Leadership and community development, as well as fostering family strengths, are priorities of most Cooperative Extension programs. Extension also has programs specific to these areas.

Extension partners with a variety of community agencies to present workshops such as Strengthening Families, Resource Management and Basic Investing, Real World — Real Decisions, Parents Forever (for divorcing parents) and other Family Strengthening programs.

New this year is a strong partnership with the Community Learning Centers (CLC’s) as part of the Neighbors Working Together Project (see article at right). Leadership, teamwork and a better understanding of self and others are developed through Real Colors Matrix and Myers Briggs Temperament Inventory (MBTI) workshops delivered by Extension Educator LaDeane Jha.

In addition to direct outreach in these issues, extension provides staff development and training to educators, government officials, agency workers and community groups, both locally and regionally.

Ten-Year-Old Biosolids Program Saves $4 million

UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County coordinates distribution and application of biosolids to agricultural crops on the City of Lincoln Wastewater and Solid Waste Divisions.

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

Lancaster County Extension uses these latest technologies in precision agriculture to ensure biosolids are applied in an environmentally sound method. This GPS/KVS technology, which is an important aspect of the record-keeping database and monitoring system, helps make this a state-of-the-art program nationally.

At a 2002 meeting, Salt Creek Circle members donated toys and gifts to Head Start.

Volunteers Contribute to Extension's Success

NELP programs have proven successful. Research shows for every dollar invested in NEP, there is a 10 to 1 return on investment. In addition, 101 senior citizens participated in an average of four lessons each. One tip seniors learn is they can cut down on sodium by using NELP master mix instead of canned soups for casseroles.

NEP programs have proven successful. Research shows for every dollar invested in EFNEP, there is a projected health care cost savings of $8.82.

Nutrition Education Program

Continued from preceding page

By the end of the year, three NWT neighborhoods received lots of suggestions from city codes prohibiting planting in boulevards. Through grassroots efforts within the neighborhood and the support of other NWT neighborhoods, neighborhood activists succeeded in changing city codes. In addition to monthly meetings, NWT maintains a mailing list as a way to send information, alerts and announcements.

NWT collaborates with other community partners such as the Community Organizing Partnership Center (CLC) and Neighborhoods, Inc. to help develop leadership through trainings and other methods.

Neighbors participating in the Neighbors Working Together project.

Historically, there has been mistrust of the University of Nebraska among the neighborhoods on such issues as parking and student disruption. NWT is improving interaction between UNL and the neighborhoods — allowing both to draw on the strengths of each other. NWT is based in UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County’s office, Extension Educator LaDeane Jha and Graduate Assistant William Freitas oversee the program.

Family and Community Education Clubs

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. This past year, Lancaster County FCE clubs have placed extra emphasis on community service.

Nutrition Education Program

Continued from preceding page

We assure reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; for assistance contact Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507, 402-441-7180. TDD capability available.

We assure reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; for assistance contact Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507, 402-441-7180. TDD capability available.

UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County provides a framework for people to volunteer their time and talents to the community. Extension trains and supports, as well as coordinates the efforts of, a variety of volunteers: 4-H leaders and superintendents, Master Gardeners, NEP volunteers, Character Counts! volunteers, and CFRC-4 and Family Community Education (FCE) Club members often volunteer in community-related projects. Last year, Lancaster County Extension programs benefitted from 1,169 acres. Studies on farm centers have shown the nutrient value of biosolids is worth at least $25 per acre for the first year’s crops. The application of biosolids was more worth than $500,000 to Lancaster County farmers.

Since 1992, when the City of Lincoln’s Biosolids Land Application program began, more than 250,000 tons of biosolids have been distributed to crop fields. This has saved taxpayers $4 million by keeping this recyclable waste out of the landfill. For the entire life of the Bluff Road landfill, recycling biosolids could add a total of 2-1/2 years to the landfill.

The past year, more than 35 tons of biosolids were delivered and applied to 32 fields and 1,169 acres. Studies on farm forts include indoor air quality, lead paint hazards, safety and training to educators, government officials, agency workers and community groups, both locally and regionally.

Neighborhood organizations throughout Lincoln work to improve their neighborhoods at a grassroots level. Neighbors Working Together (NWT) is a new program which provides a formal structure for targeted neighborhoods to share ideas and coordinate efforts. NWT also works to build leadership and to open a dialogue between the University of Nebraska—Lincoln and its adjacent neighborhoods.

One of four projects in the Community Outreach Partnership Center’s (COPC) program, NWT began with ten participating neighborhoods. By the end of the year, three more organizations asked to become a part of NWT.

Much of the facilitation of information among neighborhoods occurs during NWT’s monthly meetings, which rotate among sites to allow neighborhoods to highlight community points of interest. While meetings often feature speakers, tours or training, every meeting includes time for inter-neighborhood updates and discussions.

At one meeting, University Place asked help planning a neighborhood cleanup and received lots of suggestions from neighborhoods which had held past cleansups. These meetings are also a catalyst for neighborhoods to coordinate efforts. Many neighborhoods are very active on the issue of impact fees and have been able to share strategies with each other.

Irvingdale initiated a dialogue about city codes prohibiting planting in boulevards. Through grassroots efforts within the neighborhood and the support of other NWT neighborhoods, neighborhood activists succeeded in changing city codes.

In addition to monthly meetings, NWT maintains a mailing list as a way to send information, alerts and announcements.

NWT collaborates with other community partners such as the Community Organizing Partnership Center (CLC) and Neighborhoods, Inc. to help develop leadership through trainings and other methods.

Neighborhoods participating in the Neighbors Working Together project.

Historically, there has been mistrust of the University of Nebraska among the neighborhoods on such issues as parking and student disruption. NWT is improving interaction between UNL and the neighborhoods — allowing both to draw on the strengths of each other. NWT is based in UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County’s office, Extension Educator LaDeane Jha and Graduate Assistant William Freitas oversee the program.

UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County provides a frame- work for people to volunteer their time and talents to the community. Extension trains and supports, as well as coordinates the efforts of, a variety of volunteers: 4-H leaders and superintendents, Master Gardeners, NEP volunteers, Character Counts! volunteers, and CFRC-4 and Family Community Education (FCE) Club members often volunteer in community-related projects. Last year, Lancaster County Extension programs benefitted from 1,169 acres. Studies on farm centers have shown the nutrient value of biosolids is worth at least $25 per acre for the first year’s crops. The application of biosolids was more worth than $500,000 to Lancaster County farmers.

Since 1992, when the City of Lincoln’s Biosolids Land Application program began, more than 250,000 tons of biosolids have been distributed to crop fields. This has saved taxpayers $4 million by keeping this recyclable waste out of the landfill. For the entire life of the Bluff Road landfill, recycling biosolids could add a total of 2-1/2 years to the landfill.

The past year, more than 35 tons of biosolids were delivered and applied to 32 fields and 1,169 acres. Studies on farm centers have shown the nutrient value of biosolids is worth at least $25 per acre for the first year’s crops. The application of biosolids was more worth than $500,000 to Lancaster County farmers.

Since 1992, when the City of Lincoln’s Biosolids Land Application program began, more than 250,000 tons of biosolids have been distributed to crop fields. This has saved taxpayers $4 million by keeping this recyclable waste out of the landfill. For the entire life of the Bluff Road landfill, recycling biosolids could add a total of 2-1/2 years to the landfill.