

>>> OTOE COUNTY 4-H <<<

TIPS ON TAP



Dreaming of Summer

The stinging cold and drifts of snow had me dreaming of summer, even if I scoff at the fact the stores already have grills and other outdoor items for sale. While I am ready for sunshine and warmth, I am still saying to myself, "Time-slow down!"

While it is only February, summer schedules are filling up quickly. We hope you and your family will have some time to spend together, learning and enjoying each other's company. 4-H is a great way to accomplish both!

Whether it is county fair project workshops or camps across the state, fill your summer with 4-H fun!

-Elizabeth

Summer 2024 CAMP
The power of being green

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

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

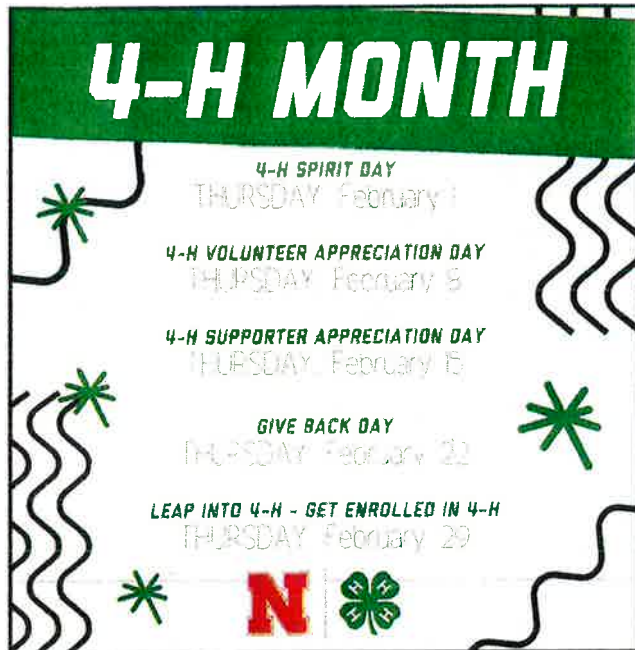
NOTE: The Extension Office will be closed on Monday, February 19th for President's Day.



BARN IN THE USA
OTOE CO. FAIR 2024
JULY 25-28

BIG RED CAMPS
JUNE 9-14, 2024
[HTTPS://4H.UNL.EDU/BIG-RED-CAMPS](https://4h.unl.edu/big-red-camps)

CELEBRATE NEBRASKA 4-H MONTH!



Leader's Corner

Welcome Leaders!

This corner is intended to be a resource with tips and ideas for your 4-H clubs! Our first resource for you is the statewide 4-H club leader resource page: <https://4h.unl.edu/resources/club-leaders>. Here you can find curriculum, explore 4-H project areas, livestock information, at-home STEM projects, virtual field trips, Clover Kid Corner, and recipes for cooking with youth!

Stay tuned for 4-H meeting resources!

~Stephanie

4-H Spirit Day - Thursday, February 1, 2024

- Wear green, the 4-H emblem, or your favorite 4-H T-shirt!
- Share your 4-H Spirit on social media using #NE4HMonth, #iBelong, and #Opportunity4All

4-H Volunteer Appreciation Day - Thursday, February 8, 2024

- Send handwritten thank-you notes, treats, or goody bags to your club and project leaders.
- Shout out your club and project leaders on social media using #NE4HMonth.
- Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer for a [Nebraska 4-H Volunteer Recognition Award](#).

4-H Sponsor & Appreciation Day - Thursday, February 15, 2024

- Ask your local Extension office for the contact information for a 4-H donor and sponsor. Send them a handwritten thank-you note.

4-H Give Back to Your Community/Service Day - Thursday, February 22, 2024

- Coordinate your own community service project, such as picking up trash, holding a food drive, collecting items for a local shelter, or making care packages. For more inspiration, check out these [4-H civic engagement ideas](#). After the project is complete, be sure to submit your [community service project](#) for a chance to see it showcased by Nebraska 4-H.
- Contribute to other groups' community service projects.
- Volunteer your time with a local non-profit organization.

Leap Into 4-H Day - Tuesday, February 29, 2024

- [Enroll](#) in 4-H for 2024!

4-H Club Grants

The Otoe County 4-H Foundation has allocated funding to provide grants to Otoe County 4-H Members and 4-H Clubs to strengthen 4-H in Otoe County. Grant requests can be between \$50 and \$500. Deadlines for submitting grants are **November 30th** and **February 28th** each year.

All 4-H Clubs are encouraged to write a grant application, but 4-H Foundation policy is that 4-H Clubs are limited to submitting two grants per year. Grant application forms can be found on the [Otoe County Foundation](#) page of the Otoe County Extension site.

Special Garden Project



Register for your seed packet in [4HOnline](#) using the Events tab. You must be enrolled in the 2024 4-H year to register for a seed packet. Please also choose Horticulture as a Project Area when you enroll.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

<https://4h.unl.edu/special-garden-project>



Workshop Available

Keep your eye out for a workshop opportunity on sugar beets led by Extension Water & Cropping Systems experts!

CORN CHALLENGE



Sponsored by the
Nebraska Corn Board
& Nebraska Extension

Register by March 15th for this year's Innovative Youth Corn Challenge! For detailed guidelines and participation information, please refer to the <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/cornchallenge> webpage or contact Brandy VanDeWalle at brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu.

Special Agronomy Project

The Nebraska Extension Special Agronomy Project gives 4-H members an opportunity to experience a crop that is grown, was grown or has the potential to be grown in Nebraska. Youth participate by receiving seed and resources to grow the crop, research traits of the crop and determine the viability of that crop in the part of the state they live in. The project allows 4-H members interested in agronomy to grow something fun, new, and different. This year, we honor a crop grown in the panhandle! In the fourth year of the special agronomy project, youth will explore sugar beets! Sugar beets are a major contributor to the U.S. sweetener industry and occur in a vast range of different food products. Be eligible to enter an exhibit at the County and/or State Fair in the agronomy project area.

Enroll for the 2024 Special Agronomy Project through 4-H Online by enrolling in the Agronomy project and registering on the Events tab in 4-H Online by February 29th.

For project specifications and details, be sure to go to the Nebraska State Fairbook at <https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/rules>.

FAIR PREP

Otoe County Communication Contest

The Otoe County Communication Contest will be held on Sunday, February 11th at 1:00 at the Kimmel Center.

Sign up to participate on the Events tab in 4-H Online by February 9th.

Information on the divisions and competitions was emailed to all 4-H families.



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.



2024 Otoe County In-Person YQCA Training Dates

- February 5, 2024 @ 6 PM
- March 17, 2024 @ 6 PM

Trainings will be held at the Fair Center at the Fairgrounds

ALL livestock (including poultry & rabbit) exhibitors must complete YQCA either online or in-person and send their certificate to the Extension office by June 15th



Register online at YQCAprogram.org

Otoe County Sharp Shooter's 4-H Club presents:

OTOE COUNTY 4-H ARCHERY ORIENTATION

Who: This clinic is for Otoe County 4-H members, ages 8-18, newly enrolled in the archery project. Attendance at orientation is optional for 4-H members who participated in 2023. One adult is required per household to assist their 4-H member/s.

What: This clinic will focus on:

- introduction to equipment
- equipment safety checks
- proper shooting demonstration
- range safety & commands

When: March 3, 2024; 6 pm

Where: Kimmel Arena, Syracuse, NE (northwest entrance)

Requirements: Enrolled in Otoe County 4-H & the archery project

What to bring:

- if you have your own bow, bring your bow and equipment
- wear close-toed shoes - no sandals, flip flops, ETC.

Fee: Free

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/HpwpBeDCsQWVGYFM7>

Pre-registration is REQUIRED.

Contacts: Rustin Brooks - kbrooks07@gmail.com
John Hay - johnhay@gmail.com

Otoe County Sharp Shooter's 4-H Club presents:

BB GUN/AIR RIFLE NEW SHOOTER CLINIC

Who: This clinic is for Otoe County 4-H members, ages 8-18, NEWLY enrolled in the air rifle and/or bb gun project area(s) who have not previously participated in our regular season or fair contest. One adult is required per household to assist their 4-H member/s. Space is limited.

What: All youth should have general knowledge of how their bb gun operates before the clinic. This clinic will focus on:

- range safety & commands
- prone, standing, sitting, & kneeling shooting positions
- competition target procedures/rules

When: Sunday, April 21, 2024, 4 p.m.

Where: Kimmel Arena, Syracuse, NE (northwest entrance)

Requirements: Enrolled in Otoe County 4-H & the bb gun or air rifle project areas.

What to bring:

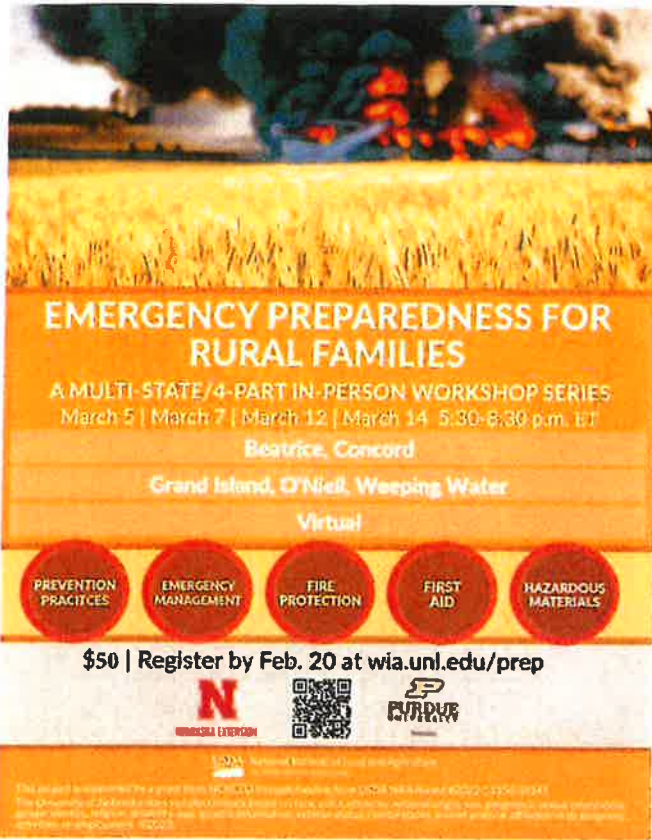
- BB gun/Air rifle -- UNLOADED
- Safety glasses
- kneeling mat OR old carpet strip (2ft x 3ft works great!)
- binoculars (close range binoculars -- see details @ 15 - 35 feet)
- lawn chair OR portable stool (for adult helper)
- wear close-toed shoes - NO sandals, flip flops, ETC.
- Ammo PROVIDED

Fee: Free

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/4MzZBv3kA75n1y8> Pre-registration is REQUIRED.

Questions: Contact Sherlyn Dammie, sherlyndammie@gmail.com

Wider Extension Opportunities



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR RURAL FAMILIES
 A MULTI-STATE/4-PART IN-PERSON WORKSHOP SERIES
 March 5 | March 7 | March 12 | March 14 5:30-8:30 p.m. ET
 Beatrice, Concord
 Grand Island, O'Neill, Weeping Water
 Virtual

PREVENTION PRACTICES | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | FIRE PROTECTION | FIRST AID | HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

\$50 | Register by Feb. 20 at wia.unl.edu/prep

NEBRASKA EXTENSION | QR CODE | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This award is supported by a grant from the USDA, National Institute of Food and Nutrition. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and its extension faculty are not responsible for any products, services, or information provided. Please contact your local extension office for more information. ©2023 Nebraska Extension



FARM BILL DECISIONS: ARC/PLC WORKSHOP

Learn about 2024 Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs before the program election period closes for all producers on Feb. 15, 2024.

February 7, 2024
1-4 p.m.

Auburn
ESU 4 Building
2301 Dahlke Ave.

More info: cap.unl.edu/farmbill

NEBRASKA EXTENSION | QR CODE | USDA

This award is supported by a grant from the USDA, National Institute of Food and Nutrition. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and its extension faculty are not responsible for any products, services, or information provided. Please contact your local extension office for more information. ©2023 Nebraska Extension

Sponsored by Nebraska Extension

GROBigRed Virtual Learning Series
Wednesdays | 12 p.m. CST

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 Lott & 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 Feh
- 7/10 — Vegetable Garden Disease • Sarah Browning
- 8/14 — Fall Garden Maximization • David Lott & Ian Peterson
- 9/11 — Pollinator Habitats • Scott Evans & Mary Jane Frogge

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

Nebraska Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture.

NEBRASKA EXTENSION

NEBRASKA EXTENSION

Gleim Study Book
 • Instructor's Lecture Notes
 • FAA Remote Pilot Study Guide
 • FAA Supplement CT-4080
 • Sectional Chart-Omaha
 • Sectional Chart-Cheyenne
 • Airport/Facility Directory - North Central

As educational documents available to students and educators.

Register here!

Register:
<https://web.cvent.com/event/151480c1-4324-46c3-84c6-bbbe7c12b999/summary?locale=en>



February- Nebraska 4-H Month



2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 4-H Spirit Day- wear Green!	2	3
4 YQCA Training 6pm at the Fair Center (register online)	5	6	7 4-H Volunteer Appreciation Day	8	9	10
11 Otoe County Communication Contest 1:00 Kimmel	12	13 Valentine's Day 4-H Council Meeting	14 4-H Sponsor and Appreciation Day	15	16	17
18 Presidents Day- office closed	19	20	21 4-H Give Back to your Community/Service Day	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Leap into 4-H day	29		

March



2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 4-H Council Meeting	13	14	15	16 2024 Chick Days at UNL Lambing and Kidding Conference (pre-register by 3/1)
17 YQCA Training 6:00pm at the Fair Center (register online)	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						