

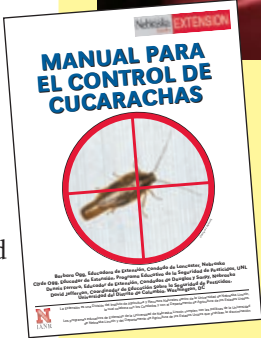
Extension Helps You Put Knowledge to Work

UNL Extension in Lancaster County focuses educational efforts in the following program areas.

Pests & Wildlife

UNL Extension in Lancaster County has extensive resources to help identify pests and suggest management options. Emphasis is on low-toxic control methods. Extension Educator Barb Ogg and Extension Associate Soni Cochran assist area residents via phone calls, walk-in requests, e-mail questions, publications, workshops and radio. Extension's pest and wildlife Web site received more than 2.2 million hits last year.

Ogg often partners with community organizations and industry professionals in training and disseminating pest control resources and assistance. For the third year in a row, she organized a two-day Hands-On



UNL Extension's popular Cockroach Control Manual was translated into Spanish this year. Pictured above, Extension Educator Barb Ogg (left) explains pest control with the help of translator Jane Lisenmeyer to a "Saludables Madres" group—a Healthy Homes program organized by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Termite School for Termite Applicators. These are the first such trainings offered in Nebraska—this was the first year attendees could be recertified (in Nebraska and Kansas) for wood-destroying organism pesticide application.

Home & Family Living

In the past year, Extension Educator Lorene Bartos has disseminated information on home maintenance, indoor air quality, lead paint hazards, safety in the home, shopping smart and recycling through THE NEBLINE, extension's Web site, her weekly column in the "Lincoln Journal Star," group presentations and other outreach methods.

More than 190 child care providers who care for approximately 1,850 youth participated in child care conferences organized by extension and other Lincoln agencies.

UNL Extension is part of the Lancaster County Coalition to assist Children of Parents Experiencing Divorce (COPEd), and co-presents Parents Forever and Kids Talk About Divorce classes. Last year, more than 100 people participated in Parents Forever. 2007 was the second year UNL Extension offered statewide Guardianship Trainings. To date, 361 people have attended trainings in Lincoln.



Last year, extension presented two "Strengthening Family Treasures Daughter/Mother Camps." Afterwards, 100% of the daughters said they better understand how to handle "sticky situations."

Farms & Acreages

UNL Extension continues to make agricultural profitability and sustainability a priority issue. Extension Educator Tom Dorn fulfills this goal through numerous workshops and meetings, educational resources, person-to-person contacts and a Web site. Dorn is extension's statewide contact for grain storage questions.

Some of the agricultural programs presented this year include: Crop Protection Clinic, Private and Commercial Pesticide Applicator Trainings, Computerized Farm Financial Recordkeeping, Nitrogen Management Training and Pesticide Container Collection.

As a result of following UNL fertilizer recommendations, one local farmer saved more than \$57 per acre on one field and

\$68 per acre on another field.

Residential acreages are rapidly increasing in Lancaster County. Extension delivers information on a wide range of issues associated with acreages such as proper management of septic tanks and wastewater lagoons, landscape management and alternative crops which can be grown on an acreage.

Last year, seven Acreage Insights Rural Living Clinics were held in Lincoln and had 173 total attendance. An Acreage Owner Expo—with a focus on managing water resources—was held near Mead, drawing 41 attendees. Extension offers an Acreage and Small Farms Insights Web site and monthly e-mail newsletter at <http://acreage.unl.edu>

Yard & Garden

UNL Extension plays a vital role in teaching communities horticulture issues customized for local weather, water, soil and pest conditions. Extension helps property owners develop healthy, diverse and functional landscapes that are energy and water efficient, as well as less dependant on pesticides.

Extension Educator Don Janssen works with the City of Lincoln to educate the public about reducing yard waste through composting, mulching grass clippings and other yard management practices. The City of Lincoln Recycling Office estimates these educational programs will extend the life of the Bluffs Road landfill by three to five years over the next 25 years.

The Master Gardener Training Program is a volunteer program where people are given training by



Master Gardeners receive training from UNL in exchange for 40 hours of volunteer service.

UNL personnel and then in return, provide 40 hours of volunteer service to extension's educational programs. Extension Associate Mary Jane Frogge coordinates the Master Gardener program for Lancaster County. Last year, 43 Lancaster Master Gardener volunteers logged 1,837 hours and had 8,146 direct clientele contacts.

Nutrition & Food Safety

To help people learn how to eat healthier, extension blends nutrition, food safety and food preparation information into practical actions individuals can use in their daily lives.

Educational materials developed by Extension Educator Alice Henneman for use in local programs (such as news articles and fact sheets) are made available on the Internet for around-the-clock access, both locally and nationwide. Extension's Food Web site—lancaster.unl.edu/food—received more than 3 million hits last year, extending the outreach of our food and nutrition-related programs in a timely and cost-efficient manner. Two e-mail newsletters, "Food Reflections" and "Cook It Quick," have more than 22,200 subscribers combined.

The Lancaster County Nutrition Education Program (NEP) helps limited-resource families learn to prepare nutritious and safe foods while stretching their food dollars. NEP receives funding from the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) through



Extension Educators Alice Henneman (left) of Lancaster County and Amy Peterson of Polk County developed "The Garden Grocery: Food Selection and Safety at the Farmers' Market" handout materials and PowerPoint. The materials were used locally and made available to others via the Internet.

USDA and the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP). NEP partners with more than 250 local agencies, classrooms and coalitions.

This past year, Lancaster County NEP staff presented:

- 2,367 teaching contacts to 1,030 adults who care for 3,584 family members.
- 558 presentations to 4,443 youth (247 groups) at 15 schools and other sites.
- 48 programs to 577 older adults at 5 senior sites.

Biosolids Program

Biosolids are organic solids separated from wastewater and biologically processed during wastewater treatment to make them safe for land application.

UNL Extension in Lancaster County coordinates distribution and application of biosolids to agricultural cropland for the City of Lincoln. Biosolids are an excellent source of organic fertilizer for crops not in the human food chain.

This past year, more than 42,000 tons of biosolids were delivered and/or applied to 49 fields and 2,150 acres of crop land. Since

1992, Lancaster County farmers have applied more than 400,000 tons of dewatered biosolids which will extend the life of the Bluff Road Landfill by more than one year.

By using biosolids, one participating farmer increased his wheat yield 30 percent—an economic benefit of \$95 per acre compared with using commercial fertilizers.



Trucks deliver dewatered biosolids to fields where they will then be applied. Soil samples are taken to determine how many loads to apply per acre.