



4-H Youth Development

Bow Knot

4-H Newsletter

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



January 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- 1 Office Closed for New Year's Day
- 5 Nebraska 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application Submission Deadline
- 15 2023 CWF Payment Due
- 14 2025 CWF Curriculum Meeting, 4-H Building, 2:00- 4:00 p.m.
- 15 2025 CWF Payment Due (Pay by January 14)
- 15 Office Closed for Martin Luther King Holiday
- 22 4-H Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., 4-H Building
- 27 State Indoor 4-H Archery Championships, Grand Island
- 31 4-H Club Year-End Treasurer's Reports Due in Extension Office

FEBRUARY

- 1 Deadline for Custer County Foundation Scholarship Applications (Nic Ostergard Memorial Scholarship)
- 3 Market Beef Weigh-In, Broken Bow Animal Hospital, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (Please follow family time schedule.)
- 9 Deadline for Signing Up for the Special Garden Project - Princess of India Nasturtium
- 19 Office closed for President's Day

MARCH

- 1 Deadline for ad sales
- 1 Deadline for Premium Book Cover Photo Contest
- 1 Custer County 4-H Activities Scholarship Application deadline
- 4 Entries due online for 4-H Horse Stampede
- 10 2025 CWF Curriculum Meeting, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- 15 2025 CWF Payment Due
- 15 Registrations due online for Custer County 4-H Indoor Archery Match
- 18 4-H Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., 4-H Building
- 23 4-H Horse Stampede, Lincoln
- 23 Custer County 4-H Indoor Archery Match, Fairgrounds
- 25 Registrations for 4-H Public Speaking Contest due via online registration

APRIL

- 1 Deadline for 4-H membership contest
- 1 4-H Public Speaking Contest, 4-H Building, 6:30 p.m.
- 19 4-H Enrollment Fees due in Extension Office from Organizational Leaders
- 20 Nebraska State 4-H BB Gun Championships, Grand Island
- 21 Nebraska State 4-H Air Rifle Championships, Grand Island
- 26 Office closed for Arbor Day
- 28 Custer County Challenge Beef Progress Show, Fairgrounds in Broken Bow



MARKET BEEF WEIGH-IN

Saturday, February 3, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Broken Bow Animal Hospital
in Broken Bow

See attachments for directions and times for 4-H'ers to weigh in at the **Broken Bow Animal Hospital**. Please come to **Broken Bow Animal Hospital from the south**. **DO NOT** park on the highway to the north of the **Broken Bow Animal Hospital driveway**. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension office. More information can be found at this link: [MARKET BEEF WEIGH-IN INFORMATION](#)

2024 Recommended Weighing Times:

Last Names Beginning With:	Time
A-F	9 a.m. to 10:05 a.m.
G-LAM	10:05 to 11:10 a.m.
LAN-P	11:10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Q-SH	12:15 to 1: 20 p.m.
SL-Z	1:20 - 2:30 p.m.

All 4-H'ers who plan to show market steers and/or market heifers, live and/or in the carcass contest, must weigh-in their animals. Animals showing at the **County Fair only** will need 4-H ear tags for beef animals and will be \$1.00 each. Animals showing at **State Fair/Aksarben** will be required to have an official EID tag available at weigh-in (price is \$2.75 per EID) and DNA pulled. **Exact change is helpful when paying for tags at weigh-in. No big bills when paying with cash is appreciated. DNA will be paid for when exhibitors register animals for State Fair/Aksarben online at showstockmanager.com.**

Market Beef ID sheets partially completed prior to weigh-in is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** and will speed up your weigh-in process. ID sheets can be picked up at the Extension Office prior to the weigh-in day or can be printed in landscape format from: https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/custer/County%20Fair%20Info/Market%20Beef_Affidavit_041719.pdf

All market beef which may be shown at the Nebraska State Fair must have an official EID tag and DNA samples taken.

Remember to also enroll in the 4-H Beef project on the 4-H Online program! You do not want to work with animals all year long and not be eligible to show because you forgot to enroll in the project. Enrollment information can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/enroll>.

REMINDER FOR 4-H CLUBS TO FILE THE YEAR-END TREASURER'S REPORT BY JANUARY 31

To enable the e-postcard filing, clubs are expected to turn in a year-end treasurer's report to accurately reflect their club's finances. This report will be kept in their club file as support to their e-postcard filing information regarding annual gross receipts. **If your club has more than one bank account, a form will be needed for each account.**

A [2023 report form](#) was made available to each organizational leader in January 2023. This report form, **along with a copy of the club's bank statement(s) showing the bank balance on December 31, 2023 will be due in the Extension Office on or before January 31, 2024. FAILURE TO TURN IN REQUIRED FORMS MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF YOUR CLUB'S EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAX.**

A [2024 report form \(revised 12/2023\)](#) is available for your club to complete as funds are taken in or expended during the 2024 year. This will be due in the Extension Office on or before January 31, 2025, along with a copy of the club's bank statement(s), showing the bank balance on December 31, 2024. You will note that the 2024 report form includes an Annual Inventory Report. In most cases, 4-H clubs won't have any club inventory unless you are a shooting club with club guns/equipment. If you have questions in regard to club inventory, contact Colleen at the Extension Office.

4-H COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

The following will serve on the 2024 4-H Council, as a result of the recent election:

- District 1: Kyla Olson and JD Keefe
- District 2: Holly Bumgarner and Luke Smith
- District 3: Chad Coleman and Jen Schmidt
- District 4: Christy Berghorst and Matt Peterson
- District 5: Chase Christen and Sarah Bartak
- District 6: Holly Remund and Peter Pelster
- District 7: Doug Nichols and Michelle Nelson
- District 8: Marla Stallbaumer and Jake Rosentreader
- District 9: Lana Phelps and Jeff Witthuhn
- Youth: Bailey Christen and Bode Bumgarner
- Youth: Alex Berghorst and Emmet Grint



The next 4-H Council meeting will be held Monday, January 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the 4-H Building.

STATE FAIR ELIGIBILITY UPDATE

As you know, in 2023, Nebraska 4-H lowered the age limit for participation in the Nebraska State Fair for all in-person events to nine years of age. That change increased the participation and provided more youth the opportunity to have an engaging learning experience. We had many positive comments from legacy families as well as new.

This fall, the State 4-H Staff had follow-up conversations with many of you as well as the show superintendents and various teams that run these events during State Fair and throughout the year. Based on that feedback and the goal of increasing access, the decision has been made to change **the age of eligibility in 2024 to be 8 years of age before January 1 (of the current year) for all in-person State Fair events (livestock, contests, fashion shows) and other state competitions (Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo, PASE, communications contest).** Note: there will be some events that will maintain their ages due to specific program rules (shooting sports, FIRST LEGO League Challenge robotics). Please check information on each specific event as it becomes available.



2024 4-H EAR TAG PRICES

Ear tag prices for 2024 will be as follows:



Market beef EID	\$2.75 each
Market beef, breeding beef, stocker-feeder, bucket calves	\$1.00 each
Market swine EID	\$2.65 each
Market swine/breeding swine	80¢ each
Market sheep & goats	Herd Scrapies Tags
Breeding sheep & goats	Herd Scrapies Tags

* Prices include sales tax.

All market animals and breeding animals that may be entered at State Fair and/or Aksarben, will also need to have DNA samples taken and animal information submitted online at Show Stock Manager prior to June 14.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE FAIR AND AKSARBEN

All livestock in contention to exhibit at the 2024 Nebraska State Fair and/or the Aksarben Stock Show will be **required** to submit a DNA nomination. **All 4-H/FFA BREEDING livestock, market livestock and FEEDER CALVES will now be REQUIRED to submit a DNA sample/envelope to be eligible to exhibit at the Nebraska State Fair.** DNA nominations for the Nebraska State Fair are due on June 15, 2024.

Requiring DNA on breeding stock will allow for flexibility of substitutions, allow exhibitors to have a better record of the animals they are nominating, sustain the integrity of exhibitors, and ensure ownership of the livestock. As for the administrative side, this will help streamline the record keeping and validation process to assist our families as they are nominating their animal projects.

Any DNA nomination submitted through Show Stock Manager will also be eligible for exhibition at the Aksarben Stock Show. DNA nominations will remain at \$7.00 per animal. Animals will automatically be eligible for both breeding and market.



4-H SHOOTING SPORTS NEWS



2024 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS DATES

January 27	Nebraska State 4-H Indoor Archery Tournament, Grand Island.
March 23	Custer County 4-H Indoor Archery Match, Shooting Range, Fairgrounds
April 20	Nebraska State 4-H BB Gun Championships, Grand Island
April 21	Nebraska State 4-H Air Rifle Championships, Grand Island
June 22-28	2024 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships, Grand Island
July 7	Custer County 4-H 3D Archery Match, Litchfield
July 26-27	4-H Firearms Shooting Matches at the Custer County Fair
September 28	2024 Nebraska Youth Smallbore Silhouette Invitational, Pressey Wildlife Management Area, Oconto

Other invitational matches are posted periodically on the 4-H shooting sports website at:

<https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports#calendar1>

2024 4-H HORSE STAMPEDE

The 2024 4-H Horse Stampede will be held March 23 in Lincoln. The 4-H Horse Stampede will include the 4-H Horse Bowl, Horse Public Speaking Contest, Horse Demonstration Contest, Art, and Photography Contests. All orders, fees, and entry forms must be submitted online by March 4. More information may be obtained from the Extension Office or be found at:

<https://4h.unl.edu/horse/stampede>





4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT FOR 2024

CUSTER COUNTY 4-H ENROLLMENT is \$7.00/member for 2024. 4-H members are greatly encouraged to get enrolled by **April 1**. The statewide 4-H enrollment deadline is June 15. 4-H members who enroll by April 1 will have the best 4-H experience. They will be able to participate in club activities, work with project leaders to prepare for county fair exhibits and events, and be included in the county supplemental accident insurance policy. Organizational leaders will turn in the \$7.00/member fee to the Extension Office by April 19, 2024. Checks must be made payable to: **4-H Activities**.

Enrollment fees for members who enroll April 2-June 15, 2024 **must be turned in to the Extension Office by the 4-H member/family before their enrollment is accepted. The final date for these payments is June 17, 5:00 p.m.**

Some 4-H clubs may have additional club dues. These are due to the club and not to the Extension Office. **4-H enrollment is available year-round, however, to compete in Custer County Fair events, you must be registered on 4-H ONLINE by June 15. Participation in some 4-H activities, may require enrollment on 4-H ONLINE PRIOR to event registration. Examples: shooting sports events, summer horse shows, speech contest, special garden project. Contact the Extension Office if you have questions.**

4-H Enrollment- 2024

Custer County Early Enrollment Deadline- **April 1, 2024 (suggested)**
Statewide Enrollment Deadline-**June 15, 2024**

4-H Online is the program used for 4-H enrollment. Log in at v2.4honline.com - *4H Online does not support Internet Explorer as a browser- Please use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your browser for this program. You will use the same login email and password as you used in previous years.

Instructions to enroll can be found at <https://4h.unl.edu/enroll>.

- √ New Members
- √ Re-Enroll 4-H Members - for 4-H members who were enrolled in 2023
- √ New Adult 4-H Volunteers
- √ Re-Enroll Adult 4-H Volunteers - for 4-H volunteers who were enrolled in 2023.

NEW

Starting in 2024, project selection will be optional with the exception of the horse and shooting sports (see note below). By successfully completing the 4-H *member* enrollment by June 15, youth will be eligible to participate and exhibit in any project area, any contest, their county fair, and the Nebraska State Fairs. While optional, youth are encouraged to select projects they are interested in exploring each program year.

Please note: Youth are only eligible to exhibit in a project area or contest in a single county. **Horse or shooting sports projects will continue to require project enrollment due to the parental consent required for participation.**

Families will need to be responsible for completing the required ID sheets and getting their animals eartagged by the deadlines set by the county offices. This will include market beef weigh-in and entering animal data into Show Stock Manager for nominations for State Fair.

Projects are now grouped on 4-H ONLINE by curriculum and not by project name. Please see the [CUSTER COUNTY 4-H PROJECT LIST](#). The **BOLDED and HIGHLIGHTED** curriculum areas are the “projects” that youth will sign up for on 4-H ONLINE this year. The projects listed under each curriculum area are the projects youth will be eligible to participate/exhibit. County Fair exhibit requirements will be printed in the County Fair Premium Book. **IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE.**

All 4-H members and leaders MUST enroll on this system EVERY YEAR. One important item to remember is to ALWAYS go back into your record to be sure that the projects you intended really do show up on your record before the enrollment deadline. If you wait until the last minute to enroll, the Extension Staff may not be available to assist you with your questions. If you need help with the 4-H ONLINE enrollment system, please contact the Extension Office (308) 872-6831.

MEMBERSHIP FEES & PUBLICATION COSTS FOR 2024

- 4-H membership fee for 2024 is \$7.00 per member fee. Early enrollment is **ENCOURAGED** by April 1 for the best 4-H experience. This fee is per member, not per member per club. If a member is in more than one 4-H club, they would only pay the \$7.00 fee annually. If a 4-H member enrolls by April 1, they **MUST** pay their \$7.00 fee to their organizational leader. Youth who enroll **AFTER** April 1, will need to pay their membership fee of \$7.00 to the Extension Office before their enrollment will be approved on 4-H Online.

This fee would be used to pay for publications that leaders would need, pay for the shipping/handling costs for all 4-H publications when ordered, and pay for a \$2.00 per member and leader county accident insurance policy.

- Most all 4-H manuals/publications have a cost. The Extension Office has established a price list. Each manual/publication price will include tax. (Prices will be subject to change as needed.) A price list is available online at <http://custer.unl.edu/custercounty4h>.
- Record books that are photocopied by the Extension Office will be exempt from a fee.
- Publications will need to be paid for when they are picked up at the Extension Office. Orders may be placed by club, or picked up individually, but will need to be paid for when they leave the Extension Office.

If a 4-H member enrolls in a particular project for several years, they will want to use the same 4-H project manual over and over. Another option is for 4-H clubs to recycle their project manuals, and establish a club "library" of 4-H manuals/publications. If you have any questions regarding the membership fees and sale of 4-H manuals/publications, please feel free to contact the Extension Office.

4-H SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



Graduating high school seniors should take advantage of these college scholarships available. There are scholarships available from the Custer County Foundation and Custer County 4-H Activities . **LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!**

CUSTER COUNTY 4-H ACTIVITIES SCHOLARSHIPS

Four \$500 scholarships and one \$250 scholarship are sponsored by the Custer County 4-H Activities Corporation offered on a county basis.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: Applicant must be a current active Custer County 4-H member, and have been a member of the Custer County 4-H program for four or more years. Recipients must complete the first semester of college before the scholarship funds will be applied. Scholarship applicants must have a "C" average or above. **THESE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN "HARD COPY TO THE NEBRASKA EXTENSION - CUSTER COUNTY OFFICE."** Application deadline is March 1, 2024. Custer County 4-H Activities Scholarship application information is available online at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/custer/4-h-scholarships/> and was emailed to all 4-H families on November 1.

NIC OSTERGARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, \$1000

Applicant must have at least 5 years cumulative involvement in Custer County 4-H. Applicant must have a high school GPA of 2.5 or higher. Scholarship will be paid at the beginning of the recipients 2nd year of chosen program of study, pending proof of enrollment and attainment of a 2.0 GPA or higher in the previous year.

Scholarship applications are due to the Custer County Foundation by February 1, 2024. Scholarship information and application forms are available at: <http://www.custercountyfoundation.org/all-custer-county-students>.

Custer County Fair
July 26 - August 1, 2024

2024 Custer County Premium Book Cover Photo Contest



Custer County 4-H members (4-H age 8-18) are invited to enter the 2024 Custer County Premium Book Cover Photo Contest. The 2024 Custer County Fair Premium Book will be in a magazine format with a full color, gloss cover. The winning photo will be selected by the Custer County 4-H Council and placed on the cover of the 2024 Custer County Fair Premium Book.

Contest Guidelines:

- Photos must have been taken during the 2023 Custer County Fair.
- **Photo(s) must have been taken by the 4-H member submitting the photo.**
- Photos must be a high resolution photo taken with a high quality camera/phone. Photos **taken with cameras are preferred...due to photo quality.** Photos should be in a high resolution format (300+ dpi or 2880 x 3600px minimum).
- **Photos must be in a vertical format.**
- Entries must be submitted as a .jpeg file. Entries may be emailed to: colleen.peterson@unl.edu.
- With each photo, include:
 1. Name and age of the person who took the photo.
 2. What the photo is about.
 3. Identification of any individuals in the photo.
- Submit photo entries to the Extension Office on or before March 1, 2024.

For more information, contact Colleen Peterson, 4-H Aide at the Nebraska Extension-Custer County Office, (308) 872-6831.

DOG GONE FUN 4-H CLUB TO REORGANIZE



The Dog Gone Fun 4-H Club will reorganize January 13, 2024, according to Carol Croghan, organizational leader. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Building on the Custer County Fairgrounds. This meeting will be for beginner dogs **ONLY**. Youth interested are asked to bring their parent(s), dog, up-to-date vaccination records from their veterinarian, a training collar with a 6' leather leash, and something for your dog to lay on. Also bring a pencil or pen to fill out forms. For more information, contact Carol Croghan at 870-4408 or Theresa Wiist at 870-1859. The advanced class will begin on January 27.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY YOUTH LOANS



The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA, and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
Demonstrate capability of planning, managing, and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Contact the Custer County Farm Service Agency at 308-872-6877 for an application or more information.

4-H VOLUNTEER IMPACT STUDY - YOU MAY BE CONTACTED

What you do makes a difference! We are excited to share that our state will be participating in the 4-H Volunteer Impact Study of volunteers in the North Central Region.

This survey is being conducted as a part of 12 state effort to document the impact of volunteering.

It will focus on three areas:

- the personal benefits of your volunteer experience;
- the impact you have on the organization by volunteering; and
- how your volunteer efforts contribute to your community in which you live and work.

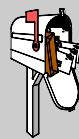
A random sample of volunteers of 1000 volunteers from each state will be surveyed. This study will be conducted through an electronic survey. If you are selected you will receive an email to let you know you have been selected to participate.

You may be picked!!! If you are, please respond. We want to hear from you and learn from your volunteer experiences.

Your comments will be used to quantify the personal, organizational and public impacts of volunteers involved with 4-H Youth Development Programs in our twelve-state region.

Your impact is great and we want to hear from you!!!

<u>Attachments & Links</u>	2024 4-H Calendar of Events Market Beef Weigh-In Instructions 4-H Club of Excellence Summary Form 2023 Year End 4-H Club Treasurer's Report 2024 Year End 4-H Club Treasurer's Report 2024 Custer County 4-H Project List 2024 Animal ID Guide
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