



KEARNEY COUNTY 4-H

Calendar of Events

April 18 – Public Speaking Contest, 6:30 p.m. Fairgrounds

Date Changes for the following:

May 23 -- Quality Assurance, 8:30 a.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds

May 24 -- Quality Assurance, 1:30 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds

May 25 -- Quality Assurance, 8:30 a.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds

May 25 --Quality Assurance, 1:30 p.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds

May 26 – Animal Science Discovery Days, Curtis

Reenrollment Time

If you have not yet reenrolled for 4-H, please do so soon! We don't want you to miss out on important information. If you need step-by-step instructions, please go to the kearney.unl.edu website. You can add or delete projects until June 15, 2022.

YQCA—REQUIRED

YQCA has a new platform! All 4-H members enrolled in livestock projects are required to complete annual quality assurance certification through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program. This online program has recently moved and is now available at YQCAProgram.org. YQCA certification is required for all 4-H members enrolled in any of the following projects: Beef, Dairy Cattle, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine.

In-person YQCA training courses cost \$3 per individual regardless of age, however, our 4-H Councils pay this fee for you. Trainings are scheduled for:

May 23 -- Quality Assurance, 8:30 a.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds

May 24 -- Quality Assurance, 1:30 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds

May 25 -- Quality Assurance, 8:30 a.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds

May 25 --Quality Assurance, 1:30 p.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds

Web-based Training at <https://yqcaprogram.org/>. The online YQCA course costs **\$12 per individual** regardless of age. You are responsible for the cost of the web-based training.

Test-out options are only available to youth in the first year of Intermediate (age 12) and Senior (age 15) age levels. There is no test-out option for Juniors. Participants will have only one chance to take the test-out option. If youth fail, they will not be provided another opportunity to test out of that age level.

Test-out costs are: **Intermediate:** \$36 (\$12 x 3 years of certification)

Senior: \$48 (\$12 x 4 years of certification).

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4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The 4-H Public Speaking Contest will be held on April 18th. Public Speaking is an important skill to learn, and 4-H is a great way to experience it. See the February newsletter for a copy of guidelines and rules. If you need help, please call Rhonda. Please pre-register by Noon on April 18th by calling the office.

Beef Weigh-ins-Canceled

WE got tags, but they are blank! Since they cannot be used, we will not be holding a beef weigh-in this year. If you are going to State Fair, please let us know and we will get an EID tag for you. We are working on finding other beef tags for us to use for all of those who will be showing county fair only animals.

POULTRY UPDATE

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) announced an order cancelling all poultry events across Nebraska due to highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). The order prohibits birds of any type at events including but not limited to fairs, expositions, swap meets, exotic sales and live bird auctions. The order is effective immediately and will be in effect **until** May 1, at which time the order will be reevaluated. The 4-H Team is closely following this evolving situation and will keep you updated with the situation.

District Horse Shows

We are excited to announce the locations of the District 4-H Horse Shows for 2022!

2022 Districts Dates and Sites:

June 6- Chadron, NE

June 7- Guide Rock, NE

June 8- Albion, NE

June 9- Raymond, NE

June 10- Kearney, NE

REMINDER of changes!

New age group/classes

Elementary Ranch Pleasure (10-11 years old)

Individual work will not be used as a trial basis for the 2022 year (Please see webpage for district procedure details): <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/district-shows>

Are you passionate about the Beef Industry?

The Nebraska Beef Ambassador Contest & Beef Advocacy Training provides an opportunity for youth to become spokespersons and future leaders in the beef industry. If public speaking or industry advocacy is your thing, you should compete!

Age Divisions: (on January 1, 2022) Senior 14-18 years old Collegiate 19-24 years old

Thursday, June 9, 2022, 1:00 PM Valentine Area

For more information or to register for the contest: ncw@necattlemen.org 402-450-0223

Registration also available at www.nebraskacattlemen.org

Registration deadline: Friday, June 3, 2022

State Summer Camp Opportunities

Registration is now open for 2022 Nebraska 4-H Summer Camps! See the full schedule of camp sessions and register now at 4h.unl.edu/summer-camp-schedule.

NAYI—GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Attention High School Juniors & Seniors: If you are interested in learning more about agriculture in Nebraska, careers in agriculture and how to obtain those careers as well as how to be good advocates for the agriculture industry – we encourage you to apply to the 2022 Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI). In its 51st year – NAYI is the longest running program of its kind in the nation. This year's NAYI will be held at the University of Nebraska's East Campus on July 11-15. Go to <https://nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/>

LIVESTOCK Achievement Program

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. The program consists of two levels that require 4-H members to plan and report a broad range of age-appropriate and project-related accomplishments. For each level, the Livestock Achievement Program provides a list of accomplishments from which 4-H members choose their goals. Each accomplishment is worth a specific number of points. Intermediates, ages 10-13, must complete 100 points worth of activities to receive the distinction of Intermediate Member of Excellence. Seniors, ages 14-18, must complete 150 points worth of activities to receive the distinction of Senior Member of Excellence. The Plan and Reports, linked on the webpage, show examples of the project related accomplishments they can choose, or they can identify their own with approval of their local educator. Applications/Sign up are due June 15th through the application form link on the website. Plan and Reports, as well as Project Records will be due August 10 via the completion form on the website. 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. For more information or to apply, go to: [Livestock Achievement Program | Nebraska 4-H \(unl.edu\)](https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement) or <https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement>

MEATS JUDGING OPPORTUNITY

As the American Meat Science Association explores opportunities to attract, develop, and connect meat science talent, AMSA will be hosting a virtual meat judging spring series (4 virtual meat judging contests) targeted to youth (3rd-12th grade, 4-H, FFA students, etc.). Participants will compete in divisions based on their grade: Youth (3rd-7th grade) and Senior Division (8th-12th grade). Divisions will be based on the grade the student is currently completing this academic year. The contest will consist of 6 placing classes, 2 questions classes, quality grading (6) and 40 Retail Identification. Participants will register via the AMSA website.

Contest Dates still remaining:

- April 13-15, 2022
- April 27-29, 2022

For more information go to:

<https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/Shopping/Shopping.aspx?Site=meatscience&WebCode=Shopping>

Companion Cat Science

Companion Cat Science is a self-paced learning opportunity offering information about caring for cats. The online course is great for middle-school-aged youth but is open to all youth regardless of age who are looking to learn more about cats and the 4-H cat project. Companion Cat Science is a great resource for anyone interested in caring for or learning about cats in 4-H whether they own one now or not! The course includes four units covering: History, Care, Showmanship, Careers. For more information:

<https://4h.unl.edu/companion-cat-science>

Premier Animal Science Event

The Nebraska 4-H Premier Animal Science Event (PASE) features a variety of state-level animal science contests. Including, Livestock Quiz Bowl, Skillathon, Meats Judging, Poultry Judging and Livestock Judging. The two-day event is also designed to help youth explore issues related to the animal industry and discover college. In addition, youth will have chances to explore East Campus, meet with faculty members and current college students, and have fun with friends! PASE is held annually at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln East Campus. This year's event will be held June 22-23, 2022. PASE is open to any current 4-H'er who is 10 (before January 1, 2022) and older. IF you are interested in being a part of PASE please call the office as we will begin practice for several of the events.

Nebraska State Contests

Nebraska Horticulture Contest

Do you know what it takes to pick the best fruit and vegetables out at the grocery store? Or do you know what judges are looking for when they judge your plants at the county fair? Have you ever wondered, what plant is that!?! We are excited to offer the opportunity to learn these and other important horticulture skills through the Online Horticulture Contest. The contest will be available June 3-20, 2022 at:

<https://go.unl.edu/online4hhortcontest>

Weed and Grass Identification Contest

The Weed and Grass Identification Contest allows participants to compete as individuals or as a team. Through this competition 4-H'ers will learn more about range plants and how to decipher the best specimens.

<https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/contests/28>

Premier Science Award

Recognize 4-H youth static exhibits incorporating or demonstrating concepts from the areas of 4-H Science (science, technology, engineering, or applied math) at the Nebraska State Fair. Exhibits in all curriculum areas will be considered for the award.

Dog Skillathon

The Dog Skill-a-thon contest will provide 4-H participants an opportunity to test their knowledge of dogs. There will be a variety of stations with visual diagrams and hands-on activities that contestants will work through and be judged upon. The skill-a-thon will be held in conjunction with the State 4-H Dog Show. Visit the 2022 State 4-H Dog event webpage at <https://4h.unl.edu/dog-show> for more information.

Insect Identification Contest

The Insect Identification Contest provides an opportunity for 4-H participants to put their entomological knowledge to the test. The contest consists of insect identification and short multiple-choice questions. Participants will gain knowledge about insects and entomology through this competition

More Nebraska State contests can be found in the Fairbook

<https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/contests/45>

Youth Leadership Conference

Registration is now open for the 2022 Youth Leadership Conference to be held June 24-26 at the State 4-H Camp at Halsey! This is a great opportunity for all youth ages 14-18 (not just 4-H members) to discover, practice, and develop the skills necessary to be good leaders now and in the future! Conference attendees also engage in team building, community service, and traditional camp activities while at the beautiful Nebraska State 4-H Camp near Halsey. Learn more and register at <https://4h.unl.edu/leadership-conference>

Nebraska State Fair August 26 - September 5, 2022

The Nebraska State Fair is the premier opportunity for 4-H members to showcase what they have learned and worked on throughout the year. Visit the [Nebraska 4-H State Fair Fairbook](#) for information about 4-H static and animal exhibits, as well as 4-H in-person contests and competitions happening at the State Fair. Additional information and resources are also available for individuals interested in exhibiting 4-H livestock, participating in 4-H dog show or skillathon, participating in 4-H contests, volunteering with 4-H, and judging 4-H exhibits.

