



2025

ANNUAL REPORT



**The Nebraska
Environmental Trust**

preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations

The Nebraska Environmental Trust's Mission Statement

The Nebraska Environmental Trust is established to conserve, enhance, and restore the natural environments of Nebraska. A prosperous future requires a sound natural environment. We must act dynamically, progressively, and systematically to ensure bountiful and thriving natural resources.

The Trust is to complement existing activities, stimulate private investment and emphasize long-term gain. The Trust is to lead in the development of a vision of Nebraska's future environment. The Trust is to collaborate with public and private efforts to achieve that vision.

FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Income

Lottery Proceeds: **\$20,113,372**

Expenses

Operations: **\$295,093**
Grant Awards: **\$15,387,280**



2025 GRANT AWARDS

In Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) received 66 applications.

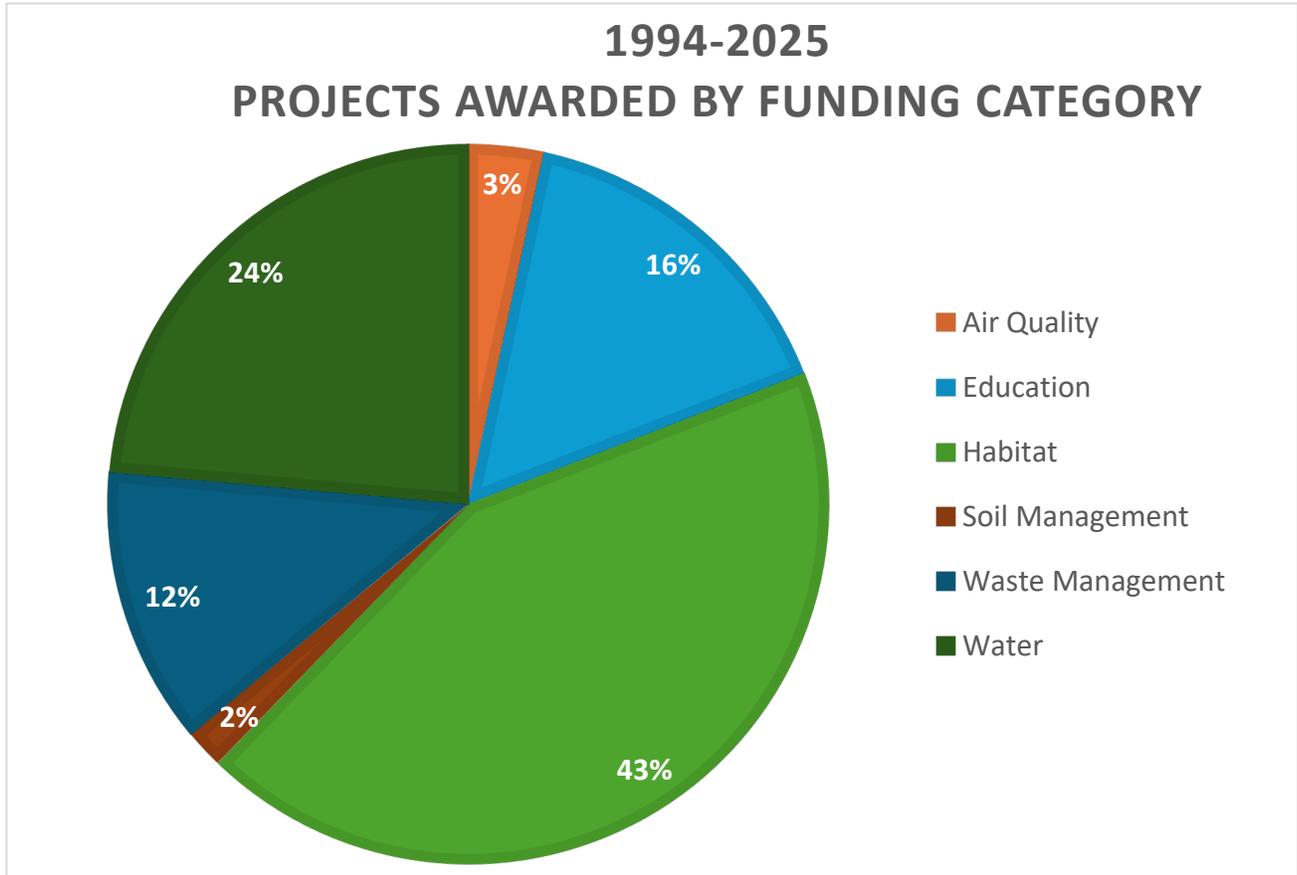
On November 7, 2024, NET Board approved the Grants Committee's eligibility recommendations, moving 57 projects to scoring.

NET Grants Committee members independently scored the eligible projects. On February 6, 2025, the NET Board awarded 46 projects for \$15,387,280.

A full list of awarded projects can be found on pages 5 through 7.

TRUST FUNDING CATEGORIES

Any project or portion of a project funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust must achieve one or more of the following Trust categories:



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.

Waste Management: 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.

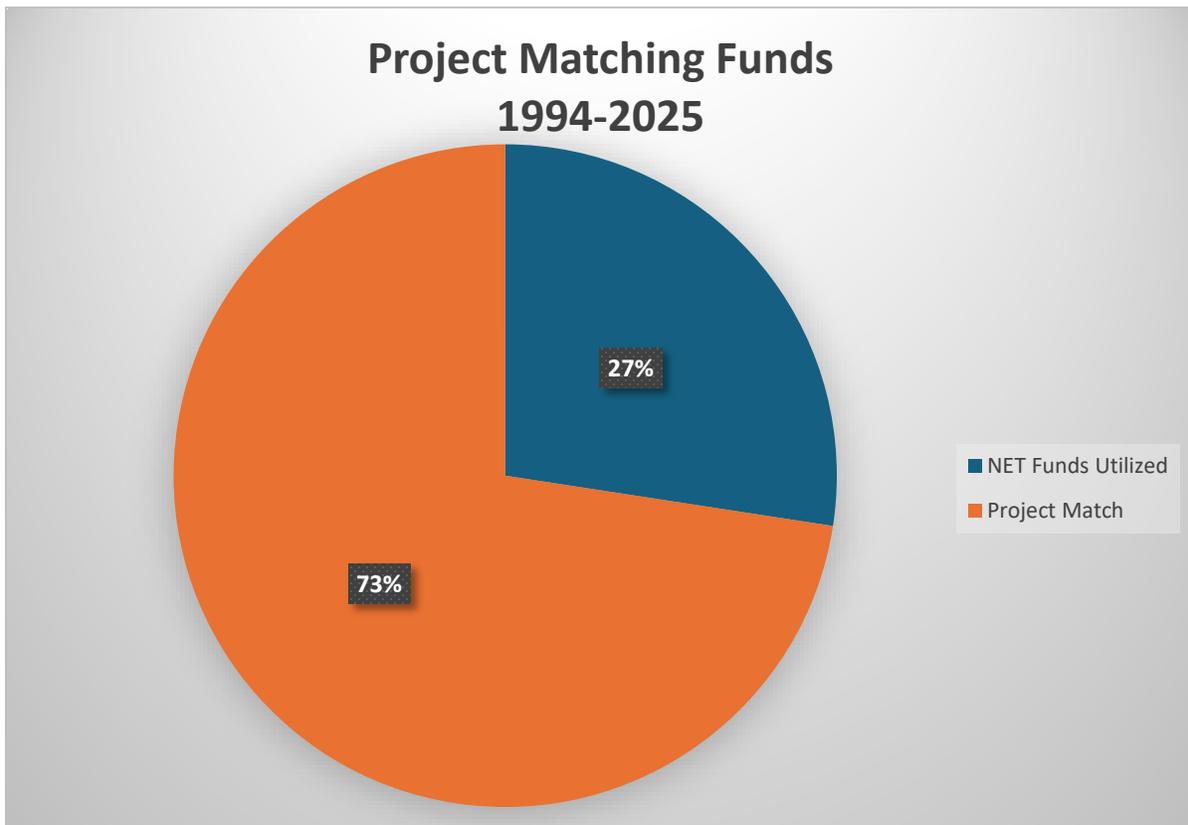
Air Quality: Actions promoting and implementing clean air strategies; including greenhouse gas reductions; actions to research, design or foster best management strategies; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

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.



PROJECT MATCHING FUNDS

The following graph shows the matching funds, from other funding sources, relative to the NET funds utilized.



FINAL REPORT DATABASE

Search Final Reports

Filter by

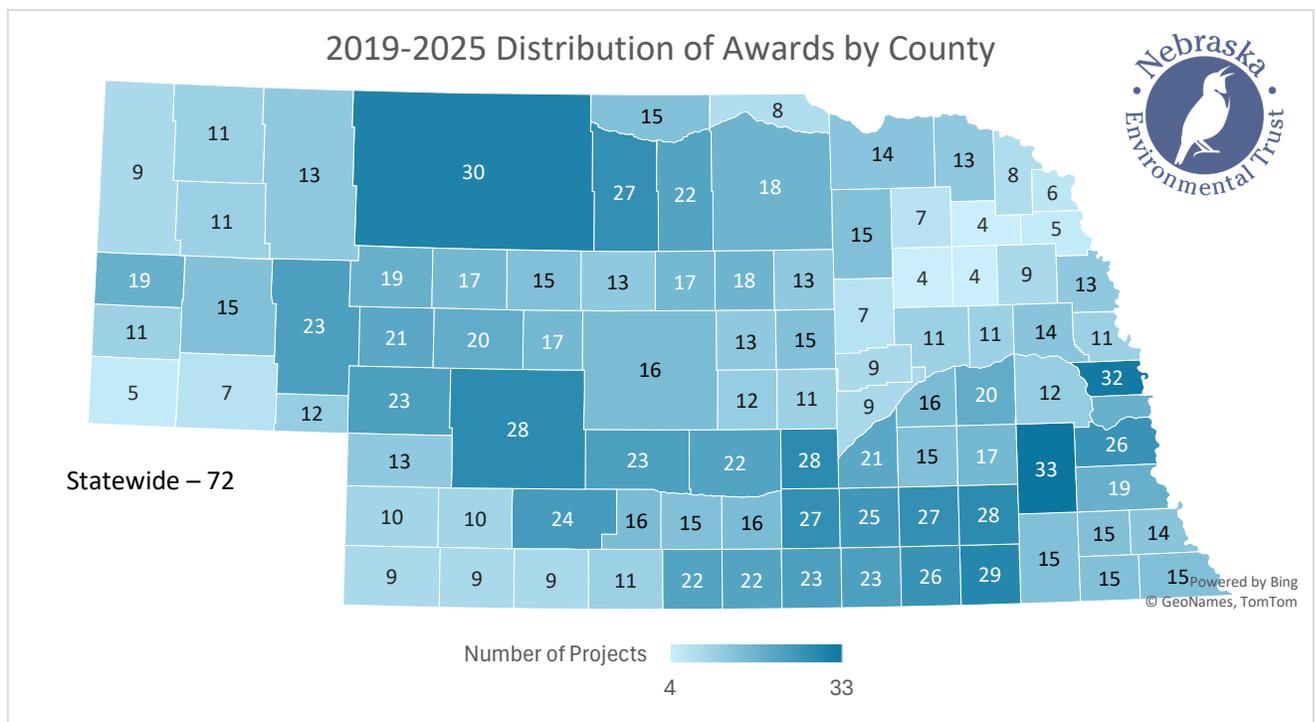
Q Search

Year Awarded	Project Duration (years)	AppID	Project Name	Sponsor	Description	Report Link
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The Nebraska Environmental Trust has created a new database that allows the public to search through all submitted project final narrative reports. Discover how our grantees have worked to conserve, enhance, and restore natural environments across Nebraska. Explore data from over 2,500 projects dedicated to developing, safeguarding, and improving the environment in Nebraska. The new report database can be found at: <https://environmentaltrustgrants.org/Application/SearchFinalReports>

DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDED PROJECTS

The following is a map of the number of projects located in each county from 2019 to 2025. Please note, a single project can list multiple counties for their project’s location.





NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On August 7, 2025, the NET Board appointed Holly Adams as the agency’s new Executive Director. Adams stated, “As Executive Director, I envision leading our agency with transparency and a renewed commitment to public engagement while adhering to NET’s updated laws, policies, and procedures. I am dedicated to our mission of conserving, enhancing, and restoring Nebraska’s natural environments. By maintaining open communication and consistency with our grantees, we will rebuild trust and increase our impact.”

Holly Adams has served the State of Nebraska for the past twelve years. During the last five years, she has acquired valuable knowledge and experience in her role as the NET’s Grant Administrator.

AWARDED 2025 GRANT LIST

City of Bellevue - Public Works Department

- Whitted Creek Rehabilitation - \$300,000

City of Lincoln

- Parks & Recreation Dept. – Greenways - \$950,000
- Lincoln Multimodal Center - Sustainability Features - \$894,620

City of Omaha

- Eagle Run Creek Improvements - \$300,000

Ducks Unlimited Inc.

- North Platte River Valley Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Partnership IV - \$290,000
- Platte Valley Habitat Restoration - \$400,000
- Sandhills Habitat Improvement - \$344,500

Edgerton Explorit Center

- Raptorology - Conservation, Care, Community - \$100,095

Farwell Irrigation District

- Improving Resources 2.2 - \$525,022

Firststar Fiber, Inc.

- Firststar Hub & Spoke - \$600,000

Green Recycling Enterprises LLC

- Recycling on the go! - \$245,384

Habitat for Humanity of Omaha

- 2024 HFHO Deconstruction - \$500,000

Iain Nicholson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary

- Restoring and Preserving Platte River Riparian Woodlands and Grasslands at Rowe Sanctuary - \$145,450

Keep Alliance Beautiful

- Community Beautification and Environmental Education - \$62,054

Keep Nebraska Beautiful

- Nebraska School Chemical Cleanout Campaign - SC3 (2025 - 2028 Application) - \$187,500
- Used Oil Collection Program (2025 - 2026 Application) - \$60,000

Little Blue Natural Resources District

- Well Meter Upgrades and Water Efficiency Project - \$198,000

Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

- No-Till Grass Drill - \$27,960

Lower Platte South Natural Resources District

- Enhancing Tallgrass Prairie Health via Grazing Management - \$40,000

Nebraska Cattlemen

- Leopold Conservation Award Video and Tour Project - \$45,000

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation

- Nebraska Youth Conservation Initiative- \$100,000

Nebraska Community Foundation for Business of Rainwater Basin Joint Venture

- Managing Nebraska's Mixed Grass Prairies - \$910,625

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

- Eastern Red Cedar removal around Merritt Reservoir - \$700,000
- I-80 Lakes Invasive Tree Removal and Aquatic Habitat Enhancement - \$259,500
- Windmill SRA Access and Aquatic Habitat Improvements - \$500,000
- WILD Nebraska Program - \$300,000
- Continuing the Preservation of Nebraska's Natural Legacy through Collaboration, Education, and Outreach - \$1,055,000

Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

- Reclamation of Crystal Springs Lake - \$300,000

Nebraska Statewide Arboretum

- Trees for Nebraska Towns - \$257,400
- Greener Towns - \$49,750

Northern Prairies Land Trust

- Restoring Nebraska's Oak Woodlands - \$400,000

Panhandle Weed Management Area

- Panhandle WMA Invasive Species Education, Outreach and Control - \$379,000

Pheasants Forever, Inc.

- Pathway For Soil Health and Wildlife - \$620,000

Platte and Nuckolls County Pheasants Forever

- No-Till Drills - \$70,000

Platte River Basin Environments

- Restoring Rangelands in the Wildcat Hills Through Long-term Cheatgrass Control Phase I - \$230,640



Quail Forever

- Mobile Prescribed Burn Equipment, Outreach, and Rural Fire Departments - \$89,250

Sandhills Task Force

- Sandhills Stewardship Improvement - \$595,000
- Sandhills Wetland and Stream Restoration Project - \$607,000

Sandhills Weed Management Area

- Sandhills WMA Invasive Species Management, Biocontrol and Education - \$339,100

Southwest Weed Management

- 2025 - 2026 Western Republican River Basin Riparian Habitat Project - \$168,014

The Nebraska Soil Health Coalition

- Implementing Regenerative Agriculture Practices in a Southwest Nebraska Hub - \$591,576

Trailblazer RC&D

- Electronics Recycling Events - \$106,000
- Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Events - \$66,350

Twin Valley Weed Management Area

- Eastern Republican and Little Blue Watershed Improvement Project - \$119,500

Village of Eagle

- Waste Diversion – Recycling - \$158,500

Wachiska Audubon Society

- Prairie Habitat Improvement Program 2025-2028 - \$199,490

