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RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

September 2016

Executive Director Corner

The grant applications are all in and we had 130 grants requesting almost \$69M. There are some very interesting projects and the Grants Committee will have a tough time scoring and recommending where our \$19M is going.

It has been a busy month with finishing up having a booth at the State Fair, then the World O' Water festival at the Papio-Missouri River NRD in Omaha, Heron Haven's Outdoor Festival in Omaha, and the Outdoor Expo at Ponca State Park. Marilyn and I attended the Natural Legacy Conference in Broken Bow and I attended electric vehicle dedications in Allen, Dakota County and Kearney. Those types of events will slow down a little as fall arrives and we start into getting the grants reviewed by our technical reviewers.

Both the Husker football and volleyball teams are undefeated so far this season. The volleyball team is ranked #1 and they will get everyone's best shot and Nebraska football always seems to get the opponent's best shot.

Have a safe harvest and hunting season. Go Big Red!

Mark A. Brohman



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**Nebraska Environmental Trust Invites Comments on
2017 Grant Applications**

The Nebraska Environmental Trust entered the 2017 grant cycle on September 6, 2016 receiving 130 new applications and 52 carry-over projects requesting a total of \$68,310,879 in grants. Last year the Trust received 127 new applications and 49 carry-over projects. The Trust has completed 23 grant cycles and will announce the results of the 24th round of award recommendations in February 2017.

As part of the grant application process, the Trust invites members of the public to review the proposed grants and provide written comments about the projects. A summary of each proposal is available on the Trust's web site www.environmentaltrust.org. Comments on the grant applications will be accepted until April 5, 2017 at the Nebraska Environmental Trust, 700 S 16th Street, PO Box 94913, Lincoln, NE 68509-4913 or via e-mail to marilyn.tabor@nebraska.gov.

The Nebraska Legislature created the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 1992. Using revenue from the Nebraska Lottery, the Trust has provided over \$256 million in grants to more than 1,900 projects across the state. Anyone – citizens, organizations, communities, landowners and businesses – can apply for funding to protect habitat, improve water quality and establish recycling programs in Nebraska. The Nebraska Environmental Trust works to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources for future generations.

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Environmental Trust

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Gerry Lauritzen Appointed as New Chairman to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board

Gerry Lauritzen was appointed by Governor Heineman in 2012 and represents Congressional District II on the Nebraska Environmental Trust board.

Gerry Lauritzen was born in St. James, Minnesota and moved back to Nebraska in 2006. She currently resides in Omaha with her husband, Bruce. They have five children, 4 of whom live in Omaha and one in Kansas City. Together they enjoy 12 grandchildren. They have been active in civic endeavors for many years.

Gerry is the Co-Founder of the Fontenelle Forest Honorary Trustees and has served as a Director and Trustee on the board since 2008. Gerry also serves on the boards of Omaha Community Playhouse, Film Streams and as a Trustee of the University of Nebraska Foundation.

web site:

environmentaltrust.org

Julie Diegel Joins Nebraska State Recycling Association

Julie Diegel recently joined the Nebraska State Recycling Association as their new Executive Director. Julie has been a leader in the Lincoln area for many years working for nonprofits as a director, employee and board member. Her experience with recycling and waste management issues extends from working with resource recovery providers to municipal and business end-users. She was Director of Sustainability Programs at WasteCap Nebraska for several years. Most recently, Diegel worked for Senator Ken Haar in the Nebraska Legislature, gaining insight into the legislative process.

Ms. Diegel succeeds Deb Rost, who has filled this position since 2009. Rost has had a positive impact on recycling programs in communities and businesses across Nebraska by providing small equipment grants and reaching out to recycling professionals. Her expertise and exceptional organizational management skills will be greatly missed. We wish her the very best.

The Association has also changed their contact information. The new mailing address is:

Nebraska State Recycling Association

P.O. Box 54

Sprague, NE 68438-9700

(Note: for all intents and purposes their home base is now in Lincoln.)

Phone : 402-202-0755

Email: jdiegel@recyclenebraska.org

The Nebraska Environmental Trust has been working with the Nebraska State Recycling Association (NSRA) for several years. **NSRA** provides small equipment grants and

small operating grants to communities, schools and businesses that are funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality respectively. Their two great grant programs in the 2016-17 grant cycle still have funds available and interested parties may check them out on our web site, www.recyclenebraska.org.



Syndicate Park Lagoon in the early 1900s (known today as Spring Lake Park)

Progress on Spring Lake Park - submitted by Linda Lovgren

The Nebraska Environmental Trust has been a partner with the City of Omaha's Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO!) Project in Spring Lake Park for the past five years. The park is located in the South Omaha area between "F" Street and Spring Lake Drive, 16th Street and 23th Street.

The Spring Lake Park pond has been restored and is serving as a stormwater detention feature with a beautiful water amenity which provides recreation, trails, and soon fishing to the long-time, mature park. Now, natural springs again fill the lake. The green infrastructure features, plus native grass, wildflower, and tree plantings provide food and habitat for wildlife and birds. Incorporating a detention feature with the restoration of the pond reduced the cost of this CSO Project by an estimated five million dollars.

The CSO! Project is supported by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, City of Omaha, and Omaha Parks, Recreation and Public Property. The area neighborhoods and community have also been actively engaged in the success of the project.

Photo below shows Spring Lake Park today



Public Information and Education Grant Update

The Nebraska Academy of Sciences (NAS) received 20 applications for the second quarter. Grants were awarded

to the following: Lancaster County Weed Control Authority, PlayCleanGo Education and Outreach on Invasive Plants; Willa Cather Foundation, Prairie Pollinators Workshop; The Nebraska State Fair, Interactive Sustainability Display; The Groundwater Foundation, Groundwater Education Gateway; Keep Chadron Beautiful, Chadron Recycling Education; and Omaha Children's Museum, Pirates and Mermaids: Adventure to Creature Cove.

NAS received eleven applications for the third quarter of 2016. Applications were received from Central Platte NRD, Husker Harvest Days native Grassland Awareness Project; Lower Platte South NRD, Lower Platte River Summit; WasteCap Nebraska, 2016 Mission to Zero: Annual Recognition and Zero Waste Training; Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue, INC., Perishable Food Pipeline; NE Section-Society for Range Management, Capitalizing on Range Mgt Opportunities Workshop and Tour; Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Young Lecture: Between Earth and Sky; Omaha-Council bluffs metro Area Planning little Steps Big Impact School Ozone Monitoring Project; Platte River Whooping Crane Maintenance, Crane Trust Prairie Greenhouse Build; Wachiska Audubon Society-Ed Comm, Prairie Discovery Day Project; Prescribed Burn Task Force, Nebraska prescribed Burn Safety Education and Outreach; and Keep Omaha Beautiful, Promoting and Diversifying World O! Water. A total of \$13,120 was awarded to the Central Platte NRD, WasteCap Nebraska, NE Section-Society for Range Management, Omaha Council Bluffs Metro Area Planning, and Keep Omaha Beautiful.

The Nebraska Environmental Public Information and Education MiniGrant Program awards MiniGrants of up to \$3,000 each, to support the presentation and dissemination of information and perspectives that will stimulate enhanced environmental stewardship in any category eligible for Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET)

funding. These categories are habitat, surface and ground water, waste management, air quality, and soil management. The grant expands dialogue on important current conservation topics and provides information on emerging or highly useful conservation methods. All Nebraska individuals, private organizations, and public entities are eligible to apply for these funds. Fourth quarter 2016 applications are due October 7, 2016.

Grant forms and information can be found on the Nebraska Academy of Sciences website, www.neacadsci.org. Click on NAS and then click on Grants and Scholarships.

For those interested in household hazardous collection events, here are some information you may be interested in. You may click on the link provided below for more detailed information:

[Household Hazardous Waste Brochure](#)

2016 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events
Lincoln & Lancaster County residents only. Business waste not accepted.

Date	Time/Spn	Location
Holiday March 18	Appointment Only: Call (402) 441-8023 for schedule	
Saturday April 2		Wal-Mart South: 870 & Hwy 2
Saturday May 7		Zurich: 801 West Cornhusker Hwy
Friday June 3		Lincoln Southwest High School: 14th & Pine Lake
Friday June 24		Lincoln College: South 13th & Cozart Ave
Friday August 26		Shepherd of the Hills Church: Hickman (801 Panama Rd)
Saturday August 27		Lincoln Industries: 603 West F St
Saturday September 24		Continental: 4021 N 56th St
Saturday October 22		Woods Park: South 11th & F St
Friday November 18	Appointment Only: Call (402) 441-8023 for schedule	

WHAT TO BRING Need help? Call 402-441-8023 for assistance.

Item	Examples	Examples	Examples	Examples
Auto & Tires	Antifreeze	Acetone	Insecticides	Fluor chemicals
Lighter fluid/Fuel	Play/Nail products	Insect Sprays	Small propane cylinders (for camping)	
Auto/Truck	Brake Fluid	Grease removers	Mixed gasoline	Oil/gasoline
Power steering fluid	Transmission fluid	Carburetor cleaners		
Auto Maintenance	Antifreeze	Lightbulb cleaner	Oil based paint	Paint thinner
Oil based grease	Superglue	Wood preservatives		
Household	Bleach/Disinfectants	Drain/Toilet Cleaners	Compact bulbs (CFL)	Fluorescent tubes
Spill removers	Wax/Polish	Small capacitors	Batteries	Solvent based products
Mercury thermometers & thermocouples				

DO NOT BRING

Lanes paint	Ammonia
Antifreeze	Acetone
Unlabeled medicines/Tox	
Asbestos	Household trash
Batteries	Used oil
Explosives	Electronic waste
Fire extinguishers	Large propane cylinders

See the Waste Reduction & Recycling Guide for options to dispose of these materials.
recycle.ne.gov
(keyword: recycle guide)



HIGH HAZARD PRODUCTS?
LEAVE THE TOXICS TO US.



While effective, pesticides can be toxic to humans. Consider the alternatives!

Verify: one pest doesn't mean you have a problem.

Keep it clean: don't give pests food, water and shelter.

Prevent access: seal cracks, holes and other entry points.

Get physical: use barriers, traps, vacuums and other non-chemical means to remove pests.

Use chemicals only if the above strategies fail.

Mercury is a neurotoxin that can harm your health and the environment. It's found in the bulbs in lighting products, old thermometers and fluorescent tubes.

Reduce your risk:

- Look for alternatives like LED lights or alcohol based thermometers.
- Recycle or properly dispose of mercury.
- Clean mercury spills safely - DO NOT attempt for cleanup guidance (recycle.ne.gov keyword: mercury).

DISPOSE OF THESE PRODUCTS AT A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION.



Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Collegiate Recycling Bin Grant Program

The Coca-Cola Foundation and Keep America Beautiful are pleased to announce that applications are being accepted online through **October 7th 2016** for the Coca-Cola/KAB Public Space Recycling Bin Grant Program.

This program is designed to increase convenience and expand opportunities for recycling in communities across America. This grant provides durable recycling bins to government agencies, civic organizations, schools, and nonprofit groups.

When filling out the grant application, organizations have the opportunity to request a bin style from a menu of options.

Applicants who are awarded the grant will have their granted bins and shipment arranged free of charge. The grant process is competitive, and the best proposals are selected based on their merits. There is also a matching component where discounted recycling bins are available for purchase. Applicants who commit to a matching investment in bins will receive preference in the selection process.

For more information on the 2016 bin grant program, including bin styles being offered and the link to the application, visit www.kab.org/coca-cola-recycling-grant.

Successful applicants will be notified by Keep America Beautiful in late October 2016 and grant recipients will have the bins shipped to their location with all expenses paid in early January 2017.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Giulia Manno at gmanno@kab.org or 202.688.0602.

Upcoming Events

- November 3, 2016 (Thursday) - 4th Quarter Board Meeting
 - December 11, 2016 (Sunday) - Christmas Open House at the Ferguson House
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