



4-H Youth Development

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL
1 Deadline for 4-H ONLINE Enrollments
1 Deadline for 4-H membership contest
24 Office closed for Arbor Day

MAY
1 Deadline for 4-H membership fees due in the Extension Office
1 4-H T-Shirt Orders due
15 2022 CWF Payment Due
17 Custer County Challenge Beef Progress Show, Fairgrounds in Broken Bow
18 4-H Council Meeting, 4-H Building, 7:30 p.m.
25 Office closed for Memorial Day
27 NCTA Livestock Judging Contest/Camp, Curtis
28 Animal Science Youth Field Day, Curtis

JUNE
6-7 Nebraska State 4-H Outdoor Archery Tournament, Grand Island
7-12 Big Red Summer Camps
15 4-H Livestock ID's due in Extension Office from Leaders
15 4-H Horse ID's due in Extension Office
15 State 4-H Horse Show Entries due in Extension Office
15 State Fair & Aksarben DNA Samples due for Market Beef, Market Swine, Market Lambs, Meat Goat, & Feeder Calf
19 4-H Market Beef Carcass nominations due in Extension Office
19 Registrations for 4-H Presentation Contest due in Extension Office
21-26 2020 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships, Grand Island, NE
22-23 P.A.S.E. Animal Science Judging Contest, UNL, Lincoln
22-23 Life Challenge Event, UNL Campus, Lincoln
26 ****COUNTY FAIR ENTRY FORMS DUE IN Extension Office by 5:00 p.m.****
30 4-H Presentation Contest, 4-H Building, 9:30 a.m.

UPCOMING 4-H EVENTS

As the COVID-19 situation in Nebraska continues to evolve, please know that Nebraska Extension is adapting and adjusting their recommendations and decisions. Our commitment is to respond with an abundance of caution to try to provide thoughtful and valuable information. And, to do our best to contribute to the protection of Nebraskans. We would like everyone to know that due to health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 virus situation, the difficult decision has been made by UNL about cancelling all Nebraska 4-H and Extension face-to-face programs for all events scheduled through May 9.

Please watch your email and Facebook for the most current updates regarding events!

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.

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Bow Knot

4-H Newsletter

431 So. 10th Avenue | Broken Bow, NE 68822 | (308) 872-6831 | www.custer.unl.edu



CUSTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU TO SPONSOR CUSTER COUNTY 4-H T-SHIRTS



The Custer County Farm Bureau will again be a sponsor for the Custer County 4-H t-shirts in 2020. The Custer County 4-H t-shirts will be available to any 4-H member. The kelly green t-shirt is made of 50% cotton, 50% polyester with reinforced collar and hemmed sleeves. It will have white lettering on the left front shoulder area. The Farm Bureau logo will be printed between the shoulders on the back of the t-shirt. Cost is \$3.50 for youth sizes and \$3.50 for adult sizes (2X and 3X extra cost). These t-shirts are approved as proper dress for showing all livestock species, except horses and dogs, at county fair. Youth sizes are small (6-6X), medium (7-8), large (10-12), and XL (14-16). Adult sizes range from small to 3X. (Price increases with each X.) 4-H members may each order one shirt at the reduced price.

If volunteers would like to order t-shirts or youth would like to order extra shirts, please use the proper order form. Shirts for volunteers and extra shirts for 4-H members will be full price as indicated on the order form.

All orders are due **May 1**. Money must accompany orders. **This will be the only order made until May 2021.** T-shirt order forms were emailed to organizational leaders.

Organizational leaders will collect the money from their 4-H club families. Collect money from club members the same way that you collected membership fees. Leaders may turn in the order form for your club, along with the money, by putting it in a well-sealed envelope. Be sure to write "EXTENSION OFFICE" on the outside of the envelope. Put the envelope in the DROP BOX located outside of the Veteran's Service Office on the west side of the Courthouse. The DROP BOX is an old post office box that has been painted white.



Coming Soon with the May Bow Knot!

June Jamboree Program
Registrations & Schedule



NEBRASKA 4-H & EXTENSION EVENTS AFFECTED BY COVID-19 VIRUS SITUATION - EVERYONE PLEASE READ!

As the COVID-19 situation in Nebraska continues to evolve, please know that Nebraska Extension is adapting and adjusting their recommendations and decisions. Our commitment is to respond with an abundance of caution to try to provide thoughtful and valuable information. And, to do our best to contribute to the protection of Nebraskans.

We would like everyone to know that due to health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 virus situation, the difficult decision has been made by UNL about cancelling all Nebraska 4-H and Extension face-to-face programs for all events scheduled through May 9. **CANCELLED** events include:

- March 28-29 - State 4-H BB Gun & Air Rifle Championships, Fremont - In person match **CANCELLED**. (Postal match **may** be held for those who entered. Watch for more information from event coordinators.)
- April 4-5 - Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification, Chambers - **CANCELLED**
- April 18 - Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Update Session, Broken Bow - **CANCELLED**
- April 19 - CWF Meeting, Broken Bow - **CANCELLED** (all correspondence until June 1 will be made through Facebook and email)

The following events are **POSTPONED** at this time. The decision whether or not to reschedule will be made at a later date.

- March 21 - Custer County 4-H Indoor Archery Match, Broken Bow
- April 13 - Custer County 4-H Public Speaking Contest, Broken Bow

As of March 16, Nebraska Extension/4-H has posted the following:

No in-person 4-H programming through May 9. This includes school enrichment, competitive events, clubs, etc. **NOTE:** This includes 4-H club meetings. All 4-H club meetings must be virtual or conference call format. Facebook or Zoom meetings are a good option to host a 4-H club meeting.

****UPDATED INFORMATION****

For Organizational Leaders Only... As soon as the April 1 deadline is past, we will create reports of your members and send them to you very quickly so that you will know who is enrolled in your 4-H club.

Because of COVID-19, the Courthouse is closed to the public until April 18.

We will give organizational leaders until **Friday, May 1**, to turn in their \$7.00 per member fees based on the 4-H Online enrollments for their club. You can be collecting the \$7.00 per member fee prior to that time, as you know members have enrolled.

Since you can not meet face-to-face to hold 4-H club meetings (until at least May 9) to collect the memberships fees from members, here are some options that could work for your club:

- Write one club check to **4-H ACTIVITIES** for the number of members enrolled in your 4-H club @ \$7.00/member. Have members reimburse the club for their fees when it is safe to meet face-to-face or receive membership fees by mail from your 4-H families.
- Ask 4-H families to mail a check for their membership fees, made payable to **4-H ACTIVITIES**, to their organizational leader. Provide a mailing address for your 4-H families. Be sure to have good communication with your families. Have families let organizational leaders know when they mail their checks and organizational leaders let the families know when you receive their check.

Hopefully by April 18, the courthouse will be open to the public, and organizational leaders can get the enrollment fees (whether collected from members or one club check) to the Extension Office. We hope by extending this deadline to May 1 that organizational leaders will be able to get the fees turned in to our office, whether in person, by mail, or in the Courthouse Drop Box (white post office box on west side of Courthouse). If you do mail your club's enrollment fees to the Extension Office, please communicate that with our office staff so that we can watch for it. The mailing address for our office is: **Nebraska Extension - Custer County, 431 South 10th Avenue, Broken Bow, NE 68822**.

ALL checks must be made payable to: 4-H Activities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call, (308) 872-6831.

4-H HORSE EVENTS AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 SITUATION



- All 2020 District 4-H Horse Shows are cancelled.
- 4-H Horse ID's will be due in the Extension Office by June 15 from horse leaders or organizational leaders.
- All youth will be allowed to enter the Fonner Park State 4-H Expo without qualifying. Entries to the State 4-H Expo are due June 15 and the deadline for passing the advancement levels will be extended to June 15.

Horse Advancement Level Update - March, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 situation and social distancing, there will be changes in 4-H horse Advancement Level Testing. In order to abide by social distancing recommendations, skills, and demonstration testing are on hold.

We are encouraging youth to complete the written test, which will be offered online, and the reports/feed chart/healthcare charts as these pieces can be completed by youth at home. The goal is to offer the skills test and demonstration after May 9, 2020.

The deadline for passing the advancement levels will be extended to June 15.

4-H Horse Stampede - July 12

The 4-H Horse Stampede is now moved to July 12, 2020 (the Sunday prior to the start of the State Expo). The contests will be held at Fonner Park in the Bosselman Conference Center starting in the morning. We will have the updated schedule posted on the website in the coming weeks. All youth will need to re-enter if they were previously entered for the March contest. Entries will be due with the entries for State on June 15.

2020 CUSTER COUNTY YOUTH QUALITY ASSURANCE IN-PERSON TRAINING CANCELLED: ON-LINE TRAINING SPONSORED



The Custer County Youth Quality Assurance In-person training scheduled for May 20 has been cancelled due to the uncertainty of COVID-19. However, Adams Land & Cattle, Merck, and Boehringer-Ingelheim are sponsoring coupon codes to the first 160 youth that register so the youth can complete the online training at no cost. The Extension Office will provide the coupon codes and instructions to 4-H'ers via email. We request that you continue registering youth via <http://bit.ly/YouthAQA20> and we will email the coupon codes to the parent's email provided in the registration (once the Extension Office has received the coupon codes).

A big thank you to Adams Land & Cattle, Merck, and Boehringer-Ingelheim for sponsoring the online training fees, as the cost is \$9/youth. In order for the training to not cost the 4-H'er, a coupon code **must** be used (i.e., do not start the online process until you have a coupon code).

Be sure to take a picture of your kids doing the training or have them take a selfie and send it to Liz Babcock at Adams by end of May (308-870-2027 or elizabethb@adamslandandcattle.com). Adams Land & Cattle will be giving out gift cards to Tiffany Theater and will draw from pictures submitted!

4-H COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

The Custer County 4-H Council elected officers for the 2020 year at their January 27 meeting. They are:

President	Jeff Witthuhn
Vice-President	Chase Christen
Secretary	Joyce Racicky
Treasurer	Christy Berghorst



NEW FOR 2020! ELITE SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST

The four species that will be represented in the Elite Showmanship Contest will be: Beef, Sheep, Hogs, and Goats. Each of the four species will be represented by one Overall Species Showman.

The Overall Showman for a species will be determined in an Overall Showmanship Class directly following the last showmanship class in each species. The Champion and Reserve Champion in each age division will show in the Overall Showmanship Contest for the opportunity to earn Champion or Reserve Champion Overall Showman of that species.

The Elite Showmanship Contest will take place Thursday morning, following the Livestock Judging placings, while the Livestock Judging scores are being tabulated.

Each Overall Species Showman will provide the animal of the species they are representing.

Each species will have its own judge in the Elite Showmanship Contest and every judge will use the standard scoresheet provided.

The showman will spend 5 minutes at an animal being judged and then they will rotate to the next animal. All showman will be showing simultaneously to each other.

The Elite Showman will be determined based on highest score. In the event of a tie, the scores from the species that the two tied showman DID NOT represent will be used to break the tie. For example, if the beef and sheep showman tie, the combined scores from their hog and goat scores will break the tie.

The Elite Showman has first option to represent Custer County at the State Fair Elite Showmanship Contest. If the Elite Showman declines, the option goes to the runner up Elite Showman and so on. In the event, that none of the four showman in the Custer County Elite Showmanship Contest want to represent Custer County at State Fair, the option will be open to any Custer County 4-H'er.

Once a showman has earned the title of Custer County Elite Showman, they can NOT represent the species they won with again in the Elite Showmanship Contest. They can come back representing in a different species. Example: If the hog showman wins the Elite Showmanship Contest they can never return to the contest again with a hog, but they could come back if they earn top showman honors in beef, sheep, or goat.

Once a showman has earned the title of Elite Showman they may continue to show in their species showmanship contest. If they win Overall Species Showman again, the honor of representing the species in the Elite Showmanship contest will be deferred to the Reserve Champion Overall Species Showman.

In the event that an individual is chosen as the Overall Species Showman in multiple species they will have to choose which species they want to represent in the Elite Contest. The species that they decline to represent will then be represented by the Reserve Champion Overall Showman of that species.

LIVESTOCK JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS

At the November 2019 Livestock Committee Meeting, it was decided to utilize junior superintendents for the county fair livestock shows. The livestock superintendents will select the junior superintendents. Junior Superintendents must be 13 years old, as of January 1 and submit an essay on "Skills I Can Contribute As A Livestock Junior Superintendent." Junior Superintendents would help with weigh-in's at the county fair, run errands for the weigh-in's, help in the showing, etc. Junior Superintendents would have an opportunity to gain leadership and citizenship skills through this experience. Essays must be submitted to the Extension Office by June 1. They may be submitted in hard copy or emailed to cpeterson2@unl.edu.

CUSTER COUNTY CHALLENGE BEEF PROGRESS SHOW



4-H and FFA beef exhibitors should plan to attend the Custer County Challenge Beef Progress Show. The show will be held on Sunday, May 17 at the Custer County Fairgrounds in Broken Bow. Classes will be held for breeding heifers, market heifers, market steers, and showmanship. The entry fee for Custer County 4-H and FFA exhibitors is \$10 per head. The show is sanctioned by the Junior Nebraska Cattlemen. Cash prizes will be awarded to Champion and Reserve Breeding Heifer and Market Animal. For more information contact 308-870-1971. Pre-registrations not required.

ARE YOU ENROLLED IN THE 4-H BUCKET CALF PROJECT?

****The following information does not apply to Clover Kids who plan to show a bucket calf.****
See February Bow Knot for Clover Kid bucket calf guidelines.



Only 4-H members 8-12 years of age as of January 1 of the current year are eligible to show in the bucket calf project. All calves must have been born between January 1 and May 15 of the current year and raised by artificial means. **By June 15, all bucket calves must be castrated (if bulls), dehorned, tagged with the official eartag, and officially identified on the bucket calf ID form (available at the Extension Office or online at <https://go.unl.edu/7bz2>).** Your bucket calf ID form must be turned in to your organizational leader prior to June 15. Check with your club leader for your club deadline.

Each member enrolled in the Bucket Calf project must complete the 4-H Bucket Calf Project Record Book, which is a part of the judging process at the county fair. The record book contains a diary which 4-H'ers must keep on their bucket calf, indicating how they cared for their calf. Records and diary should be in the 4-H'ers own handwriting. The 4-H Bucket Calf Record is available at the Extension Office or online at: <https://go.unl.edu/vrx6>. **The 4-H Bucket Calf Project Record Book is due in the Extension Office on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 26, along with the county fair entry form.** County fair entry forms will be mailed to 4-H'ers with the June Bow Knot newsletter.

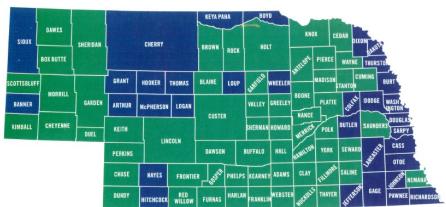
Classes will be interview judged based on completion of records and diary to the best of the member's ability. Calves should be clean and brushed; clipping optional. 4-H'ers should have knowledge concerning the proper care of their bucket calf. Calves will be shown by halter (rope or leather). The quality and breed of the calf will not be considered, since the purchase is not made on that basis. Classes may be split at the Bucket Calf Superintendent's discretion. A 4-H member may exhibit one bucket calf. Bucket calves must be checked-in at the covered show ring on Sunday, July 26, 4:30-5:30 p.m. and will not be released until 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 30. The Bucket Calf Interviews will start at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, July 27. The Bucket Calf Parade will be held at 11:00 a.m.

If you have questions regarding the bucket calf project, please contact Troy at the Extension Office.

SCHOOL PROJECTS VS. 4-H PROJECTS



4-H members, while you think about or begin to work on 4-H projects for the 2020 year, please keep in mind that articles entered at the county fair as a 4-H project must have been completed as a 4-H project and not used as a project for any other organization or school. Violation of rules renders the exhibitor subject to loss of premium money, ribbons, other awards, and/or elimination from the show.



Constellation has contributed **MORE THAN \$230,000** to 4-H in the 60 Nebraska counties it serves.

The Choice Gas selection period is April 10-23, 2020.



**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
APRIL 19-25, 2020**

**Thank you
4-H Volunteers for your dedicated support of the
Custer County 4-H program!**



Enclosures



To Organizational Leaders

Custer County 4-H T-Shirt Order Forms
January 2020 4-H Council Minutes



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