

# RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

## August 2018

---

### Executive Director Corner

Can you believe summer is almost over and fall activities are about to begin. The Trust will be participating in a number of events in the next few weeks starting with operating our booth at the Nebraska State Fair in the Nebraska Building inside the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission exhibit from August 24th – September 3rd. On September 8th we will be in two places at once, World of Water at the Papio-Missouri River NRD offices in Omaha (Wehrspann Lake) and Heron Haven for their wetland festival near 120th and West Maple in Omaha. We will be at Husker Harvest Days near Grand Island on September 11th – 13th and then at the Ponca Outdoor Expo September 15th and 16th at Ponca State Park near Ponca, Nebraska.

The annual grant deadline is coming up in less than two weeks, September 4th at midnight. We have been fielding a lot of questions recently and there are some very unique and interesting proposals, as always. Remember all applications must be submitted electronically. The Trust board decided to award up to 20 geographic bonus points in District 6 again in the north central part of the state. District 6 continues to lag a bit behind the other Districts in overall funding, but the gap is closing. The board also approved earlier this year a couple of small changes to the applications. The 300 word description has been reduced to 200 words and the five page narrative has been modified to 1200 words. Good luck to all the grantees.



---

**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

---

Remodeling on the back porch of the Ferguson House is finishing up as well as work on the carriage house. We take great pride in our office space and we hope it is around for at least another 100 years. If you are in Lincoln, stop by and see the work. We'll try to include a photo or two in an upcoming newsletter.

At the August Trust board meeting the board was able to visit the Fertig Prairie near Schuyler and the wetlands at the Wilkinson Wildlife Management Area near Columbus. We also had a great tour of Duo Lift's manufacturing plant by our Chairman and Duo Lift's President and CEO, Jim Hellbusch, followed by a tour of the Andrew Jackson Higgins National Memorial, both in Columbus.

I attended the Husker football Fan Day last week and the 8,000+ attendees were very excited for the upcoming season. Some fans arrived at 4am to be sure and get Scott Frost's autograph and for a chance to meet him. The gates didn't open until 6:30pm and the line to get in was a couple blocks long by then. Everyone is also getting excited for Husker volleyball this fall and the Red-White game was sold out this past weekend. Classes started back at UNL and most colleges and universities this week and the high schools are all back in session.

Hope to see you at the State Fair. Go Big Red!

Mark A. Brohman

Executive Director

---

### **District III**

Sherry Vinton - Whitman

Rodney Christen -  
Steinauer

Quentin Bowen -  
Humboldt

---

### **Agency Directors**

Jim Douglas, Nebraska  
Game and Parks  
Commission

Steve Wellman,  
Nebraska Department of  
Agriculture

Jim Macy, Nebraska  
Department of  
Environmental Quality

Jeff Fassett, P.E.,  
Nebraska Department of  
Natural Resources

[Vacant],

Nebraska Department of  
Health and Human  
Services

---

### **Trust Staff**

Mark A. Brohman

Executive Director

Marilyn Tabor



*Rod Christen Pictured Above*

**Rod Christen Appointed as Nebraska Environmental Trust  
Chairman**

The Nebraska Environmental Trust is pleased to announce that Rod Christen has been elected as the new Chairman of the Nebraska

Grants Administrator

Sheila Johnson

Public Information  
Officer

Pam Deines

Administrative Secretary

Allison La Duke

Grants Assistant

The Nebraska  
Environmental Trust

700 S 16th Street

PO Box 94913

Lincoln, NE 68509-4913

web site:

[environmentaltrust.org](http://environmentaltrust.org)

Environmental Trust Board. Mr. Steve Wellman, Director of the Department of Agriculture, was elected Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Christen was appointed to the Trust board in March of 2009 by Governor Heineman. He was a recipient of the 2007 Leopold Conservation Award presented by the Sand County Foundation and prominent state conservation partners, the 2008 Nebraska Land Stewardship Award presented by the Partnership for All Bird Conservation, and one of the 2009 Master Conservationist Award recipients in the category of production agricultural presented by The Omaha World Herald, as a result of his wildlife friendly practices and land stewardship. Originally from District 1, Rod now represents District 3 on the Trust board, and he will serve until March 10, 2021.

Rod and his wife Amy have two daughters, Dana and Leah and one son, Evan. They operate a cow-calf operation with Rod's sister Kay and their parents, Richard and Sharon.

On their ranch near Steinauer, they use pasture rotation, cross fencing, multiple water sources, controlled burns and cover crops as management and conservation tools to increase plant diversity, habitat and build soil health.

Mr Christen said "I am excited to serve the board in this capacity. Conservation is a matter of perspective. We need to find ways to integrate conservation efforts into future generations, realizing that landscapes, needs, economic values and people change over time."



*The Christen Family - Front row (left to right) Dana and Rod Christen; Back row (left to right): Evan, Leah and Amy Christen*

---

### **Geo Points Awarded to North Central Nebraska**

In a continuing effort to support natural resource projects across Nebraska, the board of the Nebraska Environmental Trust will award bonus points to 2019 grant applicants in only one of the seven geographical areas across the state. The geographical map of Nebraska showing the seven districts can be seen on the Trust website at: <http://www.environmentaltrust.org/work/index.html>

Projects based in District 6 (North Central) will be eligible for 20 bonus points in the 2019 grant cycle.

By law, the Nebraska Environmental Trust is required to ensure a geographic mix of projects over time. Geographic bonus points allow the Trust board to evaluate which areas are in need of Trust grant funds and provide an incentive to increase applications from deficient areas. District 6 has received \$28,028,103 since Trust grants began in 1994.

---

## **Grants Deadline Approaching, Get your applications in**

The Trust office has been busy with phone calls and meetings with lots of inquiries on the upcoming deadline and how proposals may be submitted. Our deadline for the submission of grants is Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at midnight.

Our on-line application portal for NET grant applications is currently available. If you run into any technical problems, please contact our office general line at 402-471-5409 to resolve issues you may be facing. You are advised to do this as soon as possible. You may also reach Marilyn Tabor on her cell at 402-450-2947 if you are unable to reach her at the office. Please leave a voicemail with your number, if she is unavailable at that time and she will call you back.

A couple important reminders pertaining to the upcoming Grant Cycle:

All applications for 2019 NET funding must be submitted through the online web portal. No other application format will be accepted.

Instructions, Standards of Evaluation, and FAQs are available now at:

[http://www.environmentaltrust.org/grants/application\\_instructions.html](http://www.environmentaltrust.org/grants/application_instructions.html)

Information requirements are the same except the Project Summary has been reduced from 300 words to 200 words and instead of a 5-page narrative, the project must be described in 1200 words. Up to 20 "Geographic Points" will be available for projects in District 6.

2019 grant applications will be accepted through midnight, September 4, 2018. The online portal will be disabled at that time. We encourage applicants to contact us to discuss draft proposals and ask any questions about the application process.

---

## Upcoming Events

- August 24 - September 3, 2018, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE.
  - September 4, 2018 (Tuesday) - Grants Deadline.
  - September 8, 2018 (Saturday) - World O Water, Papio-Missouri NRD, Wehrspann Lake, noon - 4p.m.
  - September 8, 2018 (Saturday) - Heron Haven Wetland Festival, Heron Haven 120th and West Maple, Omaha, 1 - 5p.m.
  - September 11 - 13th, 2018 - Husker Harvest Days, Alda NE.
  - September 15 & 16, 2018 (Saturday & Sunday) - Ponca Outdoor Expo, Ponca State Park, NE.
- 

