



Nebraska Extension – Cedar County, 101 E. Centre, PO Box 368, Hartington, Nebraska 68739
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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 14** - Special Edition Articles Due to Megan
- Aug 19** – State Fair Non-Perishable Exhibits due to the Office by 4:30
- Aug 20** – State Fair Perishable Exhibits (food & gardening) Due to the Office by 9:00 am
- Aug 23 – Sept 2** – Nebraska State Fair
- Sept 5** – Pick-up State Fair Exhibits
- Sept 8** – Norfolk Beef Expo
- Sept 15** – County Awards, Diamond Clover & Outstanding 4-Her Applications Due
- Sept 26-29** – Aksarben Stock Show in Grand Island
- Oct 6-12** – National 4-H Week
- Oct 14** – Office Closed – Columbus Day Observed

Save the Dates

Pre-Fair Day
June 28, 2025
Cedar County Fair
July 16-20, 2025



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!

A Great Big Thank You!



to everyone who lent a helping hand with the 2024 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 cannot 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 August 30.

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 were sent an email on August 1st or 2nd 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 3, 2024.** 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.



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 29 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

If your family received a bag of wood chips or a bucket for the buckets of blooms project, please send thank you to:

Runnings
715 Bower St
Vermillion SD 57069

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.

4-H Special Edition News Articles Needed

The Norfolk Daily News will publish the 49th 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 **“Soar to New Heights with 4-H”**. Please mail or email your article and/or picture before August 14th to Megan at megan.hanefeldt@unl.edu.

Any 4-H members (ages 15-18) interested in being a youth representative on the 4-H Council please contact the Extension Office. Serving on the 4-H Council is a great learning experience as well as being an excellent opportunity to share your ideas for 4-H activities in Cedar County.

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 stationary 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.FarmCreditoVirginia.com/Knowledge-Center

2024 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 to register 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 "Selected of 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 19; **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 than what was entered at the county fair or if you don't plan on sending anything, please contact the Extension Office by August 16 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 2nd annual 4-H Day at the Nebraska State Fair. 4-H Day will be Sunday, August 25th. To celebrate our 4-H members statewide we are offering discounted admission that day that is only for 4-H members. They will be able to enter the Fair for \$5. This is only intended for 4-H members. Family members including parents will need to purchase regular admission tickets. The link is <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/91179366/4h-day-at-nebraska-state-fair-good-on-aug-25-only-lincoln-nebraska-state-fairlivestock>. **This is not just for exhibitors, but for any 4-H and Clover Kid member.**

Congratulations!

4-H Council Senior Scholarship Recipients

Abby Anderson Karli Bruning Tessa Haahr
Jackson Hall Annika Heimes Kinslee Heimes
Madison Kuchta Chelsea Potts

Represent Cedar County at State Fair

Fashion Show – Constructed Clothing

Ava Stewart, Heidi Lewon, Kendra & Tenley Schmit

Fashion Show – Shopping in Style

Calley Stewart, Heidi Lewon, Brianna Jensen

Outstanding 4-H Achievement & 4-H Service Awards

Applications will be mailed this week to high school juniors and seniors of the 2023-2024 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 12, please contact the Extension Office. Applications are due back to the office by September 15.

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.

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. An application can be found on the Cedar County 4-H Awards & Scholarship Opportunities webpage.



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, 2024. 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.

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 8-10 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.

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.



Norfolk Beef Expo

The Agri-Business Council of the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce will host the annual Norfolk Beef Expo, a live market calf show and auction, on Sunday, September 8, at the Northeast Community College Chuck M. Pohlman Ag Complex. Entry forms must be submitted by September 3. For more details and an entry form visit <https://norfolkareachamber.com/beef-expo>

Ak-Sar-Ben Stock Show

September 26-29, 2024

at Fonner Park in Grand Island

Aksarben Stock Show is open to youth exhibitors 9-19 years of age. Livestock shows include beef, sheep, goat, and swine. It also features a national livestock judging contest. Stock Show entries are due by September 6 and must have been nominated by July 1st.

