

RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

July 2017

Executive Director Corner

The summer is quickly passing and it will be fall before we know it. Kids will be going back to school, football and volleyball will be back, and crops will need to be harvested. Let's not get ahead of ourselves and enjoy the end of summer. Take that last family trip of the summer, do a little fishing, visit a local State park or NRD lake.

We have our third quarter board meeting coming up in Bellevue at Fontenelle Forest in a few weeks (August 7th and 8th). The Trust board will take some time and do a few site visits around the Omaha area and see firsthand some of the great things that have been accomplished with our funds. The board will have a few meals together and get to visit informally.

We have a board position that has been vacant since Rick Brandt's departure for a position on the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and another position that we are waiting for a new appointment. Both of these positions are in the 1st Congressional District. We did get a new board member, Quentin Bowen from Humboldt, this



Pete Ricketts, Governor

Board of Trustees

District I

Vacant - TBA

James Hellbusch - Columbus

Kevin Peterson - Osceola

District II

Gerry Lauritzen - Omaha

Paul Dunn - Omaha

Robert Krohn - Omaha

spring for the 3rd Congressional District.

The Husker's football team has been pretty quiet lately; let's hope that means they are getting prepared for the season ahead. The pollsters and the sportscasters aren't giving the team much love as most are predicting the Huskers to win just over half of their games. With a new quarterback and untested linemen, we are not getting the preseason respect we enjoyed in the past.

Travel safe and here's to timely rains to finish up those crops and grow our pastures.

Mark A. Brohman

Executive Director

Get Ready For the Electronic Application Process for your Next Grant!

The Nebraska Environmental Trust is providing an on-line application process for the 2018 funding cycle. The web address for the on-line application is:

<https://environmentaltrustgrants.org>.

Log in and Click the 'Create Account' button to continue to the registration page and complete the application form.

District III

Sherry Vinton - Whitman

Rodney Christen - Steinauer

Quentin Bowen - Humboldt

Agency Directors

Jim Douglas, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Greg Ibach, Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Jim Macy, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

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

Dr. Tom Williams, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Trust Staff

Mark A. Brohman

Executive Director

Marilyn Tabor

Grants Administrator

Sheila Johnson

You will receive an email with your confirmation and access to the application.

The on-line process follows the long-standing NET application form for the cover page and subsequent sections. You can save your work and come back into it any time to continue the application until you hit "Submit" with the final application.

When creating the budget, you will identify the partners, budget categories, and number of years of funding you are requesting. A budget sheet for each year will be available with the column and row headings automatically populated based on the information you have completed. As you input information for each year of the budget, a Budget Summary will be completed as well as the "Total Amount Requested".

The five-page narrative, support letters, financial information, real estate information, and pertinent attachments must be attached as pdf documents within the appropriate sections.

If using the on-line application, no additional material will need to be mailed to NET.

The Trust will continue to accept submission of 2018 applications using our previous options of an electronic application form and/or hard-copy. The electronic submission must be received in our office by midnight CDT on the application deadline date and a hard copy of the application must be received by the Trust no later than

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

5.00 p.m. CDT **on the Friday following the deadline date.**

The electronic submission must be complete and include all information required in a hard copy submission.

Completed applications can be e-mailed to the [Grants Administrator](#). The electronic form is available for download on the Trust's website.

Hard-copy submission - The Trust will also accept traditional submissions of applications. One copy of the completed application must be **postmarked** on or before the application deadline date. Hard copy submissions should be mailed to: The Nebraska Environmental Trust, P.O. Box 94913, Lincoln, NE 68509-4913.

We want this to be as streamlined as possible so please call with any questions. We are available to provide a demonstration of the system and/or walk you through the process by phone as well.

Applications for 2018 Nebraska Environmental Trust funding are due on or before midnight Tuesday, September 5, 2017. Any changes to the Geographic distribution (GEO points) will be announced on the Trust website following the August 8, 2017 Board meeting.

For additional information, contact:

Marilyn Tabor

Nebraska Environmental Trust

www.environmentaltrust.org

Grants Administrator
700 South 16th Street
Lincoln NE 68509-4913

402-471-5541

Omaha's Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Deconstruction Program

With an award of \$160,000 from the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 2016, Habitat for Humanity of Omaha was able to kick-off its Deconstruction Program. The goal of this program is to salvage valuable materials from blighted houses and limit debris or materials that are sent to local landfills. The program is in the pilot phase; they are working to complete 10 whole house deconstruction projects on blighted houses that would otherwise be slated for demolition, and 20 “soft strip” projects.

These deconstructed houses will provide materials for upcycling and reuse as well as materials for recycling. The result is approximately 65,000 cubic feet of debris saved from the landfill, and salvaged materials being re-purposed, reused or recycled.

Deconstruction is the process of selectively dismantling a house and reusing, recycling, or upcycling the maximum

materials possible, thereby diverting them from the landfill. Typically, 60% of a house can be salvaged; in some cases over 75%. Materials that can be recycled or repurposed include: plywood, dimensional lumber, hardwood flooring, bricks, windows, concrete, fixtures, doors and knobs, hinges, paneling, insulation, stairs and railings, trim, lathe and countertops. In addition to the environmental benefit of decreasing landfill use, a second goal is to reduce the need for raw materials by making salvaged materials available for use in new and rehabilitation construction projects, specifically old-growth lumber.

Materials removed from these projects are then sold to the public at one of Omaha's Habitat ReStores with proceeds going to build more Habitat homes in our community.

For more information about the Deconstruction Program or Omaha's Habitat ReStore, visit OmahaHabitatReStore.org.



Funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust has allowed for quality materials to be put in place – including kitchen cabinets, appliances, reclaimed/old growth lumber and more – are given a second life through Omaha Habitat ReStore’s Deconstruction Program.



Photo of Spring Lake Pond (Above)

Celebrating the Progress At Spring Lake Park Through The Years

The Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) in collaboration with the Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO) water quality program has made a 25-year goal come true for South Omaha neighborhoods. The Spring Lake Park CSO project revitalizes the park's pond and provides stormwater detention to meet clean water regulatory requirements.

On July 6, the City and its CSO Program celebrated the opening of the Spring Lake Park Pond and the completion of a complimentary sewer separation project. Community advocates on the Spring Lake Park Team (SPLT), led by Janet Bonet, worked hand-in-hand with the project to accomplish this major water quality goal.

A spring fed lake primarily used for cattle existed as early as the mid 1850's. Post WWI the lake became a place for swimming and fishing until a polio epidemic caused the lake to be drained. The area fell into benign neglect and in the 1990s, SPLT received a grant to do a preliminary water study and a second grant to do more in-depth engineering study. Following this activity, the group was told there was no money to restore the lake and park area until about early 2000's when a compliance enforcement notice was received by the City. As Omaha geared up for the mandated water quality program requiring the reduction of sewer overflows to the area rivers and creeks the SPLT saw an opportunity.

The CSO Program coupled with the green infrastructure boom was a perfect time for the lake idea to be resurrected as a stormwater detention option. The project included the revitalization of the lake, wetlands and the necessary sewer separation to provide water to the pond. This was a milestone for the CSO Program, the Spring Lake Park Team and the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

This project saved the regional sewer ratepayers \$5 million and was supported by the City of Omaha, Omaha Parks Department and the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

The NET has been involved with the project for over 15 years, starting with a grant to assess soils in the early stages when the neighborhood began to look for ways to re-establish the lake, and culminating with grants to help fund the design and construction of the CSO project. The NET, over this series of four grants, provided \$1.3 million to help bring the project to completion.

Upcoming Events

- 3rd Quarter Board Meeting - Monday/Tuesday, August 7-8, 2017, Fontenelle Forest, Bellevue NE
- Nebraska State Fair, - August 25-September 4, 2017
- Grants deadline, Tuesday, September 5, 2017
- World O Water Festival - Saturday, September 9, 2017

- Heron Haven Wetland Festival, - Saturday, September 9, 2017
 - 13th Annual Missouri River Outdoor Expo - Saturday/ Sunday, September 16-17, 2017
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