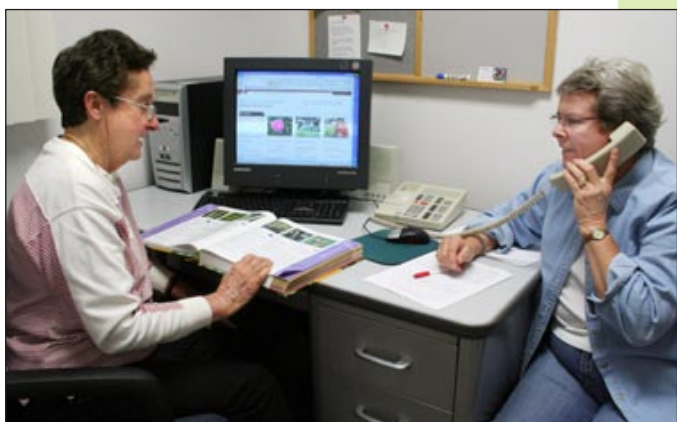


Extension Helps You Put Knowledge to Work

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

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 dependent on pesticides.



Master Gardener volunteers answer horticulture questions at the extension office during the growing season.

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. This year, there was an educational campaign to teach homeowners to use no/low phosphorus fertilizer to keep phosphorus out of Lincoln-area lakes and waterways.

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

Plant and Pest Diagnostic Services

Throughout the year, Lancaster County residents bring plant samples, insects, pests and wildlife "signs" to UNL Extension in Lancaster County. A free service, extension horticulturists and entomologists identify weeds, diseases and insects in and around the home and garden, and make recommendations about the best way to help manage these problems.

Pests & Wildlife

UNL Extension in Lancaster County has extensive resources to help identify pests and recommend control methods. 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 nearly 2 million hits last year. This year, the Spanish version of the Cockroach Control Manual, "Manual Para el Control de Cucarachas," was posted online.

Ogg often partners with community organizations and industry professionals in training and disseminating pest control resources and assistance.

New this year was an Insect Photography workshop presented with the help of Jim Kalisch from the UNL Entomology Department.



UNL Extension in Lancaster County has a lab for diagnostic services.

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 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 16,000 subscribers combined.

The Lancaster County Nutrition



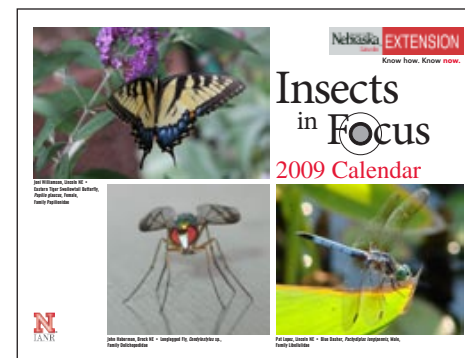
The Nutrition Education Program teaches nutrition to youth, adults and seniors.

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 USDA and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—Education (SNAP-Ed). NEP partners with more than 300 local agencies, classrooms and coalitions.

Home & Family Living

Extension Educator Lorene Bartos disseminates 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. In a new partnership this year, Bartos helped Lincoln Housing Authority and other agencies present RentWise classes to renters.

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. Extension Educator Maureen Burson teaches Parents Forever and Guardianship Training classes in Lancaster County. She also organized a Strengthening Families: Daughter/Mother Camp this year.



A calendar was created with submissions by attendees of an Insect Photography Workshop.

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 an up-to-date Web site.

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

Residential acreages are rapidly increasing in Lancaster County. Extension delivers information on a wide range of issues related to acreages such as proper management of septic tanks and wastewater lagoons, landscape management and alternative crops profitable for acreages. Extension offers an Acreage and Small



Tom Dorn is extension's statewide contact for grain storage questions.

Farms Insights Web site and monthly e-mail newsletter at <http://acreage.unl.edu>

Family & Community Education (FCE) Clubs

The Family and Community Education (FCE) clubs are an educational, social and community-oriented program designed to meet the needs and interests of Nebraska homemakers. FCE members help strengthen communities and families through education, leadership and action. Lancaster County FCE's emphasis is on community service and sponsoring a nursing scholarship. In the past 10 years, FCE has awarded \$2,375 in total scholarships.



In April 2008, the Southeast District FCE meeting was held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center.