



2005-2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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Extension Strengthens Nebraska by Extending the University's Research-Based Resources



Guardianship Training

Land-grant universities work with the people they serve. University of Nebraska-Lincoln teaches, discovers new knowledge through research, and extends this research-based information across the state through extension programs.



Firth Community Visioning Process

UNL Extension in Lancaster County develops and delivers educational programs which strengthen individuals, families, businesses and communities. For example:

- Last year, more than **16,000 youth** participated in the Lancaster County 4-H Youth Development Program.



Pesticide Applicator Training



Ag Awareness Festival

- A survey of participants at "Ten Easy Ways to Save \$20 per Acre" workshops held last year estimated an **increased profit of \$49.79 per acre** as the result of changes they will implement.
- Now in its seventh year, the Nutrition Education Program School Enrichment Kits have increased nutrition education in participating classrooms from 2 hours to **10.5 hours per year**. Teachers have noticed students choosing healthier eating habits.
- To date, the Biosolids Land Application Program has saved the City of Lincoln more than **\$3.6 million** in landfill tipping fees and saved farmers an estimated **\$5.8 million** in fertilizer costs.
- Our staff responded to over **25,400** phone calls, walk-ins and e-mails from the public requesting information.
- Our Web site continued to expand exponentially, receiving more than **8.2 million** hits this year.

New This Year

Guardianship Trainings

In 2003, a grassroots task force identified a need for improved statewide education of newly-appointed Guardians and Conservators, and asked UNL Extension to coordinate development of trainings. UNL Extension began presenting statewide Guardianship Trainings in January 2006. The trainings fulfill mandated guardian/conservator education requirements set by the Nebraska Supreme Court. Over 200 people attended trainings in Lancaster County this year.

Community Visioning Process for Village of Firth

Three extension educators facilitated a Community Visioning Process for the Village of Firth to help the community shape their future. The process included two town hall meetings, 10 listening sessions with 139 citizens, community research and written input. Information from the efforts will eventually be used by a private consulting firm to develop a new comprehensive plan which will guide future land development.

MyPyramid PowerPoint Presentations Developed

This year, Extension Educator Alice Henneman developed six PowerPoint presentations to help teach people how to use the new MyPyramid to plan a healthy diet. These were used in local programs and also made available to other educators via the Internet. The PowerPoints have been downloaded 12,576 times, greatly expanding the outreach of our office.



MyPyramid PowerPoint Presentations

4-H Partners with Lincoln After-School Programs

This past year, Lancaster County 4-H began collaborating with Lincoln after-school programs. Currently, 14 after-school programs and six summer sites have actively partnered with 4-H, involving more than 1,600 youth. Many of the sites have incorporated 4-H curriculum into their activities. Seven sites formed 4-H clubs. 4-H also worked with sites to involve after-school youth in the Lancaster County Fair.

Investigating Bed Bug Infestations in Lincoln

In 2005, Extension Educator Barb Ogg started seeing increased numbers of bed bug infestations in Lincoln, which had been rare for decades. Using photographs from infested homes, in 2006, she developed educational materials and has given presentations to pest control and hospitality professionals.



Partners with Nebraska



University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension helps Nebraskans put knowledge to work. Extension has offices throughout the state providing counties with a readily available resource for information.

Because extension staff are locally based, we are able to be responsive to specific community needs and concerns.

Extension engages residents by utilizing multiple educational delivery methods. In addition to direct outreach, extension reaches a broader audience by teaching individuals, who in turn, teach others. This includes business professionals, service industry workers, health professionals, teachers, childcare providers, government employees, master gardeners and volunteers.

UNL Extension in Lancaster County collaborates with more than 125 agencies, organizations, businesses and school systems to develop and deliver educational programs. We value our community partnerships as a way to leverage our resources and reach even more people.

Through this annual report, we invite you to take an in-depth look at our accomplishments over the past year.

Gary Bergman
Extension Educator & Unit Leader