

&gt;&gt;&gt; OTOE COUNTY &lt;&lt;&lt;

# TIPS ON TAP



## Thank You Volunteers

4-H, the LARGEST youth development organization in the country, depends on volunteers for its success! Everyone has a gift-time, talent, or treasure - that can enhance the 4-H experience for our county's youth. Thank you to those that already volunteer!

I encourage any adult receiving this newsletter to think about how you might share your gifts with the youth of Otoe County. If you are interested, but not sure where to start, please call the office. We would love to chat about the possibilities.

Nebraska 4-H offers a wide variety of resources to support volunteers. I encourage you to sign up to receive the 4-H Volunteer Connection (<https://4h.unl.edu/volunteer-connection>). This is a great way to get tips, tricks, and support right in your inbox!

-Elizabeth



It is hard to believe the Otoe County Fair is just a little two months away. As you prepare for the fair this year, I want to encourage you to sign your 4-H'ers up for workshops. This is a great way to learn about something new and make a project to display at the Fair. As a part of this year's series of workshops, the Otoe County 4-H Council is sponsoring Culinary Education Week, June 24th -28th. Participants will learn about grilling basics, healthy beverages, food preservation, and fruit pie baking. This is a great opportunity to learn lifetime skills and eat some great food. All of the classes will be held at the Kimmel South Hall and kitchen in Syracuse, NE. -Monty Lovelace

## Leader's Corner

Leaders,

Are you looking for a project for your next 4-H club meeting? Consider booking the Fair Center and trying out new, tasty recipes! From beverages to breads, and from main dishes to snack, the UNL Food page has you covered! Check it out at this link that includes recipes for all ages: <https://food.unl.edu/recipe-central> or scan the QR code.

Happy cooking!

Stephanie





**Save the Date!**

## HEAVY EQUIPMENT CAREER EXPLORATION

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024**  
CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE - HASTINGS

Registration open to students in 8th - 12th grade in fall of 2024

**SESSIONS INCLUDE:**

- Navigate and drive virtual heavy equipment simulators
- Behind the wheel experience with a variety of Heavy Equipment Pieces
- Learn about the Hastings CCC Heavy Equipment Program
- Career panel
- Optional campus tours

**Cost: \$30**  
Registration Opens: **May 1, 2024**  
Registration Link: <https://go.unl.edu/heavyequipment>  
Registration Deadline: **Friday, May 31 by 5 pm CT**  
Contact Info: Beth Janning  
ejanning2@unl.edu  
402-481-7205

CHECK-IN: 8:15 AM - 8:45 AM  
LUNCH INCLUDED  
WRAP-UP: 2:00 PM

SPONSORED BY: Central Community College, LTAP, EXTENSION



Congratulations go out to Ryan Damme on being selected to represent Otoe County and Nebraska at National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia this fall! His participation in and dedication to 4-H has lead him to be accepted for an event of a lifetime! Nice work Ryan!

## Heavy Equipment Career Exploration

Mark Thursday, June 13, 2024 on your calendar to spend the day in Hastings, NE exploring Heavy Equipment. This opportunity is open to students entering 8th – 12th grade in fall of 2024. Cost is \$30 per individual. The registration link will open May 1, 2024 and close Friday, May 31st by 5 pm CT. You will find the registration link at [go.unl.edu/heavyequipment](https://go.unl.edu/heavyequipment).

## Official Show Shirts

Beck's Seed has graciously sponsored t-shirts for every enrolled 4-H member to be worn at fair! Please complete your 4-H enrollment online before June 1st so that these can be ordered!



## Online Horticulture Judging Contest

The Nebraska 4-H Online Horticulture Judging Contest provides youth an opportunity to test their knowledge of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, and ornamental plants. Get information & participate in the contest here: <https://4h.unl.edu/online-horticulture-judging-contest>




**EXPLORE**

### FOOD SCIENCE SUMMER CAMPS

<b>Pizza: The Rise of the Dough!</b> May 28, 2024 9:30 am - 4:30 pm	<b>How the Cookie Crumbles</b> June 10-21, 2024 9:30 am - 4:30 pm	<b>The Science of Cookies</b> July 8, 2024 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
<b>The Science of Ice Cream</b> July 30, 2024 9:30 am - 4:30 pm	<b>Cheesecake: Dairy Products via Milk Way</b> June 24-28, 2024 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	

EPSCoE

## Food Science Camps

If you are a high school or middle school student eager to explore the fascinating world of food science you will not want to miss attending our camps this summer!

Our camps, which are hosted by the Food Science and Technology Department at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, were designed with you in mind. Through hands-on activities, facility tours, and the development of food products, our activities will spark your interest in the science behind the foods you consume every day.

You can choose from a range of camps: one-day, three-day, or week-long experiences. Each camp offers a unique opportunity to explore the diverse aspects of a specific food or food group, from pizza to cookies and dairy products! You will not want to miss this opportunity to expand your knowledge while exploring the world of food science.

Secure your spot now by registering at <https://foodscience.unl.edu/food-science-summer-camp>

\*\*Application deadlines vary depending on the camp. Questions: Contact Andreia Bianchini at [abianchini2@unl.edu](mailto:abianchini2@unl.edu).

# FAIR PREP

## Favorite Foods Revue

Mark your calendars! The Favorite Foods Revue will be Sunday, June 30, 1:00pm at the Kimmel Event Center. The Favorite Foods Revue combines food preparation, menu planning, and table setting skills. 4-H members participating in the Favorite Food Revue will need to plan a menu suitable for an indoor or outdoor meal. One food from the menu should be prepared by the 4-H member and brought to the Revue with the selected table service, centerpiece, menu card, recipe card, and card table.

More information to come.

## 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 tags are \$2 & required this year.

Goats only need scrapies tags.

Taggers are available for check out.

## Fairbook Changes

There are several little tweaks to the fairbook as is typical yearly, but here are some larger changes of note:

- Visual Arts is now under Communication & Expressive Arts.
- Interview judging with static exhibits is now limited to three per department.
- Change of entry days for some static departments.
- Meat goat rate of gain contest added.

## Summer Workshops

Registration is now OPEN for summer workshops!

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.

**DEADLINE**

Don't forget that the deadline for horse advancement levels, horse ID sheets, and entry for the STATE Horse Expo is June 1st!

## 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 the selected seeds.

## Fairbooks are OUT!

2024 Fairbooks are now available! Stop by the Extension Office to pick one up. They will also be available at the Morton James Public Library in Nebraska City, the Syracuse Public Library, and the Palmyra Library. A list of other locations will be posted on our social media. It will also be available on [otoe.unl.edu](http://otoe.unl.edu).

There are some small changes from previous years, so please look through it carefully.

State fairbooks are also available at <https://4h.unl.edu/state-fair>. Along with state fair divisions and classes, you can also find judging sheets, required supporting documentation, and resources. It is a great place to start when beginning projects!

# Wider Extension Opportunities



## THE NEBRASKA RANGE SHORT COURSE AND GRAZING SCHOOL

The 2024 Nebraska Range Short Course is teaming up with the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition (NGLC) Grazing School on June 25 – 27, 2024 at the Spring Lake Ranch south of Gordon, Nebraska to host an event that will give individuals an opportunity to increase their skills with grazing, rangeland management, and livestock production.

The three-day, in-person course will be taught through classroom and field sessions focused on the underlying principles of grazing and rangeland management. “The goal of this event is to provide up-to-date, applicable information and training for the efficient and sustainable use of rangelands for livestock production and multiple ecosystem services,” said Mitch Stephenson, associate professor and range management specialist with the University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

Course topics include setting appropriate stocking rates, improving grazing returns, rangeland inventory and monitoring, grazing for healthier soils, managing for diversity, and plant identification.

Registration is \$200 and includes monitoring tools, meals, and interactive class materials.

The short course can be taken for university credit, which is an additional cost. Applications are due June 1 and enrollment is limited. For more information contact Leah Peterson ([director@nebraskagrazinglands.org](mailto:director@nebraskagrazinglands.org)) or Mitch Stephenson ([mstephenson@unl.edu](mailto:mstephenson@unl.edu)). Visit the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition website ([nebraskagrazinglands.org/Events](http://nebraskagrazinglands.org/Events)) to enroll in this event.

## 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](http://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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