



The Nebraska  
Environmental Trust

*preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations*



*The Nebraska Environmental Trust is  
funded by the Nebraska Lottery*

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

*“Celebrating 20 Years  
of Preservation”*



*Photo by Adrian Olivera, Certified Master  
Naturalist*

# Nebraska Environmental Trust 2012 BOARD



*Front row (left to right) : Dr. Joann Schaefer - Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Brian Dunnigan - Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Barb Batie - Lexington, Vince Kramper - Dakota City, Rod Christen - Steinauer, James Stuart, Jr. - Lincoln, Robert Krohn - Omaha, Greg Ibach - Nebraska Department of Agriculture.*

*Back row (from left to right): Mike Linder - Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, Paul Dunn - Omaha, Sherry Vinton - Whitman, John Campbell - Omaha, Gloria Erickson - Holdrege.*

*Not pictured - Jim Douglas - Nebraska Game & Parks Commission.*

# Message from Board Chair



I remember precisely the first time I saw a deer in Nebraska. I was 11 years old in 1955 and my mother and I saw this deer run through a draw in one of our farm fields northwest of Hastings. We knew that our sighting would draw disbelief from the rest of our family especially because we also saw a coyote in the same draw shortly after seeing the deer!! Many wildlife populations were quite thin at this time due to drought, depression, and only the beginnings of management systems. While we have had much success in producing thriving herds and flocks of wildlife and their associated habitats we find there are glaring needs for many others.

Nebraska, in 1992, created a new and effective tool for providing funding for conservation, enhancement and restoration of the state's natural resources. In the last 20 years more than \$191 million has been granted to groups, and organizations both public and private in their efforts to sustain an improved environment. Many of these projects

would not have been completed without the support of the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The year 2012 marks our 20th Anniversary and also an important milestone in the history of the Trust. Many organizations have received funding for worthwhile efforts ranging from habitat, surface and groundwater, waste management and recycling to air quality and soil management. All 93 counties in Nebraska have benefited from funding from the Trust.

I believe that one of the main reasons that the Trust has been so successful is in its encouragement of bringing public and private partners together to work on high quality, cost-effective projects. It also values projects that leverage private investment in conservation and emphasizes long-lasting results. It is very important to me, personally, that projects bring direct benefits to the public and that public access is provided where compatible.

The work of the Nebraska Environmental Trust has made a better natural atmosphere for future generations of Nebraskans. When young people have a natural setting in which to recreate they learn a great deal about their surroundings and how nature works. It gives them great perspective of their relationship with the world around them and hence with the people around them. Public access provides natural classrooms. As an old maxim states:

In the end, we will conserve only what we love,  
We will love only what we understand,  
And we will understand only what we are taught.

I express my gratitude for the diligence and dedication of our director, our staff and the members of the Trust board.

*Gloria J. Erickson*

## "Celebrating 20 Years of Preservation"

The year 2012 marks a significant milestone in the history of the Trust. For 20 years many organizations have received funding from the Trust to put worthwhile projects on the ground. We cannot thank the Nebraska Lottery enough because it is those proceeds that have made this funding and projects possible all across the state of Nebraska. Work has been done in all 93 counties and many communities have felt the impact and presence of the Trust in one form or another. The Trust now receives 44.5 percent of Lottery profits after the first \$500,000 is paid to the Compulsive Gamblers Fund.

The Nebraska Environmental Trust was created under legislation advanced by then-Governor Ben Nelson and passed by the Legislature in 1992. Today a total of \$191 million has been disbursed, fulfilling the Trust's mission of conserving, enhancing and restoring the natural environments of Nebraska. It was created on the conviction that a prosperous future is dependent upon a sound natural environment and that Nebraskans could collectively achieve real progress on environmental issues if seed money were provided.

The Trust has five main funding categories, which are revisited every five years by members of the Nebraska public and conservation organizations and agencies interested in the mission of the Trust.

Habitat: actions to preserve or restore native habitats and areas critical to at-risk, rare or endangered species; other preservation actions for at-risk, rare or endangered species including actions to understand ecosystem relationships which inform sound management; community habitat enhancement emphasizing native and ecologically appropriate plantings which provide food and shelter for wildlife; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

Surface and Ground Water: actions to preserve or restore lakes, waterways and ground water from degradation or depletion; actions to research, design or foster best management practices; actions to conserve water and/or efficiently and effectively manage water use; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.



Nebraska Environmental Trust money is being used to preserve, protect and enhance wildlife habitat across the entire state, including for the Piping Plover as seen above.

Waste Management and Recycling: actions promoting and implementing source reduction, waste management or toxicity reduction; actions promoting and implementing the development of recycling markets; actions promoting and implementing reuse and other disposal diversion actions; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

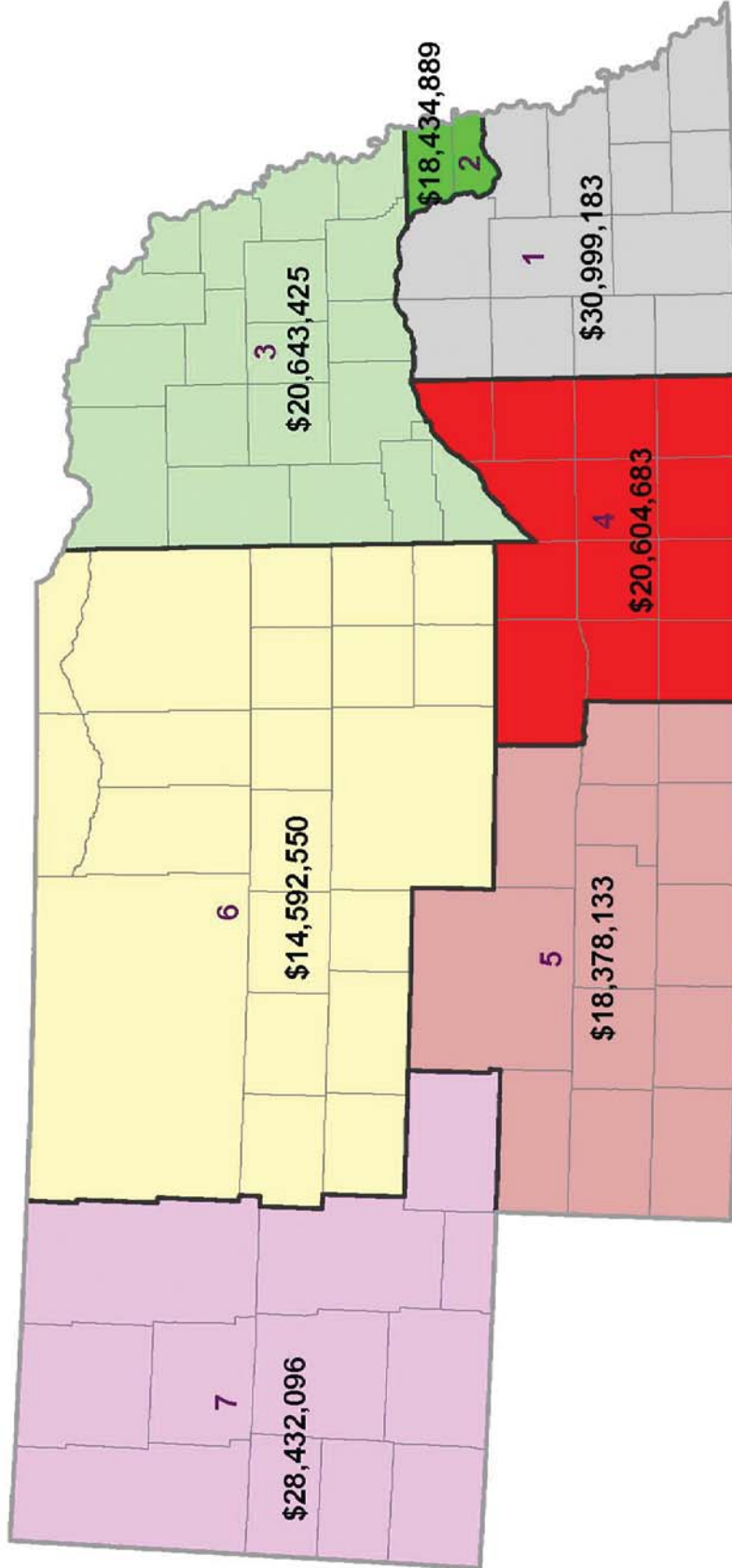
Air Quality: actions promoting and implementing clean air strategies, including greenhouse gas reductions; actions to research, design or foster best management strategies; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

Soil Management: actions and strategies to preserve, conserve and restore soil health; actions to research, design or foster the implementation and management of these strategies; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

The Trust has surely made its presence known in Nebraska for the past two decades. We strive to continue with our mission and purpose to serve the people of Nebraska for the betterment of the environment and for the preservation of our rich heritage.

# Geographic Distribution of Awards (1994-2012)

## Geographic Distribution of Awards (1994 - 2012) Nebraska Environmental Trust



|           | 1994-2011 Awards | 2012 Awards |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|
| 1         | \$28,448,900     | \$2,550,283 |
| 2         | \$15,619,444     | \$2,815,445 |
| 3         | \$19,658,042     | \$ 985,383  |
| 4         | \$18,586,417     | \$2,018,266 |
| 5         | \$14,857,772     | \$3,520,361 |
| 6         | \$12,761,212     | \$1,831,338 |
| 7         | \$26,073,028     | \$2,359,069 |
| Statewide | \$36,022,866     | \$3,212,251 |

Figures on the map represent geographic area award totals for 1994 - 2012: \$152,084,959

Awards with Statewide Benefits for 1994-2012 (not included in map figures): \$39,235,117

Total Amount Awarded  
1994 - 2012: \$191,320,076



Nebraska Environmental Trust  
Revised 04/18/12

## Nebraska Academy of Sciences Public Information and Education MiniGrant Summary for 2012

Total awards for four quarters in 2012  
= \$44,694

Total recipients = 17

Total applications received = 27

Total dollars requested = \$70,600

The Nebraska Academy of Sciences has now administered the Public Information and Education (PIE) mini-grants 14 full quarters for the Nebraska Environmental Trust. During the 2012 grant cycle, a total of 27 applications (in four quarters) requesting \$70,600 were received and 17 grants were awarded totaling \$44,694. Grant recipients were well represented from all across the state and from numerous entities including schools, environmental non-profit groups, city and county administrations, as well as NRDs, Extension offices, and 4-H groups and individuals.

A review committee of 4-5 people evaluated all the applications and rated them according to criteria provided by the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The reviewers have a broad variety of backgrounds and expertise, and are from various areas in the state. The variety of applications continues to be amazing. Grant requests were received for publicity for special meetings and conferences, nature education projects in schools, festivals, wildlife projects, recycling projects, habitat preservation and education, and small research projects.

Grant recipients have one year to turn in their final report from the date their grant was awarded. The Academy has received 10 final reports this year, and the following is a brief description of those grant results.

Nebraska Environmental Trust supported the Nebraska Bird Partnership with a grant of \$2,985. The funds were used to update audio files for the Nebraska Bird Library, birding banners and brochures for workshops, and for distribution through the Game and Parks Commission, U.S. Forest Service, and The Nebraska Nature and Visitor Center. Funding also supported the WasteCap Nebraska Sustainability Summit. Approximately 300 people attended and feedback from the conference included "This was one of the most practical and useful sustainability presentations I have ever attended." NET funds also supported the 2012 Veg Fest. The event showcased non-profit and private organizations promoting and educating in the areas of environmental stewardship, re-use and re-cycle, and reduce. An estimated 600 or more guests attended VegFest with over 70 vendors. An expansion of the Western Nebraska Park Naturalist Program was also enabled by a PIE grant. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission used their funding to develop new naturalist programs for Fort Robinson State Park and Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area.

For more information on the Public Information and Education Minigrants, contact: Nebraska Academy of Sciences office, 302 Morrill Hall, 14th and U Streets, Lincoln NE 68588-0339 or call 402-472-2644.



2012 VegFest

## ***A Peek Into Our Projects***

In the corresponding pages, the Trust is proud to showcase some of our most memorable projects done with various organizations in the last 20 years. It is our trusted and valued partners that have made the implementation of these projects possible. In general, individuals, private organizations and public entities can apply for Trust money - matching funds for a project are not required but encouraged through points awarded on the rating scale.

The Trust seeks opportunities that bring public and private partners together to work on high-quality, cost effective projects. It also values projects that leverage private investment in conservation and emphasize long-term results. Here's a peek into some of the projects that the Trust has helped fund.

---

### Nebraska Game & Parks Commission - Wildlife

Since its creation in 1992, the Nebraska Environmental Trust has provided indispensable support for the Game and Parks Commission's mission of fish, wildlife, and parkland stewardship for the benefit of all Nebraskans. One of the most notable examples of this is our cooperation on the Nebraska Natural Legacy Project, the Commission's long-term blueprint for conserving the state's biological diversity. The Legacy Project is unique in that its mission and guiding principles are overseen by representatives of over two dozen governmental and non-governmental organizations with an interest in conserving Nebraska's natural resources, making it a truly collaborative effort. Funds provided by the Trust to the Legacy Project are matched by a variety of state, federal and private funds to improve habitat for the species and natural communities that need help the most, with projects established in literally every corner of the state. Project funds are also used to gather scientific information and educate a variety of audiences about at-risk species and their needs. Together, these activities and partnerships are perhaps one of the most ambitious wildlife management initiatives ever attempted in Nebraska and the Trust's support has played a central role in turning the Legacy Project's "on-the-shelf" concept into an "on-the-ground" reality.



The photos above show the "before and after" contrast on a severely cedar-encroached area overlooking the Niobrara River near Meadville. The top picture was taken prior to treatment. In the bottom photo cedar removal is well underway. Marketable products such as cedar logs and fence posts were harvested and the slash was mulched, also yielding a marketable product and eliminating the need for burning piles. Following completion of cedar removal, a prescribed burn will be used to kill any cedar seedlings that have sprouted.

## Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) - Fisheries

The Niobrara River arises in Wyoming and flows east across northern Nebraska over 563 miles to its confluence with the Missouri River. Due to its unique and exceptional recreational, natural, scenic and cultural characteristics, segments of the Niobrara River have been designated as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

In 2006, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission initiated work on developing recommendations for an instream flow appropriation request on the Niobrara River for fish, wildlife and recreational uses. The Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) supported the Commission's efforts to develop instream flow recommendations for the Niobrara River by supplying significant funds for a series of studies and outreach efforts. These studies included hydrologic and water budget analyses of the river using USGS HIP software and climate data (performed by University of Nebraska - Lincoln), geomorphological analyses and macro-scale habitat evaluations (USGS), recreational floating analysis of the Scenic River reach (Confluence Research and Consulting), socioeconomics of recreational floating and out-of-stream water uses (University of Nebraska - Omaha) and MesotHabsim analyses of the relationship between habitat use by fish and wildlife and the hydrology of the river (UNL). These studies provide the Commission valuable data concerning the relationships between river flows and the availability of fish and wildlife habitats, how various species use this habitat under different flow levels, and what flows are optimal for recreational floaters in canoes and kayaks.

Using this support from NET, the Commission worked together with Friends of the Niobrara to produce a video entitled "Niobrara River: Jewel of the North". This excellent video documents the unique characteristics of the river across the state and interviews numerous persons that live by, work on or regularly visit the Niobrara River. These interviews describe the complexity, utility and beauty of this river ecosystem and strives to demonstrate why it is such a valuable resource to the citizens of Nebraska and deserves to be protected. These studies described above, funded in great part by the NET, form the framework for the Commission's efforts at protecting the unique and irreplaceable ecosystem that is the Niobrara River.





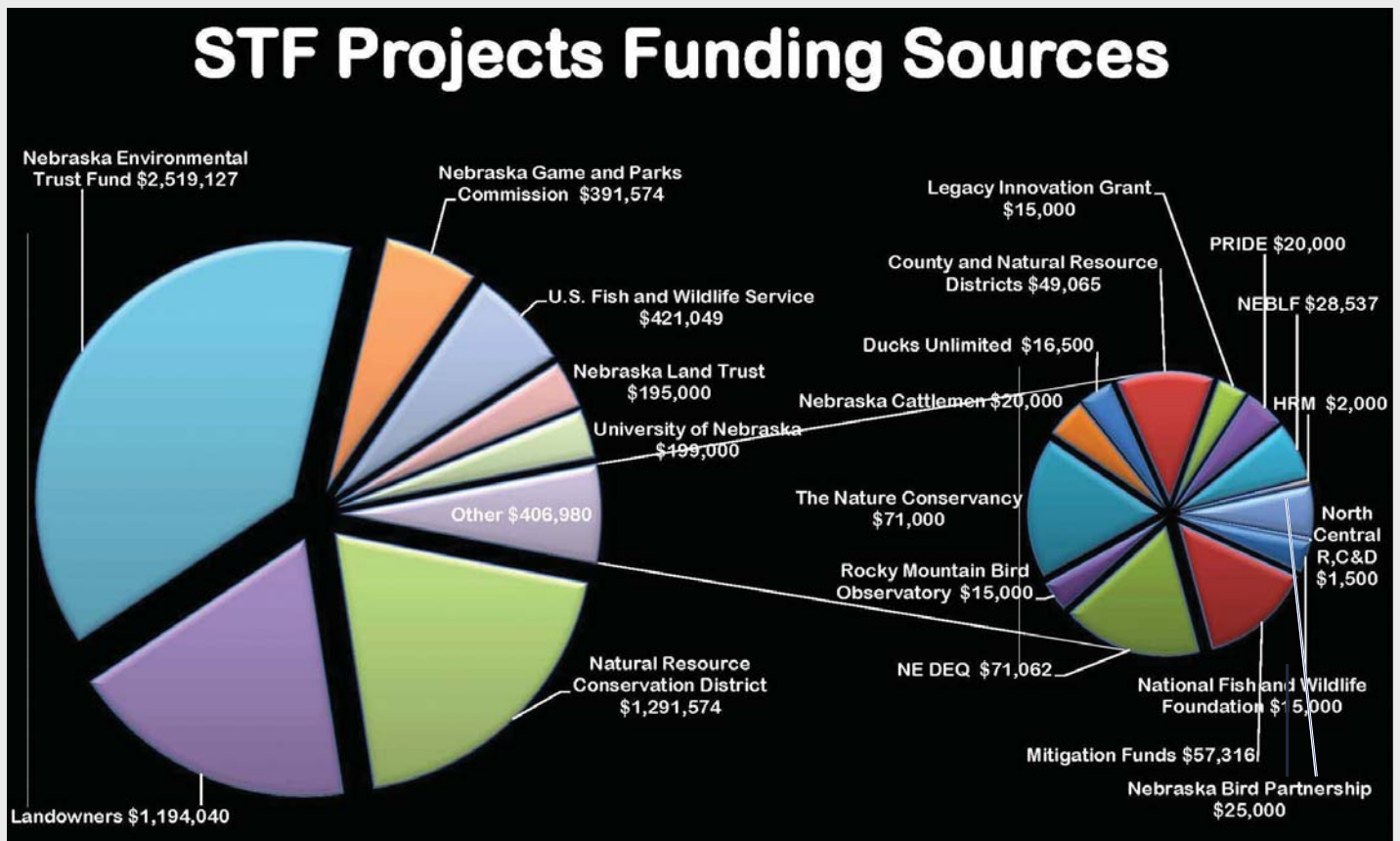
## Sandhills Task Force (STF)

Just as the Nebraska Environmental Trust is a uniquely Nebraskan organization that has been a great success, the Sandhills Task Force (STF) has been a uniquely Sandhills based organization that shares many of the same long term goals on a regional level. For almost twenty years the STF has worked alongside NET to fill a huge need to deliver long term collaborative stewardship and conservation projects. STF works exclusively on private lands with a board of directors firmly anchored in ranching and conservation practices that will stand the test of time. The majority of their 16 member board are composed of ranchers and the balance consists of leaders within the agency and non-governmental organizations they represent. Service provided to landowners include resource concerns, funding options, design and operational suggestions and encouragement for those willing to be involved in determining the future of their own landscape. STF fills many gaps within the 20 county, 20,000 square mile region.

The funding provided by the NET has created a large and lasting impact on the Nebraska Sandhills through dozens of projects that run the gamut from restoring riparian corridors, wetlands and hydrology to establishing sound long-term grazing plans that enhance grasslands and benefit a host of species. Encouraging diversity, enhancing special areas, working with landowners to help them understand the significance of the resources they manage and trying to bridge the gaps in other available conservation programs that are all cumulative and create tangible long term economic and quality of life opportunities. Ranching in the Sandhills has historically been a very low margin enterprise. For many projects a small amount of funding can positively impact a specific site for decades to come. The vast majority of funded STF agreements with landowners involve a significant landowner contribution and have a minimum duration of ten years ensuring landowner commitment.

STF also functions as a land trust and in unique situations holds conservation easements funded in part by NET. These perpetual easements are simply another tool for landowners to meet their needs and assure stability to a few special areas of the region. STF holds only 6 easements and the board has always been very selective in considering potential sites. Future easements will always be infrequent and applied only when the long-term benefits for the Sandhills ranching culture and specific landowner and resource benefits outweigh the costs and responsibilities associated with the project.

STF partners with other conservation entities delivering conservation opportunities that have been a source of pride and success for STF board members and has resulted in long-term trust benefiting individual landowners. STF credibility in ranching and conservation circles is important and drives STF goals and future projects. Opportunities change as well as needs and the flexibility of both NET and STF to address these needs is what will determine our future joint failure or success.



## Ducks Unlimited (DU) - Conserving Critical Wetland Habitat in Nebraska

Beginning in 2001, Ducks Unlimited (DU) and the Nebraska Environmental Trust forged an important and innovative partnership dedicated to protecting and restoring key wetland complexes in critical regions of the state. Historically, Nebraska has lost over 90% of its wetlands in the heart of some of its most important wildlife landscapes. As a result of NET's support towards Ducks Unlimited's efforts in the Rainwater Basin and the Platte River watershed, DU has conserved 16,164 acres of habitat. Since 2001, the Trust has awarded Ducks Unlimited 19 grants for a total of over \$5.5 million. Through these awards, Ducks Unlimited and its partners have been able to leverage an additional \$17 million from federal programs, foundations, and private donations.



One of the unique aspects of the partnership with the Trust has been the willingness to fund non-traditional conservation programs like the Revolving Lands Approach. In this approach, DU purchases important conservation lands from willing sellers, restores critical habitat, places perpetual conservation easements on the land and resells to a public agency or a private conservation buyer. Proceeds from the sale of the land are deposited back into the revolving account to fund additional priority habitat acquisition and restoration projects. A prime example is the Dedrickson tract in Clay County that was not possible without the partnership with the Trust. Grant funds were used to help purchase the 257-acre property and restore three wetland basins and over 100 acres of native grassland habitat. This important property is located adjacent to the Green Acres Waterfowl Production Area and in the center of a large wetland complex. Now permanently protected, the property will be sold this year to a conservation buyer and funds used to purchase another critical Rainwater Basin.

---

Platte River Basin Environments, Inc. (PRBE), began in 1989 when a group of sportsmen and women responded to a dying friend's request and bequest. The first habitat projects were completed prior to the creation of the Nebraska Environmental Trust. But having already experienced what it takes to complete projects, they clearly understood what great value the Trust would be to all Nebraskans, and PRBE worked diligently to insure its passage. In twenty years, the NET has greatly surpassed PRBE's highest expectations.

PRBE's goals in acquiring some of Nebraska's most pristine wildlife habitats has been (1) maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of critical habitats; (2) the expansion of our knowledge of archeological and paleontological history; (3) utilization of the educational opportunities and attributes of these exceptional resources; (4) maintenance of the ranching, farming, and economic value of these properties; and (5) opening these wild landscapes for public use and enjoyment. Funding from the NET, good science, management, partnerships, and volunteerism are the key factors to our success.

In the last twenty years, the contributions of their many partners have more than doubled the financial resources provided by NET. The Trust, through its financial support, has encouraged, facilitated and empowered their organization to go further and realize even bigger dreams. With their partners, PRBE has acquired or completed restoration work on over 55,000 acres. These exceptional properties will provide the necessary habitats for our wild resources to flourish, wonderful recreational, scientific and educational opportunities for our citizens, and economic value to our state—FOREVER.



Since 2005, WasteCap Nebraska has received funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust to provide education and market development activities surrounding universal waste. With this funding, WasteCap developed workshops for businesses on proper disposal of fluorescent lamps and electronics, hosted electronics collection events, developed a small grant program for communities to host electronics recycling events and developed the "Another Bright Idea" campaign to provide recycling outlets for fluorescent lamps. WasteCap hosted a total of nine Universal Waste and Electronic Waste workshops reaching five different communities and 193 business representatives.



WasteCap conducted multi-media educational campaigns, including radio, television and print educational materials as well as creating websites and social media education for electronics and fluorescent lamps. This education and the market development efforts have resulted in 79 drop-off locations for fluorescent lamps all across Nebraska. Over 1,200 mercury-containing fluorescent lamps and CFLs have been collected through the "Another Bright Idea" program.

WasteCap also developed best practices and performance standards for electronic recyclers to participate in the "E-scrap" grant program. This program has funded 26 collection events in 18 communities serving 3,131 Nebraska businesses and residents. In all, 460,283 pounds of electronics were collected for proper disposal, reuse and recycling.

The environmental results of the program are staggering. The main threats are mercury (from lamps) and lead (from electronics). As a result of the two programs, WasteCap has helped to divert 152,354 pounds of leaded glass from our landfills and has kept 325,298 mg of mercury from entering our environment. Since it only takes 50 mg of mercury to enter a waterway to contaminate 40 average sized fish, these efforts have protected 260,742 fish from mercury contamination.

WasteCap is very grateful for the continued support of the Nebraska Environmental Trust in funding these very important programs.

---

Fort Robinson Tree Replant was started in 1990 after the summer of 1989 when a lightning sparked a fire that consumed 48,000 acres of grassland and timber at Fort Robinson State Park. Dr Lou Kleager and Superintendent Vince Rotherham had a vision to prevent erosion and restore the trees lost by the fire. In turn the Boy Scouts and public would do a good turn for Conservation.

The first year 300 scouts and adults attended and planted 800 trees. Those trees today are around 12 to 15 foot in height. The program continued due to funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust helping to ensure the annual attendance of 1,100 scouts and leaders for the past 23 years and planting a total of 450,000 trees to date. Today the interaction of the Boy Scouts, Fort Robinson Staff, the State of Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Nebraska Environmental Trust together effortlessly to make this project so successful and provide future generations a glimpse of the beauty once had on the landscape of Fort Robinson State Park.

The Boy Scouts have run this program with conservation in mind and building a strong presence in the minds of the youth to give service and learn tree planting methods and what they are doing for the State of Nebraska and Fort Robinson State Park, which will impact the beauty of the landscape and help draw visitors to the Park for its programs and facilities. They have run this program for 23 years and are planning on making it a 25 year event and to reach a goal of 500,000 planted with 25,000 youth and adults attending giving over 75,000 hours of conservation service. Their working relationship with the Nebraska Environmental Trust has been nothing but stellar and seamless from the beginning till the present and hopefully until the program ends in two years.



Pheasants Forever (PF) - Since the first grant was awarded in 1994 for a pilot program called "Corners For Wildlife", PF has been part of crafting many innovative and successful partnerships with the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The key ingredients to these many successes has been innovative designs, working in a partnership format, matching funds and involving a wide range of partners with a similar mission.



The range of successful partnerships covers wildlife habitat projects, landowner education, providing habitat equipment and conservation program enrollment. A few of the key successes include: Corners For Wildlife - Working with landowners to establish wildlife habitat on center pivot irrigation field corners: 1,480 projects on 9,809 acres; Grassland Improvement Program - Working with landowners to prepare grasslands for prescribed burning: 44 projects on 6,623 acres; Platte-Republican CREP - Providing incentives for improved habitat and public access on private lands: 195 projects on 19,147 acres; No-till Grass Drills - Obtaining 61 grass drills for landowner use across the state: 8,073 projects on 647,300+ acres; Mobile Prescribed Burn Units - Creating a mobile cache of burn equipment that assists with prescribed burns on private lands: 368 burns on 25,358 acres; Landowner Habitat Tours - Conducting free tours across the state to demonstrate conservation program successes: 82 tours for 2,381 people; Prescribed Burn Workshops - Conducting prescribed burn training across the state: 54 workshops for 1,209 people; Loess Canyons Habitat Work - Improving grassland habitat in the Loess Canyons: 13 projects on 7,259 acres.

The partial summary of the partnerships between PF and the Trust and their results shows how Trust funds are the driver to significant accomplishments all across the state. Without the NET, the partnerships listed in this brief summary would not have happened. Nebraska's natural resources, people and wildlife have all benefited greatly from the successes of the past 20 years.

---

The Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (RWBJV) is a partnership focused on providing wetland habitat for the millions of waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wetland species that depend on this region during their annual migrations. In 1994, the RWBJV was awarded its first Nebraska Environmental Trust Grant. To date the RWBJV has been awarded just over \$8.8 million dollars. These funds have been instrumental in project implementation and have provided the RWBJV partnership opportunities to leverage and match these funds. The RWBJV has successfully leveraged Nebraska Environmental Trust funds 1:1 acquiring both federal and non-federal competitive grants. These funds have resulted in the completion of nearly 400 habitat projects that have impacted over 20,000 wetland and associated upland acres. Projects have included: 1) Acquisitions of wetlands and associated uplands to create Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Wildlife Management Areas and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Waterfowl Production Areas 2) short term conservation projects to increase habitat values found on private lands, 3) Watershed restoration activities to increase wetland function, and 4) Management treatments to control invasive and undesired vegetation communities in the wetlands. The wetlands enhanced by these activities will not only benefit the millions of waterfowl, they also provide groundwater recharge, filter agricultural chemicals from runoff, provide flood water storage, and other actions that benefit landowners and local communities throughout the Rainwater Basin Region. The most memorable project for the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture is the wetland and watershed restoration of the Macon Lakes wetland. Restoration of this 1,300 acre wetland involved clearing 600 acres of trees in phase I while phase II involved removing 18 irrigation reuse pits, recontouring waterways and replacing road culverts to increase wetland function.

The RWBJV is committed to continuing our long standing partnership with the Nebraska Environmental Trust to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands throughout the Rainwater Basin Region.



Nebraska Statewide Arboretum - Over the past 15 years, through funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, 500 sustainable landscape projects have been implemented in more than 168 Nebraska communities—with new project partners still signing on and dollars still being allocated!

NET has supported four main grant programs under the supervision of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum: Green Space Stewardship Initiative, ReTree Nebraska/Trees for Nebraska Towns, Waterwise Initiative and Sustainable Schoolyard Partnership. Thus far 3.3 million dollars in projects have been completed, with total project values of more than 7.2 million dollars. These dollars have encouraged and enabled Nebraska communities to use sustainable and environmentally-sound landscape practices that conserve water, improve water quality, create habitat, improve air, save energy and restore community forests.

Long-term impacts of all of these programs can be seen across Nebraska. Though the Green Space Stewardship Initiative was completed in 2005, many of these projects continue to serve as models in their communities, with subsequent landscape efforts replicating the things learned and seen from the initial efforts. These projects continue to influence and drive choices and methods in areas like plant selection, design and management. The Sunken Gardens in Alliance, once a water-guzzling annual display, received a grant to convert the garden to native grasses and perennials. Both the “sense of place” aesthetic and the implications for water conservation have spread throughout the Alliance park system into new and renovated plantings.

Trees for Nebraska Towns seeks to restore community canopies. In Hastings alone, more than 250 trees have been planted in parks and the new Highland Park Arboretum was created, bringing a renewed tree-planting ethic to the community and even to surrounding communities. In the six years that Trees for Nebraska Towns has been granting funds to communities, more than 15,000 shade trees have been planted in Nebraska. These public trees will provide 27.6 million dollars in net benefits over the next 40 years (more about these benefits can be found at <http://retree-nebraska.unl.edu/reasons-plant-trees>). Projects for 2012 are currently being completed and 2013 projects are being selected.

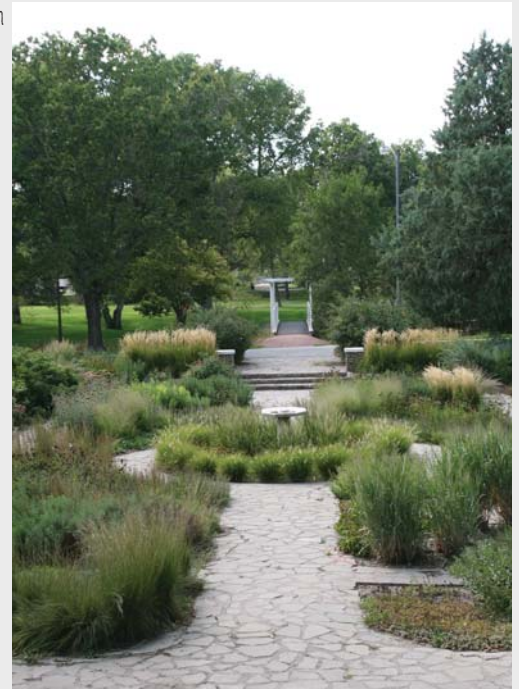
The Waterwise program focuses on water issues, seeking to promote water conservation and to improve water quality. Innovative projects are going in across the state, introducing homeowners to new ideas in green infrastructure, while helping even landscape professionals advance their knowledge.

Sustainable Schoolyard Partnership seeks to build on the great work of the other initiatives with a focus on creating sustainably managed schoolyards through student-driven investigation and on-the-ground projects. Fifteen demonstration sites will be created through this program.

NET dollars have been critical to “creating sustainable landscapes for healthy homes and communities” all across the state via efforts that continue to replicate themselves far beyond the boundaries of the initial projects.

The PrairieLand Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC&D) has received funding for four projects in excess of \$1.8 million, two of which have been funded for multiple years. “Our mission statement is to create a network for all citizens by providing awareness, education and leadership development to enhance the economy, the environment, the natural resources and the quality of life with a vision for the future.”

“We are thankful to partner with the Trust and share many goals. PrairieLand RC&D has also received grant funding for a Xeriscape Workshop and participates in the Statewide Organic Farming Project. All of these projects have received funding to help administer the grants and to implement the projects. Our partnership with the Nebraska Environmental Trust has been a thrilling experience and we are always pleased when a representative from the Trust is able to attend one of our educational events.”



University of Nebraska - Lincoln - From helping farmers produce food using natural resources as efficiently as possible to protecting threatened and endangered plants and wildlife, the Nebraska Environmental Trust has supported a wide range of research and education projects at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).

During the past 20 years, the Trust has provided nearly \$6 million to fund 76 UNL research and education projects. The projects are diverse - from public environmental education to research on complex natural resource issues - but share an overarching goal to help protect Nebraska's environment and natural resources. For example, projects funded by the Trust:

- Work with Nebraska farmers to improve irrigation efficiency and use livestock manure as valuable fertilizer while protecting water resources.
- Examine the impact of different tillage practices on water quality and use, and soil nutrients.
- Explore potential for turning waste products such as discarded carpets or plastic bags into high-value products.
- Prevent, monitor and manage invasive species and propagate threatened native plants.
- Study and protect endangered least terns and threatened piping plovers; and spearheaded recovery efforts for the endangered blowout penstemon.
- Provide environment and natural resources-related training, education, outreach and demonstration projects for Nebraskans statewide.

As Nebraska's comprehensive land-grant research university, UNL research and extension programs reach every county in the state so NET's investment in UNL projects has statewide impact.

"Funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust has enabled UNL faculty to launch research and education projects that will benefit Nebraska's environment, its agriculture and its economy for years to come," said Prem S. Paul, UNL vice chancellor for research and economic development.



The Nebraska Prairie Partners, a partnership between Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, has been successful at conserving grassland and cropland birds in western Nebraska for ten years. With support from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, the program has focused on conservation-based outreach and education in schools and with private landowners. Since 2002, the Trust has funded 21 projects totaling \$1.6 million to RMBO and its partners, targeting Tier 1 at-risk bird species, identified in Nebraska's Natural Legacy Project. Additionally, matching funds exceeding \$500,000 from over ten partners have supported conservation efforts.

Trust funds have supported habitat-based conservation throughout the panhandle. RMBO has:

- Developed an innovative Mountain Plover nest-marking program, protecting 663 nests on 200,000 acres of private lands involving 78 landowners
- Built 25 nest platforms for Ferruginous Hawks
- Installed 1,500 stock tank ladders to prevent wildlife drowning
- Held bi-annual landowner workshops
- Educated 4,500 students and adults at the Wildcat Hills Nature Center Bird Banding Station
- Conducted fall and spring school programs that reach 3,200 students annually
- Distributed 9,000 Pocket Guides to Birds of Nebraska

Fostering long-term relationships with private landowners and the local community is an important goal for Nebraska Prairie Partners, and essential for bird habitat conservation. It is also important to inspire young Nebraskans to care about birds and their habitats. After visiting the bird banding station, one teacher responded: "It was a great opportunity for the students to learn how to appreciate birds and the role they play in our world."



The Nebraska Land Trust (NLT) is dedicated to the mission of protecting agricultural, historical, and natural resources on private land, through voluntary agreements known as conservation easements. From hardwood forests in the lower Platte valley that serve as critical habitat for migrating songbirds, to pine covered buttes that provide a refuge for bighorn sheep in the Pine Ridge, the Nebraska Environmental Trust and NLT have been invaluable partners in the permanent preservation of irreplaceable places.

Since 2008, the NLT has been awarded \$2,434,080 through four separate Environmental Trust grants for land protection, which then allowed the NLT to secure an additional \$2,360,210 in matching federal dollars. As a result, a sacred Pawnee bluff on the Platte has been preserved near Fremont, which also harbors eastern oak/hickory forest at the western extreme of its range. Downriver, five properties totaling 525 acres have been preserved near Schramm State Park, designated by the Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area. On the Niobrara River, the Sunny Brook Ranch was protected just upstream from Rocky Ford, one of the most popular spots on the river. Most recently, two Pine Ridge properties frequented by bighorns have been preserved, including one that is nearly surrounded by Fort Robinson State Park.



According to Dave Sands, the NLT's executive director, "None of these projects would have been possible without assistance from the Environmental Trust. Of course the real beneficiaries are the people of Nebraska who cherish these landscapes, and landowners who want to leave a legacy of preserved land."

The City of Lincoln is in gratitude to the Nebraska Environmental Trust for their continued support and partnership of several community projects for the past 20 years.

These community projects, accomplished with the assistance of the Nebraska Environmental Trust included programs benefitting the environment and residents in many ways. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department sponsored programs for Pollution Prevention, a local Pharmacy Medication Disposal Program, and Wellhead Protection. Several conservation projects have enhanced Wilderness Park Wetlands, Holmes Lake, and the Eastern Saline Wetlands. Local ecosystems such as native prairies and saline wetlands have been conserved for future generations.



Environmental education is primary in fulfilling the Trust mission to develop a vision of Nebraska's future environment. The City of Lincoln has partnered with the Trust in projects, which seek to educate all residents about the environment. These projects include greening of the Antelope Valley Park System, Haymarket Arena Recycling and Composting Program and the Prairie Building addition at the Pioneers Park Nature Center.

The City of Lincoln has long been proud of its high quality of life, its tradition of environmental stewardship, and its engaged community members. The continuing partnership with the Nebraska Environmental Trust has assisted Lincoln in being a sustainable city, meeting the needs of residents today without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The City of Omaha has worked with the Trust on numerous projects. These projects include the Carter Lake Water Quality Restoration, Hummel Nature Center and Znech House as well as the Glenn Cunningham Lake Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project to name a few. In all three of these projects, as well as several other projects, the City of Omaha has benefited greatly from the Nebraska Environmental Trust's assistance.

"The City of Omaha has enjoyed working with staff from the Trust, who have always been supportive of our projects. When unexpected issues arose, they were helpful in making the necessary adjustments to the grant whether it's modifying the scope or extending the deadline. The application and reporting processes are very clear and easily accommodated. Similar goals for improving the environment has made this a long-term partnership which we hope to continue for years to come."



---

### The Groundwater Foundation

Funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust has enabled the Groundwater Foundation to give groundwater a voice over the past two decades. Groundwater, Nebraska's most precious natural resource, is hidden and its role in sustaining life is often overlooked. The Trust has recognized that awareness of groundwater is the first step to conserving, enhancing and restoring the environments of Nebraska. As such, the Trust has been a major player in many of the Groundwater Foundation's most important programs, all of which have focused on education and inspiring on-the-ground protection and conservation efforts. In 1995 the Groundwater Foundation received its first grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust; the project was entitled "Bringing the Festival Home." The objective of the project was to make the lessons learned at the festival last; to inspire the youth to bring home the lessons and implement them over the long term. Recently the Groundwater Foundation received a letter from one of these festival participants, Brandon. Brandon, who went on to get a Master's degree in sustainable rural development, said in his letter:

"It may be hard to believe that something like the Groundwater Festival could have such an impact on someone's life but it is true. The concepts I learned at an early age stayed with me and translated into a drive to deepen my knowledge in that area. That is exactly why programs like this are so important because they plant the seeds. Seeds that one day may grow into something great."

Thank you, Nebraska Environmental Trust for making it possible for us to continue to plant the seeds! Cheers (with a tall glass of groundwater) to another 20 great years of environmental preservation! Jane Griffin - President





# Facts in Brief

The Nebraska Environmental Trust...

...is funded by the Nebraska Lottery. The Lottery has transferred more than \$191 million to the Trust in the last 19 years.

...covers the cost of operations through interest earnings. The Trust has operated with overhead expenditures equaling less than 2.5% of income since it was created.

...has completed 19 grant cycles and will announce the results of the 20th round of award recommendations in February 2013.

Operations Less Than 2.5% of Total Revenue

FY 11-12

Income

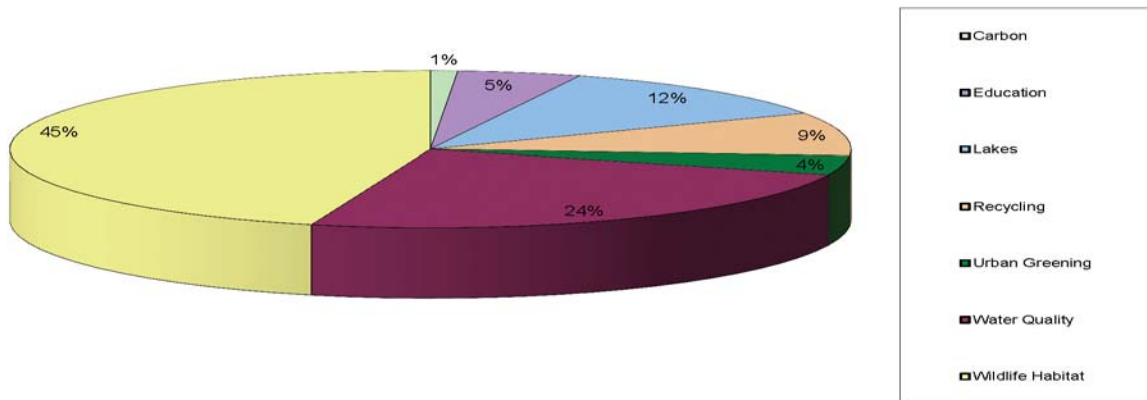
|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Interest income  | \$ 968,443.86    |
| Lottery Proceeds | \$ 15,830,904.00 |

Expenses

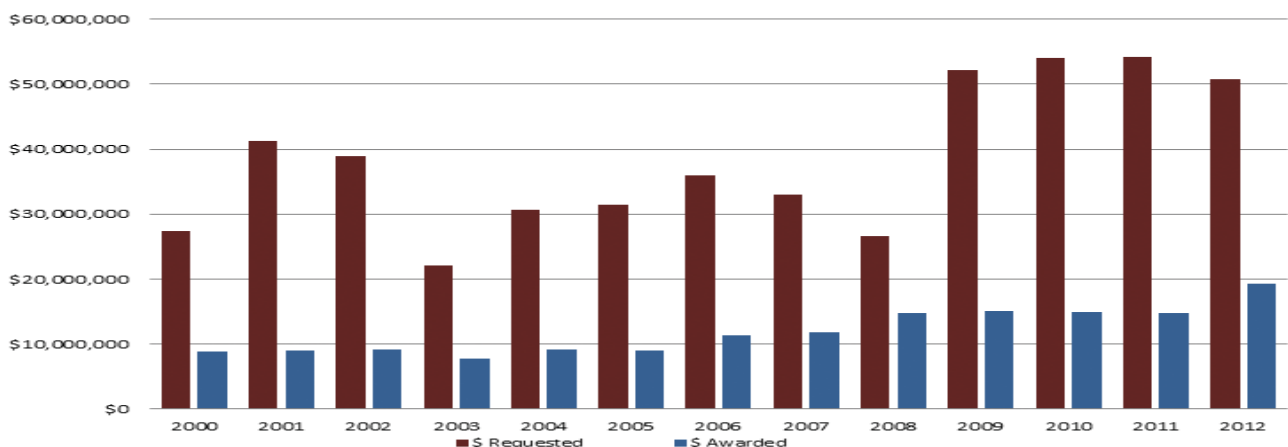
|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Operations   | \$ 423,302.79    |
| Grant Awards | \$ 19,292,396.00 |

Average Operation Expenses to Income Percentage from 1994 - 2012 = 1.62 %

Grant Awards by Category 1994-2012



Amount Requested vs Awarded 2000 -2012



# 2012 Grant Listing

The following is a listing of the 2012 grants awarded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The Trust can provide grants over a three year period and the funding is noted accordingly. Due to space limitations, only the project sponsor and brief description of the project have been outlined; to find out about additional project partners or additional project information, contact the Trust office at 402-471-5409 or visit our website at: [www.environmentaltrust.org](http://www.environmentaltrust.org)

## Angels on Wheels Inc.

Funds from Trust grant will be used for marketing and managing collection sites to increase the amount collected for recycling. \$54,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Clean Green Chesapeake

To develop robust bioprocessing capabilities to produce algae using nutrient rich anaerobic digester liquid effluent as an alternative feed for sustainable agriculture. \$160,000 (Yr. 1 of 2)

## Cornhusker Council, Boy Scouts of America

Funding for the development of a renewable energy Environmental and Conservation Education Center in Richardson County. \$50,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

## Ducks Unlimited

Five individual projects that collectively will protect and restore 1,250 acres of central Platte River habitat. \$224,140 (Yr. 1 of 2)

Project to protect and restore five parcels of private land that contain or have the potential to restore sensitive wetland environments within the North Platte River watershed. \$131,717 (Yr. 1 of 2)

To protect and restore a vital habitat complex in Scotts Bluff County through the Spring Creek Conservation Partnership proposal. \$110,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

Protection and restoration of over five miles of river frontage totalling over 2,600 acres of critical contiguous habitat. \$205,152. (Yr. 2 of 2)

To restore and enhance approximately 670 acres of shallow water, ephemeral wetland habitat in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin. \$89,340.00 (Yr. 2 of 2)

## Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department

Funding to support grassroots waste management project which will intertwine public education and hazardous waste disposal opportunities. \$70,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Fontenelle Forest Association

Funds to repair storm runoff damage in the two watersheds, Childs and Mill Hollows. \$575,210 (Yr. 1 of 2)

## Friends of the Rainwater Basin

Funding to retire irrigation reuse pits and improve wetland function throughout the Rainwater Basin region. \$109,623 (Yr. 3 of 3)

## Gracie Creek Landowner Association

Project to conserve and enhance habitat for key bird and plant species across a largely privately owned landscape. \$60,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

## Groundwater Foundation, The

Project to foster groundwater protection and conservation action in Nebraska homeowners. \$52,784 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Funding towards the Growing Groundwater Awareness in Nebraska, a project that leverages on strategic

partnerships to diffuse compelling messages about groundwater and surface water. \$58,881 (Yr. 3 of 3)

Collaborative project with Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska. \$59,075 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Grand Island Area Clean Community System

Leasing and modification of a 5,000 sq. ft. Household Hazardous Waste Facility. \$75,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

## Green Recycling Enterprises, LLC

Placing recycling containers through out the City of Omaha and at public events statewide. \$126,272 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Gretna Sanitation, Inc

Fund a trommel screen to fortify the success of its composting project. \$140,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Habitat for Humanity of Omaha Restore

To renovate and improve the ReStore's receiving area - Phase 1. \$200,600 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## High Plains Weed Management Association

Help to restore the waterways of the North and South Platte Rivers and its tributaries. \$250,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

## Keep Alliance Beautiful

To support education program funding and recycling equipment for a three year period. \$27,240 (Yr. 3 of 3)

## Keep Nebraska Beautiful

Removing inappropriate, outdated, unknown and unnecessary chemicals from schools. \$60,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

## Lincoln Children's Museum

Funding to replace museum's current water exhibit. \$90,786 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Lincoln Parks Foundation

Funding towards the revitalization of Centennial Mall. \$250,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

## Lincoln, City of

Conservation of the Eastern Saline Wetlands located in the Salt Creek watershed. \$360,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

## Lincoln, City of

State of the art recycling and composting program at the Haymarket Arena. \$150,250 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

A pilot project in to help consumers properly dispose of their medications. \$50,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

## Little Blue Natural Resources District

Purchase of pivots and/or sub-surface drip systems to reduce the amount of water applied to the soil. \$100,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District

A study on Cyanobacteria blooms at Willow Creek Reservoir. \$62,320 (Yr. 1 of 3)

## Lower Loup Natural Resources District

Cost-share of flowmeters for irrigators to increase understanding of groundwater irrigation. \$50,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

## Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

Funding to purchase a no-till drill. \$20,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance

Access to water quality data of the Lower Platte river and its tributaries to help protect the public and environment. \$33,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Metropolitan Area Planning Agency

A study to gather and review waste generation and diversion and disposal data for the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA). \$50,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

## Nebraska Academy of Sciences

Administration of the Public Information and Education Grants to support the presentation and dissemination of information and perspectives that will stimulate enhanced environmental stewardship. \$56,600 (Yr. 2 of 3)

## Nebraska Agricultural Education Educators

A soils project that educates Nebraska Agricultural Educators, Ag Ed students and Nebraskans to improve Nebraska soil and land health. \$100,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

## Nebraska Bird Partnership

Capacity building grant program to assist local conservation partnerships. \$40,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

Project to develop spatially explicit species habitat models and intergrate the statewide resource assessment to identify potential locations. \$40,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Nebraska Cattlemen

Funding towards the Leopold Conservation Award Video project. \$10,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Nebraska Center for Sustainable Constuction

Equipment for the satellite expansion of EcoStores in Nebraska. \$84,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

Funds to address human health concerns related to algal toxins and improve the environment at the Fremont Lake System (FLS). \$294,868 (Yr. 1 of 1)

## Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Funding for the Water Resources Cash Fund pursuant to the legislative mandate of LB229, 2011. \$3,300,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

## Nebraska Forest Service

Conversion of 240-acre Horning State Farm Demonstration Forest in Plattsmouth from a limited-access forestry research facility to a broadly accessible and critically needed Forestry Education Center. \$70,105 (Yr. 1 of 3)

## Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Medicine Creek State Recreation area shoreline stabilization. \$247,531 (Yr. 1 of 2)

To complete grassland habitat improvements on 25,000 acres across Nebraska over the next three years. \$255,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Renovation of the Missouri River flood-plain habitats on public and private lands impacted by flooding. \$85,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Improve wildlife habitat on private and public lands by installing fencing and watering facilities to allow for prescribed grazing management. \$75,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Project to conserve, restore and enhance water quality of aquatic eco-systems across the state using environmentally sound rehabilitation techniques. \$300,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

Expanding the implementation of new BULs, focus on new opportunities with exiting partnerships and continue established Legacy Project implementation. \$360,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

WILD Nebraska program which will be made available to the landowners to foster better stewardship on the landscape, create better wildlife habitat and increase public use opportunities. \$80,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

A prescribed burn program for the Oak Woodlands in Ponca State and Indian Cave State Parks. \$140,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

#### Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition

Financial support for targeting grazing land manager education along with public educational events. \$60,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

#### Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

The purchase of a conservation easement on acres of agricultural land in Morrill County around Chimney Rock. \$100,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

#### Nebraska State Irrigation Association

Continuation and growth of the Water Leaders Academy through an organized education program. \$41,190 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### Nebraska State Recycling Association

Recycling equipment grant to help NSRA build their recycling infrastructure across Nebraska by continuing the "smaller grants" program that has been done for 10 years. \$220,000 (Yr. 1 of 2)

#### Nebraska Statewide Arboretum

Sustainable Schoolyard Partnership (SSP) is a statewide, three year initiative aimed at dramatically improving the natural environment of school grounds through innovative development and management of green infrastructure. \$158,129 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Statewide initiative that will make Nebraska's community green spaces more sustainable through water-wise landscapes. \$258,692 (Yr. 3 of 3)

A three year initiative aimed at reversing the decline of Nebraska's community forests by promoting and investing in intensive tree planting, sound resource management, community capacity building and education. \$300,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

#### North Central Nebraska RC & D

Restoration of riparian habitat along the middle segment of the Niobrara River that has choked over the years with Purple Loosestrife. \$10,925 (Yr. 3 of 3)

#### North Platte Natural Resources District

To continue the development of innovative analysis of recently collected data to create aquifer maps in three dimensions. \$250,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

#### Northeast Nebraska RC & D

Integrated management of noxious weeds in biologically sensitive areas. \$21,133 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### Northern Prairies Land Trust

Native habitat conservation in southeast Nebraska. Enhancing tallgrass prairie on private lands through tree clearing, prescribed fire, etc. \$220,500 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### Omaha, City of

Restoring Spring Lake Park with the construction of a natural stormwater treatment system. \$7,000 (Yr. 1 of 2)

Funding for the construction of the wetland and stormwater detention components of a natural stormwater treatment system to reduce flooding and improve water quality in Saddle Creek basin. \$577,134 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Purchase of a heavy duty oil filter and can crusher for large and small filters. \$7,595 (Yr. 1 of 1)

Purchase of a compressed Natural Gas powered street sweeper instead of a diesel sweeper. \$46,632 (Yr. 1 of 1)

Removal of metal halide lamp fixtures and the procurement and installation of LED fixtures and occupancy sensors in a garage operated by the City of Omaha. \$180,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

Restoration and rehabilitation of Carter Lake. \$200,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

Funding towards the Gene Leahy mall lagoon renovation project. \$375,000 (Yr. 1 of 2)

#### Pheasants Forever

Purchase of a no-till grass drill for Perkins County. \$20,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

To establish permanent wildlife habitat. \$280,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### Platte River Basin Environments

Acquisition of the Cox Ranch to the Wildcat Hills Wildlands Initiative. \$300,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

The acquisition and restoration of the Tottenhoff property near Mitchell, Nebraska. \$360,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

#### Platte River Whooping Crane Maintenance Trust, Inc.

Funding towards Nebraska Nature and Visitor Center and a trail system. \$42,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### PrairieLand RC & D

Project to increase the adoption and sustainable use of continuous no-till by one million acres. \$100,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

Funding to implement conservation practices in the Shell Creek watershed to increase water quality and reduce damage from erosion and flooding. \$150,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

#### Quail Forever

Funding to continue the process of building Mobile Prescribed Burn Units, forming prescribed burn association, conducting landowner education outreach and increasing the use of prescribed burning. \$79,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

#### Rainwater Basin Joint Venture

To develop infrastructure that will facilitate grazing on abandoned wetlands throughout the Rainwater Basin Landscape. \$41,419 (Yr. 1 of 3)

The management of aggressive and invasive vegetation negatively effecting wetlands in the Rainwater Basin region of south-central Nebraska. \$89,250 (Yr. 3 of 3)

Project to restore, enhance and protect wetland and associated upland habitat within the Rainwater Basin landscape in south-central Nebraska. \$150,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

#### Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Develop and implement habitat focused conservation programs throughout Kimball grasslands. \$150,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

Conservation and educational activities that will assist in addressing threats to at-risk species in addition to informing and educating students, teachers, landowners and resource professionals. \$101,255 (Yr. 2 of 3)

#### Sandhills Task Force

Grant to build capacity to enhance the entire ecosystem, abundant surface and groundwater, its grasslands and wildlife. \$95,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

Funding to complete the acquisition of conservation easement on approximately 25,450 acres of sandhill grassland and wetlands in Loup County. \$175,627 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### South Platte Natural Resources District.

Installing monitoring wells to gather information on aquifer peoperties. \$193,190 (Yr. 3 of 3)

Maintaining CRP benefits to air, water, soil and wildlife resources by providing producers with an option to maintain these acres in grassland through the use of livestock grazing. \$200,000 (Yr. 3 of 3)

#### Southwest Weed Management Area

Maintenance of the Western Republican Riparian Improvement Project. \$380,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

#### Spencer Area Development Corporation

Project to rejuvenate the wildlife habitat of a 9.7 acre pond. \$284,551 (Yr. 1 of 2)

#### The Nebraska Land Trust Incorporated

Purchase of a conservation easement on two properties that provide critical habitat for bighorns in the Pine Ridge. \$130,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

#### Tri-Tracks District, Longs Peak Council, Boy Scouts of America

Tree-Planting initiative at Fort Robinson to replace Ponderosa Pines in a nearly 50,000 acre burn that occurred in 1989. \$14,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

#### Twin Valley Weed Management Area

On-going efforts to control invasive riparian plants along the Republican River and its tributaries. \$400,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

#### University of Nebraska - Board of Regents

Conserving water through irrigator education. \$30,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

Controlling eastern RedCedar population on the Cedar Point Biological Station (CPBS) property. \$10,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

Evaluation of management techniques for prairie restoration efforts. \$10,000 (Yr. 2 of 3)

Locating Professional Manure Applicators, providing training needs, workshops and an educationally focused manure expo. \$40,000 (Yr. 2 of 2)

#### University of Nebraska - Omaha - Board of Regents

Purchase approximately 105 acres to extend the western boundary of Allwine Prairie, so as to incorporate the entire upper drainage of the Glacier Creek Watershed. \$390,000 (Yr. 1 of 3)

#### Upper Loup Natural Resources District

Funds for the placement of recycling trailers throughout the district to provide regular transport of these trailers to the end market. \$12,129 (Yr. 2 of 3)

Funding to construct a new building and to purchase two vertical balers to make the current recycling program sustainable. \$135,000 (Yr. 1 of 1)

#### Upper Republican Natural Resources District

The Rock Creek Prairie and Stream Flow Restoration project. \$735,000 (Yr. 1 of 2)



The Nebraska  
Environmental Trust

preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations





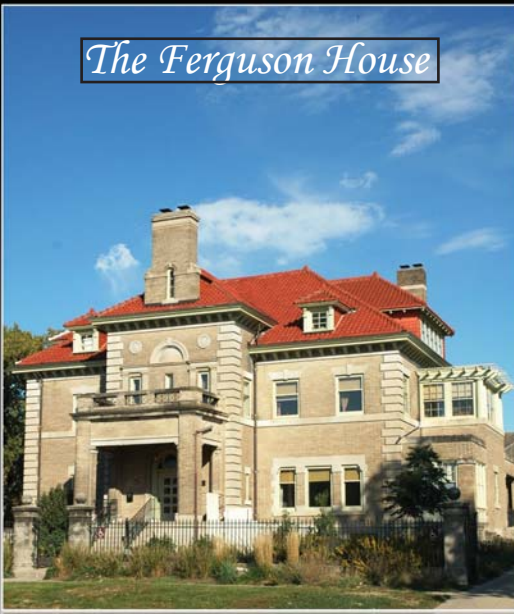
**The Nebraska  
Environmental Trust**

700 S. 16th St.  
P.O. Box 94913  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4913  
[331801]

PRSR STD

US Postage Paid  
State of Nebraska

*The Ferguson House*



Trust Staff:  
From left to right

Marilyn Tabor - Grants Administrator  
Sheila Johnson - Public Information Officer  
Kacey Nelkin Pedersen - Grants Assistant  
Mark Brohman - Executive Director  
Lori Moore - Administrative Secretary

Nebraska Environmental Trust Office  
700 South 16th St  
P.O. Box 94913  
Lincoln NE 68509-4913  
Tel: 402- 471- 5409  
Fax: 402- 471- 8233  
[www.environmentaltrust.org](http://www.environmentaltrust.org)