



Lancaster County

444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A / Lincoln, NE 68528
(402) 441-7180 / <http://lancaster.unl.edu>

How to Enter 4-H Contests at Lancaster County Fair

4-H contests are open to 4-H members ages 8–18. The 2009 Lancaster County Fair Book has information about 4-H contests — see pages 34-36.

Life Challenge

4-H Life Challenge judging contests help youth learn more about issues related to family and consumer science (FCS).

Contests are open to all 4-H'ers — need not be enrolled in a specific project. Contact Tracy at 441-7180 for more information.

- **County-level Junior Life Challenge** (ages 8–11) — Held before the County Fair, this contest will be on Saturday, July 11, 9:30 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Preregister by July 10 by calling 441-7180 (there is no entry form). *Contest information and study materials are available from the extension office.*
- **County-level Senior Life Challenge** (for ages 12 and up) — Held before the County Fair, this contest will be Saturday, May 30, 9:30 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Preregister by May 29 by calling 441-7180 (there is no entry form). *Contest information and study materials are available from the extension office.*
- **Statewide FCS Life Challenge** (for ages 12 and up) (*note: this is not a County Fair contest*) — Will be held June 29–30 on UNL East Campus, Lincoln. To participate, please contact Tracy at 441-7180 by June 8. *Information is online at <http://pase.unl.edu>*



Horticulture Contest

Held before the County Fair, this contest will be on Thursday, July 23, 10 a.m.–Noon at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln.

Contest is open to all 4-H'ers — need not be enrolled in a horticulture project. Preregistration is not required — enter day of contest. Study material is available from the extension office. Contact Mary Jane at 441-7180 for more information.

Youth choose which of the following portions of the contest to participate in:

- **Tree Identification** — identify tree samples with proper name and spelling.
- **Grass & Weed Identification** — identify grass and weed samples with proper name and spelling.
- **Horticulture Contest** — identify samples of vegetables, fruits, nuts, herbs and landscape ornamentals. A plant list along with a study guide can be found at www.agronomy.unl.edu/newoutreach/youthprograms.html. The new list contains plants that are commonly used or sold in Nebraska. Top placers qualify to go to state contest.

Horse Course Challenge

This contest will be held before the County Fair on Tuesday, July 28, 9 a.m.–Noon at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Please preregister by July 24. To sign up for the Horse Course or to preregister for the contest, call 441-7180 or e-mail mcruickshank2@unl.edu (there is no entry form).

Open to all 4-H'ers ages 8–18 (by January 1 of the current year)—need not be enrolled in a horse project. Study material is based on the online Horse Course.

Bicycle Safety Contest

This contest will be held BEFORE the County Fair on Saturday, June 27, 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln.

Contest is open to all 4-H'ers — need not be enrolled in a bicycle project. Must preregister by June 22 by contacting the extension office (there is no entry form). Participants must provide their own bicycle and must wear a helmet (some helmets may be available at the contest.)

There are two parts of the contest. In the bicycle skills events, 4-H'ers maneuver through several designated courses to test their riding skills and safety. A bicycle inspection reinforces the importance of bicycle maintenance and safety features.

This is a county contest only — there is no state contest.

Presentations Contest

Presentations provide 4-H'ers the opportunity to learn to express themselves clearly and convincingly, organize their ideas and present them in logical order, research subjects, have confidence in themselves and emphasize the major points through the use of visuals or examples.

Contest is open to all 4-H'ers — need not be enrolled in a specific project.

Contest will be held on Saturday, July 18 beginning at 9 a.m. at Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln.

Must preregister by July 10. Presentations Contest has an entry form, but preregistrations may be called in. One entry form may be filled out per exhibitor or team (one form may be filled out per club).

There are three methods in which 4-H'ers may present:

- **Presentation using LCD projector** — A team presentation, consisting of two or three individuals, may be given. There is no separate class for team presentations. The time limit for presentations using a LCD Projector is 6–10 minutes for an individual and 10–15 minutes for a team.
- **Presentation using posters** — A team presentation, consisting of two or three individuals, may be given. There is no separate class for team presentations. The time limit for presentations using posters is 6–10 minutes for an individual and 10–15 minutes for a team.
- **Multimedia presentation** — Multimedia presentations are completely free-standing, self-running PowerPoint presentations, and only require a verbal introduction by the presenter.

Top presenters at the county contest will be selected to participate in the state contest held during the Nebraska State Fair. One 4-H member or a team from Lancaster County will be nominated to participate in the State Premier Presenter Contest, a special contest for the best of the best (multimedia presentations are not eligible for the Premier Presenter Contest).

A handout, "4-H Presentations Contest — Procedures and Guidelines," is available online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair> or at the extension office. All participants are strongly encouraged to read the handout.

A Presentations workshop will be offered during Clover College held June 16–19 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Must preregister.

Style Revue

4-H'ers learn how to present themselves and gain confidence as they model their clothing projects and show proper fit of their clothing.

4-H members enrolled in clothing projects are eligible to model their garment (this includes Decorate Your Duds and Sewing for Fun).

Contest consists of two parts:

- **Judging** — which is held the week before County Fair, on Wednesday, July 29, beginning at 8 a.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln (Exhibit Hall) Participants will be assigned a specific time(s).
- **Public Style Revue** — which is held during County Fair, on Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. at Lancaster Event Center (Exhibit Hall).

Preregister by July 20. Participants need to fill out one of the following entry forms for EACH entry:

- Attention Shoppers — purchased item(s); ages 11 & under
- Shopping in Style — purchased item(s); ages 12 & over
- Style Revue Narration — sewn item(s); all ages

For each entry, 4-H'ers write the narration which will be read as they model their clothes.

Top models at the county contest will be selected to participate in the State Fashion Show held during the Nebraska State Fair.

A handout with contest information, tips and entry forms is available at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair> and at the extension office.

A Style Revue workshop will be offered during Clover College held June 16–19 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Must preregister—no cost.

Table Setting Contest

4-H'ers use their creativity to plan a healthy menu, how to set a table and present their table setting to a judge.

This contest will be held during the week of County Fair on Thursday, Aug. 6, 5 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln (Exhibit Hall).

Contest is open to all 4-H'ers — need not be enrolled in a specific project. Preregister by July 20 by contacting the extension office (there is no entry form).

Participants select a theme and display one place setting, including table covering, dishes, glassware, silverware, centerpiece and menu. Members MUST bring a card table for the display (except for the picnic category, in which an appropriate blanket or other covering is placed on the floor).

Members may enter only one category: Birthday, Casual, Formal, or Picnic.

This is a county contest only — there is no state contest.

A handout, "Table Setting Contest Procedures and Guidelines," is available online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair> or at the extension office. All participants are strongly encouraged to read the handout.

A Table Setting workshop will be offered during Clover College held June 16–19 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Must preregister.

Speech & PSA and Herdsmanship Contests

See Fair Book pages 34–36.