

## Greetings to all 4-H Dog Participants!!

**The 2016 Canine Companions for Life 4-H Dog Expo is coming this spring. Please join us on this educational two day event Friday evening April 22<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension is pleased to announce the Annual Canine Companions for Life – Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo. On Friday evening, there will be a quiz bowl, fun events with your dog and more at the Adams County Fairgrounds (see below for more information). Obedience, agility, rally obedience, and showmanship classes along with educational sessions will be held April 23, 2016 at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Hastings, Nebraska. This event will start at 9:00 A.M. Registration and crating will be available at 8:30. The day will offer new opportunities to learn more about your dog and how to work with it. Hands on clinics will teach you skills you can test out in the show ring with dog handling competitions. There will be educational workshops, hands-on clinics, and multiple show rings operating, all provided in a comfortable indoor venue. Agility courses may be held outside.

Canine Companions for Life - Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo is designed to provide youth from all across the state several opportunities to meet other youth, to exchange ideas in a fun environment, to learn more about their dog(s) as well as provide an opportunity to work with their dog(s). Educational sessions are also planned for adult volunteers and parents assisting with 4-H Dog programs. Adults are also invited to sit in on the youth workshops. The following are features of the Nebraska 4-H dog Expo:



**April 22<sup>nd</sup> & April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

Clover Kids that participate will have an opportunity to tell the audience about their dog (ex. Name, Breed, Age and what they like about their dog or special things about their companion).

All clover kids will show their dog on an individual basis on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Dog Related Exhibits:**

Youth will have opportunities to exhibit other dog-related 4-H projects. Bring a photograph you took of a dog, an art project you make related to a dog, or a dog related educational project (poster display in vet sciences or other field, first aid kit, supplies you made at home, etc.).

### • **Educational Sessions + MORE**

- Careers
- Behavior and training
- Biology and science of dogs
- Health care
- Volunteer or leader training sessions

### • **Demonstrations**

• **Hands-on Opportunities** to learn proper training techniques:

- Showmanship, Obedience, and Agility
- Rally-Obedience

### • **Show classes**

- Obedience
- Showmanship
- Agility
- Rally Obedience

### • **Fun classes**

- Clover kids, costume contest
- Dog photography, dog art, educational exhibit displays, crate decorations

**Dog Photography Exhibits:**

For dog photography, please follow guidelines for mounting as described in the 2015 Nebraska State Fair Handbook (<https://unl.app.box.com/s/hsnx7czwc792q9z6a3dup8aepal8wigs>). Art projects should be mounted and ready to be displayed. Bring your projects and share with other counties what you have done. Be sure to mark exhibits with exhibitor name and county on the back. Specialty awards may be provided to best exhibit, most creative, and more based on the decisions of the judging panel.

We will also be judging the best decorated crating area on Saturday, April 23 so get creative and decorate your area.

**Fairgrounds Party and Quiz Bowl** are scheduled for Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup> evening starting at 7 P.M. at the Adams County Fairgrounds. The quiz bowl will help demonstrate another fun way that youth can learn about their Canine 4-H Program Area. Teams of 4 – 5 members will be formed Friday evening prior to the event. Questions come from the same reference materials used for the 4-H Skill-a-thon (4-H Dog Manuals: manuals 1 & 2 for younger youth and manuals 1 & 2, & 3 for seniors), American Kennel Club Breed Book, and [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

We will have a party at the fairgrounds with snacks and more.

**Vendors** have been invited to sell a variety of merchandise and supplies for the dog enthusiast. Food vendors will be available on site. 4-H exhibitors (excluding clover kids) will get one meal ticket with their registration.

**Registration:** A registration form is enclosed. Please fill out the personal information and mark the appropriate line for a personal image preference. Then mark the form with the anticipated participation in classes. The cost to participate is \$20.00 for one day of all classes and clinics. **Clover kids do not have to pay a registration fee, but a registration form must be completed separately for them. Do not include on the same form as an older sibling.**

Finally, if desired, mark a choice of t-shirt. T-shirts cost \$10.00. A new t-shirt design will be used.

A completed registration form must be mailed to Lisa Karr-Lilienthal, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, C204 Animal Science, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908 and **must be post marked by March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. Registrations, post marked after March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, will be considered late but will be accepted until April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. An additional fee will be assessed on late registrations. The cost to participate with a late registration is \$30.00.

All registration fees are non-refundable. The registration fee pays for one 4-H participant. Please pay for participation, when sending the registration form, by enclosing a check made to the University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

Additional registration forms are available at: [companionanimal.unl.edu](http://companionanimal.unl.edu). A confirmation letter and show schedule will be sent out to county extension offices via e-mail prior to the Expo.

**Show class rules:** All show classes will follow the guidelines in the Nebraska 4-H Dog Show Manual (4-H 420) and the guidelines outlined for the Nebraska 4-H State Fair. You may choose one showmanship, one obedience, one agility, and one rally class. You may bring more than one dog, but are only allowed to show one dog per discipline.

All dogs participating in the show must be immunized within the last 12 months of the show for distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and rabies. Dogs must have a completed vaccination form delivered with

the completed registration form. A Certificate of Vaccination for Dogs (Form SF 263) is available at <http://4h.unl.edu/documents/sf263.pdf>. Dogs that do not have a completed vaccination form will not be allowed in any the Adams County Fairgrounds buildings at the time of show. As long as proper vaccination forms are provided, participants are allowed to bring a different dog for each show class. All participating dogs must be at least 6 months of age at the time of the show. Females in season will not be allowed to participate in the show.

**Dress code:** Exhibitors must follow dress code regulations as described in the Nebraska 4-H Dog Show Manual (4-H 420) with the following exceptions: An exhibitor may wear a non-county specific 4-H shirt, a Canine Companions for Life Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo t-shirt, or a State fair t-shirt. Shirts with specific county 4-H notations are not allowed to be worn in the show arena. Nebraska Dog Expo t-shirts are available by pre-ordered with the Expo registration form.

**Dog handling rules:** Rough handling of dogs by participant or parent at any time throughout the Expo is not allowed and if this behavior is observed the participant will be dismissed without a refund.

Participating animals are not allowed to remain in Adams County fairgrounds buildings overnight. Please keep all dogs on a leash at all times unless instructed to do so in the show ring or during a clinic. All dogs must be kept on leash on the Adams County Fairgrounds because the city of Hastings does have a leash law for all animals. All participating dogs must be under control and under good behavior at all times.

A dog crating area has been designated to allow exhibitors to securely hold their dogs when they are not involved in show classes. Handlers are expected to pick up and dispose of all dog waste. Please be courteous to the public in and around the fairgrounds, lodging and other areas, remember that not everyone is a canine enthusiast. Keep in mind that participants are in a position to promote the 4-H dog program to the general public in travel and participation in this event.

**Camping:** Camp sites are available on the Adams County Fairgrounds. Please contact the fairgrounds office at 402-462-3247 for information and to make reservations.

**Traveling with your dog:** Make sure to have proper identification on your dog (ex. Tags with phone number and name). Inscribe emergency phone numbers on an ID tag or write your cell number on their collar in permanent marker.

**What to bring:**

- Dog crate or exercise pen (\*strongly recommended if you have one)
- Dog food, water and water bowl
- Flat collar
- 6 Foot leash
- Chain training collar for obedience
- Showmanship leash
- 4 Foot leash may be used for agility
- Small plastic bags for clean up
- Grooming supplies (brushes, combs, etc.)
- Costume or outfit for costume contest
- Toys
- Treats
- Dog bed

**Adams County Fairgrounds:** located in southwest Hastings at 947 S. Baltimore Ave. It is two blocks north of the intersection of U.S. Highways 6, 34 and 281. For more information and a map see: [www.adamscountyfairgrounds.com](http://www.adamscountyfairgrounds.com)

**Lodging:** There is no official hotel for the Canine Companions for Life 4-H Dog Expo this year. Online is a partial list of hotels that allow dogs, they may charge a fee for the dog to stay at the hotel.