



Nebraska Extension – Cedar County, 101 E. Centre, PO Box 368, Hartington, Nebraska 68739
Phone: (402) 254-6821 Fax: (402) 254-7205 Email: Cedar-County@unl.edu

Cedar County 4-H Website: www.cedar.unl.edu then click on Cedar County 4-H in the red navigation menu

Nebraska 4-H Website: <http://4h.unl.edu>

Important Dates

- Aug 10 - State Fair Animal & Contest Registration Deadline
- Aug 10 – Project Showcase Submissions Due
- Aug 10 – Haskell Ag Lab Science & Ag Family Field Day
- Aug 15 - Special Edition Articles Due to Megan
- Aug 21 – State Fair Non-Perishable Exhibits due to the Office by 4:30
- Aug 22 – State Fair Perishable Exhibits (food & gardening) Due to the Office by 9:00 am
- Aug 25 – Sept 4 – Nebraska State Fair
- Aug 27 – 4-H Council Meeting
- Sept 7 – Pick-up State Fair Exhibits
- Sept 9-10 – Norfolk Beef Expo
- Sept 15 – County Awards, Diamond Clover & Outstanding 4-Her Applications Due
- Sept 21-24 – Aksarben Stock Show in Grand Island
- Oct 1-7 – National 4-H Week
- Oct 9 – Office Closed – Columbus Day Observed

Save the Date

**Cedar County Fair
July 17-21, 2024**



A Great Big Thank You



to everyone who lent a helping hand with the 2023 Cedar County Fair – the 4-H members who spent hours getting ready for the fair; the parents for their patience, cooperation, sense of humor, and encouragement to their children; the fair superintendents and helpers that pitched in when getting ready for the livestock shows; award sponsors and donors; the Ag Society for their help and cooperation; the people who provided their equipment; and to everyone who helped in any way. 4-H volunteers are essential to help youth make the most of their learning experiences. With your help 4-H members gain the knowledge, skills and character they need to become successful adults. Your time and dedication is greatly appreciated! We can not do it without YOU!

If you did not pick-up your fair premium moneys when exhibits were released at the fair, your Clover Kid & 4-H fair premium moneys are now available at the Extension Office. Please pick-up by September 1.

Livestock Premium Recognition Moneys

The 4-H Council requires that thank you cards be written prior to receiving your livestock premium recognition dollars. All qualifying livestock exhibitors will receive an email on August 3rd or 4th with a list of donors to write a thank you to. **Please write thank you cards and deliver them to the Cedar County Extension Office before September 1, 2023.** No need to include postage, it will be provided for you. Once you turn in your thank you cards, you will be given your livestock premium recognition cash.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop in West Point August 19-20



The Cedar County Sharp Shooters program is in need of more certified instructors to maintain the program. A Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop is scheduled for August in West Point. It will be held August 19-20 at the Sportsman Club near West Point. The early bird deadline to register for the workshop is August 9th. <https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports> Four project areas will be offered at the workshop - rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery. Contact our office if interested in becoming certified. There may be funds available to help you in the process.

4-H Special Edition News Articles Needed

The Norfolk Daily News will publish the 47th annual 4-H Special Edition section during National 4-H Week in October. 4-H members and Clover Kids are invited to submit an article with photo, or a stand-alone photo with caption about a 4-H project, experience, opportunity, memory, etc. This year's theme is **"History in the Making, 4-H Thrives"**. Please mail or email your article and/or picture to Megan at megan.hanefeldt@unl.edu before August 15th.



Congratulations 4-H & Clover Kid Members on a Successful 4-H Year!

Nebraska 4-H strives to help young people achieve their greatest potential by introducing high quality youth development experiences into the lives of youth. Cedar County had great participation in the livestock shows and filled the Commercial/4-H building showcasing the wonderful accomplishments you shared at the Cedar County Fair!

Thank You Notes



4-H members who received special awards (cash, gifts, and rosettes) should be sure to send thank-you notes to their donors. Be sure to tell them something about your winning project as well as thanking them for their support of the 4-H program. Without their help, we would not be able to offer these special awards. Just in case you didn't know who sponsored your award, an email was sent July 26 listing any awards your family received. If you have questions, please contact the office.

Cedar County Ag Society
PO Box 637
Hartington NE 68739

Please send a thank you to the 4-H Council for all their time and hard work put in to keep our 4-H program going strong.

Cedar County 4-H Council
PO Box 322
Hartington, NE 68739

Beef showmanship participants receiving a rope halter, please send a thank you to:

Dybdal Charolais
88361 575 Ave
Newcastle NE 68757

Livestock exhibitors receiving towels, please send a thank you to:

Farm Credit Services of America, Yankton
PO Box 196, 3808 Broadway Ave
Yankton SD 57078-0196

Poultry and Rabbit exhibitors, Bomgaars in Yankton provided wood chips and pellets, please send thank you to:

Bomgaars
2210 Broadway Ave
Yankton SD 57078

Overhang on Small Animals Building made possible by donation from Pam Polenske Family in memory of Keith Polenske.

In the Goat Show, June Heydon, the Goat Superintendent, provided incentive gifts in addition to the regular sponsored awards. If you received one of her gifts please send thank you to

June Heydon
504 Oak Street, PO Box 114
Laurel, NE 68745

Bucket Calf exhibitors receiving 4-H Badges, please send a thank you to:

Etched Impressions
PO Box 45, 203 N Broadway Ave
Hartington NE 68739

Thank You Card Online – A quarter-fold 4-H thank you card can be found under the club resources tab of our Cedar County 4-H webpage and printed off; print, fold, add your personal note, mail.

YOUTH SHOWBOX

ANATOMY OF A GOOD THANK YOU LETTER

Why write thank you letters?

- To give buyers recognition for their support of the program.
- To thank them for their support of your project.
- To show you care and are willing to go the extra mile.
- To make a connection even after the show ring.

Make your greeting respectful and personalized.

Dear Mr. Smith,

Share a little about yourself and what their support will help with.

I would like to thank you for helping to support the Anywhere County 4-H and FFA Livestock Auction and for buying my lamb. Your support means a great deal to me personally and to the 4-H and FFA programs.

I am a junior in high school this year, and the money that I receive from your purchase will go towards purchasing a livestock project for next year, and helping to pay for college.

Thank them for their support of the program and specifically for their support of your project.

Once again, thank you for your support!

Thank them again, close with a respectful salutation and sign your first and last name.

Sincerely,
Bob Johnson

Hand sign the letter!

Other things to remember:

- Use nice stationery or a notecard and handwrite your message.
- Use your best handwriting and proofread for spelling errors.
- Mail the thank you or hand deliver it, but be sure that it is received in a timely manner.

www.FarmCreditoVirginias.com/Knowledge-Center **FARM CREDIT KNOWLEDGE CENTER**

Any 4-H members (ages 15-18) interested in being a youth representative on the 4-H Council please contact the Extension Office.



2023 Project Showcase



The goal of the 4-H Project Showcase is to shine a spotlight on the youth behind the projects, tell their stories, and showcase the learning that happens through 4-H project experiences. Youth are

asked to answer a few questions and provide at least one photo as part of the submission process. Pictures of youth with their projects are the best!

All enrolled 4-H members are invited to submit a project, and all 4-H projects are eligible! This includes county-only projects, live animal projects, contest participation, projects selected for State Fair, projects that didn't make it to the county fair, etc. This is an excellent opportunity for youth to show off their favorite project, but this could also be an uplifting opportunity for youth whose projects didn't go as planned or for newer members just getting started in 4-H.

All projects submitted by **August 10** will be showcased on the 4-H Video Wall at the Nebraska State Fair! Some submissions may also be featured on the Nebraska 4-H website or social media channels throughout the year. Learn more at 4h.unl.edu/project-showcase.

State Fair Animal & Contest Entries

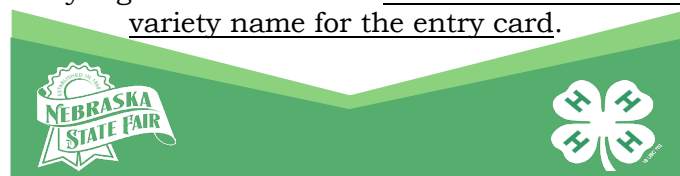
4-H members wishing to exhibit livestock, small animals, or are participating in an in-person contest (presentations, fashion show, etc) at the Nebraska State Fair must personally register online before 8:00 p.m. on August 10 via ShoWorks. Visit <https://4h.unl.edu/state-fair> for resources on how to register. A credit card is required to submit entries. You will be able to order discounted tickets at this time. Please do not wait until the last minute for registering online as they have been known to have problems and if you are not registered by the 10th you will not be able to participate. No late entries will be accepted.

Static State Fair Exhibits

If your exhibit/entry tag had a purple State Fair sticker on it, your exhibit is eligible to go to the Nebraska State Fair. Please review specifications required in the fairbook and read through the judges comment sheet, if they suggested to make any improvements, please do so to make your exhibit state fair worthy. We will take your exhibits to Grand Island unless it is very large. Static Exhibits going to the state fair need to be in our office by Monday, August 21; **ONLY** Food & Horticulture exhibits can come in Tuesday but must be in our office by 9:00 am.

Horticulture Exhibits for State Fair

Flowers and vegetables may substitute another horticulture variety based on what is available in their garden at the time of the state fair. If you will be substituting a different product then what was entered at the county fair or if you don't plan on sending anything, please contact the Extension Office by August 15 so we know what to print for entry tags for the exhibits. Be sure to include the variety name for the entry card.



4-H Day at State Fair

The Nebraska State Fair is thrilled to host the 1st annual 4-H Day at the Nebraska State Fair. 4-H Day will be Sunday, August 27th. To celebrate our 4-H members statewide we are offering a discounted admission that day that is only for bonafide 4-H members. They will be able to enter the Fair for \$5. The link is <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/7980811/4h-day-at-nebraska-state-fair-good-on-aug-27-only-lincoln-nebraska-state-fairlivestock>. This is only intended for 4-H members, family members including parents will need to purchase regular admission tickets. **This is not just for exhibitors, but for any 4-H member.**

Congratulations!

4-H Council Senior Scholarship Recipients

Erin Engel Delaney Hall Daniel Steffen

Represent Cedar County at State Fair

Fashion Show – Constructed Clothing

Ava Stewart & Maleah Heimes

Fashion Show – Shopping in Style

Calley Stewart & Ella Crosley

Outstanding 4-H Achievement & 4-H Service Awards

Applications will be mailed this week to high school juniors and seniors of the 2021-2022 school year for the Outstanding 4-H Achievement and 4-H Service Awards. To qualify for these awards, 4-H members are required to have participated in the Cedar County 4-H program for at least 5 years. If you have not received an application by August 10, please contact the Extension Office. Applications are due back to the office by September 15.

4-H Council Activity Scholarship

If you participated in a 4-H camp/class this year, the Cedar County 4-H Council is offering scholarships to 4-H youth ages 8 to 18 as of January 1, 2023. The recipients are eligible to receive half the cost of any local or Nebraska 4-H camp/class up to \$75. Visit our Cedar County 4-H webpage under the "Awards & Scholarship Opportunities" tab for an application. They are due to our office by September 15.

4-H Council Club Project Fund

The Cedar County 4-H Foundation has available up to \$200 grants for clubs or groups to plan and conduct a community service project, citizenship project, or club educational experience. A summary of the project with pictures and proof of media reach must be submitted to the 4-H Council by September 15.

Clubs of Excellence

To receive the designation as a Nebraska 4-H Club of Excellence, clubs must meet a certain set of criteria and document how this criterion was met. Clubs meeting the requirements will initially receive a certificate. Clubs must apply annually to receive this recognition. For more information or for an application visit the Cedar County 4-H webpage under the "Awards & Scholarship Opportunities" section. To receive the Club of Excellence recognition the application is due to the Extension Office by September 15th. Otherwise this form and the end of the treasury report form is due by the end of the year.

Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium

November 17-19 at UNL Animal Science Complex
The symposium is designed to introduce youth to careers opportunities and current issues in the beef industry, as well as offer education and practice in the use of leadership skills. For more information visit go.unl.edu/nybls.

4-H Achievement Applications

Now is the time to be preparing your county award applications! This is not a required activity, but it is encouraged as a means of recording your experiences throughout the year. Achievement Applications can be found on the Cedar County 4-H webpage under the "Awards & Scholarship Opportunities" section as a print in form or visit <https://4h.unl.edu/achievement-application>.

Please read the directions on the application sheet for criteria needed to apply for awards. The application will need to be turned into the Extension Office by September 15. The senior application reflects the district/state awards program also. If you have any questions on how to fill out the application, or would like some help getting started, contact the office.

Get Your 4-Hers Involved in the Nebraska 4-H Diamond Clover Program



The Nebraska 4-H Diamond Clover Program encourages 4-H youth to engage in a variety of projects and activities that will enable members to acquire the life skills necessary to lead successful lives as competent, caring, and contributing citizens. To begin the Diamond Clover Program, a 4-H member must complete the Plan & Report form and turn it into the extension office by September 15. The program consists of six levels that require a 4-H member to plan and report a broad range of age-appropriate accomplishments. The program is designed to enable every 4-H member willing to exert the effort an opportunity to be recognized, regardless of how they are involved in 4-H. 4-H members will obtain a certificate of achievement at the end of the 4-H year once they have completed a level. To learn more visit <https://4h.unl.edu/diamond-clover> or there is also a link on our 4-H webpage under the "Awards & Scholarship Opportunities" tab.

