



NEBLINE

NEBRASKA EXTENSION IN LANCASTER COUNTY

2015 Extension Highlights

NEBRASKA EXTENSION is your local connection to university research-based information. We extend knowledge, provide solutions and change lives. Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County is a partnership between the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Lancaster County and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Here's a look at some of Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County's 2015 impacts.



Extension Educator Tyler Williams (pictured at right) helped organize UNL Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources' exhibit at Husker Harvest Days which focused on "Successfully Weathering Extremes." This year, he was the principal investigator or collaborator for four accepted agriculture-related grants totaling nearly \$258,000. Two of the grant projects will focus on climate education and communication efforts for agriculture over the next year.



The Nutrition Education Program (NEP) helps limited-resource families learn to prepare nutritious and safe foods while stretching their food dollars. Last year, NEP staff completed lessons with 426 enrolled adults (2,217 teaching contacts) and reached 7,692 youth (11,183 teaching contacts). This year marked the 15-year-milestone of Lincoln Public Schools using nutrition kits developed by NEP staff to enhance LPS nutrition curriculum objectives. To date, teachers using the kits have spent 33,498 hours teaching 74,691 students in 3,800 classrooms. Pictured is Extension Assistant Cally Blake leading Everett 1st graders in a healthy snack activity.



In 2015, Extension Educator Sarah Browning, Associate Mary Jane Frogge and Master Gardeners assisted residents and green industry professionals through over 12,000 contacts (phone calls, walk-in requests, email questions, site visits, program participants and listservs) and 116 hours of horticulture-related programming. For example, Master Gardener volunteers helped maintain the People's City Mission community garden, teaching residents how to care for and harvest garden crops.

Millions of people access <http://lancaster.unl.edu>, each year. The website contains thousands of pages of content and is updated daily.



Extension has extensive resources to help identify pests and recommends low-toxic control methods whenever possible. Extension Associate Soni Cochran assists thousands of area residents via phone calls, walk-in requests, email questions, publications, presentations, workshops and as a monthly guest on "Problems & Solutions," hosted by Cathy Blythe on KFOR radio. The pest and wildlife website received 1.6 million unique page views in 2015.



Extension Educator Alice Henneman teaches people how to make healthy food choices and safely prepare food. In November, she presented a free class, "Make-Ahead Freezer Meals" (pictured above) at Bryan Health which was attended by over 300 people. Alice coordinates and contributes to Extension's <http://food.unl.edu> statewide website which received over 2.6 million page views last year.



Nebraska Extension offers "Co-Parenting for Successful Kids" on-site and online classes to help separating and divorcing parents — the classes meet court-mandated requirements. Last year, 101 parents completed the classes offered in Lincoln and 330 Lancaster County parents took the class online. Pictured is Extension Educator Maureen Burson interacting with parents online.



Extension has presented a Fair Fun Day at the Lancaster County Fair since 1996. Child care groups with youth in grades K–4 are led on hands-on tours by teen volunteers. Extension Educator Lorene Bartos (pictured standing at right) has organized it for many years. This year, 293 youth from 12 child care groups took tours, learning about fair activities and agriculture. To date, nearly 5,000 youth have participated.



The 20th annual 4-H Clover College, held June 16–19, featured 55 hands-on workshops attended by 180 youth with a total 888 class registrations. More than 70 adult and teen volunteers taught or helped with the workshops. Pictured is Extension Associate Marty Cruickshank assisting with the Clover Kids Day Camp.

More impacts on next page!

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