

The NEBLINE

Nebraska Cooperative Extension
Newsletter
Lancaster County

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Gary C. Bergman, Extension Educator—Unit Leader

NOTICE: All programs and events listed in this newsletter will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless noted otherwise. Use of commercial and trade names does not imply approval or constitute endorsement by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County.

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Extension Calendar

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

August 17

4-H Livestock VIPS Meeting 7 p.m.

August 19

Teachers Character Counts! Training
Fair Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.

August 25

State Fair Entry Day—*State Fair Park, Lincoln*

August 24

Pesticide Container Recycling—*Southeast Nebraska Coop, Junction of Hwy 4 & 136, east of Beatrice* 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

August 27

Pesticide Container Recycling—*Otte Oil and Propane, Wahoo* 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

August 27-September 6

Nebraska State Fair—*State Fair Park, Lincoln*

September 8

4-H Horse VIPS Meeting 7 p.m.

September 9

4-H Rabbit VIPS Meeting 7 p.m.

September 12

4-H Ambassador Meeting 1:45 p.m.
4-H Teen Council Meeting 3-5 p.m.

September 13

Extension Board Meeting 6 p.m.
4-H Open House 6:30-8:30 p.m.

September 16

Fair's Over-Now What? 4-H Leader Training 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.

September 21-22

Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Horse Show—*Omaha*

September 22-27

Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Exposition—*Omaha*

Phone numbers & addresses:

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Water treatment equipment considerations

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tional costs. Filters must be changed, materials added as needed and the water checked to ensure equipment works properly. Unserviced equipment may contribute to increased levels of some contaminants.

Many types of water treatment equipment are available to address water quality problems. Key steps to use in selecting water treatment equipment are:

1. Use appropriate tests to correctly identify the problem or problems which need to be

addressed.

2. Identify options for correcting the problem.

3. Select reputable dealers; ask for references.

4. Check to see if the proposed equipment has been tested or validated by an independent organization such as NSF (formerly known as the National Sanitation Foundation) or Water Quality Association.

5. Identify all costs including purchase price, installation, operating and required routine maintenance costs.

6. Determine if the system has adequate capacity for your needs.

7. Understand what maintenance will be required.

8. Understand how to determine if the equipment is operating satisfactorily.

9. Understand any warranty provided with the equipment.

SOURCES: Sharon Skipton, UNL extension educator and DeLynn Hay, UNL water resource specialist. (BPO)



Bug zappers spew germs

Bug zappers are installed by many homeowners to reduce the number of insects in and around the yard. These devices use light to attract bugs to an electrified metal grid and electrocute them. When insects hit the grid, their bodies explode. Many people don't realize that bug zappers rarely kill mosquitoes that are attracted to carbon dioxide, but they do kill many moths and other insects that are attracted to light.

Researchers at Kansas State University have shown that electrocuted insect parts are

showered as far as 6 feet away from the bug zapper. And, unfortunately the bacteria and viruses are not destroyed in the electrocution process. If you have one of these bug zappers, you don't need to abandon the device altogether, but make sure that it is located more than 8 feet away from food preparation, the barbeque and picnic areas.

According to John Urban, KSU associate professor of microbiology, "Most people probably think that using electrocuting traps to control insect in one's backyard or



around food-handling areas would improve sanitation, but the results of this study suggests their use actually spreads microorganisms." (BPO)



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