

RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

October 2017

Executive Director Corner

Harvest is well underway and we've had a few nights of frost and even a few snows in parts of Nebraska. This time of year we start concentrating on the new round of grants. We received 112 new grant applications and our technical reviewers are reviewing them before the Grants Committee starts meeting next month to begin scoring them. As always, there are some very interesting projects with some innovative ideas.

Last month Ryan McIntosh joined the board and recently the Governor named John Orr from Blair to the board (see story below). November 2nd will be both Ryan and John's first Trust board meeting. Greg Ibach has been nominated to an undersecretary position in the US Department of Ag. by President Trump and has been approved by the Senate Ag Committee and is awaiting confirmation by the full Senate. Upon Mr. Ibach's departure from his position as the Director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, the Governor will appoint a new Director of Ag and that person will automatically join the Trust board. At that time the Trust board will have four new members out of fourteen in the past eight months.

Husker football continues to cause heartache among their fans. A new Athletic Director was just named and that may help. Half of the fans want a new coach tomorrow and half



Pete Ricketts, Governor
Board of Trustees

District I

Ryan K. McIntosh - Syracuse

James Hellbusch - Columbus

John Orr - Blair

District II

Gerry Lauritzen - Omaha

Paul Dunn - Omaha

Robert Krohn - Omaha

District III

Sherry Vinton - Whitman

Rodney Christen - Steinauer

Quentin Bowen - Humboldt

want to give Riley one or two more years to complete his recruits through the system and not be working with someone else's recruits. I myself am torn between a fresh start and avoiding being labeled the team that can't keep a coach for more than a few years. On the other hand, the volleyball team was supposed to be in a rebuilding year, yet they are staying in the top 10 and are playing some stiff competition and proving they can play and beat anyone. In a one week span they defeated three top ten teams. Hopefully your local school is doing well in football and volleyball as they head to Districts.

Have a safe harvest and be sure and thank a veteran on November 10th when we celebrate Veteran's Day.

Mark A. Brohman
Executive Director

John Orr Appointed to The Trust Board

A new member has been appointed to the Trust Board by Governor Pete Ricketts. John W. Orr from Blair, NE replaced Kevin Peterson of Osceola commencing September 27, 2017, representing District 1. His term continues till March 10, 2023.

Mr. Orr is a grain merchandiser at Hansen-Mueller Co. in Omaha. He graduated from Lincoln East High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Economics, Psychology and Business from Hastings College. He is the son of former Governor Kay Orr and her husband Bill.

Mr. Orr said, "I am honored to be asked by Governor Ricketts to step forward and serve on The Nebraska Environmental Trust board. I enjoy Nebraska's outdoors and look forward to working with the Trust and the many

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and Parks Commission

Greg Ibach, Nebraska
Department of Agriculture

Jim Macy, Nebraska
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Jeff Fassett, P.E., Nebraska
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Administrative Secretary

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The Nebraska
Environmental Trust
700 S 16th Street

projects they fund."

The Trust Board is comprised of 14 members representing the State of Nebraska and its citizens. Nine citizen representatives are appointed by the Governor to serve six year terms. Three representatives are chosen from each congressional district, serve without pay and represent a wide variety of natural resource interests. Five agency directors make up the remaining seats on the board to provide coordination with existing state resources. A staff of five handles the day-to-day activities of the organization.



Recycling Trailer at Hyvee at 178 th and Pacific

Glass Recycling Expansion in Omaha

Two new recycling drop-off locations opened last week in Omaha, expanding the number of sites that accept glass to nine.

"As our city grows, the need for this service has increased and we are responding to you," said Mayor Jean Stothert. The expansion is possible through a partnership between the City of Omaha, Keep Omaha Beautiful, and Ripple

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Glass of Kansas City, Missouri.

The new locations are HyVee at 178th & Pacific and Fresh Thyme at 14949 Evans Plaza. These new containers are bright purple and follow the Ripple Glass theme used in a five-state area. Omaha's other glass containers will also be converted to the purple theme.

In late 2016, Keep Omaha Beautiful wrote a grant for approximately \$14,000 to the Nebraska Recycling Council to purchase new collection containers. The council received the grant funds from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, a beneficiary of the Nebraska Lottery.

"The Nebraska Environmental Trust is very pleased to be a partner in this project to recycle glass in Nebraska's largest city, Omaha. Every bottle that is recycled is one less bottle in a local landfill," said Nebraska Environmental Trust Executive Director Mark Brohman.

"The Nebraska Recycling Council was excited to provide Nebraska Environmental Trust grant funds to Keep Omaha Beautiful for these containers, and support their partnership with our friends at Ripple Glass," said Nebraska Recycling Council Executive Director Julie Diegel. "Glass recycling in this large population center is more convenient than ever, no more difficult than a trip to the grocery store and it will have a profound impact on resource conservation, economic development, and landfill longevity in the region."

In 2016, more than 1,200 tons of glass were collected for recycling at drop-off locations. (The City discontinued curbside glass recycling collections in 2006 due to hazards from broken glass and contaminants when it is not separated from other recyclables.) The glass is shipped to Ripple Glass where it is manufactured into new products. Last year, the city paid River City Recycling

approximately \$79,000 to empty the recycling containers and prepare the glass for shipment to Ripple.

“Ripple Glass is excited to expand our partnership with the City of Omaha to provide residents with convenient locations to recycle their glass,” said Regional Business Manager Sarah Luebe. “All of the glass recycled in Omaha is processed and made into fiberglass insulation and new bottles, which reduces waste, conserves landfill space and supports area businesses.”

“It has been exciting to see so many different organizations come together to help make this expansion of the City’s glass recycling program happen. With more glass collection drop-off sites spread throughout Omaha, we are making it much easier for residents to recycle their glass and demonstrate their commitment to diverting material from the landfill,” said Keep Omaha Beautiful Executive Director Chris Stratman.

The other recycling sites in Omaha are at these locations:

FULL-SERVICE SITES:

20801 Elkhorn Drive
26th & Douglas (NE corner)
75th & Corby
River City Recycling - 6404 S. 60th
Firststar Fiber - 10330 I Street

GLASS ONLY SITES:

2725 N. 62nd Street
Heartland of America Park - 800 Douglas

Information about the City of Omaha's recycling program is available on OmahaRecycles.com and in the fall edition of “Wasteline”, which was online Friday October 13 at www.wasteline.org. The Wasteline publication will be delivered to homes sometime this week.

Upcoming Events

- 4th Quarter Board Meeting, Thursday, November 2, 2017 - Ferguson House, 1:30 pm.
 - Grants Committee Meeting, Thursday, November 2, 2017 - Ferguson House, 9:30 am.
 - Christmas Open House at The Ferguson House, Sunday, December 10, 2017, 1pm-5pm.
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