



## 4-H BULLETIN BOARD

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WEBSITE: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/>  
Follow us on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/boone.extension>

### 4-H ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN!

Each year, you (members and leaders) must re-enroll in the 4-H program. Access the enrollment form at <https://v2.4honline.com>. If you are a returning member, enter your email address and password. If you have forgotten your password, click “Reset Password” to receive an email with a link to set a new password. Do not create a new profile if you have registered before!

For NEW members! We can't wait for you to join us! Please visit <https://v2.4honline.com>. If you have never enrolled in 4-H using 4-H Online, select “Don't have an account?” Select your state, “Nebraska 4-H Youth Development”, and your county. Each household will have a profile, and individual members will be added under one profile. Choose a club or clubs. If taking a shooting sports project, be sure to select the 4-H Shooting Sports Club as one of your clubs, and then select your project areas.

NEW FOR 2023-24: The list of projects in 4-H Online has been condensed into project areas. Where there were over 200 projects, there are now only about 50 project areas.

If enrolling in Horse and Shooting Sports, those areas have not changed. You are required to select these clubs and projects due to the consent forms that are required.

Clover Kids will only have the option of selecting “Clover Kids” as a project in 4-H Online.

All Members will be able to bring any exhibit from any project area to the fair, even if they did not list it in 4-H Online. This means they will not need to decide on all the projects they want before they enroll. They will still be able to take exhibits from any project area to the fair by listing them on the entry form in June.

Projects should be selected if families would like to receive additional information regarding project-specific reminders, such as upcoming deadlines.

If your 4-Her plans to attend 4-H camp or participate in any state or national events, you must complete the health section. All other 4-Hers may skip over the health information. Then complete the consent section.

Additional instructions for enrollment can be found at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/4-h-enrollment-information/>. Feel free to come to the office if you need assistance! If you need help enrolling, please contact the office and we can help you.



The first fifty 4-Hers to enroll in 4-H Online will receive a *fabulous* prize. New 4-H families will receive a 4-H yard sign.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### January

14 **4-H & FFA BEEF WEIGH-IN** from 1-2 pm at Town & Country Vet Clinic working facility

**BOONE COUNTY JR LEADERS PIZZA PARTY** at 6:00 pm at the Extension Office (Rescheduled from December)

#### February

Nebraska 4-H Month - ALL MONTH!  
Watch for more details next month!



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

The 4-H Youth Development Program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

# 4-H VOLUNTEERS

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING A 4-H VOLUNTEER?

Volunteers are the heart of 4-H. Whether you choose to start your own club or be a project leader on a special project, or serve as an activity worker at the county fair or other 4-H activities, your time and effort are valued as necessary assets to the program.

Club organizational leaders and project leaders will enroll as an active volunteer in 4-H online.

- All volunteers must sign the Activity Worker Guidelines and Volunteer Code of Conduct every year, as a part of the enrollment process.
- ALL NEW club volunteers must be screened prior to service, and complete a screening as a direct volunteer every 5 years.
- Club volunteers should complete at least two hours of training annually.

Volunteers not enrolling in 4-H online will need to complete the volunteer screening for indirect volunteers every year. This can be done by completing the Activity Application for the Indirect Volunteer at [https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3KOb7BzT4uwj3cW](https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3KOb7BzT4uwj3cW)

## HOW TO ENROLL AS A VOLUNTEER

If you are a returning 4-H volunteer, you will need to enroll in 4-H Online at <https://v2.4honline.com>. Every 5 years, we need to go through a screening process with DHHS. Fortunately, Boone and Nance Counties are not on the list this year. Only the new volunteers will need to do the screening process.

If you are a volunteer that is affiliated with a Club, you will choose Club Volunteer, then either Organizational Leader or Project Leader. Parent helpers do not need to enroll as volunteers.

If you are a new club volunteer, please also select Program Volunteer, then Selected for Required Screening.

If you are a county volunteer (not associated with a club) you will choose Program Volunteer, and County Volunteer. This would be for 4-H Council members and other volunteers that may assist with the fair, but are not attending 4-H meetings.

## CLOVER KID CORNER

4-H Clover Kids is the officially recognized 4-H program in Nebraska for children under the age of 8. The program is designed to provide 5 to 7 year-olds a variety of educational and recreational experiences in a non-competitive environment. 4-H Clover Kids provides an excellent opportunity for youth to achieve their highest potential because early life experiences affect future development.

The primary goal is to promote the child's stages of development - intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally.

- Develop Self-Esteem
- Decision-Making Skills (making positive choices)
- Comprehensive Skills (learning how to learn; positive attitudes toward learning)
- Mastering Physical Skills (enjoying constructive and creative play)
- Social-Interaction Skills (getting along with others)
- Diversity Skills (acceptance of others; exploring family and community relationships)

Children possessing these life skills are less likely to have problems with drug use, school failure, delinquency, and depression as they move into their teenage years and then into adulthood.

For some fun activities, check out the Clover Kid Fun Pack at <https://4h.unl.edu/fun-pack>.

For details about specific projects by curriculum areas, including Clover Kids, go to <https://4hcurriculum.unl.edu/index.php/main/index>

**NEBRASKA STATE 4-H CAMPS  
COMING IN JUNE & JULY!  
WATCH FOR MORE INFO  
OR REGISTER TODAY AT  
<https://4h.unl.edu/camps-register>**

## 4-H PROGRAMS & CLUBS

### LIVESTOCK ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM 2024

We are excited to announce the fourth year of the Nebraska 4-H Livestock Achievement Program. This additional opportunity for enrolled livestock project youth is designed to promote all educational aspects of 4-H livestock projects including selection, production, leadership, and exhibition by recognizing youth striving to improve in their livestock project knowledge and leadership.

The program recognizes Members of Excellence across all 4-H livestock project areas, including: beef, sheep, meat goat, swine, dairy cattle, dairy goat, rabbit, and poultry.

Youth completing the achievement program and receiving member of excellence recognition in the various species will be recognized during the Parade of Champions, 4-H weekend at the Nebraska State Fair.

Applications/Sign up are due June 15th through the application form link on the website. For more information or to apply, go to: <https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement>

### ANIMAL PROJECTS

If you are new to 4-H and are interested in showing animals, there are several options. If you are a Clover Kid, you can bring a small pet or two. Or you can bring a bucket calf.

Older 4-H members can also bring market beef, breeding beef, feeder calf, sheep, swine, dairy, goats, cats, dogs, poultry, rabbits, or small pets.

An animal must be owned by the exhibitor who enters it, and identified to the Extension Office by May 15 to be eligible for the County Fair.

For information on how to get started in an animal project, contact your 4-H Club Leader.



### BOONE COUNTY 4-H CLUBS

#### Boone County 4-H Shooting Sports:

Focus: BB Gun, Air Rifle, Archery, Shotgun, .22 rifle, with a focus on Safety and Learning.

#### First Lego League:

Focus: First Lego League - Competitive Robotics Club.

#### Canine Cadets:

Focus: Learning obedience skills, showmanship, and agility to better the partnership between you and your canine companion.

#### Levis 4-H Club

Focus: Horsemanship, all-around horse, and having fun while we ride.

#### Boone County Junior Leaders:

Focus: 4-H members 8th grade and above offer great support to the local 4-H Program. Plan to attend the 2024 Kick-Off Pizza Party on January 14 at 6:00 pm!

#### Clever Clovers:

Focus: Sewing, Cooking, Home Living, and Horticulture.

#### Cloverleaf:

Focus: Very strong Livestock club, and strong leadership club.

#### Country Kids 4-H Club:

Small animal, leadership skills, livestock care, health maintenance & facilities, industry topics, judging, showmanship, home gardens, music, arts & crafts.

#### Dream Team:

Focus: Mostly Cattle & animals, some baking projects.

#### Jr Pirates 4-H Club:

Focus: 50%-50% Livestock & Home Environment.

#### Rolling Hills:

Focus: Home Environment, Citizenship, Community projects.

You may also enroll as a Boone County Independent Member.

For more information about these 4-H Clubs, please call the Extension Office.

# PROJECTS

## SPECIAL GARDEN PROJECT

As you begin making plans for 2024, be sure to check out the Special Garden Project. This project is open to all 4-H youth and it will give them the opportunity to learn about growing, harvesting, and exhibiting this unique flower.

The Special Gardening Project lets 4-H members try their hand at growing unusual vegetables, flowers, and herbs. The project allows experienced 4-H gardeners to grow something fun, new, and different while letting younger members new to gardening get their feet wet in this project area.

The focus of the 2024 project is the Princess of India Nasturtium. This Victorian-era heirloom flower can be grown in a variety of ways including in containers. It provides a splash of color from its scarlet flowers, and much of the plant can be eaten.

Seeds will be distributed in March or April, along with planting and growing instructions. Gardeners will be able to exhibit this unique flower at County and State Fair. Exhibits can be the flowers, or a poster, story or essay, poem, or a photo exhibit. If you are interested in participating in this project, please call the office to reserve your seeds, or use this code.



## HORSE PROJECT

The Horsemanship Advancement Levels program is designed to serve as a guide for instruction and evaluation of each member's progress. The correct handling of horses is emphasized from the beginning to the most advanced level. Each level has certain requirements a member must meet before they are allowed to proceed to the next level, such as demonstrating basic horse handling and riding, making a feed chart, written exam, and skills test.

The 4-H members being tested must be enrolled in the 4-H horse project. During testing of each level, youth must use a horse that has been properly identified on the 4-H Horse Identification Certificate (available at the Extension Office). 4-H'ers must own, lease, or manage the horse being used. Youth must have access to the horse and provide care and management. 4-H members may use any of their project horses. However, a single horse must be used for the entire skills test of each level.

County exhibitors must complete Level 1 testing after 2 years (two fairs) in the horse project by June 1, 2024.

For State 4-H Horse Expo participation, Level III and/ or IV must be successfully completed before entering the coordinating level classes.

Check out these additional opportunities at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse>. Not all programs require horse ownership.

## ANIMAL SCIENCE COMPETITIVE EVENTS

4-H'ers from Boone and Nance Counties age 10 or older as of January 1 are invited to participate in Animal Science 101, or Equine Science, including the State contests. Both groups will have educational practices at the Extension Office in Albion to prepare for the contests. Tentative schedules are as follows:

### 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl:

Jan 14, 2:30 pm	Jan 21, 2 pm
Jan 28, 2 pm	Feb 4, 2 pm
Feb 11, 2 pm	Feb 18, 2 pm
Feb 25, 2 pm	Mar 3, 2 pm
Mar 10, 2 pm	Mar 17, 2 pm
Mar 23, Lincoln - State 4-H Horse Stampede - Horse Bowl & Other Contests	

### 4-H Animal Science 101:

Jan 14, 3:30 pm	Feb 4, 3:00 pm
Feb 18, 3:00 pm	Mar 3, 3:00 pm
Mar 31, 3:00 pm	

April-June TBA  
June 19, Depart for Lincoln - State Contests  
June 20, State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl, Skillathon & Meats Contests  
June 21, State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

If you are unable to attend the first meeting, but are interested in the contests, please call the Extension Office.

# SHOOTING SPORTS

## SHOOTING SPORTS SAFETY

1. Treat every firearm and bow with respect.
2. Watch the muzzle or arrow point. Always be in control of the direction the bow or firearm is pointed, even if you stumble.
3. Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions, and that you have only the proper ammunition or arrows for the gun or bow that you are shooting.
4. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger or release arrow; know your backstop or DON'T SHOOT!
5. Unload guns and take arrows off the string when not in use. Carry guns and bows in cases, UNLOADED and secure.
6. Never point a bow or firearm at anything you do not want to shoot; AVOID ALL HORSEPLAY!
7. Never climb a fence or tree or jump a ditch with a loaded firearm. Never pull a gun toward you.
8. Never shoot at a target on a flat, hard surface or water. Be sure of your target before you squeeze the trigger or release the string.
9. Store guns and ammunition or bows and arrows separately beyond the reach of children or careless adults.
10. Avoid alcoholic beverages or any type of drug before shooting. If such actions are observed in others, do not join that group. Enjoy your sport safely.

Local 4-H Shooting Sports clubs are open to all youth ages 8 to 18. Each year, 4-H teaches a shooting sport to about 500,000 boys and girls each year. Shooting sports can be gratifying for youngsters, especially those who aren't athletes. The program provides a supportive environment in which young people can experience hands-on, fun learning experiences.

Volunteers are needed to coordinate county programs and to work at the local level. Individuals who are interested in shooting sports and are willing to learn about them can become involved in an existing program or club. If none exists, they can work with 4-H youth staff to help establish a program.

All instructors are trained by state instructors certified to teach courses. Adult volunteers receive training in shooting sports at state and regional workshops to

become qualified instructors. 4-H teen leaders may wish to assist with instruction. Shooting sports leaders act as role models and must impart the 4-H philosophy and youth development objectives to 4-H members.

### Upcoming Contests:

January 27, 2024-

Nebraska State 4-H Indoor Archery Championships  
Aurora Cooperative Pavilion, Fonner Park, 8:00 am  
More Details Coming!

February 3 & 4-

Wayne County Air Gun Match  
Carroll Auditorium, 8:00 am each day  
More Information to Come!

February 24 & 25-

Pierce County 4-H Shooting Sports Invite  
Pierce County Fairgrounds, 8:00 am each day

April 20 & 21-

Nebraska State 4-H BB Gun & Air Rifle Championships  
Aurora Cooperative Pavilion, Fonner Park, 8:00 am  
each day.

More Details Coming!

Watch for more details at <https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports>

## BOONE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS

All youth must enroll or re-enroll using 4-H Online each year before attending a practice. Member and Parental release must be signed for each 4-H Shooting Sports project when enrolling.

Each member must attend a minimum of 3 practices in each discipline with a certified leader to compete in the divisions of the county contest.

Meetings for BB Gun and Air Rifle will be at 5:00 pm at the Ag & Education Center at the Boone County Fairgrounds on the following dates:

Jan 21	Feb 11
Jan 28	Feb 18
Feb 4	Feb 25

### **March 3 - 2 pm County Fair Contest**

Archery, Shotgun and .22 Rifle will begin in April.  
More information to come!



# SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

## NEBRASKA 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Nebraska 4-H Foundation offers 4-H members the opportunity to apply for scholarships. The Nebraska 4-H Foundation awards up to \$22,000 worth of scholarships each year to 4-H'ers from across the state.

To apply for scholarships, 4-H'ers must submit the Nebraska 4-H Achievement Application for state-level review by January 5th. Youth must follow the application instructions available on the Nebraska 4-H Achievement Application webpage at <https://4h.unl.edu/achievement-application>. If applying for multiple scholarships, only one Achievement Application should be submitted.

Please see Available Scholarships at <https://www.ne4hfoundation.org/scholarships/> to find out what scholarships you are eligible to apply for.

The same applications are also used to select National 4-H Congress delegates - <https://4h.unl.edu/congress>, and National 4-H Conference delegates - <https://4h.unl.edu/conference>.

Check it out!

## ENGLER SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available due to the generosity of The Paul and Virginia Engler Foundation. Paul is a native Nebraskan who through vision, hard work, sweat equity and tenacity built an exceptional career as an entrepreneur, industry leader, and dedicated advocate for building bridges for the next generation to cross.

For academic year 2024-2025, the application will open on 10/1/23 and close on 1/15/24 at midnight. The only requirements to apply for an Engler scholarship – declare a CASNR major and have participated in 4-H or FFA. Awards range from \$1000 to \$4000 per school year. Students also can reapply each year during their undergrad time at UNL.

The scholarship is only a small component of the value available to you through engagement in the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program. Find the application and information about available courses and camps at <https://englerjourney.com>.

## NEBRASKA EXTENSION AWARDS



Distinguished recipients of the Nebraska Extension Annual Awards for 2023 were presented during the Fall Conference at Kearney. The winners, nominated by their colleagues, represent excellence and dedication in various categories. These awards recognize a team that has demonstrated exceptional work in their extension efforts in one of the Extension value areas.

Local winners were the “Escape to Camp Team”, comprised of Sheila Hoppe, Emily Soll, Tanya Crawford, Steve Pritchard (not pictured), Kimberly Johnson, Allissa Kreikemeier, Sonya Glup, Amanda Hackenkamp, Tessa Hain, and Colleen Pallas.

“We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the winners for their outstanding contributions,” said Charles Stoltenow, dean and director of Nebraska Extension. “Each recipient has showcased exceptional dedication, leadership and innovation, embodying the spirit of excellence in Extension work.”

The “Escape to Camp Team” facilitated the Regional 4-H camp at Whispering Pines in May/June. Around 100 campers from the area aged 9-12 attended the 3-day camp. Activities such as swimming, crafts, and zip-line were all part of the experience.

The 4-H Councils offer scholarships for anyone from Boone and Nance County that attends camp. If you are considering 4-H camp, watch for more information in March or April on Facebook and email, or call the Extension Office to be put on a waiting list.

## MORE EVENTS

### BOONE COUNTY JR LEADERS

The Boone County 4-H Jr. Leaders Club is requesting 4-Her feedback for what they would like the Jr. Leaders Club to look like moving into the future. The Boone County Jr. Leaders Club would first like to thank Kevin and Lisa Wagner for their many years of service as club leaders.

Boone County 4-H will be hosting a Jr. Leaders 2024 Kick-Off Pizza Party. We are inviting 4-Hers that are in High School and their parents to join us for an evening of fun, pizza, and idea generation. Bring your ideas for developing our Jr. Leader program for the next year!

This Kick-Off Party is open to all High School 4-Hers from static exhibitors, shooting sports, livestock exhibitors, and all others as well as from every Boone County Community!

#### Boone County Jr. Leaders Kick-Off Pizza Party

Who: High School 4-Hers and Parents

When: Sunday, January 14th at 6:00 PM

Where: Boone County Extension Office, Albion, NE

**Please RSVP by Friday, January 12 at 4:30 pm by calling 402-395-2158. Thank you!**

Hope to see you there!

### DATA DRIVEN 4-H STATISTICS COMPETITION

Introducing an exciting new event combining 4-H, Statistics, and Fun! The 'Data Driven: A Statistics & Data Science Field Day' competition will be held March 16, 2024 at the Dinsdale Learning Commons on East Campus from 10 am to 4 pm.

Each team is comprised of four 10th-12th graders (occasional exceptional 9th graders are welcome) plus one adult coach.

In partnership with the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, CASNR is sponsoring the registration costs for the first 20 teams as well as providing EIGHT \$500 scholarships for the top scorers!

If you are interested in more information or in forming a team, please visit the website for some preliminary information that will continue to be updated: [4h.unl.edu/data-driven](http://4h.unl.edu/data-driven)

### FARROWED & OWNED SWINE COHORT

A Farrowed and Owned Breeding and Market Swine division for youth interested in learning more about the swine industry is available again at the Nebraska State Fair in 2024!

The Nebraska 4-H Farrowed and Owned Swine Cohort is designed to enhance the traditional 4-H swine project and cultivate the next generation of leaders in the swine industry by providing opportunities focusing on swine production as a goal of the 4-H member's project, along with accurate and complete record-keeping, industry knowledge, and engagement by the 4-H member.

In order to participate, youth must be 4-H age 10-18 as of January 1, 2024, complete YQCA, farrowed their project animal(s) and participate in monthly virtual educational meetings.

Youth participating in the Farrowed and Owned Cohort will exhibit their Farrowed and Owned project animals at the 2024 Nebraska State Fair with the opportunity for special recognition as a result of participating in the cohort.

Register at [https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8CalKUxQv49Drue](https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8CalKUxQv49Drue) by February 1, 2024!

**\*\*Optional special virtual education session on farrowing will be held on January 7th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Register by January 5th to participate!\*\***

After the registration deadline, youth will receive more detailed information via email.

Until Next Month,



Steve Pritchard  
Extension Educator



Sonya L. Glup  
Extension Associate





## 4-H & FFA BEEF WEIGH-IN

January 14, 1-2 pm

Town & Country Vet working facility in Albion

For 4-H & FFA beef exhibitors residing in Boone or Nance Counties who are planning to show market or breeding beef at the County and State Fair. Animals will be tagged, weighed, and a DNA sample taken.

A Beef Weigh-in will be held in Nance County at a later date. More details to come!

## FUTURE EVENTS

Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic Livestock Judging Contest - Feb 17, 2024. Register by Feb 5 at <https://nebraskaclassic.org/winter-edition/judging-contest.php>

Nebraska 4-H Horse Stampede (Horse Bowl)  
March 23, 2024

Animal Science Discovery Days  
NCTA, Curtis, NE  
May 29, 2024

Nebraska 4-H Premier Animal Science Event  
June 20 - June 21, 2024

Watch for more information to come!



EXTENSION  
Boone and Nance Counties  
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4-H NEWSLETTER