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RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

December 2016

Executive Director Corner

2016 is almost over and our annual report is at the printer as we prepare for 2017. The Grants Committee has one more meeting before the preliminary rank order list of funding will be released with their recommendations. The full board will receive the list at the first quarter board meeting on February 9, 2017.

We look back on 2016 and will remember the loss of a staff member, Lori Moore, and I lost my father and grandmother. Pam Deines joined the Trust staff, we had a new roof put on the carriage house, Marilyn welcomed a new granddaughter, and we funded a lot of great projects across the State.

We want to welcome Dr. Tom Williams to the board. Dr. Williams attended his first Trust board meeting last month after being appointed the chief medical officer at the Department of Health and Human Services on November 1st.

The Husker's volleyball team had a meltdown at the end of the season after reaching the Final Four. All-in-all it was a great season ending at an impressive 31-3 and they won the BIG10 championship. We were hoping for the first back-to-back championships in school's history, but Texas had other ideas in a 3-0 defeat of the Huskers. Our



Pete Ricketts, Governor **Board of Trustees**

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Gloria Erickson - Holdrege

Agency Directors

assistant coach, Dani Busboom Kelly, was named the national assistant of the year and is headed to the University of Louisville next year to be their head volleyball coach. A big congratulation goes out to Creighton's volleyball team who at the end of the regular season was ranked at # 21, but finished #9 after a great run in the post-season play. The Huskers had been #1 or #2 all season, but ended up #4.

The Husker's football team started the year out on fire and then hit a very tough schedule and ended up 9-3 and will play an 8-4 Tennessee team in the Music City Bowl on Dec. 30. Tennessee averaged 50.2 points over their last four games and went 3-1 over that stretch. With Tommy Armstrong probably out and Jordan Westercamp definitely out, it could be a battle.

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and have a great 2017!
Travel safe.

Mark A. Brohman
Executive Director

Jim Douglas, Nebraska Game
and Parks Commission

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Department of Agriculture

Jim Macy, Nebraska
Department of Environmental
Quality

Jeff Fassett, P.E., Nebraska
Department of Natural
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Trust Staff

Mark A. Brohman
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Marilyn Tabor
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The Nebraska
Environmental Trust
700 S 16th Street
PO Box 94913



Tom Williams, M.D.

Chief Medical Officer

Director, Division of Public Health

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Welcoming Dr. Tom Williams to the Trust Board

Dr. Tom Williams serves in a dual role as Chief Medical Officer and Director of the Division of Public Health for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

He was appointed to this position by Governor Pete Ricketts and joined DHHS November 1, 2016.

Dr. Williams oversees 10 public health areas that touch the life of every Nebraskan by promoting good health,

Lincoln, NE 68509-4913

web site:

environmentaltrust.org

preventing disease and helping people live healthier lives.

Dr. Williams is an anatomic and clinical pathologist with subspecialty expertise in Chemical Pathology. Prior to this position, he practiced at Nebraska Methodist Hospital for 38 years; the last 22 years as Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medical Director.

His previous activities involving public health and government include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Clinical Laboratory Department Advisory Committee and other CDC working groups; Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) as chair or vice chair for consensus or document development committees in the areas of chemistry and toxicology, quality and emergency-preparedness; Douglas County Health Department pandemic planning and emergency preparedness including working with the Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System (OMMRS) and co-chairing committees responsible for emergency communication for healthcare professionals that focus on laboratory infection control and surveillance.

Dr. Williams has nationally published articles and collaborated in developing CLSI documents directed towards emergency preparedness for clinical laboratories and has spoken locally and nationwide, and presented webinars on this topic.

He served on the Technical Advisory Committee for the Nebraska Newborn Screening Program and has chaired or served on national College of American Pathologists (CAP) committees in the area of proficiency testing, clinical chemistry, publications and education.

Dr. Williams shared the CAP Excellence in Teaching Award in 2013 for assisting in the development and facilitating an intensive course for new laboratory medical directors and received the CAP Lifetime Achievement

Award in 2009.

He also served four terms as president of the Nebraska Association of Pathologists.

Dr. Williams holds a medical degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

He and his wife Sue have two adopted adult children and live in Lincoln.



Scrap Central Purchases Wire Chopping System

(submitted by Jennifer Jones)

Scrap Central, located in Omaha, Nebraska has purchased the first MTB CABLE BOX from WENDT CORPORATION. The MTB CABLE BOX, a compact wire chopping system, offers Scrap Central with a containerized, turnkey wire chopping solution to begin processing its increasing volume of non-ferrous materials.

Started in 2001, Scrap Central is a second-generation, family-owned and operated business, providing metal recycling services to the general public and industrial and commercial customers. Scrap Central Owner, Jennifer

Jones, took the company over in May 2011 following the death of her mother, Sheila Jones. As a female business leader focused on increasing recycling volumes and lessening our carbon footprint, Jones relocated the company in 2014 from a ½-acre lot to a 7-acre former concrete facility to expand the business and keep up with demand.

Since their move in 2014, Scrap Central's insulated copper and aluminum wire volume have continued to increase and drove the need for another processing solution in addition to their balers. The purchase of the CABLE BOX will allow the company to keep up with those increased volumes, streamline their operation and minimize labor hours currently used to sort and bale wire. The system will also expand their processing capabilities to include a much broader range of materials.

"We partner with a local non-profit organization in a Go Green Holiday Lights Drive which has diverted over 17,000 pounds of holiday lights from local landfills. We wanted to process those holiday lights in-house instead of shipping them to a processor. Having a wire chopping system in house will allow us to donate back more proceeds to our non-profit partners and grow the project to more communities throughout Nebraska," said Jennifer Jones. "I believe that through collaborative efforts, like our Holiday Lights Drive our community and environment will benefit by advancing awareness and increasing participation. We are grateful for the support from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality in our purchase of the CABLE BOX, allowing us to increase recycling efforts, education and proceeds generated by the drives."

Scrap Central's CABLE BOX features a BDR1245 shredder, two BAT800 granulators, air density tables, screens and magnetic separators as well as integrated

electrical controls and dust collection system. The compact system has been designed to fit into two 20' by 40' and one 20' by 20' reinforced, customized containers. While the system is smaller in size and footprint, it shares the same robust and advanced design as MTB's larger systems. This enables it to efficiently treat lower quality cables while delivering highly valuable output materials. Jones said, "We thought the revolutionary design and unique self-contained CABLE BOX was a good fit for our operation since we don't have excess warehouse space to house a conventional wire processing line. We also were impressed with the production capabilities and the diversity of materials the CABLE BOX can process. The CABLE BOX is efficiently designed to minimize process loss and produce high quality marketable products."

Scrap Central will process insulated #1 and #2 copper wire, neoprene and ACSR wires as well as auto shredder residue (ASR) wire they are currently generating from customers and commercial accounts. They plan to expand their buying potential to other scrap yards in surrounding areas by offering competitive pricing and lower freight costs with their centralized location. "We look forward to growing relationships with companies generating large volumes of insulated wires in need of processing and hoping to increase their bottom lines. One long-term goal is to build lasting relationships that provide partnerships for decades of growth together," added Jones.

The first MTB CableBOX system will be installed and commissioned at Scrap Central by the end of the year. The company plans to run the operation 6 days a week/8 hours a day while processing up to 2 tons an hour depending on material type. Jones said, "I was extremely impressed with not only the capabilities and innovation of the MTB CABLE BOX system but with MTB owner, Jean Phillippe and his company. MTB and Scrap Central's visions align in the mission and goals to better our environmental impacts for

future generations. The reputation of MTB/WENDT speaks for itself.” She added, “The robustness of the CABLE BOX system will allow a young owner and company like myself the versatility to move with the industry and process a limitless variety of materials.”

See image of chopped wire below.



**The Urban Bird & Nature Alliance Incorporates
Emerald Ash Bohrer (EAB) in Science Curriculum at
Brownell Talbot School**

**(submitted by Diana Failla, Founder/Executive
Director, The Urban Bird & Nature Alliance and**

President Midtown Neighborhood Alliance)

Clare Schinzel, 10, was one of many students and volunteers who planted over 18 diverse shade trees in the understory of the ash trees in historic Memorial Park in Omaha this fall. As a Brownell-Talbot School, fifth grade student, she's been learning about the emerald ash borer, an invasive beetle, and how it's damaging the Omaha ash tree canopy.

"We are the next generation. And we can do something and make a difference," Clare said with enthusiasm. Students at Brownell Talbot School, from first grade to high school, have embraced the EAB program which starts in the classroom and moves into identifying the ash trees on school grounds and in the nearby park. The program includes planting diverse tree species in the understory of the ash trees and will offer a trolley tree tour in the spring to engage the community and showcase the completed project.

Thanks to a grant through the Nebraska Environmental Trust, the Urban Bird and Nature Alliance teamed up with Brownell-Talbot School to develop a pilot curriculum plan incorporating lessons about the emerald ash borer and how it's affecting ash trees in Nebraska and across the nation.

The students have learned about the rippling environmental, economic, social and health impacts of losing the ash trees, said Diana Failla, founder of the alliance.

"EAB isn't just about one ash tree in a backyard. Students are learning the affects EAB will have in their neighborhood, in their city and in their state. The emerald ash borer has become an opportunity for student and community engagement. If we can involve neighborhood

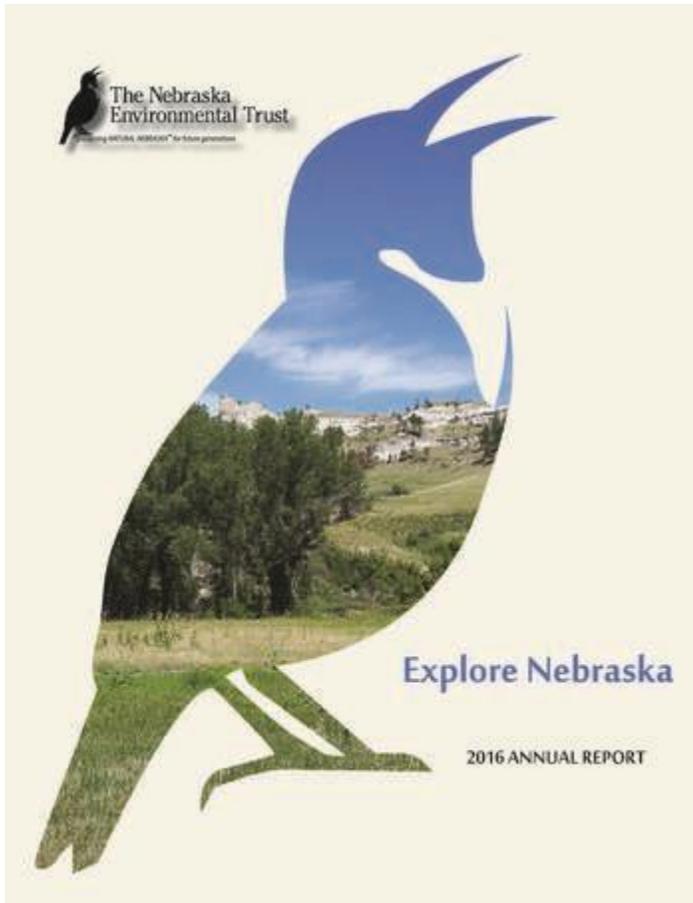
residents, schools, and our city and state leaders, we can make huge strides in ensuring a sustainable tree canopy. The alliance has already planted hundreds of trees throughout the city and is continuing to find ways to replace the ash trees that the city will lose to the emerald ash borer in the coming years," said Failla.

Clare said she hopes her generation will grow up to love nature and find solutions to environmental problems such as the emerald ash borer. "It's really important for us to learn about these issues," she said.

The Urban Bird & Nature Alliance is a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation and conservation of bird life, wildlife and nature in an urban environment. Failla plans to teach about EAB and its impact in more schools across the state.

2016 Nebraska Environmental Trust Annual Report

The Nebraska Environmental Trust Annual Report is currently being published and will be distributed sometime in January. An electronic copy of the report is available on the website. You may click on the following link to view the [Annual Report](#).



**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the
Nebraska Environmental Trust staff to everyone!**



Upcoming Events

- February 2, 2017 - Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Informational Seminar, Grand Island NE.
 - February 9, 2017 (Thursday) - 1st Quarter Board Meeting, Ferguson House, Lincoln NE.
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