

&gt;&gt;&gt; OTOE COUNTY 4-H &lt;&lt;&lt;

# TIPS ON TAP

Otoe County 4-H Council



## Youth as Changemakers

I recently had the opportunity to take two Otoe County 4-H Youth to the Ignite by 4-H Teen Summit in Washington, D.C. The entire experience was one they will remember forever. A flight half way across the country without their parents, a first-ever subway ride, and beautiful monuments at our country's National Mall were highlights for sure. Those experiences cannot hold a candle to the experiences within the summit itself.

With sessions on being "terrific teen teachers," to making their own cheese, to how to build a school garden, there was a lot to learn. Even more impressive was the emphasis put on the leadership qualities of teens. The summit gave youth an opportunity to evaluate their world, see a change that would be beneficial, and propose a plan to make that change happen.

The most exciting time will be when these 4-Hers return to their communities and begin to meet with community partners to implement their plan. 4-Hers are the future community members and leaders that we will rely on, and they are the changemakers of today! Witnessing nearly 1,400 youth from across the country come together to learn and experience all 4-H has to offer, and what THEY can offer their community is an experience I won't soon forget.

Look for updates on Hanna & Kéalii's Lead to Change project over the next several months.

~Elizabeth



**Do you know a 4-H teen that has a passion for making positive change in their community? Reach out to Elizabeth to ask about opportunities that are available!**

## Summer Opportunities

Thanks to the generosity of the Otoe County 4-H Foundation, there are a limited number of scholarships available for Otoe County 4-Hers to attend 4-H Camp. This includes camps through Nebraska State 4-H Camp, and Big Red Camps hosted on UNL's campus. Registration is now OPEN for both opportunities.

Please call the Extension Office for information on scholarship availability.



### Leader's Corner

Leaders,

Hopefully your club has met at least once (if not twice!) this year. We would love to feature what your clubs are doing on our social media- please send any pictures to me at [stephens9@unl.edu](mailto:stephens9@unl.edu)! Looking for a community service project to do with your club members? Check out

<https://4h.unl.edu/community-service> for

how to plan a project AND project ideas within each 4-H area! You can find a service project planning guide here:

[https://4h.unl.edu/documents/NE4H-Volunteer-Training\\_Club-True-Leaders-In-Service-Planning-Guide\\_020121.pdf](https://4h.unl.edu/documents/NE4H-Volunteer-Training_Club-True-Leaders-In-Service-Planning-Guide_020121.pdf)

and check out 4-H club service projects from across the state here:

<https://4h.unl.edu/community-service-showcase>! I can't wait to see how you

and your clubs serve your communities this year!

~Stephanie



**Summer 2024 CAMP**  
The power of being green

<b>CHADRON</b> JUNE 1-5 JUNE 6-8	10-14 YEARS 8-10 YEARS
<b>COZAD</b> JUNE 16-20 JULY 1-3	10-14 YEARS 8-10 YEARS
<b>BURWELL</b> JULY 17-19 JULY 20-24	8-10 YEARS 10-14 YEARS

REGISTER TODAY  
4H.UNL.EDU/CAMPS-REGISTER

**N** EXTENSION

## **N** BIG RED CAMPS

**JUNE 9-14, 2024**

[HTTPS://4H.UNL.EDU/BIG-RED-CAMPS](https://4h.unl.edu/big-red-camps)

## School Programming: Embryology

Stephanie was invited to Hayward Elementary to provide programming on the topic of embryology to each of the third grade classrooms. Students learned about the parts of an egg by cracking their own eggs (A first for some!) before they set their eggs for hatching. She will return in April to candle the eggs and teach about their development. This program will be available to all 3rd grade classrooms in the county in the 2024-2025 school year!



# FAIR PREP



## Sheep & Goat Weigh-In



Sheep & goat weigh-in will be Saturday, April 27th from 9:00-11:00AM at the OK Pavilion.

The 2024 Otoe County Fair will include a Market Goat Rate of Gain contest! Animals must participate in the weigh-in to be considered for the Rate of Gain Contest.

## Livestock Tags

Ear tags for all livestock species are available for purchase at the Extension Office.

Beef & swine EID tags are \$3.

Poultry bands are \$.50.

Sheep & goats only need scrapies tags.

Taggers are also available for check out.

## Fairbook Coming Soon!

We are getting ready for the Otoe County Fair! A paper copy will be available, and it will also be available on [otoe.unl.edu](http://otoe.unl.edu). There are some small changes from previous years, so keep an eye out for more information regarding those changes.



## 4-H Music Contest

The 2024 Otoe County 4-H Music Contest will once again be a virtual event in partnership with Johnson, Pawnee, & Nemaha Counties.

Entries are due on April 27th by noon at: [https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_djmqS1ojpLBPT6u](https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_djmqS1ojpLBPT6u)

## Special Project Seeds are IN!

Seeds for the Special Garden Project and Special Agronomy Project are in! Please stop by to pick them up, along with educational materials about them selected seeds.



## Summer Workshops

The Office has been busy planning and organizing some amazing workshop opportunities for the month of June. You will find information about those workshops attached to this newsletter.

Some items of note:

- Registration will happen through the Events tab in 4-H Online. You MUST be enrolled in the current 4-H year in order to register.
- Registration closes the Friday before the workshop.
- Registration is not considered "complete" until payment (cash or check) is received.

We hope you understand some of the changes were needed to reduce the amount of wasted supplies and no shows to workshops.

# Wider Extension Opportunities

## Fonner Field Day

Get insight into the world of Nebraska Horse Racing

Sign up Now!



**4/14/2024**

Fonner Park Grand Island, NE



Experience an educational and fun-filled day in the **Gus Fonner Suite**, where you can:

- Enjoy an afternoon buffet with industry professionals
- Watch races from the suite balcony
- Enjoy your favorite beverage and wager on all tracks
- Suite opens at noon
- First race is 1:30 p.m.

Sign up for behind the scene tours and catch a glimpse into the jockeys quarters, a trip to the starting gate, a look into the parimutuel tote operations, and so much more!

Visit with Industry professionals & stakeholders such as trainers, breeders, owners, State Racing Commission, HPBA members, NTBA members!

### Special Treat - Meet Fred Ecoffey!

Fred is a Nebraska Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame Jockey & is a longtime racing official at Fonner Park!

REGISTER AT: [HTTPS://CVENT.ME/XBVLQG](https://cvent.me/xbvlqg) BY APRIL 8TH AT MIDNIGHT

PRE-REGISTRATION COST: \$35 OR PAY \$40 CASH /CHECK AT THE DOOR

Questions?

[kariderson1@unl.edu](mailto:kariderson1@unl.edu)



## 2024 TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT SAFETY TRAINING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! COST: \$40

Federal law prohibits children under 16 years of age from using certain equipment on a farm unless their parents or legal guardians own the farm. However, certification received through this course grants an exemption to the law allowing 14- and 15-year-olds to drive a tractor and to do field work with certain mechanized equipment. Certification is earned by completing a Hands-On Safety Day with written test (Certification Day 1), then completing the Tractor and Equipment Safety Training with driving exam (Certification Day 2). Successful completion of a Certification Days 1 and 2 will result in certification for 14 and 15 year old youth to be employed on farms and ranches.

Youth under 14 years of age can attend Certification Day 1 if accompanied by an adult. They will not be able to drive equipment, attend Day 2, or become certified. Students under 14 must still register, but will not be charged the registration fee.

### SUMMER 2024 SCHEDULE

Date(s)	Event(s)	Location
May 21	Certification Day 1	North Platte, NE
May 22	Certification Day 2	
May 28	Certification Day 1	West Point, NE
May 29	Certification Day 2	
May 30	Certification Day 1	Weeping Water, NE
May 31	Certification Day 2	
June 4	Certification Day 2*	Gering, NE
June 5	Certification Day 1	Gordon, NE
June 6	Certification Day 2	
June 7	Certification Day 2*	O'Neill, NE
June 11	Certification Day 1	Grand Island, NE
June 12	Certification Day 2	
June 13	Certification Day 2*	Hastings, NE

### LEARN MORE

Scan the QR code or visit [go.unmc.edu/tractor-safety-training](https://go.unmc.edu/tractor-safety-training)



\*Those attending a location that only offers Certification Day 2 must complete Certification Day 1 at another location, OR complete the virtual module. Certification Day 1 (or online module) MUST be completed, with written exam, before attending Certification Day 2.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TIFFANY HOOVER AT [THOOVER6@UNL.EDU](mailto:THOOVER6@UNL.EDU)

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#FarmSafety  
#TractorSafety  
#NebExt

## GROBigRed Virtual Learning Series

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. CST

Sponsored by Nebraska Extension

Join the experts from Nebraska Extension to learn and ask questions about:

- 2/14 — Starting Plants for Your Garden • Nicole Stoner
- 3/13 — Maximizing Garden Potential • David Loft & Ian Peterson
- 4/10 — Rain — Use It, Don't Lose It! • Kelly Feehan
- 5/8 — Simple Landscape Design • Elizabeth Exstrom
- 6/12 — Summer Lawn Care • John Fech
- 7/10 — Vegetable Garden Disease • Sarah Browning
- 8/14 — Fall Garden Maximization • David Loft & Ian Peterson
- 9/11 — Pollinator Habitats • Scott Evans & Mary Jane Frogge

Register at: <https://files.unl.edu/grobigrd>

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.

Nebraska Extension educational programs align with the institutional priorities of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.



### 2024 Otoe County 4-H Dates

Saturday, April 27	Sheep & Goat Weigh-In – O.K. Pavilion – 9:00-11:00 am
Sunday, May 19	County Shotgun Contest – Otoe County Wildlife Club – 10:00 am
June	4-H Workshops TBD
Saturday, June 1	DEADLINE: <u>State</u> Horse Expo (only): Horse Advancement Levels, Horse ID Sheets, & Entry
Saturday, June 15	<b>4-H Enrollment Deadline;</b> DEADLINE: Animal ID Sheets, Horse ID Sheets, YQCA completion, DNA, Livestock State Fair Nominations
June 17-18	Premier Communications Event – UNL’s East Campus
June 20-21	Premier Animal Science Event (PASE) – UNL’s East Campus
Sunday, June 30	Favorite Foods Revue – Kimmel Event Center – 1:00 pm
Monday, July 1	DEADLINE: 4-H, Clover Kid, & FFA <u>Livestock</u> (Horse & Dogs included); Horse Advancement Levels (county fair) Entries on FairWire/ShoWorks
Monday, July 8	County Rifle Contest – Kimmel Arena
Wednesday, July 10	County Archery Contest – Kimmel Arena – 6:00 pm
Sunday, July 14	County BB Gun Competition
Monday, July 15	DEADLINE: 4-H, Clover Kid, & FFA <u>Static</u> Entries on FairWire/ShoWorks
July 13-17	State Horse Expo
Saturday, July 20	Fair Clean Up Day
Sunday, July 21	Textiles, Quilts, & Apparel Entry & Judging; Fashion Show Judging
Sunday, July 21	Otoe County Fair Dog Show
Tuesday, July 23	Entry & Judging for: Communication & Expressive Arts; Family & Consumer Sciences; Leadership, Citizenship, & Personal Development; Clover Kids; Environmental Education and Earth Science; Science, Engineering, & Technology
Wednesday, July 24	Entry & Judging for: Healthy Living; Plant Science
Wednesday, July 24	Livestock (including poultry & rabbit) & Horse Check In and Weigh In
July 25-28	Otoe County Fair
Aug. 23-Sept. 2	Nebraska State Fair

# APRIL

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2 Special Agronomy Project Workshop 6pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 411 Council Meeting 7pm	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Arbor Day Office Closed	27 Virtual Music Entries Due Sheep and Goat Weigh In 9-11am
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

# 2024 OTOE COUNTY 4-H WORKSHOPS

Join us this summer to learn new things and create projects to enter in the 2024 Otoe County Fair! Registration and payment is due the Friday each workshop. Registration for all workshops opens May 1st on [4honline.com](http://4honline.com) under the Events tab and is not complete until payment is received by the Extension office. Cash or check will be accepted for payment, please make checks out to: University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Please note that workshops may be canceled if there are not enough registered participants. There will be no refunds unless a workshop is canceled by the Extension office.

## Outdoor Adventures

Youth will plan a hike along the limestone bluffs of the Missouri River, taking field notes as they take in the sights, sounds, and smells of the timber. Youth should wear closed toe shoes and a hat, and also bring a water bottle, sunscreen and/or bug spray.

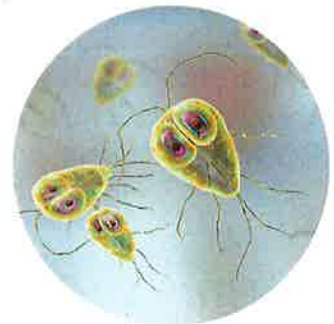
- Date: June 4, 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$5
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 15
- Instructor: Tammy Blobaum, Science Teacher & Scout Leader
- Location: : Lewis & Clark Center 100 Valmont Drive, Nebraska City
- Project Department: Environmental Education/Earth Sciences



## Parasites

Youth will explore parasites in animals, both livestock and domestic!

- Date: June 4, 1 – 3 pm
- Cost: \$5
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: None
- Instructor: Dr. Sarah Joy, DVM & Extension Board Member
- Location: : Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Animal Science



## Poultry Showmanship/Judging

Bring your bird(s) and learn some tips and tricks for poultry showmanship. The last hour will focus on poultry judging! Recommended for 4-H'ers interested in judging poultry at the PASE contest.

- Date: June 5, 1 – 3 pm
- Cost: \$5
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: None
- Instructor: Brett Kreifels, 4-H Extension Educator
- Location: Royal Arena, Syracuse
- Project Department: Animal Science



# 2024 OTOE COUNTY 4-H WORKSHOPS

## EcoWonders

Youth will create their own ecosystem, showing how the four elements of life interact within it.

- Date: June 5, 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$8
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 10
- Instructor: Tammy Blobaum, Science Teacher & Scout Leader
- Location: Fair Center
- Project Department: Environmental Education & Earth Sciences



## Fish Frying

Youth will learn how to clean and fry fish! Come with an empty stomach and clothes that can get dirty.

- Date: June 6, 10 am – 12 pm
- Cost: \$5
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 12
- Instructor: Monty Lovelace, 4-H Council President
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Environmental Education/Earth Sciences



## Rocketry

Youth will learn about the science of rocketry, build simple rockets, and take home an Estes rocket to finish on their own. The Extension Office has launching supplies for check out as needed.

- Date: June 6, 1 – 3 pm
- Cost: \$20
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 6
- Instructor: Tammy Blobaum, Science Teacher & Scout Leader
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Science, Engineering, & Technology





# 2024 OTOE COUNTY 4-H WORKSHOPS

## Terrarium

Youth will work with a professional florist to create a terrarium plant display.

- Date: June 11, 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$10
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 10
- Instructor: Laura Liesemeyer, Florist & Business Owner
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Plant Science



## Chalk Drawing

Learn how to create a chalk drawing from plant “models”! Youth are encouraged to wear those that can get messy.

- Date: June 12, 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$5
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 20
- Instructor: Leisha Pickerill, Art Teacher & Business Owner
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Communications & Expressive Arts



## Macrame Wall Hanging

Youth will create a macrame wall hanging using square knots and lark's head knots.

- Date: June 12, 1 – 3 pm
- Cost: \$10
- Ages: 11+
- Limit: 10
- Instructor: Leisha Pickerill, Art Teacher & Business Owner
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Communications & Expressive Arts



# 2024 OTOE COUNTY 4-H WORKSHOPS

## Barn Quilts

Youth will paint a barn quilt while learning about patterns and color! Barn quilts will be 2 square feet. Please wear clothes to paint in.

- Date: June 13, 1 – 3 pm
- Cost: \$10
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 15
- Instructor: Grace Ellis, 4-H Volunteer
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Consumer and Family Science



## Insect Pinning

Learn how to catch, pin, identify, and display insects. Please wear shoes that can be worn outdoors. All supplies are provided.

- Date: June 19, 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$8
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 12
- Instructor: Julie VanMeter, 4-H Council Treasurer
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Environmental Education and Earth Sciences



## Solar Energy

Youth will use engineering design principles to design and test mini solar panels to run lights and water pumps. Youth will learn how solar panels convert sunlight into electricity. Participants will communicate their experimental results on a poster. Youth will take home a mini solar panel and mini water pump for experimentation at home.

- Date: June 20, 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$10
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 20
- Instructor: John & Brooke Hay, 4-H Extension Educator & 4-H Council Member
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Science, Engineering, and Technology



# 2024 OTOE COUNTY 4-H WORKSHOPS

## Clover Kids Camp

Join Otoe County 4-H for the Stars & Stripes Space Camp, specially for Clover Kids ages 5-7! Clover Kids will learn about what makes up “space”, our nearest neighbor the moon, and the astronauts that have explored space. They will leave with several fair projects completed and a desire to sign up to be in the astronaut class of 2044!

- Date: June 25, Morning Session: 9 am – 12 pm, Afternoon Session: 1 – 4 pm
- Cost: \$10
- Ages: 5-7 (Clover Kids)
- Limit: 20 participants per session
- Instructor: Otoe County Extension Staff
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse



## Photography Fun

Youth will learn photography basics while they explore around the neighborhood. Please bring a digital camera or cellphone/tablet with a camera to this workshop. They will have the option to purchase a disposable camera for \$16 to take home to use. Please let Extension staff know if youth will be purchasing a camera at the time of registration.

- Date: June 26; 9 – 11 am
- Cost: \$5
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 10
- Instructor: Robin Steinke, Former Cass Co. 4-Her, and Amateur Photographer
- Location: Extension Office
- Project Department: Communications & Expressive Arts



## Canning Jelly 101

Learn proper canning techniques and food safety tips! Youth will can and take home 3 jars of jelly.

- Date: June 27, 10 am – 12 pm
- Cost: \$10
- Ages: 8+
- Limit: 10
- Instructor: Cindy Brison, Extension Educator in Food, Nutrition, and Health
- Location: Fair Center, Syracuse
- Project Department: Healthy Living



