

Nebraska Extension-Seward County

322 S. 14th St.

Seward, NE 68434

PHONE: 402-643-2981

WEBSITE: seward.unl.edu

Seward County 4-H

December 2023 Newsletter

4-H Enrollment is Open!

It is time to re-enroll in 4-H for 2024. All 4-H'ers and volunteers need to re-enroll each year. The fee will be \$5.00 for each 4-H member and can be paid when you enroll online. If you have difficulties with this fee (either paying online or affordability), please visit with Extension staff.

Early enrollment date – April 1 – We strongly encourage all 4-H families to enroll as soon as possible. Re-enrolling helps ensure that you are on our mailing list (both email and mailbox). New enrollments and changes to projects will be accepted up to June 15 for fair participation.

Following are a few updates about enrollment this year:

- Starting in the 2023-2024 program year, project selection is now optional. By successfully completing the 4-H member enrollment by the June 15th deadline, youth will be eligible to participate and exhibit in any project area, contest, county, and state fairs. While project selection is optional, it is encouraged for youth to select projects they are interested in exploring.
 - Please note:
 - Youth are only eligible to exhibit in a project area or contest in a single county.
 - Horse and shooting sports projects will continue to require project enrollment due to the parental consent required to participate in these projects.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need help. You are welcome to set up a time to come to the office to enroll. We are here to help! Thank you!

Premium Checks, State & County

If you have not picked up your County or State fair premium checks, please come in! **Any checks not picked up by December 31 will be forfeited.**

IMPORTANT DATES

- Dec. 2 - Holiday Maker Day 9am-12pm
- Dec. 25 - Office Closed in observance of Christmas
- Jan. 1 - Office Closed in observance of New Year's
- Dec. 31 - End of Year Treasurer Reports due
- Dec. 31 - Leader Changes & Club Meeting Minutes due
- Jan. 13th - Market Weigh Day

Achievement Applications & Prizes

On November 5th, we celebrated Seward County's achievements for the 2023 4-H year. There were 104 youth awards recognized as well as 3 adult awards and one business partnership recognition. If you completed your Achievement Application but were unable to attend the party, please come in to pick up your application and prize as soon as possible. **Any applications that received prizes but have not been picked up or had arrangements made with the office by December 31st will be forfeited.**

4-H Family Handbooks are available at the Extension Office. Please make sure you have one for your family. Information on deadlines and procedures are included!

Nebraska 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 abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Leadership Changes?

Let us know as soon as possible if your club will be changing organizational leaders so we can update our address lists. Thank you to all of the 4-H club leaders who do the important work of positive youth development.

Meeting Minutes

4-H club meeting minutes are needed for each organized meeting your 4-H club holds. Thank you to those clubs who have been turning them in after each meeting. If your club has not turned them in yet, please do so before the end of the year.

Club information due

Year End Treasurer's Report Due December 31

As we reach the end of the 2023 4-H year, 4-H clubs will need to prepare a Year Ending 4-H Club Treasurer's report. Even if your club does not have a treasury and does not have an EIN number, please complete the Year Ending 4-H Club Treasurer's Report and submit it to the Extension Office. Extension staff will then forward the information to the IRS for the Form 990 or Form 990 EZ. This is important so that Seward County 4-H and the Nebraska 4-H Foundation can maintain their tax exempt status.



4-H MARKET BEEF WEIGH DAY

SATURDAY JANUARY 13, 2024

10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

JON EBERSPACHER FARM

3527 HOLDREGE RD, SEWARD

I.D. SHEETS AND TAGS WILL BE AVAILABLE

EID TAGS ARE \$3.00 EACH

PAYMENT TO SEWARD 4-H COUNCIL

Must attend weigh day to be eligible for
Rate of Gain contest at fair.



RSVP at
402-643-2981

SATURDAY
13TH JANUARY
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

CINDY WOLVERTON
402-641-4490
cwolverton3@unl.edu

Junior Leaders Holiday Celebration

Attention Junior Leaders! Let's celebrate a great year of 4-H and get into the holiday spirit. Meet at **Sparetime on December 10th at 2 p.m** for an afternoon of bowling. If you would like to participate in this year's white elephant gift exchange, please bring a gift under \$10 or homemade!



Meet our New 4-H Council Members!

Congratulations to our newly elected 4-H Council members! This group was elected on November 5th at the Seward County Achievement Day.

- Stacey Blecha - Adult District 3
- Jamie Nelson - Adult At Large
- Julie Phillips - Adult At Large
- Kathryn Naber - Youth At Large
- Corey Payne - Youth At Large
- Cissanie Krohe - Youth District 3
- Courtney Kossow - Adult District 4
- Kyle Riley - Youth District 2



2024 Special Garden Project

The 2024 Special Garden Project will focus on Princess of India Nasturtium. This Victorian-era heirloom flower can be grown in a variety of ways including in containers. It provides a splash of color from its scarlet flowers and much of the plant can be eaten.



YQCA TRAINER LED TRAININGS

- | | |
|---|---|
| JANUARY 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10:00 A.M. | All Trainings will be held at the Seward County Extension Office Please have the following completed prior to attending. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrolled via online and made online payment.• Completed YQCA Pretest• Prepared for \$3/youth fee collected the night of the training. |
| APRIL 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7:00 P.M. | |
| JUNE 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10:00 A.M• 7:00 P.M. | |



Clover Kid Livestock Review for 2023

Please review the rules concerning the Clover Kids livestock showmanship class.

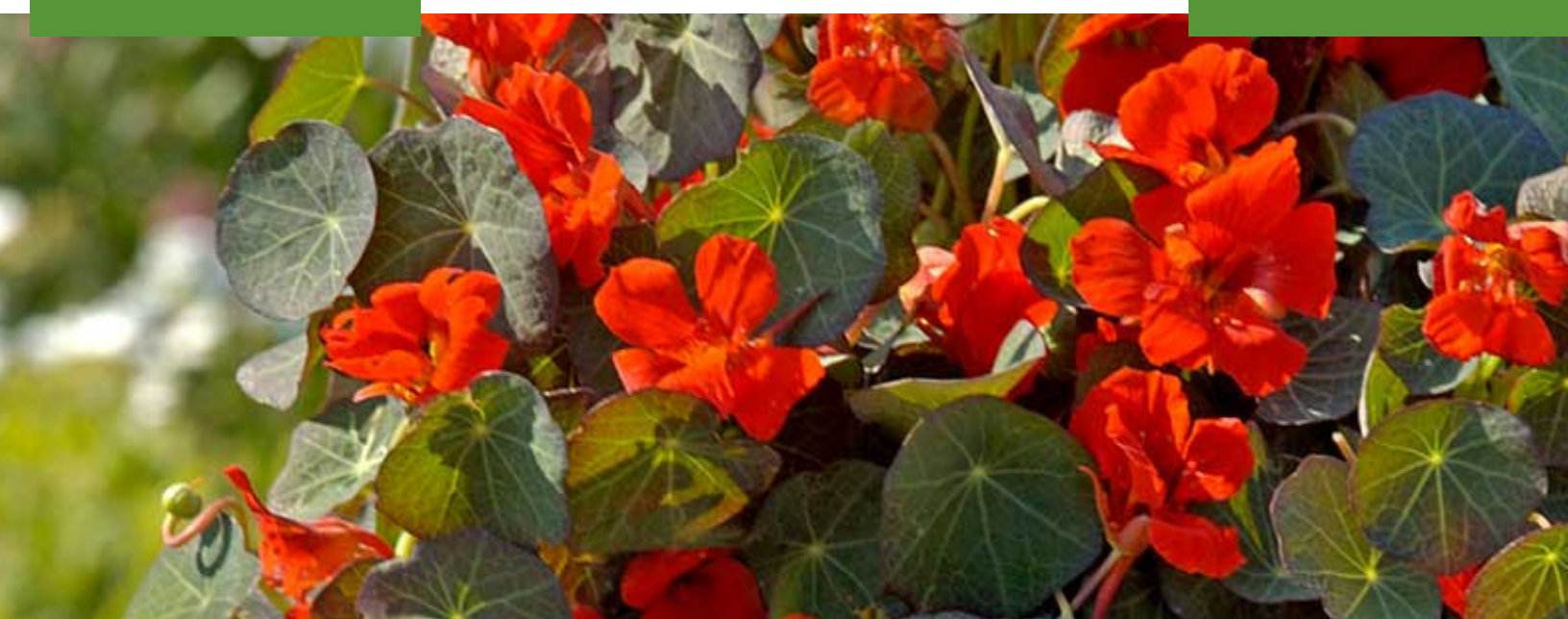
- Clover Kid Showmanship Class pre-fair entry is required.
- Clover Kid must ID animal with own Animal ID sheet or include their name on the ID sheet of the animal owned by another 4-H/FFA exhibitor.
- Each member may bring one animal (or use another 4-H/FFA member's animal) in this division to the county fair.
- Animal must be ID'd in Seward County.
- The animal may be stalled during the fair or be brought the day of the show.
- If exhibiting their own animal, a stall will be needed and must be indicated on 4-H'ers entry form.
- The animal needs to be an animal the youth has cared for.
- An adult is required to be with the Clover Kid when working with or showing their animal.
- The Clover Kid will lead the animal in the show ring or be placed in a holding pen (according to the superintendent's discretion).
- The youth will discuss their knowledge of care and raising of the animal with the official.
- Age, size, and temperament of the animal project must be appropriate for the exhibitor's age and size.

Rules that must be followed include:

- The show will be non-competitive.
- There will be one adult/teen volunteer per Clover Kid assisting when the animal is being handled.
- The animal must be 6 months of age or younger the day of show.
- The animal must be less than 350 pounds the day of the show.

SPECIAL GARDEN PROJECT

»» 2024 ««



PRINCESS OF INDIA NASTURTIUM

WHAT IS THE SPECIAL GARDEN PROJECT?

This project is open to all youth of 4-H age and it will give them the opportunity to learn about growing, harvesting, and exhibiting this unique flower.

The Special Garden Project lets 4-H members try their hand at growing unusual vegetables, flowers, and herbs. The project allows experienced 4-H gardeners to grow something fun, new, and different while letting those new to gardening get their feet wet in this project area.

The focus of the 2024 project is the Princess of India Nasturtium. This Victorian-era heirloom flower can be grown in a variety of ways including in containers. It provides a splash of color from its scarlet flowers and much of the plant can be eaten.

**2024
SPECIAL
GARDEN
PROJECT**

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT

4-H members participating in the Special Garden Project will:

- Receive a 'packet' of Princess of India Nasturtium (one packet per youth) in March/April

Receive a newsletter about:

Planting & growing nasturtium

Nasturtium problems & insects

Harvesting & using nasturtium

- Be able to exhibit this unique flower at County and State Fair

State Fair Special Garden Project

Educational Exhibit Class G-775-001

State Fair Special Garden Project Fresh Cut

Flowers or Harvested Vegetables & Herbs

Class G-775-002

Other fun county-only ways to exhibit this

unique flower are with a story, poem, or poster. Each county is different so be sure to

check with your local Extension Office.

Complete an evaluation about your growing

experience: <https://go.unl.edu/2024sgpsurvey>



HOW TO ENROLL

Enroll in Horticulture in 4-H Online and contact your local Nebraska Extension Office to order packets of seeds. The local Extension Office will order and distribute the seeds.

If you have questions, contact Elizabeth Exstrom at elizabeth.exstrom@unl.edu or 308-385-5088

CONTACT





All livestock, rabbit, and poultry exhibitors: read entire contents to be sure you know how to complete your YQCA Certification.

All livestock, rabbit, and poultry exhibitors must pass YQCA yearly to be eligible to exhibit at the Seward County Fair and NE State Fair shows. Youth may enroll in online classes or attend a trainer-led class. Please contact Cindy at the Extension Office if you have any questions.

YQCA login and Course Completion Instructions may be found here: www.YQCAprogram.org

1. Go to www.yqcaprogram.org
2. Log into your existing Account or:
3. Create a new YQCA account. You can now create a family account and pay for your family at one time.
4. Complete registration information for the owner of the account.
 - a. Remember your Username and Password**
5. Validate your account registration.
6. Once an account has been created then you can add more than one child. Select Add Child.
7. Complete the registration for your child. Select “submit” to move on or “Submit and Add Another Child” to add additional children.
8. Complete “Data sharing Consent” to verify their certification with the listed third parties.
9. View the child dashboard to edit child profiles, you can add and delete youth here.
10. For online and trainer led trainings **youth must complete a pre and post test** prior to gaining access to their YQCA Certificate of Completion.
11. Follow this link for help guides to enter trainings:
https://yqcaprogram.org/local/youth_parents.php
12. YQCA help video for Web Based Training: www.youtube.com/watch?v=qC5n5YWx1rl
13. YQCA help video for Trainer Led Training: www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZHW2qtMIO

Printing your Certification

1. Log into your account.
2. **Be sure you have completed the pre and posttest.**
3. Access your certificate using the dropdown menu under “Course Certificates.” Select the “+” to see dropdown on completed courses.
4. Select the blue button to download certificate.
5. Print the certificate or save it to your device.
6. Make sure the Extension Office has a copy of your certificate of completion by June 15th.
 - a. Print and drop off a copy your Certificate of Completion to the Extension Office or
 - b. Email a PDF of the YQCA Certificate of Completion to cwolverton3@unl.edu.



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322 S. 14th St.
Seward, NE 68434

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Important 4-H Club Information

Volunteer Enrollment: All 4-H volunteers need to re-enroll in 4honline every year. Please make sure that your club organizational leaders, as well as anyone who helps in any way with your club, is enrolled. Go to <https://ne.4honline.com/>

Leadership Changes? Let us know if your club will be changing organizational leaders as soon as possible, so we can update our address lists. Thank you to all of the 4-H club leaders who do the important work of positive youth development.

Resources for Club Leaders: Looking for ideas? Check out Nebraska 4-H's Resources for Club Leaders for leader, officer, meeting, and teaching resources. <https://4h.unl.edu/resources/club-leaders>