.

DIVISION 256 –HOME ANTIQUE RESTORATION **(previous Heirloom Treasurers/Family Keepsakes)**

This project area is for items with historic, sentimental, or antique value that are restored, repurposed or refinished to keep their original look and value. It is not for “recycled” items. For example, a bench would be considered an heirloom if the original finish is restored, but if decorated by painting it would be considered recycled. Entering highly valuable items (especially small ones) is discouraged, as exhibits are not displayed in closed cases. Item or article should be of complexity suited to an advanced project.

Supporting information required: Attach information including:

- ◆ List of steps taken to complete your project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.
- ◆ Keepsakes documentation: how you acquired the item and the history of the item; may be written, with pictures included, interview with family member, etc.
- ◆ Note: Resources to support this project area are available on the 4–H website.

Classes:

1. Trunks – Including doll–sized trunks or wardrobes.
2. An Article – Either a repurposed "treasure" (accessory) from an old item or an old "treasure" (accessory) refinished or renovated. May include a display of a collection or collectibles, being careful not to destroy value of the collection.
3. Furniture – Either a repurposed "treasure" from an old item or an old "treasure" refinished or renovated. May include doll–sized furniture.
4. Cleaned and Restored Heirloom Accessory or Furniture – A reconditioned and cleaned old piece of furniture or accessory so that the item or furniture is functional for use or display. Item might be cleaned and waxed, and simple repairs made. Item would not have to be refinished or repainted but reconditioned to restore it to its original look or to prevent it from further damage as a valuable heirloom. Consult extension publication Care and Conservation of Heirloom Textiles, G1682, for information on textiles. (Publication can be found in the Digital Commons at: <https://go.unl.edu/gcnh>.) This class is for situations where it may be best to do very little to the item to maintain its antique value. Item or article should be of complexity suited to an advanced project. (Refinished items go in classes 2–3.)

DIVISION 257 – DESIGN DECISIONS

Limit of five exhibits in Design Decisions project. Limit of one entry per class number.

Supporting information is not required at the county fair. If your project is selected for the State Fair, supporting information is required.

Classes:

1. Design Board for a Room – Include color scheme, wall treatment, floor treatment, etc. or Floor Plan for a Room. Posters (22”x28”). Show what you learned with before and after pictures or diagrams, samples, story, cost comparisons, optional arrangements, etc.
2. Problem Solved, Energy Savers, OR Career Exploration – Identify a problem (as problem windows, storage needs, inconvenient room arrangement, cost comparison, energy conservation, waste management, etc.) OR explore a career related to home environment. (What would it be, what education is needed, what would you do, etc.) Using poster, notebook, or other method, describe the problem and how it was solved OR your career exploration.
3. Solar, Wind, or Other Energy Alternatives for the Home – Can be models, either an original creation or an adaption of kit. If kit, label and explain what was learned and how the item could be used in or on the exterior of home.

4. Technology in Design – Incorporate technology into a project related to home design or use technology to develop the design; for example, using conductive thread to create a circuit that enhances a wall hanging or create the design with a 3D printer.
6. Window Covering – May include curtains, draperies, shades, shutters, etc.
7. Floor covering – May be woven, braided, painted floor cloth, etc. May be exhibited as a poster
8. Bedcover – May include quilt, comforter, bedspread, dust ruffle, canopy, etc. For quilts, state who did the quilting. No fleece-tied exhibits. (p. 50–53)
9. Accessory – Original Needlework / Stitchery.
10. Accessory – Textile – 2D (tablecloth or runner, dresser scarf, wall hanging, etc. No tied fleece blankets or beginning 10-minute table runners.)
11. Accessory – Textile – 3D (pillows, pillow shams, fabric bowls, etc.) No fleece-tied exhibits.
12. Accessory – 2D
13. Accessory – 3D (string art, etc.)
14. Accessory – Original Floral Design

For classes 15 – 18, determine entry by what medium was manipulated.

15. Accessory – Original made from Wood – burn, cut, shape, or otherwise manipulate.
16. Accessory– Original made from Glass – etch, mosaic, stain, molten, or otherwise manipulated.
17. Accessory –Original made from Metal–cut, shape, punch, sculpt, reassemble, or otherwise manipulated.
18. Accessory –Original made from Ceramic or Tile – Treatment to exhibit must go through a process that permanently alters the medium. Painting alone is not sufficient.
19. Accessory – Recycled/Upcycled Item for the Home – reuse a common object or material in a creative way. Include a description of what was done to recycle or reuse item in your attached information.
20. Furniture – Recycle/Remade, made or finished using a common object or material in creative way. Include description of what was done to recycle or reuse item in attached information.
21. Furniture – Wood Opaque finish such as paint or enamel.
22. Furniture – Wood Clear finish showing wood grain.
23. Furniture – Fabric Covered – May include stool, chair seat, slipcovers, headboard, etc.
24. Furniture – Outdoor living – Accessory made/refurbished suitable for outdoor use. Include description of what was done to recycle/reuse item in your attached information.
25. Accessory – Outdoor Living – Accessory made/refurbished by 4–H member suitable for outdoor use. Include description of what was done to recycle or reuse item in your attached information.

DEPARTMENT C—VISUAL ARTS

Superintendents Christy Owen & Kristen Sindelar

The purpose of the Visual Arts projects is to learn design principles and develop design techniques. In addition, youth should work to communicate a personal voice, with intention, through their work. **Supporting information is not required at the county fair. If your project is selected for the State Fair, supporting information is required.** Information must include responses to all questions and steps taken to complete the project. Supporting information must be securely attached to the back of the piece. Supporting Information tag templates can be found at: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/4-h/madison-county-4-h-fairbook/>

No class changes will be made after check-in. Exhibits in inappropriate classes may be dropped a ribbon placing.

DIVISION 260 – Visual Art Mediums

Limit one entry per person per class.

Classes:

1. Original acrylic painting – Ready to hang using sawtooth or wire hanger. Paintings on stretched canvases do not need frames as long as staples are not showing on the edges. All other paintings must be framed.
2. Original oil painting – Framed and ready to hang.
3. Original watercolor painting – Framed and ready to hang.
4. Original Pencil Drawing – Framed and ready to hang.
5. Original Charcoal Drawing – Framed and ready to hang.
6. Original Ink Drawing – Framed and ready to hang.
7. Original Fiber Art – Could include weaved art, dyed fabric, felted wool, cotton linter, batik, etc.
8. Original Sculpture – Could include Styrofoam, wood, cardboard, paper, metal, wire, ect.
9. Original Ceramic Pottery – No purchased ceramic pottery. Must be glazed and fired. May be any hand-built technique or wheel thrown. May be functional or non-functional. Could include slab built, pinch pots, coil built, wheel thrown, etc.
10. Original Painting on Purchased Ceramic Surface – No hand-built or wheel thrown pottery. May be functional or non-functional. Could include figurines, cups, bowls, etc.
11. Original Single Media Not Listed – Could include digital art, leathercrafting, printmaking, stained glass, pastels, scratchboard, sand painting, encaustic painting, chalk, etc.
12. Original Mixed Media – Could include any combination of two or more other mediums or materials

DIVISION 261 – Visual Art Themes

Limit one entry per person per class.

Exhibits may utilize any medium or combination of mediums on any surface. All exhibits must be appropriately presented and ready to be professionally displayed. Artwork should depict the artist's own interpretation of the theme. All exhibits should include an explanation of how the piece reflects the theme and what ideas or thoughts the artist was attempting to express or communicate.

Classes:

1. Original Art Inspired by Plants or Animals – could involve but is not limited to domestic animals, pets, agriculture, wild animals, wildlife conservation, house plants, fruit, vegetables, flowers, native plants, trees, etc.
2. Original Art Inspired by Landscape – could involve but is not limited to rural landscapes, natural environments, man-made environments, urban landscapes, extraterrestrial landscapes, oceanic scenes, buildings, fantasy landscapes, agricultural landscapes, etc.
3. Original Art Inspired by People – could involve but is not limited to cultural art, modern society, portraits, daily life, careers, families, emotions, etc.
4. Original Art Inspired by Artist’s Choice – could involve but is not limited to food, cars, fantasy worlds, imaginary characters, science-fiction, history, etc.

DEPARTMENT C—CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE

Superintendent Doug McKibbin

Conservation, wildlife, and shooting sports gives 4-H members an opportunity to share their knowledge and field experience about conservation, wildlife, and shooting sports. All exhibits must follow all respective state and national laws relating to conservation, wildlife and shooting sports.

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.50 Red \$3.00 White \$2.50

Each exhibitor is limited to a total of four exhibits, each in a different class.

All exhibitors must show evidence of their personal field experiences, study, or observations that relate to their exhibit. This helps judges understand what the 4-H member did and learned in the process that led to the exhibit. Show proper credit by listing the sources of plans or other supporting information used in exhibits.

Exhibits should be as self-explanatory as possible so that all viewers understand the educational points or what the exhibit is all about. Written explanations should be short but clear and complete so the viewer can quickly and easily understand the message and purpose of display.

The exhibitor's name, county, and age must be on the back or bottom of all displays so that the owner can be identified even if the entry tag becomes separated from the exhibit.

The word "animal" or "wildlife" in the following classes includes wild fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, or mammals. Domestic animals (i.e. domestic livestock or house pets) and insect exhibits are not appropriate for this area. 4-H members must comply with current state and federal laws. It is illegal to possess threatened, endangered, or protected wildlife, or the feathers, nests, or eggs of non-game birds. These items cannot be part of an exhibit. Game birds and game animals taken legally during an open season may be used.

Mount all board exhibits on 1/4" plywood, Masonite, or similar panel 24" x 24". Poster exhibits should be on regular poster sheets, no larger than standard size (22" x 28"). Half size (22" x 14") is recommended. Exhibits should not exceed 48" x 48" and be able to be moved by two people. Large exhibits (larger than listed above) must be suited and prepared for outdoor exhibition at the Nebraska State Fair (if exhibit qualifies). If large exhibits are not suited for outdoor exhibition, youth have the option to create a poster or another suitable substitute for the exhibit, instead of the

project itself.

No firearms, items with a blade (broad heads, knives, saws, etc.) or related items of any other kind, may be exhibited. This applies to actual items, replicated items, and item parts. Photos are a suitable substitution for actual items.

Scoresheets, forms, contest study materials, and additional resources can be found at <https://go.unl.edu/ne4hconservation-wildlife-shooting>.

DIVISION 320 – FORESTRY

Purple \$3.50 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$1.50

The official reference for all forestry projects is Tree Identification Manual (4–H 332), which is available for purchase from UNL Marketplace. Other helpful forestry references include Trees of Nebraska (EC 92-1774-X), Leafing Out (4-H431) and Plant a Tree (EC 17-11-80).

- ◆ Display "boards" must be made from wood or wood composite, i.e. plywood, fiberboard, or masonite or equivalent, ¼" to ½" thick no larger than 24" x 24". Display boards may be coated, e.g. painted, or varnished on both sides to prevent warping.
- ◆ Display books must measure no more than 16" x 16".
- ◆ Display "posters" must be made from a material, e.g. foam board or poster board that will stand upright without buckling and be no larger than 24" x 24".
- ◆ At least five of the ten samples in Classes 2, 3, 4, and 5 must be from the list of sixty species described in 4–H 332. Samples must be from ten different tree species. For example, Emerald Queen Maple and Crimson King Maple are both varieties of the same species (Norway Maple), and thus have the same genus and species name, i.e. *Acer platanoides*. All samples must be from trees, NO shrubs. If more than ten samples are included in the display, only the first ten samples from the current year will be judged.
- ◆ Due to emerald ash borer infestation, no true ash species (Green Ash, White Ash, Black Ash, or Blue Ash) may be included in any collections. Inclusion of a true ash species will result in disqualification.
- ◆ Other general labeling standards apply. For example, scientific names are always italicized or underlined. Also, the first letter of a Genus name is always capitalized. The first letter of a species name is always lower case. When required, always indicate complete scientific names (Genus and species) and common names, (e.g. Norway Maple) even when "variety names" are included. For example, the scientific name of Emerald Queen Maple is *Acer platanoides* and the common name is Norway maple. "Emerald Queen" may be included as the variety name, but variety names are not required.
- ◆ How well the exhibitor follows written directions is an important factor in judging.

Classes:

1. Design Your Own Exhibit – Prepare an educational exhibit about some aspect of trees, forests, or forestry that is of special interest to you. Possible topics include paper recycling, grafting fruit or nut trees, proper pruning techniques, how wildlife are impacted by forests, history about a local arboretum, information about a historical tree in Nebraska, the history of planting windbreaks in Nebraska, etc. The display must be no larger than 24" x 24" x 24". Original photographs, drawings, samples, charts, posters, etc. can be used, but include enough information to adequately explain the topic that is being showcased. This exhibit will need to be substantially different from the other exhibit classes.
2. Leaf Display – The leaf display must include samples of complete leaves from at least ten

different trees species. At least 5 of the 10 samples must be from a tree on the 2026 Nebraska 4-H Tree List. The display must include two samples each of simple leaves, compound leaves, and conifer leaves. Leaves should be pressed, dried and mounted.

Leaf collection: Collect leaves any time after they have reached full size, usually beginning in early summer. Leaf samples should be in good condition and representative of the average leaves on the tree. Keep in mind that shaded leaves are often much larger than leaves in full sun. Carefully remove leaves from the twig with the entire petiole or rachis intact.

After collection, fresh leaf samples can be temporarily stored within the pages of an old magazine, but they should be properly pressed and dried for display. Be sure to record pertinent information during collection and when collecting leaves on private land, remember to get permission. All collections must be done by the exhibitor.

Mounting: Leaves may be displayed in a notebook or on a display board. Any method may be used to mount the leaves, – e.g. wire, glue, tape, staples, but be sure all their features can be clearly identified.

Labeling: The label for each sample must include the:

- 1) Common name
- 2) Scientific name
- 3) Leaf type (i.e. broadleaf, needle-like, etc.)
- 4) Leaf arrangement (for broadleaf trees) (i.e. alternate, opposite, whorled)
- 5) Leaf composition (for broadleaf trees) (i.e. simple, pinnately compound, palmately compound, etc.)
- 6) Collector's name
- 7) Collection date
- 8) Collection location (be specific—including state and county at a minimum)

If a twig is included with a sample, indicate “twig included” on the label. For example, the twig may be included with an eastern red cedar sample because the leaves are very small and difficult to remove from the twig.

Supplemental information may include general uses, common products, fall color, etc., to enhance its educational value. These are important factors in judging and should not exceed 3 printed pages including citation of sources.

3. Twig Display – The twig display must include twig samples from at least ten different tree species. At least 5 of the 10 species must be from the 2026 Nebraska 4-H Tree List. Display must include at least two samples each of opposite and alternate leaf arrangements from broadleaf trees.

Collection: Twig samples should be collected during the dormant season. (November–March) when the buds are mature but before spring budbreak. Be sure to collect healthy twigs, not diseased or dead twigs. Twig samples must be at least six inches long and exhibit buds. The terminal end of the twig must be included. If present, leaves of deciduous trees should be removed. Leaves of evergreen trees should be retained but be sure the buds are visible. Side branches must be trimmed to less than one inch in length. All twig collections must be done by the exhibitor.

Mounting: Twigs must be mounted on a display board. Any method, including wire, glue, tape, staples, plastic bags, may be used to mount twigs, but be sure all their features can be

clearly identified. The non-terminal end must be cut at a slant so the pith can be seen.

Labeling: The label for each sample must include:

- 1) Common name
- 2) Scientific name
- 3) Leaf arrangement (for broadleaf trees) (i.e. alternate, opposite, whorled)
- 4) Collector's name
- 5) Collection date
- 6) Collection location (be specific, including state and county at a minimum)

Supplemental information: This may include general uses, common products, fall color, etc. to enhance educational value. These are important factors in judging and should not exceed three printed pages including citation of sources.

4. Seed Display – The display must include seed samples from at least ten different tree species. At least 5 of the 10 species must be from a tree on the 2026 Nebraska 4-H Tree List.

Collection: Tree seeds should be collected at the time of year when they mature, which varies widely depending upon tree species. For example, Silver maple seeds mature in May while Norway maple seeds mature in September or October. Seed samples should be free of insect or disease symptoms. All collections must be done by the exhibitor. The focus of this display is seeds; however, species identification by seeds is often greatly aided by including the fruit, since some seeds are very difficult to separate from the fruit. Use the following guidelines when preparing this display:

- If the fruit is displayed along with the seeds, clearly label each.
- Seeds enclosed in a dry, papery fruit (such as maple, ash, and elm) should be left within the fruit to aid in identification.
- Seeds enclosed in large fleshy fruit(s) (such as apple, mulberry, pawpaw) should be removed from the fruit and displayed without the fruit. Small fleshy fruits that can be dried (such as hackberry) may be displayed, but some seed should also be removed from the fruit and displayed alongside the dried fruit.
- Acorns (oaks) should be left intact to aid in identification.
- Seeds easily removed from the fruit, such as seeds within husk (walnuts, hickory, buckeye, etc.), a pod (honey locust, Kentucky coffee tree, etc.), or a capsule (poplar, sweetgum, etc.) should be removed from the fruit for display. The fruit may be displayed in addition to the seed.
- Cones from conifers (pines, spruces, fir, etc) may be displayed along with the conifer seeds.

Mounting: Seeds may be displayed in a variety of ways, e.g. mounted on a display board, displayed in jars in a rack, etc., but they must be securely mounted and easily viewed.

Labeling: Labels for each sample must include:

- 1) Common name
- 2) Scientific name
- 3) Type of fruit, (example–samara, pod, nut, legume, etc.)
- 4) Collector's name
- 5) Collection date
- 6) Collection location (be specific—including state and county at a minimum)

Supplemental information required: This may include general uses, common products, fall color, etc. to enhance educational value. These are important factors in judging and

should not exceed three printed pages including citation of sources.

5. Wood Display – The woods display must include wood samples from ten different tree species. At least 5 of the 10 species must be from a tree on the 2026 Nebraska 4-H Tree List.

Preparation: Samples may be of any shape, for example sections from a board, wood cylinders turned on a lathe, horizontal or vertical cross sections of a small log with bark attached, etc., All samples should be the same shape, e.g. all wood cylinders or all sections of a board. Each sample can be no larger than 4” x 4” x 4”. Cut surfaces should be sanded to show the grain. Treating samples with a clear finish (no stain) is optional. All collection must be done by the 4-H exhibitor. When power tools are used for collecting, preparing, and mounting samples, assistance from an adult is a must and proper personal protection equipment needs to be utilized by both the adult and the 4-H member. Safety always comes first.

Mounting: Samples may be displayed in a variety of ways, e.g. mounted on a display board, displayed in a box or rack, etc., but they must be securely mounted and easily viewed.

Labeling: The Label for each sample must include:

- 1) Common name
- 2) Scientific name
- 3) Wood type (softwood or hardwood)
- 4) Collector’s name
- 5) Collection date
- 6) Collection location (be specific—including state and county at a minimum)

Supplemental information: This may include general uses, common products, fall color, etc.to enhance educational value. These are important factors in judging and should not exceed three printed pages including citation of sources.

6. Cross Section – Display a disc cut from a tree species listed on the 2026 Nebraska 4-H Tree List. The sample must be collected by the 4-H’er within one year of the state fair judging day. When power tools are used for collecting, preparing, and mounting samples, assistance from an adult is a must and proper personal protection equipment needs to be utilized by both the adult and the 4-H member. Safety always comes first. The disc must measure 6 to 12 inches in diameter and one to three inches thick. The bark should be firmly attached, which may be difficult if the tree was dead when the disc was cut. Sand at least one side of the disc so the grain can be easily seen. If the disc is treated with a clear finish, both sides must be treated to minimize warping. As the disc dries, some cracking or checking can be expected and is allowed.

Labeling: The following parts must be clearly, accurately, and securely attached cross sections should be labeled with pins, paper tags, or some other form of identification:

- 1) Pith
- 2) Heartwood
- 3) Sapwood
- 4) One growth ring
- 5) Cambium
- 6) Bark

A separate label attached to the back of the disc must include:

- 7) Common name
 - 8) Scientific name
 - 9) Tree classification (softwood or hardwood)
 - 10) Age (of the cross section)
 - 11) Collector's name
 - 12) Collection date
 - 13) Collection location (be specific, including state and county at a minimum)
7. Parts of a Tree – This project is recommended for ages 8–11. Prepare a poster, no larger than 24” x 24” that clearly identifies the main external parts of any tree:
a) Trunk, b) Crown, c) Roots, d) Leaves, e) Flowers, f) Fruit, g) Buds, h) Bark
identifying other internal parts, e.g. phloem, xylem, cambium, annual ring, pith, etc., is optional. Attach a separate label on the back of the poster that includes the exhibitor's name and age.
8. Living Tree Display – Display a living tree seedling grown by the exhibitor from seed. The seed must be a species listed on the 2026 Nebraska 4-H Tree List. The seedling must be 60 days to one year old (on State Fair judging day). The display container must contain at least eight inches of soil (potting mix or suitable natural soil) measured vertically, have drainage holes, and a drain pan to catch drainage water. For this display, the 4-H member does not have to be the one to collect the seed, but they will need to plant the seed themselves.

Labeling: A waterproof label must be attached and include:

- 1) Common name
- 2) Scientific name
- 3) Seed treatments (if any)
- 4) Planting date
- 5) Emergence date
- 6) Exhibitor's name

Supplemental information about the tree, examples include where the seed was collected, growth measurements, uses for that species, etc., These may be included in an attached notebook, poster, etc. Supplemental information will enhance the educational value and be an important factor in judging. Supplemental information needs to be attached to either the pot or to a stake that is in the soil of the pot. DO NOT attach supplemental information to the living tree. Supplemental information should not exceed 3 printed pages and cite sources of information.

9. Forest Product Display – Prepare a visual display and / or collection tracing the origin of one non-lumber product that comes from trees and / or forests. The display must be no larger than 24” x 24” x 24”. Original photographs, drawings, samples, charts, posters, etc. can be used. Posters submitted may be no larger than 24” x 24” and may be either vertical or horizontal. Contestant must identify what species of tree the product is derived from and where the product is harvested, grown, or otherwise collected. Product listed must be partially or fully derived from trees; if partial, the approximate percentage should be articulated in the display.
- ◆ Goal of exhibit is for 4-H'ers to learn that many products come from trees and forests and to explore one of these products through in-depth study.

- ◆ Information about the tree or forest product: e.g. information about harvesting, processing, industry information, and environmental or other benefits may be included to enhance educational value. Supplemental information will be an important factor in judging but should not exceed three printed pages of text. Cite sources of information.
 - ◆ Personal interviews with industry professionals are encouraged as a source of information.
10. Forest Health Display – Prepare a visual display outlining a specific forest health issue such as a tree disease, insect pest, animal- or human-caused damage, or an abiotic issue such as weather damage. Display must be no larger than 24” x 24” x 24”. Original photographs, drawings, samples, charts, posters, etc. can be used. Actual specimens are strongly encouraged but must be properly preserved, i.e. insects pinned or placed in vials of alcohol, leaves pressed and dried. Posters submitted may be no larger than 24” x 24”.
- ◆ Explain through the display what species of trees the health issue affects, diagnostic features of the issue (symptoms in trees, identifying features of the pest, etc.) and management options.
 - ◆ Include common and scientific names of trees and pests.
 - ◆ Supplemental information about the tree or forest health issue: e.g. origin, proliferation in Nebraska / United States, and physiological effects on the tree may be included to enhance educational value. Supplemental information will be an important factor in judging but should not exceed three printed pages of text. Include citation of sources.
11. Wildfire Prevention Poster – Prepare a poster no larger than 24” x 24” that promotes wildfire prevention strategies. Can include personal and / or land management actions such as forest management plans and implementation, placements of fire breaks or fuel breaks around buildings, wildfire preparedness items, etc.
- ◆ Supplemental information about wildfire prevention should be attached to the poster: e.g. frequency of wildfires in Nebraska / United States, financial costs of wildfires, environmental factors that contribute to wildfires, etc. to enhance educational value. Supplemental information will be an important factor in judging but should not exceed three printed pages of text. Cite sources of information.
901. Sustainable Landscape Diorama – Box must be no larger than 24” x 24”. The exhibit must show a Nebraska landscape that includes elements such as windbreaks, fields, pastureland, CRP, public lands, community / municipal landscapes. The goal of this exhibit is for students to articulate conservation and sustainability best-practices that can be implemented on a landscape, while addressing landowner and other stakeholder interests. Attach to the exhibit a brief report including supplemental information describing the diorama.
13. Tree Planting Project Display – Plant a tree in your community on private or public property. Prepare a visual display where the 4-H'er articulate proper tree planting techniques and follow up care for the tree after planting, why the individual tree species was chosen, as well as steps taken to continue care for the tree after initial planting. Display must be no larger than 24” x 24” x 24”. Original photographs, drawings, samples, charts, posters, etc. can be used. Posters submitted may be no larger than 24” x 24”. The tree must have been planted 60 days to one year before State Fair judging day. 4-H member must obtain permission from necessary authorities and property owners before planting any trees. Diggers Hotline (811) MUST be contacted before planting. Provide documentation that permission was obtained and that Diggers Hotline was contacted.

Labeling: The following information about the tree must be included in the display:

- 1) Common name
- 2) Scientific name
- 3) Planting location
- 4) Planting date
- 5) Tree source (nursery or store where the tree was purchased)
- 6) Planter's name
- 7) Proper tree planting steps
- 8) Tree care (after planting)

Supplemental information about the tree: e.g. why the species was chosen, growth measurements, uses for that species, etc. may be included in an attached notebook, poster, etc. to enhance educational value. Supplemental information will enhance educational value and be a factor in judging but should not exceed three printed pages of text. Include citation of sources

DIVISION 340 – WILDLIFE AND HOW THEY LIVE

Classes 1–4 are board or poster exhibits; the display may show any aspect of wildlife, wildlife habitat, or related conservation. Examples: Life history or other facts about one type of wildlife; how to manage wildlife on a farm or in town; managing habitat for one kind of wildlife; life requirements for one kind of wildlife during one season or through the year; wildlife behavior, habitats, or interesting facts. For more ideas, refer to project booklets.

Classes:

1. Mammal Display
2. Bird Display
3. Fish Display
4. Reptile or Amphibian Display
5. Wildlife Connections Board or Poster Exhibit — The purpose of this display is to show interconnections and related aspects among animals, plants, and other habitat components. All displays should show two or more interactions (connections) that occur between/among animals or between animals and their habitat.

Displays might show how animals interact with other animals, with people, or with their habitat.

Examples:

- 1) Food chain display using pictures, drawings, or other items to illustrate the source of food energy and where it goes (who eats whom or what). Use arrows to show the direction of the energy (food) flow.
 - 2) Show the role of predators, scavengers, insect eaters, or others in nature.
 - 3) Show how wildlife numbers (populations) change through the year.
 - 4) Show predation, competition, or other behavioral interactions of wildlife.
 - 5) Choose one kind of wildlife and make observations through a season or year, keep notes of interactions, then make a display of what you saw.
6. Wildlife Tracks – Board or diorama-type box exhibit. Make a display of animal tracks using casting plaster. Three options are below. For all options, include a brief description of your experiences in making the tracks so the judge better understands what you did and learned. Positive casts (impressions as they would be in nature) are preferred, but not required.
- ◆ Option 1 – Show casting plaster tracks of five or more kinds of wildlife along with a picture or illustration of each kind of animal.

- ◆ Option 2 – Show two or more casting plaster tracks of one specific kind of wildlife and should include a picture or illustration of the animal, what the animal may eat, and what may eat the animal.
 - ◆ Option 3 – Show two tracks and include the animal’s habitat needs, including preferred food, shelter, water, and space in addition to picture or illustration of the animal.
7. Wildlife Knowledge Check – Use electrical circuits, pictures, or other methods of teaching wildlife identification or other wildlife related knowledge. Plan size and shape to fit transportation and display; maximum size 24” x 24”.
 8. Wildlife Habitat Diorama – Exhibit must be no larger than 24" x 24". The exhibit might show grassland, prairie, agricultural, woodland, riparian (stream or river corridor), wetland, and/or other area with wildlife habitat. Example: show an area interspersed with several habitats such as windbreaks, farm fields, woods, waste areas, ditches, and pastures for edge-adapted species such as white-tailed deer, Northern bobwhite, ring-necked pheasants, mourning doves, cottontail rabbits, fox squirrels, Northern cardinals, or blue jays. Label habitats displayed and show at least five kinds of wildlife in their proper habitats. Remember to include supporting information about the wildlife and habitat that is on display.
 9. Wildlife Essay – Learn how to share education information by writing. Choose a conservation or wildlife topic that interests you and write an essay about it. For example: write about a particular species of wildlife that you have observed or about the values of wildlife (commercial value, game value, genetic value, aesthetic value, ecological value, scientific value). You might write about wildlife on a farm, in town, in a backyard, at a backyard feeder, or at other places, or ethics, proper behavior in the outdoors, hunting or fishing.
Essay is between 100 and 1,000 words long and typed, double spaced on 8 ½” x 11” paper. You might use books, magazines, or personal interviews as resources, but you must give credit to all sources by listing them.
 10. Wildlife Values Scrapbook – Make a scrapbook about the value of wildlife. This would include aesthetic, scientific, commercial, game, genetic, and / or ecological topics.
 11. Wildlife Arts – The purpose of the class is to allow artistic exhibits that contain educational information about conservation and wildlife. Ex: might include paintings, photographs, wood carvings, or painted duck decoys, or songs or poems written by the exhibitor. Entries must be appropriate for fair display and no larger than 24" x 24". Ex: paintings or photographs should be displayed in notebook format or mounted on a sturdy display panel. All entries must include a title and brief explanation of purpose or message (what exhibit is meant to show).

DIVISION 341 – OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Display posters must be made of foam board or poster board and measure no larger than 22” x 28”. Poster material should be sturdy enough to hold display items. Display exhibits other than posters must be no larger than 18” x 24”. Journal / Binder exhibits should measure no larger than 16” x 16”. Consider neatness and creativity.

***OUTDOOR ADVENTURES LEVEL I**

Classes:

- *901. Map – Draw / color a map of your hiking trip. Can include the path taken, landmarks, and any special sights or location of interest.
- *902. Collage or collection – Make a collage with items collected while hiking, camping, fishing, or hunting. Or make a box to store your collection.
- *903. Camping / Hiking Safety – Poster or safety kit to be used while camping or hiking.
- *904. Camping / Hiking Gear – Poster or notebook showing camping or hiking essentials. Include why items are useful while camping or hiking.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES LEVEL II

Classes:

1. Poster – Create a poster display no larger than 22”x28”. Topics may include but are not limited to one or more of the following: how to pitch a tent, knot tying, cooking over a campfire, how to start a campfire, wildlife and plants identified while camping, how to set up emergency shelter, dealing with weather, collection of photos from camping trips, “Leave No Trace” and how that was followed while camping, plan a camping trip, camping essentials, environmental issues/protecting natural resources, park or trail clean up, sanitation/hygiene while outdoors, or use of GPS.
2. Journal / Binder – Written report of virtual or actual camping / hiking trips with observations OR field journal (notes of actual experiences, sights, sounds, smells, etc.), OR camping or hiking trip diary. Explain growth in project, leading the hikes, planning the camping trip, now being able to identify the wildlife and nature around you and how identified (sight / sound / shape / smell / color). Feathers / leaf / flower pressings must be securely attached, if included. Photos or drawings of observations encouraged. Exhibits measure no larger than 16” x 16”.
3. Camping / Hiking Safety – Must include explanation of use of item and why selected / purpose, how it fits hiking / camping needs. May include but are not limited to one of the following: travel-sized poisonous plants guide, camping first aid kit, weather / water safety, or hand hygiene kit
4. Digital Media – Use digital media to show video / slideshow / presentation of setting up a tent (including why a site is chosen) or protecting natural resources or environmental issues or computer video camping / hiking game. Submit a USB drive or DVD inside a report cover or notebook. If using a slideshow, include printed slides inside the report cover or notebook.
5. Other Camping Items – Must include what inspired creation of the item and its purpose. May include but are not limited to one of the following: nature art, nature haiku poem, spider web sketches or knot display.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES LEVEL III

6. Poster – Create a poster display, no larger than 22” x 28”. Topics may include but are not limited to one of the following: topographic map, backpacking trip plan, camp layout, plan an expedition (can be dreamed or lived), collection of photos from your expedition, trails hiked, cost comparison of rental vs. purchase or using GPS / compass.
7. Journal / Binder – Written report of actual, virtual, or imagined expeditions / camping / hiking, OR field journal (notes of actual experiences, sights, sounds, smells, etc.). Explain growth in project, challenges in leading a group, teaching others about wildlife and nature identification and “Leave No Trace”. Exhibits measure no larger than 16” x 16”.
8. Expedition Safety – Must include an explanation of use of items, why selected / purpose of item, how it meets hiking / camping, expedition needs. May include but are not limited to one or more of the following: travel-size edible plants guide, creepy crawly guide, tent repair kit, travel first aid kit or weather / water safety. Exhibits measure no larger than 18” x 24”.
9. Digital Media – Use digital media to show video / slideshow / presentation. May include but are not limited to one of the following: building a non-tent shelter (include why needed), packing your backpack / equipment and getting it onto you, teaching others about environmental issues or a computer video backpacking expedition game. Submit a USB drive or DVD inside a report cover or notebook. If using a slideshow, include printed slides inside the report cover or notebook.
10. Other Expedition Items – Must include what inspired the creation of the item and the purpose of the item. May include but are not limited to one of the following: nature art, dehydrated meal or snack (at least one cup displayed in a resealable plastic bag with ingredients, instructions, and nutritional facts included). Exhibits measure no larger than 18” x 24”.

DIVISION 342 – WILDLIFE HABITAT

Classes:

1. Houses – Make a house for wildlife – Bird houses (wren, bluebird, purple martin, wood duck, kestrel, barn owl, etc.) or bat house (no insect houses). Make the house functional so that dimensions, hole size, etc. are appropriate to fit the intended species' needs. ***Supporting Information is required.*** Should include the following information: 1) The kinds of animals for which the house is intended 2) Where and how the house should be located for best use 3) Any seasonal maintenance needed 4) Any evidence of your personal observations or experiences. Tip: check NebGuide on bird houses and shelves.
2. Feeders / Waterers – Make a bird bath or feeder. Examples: seed, suet, or nectar feeders. Squirrel feeders acceptable; no insect feeders. Include the following information: 1) The kind of animal(s) for which the water / feeder is intended 2) Where or how the water / feeder should be located for best use 3) Any seasonal maintenance needed 4) Any evidence of your personal observations or experiences. Tip: check NebGuide on feeding birds
3. Wildlife Habitat Design Board or Poster Exhibit – Choose a backyard, acreage, or farm, and design a habitat plan to meet the food, water, shelter, and space needs of at least three kinds of animals you would like to attract. Draw an outline of the area and show what plants or other habitat will be provided. Indicate how the various parts of your plan provide the desired habitat needs. You might include an aerial photo of the area if you have one.

DIVISION 343 – HARVESTING EQUIPMENT

Classes:

1. Fish Harvesting Equipment Board Exhibit – Display of equipment used in fish harvesting. Examples: fishing knots, hooks (with corks over ends for safety), and lures. Label all items displayed. Include in your exhibit the following information: 1) The purpose of each item 2) When or where each item is used 3) Any personal experience you have with the item(s).
2. Build a Fishing Rod –Rod building kits with instructions are available for this purpose. A fishing rod educational exhibit may not exceed 96 inches length. Exhibit must be mounted on a board. Include with the exhibit:
 - ◆ Explanation of cost of materials/components, where materials/components were purchased, how made and number of hours required for construction.
 - ◆ Label all parts. Necessary components which must be included are grip, lines guides (based on manufacturers specifications), guide wraps, and hook keeper. Reel seat needs to be aligned with guides, and guides aligned accurately down the rod. Guide wraps of size A to D, nylon or silk thread. Exhibits will be judged on: workmanship, labeling of parts, information, and neatness.
3. Casting Target – Make a casting target for exhibit and use. Target must be under 48” x 48”. The bullseyes must be two feet, outer band must be one foot in diameter and can have up to three rings. The exhibit must be easy to store, durable, and weather resistant. Include the purpose and rules of using your casting target.
4. Wildlife Harvesting Equipment Board Exhibit – Display of equipment used in harvesting wildlife. Examples: expended ammunition castings (no live ammunition permitted) steel traps, hide stretchers, fleshers, etc. For displays of shotguns, rifles, or bows, use drawings or pictures. Label all items displayed: 1) Purpose of each item 2) When or where it is used 3) Any personal experiences you have had with the item(s).
5. Inventing Wildlife / Fish Harvesting Equipment, Aid, or Accessory – Use engineering principles to invent or adapt equipment that helps you harvest fish or wildlife. This could include wildlife calls, adapted fishing pole for shallow water, a blind, decoys, etc. Share your drawing (or adapted plans), how the equipment works, how you tested it, and the results of testing your prototype and any adjustments you made.

DIVISION 346 – TAXIDERMY

Class: Refer to sizing requirements under the Conservation and Wildlife rules above

1. Tanned Hides (Specimens) – Exhibit of a legal wild animal hide properly processed by the member. No requirement as to mounting. Must include the name of the animal and the following information in your exhibit: 1) The animal's name and 2) Information about the exhibitor's personal field experiences, study or observations that relate to the exhibit.
2. Taxidermy (Specimens) – Any legal fish, bird, or other wild animal properly processed by the member. No requirement as to ~~size or~~ mounting. Must include the name of the animal and the following information in your exhibit: 1) The animal's name and 2) Information about the exhibitor's personal field experiences, study or observations that relate to the exhibit.

DIVISION 347 – 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

4-H Shooting Sports requires 4-H Members to be under the direct leadership of a certified 4-H Shooting Sports Leader in either shotgun, rifle (bb gun), archery, pistol, black powder / muzzleloader, and / or hunting skills. No firearms can be entered as an exhibit nor live ammunition; however, information can be shared through pictures. Classes 4-9 can be entered by anyone in the conservation and wildlife area.

Classes:

1. Shooting Aid or Accessory – Any item which helps the shooter / hunter better perform their sport. Examples: rifle sling, kneeling roll, arm guard, shotgun vest, target boxes, shooting stick, etc. Include your design, or plans you adapted, what the item is, and what it is used for.
2. Storage Case – An item with the purpose to safely hold a firearm, bow, ammunition, and / or arrows. Examples: soft sided shotgun case, quivers, firearm safe. Include your own design, or plans you adapted. Explain how the storage case is used.
3. Practice Game or Activity – Invent or adapt an activity to practice or teach a project skill. Include pictures of youth playing the game, testimonials for 4-H members who played the game, what skill is being worked on, and directions for the game. Explain how you came up with the game or adapted it to fit the needs of your group members.
4. Science, Engineering, Technology Advancements of Shooting Sports, Conservation, or Wildlife Essay or Display – Choose a specific area of shooting sports and share how it has advanced; include a timeline and photos or illustrations. Keep your topic narrow and manageable. Essays are limited to 1,000 words and should be on 8 ½” x 11” paper.
5. Healthy Lifestyles Plan – Include a shooter’s (hiker, camper, angler) diet and exercise plan, and how the 4-H member will benefit or improve from following the plan. Ideally, the 4-H member would follow the plan and include some journal entries about adaptations or improvements made while following the plan.
6. Citizenship / Leadership Project – Share a display on a citizenship project or leadership project the 4-H member took on individually or with a group to improve some aspect related to 4-H Shooting Sports, Conservation, or Wildlife. Examples could be range development, conservation planting to attract wildlife, a camp, 4-H recruitment event. Include who benefitted from the project, what the 4-H member’s role was, and any results.
7. Career Development / College Essay, Interview or Display – Research opportunities for careers related to this area or opportunities for college majors or college activities to help discover using project skills beyond a person’s 4-H career. Essays are limited to 1,000 words and should be on 8½” x 11” paper. Interviews need to include a picture of the interviewee in their work setting, questions asked, and a transcript of answers.
8. Community Vitality Display – Explore the difference shooting sports, conservation, fishing,

and hunting make in keeping Nebraska vibrant, especially in rural area. Present facts and research in an interesting way for the public to learn.

9. Ag Literacy–Value Added Agriculture Interview or Research Project – Explore how traditional ag producers are adding value to their production agriculture operations through conservation efforts, hunting, raising pheasants, shooting sports related tourism, etc. Present findings in an interesting way from which the public can learn from.
10. Shooting Sports Educational Exhibit or Display - Create an educational exhibit or display relating to a topic about Shooting Sports. Displays involving firearms or bows may be exhibited as a photographic display on a poster or in a notebook. Handmade items must include information explaining how the item was made and its intended use. Photos are encouraged.
- *901. Shooting Sports Scoresheets – Include one or more scoresheet(s) from the current shooting sports year in a notebook or three-ring binder.
- *902. Fair Shoot – Participation in the current year’s county fair shoot will be recognized with a premium and ribbon at the fair.

DIVISION 361 – OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES

Classes:

11. Design your own exhibit relating to natural resources, conservation, geology, or ecology. This class is for educational exhibits about natural resources, conservation, wildlife, or ecology **ONLY**. Entries must be appropriate for fair display and no larger than 24" x 24". All entries must include a title and should be clear (a brief explanation or other method) about the intended purpose or message – what the exhibit is meant to show. Think about accuracy, creativity, educational value for viewers, and evidence of exhibitor’s personal experiences and learning.

DEPARTMENT G—AGRONOMY & FIELD CROPS Superintendent Cindy Bohl

Purple \$3.50 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

DIVISION 750 – GRAIN OR PLANT EXHIBITS

The purpose of these exhibits is to demonstrate to the public the benefits from the study and application of crop, weed, range, and soil science to solving problems in management, conservation, sustainability, and environmental protection. For guidelines on specific projects, refer to appropriate project manuals.

Plant exhibits, with the exception of ear of corn, must be the result of the current year's work.

Grain exhibits must be one gallon per sample. Grain exhibits harvested in the fall (i.e. corn or soybeans) may be from previous year's crop.

IMPORTANT: A completed Crop Production Worksheet must accompany grain and plant exhibits or they will automatically be deducted one ribbon placing. The worksheet must include the exhibitors name and address, county, plant hybrid or variety, plant population, whether crop production was irrigated or dry land, and general information including farm cropping history, soil type and weather effects. The worksheet also must include an economic analysis of the project, listing individual expenses and income, on a per acre basis. Other topics to discuss are the selection of variety or hybrid, impacts of tillage and conservation practices, inputs (fuel, fertilizer, irrigation, labor, pesticides, etc.), any observations made during the growing season, and what you learned from your crops project.

This ½ to 1-page summary counts as fifty percent of the total when judged. Worksheet must be the original work of the individual exhibitor, or it will be deducted one ribbon placing. Attach to the entry in a clear plastic cover such that it can be read without removing it from the cover. In addition to the worksheet, grain and plant exhibits will be judged on condition, appearance (disease and insect damage, grain fill), uniformity (size, shape, color, maturity), and quality of exhibit. Grain exhibits must be one gallon per sample. Grain exhibits harvested in the fall (e.g., corn or soybeans) may be from the previous year's project and brought in an appropriately sized box/container for display. **NEW:** Place in a clear container so it can be viewed and displayed. Plant exhibits, with the exception of ears of corn, must be the result of the current year's project.

Crop Display Requirements:

- ◆ Corn – Ten ears or three stalks cut at ground level with no roots or soil and bound together
- ◆ Soybeans – Six stalks cut at ground level and bound together
- ◆ Grain Sorghum – Four stalks cut at ground level and bound together
- ◆ Small Grains (oats, barley, wheat, triticale) – Sheaf of heads two inches in diameter at top; tie with stems about 24” long
- ◆ Other Crops (alfalfa, millet, etc.) – Sheaf of stems three inches in diameter at top; tied with stems cut at ground level or half size small square bale

Grain or Plant Exhibit Classes:

1. Corn (yellow, white, pop, waxy, or any other type)
2. Soybeans
3. Oats
4. Wheat
5. Other Crops (grain sorghum, alfalfa, millets, barley, rye, triticale, amaranth, dry beans, sugar beet, mung bean, canola, forage sorghum, safflower etc.)

DIVISION 750 – DISPLAY EXHIBITS

The purpose of the display is to tell an educational story to those that view the display. The display is a visual representation (pictures, charts, graphs) no larger than 28” x 28” tall on plywood or poster board. The display should be neatly titled. Label display with exhibitor’s name, address, and county on the back side. Explain pictures and graphs clearly and concisely. Consider creativity and neatness.

Each display must have a one-page essay (minimum) explaining why the exhibitor chose the area of display and what they learned from their project. Include any references used. The essay should

be in a clear plastic cover with the exhibitor's name on the outside.

Classes:

6. Crop Production Display – The purpose of this class is to allow original and creative exhibits that contain educational information about crops production aspects, such as crop scouting, alternative crops, pest management, etc.
7. Crop Technology display – Display information about aspects of technology used in crop production, such as genetic engineering, crop breeding, GPS, yield mapping, computers, etc.
8. Crop End Use Display – Display information about the final product or end uses for a crop, such as food, feed, fuel, or other products (i.e. corn can be processed into livestock feed, ethanol, plastics; soybeans can be processed into bio-diesel, pet bedding, crayons, oil) This should not be about the process of crop production, but focus on an end product(s).
9. Water or Soil Display – Display information about water or soils, such as how soils are being used for crop production, range, conservation, wildlife, or wetland use, or ways to protect or conserve water and soil resources
10. Career Interview Display – The purpose of this class is to allow youth to investigate a career in agronomy. Youth should interview one person that works with crops about such topics as what parts of their job do they enjoy or dislike, why did they choose that career, what was their education, etc. Include a picture of the person interviewed.

Special Agronomy Project for 2026: **POPCORN**

11. Special Agronomy Project Educational Exhibit – Educational exhibit based on what was learned from the project, present information on a poster 28” x 28” on plywood or poster board The 4-H member’s name, age, and county must be on the back of the poster or report cover. Each display must have a half-page essay (minimum) explaining why the exhibitor chose the area of display and what they learned from the project. Include references used.
12. Special Agronomy Project Video Presentation – 4-H exhibitor designed a multimedia presentation related to the crop. This could include narration of the growing process, presenting facts about the crop, or any other innovative multimedia practices. The presentation should be at least two minutes in length and no more than five minutes in length. Must have appropriate graphics, sound and either a video clip, animation or voice over and / or original video clip. Presentations are to be uploaded to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing.
13. Special Agronomy Project Freshly Harvested Crop – Plant exhibits must be the result of the current year’s project. See Crop Display Requirements.

DIVISION 751– WEED SCIENCE

Any individual in the Conservation, Environment 1, 2, or 3, Range, Reading the Range, or Crop Production projects may exhibit a weed book or weed display. At least 15 of the specimens must represent this year’s work (after the previous county fair to present day). For assistance identifying plants, use the Nebraska Department of Agriculture’s Weeds of Nebraska and the Great Plains Book.

Exhibits will be judged based on completeness of plant mount, accuracy of identification, label, neatness, and conformity to exhibit requirements.

Books – Plants must be mounted on sheets that are no larger than 14" x 14". Proper plant mount should include root as well as stem and leaf tissue. Plants should be glued rather than taped and the mounts should be protected with a clear clover.

Each completed mount must have the following information in the lower right corner of the mounting sheet:

- 1) Scientific Name (in italic or underlined), with Authority
- 2) Common Name
- 3) County of Collection
- 4) Collection Date
- 5) Collector's Name
- 6) Personal Collection Number, indicating the order that plants were collected
- 7) Other Information, depending on class selected, ex. noxious, life form. Information should be typed or printed neatly.

Scientific Name: *Abutilon theophrasti* Medik.
Common Name: Velvetleaf
County of Collection: Hall County
Collection Date: 6 July 2018
Collector's Name: Dan D. Lion
Personal Collection Number: 3
Life Cycle: Annual

Classes:

1. Weed Identification Book – A collection of a minimum of 15 plant mounts including at least two of the following prohibited noxious weeds (Canada thistle, musk thistle, plumeless thistle, salt cedar, leafy spurge, purple loosestrife, diffuse knapweed, or spotted knapweed, Japanese knotweed, bohemian knotweed, or phragmites), and at least three weeds that are a problem primarily in lawns.
2. Life Span Book – A collection of seven perennials, one biennial, and seven annual weeds.
3. Weeds Display – The purpose of this class is to allow original and creative exhibits that contain educational information about weeds, such as interesting information about a weed species, the effects of weed control, herbicide resistant weeds, what makes a weed a weed, or uses for weeds.

Guidelines for Displays: The purpose of the display is to tell an educational story to those that view the display. The display is a visual representation (pictures, charts, graphs) no larger than 28" x 28" on plywood or poster board. The display should be neatly titled. Label display with exhibitor's name, address, and county on the back side. Explain pictures and graphs clearly and concisely. Each display must have a one-page essay explaining why the exhibitor chose the area of display and what they learned from their project. Include any references used. The essay should be in a clear plastic cover with the exhibitor's name on the outside.

DEPARTMENT E—FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION
Superintendents Emily Jacobson & Deb Jacobson

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Limit of one entry per exhibitor per class. Individuals are limited to three baked products within the Food and Nutrition Division at the State Fair.

Each exhibit must include the recipe. An incomplete exhibit will be lowered a ribbon placing.

Recipe may be handwritten, photocopied, or typed. Recipe will be for the judge only and will not remain with the exhibit during the fair. For non-food entries, attach the entry tag to the upper right hand corner. Additional information, including recipes and supplemental information, should be identified with 4-H'ers name and county.

Commercially prepared mixes are ONLY allowed in Cooking 201 Creative Mix Class. Prepared baking mixes, biscuit mixes, commercially prepared seasoning mixes for food preservation, and other pre-made mixes entered in other categories will be lowered a ribbon placing.

Any ingredient that the 4-H'er uses must be able to be purchased by the 4-H'er. Ingredients such as beer, whiskey, rum, etc. may NOT be used in any recipe file or food exhibit. Exhibits that include alcohol will be disqualified.

Sourdough is categorized differently than standard yeast breads due to its unique leavening agent and fermentation process and may ONLY be entered in Cooking 201 Baking with Whole Grains, Cooking 401 Family Food Traditions, or Cooking 401 Ethnic Food Exhibit.

Any bread item prepared or baked using a bread machine should be entered under the Cooking 201 Non-Traditional Baked Product. All exhibits made in the Cooking 301 or Cooking 401 projects must have been prepared without the assistance of a bread machine for mixing, raising, or baking of the food item.

FOOD SAFETY: exhibits are on display for several days. Items that require refrigeration will not be accepted, judged, or displayed as exhibits must be safe to eat when entered, whether they are tasted or not. Glazes, frostings, and other sugar-based toppings are considered safe due to their high sugar content. Egg glazes on yeast breads and pie crusts BEFORE baking are acceptable. Eggs incorporated into baked goods / crusts and cheese mixed into baked goods are considered safe.

The following food ingredients are considered unsafe for fair exhibits and will be disqualified:

- Egg or cream cheese fillings and cream cheese frostings
- Any meat item including meat jerky, imitation meat bits (bacon bits, pepperoni, etc.)
- Melted cheese on top of food exhibit (cheese mixed into baked goods is considered safe and will be accepted)
- Uncooked fruit toppings (i.e. fresh fruit tart)

DIVISION 350 – GENERAL

Classes:

1. Food Science Exploration – Show the connection between food and science as it relates to food preparation, food safety, food preservation, or food production. Exhibit may be a poster or foam core board (not exceed 22" x 30"), computer-based presentation printed off with note pages, if needed, and displayed in binder, an exhibit display, a written report in portfolio or notebook. Consider neatness and creativity. (Sourdough is an acceptable exploration in this class.)
2. Foods and Nutrition Poster, Scrapbook, or Photo Display – Involve a nutrition or food preparation technique or explore a career related to the food industry (caterer, restaurant owner, food scientist, registered dietician, etc.) This might contain pictures, captions, and / or report to highlight the concept. Exhibit may be a poster or foam core board (not to exceed 22" x 30"), computer-based presentation printed off with note pages, if needed, and displayed in binder, an exhibit display, or a written report in portfolio or notebook. Consider neatness and

creativity.

3. Physical Activity and Health Poster, Scrapbook, or Photo Display – Involve a physical activity or explore a career related to physical activity or health (personal trainer, sports coach, physical therapist, etc.) This might contain pictures, captions, and / or reports to highlight the concept. The exhibit may be a poster or foam core board (not to exceed 22” x 30”), computer-based presentation printed off with note pages, if needed, and displayed in binder (no larger than 8.5 x 11”), an exhibit display, and a written report in a portfolio. Consider neatness and creativity.
 4. Cooking Basics Recipe File – A collection of 10 recipes from any source. Each recipe must accompany a complete menu in which the recipe is used. An additional 10 recipes may be added each year the 4-H'er is in the project, with year clearly marked on recipes. Display in a recipe file or binder (no larger than 8.5 x 11”). Be sure to include the number of servings or yield of each recipe. This may be a continued recipe file project from the previously used 4-H curriculum. Exhibits that include recipes with alcohol (wine, beer, rum, etc.) will be disqualified.
- *900. Food Flop – Enter at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of your “flopped” baked product or four muffins, rolls, or cookies on a plate. Include recipe. Entry will be judged on 4-H'er's understanding of what went wrong rather than the quality of the food. Notify 4-H staff or superintendent day of judging with entry. Item can only be entered in this class; original class cannot be entered.

***DIVISION 401 – COOKING 101 (Suggested 1-3 years of experience)**

Any recipe may be used, baked or no-bake (i.e. baked fudge brownies or scotcheroos).

Classes:

- *1. Cookies – Four on a small paper plate
- *2. Muffins – Four on a small paper plate
- *3. Healthy Snack – Two cups in a quart-sized bag (approximately half-full)
- *4. Bars – Four on a small paper plate or at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the product

DIVISION 410 – COOKING 201 (Suggested 3-5 years of experience)

Classes:

1. Loaf Quick Bread – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a standard loaf displayed on a paper plate. Quick bread is any bread that does not require kneading or rising times and does NOT include yeast. A standard quick bread loaf measures approximately 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” or 9” x 5”. If mini-loaf pans are used for exhibit, two loaves must be presented for judging.
2. Creative Mixes – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a baked product or four muffins or cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. Baked item made from a mix (commercial or homemade mixes acceptable). Food products must have been modified to make a new or different baked item. Examples include poppy seed quick bread from a cake mix, cake mix cookies, pudding mix cookies, sweet rolls made from ready-made bread dough, monkey bread from biscuit dough, streusel coffee cake from a cake mix, etc. Supplemental information required for this class. Write what you learned about making this product using a mix instead of a homemade recipe or recipe “from scratch.” Does it make it better or easier to use a convenience product or mix? Why or why not?
3. Biscuits or Scones – Four biscuits or scones on a small paper plate. This may be any type of biscuit or scone: rolled or dropped. Any recipe may be used, but it must be a non-yeast product baked from scratch.
4. Healthy Baked Product – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of baked product or four muffins / cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. Recipe must contain a fruit or vegetable as part of the ingredients (i.e. banana bars, cantaloupe quick bread, zucchini muffins, etc.).
5. Coffee Cake – Any recipe or shape, non-yeast coffee cake recipe or shape, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of baked

product on a disposable plate or in a disposable pan.

6. Baking with Whole Grains – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of baked product or four muffins / cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. The recipe must contain whole grains as part of the ingredients (i.e. whole wheat applesauce bread, sourdough, peanut butter oatmeal cookies, etc.)
7. Non-Traditional Baked Product – Exhibit must include a food product prepared using a non-traditional method (i.e. bread machine, cake baked in an air fryer, baked item made in microwave, etc.). Entry must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ baked product or four muffins or cookies on a paper plate or in a disposable pan. Must include supporting information that discusses alternative preparation methods and how it compares with the traditional method.

DIVISION 411 – COOKING 301 (Suggested 5-8 years of experience)

Any bread item prepared or baked using a bread machine should be entered under Cooking 201, Non-Traditional Baked Product (Class 7). All exhibits made in Cooking 301 or Cooking 401 projects must have been prepared without assistance of a bread machine for mixing, raising, or baking the food item.

Classes:

1. White Bread – Any yeast recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a standard loaf displayed on a paper plate.
2. Whole Wheat or Mixed Grain Bread – Any yeast recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a standard loaf displayed on a paper plate.
3. Specialty Rolls – Any yeast recipe, four rolls on a paper plate. May be sweet rolls, English muffins, kolaches, bagels, or any other similar recipe that makes individual portions.
4. Dinner Rolls – Any yeast recipe, four rolls on a paper plate. May be cloverleaf, crescent, knot, bun, bread sticks, or any other type of dinner roll.
5. Specialty Bread – Any yeast recipe, includes tea rings, braids, or any other full-sized specialty bread products. Must exhibit at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a full-sized baked product.
6. Shortened Cake – At least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cake (not from a cake mix). Shortened cakes use fat for flavor and texture; recipes usually begin by beating fat with sugar by creaming and include leavening agents in the recipe. Cake may be frosted with a non-perishable frosting (no cream cheese or egg white based frostings).

DIVISION 412 – COOKING 401 (Suggested 7+ years of experience)

Any bread item prepared or baked using a bread machine should be entered under Cooking 201, Non-Traditional Baked Product (Class 7). All exhibits made in Cooking 301 or Cooking 401 projects must have been prepared without assistance of a bread machine for mixing, raising, or baking the food item.

Classes:

1. Double Crust Fruit Pie – Made with homemade fruit filling. No egg pastries or cream fillings. No canned fillings or premade pie crusts. May be a double crust, crumb, cut-out, or lattice topping. Using an 8- or 9-inch disposable pie tin is recommended.
2. Family Food Traditions – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of baked product or four muffins or cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. Any baked item associated with family tradition and heritage. Entry must include A) recipe B) tradition or heritage associated with preparing or serving the food C) where or whom the traditional recipe came from. (Sourdough is acceptable in this class.)
3. Ethnic Food Exhibit – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of baked product or four muffins or cookies on a paper plate. May be baked in a disposable pan. The name of the country, culture, or region should be included as part of the supporting information with the recipe, as well as background information about the country or culture the food item is representing. (Sourdough is

acceptable in this class.)

4. Candy – Any recipe, four pieces of candy on a paper plate or ½ cup in a bag. No items containing cream cheese will be accepted (i.e. cream cheese mints). Candy may be cooked or not cooked, dipped, molded, made in the microwave, or other methods of candy preparation. Recipe must be included.
5. Foam Cake – Original recipe (no mixes) of at least ¾ of the cake. Foam cakes have a high ratio of eggs to flour and fall into three categories: angel food cakes or meringues; sponge or jellyroll cakes; and chiffon cakes. Cake may be frosted with a non-perishable frosting (no cream cheese or egg white based frostings).
6. Specialty Pastry – Any recipe, at least ¾ of baked produce or four muffins or cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. Baked items such as tarts, puff pastry, phyllo dough, biscotti, choux, croissants, Danish, strudels. Phyllo dough may be pre-made or from scratch. Pastries made with cream or egg-based fillings will be disqualified.

FOOD PRESERVATION

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Limit of one entry per exhibitor per class. Individuals are limited to three exhibits in the Food Preservation Division at the State Fair.

Processing Methods: Current USDA processing methods and altitude adjustments must be followed for all food preservation. Jams, preserves, marmalades, fruit, tomatoes, and pickled products must be processed in a boiling water bath. Tomatoes may be processed in a pressure canner. All non-acid vegetables and meats must be processed in a pressure canner. Improperly canned or potentially hazardous food items will be disqualified. Spoiled or unsealed container disqualifies entry.

Jars and Lids: Do not need to be the same brand. Half pint jars may be used for jellies and preserves. The jars are not to be decorated in any way by the exhibitor. Canning jars must be used; others will be disqualified. No one-fourth pint jars allowed. Leave jar rings on for fair display; it helps protect the seal. Two-piece lids consisting of a flat metal disk and a ring should be used. No zinc lids or one-piece lids.

Current Project: Exhibits must have been preserved since the member's previous year's county fair, and not been exhibited at the previous State Fair.

Criteria for Judging: Exhibits will be judged according to scoresheets available at the Extension Office or found: <https://go.unl.edu/ne4hfood-nutrition>. Incomplete exhibits will be lowered a ribbon placing. Check with the Extension Office or <https://food.unl.edu/elevation-and-food-preservation> for your county's altitude and how that affects food processing times and pounds of pressure.

Labeling: Jars should be labeled with the name of the food item, name of the 4-H'er, county, and date of processing on the bottom of each jar. Each bag containing dried foods should also be labeled with the name of the food item, the name of the 4-H'er, county, and drying date. Multiple dried food exhibits should be secured by a rubber band or "twisty" to keep exhibiting containing the three self-sealing bags together.

Recipe / Supporting Information: Recipe must be included and may be handwritten, photocopied, or typed. Commercially prepared seasoning mixes are not allowed. Current USDA guidelines for food preservation methods MUST be followed. Contact the Extension Office for suggested sources of recipes.

All exhibits must include the 4-H Food Preservation Card attached to the project as the required supporting information or include the following information with the exhibit:

- 1) Name of Product
- 2) Date preserved.
- 3) Method of preservation (pressure canner, water bath canner, or dried)
- 4) Type of pack (raw pack or hot pack)
- 5) Altitude (and altitude adjustment, if needed)
- 6) Processing time
- 7) Number of pounds of pressure (if pressure canner used)
- 8) Drying method and drying time (for dried food exhibits)
- 9) Recipe and source of recipe(if a publication, include name and date)

The 4-H Food Preservation Card are available at <https://go.unl.edu/ne4hfood-nutrition>.



4-H Food Preservation Card

(Please attach this card to each item preserved.)

Name: _____ County: _____

Name of Product: _____ Date Preserved: _____

PROCESSING METHOD (CHECK ONE):

Boiling Water Canner, indicate type of pack (check one): raw pack OR hot pack

Processing time: _____ Altitude: _____

Pressure Canner, indicate type of gauge (check one): weighted gauge OR dial gauge

Product was canned at _____ pounds pressure at _____ altitude.

Processing time: _____ packed hot OR packed cold

Dehydration (check one): dehydrator OR other, please specify (ie: oven, solar, etc.): _____

Approximate drying time: _____

INCLUDE INSTRUCTIONS/RECIPE:

Include instructions/recipe for product on back of this card. 4-H'ers must include the source of the recipe/instructions. 4-H'ers must use approved USDA recipes/instructions. Include pre-treatment for dried products.

DIVISION 406 – FREEZING

1. Baked Item Made with Frozen Produce – Any recipe, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of baked product or four muffins or cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. Recipe MUST include a food item preserved by the freezing method done by the 4-H'er. (i.e. peach pie, blueberry muffins, zucchini bread, etc.) Supporting information must include both the recipe for the produce that was frozen as part of this project AND the baked food item.

DIVISION 407 – DRYING

Place each dried product in a separate self-sealing bag. Use a rubber band or “twisty” to keep exhibit together.

1. Dried Fruits – Exhibit three different examples of three different dried fruits. Place each dried fruit food (6 to 10 pieces of fruit, minimum $\frac{1}{4}$ cup) in separate self-sealing bags. Use a rubber band or “twisty” to keep the bags together.
2. Fruit Leather – Exhibit three different examples of three different fruit leathers. Place a 3-4” sample of each fruit together in separate self-sealing bags.
3. Vegetable Leather – Exhibit three different examples of three different vegetable or vegetable / fruit leather combinations. Place a 3-4” sample of each leather together in separate self-sealing bags.
4. Dried Vegetables – Exhibit three different samples of three different dried vegetables. Place

each food (¼ cup of each vegetable) in a separate self-sealing bag.

5. Dried Herbs – Exhibit three different samples of three different dried herbs. Place each food (¼ cup of each herb) in a separate self-sealing bag.
6. Baked Item Made with Dried Produce / Herbs – Any recipe, at least ¾ of baked product or 4 muffins or cookies on a paper plate or a disposable pan. Recipe MUST include a dried produce / herb item made by the 4-Her (i.e. granola bar made with dried fruits, dried cranberry cookies, Italian herb bread, lemon thyme cookies). Supporting information must include both the recipe for the dried produce / herb AND the baked food item.

DIVISION 408 – BOILING WATER CANNING

1. One-Jar Fruit Exhibit – Exhibit one jar of a canned fruit. Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.
2. Three-Jar Fruit Exhibit – Exhibit three jars of different canned fruits. May be three different techniques for same type of product (applesauce, canned apples, apple pie filling, etc.) Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to USDA recommendations.
3. One-Jar Tomato Exhibit – Exhibit one jar of a canned tomato product. Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.
4. Three-Jar Tomato Exhibit – Exhibit three jars of different canned tomato products (salsa, sauces without meats, juice, stewed, etc.) Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.
5. One-Jar Pickled Exhibit – One jar of a pickled and / or fermented product. Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.
6. Three-Jar Pickled Exhibit – Exhibit three jars of different kinds of canned pickled and / or fermented products. Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.
7. One-Jar Jelled Exhibit – Exhibit one jar of a jam, jelly, fruit butter, or marmalade. Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.
8. Three-Jar Jelled Exhibit – Exhibit three different kinds of jelled products. Entry may be made up of either pints or half pints but all jars must be the same size. Entry must be processed in a boiling water bath according to current USDA recommendations.

DIVISION 414 – PRESSURE CANNING

1. One-Jar Vegetable or Meat Exhibit – Exhibit one jar of a canned vegetable or meat. Include only vegetables or meats canned in a pressure canner according to current USDA recommendations.
2. Three-Jar Vegetable Exhibit – Exhibit three jars of different kinds of canned vegetables. Include only vegetables canned in a pressure canner according to current USDA recommendations.
3. Three-Jar Meat Exhibit – Exhibit three jars of different kinds of canned meats. Include only meats canned in a pressure canner according to current USDA recommendations.
4. Quick Dinner – Exhibit a minimum of three jars to a maximum of five jars plus menu. Meal should include three canned foods that can be prepared within an hour. List complete menu on a 3”x5” file card and attach to one of the jars. Entry must be processed according to current USDA recommendations.
5. One-Jar Tomato Exhibit – Exhibit one jar of a canned tomato product. Entry must be processed in a pressure canner according to current USDA recommendations.
6. Three-Jar Tomato Exhibit – Exhibit three jars of different canned tomato products (salsa, sauces without meats, juice, stewed, etc.). Entry must be processed in a pressure canner according to current USDA recommendations.

***DIVISION 910 – CAKE DECORATING**

Superintendent Terry Boecker

A 4–H member can advance up to the next category before the youth has been in the level for two years; however, they may not remain in the beginning and intermediate divisions for more than two years each. This is a county project and not eligible for state fair.

Styrofoam cake forms can be used in all divisions.

Buttercream frosting purchased or homemade fondant, or a combination of the two is allowed in all divisions.

Cake boards need to support the weight and size of the cake.

***BEGINNING CAKE DECORATING (0 – 2 years of experience)**

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.50 Red \$4.00 White \$3.50

*901. Exhibit a One-layer Cake – Decorate a one-layer cake or cake pan form. No artificial decorations may be used. Cakes will be judged on neatness and techniques.

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

*902. Set of Four Buttercream Techniques – Include techniques such as borders, leaves, writing, or stars on an 8" x 10" Plexiglass or covered board.

*903. Three-Page Folder – Contains descriptions and photos of three cakes you have decorated during the current project year. One cake description and photograph per page.

***INTERMEDIATE CAKE DECORATING (3 – 4 years of experience)**

Purple \$4.50 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.50 White \$3.00

*904. Exhibit One Cake – Decorate one cake using at least one two-tip border or design. Cake form pans are allowed. Artificial decoration can be used. Cake will be judged on neatness, creativity, and techniques used.

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

*905. Set of Four Buttercream or Fondant Techniques – Use a combination of one and two techniques (NO STARS) on an 8"x 10" Plexiglass or covered board.

*906. Four-Page Folder – Contains descriptions and photos of four cakes you have decorated during the current project year. One cake description and photograph per page.

***ADVANCED CAKE DECORATING (5 years or more experience)**

Purple \$6.50 Blue \$5.50 Red \$4.50 White \$3.50

*907. Exhibit One Cake – Decorate one cake using advanced techniques and original design. No cake forms pans accepted. Artificial decorations can be added.

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

*908. Set of Four Buttercream or Fondant Techniques – Use a combination of two techniques on an 8" x 10" Plexiglass or covered board.

*909. Five-Page Folder – Contains descriptions and photos of five cakes you have decorated during the current project year. One cake description and photograph per page.

***CREATIVE CAKE DECORATING (Open to all ages and experience levels)**

Purple \$6.50 Blue \$5.50 Red \$4.50 White \$3.50

*910. Non-tube Decorated Cake – Decorations are to be edible, such as marshmallows, candy, cookies, crackers, chocolate chips, coconut, etc.

*911. Non-tube Decorated Cake – Decorations can be edible and / or nonedible items.

*912. **Theme for 2026: All American: Red, White, and Blue**

- ◆ Decorated Cookies or Cupcakes – Decorate three sugar cookies or three cupcakes with only edible decorations and frosting. Must use different techniques on each cookie or cupcake.
- ◆ Purchased cookies or cupcakes are allowed. Can also have a cookie mix or cake mix.
- ◆ No glue gun use allowed.
- ◆ Display on a small white paper plate.

***DIVISION 913 – FAVORITE FOOD CONTEST**

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

Contest allows members to prepare one favorite food and present it for a special occasion. Members will be interviewed by the judge for approximately five minutes. Questions will be asked about the favorite food, menu, centerpiece and place setting, nutritional value of food, what food groups are being presented in menu, preparation time and order, and cost of food. 4-H member must set up his or her own display without parental assistance.

Resources can be found at: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/4-h/madison-county-4-h-fairbook/>

- ◆ Select and prepare a favorite food (does not have to be from project books but should be consistent with project manuals – easier foods for beginners and advanced foods for more advanced projects). The favorite food will be displayed as one serving. After the food is judged, the food will be removed. The food is judged on appearance, not tasted by judge.
- ◆ Breakfast, lunch, and supper menus, which includes the favorite food, will be written on 8 ½" x 11" poster or heavy paper and displayed as part of the table setting.
- ◆ Refer to the My Plate Food Guide to ensure all food groups are included in the day's menu.
- ◆ Recipe should be displayed on an 8 ½" x 11" matching poster, exhibited as part of setting. Recipe should reflect skill level of age division.
- ◆ Prepare a centerpiece and place setting for one on a card table. Members must provide their own table, table cover, place setting, and centerpiece.
- ◆ Parent and leaders may assist in carrying articles for display and may listen to judge's questions; 4-H member should be prepared to answer questions, such cost per serving.
- ◆ Tables may or may not be displayed during fair due to space limitations. Photographs of these tables would be displayed, instead.
- ◆ Judging times will be determined prior to judging day. Exhibits must be interview judged. Call the Extension Office at 402-370-4040 to schedule a judging time.

Classes:

*915. Favorite Foods – Junior Division, ages 8 to 12

*916. Favorite foods – Senior Division, ages 13 and up

DEPT F. DIVISION 500 – 4-H CULINARY CHALLENGE CONTEST

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

Interested in participating in the 4-H Culinary Challenge Contest at the county level? Contact the Extension Office at 402-370-4040.

The Culinary Challenge Contest will be held during the Nebraska State Fair at Grand Island. Contact the Extension Office at 402-370-4040 for registration information.

The 4-H Culinary Challenge Contest will require a team of two 4-H members at least 8 years of age by January 1 of the current year to demonstrate healthy decision making through nutrition, food preparation, menu planning, and food safety while utilizing foods and nutrition curriculum. Contestants will apply healthy living knowledge and skills by planning a nutritious menu, demonstrating understanding of time management skills in the kitchen, and expressing originality and creativity through an appropriately themed and properly set table.

To showcase these skills, youth will create a menu, prepare one food item, and choose an appropriate theme for their occasion while expressing food nutrition and safety knowledge during a live interview with a judge at the contest. To highlight knowledge and skills acquired during pre-contest preparation, youth will utilize technology as part of the interview. Interviews will be approximately 12 to 15 minutes, which includes a short presentation by the team, as well as questions from the judge.

The 2026 4-H Culinary Challenge Contest ingredient is POTATOES. Please keep in mind food safety when selecting the recipe. Foods must be kept chilled during transport then be able to reheat in a slow cooker or microwave. Each team must incorporate the challenge ingredient into their food item. The challenge ingredient must also be included in the interview presentation, demonstrating youth knowledge of the ingredient, such as nutritional value, a farm-to-fork concept, or how to adapt a recipe to include the ingredient.

Classes:

10. Culinary Challenge – Junior Division, ages 8 to 10
11. Culinary Challenge – Intermediate Division, ages 11 to 13
12. Culinary Challenge – Senior Division, ages 14-18

**DEPARTMENT E—DISASTER RESPONSE,
PREPAREDNESS & SAFETY**

Superintendent Jamie Thomas

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$2.00

Disaster response and preparedness is vital for all Nebraskans. In this category 4H members have the opportunity to share what they learned about a disaster, how they responded and will have a place to share their successes in disaster recovery. They can also create exhibits about all-terrain vehicles, fire, and tractor safety. In addition, participants can also create informational exhibits about basic safety strategies. Through involvement in this category, 4H members will be better educated about disaster response and recovery and personal safety.

DIVISION 440 – DISASTER RECOVERY AND RESPONSE

All exhibits in this division are focused on preparing for or responding to a weather-related or man-made disaster.

Classes:

3. Disaster Kit (Emergency Preparedness) - Disaster kits must contain the materials to prepare a person or family for emergency conditions caused by a natural or man-made incident. Selection of materials is left to the exhibitor. Family or group kits must have enough material or items for each

person. A description of the kit's purpose, the number of people supported, and a list of contents is required. 4H members are encouraged to test their kit by challenging their family to try to survive using only the materials included for the designated time. If tested, share that experience in kit documentation. Please include an explanation of drinking water needs for your disaster kit. Do not bring actual water to the fair in the kit.

9. Telling a Story Display – Exhibit will include three photos to tell a story. Photos should capture the beginning, middle, and end of a single story, project, or event showcasing a weather-related event, or man-made disaster. Display will consist of three 4-inch x 6-inch photos mounted on a single horizontal 11-inch x 14 inch black or white poster or mat board. Include a caption of a few sentences to explain the story the photos are telling.

DIVISION 440 – SAFETY

Classes:

1. General Purpose First Aid Kit –A first aid kit is a good way to organize supplies in an emergency. The kit should be assembled in a container appropriate for use in a home. A description of where the kit will be stored and examples of specific emergencies the kit is designed for should be included in the exhibit. The kit must include a written inventory and purpose statement for included items.

Consider items needed to cover the following areas of first aid: airway and breathing, bleeding control, burn treatment, infectious disease protection, fracture care and miscellaneous supplies. Use Citizen Safety manual, 4–H 425, pages 6 & 7 and score sheet SF110 for guidance. No purchase first aid kits allowed.

Any kit containing any of the following will be automatically disqualified: 1) Prescription medications (if the purpose of the kit is to provide medication for someone with special needs, explain in the written description and inventory, but remove the medication). 2) Materials with expiration dates on or before the date of judging. (This includes sterilized materials, non-prescription medications, ointments, salves, solutions, etc.) Items dated month and year only are considered expired the last day of that month. 3) Any controlled substance.

2. Specific Purpose First Aid Kit - A first aid kit is a good way to organize supplies in an emergency in a variety of situations and locations. The kit should be assembled in a container appropriate for the kit's intended purpose. Examples could include a kit for a vehicle, recreational vehicle, boat, livestock building, camping, etc. A description of where the kit will be stored and examples of specific emergencies expected for that location should be included in the exhibit. The kit should include a written inventory and purpose statement for included items. Items included should be relevant to the kit's intended purpose. Consider items needed to cover the following areas of first aid: airway and breathing, bleeding control, burn treatment, infectious disease protection.
5. Safety Experience: Poster or Scrapbook –Share a learning experience the youth had related to safety. Examples could be participating in a first aid or first responder training, a farm safety day camp, babysitting workshop or similar event; scientific experiment related to safety; or the youth's response to an emergency situation. Include a detailed description of the experience, the youth's role, some evidence of the youth's leadership in the situation and a summary of the learning that took place. Exhibits may be presented in a poster with supplemental documentation, a notebook including up to ten pages of narrative and pictures, or a multimedia presentation lasting up to five minutes.
6. Careers in Safety – The exhibit should identify a specific career area in the safety field and include education and certification requirements for available positions, salary information, demand for the field and a summary of the youth's interest in the field. Examples of careers include firefighters, paramedics, emergency management personnel, some military

assignments, law enforcement officers, emergency room medical personnel, fire investigators and more. It is recommended that 4-H members interview a professional in the field of their research. Additional research sources might include books, articles, career websites, job-related government web sites or interviews with career placement or guidance counselors. Exhibits may be presented in a poster with supplemental documentation, a notebook including up to ten pages of narrative and pictures, or a multimedia presentation lasting up to five minutes.

DIVISION 450 – FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

Classes:

1. Fire Safety Poster – This is a home floor plan drawn to scale showing primary and secondary escape routes and where fire extinguishers and smoke detectors are located. Draw every room, including all doors and windows. Use *black* or *blue* arrows showing primary escape routes from each room. Use *red* arrows showing secondary routes to use if the primary routes are blocked. Primary and secondary escape routes must lead outside to an assembly location. Documentation should include evidence the escape plan has been practiced a least four times. Posters must be no larger than 22-inch x 28 inches.
2. Fire Prevention Poster or Scrapbook – Posters or scrapbooks promoting a fire prevention message and be appropriate to display during National Fire Prevention Week or to promote fire safety at specific times of the year (Halloween, Fourth of July, etc.). Originality, clarity and artistic impression will all be judged. Do not include live fireworks, matches or other flammable/explosive/hazardous materials. Any entry containing this material will be disqualified. Posters must be no larger than 22-inch x 28 inches.

DEPARTMENT F—ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Superintendent Jamie Thomas

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

On the back of the exhibit, list the 4-H member's name, age, town, and county. Posters must be 14" x 22" and may be arranged either horizontally or vertically. Posters may include photographs, charts, or examples, as well as a written explanation; do not use copyrighted materials, such as cartoon characters or commercial product names. Exhibits which do not conform to size or content guidelines will be lowered one ribbon placing.

DIVISION 531 – ESI

Unit 1 – Discover the E-Scene

1. Interview an Entrepreneur – Share what you learned from the person about having an entrepreneurial mindset. How have they applied that mindset? Have they started a business? Are they tackling a social issue? How they deliver excellent customer service. How will what you learned through this interview change your future plans or ways of thinking about entrepreneurship? The summary of the interview should be typed with a maximum length of two pages (12 pt. font). Enter exhibit in a folder with fasteners (no slide bars).

Unit 2 – The Case of Me

2. Prepare a five-slide powerpoint presentation about a social entrepreneurship venture to benefit a group or individual in your community. Social entrepreneurs are people who are in business to help others. Submit a printout of the note pages, which show each slide and include an explanation of each slide. Enter exhibit in a folder with fasteners (no slide bars).

Unit 3 – Your Business Inspections Classes:

3. Marketing Packages – Mount on a 14" x 22" poster; must include at least three items (examples) developed by the 4-H Member from the following list: business card, brochure, advertisement, business promotional piece, printout of the internet home page, packaging design, signs, logo design, direct mail piece, etc. The marketing package should be for an original business developed by the 4-H member and not an existing business.
4. Sample of Original Product – Include information sheet (8 ½" x 11") answering the questions listed below.
5. Photos of an Original Product – Mount on a 14" x 22" poster; must include three photos of developed product and a mounted information sheet answering the questions listed below. If exhibiting in both class 4 and 5, products must be entirely different.

Questions for classes 4 and 5:

1. What did you enjoy the most about making the product?
2. What Challenges did you have when making the product? Would you do anything differently next time? If so, what?
3. What is the suggested retail price of the product? How did you decide on the price?
4. Market analysis of the community – data gathered through a survey of potential customers. Survey at least ten people in your community about your product.
5. How much would you earn per hour? Show how you determined this figure.
6. What is unique about this product?

All ESI Units

6. Entrepreneurship Challenge – Complete five or more of the challenges from the following list. Exhibit will include highlights from these five challenges. Consider labeling each so the viewer will understand what the challenge was. Enter a poster, video (or other digital presentation), report, or scrapbook and use your creativity to show and share what you learned. Multi-media presentations and exhibits are to be uploaded to a video streaming application and 4-H member must provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. 4-H members are encouraged to test their codes or link on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing.

1. Sell something.
2. Talk to local leaders about entrepreneurial thinking and how it is being applied or could be applied to a current community issue.
3. Introduce yourself to a local entrepreneur and take a selfie with them.
4. Be a detective! Look for Nebraska-made products and find out more about the business.
5. Tour two to three entrepreneurial businesses and create a photo story.
6. Investigate what it takes to be an entrepreneur and complete a skills assessment.
7. Make a prototype (sample / model) of a new product idea. (Include the prototype or a photo of the prototype.)
8. Work with a friend to develop a new business idea.
9. Contact your local Extension Office to learn about entrepreneurial opportunities.

10. Create an activity to teach others about entrepreneurship (coloring page, puzzle, game, etc.)

DEPARTMENT G—HORTICULTURE
Superintendent Cindy Bohl

DIVISION 770 – FLORICULTURE, EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS & HOUSEPLANTS

Purple \$2.50 Blue \$2.00 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00

The exhibitor's name must be on the back or bottom of all displays so that the owner can be identified even if the entry tag becomes separated from the exhibit.

Entry must be the work of the 4-H member. Exhibitors are expected to know cultivar or variety name when interviewing with the judge.

FLORICULTURE

Limit of four exhibits at the State Fair per exhibitor throughout the floriculture classes.

A perennial is a plant of which the crown overwinters. An annual is a plant that grows from seed each season, whether self-seeded or planted by the gardener. A biennial is a plant that germinates, grows, and overwinters as a crown, blooms the following year, and dies. Foliage will be considered when exhibit is judged.

All 3 or 5 stems of cut flowers should be the same cultivar and color, do not mix cultivars and colors. Containers will not be judged; however, they should be CLEAR GLASS CONTAINERS that won't tip over (No plastic containers at State Fair). Any exhibit not in a clear glass container will be dropped one ribbon placing. NO SCREW ON LIDS OR SCREW ON RINGS AND FLATS MAY BE USED.

The cultivar or variety name must be included on all entry cards. If potted container with several cultivar or varieties, identify each individually within the pot. Failure to identify the cultivar or variety will drop the entry one ribbon placing.

Remove leaves from the stem so they are not immersed in water.

Follow the guidelines in 4-H “Preparing Cut Flowers for Exhibit” 4H227. A free download is available: at <https://extensionpubs.unl.edu/publication/4h227/preparing-cut-flowers-for-exhibits-at-county-fair-and-nebraska-state-fair> to aid with the preparation of entries.

Cut flowers Classes:

970. Annuals and Biennials – Five stems of single variety (cultivar) unless otherwise noted in parenthesis. Aster, Bachelor Buttons, Bells of Ireland, Browallia, Calendula, Celosia – (crested or plume; three stems), Cosmos, Dahlia, Dianthus, Foxglove, Gladiolus (three stems), Gomphrena, Hollyhock (three stems), Marigold, Pansy, Petunia, Salvia, Snapdragon, Statice, Sunflower (under 3” diameter – five stems; 3” of more in diameter – three stems), Vinca,

- Zinnia, and any other annual or biennial (under 3" diameter – five stems; 3" or more in diameter – three stems)
971. Perennials – Five stems of single variety (cultivar) unless otherwise noted in parenthesis. Display in a clear glass container, adequate in size to display blooms. Achillea / Yarrow, Chrysanthemum, Coneflower, Coreopsis, Daisy, Gaillardia, Helianthus, Hydrangea (three stems), Liatris (three stems), Lilies (three stems; not daylilies), Platycodon, Rose (three stems), Rudbeckia / Black-eyed Susan, Sedum, Static, and any other perennial (under 3" diameter – five stems; 3" or more in diameter – three stems)
- *972. Living Flower Arrangement or Potted Flowering Plant – Freshly cut or potted flower and / or foliage arrangement. All materials used must be living except for the display vase or container. Container will be judged as part of the display.
46. 4-H Flower Garden Collection – Collection of five different cut flowers. Flowers are to be cut not potted. Each flower in the collection should be exhibited with the number specified for Classes 970 and 971. Display in a box or other holder no more than 18" in any dimension. Do not duplicate entries with any in the group collection.
50. Flower Notebook – Exhibit a notebook containing pictures of flowers grown in Nebraska. There must be at least ten different species of annuals and/or biennials and ten different species of perennials hardy to Nebraska. Bulbs may be included in a separate section. 4-H members may show more than one cultivar of the same species, but they will only count as one species. The notebook must be the result of the current year's work. Pictures from garden catalogs, hand drawn pictures, or photographs may be used. Each species/cultivar must be labeled with the correct common name and scientific name; the height and spread of the plant and the growing conditions (for example needs full sun and dry sandy soil) the species prefers. In addition to this information, bulbs should also be labeled as spring or summer flowering. Give proper credit by listing the sources of pictures and information used. 4-H member's name, age, county, and years in the project(s) must be on the back of the notebook.
51. Flower Garden Promotion Poster – Individual poster promoting flower gardening, size 14" x 22" either vertical or horizontal arrangement. Poster may be in any medium: watercolor, ink, crayons, etc. as long as they are not three-dimensional. Posters using copyrighted material are not accepted. Entry card must be paper clipped to the upper right-hand corner. 4-H member's name, age, county, and years in project must be on the back of the poster.
52. Educational Flower Garden Poster – Prepare a poster 14" x 22" x 2" (three-dimensional if needed) either vertical or horizontal arrangement illustrating a skill or project you have done or learned about in a 4-H flowers or houseplant project. One might show a special technique used or equipment incorporated in the garden. Refer to 4-H horticulture project manuals but use your own creativity. Entry card must be paper clipped to upper right-hand corner. 4-H member's name, age, county, and years in the project(s) must be on the back of the poster.
53. Flower Gardening History Interview – Neatly handwritten or typed account of a gardening history interview whose flower garden has inspired you. Maximum of four pages of text and two pages of pictures (include one picture of the person you interviewed) of their flower garden if the individual is still gardening. Protect with a clear report cover. The 4-H member's name, age, county and years in the project must be on the back of the report cover.

GROWING GREAT HOUSEPLANTS

Limit of three exhibits at the State Fair per exhibitor in classes 60-66.

Container grown plants shall be in pots no greater than 12" in diameter (inside opening measurement) and weigh no more than ten pounds. No combination of pots may be used. All potted plants are to be in a one pot container. The choice of container and soil quality will be considered in judging. Each houseplant must be identified by listing names on the entry tag or on a card attached to the container. Identify each plant individually if more than one cultivar or variety. Houseplants should be grown in the display container for a minimum of six weeks. Containers of annual flowers or annual plants (i.e. petunias, geraniums, and impatiens) will be disqualified.

Find growing tips at Extension Publications "Guide to Growing Houseplants" at <http://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/g2205.pdf> and "Guide to Selecting Houseplants" at <http://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/g837.pdf>

Classes:

60. Flowering Potted Houseplant(s) – Blooming for exhibition. Container may have one or more houseplants in container. Label with the name for each plant. Non-blooming plants will be disqualified.
61. Foliage Potted Houseplant(s) – One variety of tropical or cacti or succulent plant.
62. Hanging Basket – Flowering and / or foliage houseplants. A container may have one or more houseplants in the container. Label with the name for each plant.
63. Dish Gardens – An open/shallow container featuring a variety of houseplants excluding cacti and succulents. Container may be up to 12" in diameter (inside opening measurement) and weigh less than ten pounds. Label with the name for each plant.
64. Fairy or Miniature Garden – A miniature "scene" contained in an open container and featuring miniature or small, slow growing houseplants. The garden needs to have an imaginative theme and miniature accessories, i.e. bench, fence made from tiny twigs, small shell for bathtub, etc. Container may be up to 12" in diameter (inside opening measurement) and weigh less than ten pounds. Label with the name for each plant.
65. Desert Gardens – An open/shallow container featuring cacti and/or succulents grown as houseplants. Container may be up to 12" in diameter (inside opening measurement) and weigh less than ten pounds. Label with the name for each plant.
66. Terrarium – A transparent container, partially or completely enclosed; sealed or unsealed. Label with the name for each plant.

DIVISION 773 – VEGETABLES, HERBS, AND FRUITS

Limit of four entries at the State Fair per exhibitor throughout the horticulture classes. One entry per class number.

The number that constitutes an exhibit is listed after each entry designation. Vine crops must have stems attached or included with the exhibit.

Rinse off produce with cool clean water, but do not scrub vegetables.

To prepare horticulture products for exhibit at the fair, follow the guidelines published in "Selecting and Preparing Vegetables, Herbs and Fruits for Exhibit" 4-H 226. A free download is available at <https://extensionpubs.unl.edu/publication/4h226/selecting-and-preparing-vegetables-herbs-and-fruits-for-exhibit>

GARDENING

CLASS	VEGETABLE	NUMBER TO EXHIBIT
201.	Lima Beans	12
202.	Snap Beans	12
203.	Wax Beans	12
204.	Beets	5
205.	Broccoli	2
206.	Brussels Sprouts	12
207.	Green Cabbage – round	2
208.	Red Cabbage	2
209.	Carrots	5
210.	Cauliflower	2
211.	Slicing Cucumbers	2
212.	Pickling Cucumbers	5
213.	Egg Plant	2
214.	Kohlrabi	5
215.	Muskmelon\Cantaloupe	2
216.	Okra	5
217.	Yellow Onions	5
218.	Red Onions	5
219.	White Onions	5
220.	Parsnips	5
221.	Bell Peppers	5
222.	Sweet (Non– Bell Peppers)	5
223.	Jalapeno Peppers	5
224.	Hot (Non–Jalapeno) Peppers	5
225.	White Potatoes	5
226.	Red Potatoes	5
227.	Russett Potatoes	5
228.	Other Potatoes	5
229.	Pumpkin	2
230.	Miniature Pumpkins (Jack Be Little)	5
231.	Radish	5
232.	Rhubarb	5
233.	Rutabaga	2
234.	Green Summer Squash	2
235.	Yellow Summer Squash	2
236.	White Summer Squash	2
237.	Acorn Squash	2
238.	Butternut Squash	2
239.	Buttercup Squash	2
240.	Other Winter Squash	2
241.	Sweet Corn (in husks)	5
242.	Swiss Chard	5
243.	Red Tomatoes	5 (2" or more in diameter)
244.	Roma or Sauce–type tomatoes	5
245.	Salad Tomatoes	12 (under 2" diameter)

246.	Yellow Slicing Tomatoes	5 (2" or more in diameter)
247.	Turnips	5
248.	Watermelon	2
249.	Dry Edible Beans	1 pint
250.	Gourds, mixed types	5
251.	Gourds, single variety	5
252.	Other Vegetables 2, 5, or 12 (do not duplicate entries in classes 201-251) that doesn't fit in any other class	
*995.	Tomatoes, green	2

NO CANNED OR DRIED VEGETABLES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DRY BEANS, WILL BE ACCEPTED IN ANY OF THE GARDEN EXHIBITS.

255. 4-H Vegetable Garden Collection – Exhibit five kinds of vegetables. Display in a single box not to exceed 24" in any dimension. Showmanship will be considered in judging, but plastic grass, cotton, figurines, etc. should not be used in exhibit boxes. Each vegetable in the collection should be exhibited with the number specified for the individual class (201-252). Do not duplicate entries with any in the group collection.

256. Cultivar Vegetable Collection – Vegetables entered in the collection are five cultivars from a single exhibit; for example, five cultivars of all types of peppers, or squash, or onions, or tomatoes, etc. Display in a box not more than 24" in any dimension. Showmanship will be considered in judging, but plastic grass, cotton figurines, etc. should not be used in exhibit boxes. Each vegetable in the collection should be exhibited with the number specified for individual classes (201–252).

HERBS

Herbs will be judged using the same general criteria used for vegetables. Herbs grown mainly for their seed, such as dill and caraway, should be exhibited on a plate. Those grown for their leaves, such as basil or parsley, should be exhibited in a container of water. Potted herb plants will be disqualified.

CLASS	HERB	NUMBER TO EXHIBIT
260.	Basil	5
261.	Dill (dry)	5
262.	Garlic (bulbs)	5
263.	Mint	5
264.	Oregano	5
265.	Parsley	5
266.	Sage	5
267.	Thyme	5
268.	Other herb	5

269. Herb Garden Display – Five different cut herbs displayed in a box or other holder not more than 18" in any dimension. Each herb in the collection should be exhibited with the number specified for its class. Do not duplicate entries with any in the group collection. Herbs are to be cut not potted.

FRUITS

Fruits will be judged using the same general criteria used for vegetables. Fruit will be judged for the stage of maturity normal for that season and growing location. Emphasis will be placed on how well fruit approaches market quality.

CLASS	FRUIT	NUMBER TO EXHIBIT
280.	Strawberries (everbearers)	1 pint
281.	Grapes	2 bunches
282.	Apples	5
283.	Pears	5
284.	Wild Plums	1 pint
285.	Other small fruits or berries	1 pint
286.	Other fruits or nuts	5

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS

Classes:

290. Garden Promotion Poster – Individual poster promoting vegetable and/or flower gardening size 14" x 22" either vertical or horizontal arrangement. Poster may be in any medium: watercolor, ink, crayon, etc., so long as it is not three-dimensional. Posters using copy-righted material will not be accepted. Entry card must be attached to the upper right-hand corner. The 4-H member's name, age, county, and years in the project(s) must be on the back of the poster.
291. Educational Vegetable or Herb Garden Poster – No larger than 14" x 22" x 2" (three-dimensional if needed) either vertical or horizontal arrangement illustrating a skill or project you have done or learned about in a 4-H vegetable gardening project. You might show a special technique used or equipment incorporated in your garden (ex. drip irrigation system, composting, or special techniques learned.) Refer to 4-H horticulture project manuals but use your own creativity.
292. Vegetable and/or Garden History Interview – Neatly handwritten or typed account of a gardening history interview of someone whose vegetable or herb garden has inspired you. Maximum of four pages of text and two pages of pictures (include one picture of the person interviewed), of their garden if the individual is still gardening. Protect with a clear cover.
293. Vegetable Seed Display – Each display must include seed representing the following families: Cucurbit, Cabbage, Nightshade, and Legume families plus representatives from five other families. Group the seeds by family and type. Glue seeds or otherwise fasten clear containers of seeds to a board or poster mat board no larger than 22" x 24". Label each group and each individual vegetable type with the common and scientific names. Use only one variety of each vegetable, except for beans where several examples of beans may be shown. Attach a card to the display explaining why it is important to know which vegetables are related and cite references on where the scientific name information was found. The 4-H member's name, age, county, and years in the project must be on the back of the display.
294. World of Vegetables Notebook – Choose a favorite foreign cuisine and learn what vegetables and/or herbs are common to it (ex. Mexican, African, Chinese, Italian, etc.) Include a computer-generated report talking about a minimum of five vegetables and/or herbs from each country chosen. Include the scientific and common names, pictures from your garden or seed catalogs, tell how they are grown, and how the foods are used. Also list a source for buying the seed or plants. Favorite recipes using some or all of the vegetable described may be included. Give proper credit by listing the sources of pictures and information used. Protect in a clear report cover or 3-ring notebook. The 4-H member's name, age, county, and years in the project(s) must be on the back of the report cover must be on the back of the report cover or notebook.

DIVISION 775 – SPECIAL GARDEN PROJECT

Youth must be enrolled in the current year's Special Garden Project to exhibit.

Class:

1. Special Garden Project Educational Exhibit – **2026 Alumia Vanilla Cream Marigold**. Youth must be enrolled in the 2026 Special Garden Project to exhibit. The educational exhibit is based on what was learned from the project. Present information on a poster 14" X 22" or in a clear plastic report cover. The 4-H member's name, age, and county must be on the back of the poster or report cover.
2. Special Garden Project Fresh Cut Flowers, Herbs, or Harvested Vegetables – Bring five stems following the guidelines in the publication 'Preparing Cut Flowers for Exhibits at County Fair & Nebraska State Fair' 4H227 (<https://go.unl.edu/sgpresources>). The desirable traits the judge is looking for are five flowers that are at the same maturity and uniform in size and free from insect damage. Cut flowers when fully developed (when the outer petals fold out. Avoid flowering stems as this decreases the eating quality of the herb.

DEPARTMENT H—SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH (STEM)

Superintendent Doug McKibbon

Purple \$3.50 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.50 White \$2.00

STEM General Rules

1. The name and county of each exhibitor should appear separately on the back of each board, poster or article, and on the front cover of the notebooks so owner of the exhibit may be identified if the entry tag is separated from the exhibit.
2. Demonstration boards should include an overall title for the display plus other necessary labeling.
3. Reports should be written using the scientific method whenever possible (1. Hypothesis. 2. Research 3. Experiment 4. Measure 5. Report or Redefine Hypothesis. All reports should be computer generated, enclosed in a clear plastic cover, and attached securely to the display.
4. No firearms, items with a blade (broad heads, knives, saws, etc.) or related items of any other kind, may be exhibited. This applies to actual items, replicated items, and item parts. Shooting sports accessories are permissible as described in the Conservation, Wildlife, and Shooting Sports section.
5. Posters can be any size up to 28" x 22".
6. Several classes require a display board which should be a height of 24 inches and not to exceed ¼ inch thickness. Please contact the extension office for further details if needed.
7. **Supporting information is required.**

DIVISION 800 – ENTOMOLOGY

Awards will be determined based on variety of insects in the collection, correctness of identification or orders, and overall neatness.

Specimens in display collections should be mounted properly and labeled with location and date of collection, name of collector, and order name. Follow mounting and labeling instructions in the Nebraska 4–H Entomology Club Manual. Boxes to be not more than 12" high x 18" Purchase of commercially made boxes is allowed. All specimens are to be pinned and labeled by the exhibitor. No purchased specimens allowed. With display not exceeding 50 pounds.

Classes:

1. First Year Entomology Display – Collection to consist of 25 or more different kinds (species) of insects representing at least six orders. Limit of one box.
2. Second Year Entomology Display – Collection to consist of a minimum of 50 kinds (species) of insects representing at least eight orders. Replace damaged or poorly mounted specimens. At least 25 species must be present from after July 1 of previous year. Limit two boxes.
3. Third Year or more Entomology Display –Collection to consist of a minimum of 75 kinds (species) of insects representing at least ten orders. Replace damaged or poorly mounted specimens. At least 25 species must be present from after July 1 of previous year. Limit of three boxes.
4. Special Interest or Advanced Insect Display – Educational display developed according to personal interests and / or advanced identification capabilities. This also is an opportunity to highlight favorite insects in a creative arrangement. Insects should conform to pinning and mounting standards in Classes 1-3 and be protected inside an insect box. Each specialty display should include names of the insects, interesting information about them, and why the display was made. Advanced identification collections should have insects grouped with labels that correspond with identification level (e.g. family, genus, species). A specialty collection may consist of insects by taxonomic group (e.g. butterflies, grasshoppers, dragonflies, scarab beetles) or by host, subject, or habitat (e.g. insect pests of corn, aquatic insects, insect mimicry), insect galls, insects from goldenrod, insect pollinators, etc.)
5. Insect Habitats – Habitats consist of any handcrafted objects, made of natural or artificial materials, to be placed outdoors, which promote or conserve insects in the environment. Insects may include bee pollinators, butterflies, beneficial insects, etc. A one–page report describing activities must accompany the exhibit. Report should include placement, target insect, why materials were chosen, functional design, and indicators of success.
-*Report Resources*: Nebraska Extension NebGuide: Creating a Solitary Bee Hotel (G2256). University of MN: Wild Bees and Building Wild Bee Houses. National Wildlife Federation: How to Provide Water in Monarch Gardens.
6. Macrophotography – Subjects should be insects, spiders, or other arthropods, or any nests, webs, or constructions they make. All exhibit prints should be either 8" x 10" or 8½" x 11" and mounted on a rigid, black 11" x 14" poster or matte board. Either orientation is acceptable. No frames or mat board is allowed. A caption of a few sentences should explain the subject and be printed on white paper; glue below the print on the poster board.
7. Insect Poster / Display Exhibits – Exhibits can be posters or three-dimensional displays; artistic creativity is encouraged. Posters should be no larger than 22" x 28". They should be instructional and can be attractive with pictures, drawings, charts, or graphs. Posters and displays may show any aspect of insect life, habitat, or related conservation or management.

Examples: life history and other facts about an insect; insect anatomy; how to manage insects in a farm, home, lawn, or garden setting; experiences rearing one kind of insect; survey of an important insect; insect behavior (i.e. nesting, finding food, mobility, defenses, etc.); habitats (i.e. forests, grasslands, wetlands, rivers, or lakes) and what insects are found there, etc. Three-dimensional displays, such as dioramas, sculptures, models, or decorative boxes should have a page of explanatory information accompanying them and fit within a 22" x 28" area.

8. Reports or Journals – Display in a three-ring binder.

a) A report may be informational, that is, an original article about a favorite insect, a history of insect outbreaks, diseases caused by insects, insects as food, etc. Or it may be a research report about an investigation or experiment done in a scientific manner. Have a basic introduction of the insect studied, methods used, observations, and results of the project. Tables, graphs, and images are helpful to include.

b) A journal is an observational study over a period of time with personal impressions. It may cover watching changes in kinds of butterflies over the summer, rearing a specific insect from egg to adult, managing a beehive, observations of insects in a specific habitat, accounts of insect behavior in a forest or flower garden, etc.

DIVISION 840 – VETERINARY SCIENCE

The purpose of a Veterinary Science exhibit is to inform the public about a common health problem of animals, a veterinary science principle, or public health/zoonotic diseases. Do not confuse veterinary science exhibit topics with animal husbandry, history, or production topics.

Veterinary Science exhibit may consist of a poster, notebook, or display. The exhibit may represent material from any of the Vet Science projects which include entry level exhibits from Unit 1.

If photographs are to be part of the exhibit, remember that they will be viewed by the public. Make sure that the photographs are in good taste and will not be offensive to anyone. Graphic photographs of excessive bleeding, trauma or painful procedures are not appropriate. For exhibits related to veterinary surgical procedures, aseptic techniques need to be shown; for example, use of drapes, use of sterile procedures, wearing of gloves, and other appropriate veterinary medical practices.

First-Aid Kits: Because of public safety concerns and risk of theft of first-aid kit contents (veterinary drugs/equipment) with perceived potential for drug abuse, animal first aid kits containing drugs or medication will be immediately disqualified and not displayed. First aid kits wishing to include medication information should instead utilize written descriptions, photographs, drawings, computer generated print-outs, or empty packaging of pharmaceuticals.

Posters: This exhibit presents the viewer with a design that is simple and direct, unlike a display that usually presents more information. A poster should not exceed 22" x 28" and may be either vertical or horizontal.

Displays: A display may include but is not limited to: a three-dimensional exhibit, a scale model, the actual product (for example: skeleton; teeth; samples of leather, fur, or dried skin damaged by disease or parasites) or a notebook. A display is not a poster. A display may be mounted on poster board not to exceed 22" x 28" or on 1/4" plywood or equivalent that does not exceed 24" high or 32" wide or in a 3-ring binder or another bound notebook format.

- ◆ When creating your posters DO NOT use the word “symptoms”; use the word “signs”.
- ◆ USE YOUR OWN WORDS!
- ◆ Include references on your poster as well. Can be either on front or back.

Appropriate Veterinary Science Topics:

- ◆ Maintaining health
- ◆ Specific disease information
- ◆ Photographic display of normal and abnormal characteristics of animals
- ◆ Animal health or safety
- ◆ Public health or safety
- ◆ Proper animal management to ensure food safety and quality
- ◆ Efficient and safe livestock working facilities
- ◆ Or a topic of the exhibitors choosing

*Since these are science displays, all references and information need to be properly cited. Proper sources include but are not limited to: Professional journals and publications, professional AVMA accredited websites, interviews with veterinarians, and excerpts from Veterinary Education Literature. Plagiarism will result in disqualification. Please study your topic and present the information to your audience in your own words.

Classes:

1. 4-H Veterinary Science Large Animal Poster, Notebook, or Display
2. 4-H Veterinary Science Small Animal/Pet Poster, Notebook, or Display

DIVISION 850 – ROCKETS

Exhibitor may enter three of the following classes. Rockets must be supported substantially to protect the rocket from breakage. Rockets are to be mounted on a base that has dimensions equal or less than 12" x 12" and the base should be 3/4 inch thick. No metal bases. If the rocket fins extend beyond the edges of the required base (12" x 12") then construct a base that is large enough to protect the fins. The base size is dictated by the size of the rocket fins. Rockets must be mounted vertically. Please do not attach sideboards or backdrops to the displays. In addition, a used engine or length of dowel pin is to be glued and/or screwed into the board and extended up into the rockets engine mount to give added stability. Must be equipped as prepared for launching with wadding and parachute or other recovery system. Rockets entered with live engines, wrong base size, or sideboard will be disqualified.

Obtain report form at the Extension Office. Display report in a protected a clear plastic cover.

Report must include:

- 1) Rocket specification (include original or photo of manufacture packaging stating rocket skill level)
- 2) A flight record for each launching – weather, distance, flight height
- 3) Number of launchings
- 4) Flight pictures
- 5) Safety (How did you choose your launch site? Document safe launch, preparations, and precautions)
- 6) Objectives learned
- 7) Conclusions

The flight record should describe engine used, what rocket did in flight and recovery success. Points will not be deducted for launching, flight, or recovery failures described. This includes any damage that may show on the rocket. Complete factory assembled rockets will not be accepted at the State Fair. Judging is based upon design of capabilities for flights; workmanship; rocket appearance, display appearance, number of times launched, and report. Three launches are required to earn the maximum launch points given on the score sheets. For scoring for the State Fair, only actual launches count; misfires will not count towards one of the required three launches.

For self-designed rockets only, please include a digital recorded copy of one flight. In the documentation, include a description of stability testing before the rocket was flown.

Skill level is not determined by number of years in project. Skill level is determined by the level listed on the manufacturing packaging. 4-H Rocket project levels are not intended to correspond to National Association of Rocketry model rocket difficulty or ratings.

High power rockets (HPR) are similar to model rocketry with differences that include the propulsion power and weight increase of the model. They use motors in ranges over “G” power and / or weigh more than laws and regulations allow for unrestricted model rockets. These rockets are NOT appropriate for 4-H projects and will be disqualified.

Posters can be any size up to 28” x 22” when ready for display. Example: tri-fold poster boards are not 28” x 22” when fully open for display.

Youth enrolled in Aerospace 2, 3, or 4 may exhibit in any class within this division.

Entry-level rockets made with plastic fins and plastic body tubes are COUNTY-ONLY projects.

Aerospace / Rocket Classes

1. Rocket – Any skill level rocket with wooden fins and cardboard body tubes painted by hand or air brush.
2. Aerospace Display – Poster or display board that exemplifies one of the principles learned in the Lift Off project. Examples include: display of rocket parts and purpose, explains the parts of a NASA rocket or shuttle, interview of someone in the aerospace field, or kite terminology. Include notebook containing terminology (definition) and what was learned. Display can be any size up to 28" x 22".
3. Rocket – Any skill level rocket with wooden fins and cardboard body tubes painted using commercial application. Example: commercial spray paint.

Self-Designed Rocket

4. Rocket – Any self-designed rocket with wooden fins and cardboard body tubes.

Drones

5. Drone Poster – Exhibit must be designed to educate yourself or others on one or more of the following topics: drone techniques, uses of drones, the different types of drones, types of training needed to operate drones, and the laws and regulations users must follow. Posters can be any size up to 22” x 28”.
6. Drone Video – Demonstrate how the drone interacts with the outside world. Examples include field scouting, surveying damage from natural disasters, drones used in commercial applications, drones used for structural engineering.

DIVISION 860 – COMPUTERS

COMPUTER MYSTERIES – UNIT 2 CLASSES:

1. Computer Application Notebook – 4–H exhibitor should use computer application to create a graphic notebook utilizing computer technology. 4–H'er may create any of the following:
 - ◆ Greeting card: five different cards, such as birthday, wedding, anniversary, sympathy, get well, or other
 - ◆ Business cards: three cards for three different individuals and businesses
 - ◆ Menu: minimum of two pages, including a short description of foods and pricing
 - ◆ Book Layout (I-book)
 - ◆ Promotional Flyer: three flyers promoting three different events
 - ◆ Newsletter: minimum two pages
 - ◆ Other: precision farming or family business logo, etc.

This exhibit consists of a notebook (8.5” x 11”), which must include:

- 1) A detailed report describing: A) The task to be completed B) The computer application software required to complete the task C) Specific features of the computer application software necessary for completing the task
 - 2) Print out of your project. Project may be printed in color or black and white.
2. Produce a Computer Slideshow Presentation – Using presentation software a 4-H Exhibitor designs a multimedia computer presentation on one topic related to youth. A 8.5 inch x 11 inch three ring notebook with a printout of all the slides should be submitted. Slideshow should include a minimum of 10 slides and not more than 25. Incorporate appropriate slide layouts, graphics, animations, and audio (music or voice and transition sounds do not count). Each slide should include notes for a presentation. All digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules.

COMPUTER MYSTERIES – UNIT 3 CLASSES:

For videos: Videos should be designed for web viewing or may be uploaded to a video streaming application. Exhibitors **MUST** provide a hard copy QR code for viewing. Exhibitors should test their codes or links on several devices to check for appropriate permissions for public viewing.
took this out of each of the below classes and just put up here

3. Produce an Audio/Video Computer Presentation – Using presentation software, design a multimedia computer presentation on one topic related to youth, including audio and/or video elements. A notebook with a printout of all the slides should be submitted. The presentation should be at least 2 minutes in length and no more than 5 minutes in length, appropriate graphics, sound and either a video clip, animation, or voice over and/or original video clip. All digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules.

4. How to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Presentation – Youth design a fully automated two to five minute 4–H “how to” video. Submissions should incorporate a picture or video of the 4–H’er, as well as their name (first name only), age (as of January 1 of the current year), years in 4–H, and their personal interests or hobbies. All digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules.
5. Virtual Platform Presentation – Youth design a fully automated educational presentation using any current multimedia platform such as Tik Tok, YouTube, Canva, Canvas, etc. Submissions may include a notebook, poster, etc., explaining the process, experience, and/or presentation. All digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules.
6. Create a Web Site / Blog or App – Design a simple web site, / blog, or app for providing information about a topic related to youth. Include an explanation of why the entry was created. Any current website, blog, or app development platform is accepted such as. Google Sites, iBuildApp, Wix, etc. All digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules.
7. 3D Printing – 3D printing uses plastic or other materials to build a three–dimensional (3D) object from a digital design (including 3D Pen Creation). Youth may use original designs or someone else’s they have re–designed in a unique way. Exhibits will be judged based on the motivation and / or problem identified For example, 3D objects printed as part of the design process for robot or other engineering project or cookie cutter. Must include design notebook with motivation or problem statement. Must include design notebook that addresses the following questions:
 - a) What was the motivation for your design or the problem you were solving with your design? i.e. is your item a functional or decorative piece?
 - b) Include picture of original design, citation of designer / website OR if design is completely original (you created using CAD software), then state it’s original. If item was not completely original, indicate what you did to the original design to modify it to better meet the design problem started in #1 above. If design was modified multiple times, indicate what change was made with each modification, and what prompted the need for change. i.e. I printed it and design was too fragile, so I resliced the print to make thicker external walls or to have a denser fill.
 - c) Define your process for designing / printing. What software and / or hardware was used (indicate type of 3D printer or if item was created with 3D pen)?
 - d) What materials were selected for your project?
 - e) If your final design has moving parts, define how you determined appropriate allowance in your design.
 - f) Identify any changes that you would make to improve your design.
8. Maker Space / Digital Fabrication – This project is a computer-generated projection created using a laser cutter, vinyl cutter, heat press, or CNC router. Vector or 3D-based software, such as Corel Draw or Fusion 360, would be examples of appropriate software used to create finished project. Project should include a 8.5 inch x 11 inch three ring notebook with the following:
 - a) What motivated you to create this project?
 - b) Software and equipment used.
 - c) Directions on how to create the project.
 - d) Prototype of plans
 - e) Cost of creating project

- f) Iterations or modifications made to original plans
- g) Changes you would make if you remade the project
 - *Team Entry Option: To qualify for entry at the Nebraska State Fair team materials entered in H860007 – Maker Space / Digital Fabrication must clearly be the work of a team instead of an individual and must have at least 50% of all team members enrolled in 4-H. Additionally, all enrolled 4-H members on the team should complete and attach an entry tag to the materials. A supplemental page documenting the individual contributions to the project should be included. The entry will be judged as a team, with all team members receiving the same ribbon placing.

DIVISION 861 – ROBOTICS

Classes:

1. Robotic Poster – Create a poster (28" x 22") communicating a robotics theme such as “Robot or Not”, “Pseudocode”, Real World Robots”, “Careers in Robots” or “Autonomous Robotics”, “Precision Agriculture” or a robotic topic of interest to the 4–H’er.
2. Robotics Notebook – Explore a robotics topic in–depth and present your findings in a notebook. Documentation should include any designs, research, notes, pseudo code, data tables or other evidence of the 4–H’ers learning experience. The notebook should contain at least three pages. Topics could include a programming challenge, programming skills, calibration, sensor exploration, or any of the topics suggested in Class 1.
4. Robotics Careers Interview – Interview someone who is working in the field of robotics and research the career in robotics. Interviews can either be written or in a multimedia format such as a short video uploaded to a cloud sharing service. Multimedia reports should be between 3 to 5 minutes in length. Include a QR code with your project to allow for judging access. All digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules. Written interviews should be in a 8.5 inch x 11 inch notebook. Written reports should be 3 to 5 pages, double spaced, 12-point font, and 1” margins.
5. Robotic Sensor Notebook – Write scratch code which includes at least three sensor activity. Include the code written and explain the code function. Codes can be submitted as a multimedia format uploaded to a cloud sharing service. Include a QR code with your project to allow judging access. Multimedia presentations should be 3 to 5 minutes in length. State fair qualified digital exhibits must be uploaded according to the guidelines and by the deadline listed in the department rules.
7. Kit Labeled Robot (cannot be free programmed) and Notebook – This class is intended for explorations of robotic components such as arms or vehicles OR educational kits marketed as robot that do not have the ability to be programmed to “sense, plan and act.” The exhibit should include a notebook with the robot the youth has constructed. Included in the notebook should be
 - 1) A description of what the robot does
 - 2) Pictures of programs the robot can perform
 - 3) Why they chose to build this particular form
 - 4) How they problem solved any issues they might have had during building and programming. A picture story of assembly is recommended.
8. 3D Printed Robotics Parts – This class is intended for youth to create parts through 3D printing to create their robot or aid the robot in completing a coded function. Project should include notebook describing the process used to create the project, describe the success of your designed piece (did it work), intended use of the product, and the modifications made to the item.

DIVISION 870 – ELECTRICITY

Units 1 and 2 are not eligible for State Fair.

*Magic of Electricity – Unit 1 Classes:

- * 910. Simple Circuit - create your own personalized light up card using an LED bulb, copper tape and a D cell battery
- *911. Bright Lights – Create your own flashlight using items found around your house. Flashlights should be made out of items that could be recycled or reused. No kits please.
- *912. Control the Flow – Make a switch. Use the following items – D cell battery, battery holder, insulated wire, 2 or 2.5-volt light bulb, bulb holder, paper clip, cardboard, and two brass paper fasteners to create a circuit that you can open and close.
- *913. Conducting Things – Make a circuit with a switch and a light bulb that can be used to test different household items for their ability to act as an insulator or conductor. You must find five items that are conductors and five items that are insulators. Create a table that illustrates your results.
- *914. Is There a Fork in the Road – Use the following items to construct one parallel and one series circuit. Items: D cell battery, battery holder, insulated wire, bulb holder and a 2 or 2.5 volt light bulb.

*Investigating Electricity – Unit 2 Classes:

- *915. Case of the Switching Circuit – Use the following items: two D cell batteries, two battery holders, light bulb, bulb holder, a 3-inch by 6-inch piece of cardboard, six brass paper fasteners and approx. two feet of 24 gauge insulated wire to build a three-way switch. Write a short essay or create a poster that illustrates how three ways switch’s function.
- *916. Rocket Launcher – Construct a rocket launcher out of the following materials: a plastic pencil box that is at least 4 inches by 8 inches, single pole switch, single throw switch, normally–open push button switch, 40 feet of 18 or 22 gauge stranded wire, four alligator clips, 2 x 6 board 6” long, 1/8” diameter metal rod, rosin core solder, soldering iron or gun, wire stripper, small crescent wrench, pliers, small Phillips and straight blade screwdrivers, drill, 1/8 inch and ¼ inch drill bits, rocket engine igniters, additional drill bits matched to holes for two switches. You must successfully build a rocket launcher and light two rocket igniters with your launcher. You DO NOT have to actually fire a rocket off of the launcher. Create a poster using photographs to show the “step by step process” used to build launcher.
- *917. Stop the Crime – Build an ALARM using the following materials: On–off push button switch, mercury switch, buzzer–vibrating or piezoelectric, 9–volt battery, 9–volt battery holder, 4 inch by 4 inch by 1/8 inch Plexiglas board to mount circuit on; rosin core solder, soldering gun / iron, two feet of 22 gauge wire, wire strippers, hot glue sticks, hot glue gun and a plastic box with a lid to mount your alarm circuit on. Create a poster using photographs to show the “step by step process” you used to build your alarm.
- *918. Quiz Board – Game will be judged for usefulness, craftsmanship and wiring skill. Include battery or power supply to operate exhibit. Questions on quiz board can include any topic.

Wired for Power – Unit 3 Classes:

1. Electrical Tool / Supply Kit – Create an electrical supply kit to be used for basic electrical repair around the house. Include a brief description of each item and its use. Container should be appropriate to hold items.
2. Lighting Comparison – Display studying the efficiency of various lighting (incandescent, florescent, halogen, Light Emitting Diodes). Exhibit could be a poster display or actual item.
3. Electrical Display/Item – Show an application of one of the concepts learned in the Wired for

Power project. Examples include – Re-wiring or building a lamp, re-wiring or making a heavy duty extension cord or developing an electrical diagram of a house. Exhibit could be a poster display, or an actual item.

4. Poster – Exemplify one of the lessons learned in the Wired for Power Project. Posters can be any size up to 28” x 22”.

Electronics – Unit 4 Classes:

5. Electrical / Electronic Part Identification – Display different parts used for electrical / electronic work. Exhibit should show the part (either picture or actual item) and give a brief description, including symbol of each part and its function. Display should include a minimum of 10 different parts.
6. Electronic Display – Show an application of one of the concepts learned in the Entering Electronics project. Example: components of an electronic device (refer to p. 35 of the Electronic manual).
7. Electronic Project – Exhibit an electronic item designed by the 4-H member or forms a manufactured kit that shows the electronic expertise of the 4-H member. Examples: a radio, a computer, or a voltmeter.
8. Poster – Exemplify one of the lessons learned in the Entering Electronics Project. Posters can be any size up to 28” x 22”.

DIVISION 880 – GEOSPACIAL

Classes:

1. Poster – Create a poster not to exceed 14inches x 22inches communicating a GPS theme such as How GPS or GIS works, Careers that use GPS or GIS, How to use GPS, What is GIS, GPS or GIS in Agriculture, Precision Agriculture, or a geospatial topic of interest.
2. 4-H Favorite Places or Historical Site Poster – The 4-H exhibitor identifies a favorite place or historical site (including gravesites) in Nebraska. Exhibit should include latitude and longitude, digital picture, and local area map. Poster size should not exceed 14inches x 22inches.
3. GPS Notebook – Keep a log of at least five places visited using a GPS enabled device. At least one site should be from a community other than where you live. For each site, record the latitude, longitude and elevation. Also include a description of the site, a paragraph explaining what was interesting about the site or finding it. Photos of each site and/or cache are optional but encouraged.
4. Geocache – Assemble a themed geocache (physical geocache is **REQUIRED** with exhibit). Each geocache should be a watertight container. It should include a logbook and pencil for finders to log their visits and may include small trinket, geocoins, etc. for the finders to trade. Documentation should include a title, teaser description and the geographic coordinates of intended placement. The entry may include a photograph of the cache in its intended hiding place. Register the site at geocaching.com following the Nebraska State Fair.
5. Agriculture Precision Mapping – Assemble a 8.5x11” 3-ring notebook including a minimum of two digital copies of various data layers that can be used in precision agriculture to identify spatial patterns and / or correlations (printed copies of websites with applications that can be purchased are acceptable). Include a report of how the analysis of the various data will be used to make a management decision.
7. GIS Thematic Map – Using any GIS software, create a thematic map, which can utilize any subject of interest to the 4-H'er. Example: Amelia Earhart's or Sir Francis Drake's voyage, population density maps, water usage maps, or 4-H project in Nebraska. Create GIS Map using data from books or Internet. Use reliable data (U.S. Center or U.S. Census Bureau, etc.) Map any size from 8.5” x11” up to 36” x24”. Should include Title, Base Map, Neat Line, North Arrow, and Legend. Identify source of information on back of map.

8. Virtual Geocache – Keep a log of at least 5 places visited using a virtual geocache platform. At least one site should be from a community other than where you live. For each site, record the latitude, longitude and elevation. Also include a description of the site, a paragraph explaining what was interesting about the site or finding it. Photos of each site and/or cache are optional, but highly encouraged.

***DIVISION 890 – SMALL ENGINES**

Small Engines is NOT eligible for State Fair.

Classes:

- *901. Display or notebook identifying the external parts of a small engine.
- *902. A safety poster describing the safety rules when working with small engines.
- *903. Small Engine Display / Item – Examples include comparison of engine oil types, transmissions, or safety related to engines.
- *904. Engine Display / Item – Examples include diagnostic tools, fuel systems, or ignition systems. If a complete engine is exhibited, it will not be started; however, the display needs to report process of building / rebuilding engine and how or where engine will be utilized (lawn mower, weed eater, snow blower, etc.)

DIVISION 900 – ENERGY

Energy Resources:

United States Department of Energy: <https://www.energy.gov/clean-energy>

U.S. Energy Information Administration: <https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/renewable-sources/>

Natural Resources Defense Council: <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/renewable-energy-clean-facts>

Classes:

1. Create and Compare Energy Resources Poster – Explore two alternative / renewable energy resources. Compare and contrast the two resources, including two of the following information: amount of energy created, costs of production, usability of the energy, pros / cons of environmental impacts, etc. Posters can be any size up to 28” x 22”.
2. Experiment Notebook – Explore the scientific method involving alternative / renewable energy sources. Information required: 1) Hypothesis 2) Research 3) Experiment 4) Measure 5) Report of redefine hypothesis

Classes 3-5:

Item should be original design of 4-H'er. Include the item, or picture if item is in excess of 6' tall or 2' x 2'. Include in a notebook why the item was designed.

3. Solar as Energy Display/Poster – Include how it harnesses the power of the sun. Examples: solar ovens, solar panels, etc.
4. Water as Energy Display/Poster – Include how it harnesses the power of water.
5. Wind as Energy Display/Poster – Include how it harnesses the power of wind.
6. Other Nebraska Alternative Energy – Notebook should explore Nebraska an alternative energy source besides wind, water, and solar power. Include information on type of power chosen, infrastructure for distribution, what resources are needed to create this alternative resource, cost of production, and potential uses of bio-products. Examples include geothermal, biomass, ethanol, biodiesel, methane reactors, etc.

DIVISION 911 – WOODWORKING

The ability to build objects as designed by another person is an important life skill. Professional woodworkers are hired to build objects to exacting specifications as laid out in a written plan.

One exhibit per exhibitor per class.

Requirements: All articles exhibited must include a plan with drawings or sketch or blueprint stating the dimensions and other critical instructions a builder would need to know how to build the project and 4-Her's name and county. If no plan is included, the exhibit will drop one ribbon placing. Plans may include narrative instructions in addition to the dimension drawings and include any alterations to the original plan. Part of the score depends on how well the project matches the plans. If the plans are modified, the changes from the original need to be noted on the plans. All plans used for making the article must be securely attached and protected by a clear plastic cover.

All projects must have appropriate finish. If the project is designed to be used outside (i.e. picnic tables, wishing wells, swings, chairs, bridges, doghouses, etc.), it may be displayed outside.

4-H members must be in Unit 3 or Unit 4 for the exhibit to be considered for State Fair. Units 1 and 2 are NOT ELIGIBLE for State Fair.

***MEASURING UP – UNIT 1 CLASS:**

*911. First Woodworking Article – Item made using skills learned in the Measuring Up Project Guide. Examples: recipe holder, stilts, or other skill level appropriate item.

***MAKING THE CUT – UNIT 2 CLASS:**

*914. Woodworking Article – Item made using skills learned in the Making the Cut project guide. Examples: birdhouse, footstool, napkin, or letter holder.

NAILING IT TOGETHER – UNIT 3 CLASSES:

7. Woodworking Article – Item made using skills learned in the Finishing It Up Project. Examples include: dovetailing, making a pen using lathe, overlays, using a router, etc. Item is required to be appropriately finished.

8. Recycled Woodworking Display – Article made from recycled, reclaimed or composite wood. Article must be appropriately finished and / or sealed and utilize one or more woodworking techniques from page two of the Unit 3 manual. Exhibit must include the woodworking plan and a minimum one-page report of how the engineering design process was used to develop the woodworking plan:

Engineering Design Process

- 1) State the problem (Why did you need this item?)
- 2) Generate possible solutions (How have others solved the problem? What other alternatives or designs were considered?)
- 3) Select a solution (How does your solution compare on the basis of cost, availability, and functionality?)
- 4) Reason for article to finish (What type of finish, how did you finish, or why did you choose this finish?)
- 5) Build the item (What was your woodworking plan? What processes did you use to build your item?)
- 6) Evaluate (How does your item solve the original need?)
- 7) Present results (How would you do this better next time?)

FINISHING UP – UNIT 4 CLASSES:

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00 White \$2.00

1. Woodworking Article – Item should be made using either joints, hinges, dowels, or a dado joining made using skills learned in the Nailing It Together manual. Item is required to be appropriately finished. Examples include: bookcase, coffee table, or end table.
3. Recycled Woodworking Display – Article made from recycled, reclaimed or composite wood. Article must be appropriately finished and / or sealed and utilize one or more woodworking techniques from page two of the Unit 3 manual. Exhibit must include the woodworking plan and a minimum one-page report of how the engineering design process was used to develop the woodworking plan:
Engineering Design Process
 - 1) State the problem (Why did you need this item?)
 - 2) Generate possible solutions (How have others solved the problem? What other alternatives or designs were considered?)
 - 3) Select a solution (How does your solution compare on the basis of cost, availability, and functionality?)
 - 4) Build the item (What was your woodworking plan? What processes did you use to build your item?)
 - 5) Reason for article finish (What type of finish, how did you finish, or why did you choose this finish?)
 - 6) Evaluate (How does your item solve the original need?)
 - 7) Present results (How would you do this better next time?)
4. Composite Wood Project – 60% of the project must be wood and 40% made from other materials such as metal, rubber, resin, etc. All plans and plan alterations must be attached to the article. Protect plans with a cover. If project is designed to be outside, it must have appropriate outdoor finish because project may be displayed outside at the State Fair.
5. Outdoor Wood Project made with Treated Wood – Treated wood projects DO NOT have to have a finished coat. All plans and plan alterations must be attached to the article. Protect plans with a cover. Examples include picnic tables, planters, outdoor furniture, etc.
7. Wood Projects created on a Turning Lathe - Article is the object created from spinning wood on a turning lathe. Article must be appropriately finished and/or sealed. Exhibit must include plans detailing design and process of completion, any changes made to the design, details of finishing techniques, and other relevant information about the article. Must include a description of tools used.

DIVISION 920 – WELDING

All welds in Classes 1 and 2 must be mounted on a 12" high x 15" long display board of thickness not to exceed 3/8". Attach each weld on a wire loop hinge or equivalent, so the judge can look at the bottom side of the weld when necessary. Each weld should be labeled with information stated

1) Type of weld process (stick, MIG, TIG, Oxy–Acetylene, etc.) 2) Kind of weld 3) Welder setting 4) Electrode/wire/rod size, and 5) electrode/wire/rod I.D. numbers. Attach a wire to display board to be hung like a picture frame. No picture frame hangers accepted.

If no plans are included with the welding article or welding furniture, the item will be disqualified.

Classes:

1. Welding Joints – A display of one butt, one lap and one fillet weld.

- ◆ All welds should be made with the same electrode/wire/rod size and number.
- ◆ Welds should be made only on one side of metal so penetration can be judged.
- ◆ Welds should be cleaned with chipping hammer and wire brush. Apply a coat of light oil (penetrating oil) to the metal to prevent rusting. Wipe off excess oil.
- ◆ It is suggested that all welds be on the same size and thickness of metal. These pieces, referred to as coupons, should be 1.5” to 2” wide and 3.5” to 4” long. To get this size, buy new cold rolled strap iron and cut to length. The extra width is needed to provide enough metal to absorb the heat from the welding process and prevent the coupons from becoming too hot before the bead is completed. Narrower coupons will become very hot, making an average welder setting too cold at the bead start, just about right in the middle, and too hot at the end. The correct way to weld narrow strips is to make short beads and allow time to cool; however, this project requires a full-length bead.

Stick welding

Suggested coupon thickness 1/4" if using 1/8" rod

Suggested rod AC and DC straight or reverse polarity:

First E-7014

Second E-6013

MIG welding

Suggested coupon thickness 1/4" if using .035 wire; 1/8" if using .023 wire

Oxy-Acetylene

Suggested coupon thickness 1/8"

Suggested rod 1/8" mild steel rod

2. Position Welds – A display showing three beads welded in the vertical down, horizontal, and overhead positions.

- ◆ It is suggested that all welds be on same size and thickness of metal. These pieces are referred to as coupons. The welds can be on one coupon that is about 4"× 4 " or on individual coupons that are about 2" × 4" inch and ¼" thick. Suggested rods for this class of position welds for AC and DC straight or reverse polarity is, first E-6013, second E-7014 and E-6010 for DC reverse polarity only.
- ◆ Welds should be cleaned with a chipping hammer and wire brush. Apply a coat of light oil (penetrating oil) to the metal to prevent rusting. Wipe off excess oil. * 4-H Welding Project Tips and Suggestions: Class 3 & 4 1. All welds should be cleaned and protected from rust with paint or light oil. Plans are to be complete enough that if they were given to a welding shop, the item could be made without further instructions. Bill of materials should include a cost for all items used including steel, electrodes, paint, wheels, etc.

3. Welding Art – Any art created using tack welds to hold the metal pieces together (examples include horseshoe projects). Type of welder, welder settings, all plans, plan alterations, and a bill for material must be attached to the article. Protect plans with a cover.

4. Welding Article – Any shop article where welding is used construction; 60% of the item must be completed by 4-Her and notes regarding laser welding or machine welding must be included. Type of welder, welder settings, all plans, plan alterations, and bill for material must be attached to the article. Protect plans with a cover.

5. Welding Furniture – Any furniture with 75% welding is used in the construction; 60% of the item must be completed by the 4-Her and notes regarding laser welding or machine welding must be included. Type of welder, welder settings, all plans, plan alterations, and bill for

material must be attached to the article. Protect plans with a cover. If project is designed to be outside it is required to have appropriate outdoor finish.

6. Plasma Cutter / Welder Design – Plasma cutters / welders allow for detailed design(s) to butt cut into metal. 4-H'ers will create a notebook describing the design process to create the “artwork” to butt cut into the metal. Include in the notebook:
 - ◆ Photos (front and back) of the finished project.
 - ◆ Instructions on how the design was created (include software used); allows for replication of the project.
 - ◆ Lessons learned or improvements to the project.
 - ◆ Steps to finish the project.
7. Composite Weld Project – 60% of the project must be welded and 40% made from other materials, such as wood, rubber, etc. Type of welder, welder settings, all plans, plan alterations, and a bill for material must be attached to the article. Protect plans with a cover. If project is designed to be outside, it is required to have appropriate outdoor finish.

***DIVISION 985 – MODEL BUILDING**

Models are to be mounted together on a Styrofoam base. Wheels should not be glued to the base.

Classes:

- *916. Exhibit will consist of one model.
- *917. Exhibit will consist of two models, any kind that the member chooses (custom, antiques, planes, boats, etc.) Both models must be mounted together on Styrofoam.
- *918. Exhibit will consist of two or more models to create a scene. Use background accessories, figures, or other items that relate to the model. Models must be approximately the same scale.

**DEPARTMENT M—MISCELLANEOUS EXHIBITS
(NOT ELIGIBLE FOR STATE FAIR)**

***DIVISION 988 – PROJECT DAY**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

4-H members who attended Project Days may exhibit up to three items made from take-home kits or at the workshops. Many projects fit into categories already in the Fair Book; contact the Extension Office to place projects in classes eligible for State Fair.

Class:

* 902. Items Made at 4-H Project Days – Items made at 4-H Project Day that do NOT fit into other categories.

***DIVISION 989—ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT APPLICATION**

Purple \$8.00 Blue \$6.00 Red \$4.00 White: \$2.00

Class:

*902. 4-H Annual Achievement Application—Application form used by Nebraska 4-H youth to apply for county, state, and national awards, and recognition. Includes significant accomplishments in 4-H Experiences, Leadership, Community Involvement, and Career Spark. Focus on information for the current 4-H year.

***DIVISION 990 – LEATHERCRAFT**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Class:

*918. Leathercraft Item (Ex. eyeglass case, bookmark, dog collar, wallet) Label each article to indicate if it was made from a kit or cut and designed by the 4-H member. More advanced items (ex. purse or belt) should show evidence of the following skills: lacing, carving, stamping, and some lining.

***DIVISION 991 – SCRAPBOOKING**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

–Each scrapbook album will have a front cover and back cover with the pages firmly attached between the covers. Each page will be covered with plastic page protectors.

–Completed pages contain photos, memorabilia, documentation, decoration, etc. Incomplete or unfinished pages will not be judged or counted toward the required number of pages.

–Label the page numbers to be judged. Attach a numbered sticky note on each page to be judged so that the judge may make comments on a certain page using numerical reference.

–Photos must be included. At least one piece of memorabilia should be included.

Exhibit clean pages with clear handwriting. Journaling (labels, captions, stories, thoughts, ideas, etc.) should be used with photos and memorabilia. Without journaling, pages become less meaningful over time to you and to others. Carefully proofread grammar and spelling.

–Use a variety of cropping techniques and page layouts to add interest and creativity to the album.

–Organize the scrapbook by chronology (putting events in the order they happened) or theme.

Classes:

*990. Beginning Scrapbook (ages 8, 9 & 10)

◆ Pages: six (three front and back)

- ◆ Layout: two to three colors of paper per page; stickers and die cuts may be used but are not mandatory.
 - ◆ Cropping: Straight cutting of photos, using regular scissors or paper cutter.
- *991. Intermediate Scrapbook (ages 11, 12, and 13)
- ◆ Pages: eight (four front and back)
 - ◆ Layout: More creative layout. Creative borders and lettering may be used.
 - ◆ Cropping: Circle, oval and other shaped templates may be used.
- *992. Advanced Scrapbook (ages 14 and up)
- ◆ Pages: ten (five front and back)
 - ◆ Layout: May include pocket pages, quilt layouts, torn paper techniques, etc., but not every page has to be these types. Use techniques you have learned in previous divisions.
 - ◆ Cropping: Silhouette cropping may be used in addition to techniques learned in the previous divisions.

***DIVISION 992 – THEATER ARTS**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Classes:

- *937. Costume – Made or decorated by 4–H member for use in a theater arts production, clowning, or other event. Costume could be for self or others.
- *938. Puppet – Exhibit consists of a puppet made by 4–H Member for use in theater arts or clowning production.
- *939. Script – A script written by 4–H member for a play, musical, skit, puppet show, or clown skit, or other type of theater arts production.
- *940. Other project related to theater arts or play production

***DIVISION 993 – LEADERSHIP CLUB EXHIBITS**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

- *940. Secretary's Book – Compile minutes and other information in a three–ring binder.
- *941. News Reporter – Display will consist of three or more clippings from newspaper, mounted on a single sheet article will be judged on newsworthiness and style of writing. Quality of news story will be the judging criteria; mounting presentation should appear neatly done. News reports can be submitted to be posted on Madison County website. Simply e–mail a copy of the news report to the Nebraska Extension in Madison County.
- *942. Historian – Scrapbook or digital file (USB drive) of club activities for the current year. If previous years are also included, insert a note showing where the current year activities begin. The scrapbook will be judged on neatness, completeness, and creativity. (May enter scrapbook under Explore Your Heritage to be eligible for State Fair.)
- *943. Photographer – Scrapbook or poster displaying photographs taken for the 4-H Club during the current year. Include at least six pictures with captions explaining the picture. Exhibits will be judged on clearness and sharpness of photograph and how well the picture and caption tell a story. Creativity will be considered.
- *944. Treasurer – Treasurer’s Club Report for the current year will be judged on neatness, accuracy, and completeness.

***DIVISION 994 – MISCELLANEOUS EXHIBITS**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Limit of four exhibits per person.

MISCELLANEOUS EXHIBITS: A 4-H member may be taking a 4-H project which has not been identified as a specific project area. Share with the public what you learned in your project. Exhibit can be a poster, a display, a collection of photographs, a diary, notebook, etc.

Class:

*947. Miscellaneous Exhibit

*948. Caring Correspondence – Create a formal or an informal letter, e-mail, or note that shows how much you care, such as a letter of appreciation, a thank you note, or a friendship card. Display on a poster or in a notebook.

***DIVISION 996 – ATV / FARM SAFETY**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Classes:

*953. You Be the Teacher – Educational notebook, display, poster, collection of materials that relate to ATVs, implement use, or farm safety. Include 8½” x 11” page describing exhibit and summary of learning.

*954. Safety Poster – Six photos of yourself demonstrating safety measure necessary for ATV, tractor, or other implement operation.

*955. Safety Scrapbook – Journal displaying your safety practices with an ATV, tractor, or other implement.

***DIVISION 997 – LEGOS**

Purple \$3.00 Blue \$2.50 Red \$2.00 White \$1.50

Class:

*956. 4-H'er may enter one item in this class. 4-H'er must create his or her own design. NO KITS. Size no larger than 24" long x 24" wide by 24" high.

*957. Nebraska 4-H Month Lego Challenge: Photo of entry in a notebook or on a display board. Include simple explanation for viewers to understand creation and how it met the challenge.

DEPARTMENT M—CLOVERBUD EXHIBITS

Any 4-H member ages 5 to 7 as of January 1 of the current year who is enrolled in 4-H online is eligible to enter exhibits in this division. All exhibits in this area are noncompetitive and will receive a participation ribbon without premium money. Pre-entry forms are due June 15, 2026.

DIVISION 999 – Cloverbud

The following are ideas; Cloverbuds are not limited to these projects and are encouraged to use their creativity.

Classes:

*971. Project Day Exhibit

*972. Aerospace Adventures

- ◆ Flying machine (rocket, airplane, etc.)
- ◆ Legos (cannot include weapons)
- ◆ Windsock or kite

*973. Citizenship: Family Celebrations around the World

- ◆ Family celebration mini poster
- ◆ Photo memory box or scrapbook page
- ◆ Family tree
- ◆ Citizenship project to help others

*974. Textiles

- ◆ Decorated shirt
- ◆ Accessory
- ◆ Simple needle book or pincushion
- ◆ Fashion show (submit a fashion show entry form to the Extension Office)

*975. Making Foods for Me

- ◆ Healthy snack
- ◆ Cookies
- ◆ No bake cookies or bars

- ◆ Colored Choose My Plate or other health-related poster

*976. Home Environment: A Space for Me

- ◆ Storage container
- ◆ Wall hanging
- ◆ Accessory for your room or home
- ◆ Other home-related project

*977. Outdoor Discovery: Just Outside Your Door

- ◆ Birdhouse or bird feeder
- ◆ Insect model
- ◆ Step stone or other outdoor accessory
- ◆ Weather or safety poster
- ◆ Plaster cast of nature

*978. Safety: Bicycle Adventures

- ◆ Helmet or bicycle safety poster
- ◆ Traffic signs colored with correct colors
- ◆ Simple first aid kit

*For Animal Caretaker projects, see the following livestock section.

LIVESTOCK SECTION

Review general livestock rules and regulations at the beginning of the 4-H Fair Book for dress code, YQCA requirements, etc.

CLOVERBUD ANIMAL CARETAKER

Cloverbud Small Animals and Livestock: Cloverbuds can only show the following species:

- ◆ Bucket Calf
- ◆ Sheep
- ◆ Rabbit
- ◆ Poultry
- ◆ Cat
- ◆ Dog
- ◆ Horse – Stick Horse Ride Only

Please refer to the respective divisions for specific details about Cloverbud classes.

DEPARTMENT F—LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

**THE LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8 AT 4:30 P.M. IN THE LIVESTOCK ARENA**

DIVISION 500

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

- *925. Senior Livestock Judging (14 years and older)
- *926. Intermediate Livestock Judging (11 to 13 years)
- *927. Junior Livestock Judging (8 to 10 years)

Adults and Cloverbuds are welcome to participate.

DEPARTMENT G—SHOWMANSHIP GENERAL

Showmanship contest will be held immediately before showing the respective classes of livestock. Each competitor must show his or her own animal. An animal may be shown only once in showmanship. The judge will take into consideration the member's skill in handling the animal, proper grooming, and training of the animal. Individual excellence of the animal will not count. Exhibitors will also be rated on appropriate 4-H or FFA dress code.

For Showmanship class number, see the respective livestock group. All exhibitors must show in their respective age divisions:

Senior Showmanship Division (14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 years old as of January 1)
Intermediate Showmanship Division (11, 12, and 13 year old as of January 1)
Junior Showmanship Division (8, 9, & 10, years old as of January 1)

PEEWEE SHOWMANSHIP

Open to all Madison County residents, ages 4 through 7, as of January 1. **Peewee are not 4-H members.** There will be no competition; peewee showmanship is used only as a learning experience for potential livestock 4-H Members. Peewee showmen will receive a participation award.

Peewee animals will be supplied from county fair entries with owner's permission. **Peewee animals must be borrowed and cannot be brought from home.** Borrowed animals must weigh 300 pounds or less.

Peeweese can show in the following divisions: Beef, Lamb, Hogs, Rabbit, Poultry, and Dairy (born after January 1 of the current year)

DEPARTMENT G—HERDSMANSHIP

Purpose: The purpose is to encourage cooperation, fellowship, and teamwork among exhibitors in developing and maintaining a display of livestock and stalling areas. Herdsmanship also promotes pride and enthusiasm for the industry and rewards those exhibitors who achieve this purpose. Herdsmanship duties are the primary responsibility of the livestock exhibitor.

Procedures: Clubs and independent members will receive points for herdsmanship. Judging will take place two times throughout each day. Total of all points during the week will determine awards. Points awarded each day will be posted in the livestock barn by the end of the day.

Awards: Herdsmanship will be divided into three categories for judging: independent members, clubs with nine or less small and / or large animals, and clubs with ten or more small and / or large animals.

Placings and premiums will be awarded. Failure to participate will result in withheld premium.

Basis of Rating Herdsmanship:

Animals: (4 points) Clean at all times with proper grooming, bedding, feeding and care apparent; properly penned and secured.

Stalls: (4 points) Clean and neat stalls, clean bedding, full water bucket, feed and feed pans and buckets clean and in place, no manure in stall area, and exhibitor signs clearly in place. Ribbon stickers placed on signed detailing how the animals / exhibitor did.

Tack / Feed Area: (4 points) Area kept clean and neatly arranged; grooming and tie-out areas clean with personal items out of sight or neatly stored. Supplies and materials are stored away safely where animals, visitors, and other exhibitors are free from harm.

Alleyways: (4 points) Exhibitors' designated alleys and commons areas kept clean, free of equipment, loose dirt and dust kept under control with proper sweeping and / or sprinkling, and no manure in piles.

Exhibitors: (4 points) Proper courtesy and conduct shown by exhibitors at all times and in all places, including with the public and other exhibitors. The educational exhibit is visible and beneficial. All exhibitors are expected to participate in Herdsmanship.

A ribbon sticker will designate the club's placing for the day. Premiums will only be given for the total score at the end of the week.

Total Points:

20 Points / Judging

40 Points / Day

200 Points / Week

Point System Per Judging Time:

Purple: 31-40

Blue: 21-30

Red: 11-20

White: 0-10

***DIVISION 913 – HERDSMANSHIP**

Classes:

*901. Club Herdsmanship

*902. Independent Herdsmanship

DEPARTMENT G—BEEF CATTLE
Superintendent Jason Hansen

Purple \$12.00 Blue \$11.00 Red \$10.00

NEW DATE AND TIME OF BEEF SHOW: FRIDAY, JULY 10 AT 1:30 P.M.

The 4–H / FFA Beef Show at both county and state levels will be Blow and Go Shows. Animals can be clipped, blown, and brushed or combed to enhance appearance. They must be shown free of any adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products. Any compounds that have adhesive qualities or alter the color of the animal are forbidden; however, alcohol– or water–based products, oil, or foam products without adhesive or glue qualities are permitted. Paint is allowed on hooves and dewclaws only.

When showing all classes of beef cattle, except bucket calf, exhibitor must utilize a show stick, show comb, and show halter in the show ring.

DIVISION 915 – FEEDER CALVES

Each exhibitor will be limited to four entries. Must be born between January 1 and May 1 of the current year.

Calves to be exhibited in this class must be ear–tagged (with official Nebraska 4–H Beef Tags), identified on form 4–HF 110, and recorded at the **Extension Office by June 15.**

All feeder calves must weigh on Friday, July 10 between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.

All breeds will show in one class. If a class is too large, it will be divided at the discretion of the superintendent. A heifer can only be shown in either a breeding heifer or feeder class. Feeder calves may be brought and taken home the day of the show.

Classes:

- 901. Feeder Steers
- 902. Feeder Heifers
- 903. Feeder Bulls

STATE FAIR REQUIREMENTS: Market Beef and Feeder Calves must be identified; ear tagged with official 840 USDA EID tag and have DNA test on file by June 15. Online nomination required.

DIVISION 11 – MARKET BEEF

All Market Beef must be owned by the member making the entry and will be shown by the owner. Entry will be shown in respective class of steers or heifers. **No individual may show more than a total of two market beef animals per entry number.** Weight classes will be determined by the superintendent. The suggested weight for Market Beef is at minimum 1000 lbs. Market Beef must be born in the previous year.

All market beef will be weighed on Wednesday, July 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Classes:

- 910. Market Steers
- 50. Market Heifers

BREEDING HEIFERS

Exhibitor may show no more than four breeding heifers. Must be identified by June 15.

STATE FAIR REQUIREMENTS: All breeding heifers must have tattoo (or identification type that is acceptable by the breed association), have hair samples for DNA submitted to the Extension Office and complete the online market nomination by June 15. Heifers must have legible tattoo matching registration and nomination card. Commercial heifers must have legible tattoo EID Tag matching nomination. Any heifer not having a legible tattoo or that shows evidence of a fresh or recent tattoo will be disqualified. A calf hood vaccination tattoo is not considered an official identification tattoo. Original registration certificates for all breeds must be presented at check in. Copy of registration paperwork is required for each registered breeding heifer.

All breeding heifers must check in with the superintendent Wednesday, July 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Refer to: <https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/animals/6> for specification regarding percentages of breeds to qualify to specific divisions.

DIVISION 12 – ANGUS

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

***DIVISION 916 – MAINETAINER**

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 13 – CHAROLAIS

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 14 – CHIANINA

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 15 – COMMERCIAL

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 16 – GELBVIEH

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 17 – HEREFORD & POLLED HERFORD

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 18 – LIMOUSIN

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 19 – MAINE ANJOU

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 20 – RED ANGUS

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 21 – SHORTHORN

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 22 – SIMMENTAL

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 23 – ALL OTHER BREEDS (AOB)

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 24 – COMPOSITE CHAROLAIS

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 25 – BALANCER HEIFERS

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 26 – LIMFLEX

Classes:

901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 27 - MAINETAINER

Classes:

- 901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
- 902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
- 903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
- 904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
- 905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 28 – SHORTHORN PLUS

Classes:

- 901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
- 902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
- 903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
- 904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
- 905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

DIVISION 29 – FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL

Classes:

- 901. BRED HEIFER born before Dec. 31, 2024
- 902. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025
- 903. HEIFERS calved May 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2025
- 904. HEIFERS calved Sep. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025
- 905. HEIFERS calved Jan. 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026

***DIVISION 919 – SECOND-YEAR BUCKET CALF**

To be eligible for this class, the calf must have been shown as a bucket calf the previous year and must be shown by the same exhibitor. Ownership affidavit form is due to the Extension Office by June 15. Designate market or breeding beef on ID sheet. Calf must have same ear tag as last year.

If you choose to exhibit the animal in the second-year bucket calf project, it will NOT be allowed to show as a market beef or breeding beef.

A bucket calf may be exhibited by a Cloverbud and then shown the following year as a second-year bucket calf if the exhibitor is 8 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Class may be divided by the discretion of beef superintendent.

Class:

- *901. Second-year Bucket Calf

***DIVISION 917 – COW / CALF PAIR**

Cow / Calf must be a mother and calf (bull, steer, or heifer). Calf is eligible to show as a feeder calf. A heifer calf can only be shown in either a breeding heifer or feeder class. Cow is NOT eligible for breeding heifer class. Calf must have official 4-H identification. Identification sheets are due to the Extension Office by June 1.

Class:

- *901. Cow and Calf

DIVISION 10 – BEEF SHOWMANSHIP

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

Showmen must be enrolled in one or more of the following classes: Market Beef, Breeding Heifer, Feeder Calf, or Cow / Calf Pair. Bucket Calves cannot be shown in beef showmanship.

Classes:

902. Senior Beef Showman (14-18 years old)

903. Intermediate Beef Showman (11-13 years old)

904. Junior Beef Showman (8-10 years old)

***DIVISION 918 – BUCKET CALF**

Superintendent Lynn Walmsley

NEW DATE AND TIME OF BUCKET CALF SHOW: SATURDAY, JULY 10 AT 9:00 a.m.

Identification sheets are due to the Extension Office by June 15. Record books are due to the Extension Office by Friday, June 26, 2026.

All bucket calves will be weighed on Wednesday, July 8 starting at 1:00 p.m.

If a calf dies after the ID sheet deadline, the 4-H member cannot participate in the Bucket Calf show; however, he or she can complete the record book and participate in the interview during fair.

Record Book Premiums: Record books are judged separately and awarded a ribbon, then the scores are included with the overall project. There will not be a champion or reserve champion record book. Cloverbud participants will not receive an overall premium nor a record book premium.

OVERALL PREMIUM

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

RECORD BOOK PREMIUM:

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

Entries may be heifer or steer calves, either beef or dairy, born between February 1 and May 1 of the current year, and enrolled in the 4-H Bucket Calf Project.

Each exhibitor will be limited to one entry. Bucket calf can only be shown on Saturday and cannot be shown in beef showmanship, as a feeder calf, etc.

NO CLIPPING ALLOWED FOR ANY BUCKET CALF CLASS! NO SHOW STICKS OR COMBS.

ROPE HALTERS ONLY. For safety of youth, consider shortening rope length.

The Bucket Calf Project is based on a 50-point system: Record Book (15 points), Interview (15 points), and Showmanship (20 points). In the case of a tie, the overall top two will return to the ring. Judge will then award Champion and Reserve Champion.

Calves will be shown in one Bucket Calf class only.

Show Order: (tentative)

Cloverbud

Junior Bucket Calf

Intermediate Bucket Calf

Senior Bucket Calf

Classes may be split at the superintendent's discretion.

- *901. Junior Bucket Calf – youth 8 & 9 years old
- *902. Intermediate Bucket Calf – youth 10 & 11 years old
- *903. Senior Bucket Calf – youth 12, 13, & 14 years old
- *905. Bucket Calf Record Book
- *906. Cloverbud Division (5–7 years old) – Participation ONLY

DEPARTMENT G—SHEEP

Superintendent Shane Nelson

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

ALL sheep will be weighed on Wednesday, July 8 starting at 1:00 p.m.

Each exhibitor may show up to eight sheep, which includes two breeding ewes and six lambs in any combination of feeder and / or market lambs.

Exhibitors must declare which animals will be exhibited as market sheep or feeder lambs by June 15 then they will be judged accordingly.

All sheep, Breeding and Market must have an official USDA (scrapie) identification tag. All registered sheep must have a copy of their registration papers attached to the ID sheet on June 15.

All ewes must have an official USDA (scrapie) identification tag.

STATE FAIR REQUIREMENTS: ALL Market and Breeding Sheep to be shown at the State Fair must be tagged with an official USDA Scrapies Tag, have hair samples for DNA submitted to the Extension Office and complete the online market nomination by June 15. ALL Breeding Sheep must have completed the online breeding nomination by June 1 and have an official USDA scrapie tag. The scrapie's tag will serve as the 4-H ID number on the breeding nomination.

All 4-H / FFA Market lambs and Feeder lambs must be clip sheared completely.

The 4-H / FFA Sheep Shows will be Blow and Go Shows. Animals can be clipped, blown, and brushed or combed to enhance appearance. They must be shown free of any adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products. Any compounds that have adhesive qualities or alter the color of the animal are forbidden; however, alcohol- or water-based products, oil, or foam products without adhesive or glue qualities are permitted. Paint is allowed on hooves and dewclaws only.

Sheep dropped after January 1, 2026, are classified as lambs. Sheep dropped between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025, are classified as yearlings. Two lambs may be taken from the pair of market lambs and shown as individuals or other lambs owned by the exhibitor can be shown in the individual class. Market lambs may be either sex and cannot be shown as a breeding ewe.

At the discretion of show management, any animal will be subject to both urine and blood analysis for diuretics and antibiotic compounds.

Animal will be dismissed if any evidence of club lamp fungus. Exhibits determined to have “active” club lamp fungus will not be eligible to show and will be sent home.

NO Hot Shoting or Inhuman Treatment of Animals. The use of showing and/or handling practices that may be considered objectionable or abusive, such as striking or slapping lambs and exhibiting the lamb with its feet off the ground, are not acceptable. The use of such practices may result in the lowering of a ribbon placing. (Lifting the lamb in a fluid motion to set the front legs prior to quickly setting the feet back on the ground is acceptable.) Spike collars are not acceptable and will result in the lowering of a ribbon placing. Exhibitor will be dismissed from showing at the sheep show during the fair.

DIVISION 931 – MARKET & FEEDER LAMB

Classes:

- 901. Market Lamb
- 902. Pair of Market Lambs
- 903. Feeder Lamb
- 904. Pair of Feeder Lambs
- 905. Bottle Lamb – classes will be split into age divisions depending on participation.

DIVISION 32 – BREEDING EWES

Ewes born prior to September 1, 2025, are ineligible to show.

Classes:

- 908. Breeding ewe lambs
- 909. Breeding yearlings

Overall breeding ewe champion shall be determined, and trophy awarded.

DIVISION 30 – SHEEP SHOWMANSHIP

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

Classes:

- 902. Senior Sheep Showman (14-18 years old)
- 903. Intermediate Sheep Showman (11-13 years old)
- 904. Junior Sheep Showman (8-10 years old)
- *901. Cloverbud Division (5–7 years old) – Participation ONLY

DEPARTMENT G—SWINE
Superintendents Mark McKibbon and Evan Unkel

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00 White \$7.00

This is a non-terminal show. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to send hogs to be harvested after the Madison County Fair hog show. Exhibitors assume all risks for introduction of any diseases into their herds as a result of returning hogs home from the fair. In addition, all exhibitors will be required to meet the expectations of the industry in accordance with YQCA guidelines.

Hogs not meeting health requirements will be immediately removed from the grounds by the owner.

Each exhibitor may enter six animals in the hog division. (Maximum of 4 market and 2 breeding) Entries must be properly identified by June 15. at the Extension Office. Hogs may be duel nominated however declaration of breeding or market class is due June 15.

Hogs will be weighed and divided into classes by the superintendent. (no weight limits)

Breeding gilt must be properly identified by June 15 at the Extension Office. All breeding gilts are required to be born on or after December 1, 2025. Classes may be divided at the discretion of superintendent.

STATE FAIR REQUIREMENTS: ALL Market and Breeding Hogs to be shown at the State Fair must be tagged with an official 840 USDA EID tag or the producer EID tag, if owned by the exhibitor, have completed the online nomination entry (Family farm or ranch names will not be accepted.), and have the DNA collector envelope with hair sample submitted to the Extension Office by June 15. Hogs will be disqualified if the EID information does not match the hog at check-in. The universal ear notch system will not be an acceptable form of identification at the Nebraska State Fair.

Bedding will be provided by the fair board at no cost. (No straw.) All pens must be cleaned by the exhibitor the day of release.

ALL hogs will be weighed Wednesday, July 8 at 9:00 a.m.

Ear tags must be in ears of hogs before entering scale. Exhibitors must be on hand at this time.

Hogs must be shown without oil, powder, or any coat dressing compounds considered objectionable by the packer. Hogs found in violation will be disqualified from the live show and the carcass show. They will also be subject to price discounts imposed by the packer for such compounds.

All hogs must be in place by weigh in and must remain on the fairgrounds until release. Time of release will be posted at the fair.

DIVISION 35 – MARKET HOGS

Classes:

910. Market Barrow

915 Market Gilt

920. Pair of Market Hogs (can be a barrow and a gilt, or same sex)

930. Carcass Contest – *Purple*–63% lean or greater, *Blue*–59%–62.99% lean, *Red*–58.99% lean and less, *White*–all others not meeting requirements

DIVISION 35 – BREEDING GILT

Classes:

10. All Breed Breeding Gilts

DIVISION 35 – HOG SHOWMANSHIP

Classes:

902. Senior Hog Showman (14-18 years old)

903. Intermediate Hog Showman (11-13 years old)

904. Junior Hog Showman (8-10 years old)

DEPARTMENT G—DAIRY CATTLE

Superintendent Jami Brandl

Purple \$12.00 Blue \$11.00 Red \$10.00

Each exhibitor may show three dairy animals as individuals. Cattle must be identified by June 15.

DIVISION 41 – AYRSHIRES

DIVISION 42 – BROWN SWISS

DIVISION 43 – GUERNSEYS

DIVISION 44 – HOLSTEINS

DIVISION 45 – JERSEY

DIVISION 46 – MILKING SHORTHORN

DIVISION 47 – CROSSBRED

Classes:

10. Junior Calves (3/1/26 to 4/30/26)

20. Intermediate Calves (12/1/25 to 2/28/25)

30. Senior Calves (9/1/25 to 11/30/25)

40. Summer Yearlings (6/1/25 to 8/31/25)

50. Spring Yearlings (3/1/25 to 5/3/25)

60. Winter Yearlings (12/1/24 to 2/28/25)

70. Fall Yearlings (9/1/24 to 11/30/24)

80. Dry Cow Any Age

90. Two Year Olds (9/1/23 to 8/31/24)

110. Three Year Olds (9/1/22 to 8/31/23)

120. Four Year Olds (9/1/21 to 8/31/22)

130. Five+ Year Olds (prior to 9/1/21)

140. Junior Dairy Herds

Junior Dairy Herd – three females, at least one of the three must be a cow that has freshened long enough to have a projected M.E. record; at least one must be bred by the exhibitor and all three are to be of the same breed.

*Animals born after 8-31-24 that have calved must be shown as two-year-olds in a dry cow class.

DIVISION 40 – DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

Classes:

- 902. Senior Dairy Showman (14-18 years old)
- 903. Intermediate Dairy Showman (11-13 years old)
- 904. Junior Dairy Showman (8-10 years old)dairy

DEPARTMENT G—DAIRY GOATS

Superintendent Jami Brandl

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

An exhibitor is limited to showing four dairy goats. All goats must be identified June 15.

***DIVISION 940**

Classes:

- 901. Does under one year, not in milk
- 902. Does over one year and under two, not in milk
- 903. Milking Does
- 904. Mother – Daughter
- 905. Get of Sire
- 906. Junior Herd

***DIVISION 941 – DAIRY GOAT SHOWMANSHIP**

Classes:

- 905. Senior Dairy Goat Showman (14-18 years old)
- 906. Intermediate Dairy Goat Showman (11-13 years old)
- 907. Junior Dairy Goat Showman (8-10 years old)

DEPARTMENT G—MEAT GOATS

Superintendent Shane Nelson

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$9.00 Red \$8.00

NO BILLY GOAT CLASS WILL BE OFFERED.

An exhibitor is limited to showing four meat goats if at least one is a breeding doe. All meat goats must be identified on the official 4-H ownership affidavit (4HF111) and ear tagged with the official Nebraska 4-H ear tags and scrapies tag by June 15.

STATE FAIR: ALL Meat Goats and Breeding Does to be shown at the State Fair must be tagged with an USDA Scrapies tag, EID tag and have hair samples for DNA submitted to the Extension Office by June 15. ALL must have completed the online breeding nomination by June 15.

Family farm or ranch names will not be accepted. All does (market and breeding) must have the official 840 USDA EID tag in place (part of scrapie eradication program). The scrapies tag will serve as the 4-H identification number on the breeding nomination.

Goats must have horns blunted. Dehorning is acceptable and preferred.

The 4-H / FFA Goat Shows will be Blow and Go Shows. Animals can be clipped, blown, and brushed or combed to enhance appearance. They must be shown free of any adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products. Any compounds that have adhesive qualities or alter the color of the animal are forbidden; however, alcohol- or water-based products, oil, or foam products without adhesive or glue qualities are permitted. Paint is allowed on hooves and dewclaws only.

SHOWING AND HANDLING PRACTICES: The use of showing and / or handling practices that may be considered objectionable or abusive, such as striking or slapping goats and exhibiting the goat with its feet off the ground, are not acceptable. The use of such practices may result in the lowering of a ribbon placing. Goats may be braced but must have all four feet on the ground.

NEW: Neck Chains & Halters - Goats are to be shown with either a halter, smooth neck chain, smooth or pronged collars only.

Meat goats will be weighed during sheep weigh-in on Wednesday, July 8 at 1:00 p.m.

DIVISION 58 – MEAT GOAT

Class:

10. Market Goat – withers and does

DIVISION 59 – BREEDING MEAT GOAT

Classes:

10. Yearling Doe – 9/1/24 to 8/31/25

20. Doe Kid – 9/1/25 to 6/1/26

DIVISION 58 – MEAT GOAT SHOWMANSHIP

Classes:

902. Senior Meat Goat Showmanship (14-18 years old)

903. Intermediate Meat Goat Showmanship (11-13 years old)

904. Junior Meat Goat Showmanship (8-10 years old)

DEPARTMENT G—HORSE
Superintendent Betty Books

Purple \$12.00 Blue \$11.00 Red \$10.00 White \$9.00

Regulations, dress code, procedures and score sheets will be those set forth in "4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide" available at UNL Marketplace.

At County level ONLY can an exhibitor participate in both English and Western Classes.

Trainers / adults are not allowed to exercise, work out, or ride 4-Her's horses at 4-H horse shows.

Seniors will start all classes.

Any horse not controlled at all times by his or her rider may be dismissed or not allowed to enter his or her class at the discretion of the superintendent.

Any decisions as to eligibility will be made by the superintendent and the judge.

Level 1 test must be passed (Including those showing donkeys) before entering county fair.

The DESIGNATED AREA for riding of horses will be the second arena east of the grandstand. Riding of horses in non-designated area will cause forfeit of premium money. Horses will be excluded completely from certain other areas because of the hazards to other exhibitors and people attending the fair. Horse exhibitors are urged to observe these restrictions and to use caution with their animals at all times. Do NOT ride or take horses near areas selling food or in the livestock area. Always use the east driveway when going to the show arena.

NO riding double. Only the exhibitor is allowed on his/her horse.

ALL horses must be in their stalls by 10:00 p.m. each night and remain in the stall all night. NO 4-H or FFA horse can be shown unless identification papers are recorded at the Extension Office prior to June 15.

ALL horses must be pre-entered for fair classes. Horses must be in place by **NOON**, Wednesday, July 8. Identification sheets will be checked at this time.

Two exhibitors may show the same horse, providing they are in separate age groups.

4-H horse activities should only be conducted in compliance with the Equine Limited Liability Law. **WARNING!** Under Nebraska law, an equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or death of participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities pursuant to Sections 25-21, 249 to 25-21, 253.

ALL CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, JULY 9:

ALL CLASSES - All English, Halter, Showmanship, Pleasure, Horsemanship, Trail, Reining, Western Riding, Roles, and Barrels.

DIVISION 960 – ENGLISH PLEASURE (all ages unless entries warrant splitting)

Class:

909. English Pleasure

DIVISION 969 – ENGLISH EQUITATION (all ages unless entries warrant splitting)

Class:

909. English Equitation

DIVISION 965 – TRAIL CLASS

Classes:

909. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4–H age)

910. Intermediate Division (11, 12, & 13 years old; 4–H age)

911. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4–H age)

DIVISION 964 – REINING CLASS

Classes:

909. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4–H age)

910. Intermediate Division (11, 12, & 13 years old; 4–H age)

911. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4–H age)

DIVISION 968 – RANCH PLEASURE

Ribbons and premiums only will be awarded.

Classes:

910. Ranch Pleasure – All ages

DIVISION 966 – POLE BENDING

Classes:

909. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4–H age)

910. Intermediate Division (11, 12, & 13 years old; 4–H age)

911. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4–H age)

DIVISION 967 – BARREL RACING

Classes:

909. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4–H age)

910. Intermediate Division (11, 12, 13 years old; 4–H age)

911. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4–H age)

DIVISION 980 – CLOVERBUD STICK HORSE RIDE

Meet at the Grandstands Arena. Open to all Madison County residents ages 5 to 7 as of January 1 of the current year. Must bring own stick horse. Closed-toed shoes must be worn. Participation awards only.

Class:

*900. Stick Horse Ride Cloverbud Division (5–7 years old) – Participation ONLY

DIVISION 973 – HORSE SHOWMANSHIP

Classes:

- 909. Senior Horse Showman (14-18 years old)
- 910. Intermediate Horse Showman (11-13 years old)
- 911. Junior Horse Showman (8-10 years old)

DIVISION 971 – HALTER CLASS

Trophy will be given to the overall Mare & Gelding in all combined classes.

Classes:

- 909. 3-year-olds and Under Mares and Geldings
- 910. 4-year-olds and Over Mares
- 911. 4-year-olds and Over Geldings
- 912. Donkey/Pony Halter

DIVISION 978 – 2-3 YEAR OLD SNAFFLE BIT

Ribbons and premiums only will be awarded.

Class:

- 909. 2- to 3-year-old Snaffle Bit

DIVISION 974 – WALK TROT PLEASURE

If enrolled in this class, you CANNOT enroll in any other pleasure class. Also, after winning champion or reserve of either walk trot class, you must advance to the next level.

Class:

- 909. BEGINNING JUNIORS ONLY.

DIVISION 975 – WALK TROT HORSEMANSHIP

If enrolled in this class, you CANNOT enroll in any other horsemanship class. Also, after winning champion or reserve of either walk trot class, you must advance to the next level.

Class:

- 909. BEGINNING JUNIORS ONLY.

DIVISION 961 – WESTERN PLEASURE CLASS

Classes:

- 909. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4-H age)
- 910. Intermediate Division (11, 12, & 13 years old; 4-H age)
- 911. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4-H age)

DIVISION 962 – WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP CLASS

Classes:

- 909. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4-H age)
- 910. Intermediate Division (11, 12 & 13 years old; 4-H age)
- 911. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4-H age)

DIVISION 963 – RANCH RIDING

Ribbons and premiums only will be awarded.

Classes:

- 910. Junior Division (8, 9, and 10 years old; 4-H age)
- 911. Intermediate Division (11, 12 & 13 years old; 4-H age)

912. Senior Division (14 years and older; 4-H age)

HORSE SPECIAL RECOGNITION -

AGE DIVISIONS (4-H age as of January 1)

Junior Division—8, 9, & 10

Intermediate Division—11, 12, & 13

Senior Division—ages 14 years and older

High Point Rider - Junior, Intermediate, and Senior

Scoring—High Point Rider is determined by accumulated points by ONE RIDER per each division (not necessarily with the same horse).

Classes included in scoring are English Pleasure, English Equitation, Trail, Reining, Poles, Barrels, Showmanship, Halter (only one halter class will be used towards point accrual), Walk-Trot Pleasure, Walk-Trot Horsemanship, Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, and Ranch Riding.

Prize will be awarded to the top rider per age group (awards subject to change).

Points are awarded as follows:

Purple	4 points
Blue	3 points
Red	2 points
White	1 point

No points will be given for Champion and Reserve Champions awards; however, they will be considered in the case of a tie. Additional ties will be considered using horsemanship classes first and then showmanship classes.

SMALL ANIMALS

DEPARTMENT G—POULTRY

Superintendents Jerry and Crystal Ketelsen

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00

Poultry must be in place by noon on Wednesday, July 8.

NEW TIME FOR POULTRY SHOW- SATURDAY, JULY 11 AT 10 A.M.

Testing and Examination: Birds entered are subject to testing of any type at the discretion of the superintendent or staff.

Care of Animals: Poultry must be cared for by the 4-H'er. Superintendents are not responsible for daily care. Animals will be dismissed and premiums forfeited in such case. **Must have own feeders and waterers; they will not be provided.**

Health of Animals: All animals should be free of fleas, ticks, ear mites, ringworm, any internal and external parasite and infectious disease. If an animal shows the possibility of being contagious or sick, it will be disqualified and dismissed at superintendent's discretion.

No more than three entries per class per exhibitor. Exhibitors must be present during show.

ID sheets must be submitted to the Extension Office by June 15.

DIVISION 920 – MARKET & PRODUCTION POULTRY

Classes:

901. Broilers, Pen of Three Birds (ALL male or female) – under four pounds

902. Pullets, Pen of Three

903. Roasters, Pen of Three – over four pounds

DIVISION 921 – TURKEY

Ribbons and premiums only will be awarded.

Classes:

902. Tom Turkey

903. Hen Turkey

DIVISION 922 – PIGEON

Classes:

901. Young Male

902. Old Male

903. Young Female

904. Old Female

DIVISION 923 – OTHER POULTRY

No more than two entries per class per exhibitor.

Classes:

- 901. Young Duck
- 902. Old Duck
- 903. Young Drake
- 904. Old Drake
- 905. Young Goose
- 906. Old Goose
- 907. Young Gander
- 908. Old Gander
- 909. Bantam Exotic, male– hatched during current year
- 910. Bantam Exotic, male – hatched prior to current year
- 911. Bantam Exotic, female – hatched during current year
- 912. Bantam Exotic, female – hatched prior to current year
- 913. Standard Poultry, male – hatched during current year
- 914. Standard Poultry, male – hatched prior to current year
- 915. Standard Poultry, female – hatched during current year
- 916. Standard Poultry, female – hatched prior to current year
- 917. Guinea
- 918. Peacock
- 919. Quail
- 920. Miscellaneous

DIVISION 924 – EGGS

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.00

Eggs will be judged on shape, color, and weight uniformity. Please do not refrigerate eggs prior to checking in the eggs. Eggs must be harvested from the exhibitor's flock.

Ribbons and premiums only will be awarded.

Classes:

- 901. One dozen white eggs
- 902. One dozen brown eggs
- 903. One dozen other colored eggs

DIVISION 70 – POULTRY SHOWMANSHIP

Purple \$8.00 Blue \$6.00 Red \$4.00

Classes:

- 901. Senior Division (14-18 years old)
- 902. Intermediate Division (11-13 years old)
- 903. Junior Division (8-10 years old)
- 904. Cloverbud Division (5–7 years old) – Participation ONLY

DEPARTMENT G—RABBITS

Superintendents Jerry and Crystal Ketelsen

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00

ALL rabbits must be in place by NOON on Wednesday, July 8.

NEW DATE AND TIME OF RABBIT SHOW – THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1:00 P.M.

Care of Animals: Rabbits must be cared for by the 4-H'er. Superintendents are not responsible for daily care. Animals will be dismissed, and premiums forfeited in such case.
Must have own feeders and waterers; they will not be provided.

Health of Animals: All animals should be free of fleas, ticks, ear mites, ringworm, any internal and external parasite, and infectious disease. If an animal shows the possibility of being contagious or sick, it will be disqualified and dismissed at superintendent's discretion.

No more than ten rabbits may be entered by one exhibitor and only two rabbits per class.

Each rabbit may be shown in only ONE class (excluding showmanship).

Classes will be determined by the superintendent and judge depending on number and breeds of rabbits for appropriate class. Meat rabbits will be weighed in at check-in time for classing.

Rabbits must have tattoos. ID sheets must be submitted to the Extension Office by June 15.

DIVISION 981 – MARKET CLASS

Classes:

902. Fryer (3 to 5 pounds)

903. Meat (3 to 5 pounds)

904. Roaster (5 pounds and over)

BREEDING CLASSES

DIVISION 984 – BREEDING CLASS (PUREBRED)

Lops (Holland Lop, Mini Lop, French Lop, Fuzzy Lop, other Lops)

	DOES (Class)	BUCKS (Class)
Junior (under 1 year)	901	904
Intermediate (1–2 years)	902	905
Senior (over 2 years)	903	906

DIVISION 985 – BREEDING CLASS (PUREBRED)

Rex (Rex, Mini-Rex, Otter Rex, other Rex)

	DOES (Class)	BUCKS (Class)
Junior (under 1 year)	901	904
Intermediate (1–2 years)	902	905

Senior (over 2 years) 903 906

DIVISION 986 – BREEDING CLASS (PUREBRED)

Dwarf (Netherland Dwarf, Polish Dwarf, other Dwarf)

	DOES (Class)	BUCKS (Class)
Junior (under 1 year)	901	904
Intermediate (1–2 years)	902	905
Senior (over 2 years)	903	906

DIVISION 987 – BREEDING CLASS (PUREBRED)

Dutch (black, blue, chinchilla, chocolate, gray, steel, and tortoise)

	DOES (Class)	BUCKS (Class)
Junior (under 1 year)	901	904
Intermediate (1–2 years)	902	905
Senior (over 2 years)	903	906

DIVISION 988 – BREEDING CLASS (PUREBRED)

Others (New Zealand, Lionhead, Flemish Giants, etc.)

	DOES (Class)	BUCKS (Class)
Junior (under 1 year)	901	904
Intermediate (1–2 years)	902	905
Senior (over 2 years)	903	906

DIVISION 989 – BREEDING CLASS (COMMERCIAL)

	DOES (Class)	BUCKS (Class)
Junior (under 1 year)	901	904
Intermediate (1–2 years)	902	905
Senior (over 2 years)	903	906

DIVISION 80 – RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP CLASS

Purple \$8.00 Blue \$6.00 Red \$4.00

The 4–H rabbit project manual explains showmanship rules. Obtain a copy at the Extension Office.

Classes:

901. Senior Division (14-18 years old)

902. Intermediate Division (11-13 years old)

903. Junior Division (8-10 years old)

904. Cloverbud Division (5–7 years old) – Participation ONLY

DEPARTMENT G—CATS
Superintendents Tessa Ferguson and Marcia Schnoor

Cats must be four months or older. Cats less than four months old cannot be shown.

Animal Health: Cats must be free of fleas, ticks, and ear mites, and of discharge from nose and eyes. All cats must be immunized for distemper and rabies. Exhibitors must provide proof or a copy of vaccinations to the Extension Office by June 15th. No expectant or nursing mother cats nor female cats in heat may be entered.

All cats must be caged in a container provided by the exhibitor. Cats may be taken home following the show.

Limit of two cats per exhibitor and one cat per class per exhibitor.

DIVISION 100 – 4-H CAT SHOWMANSHIP

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00

Classes:

- *905. Junior Showmanship (8-10 years old)
- *906. Intermediate Showmanship (11-13 years old)
- *910. Senior Showmanship (14-18 years old)
- *915. Cloverbud Division (5–7 years old) – Participation ONLY

Exhibitors will be judged on grooming of cat and handling of cat from cage to judges' table, in addition to answering questions as to breed, age, type and date of immunizations, sex, and general knowledge of cat.

DIVISION 100 – CAT & KITTEN

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

Classes:

- *920. Long-haired Cat, Fluffy Tail
- *930. Short-haired Cat
- *940. Kitten (four months to one year old)
- *950. Working / Farm Cat

DEPARTMENT G—DOGS
Superintendent Jamie Unkel Wolff

For more general rules or guidelines (i.e. patterns, regulations, collar/leash information) please visit: <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/spodintegration/index.html#>

The exhibitor may select the obedience class best suited for his dog, except dogs with the AKC "Companion Dog" degree may not compete in the Beginning Novices Obedience Class. Those with "CDX" or "UD" degree must be shown in the Obedience Class (open).

All dogs must be immunized for Rabies, Distemper, Hepatitis & Parvo virus. They must be up to date. Exhibitors must provide proof or a copy of vaccinations to the Extension Office by June 15th. All dogs must be on leash, kept under control and in the Dog Show Area. Females in season will not be permitted at the Show. Overly aggressive dogs may be disqualified at the discretion of the judge or superintendent. Lameness or crippled dogs will not be permitted to show if it is determined by a show superintendent that it is affecting the health of the dog. Dogs who soil in the show ring during a class will receive one ribbon placement lower. Dogs that soil anywhere on the showgrounds without cleanup will be disqualified from all classes on that show day, regardless of handler.

Age of Dog: A dog that is exhibited at the county fair must be six months or older. Agility dogs must be 18 months or older to participate.

Baiting - Baiting with food or a toy is not permitted and is cause for disqualification. Handlers may use baiting action without food or toys in showmanship. The judge or superintendent has the authority to disqualify violators.

-Exhibitors should bring own cage or confinement. Dogs may be taken home following the show.
-This is an unbenched 4-H Dog Show and may not be consistent with all AKC rules.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER EXHIBITOR – Youth may enter one showmanship class, two agility classes (using different dogs and in different level of classes), two obedience classes (using different dogs and in different level of classes), and one rally class. Each dog can only be shown once per division. (Once in showmanship, agility, and obedience, NOT once in each age division). If a youth member has two dogs reach the highest-class level in Obedience, Rally, or Agility, they may show both dogs in the highest-class level.

Schedule will be as follows:

- Agility
- Showmanship
- Obedience
- Cloverbud Class (ages 5–7)

DIVISION 700 – SHOWMANSHIP

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00

Each class will be judged on handler's appearance (10%), grooming and conditioning of dog (20%), coordination of the dog and handler (50%), and general knowledge (20%).

Classes:

*905. Junior Showmanship (8-9 years old)

*907. Intermediate Showmanship (10-13 years old)

*910. Senior Showmanship (14-18 years old)

*920. Cloverbud Division (5-7 years old) – Participation ONLY

DIVISION 701 – OBEDIENCE CLASS

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

Beginning Novice: All exercises must be performed on a six-foot leash. Dogs must heel including figure 8, stand for examination, come on recall, long sit one minute, and long down three minutes. During the sit and down exercise, the leash must be held by the handler.

Novice: Dogs must heel on leash including figure 8; stand for examination off leash; heel free; come on recall off leash; long sit for one minute off leash and long down for three minutes off leash with handler across the ring.

Graduate Novice: Dogs must heel on leash; stand for examination off lead, heel free including figure 8; drop on recall off leash; long sit off leash for 3 minutes with handler out of sight and long down off leash for 5 minutes with handler in sight.

Classes:

10. Beginning Novice Division A – Handler and the dog being shown are both in their first year of county, state 4-H, or any other dog show experience.
20. Beginning Novice Division B – Exhibitor OR dog is beyond first year of competition.
25. Beginning Novice Division C – Exhibitor AND dog is beyond first year of competition.
30. Novice A – Exhibitor and dog is in first year of Novice Class competition.
35. Novice B – Exhibitor and dog is beyond first year of Novice Class competition.
40. Graduate Novice – Dogs must heel on leash; stand for examination off leash; heel free including figure 8; drop on recall; long sit for three minutes and long down for five minutes both with handler out of sight.
45. Advanced Graduate Novice – Heel on leash and figure 8 (off leash), drop on recall, dumbbell recall, recall over high jump, recall over broad jump, and long down.
50. 4-H Open – All exercises off leash. Heel free and figure 8; drop on recall; retrieve on flat; retrieve over high jump; broad jump; long sit for three minutes and long down for five minutes, both with handler out of sight. Refer to Guidelines for Nebraska 4-H Dog Shows for jump heights/distances.
55. Graduate Open – Signal exercise, scent discrimination, directed retrieve, moving stand and examination, go out, and directed jumping.
60. Utility – The dog will perform five exercise – the signal exercise; the scent discrimination exercise with leather and metal objects; the direct retrieve; moving stand and examination; directed jumping. Exhibitors must supply their own scent articles and gloves for the directed retrieve.

DIVISION 986 – AGILITY

Purple \$6.00 Blue \$5.00 Red \$4.00

Classes:

- *971. Agility Level 1 – (6 obstacles) Includes the following obstacles: 3 bar jumps, dog walk, pause box, open tunnel. Run on leash.
- *972. Agility Level 2 – (10 obstacles) Includes the following obstacles: four bar jumps, open tunnel, dog walk, hoop jump, pause box, and solid jump. Run on leash., etc.
- *973. Agility Level 3 – (10 obstacles) Same as Level 2 but off leash.
- *974. Agility Level 4 - (13 obstacles) Above obstacles with options of: teeter Totter, weave poles (single set with 6 poles), high dog walk, double bar jump to be added. Run off leash.
- *975. Agility Level 5 - (15-20 of any of following obstacles) A-frame short, A-frame tall, weave poles (double set with 12 poles), tire jump, broad jump, triple bar jump. Run off leash

DIVISION 703 – RALLY

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

Classes:

- 10. Beginning Rally – Both dog and exhibitor are in their first year of competition. Dog is on leash and there are 5 to 10 stations.
- 20. Rally 1 – Exhibitor and/or dog are beyond their first year of competition (who have received 2 purples). Dog is on leash and there are 10 to 15 stations.
- 30. Rally 2 – Exhibitor and dog have received a purple in Rally 1. Dog is off leash and there are 12 to 17 stations and no jumps.
- 40. Rally 3 – Exhibitor and dog have received a purple in Rally 2. Dog is off leash and there are 15 to 20 stations.

DEPARTMENT G—COMPANION ANIMALS

Superintendent Marcia Schnoor

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00

TIME AND DATE CHANGE FOR SHOW – FRIDAY, JULY 9, 3:00 P.M.

Presentation of animals to judge might be given a time limit depending on number of exhibits enrolled. Exhibitors must provide own equipment. **Only one exhibit per class with a maximum of three entries per exhibitor.** These exhibits are to be brought and taken home day of the show.

Health of Animals: All animals should be free of fleas, ticks, ear mites, ringworm, any internal and external parasite and infectious disease. If an animal shows the possibility of being contagious or sick, it will be disqualified and dismissed at superintendent's discretion.

Animals entered must be small household pets. NO wildlife or farm animals.

DIVISION 100 – COMPANION ANIMALS

Classes and minimum age of animals to be shown:

1. Pet Rabbit: 9 weeks
 2. Ferrets: 12 weeks
 3. Chinchillas: 7 weeks
 4. Guinea pigs: 4 weeks
 5. Gerbils: 4 weeks
 6. Hamsters: 4 weeks
 7. Mouse: 4 weeks
 8. Rat: 4 weeks
 9. Hedgehog: 5 weeks
 10. Companion Animal Poster – Poster division can include entries covering any companion animal (including reptiles, companion birds, or others). Poster should be the size of one full standard poster (should not exceed 22"x28") board. Exhibitors should make a poster with information on the proper care of a companion animal (may include companion animals not exhibited in the Companion Animal Show). However, posters should not cover an animal the exhibitor is showing in the Companion Animal Show in another class. Exhibitors must be present at time of judging and will be judged on quality of the poster, accuracy of information provided, and ability of the exhibitor to explain the information and answer judge's questions.
- *912. Other small companion animal (with prior approval by Extension Office)

**DEPARTMENT Z—FFA SHOP
FARM MECHANICS—FFA MEMBERS ONLY**

All items entered in this department must be made by all-day students of Vocational Agriculture during the past school year. No items of furniture will be eligible for competition. Each article entered shall be clearly labeled with the name of the article, class number, name of student, and cost of construction.

Shop projects will be judged on construction, workmanship, utility, design, and material finish. Entry can only be shown at one county fair. FFA exhibits are county-fair projects only.

**DIVISION 900 – LARGE CARPENTRY
AND METAL PROJECTS**

Purple \$10.00 Blue \$8.00 Red \$6.00 White \$4.00

Classes:

- 901. Hay rack
- 902. Wagon Box
- 903. Loading Chute
- 904. Feed Bunk
- 905. Hog House
- 906. Poultry House
- 907. Squeeze Chute
- 908. Repainting or Other Machinery
- 909. Other

**DIVISION 901 – MEDIUM CARPENTRY
AND METAL PROJECTS**

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00 White \$2.00

Classes:

- 910. Farm Gate
- 911. Work Bench
- 912. Sheep Feeder
- 913. Hog Crate
- 914. Picnic Table
- 915. Lawn Chair
- 916. Metal Hog Trough
- 917. Other

**DIVISION 902 – SMALL CARPENTRY
AND METAL PROJECTS**

Purple \$5.00 Blue \$4.00 Red \$3.00 White \$2.00

Classes:

- 918. Poultry Feeder
- 919. Tool Cabinet

- 920. Sawhorse
- 921. Show Box
- 922. Nail Box
- 923. Display board of six forged projects
- 924. Display board of six welding projects
- 925. Other

DIVISION 903 – EXTRA LARGE PROJECTS

Purple \$15.00 Blue \$13.00 Red \$11.00 White \$9.00

Classes:

- 926. Livestock Trailer
- 927. Flatbed Trailer
- 928. Irrigation Pipe trailer
- 929. Squeeze Chute
- 930. Other Extra-Large Projects

DIVISION 904 – SOLDERING

Purple \$2.50 Blue \$2.00 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00

Class:

- 931. Display board of at least four items

DIVISION 905 – ROPE

Purple \$2.50 Blue \$2.00 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00

Classes:

- 932. Display board of at least 12 common knots and splices
- 933. Display board of two rope halters