



# The Nebraska Environmental Trust

2024 Annual Report

# The Nebraska Environmental Trust's Mission Statement

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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 2023-2024*

### Income

Lottery Proceeds:	<b>\$24,396,802</b>
Interest Income:	<b>\$1,932,807</b>

### Expenses

Operations:	<b>\$318,819</b>
Grant Awards:	<b>\$20,452,886</b>



## 2024 GRANTS AWARDS

In Fiscal Year 2023-2024, the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) received 80 applications.

On November 2, 2023, NET Board approved the Grants Committee's eligibility recommendations, moving 69 projects to scoring.

NET Grants Committee members independently scored the eligible projects. On January 4, 2024, the NET Board awarded 50 projects for \$20,452,886.

*A full list of awarded projects can be found on pages 3 through 4.*

## 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**

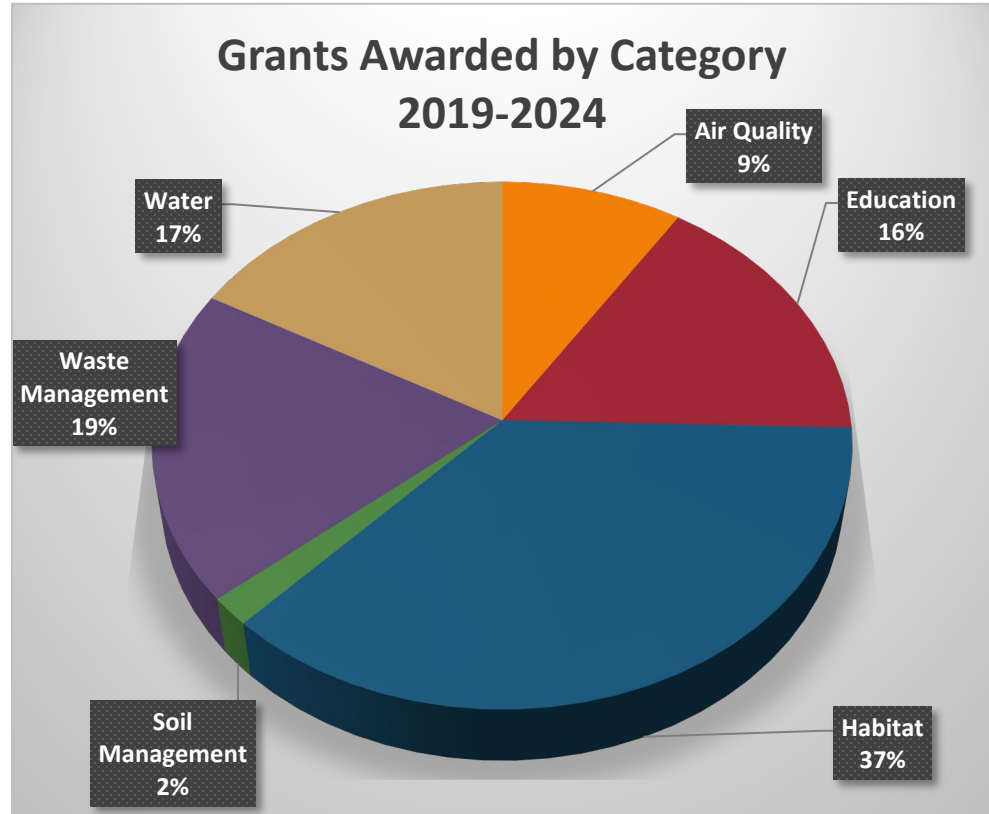
**Water:** actions to preserve or restore lakes, waterways and ground water from degradation or depletion; actions to research, design or foster best management practices; actions to conserve water and/or efficiently and effectively manage water use; actions to inform and educate which contribute to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



## AWARDED 2024 GRANT LIST

### **Arbor Day Farm / Arbor Day Foundation**

- Arbor Day Farm Trail Charge Oasis – \$872,456.00

### **Audubon Great Plains**

- Solar Energy Installation & Demonstration - \$134,400.00

### **City of Ralston**

- Ralston Creek Improvements - \$300,000.00

### **City of South Sioux City**

- Nebraska's First Plastic Road - \$492,407.00

### **Conservation Nebraska**

- Common Ground - \$220,000.00

### **Corn Country NE Pheasants Forever Chapter**

- No-Till Drills Corn Country - York County Pheasants Forever Chapter - \$45,000.00

### **Darrell Beck- Edgar Vol. Fire Dept.**

- South Central Mutual Aid Group - Micro-Blaze Out Foam - \$33,000.00

### **Ducks Unlimited, Inc.**

- Restoring Nebraska's Riverine Systems - \$419,000.00
- Rainwater Basin Public Lands Restorations - \$892,000.00

### **FarWide Conservation Trust**

- Ninemile Creek Restoration - \$214,470.00

### **Friends of Heron Haven, Inc**

- Educational Program and Wetland Habitat Enhancements - \$96,550.00

### **Friends of Nebraska Monarchs Incorporated**

- Bringing Back Butterflies: Native Plant Giveaway and Public Education Fair - \$48,000.00

### **Grand Island Area Clean Community System**

- Established Regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility - \$353,226.00

### **Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska**

- Tribal National Park at Rulo Bluffs - \$297,204.00

### **Keep Omaha Beautiful**

- Trees for Tomorrow: An Urban & Community Tree Planting Program - \$202,180.00

### **Lewis and Clark Natural Resources District**

- Bow Creek Watershed Project - \$250,000.00

### **Lexington Community Foundation**

- Johnson Lake Community Playground Water Station - \$20,000.00

### **Loess Canyons Rangeland Alliance**

- Loess Canyons Grassland Stewardship - \$480,000.00

### **Loup Central Landfill Association**

- Metal Recycling Facility - \$3,635,220.00

### **Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District**

- Remote Telemetry Upgrades on Flow Meters for Groundwater Irrigation Management in the Lower Elkhorn NRD \$122,480.00
- Groundwater Monitoring for Public Health \$196,602.00

### **Nebraska Community Foundation fbo Rainwater Basin Joint Venture**

- Water Delivery Infrastructure for Western Rainwater Basins - \$178,500.00
- Rainwater Basin Watershed Restoration and Enhancement - \$241,000.00
- Funk Waterfowl Production Area Restoration - \$268,000.00
- Divots in the Pivots II - \$413,020.00
- Rainwater Basin Wetland Conservation; Supporting Aquifer Recharge and Wildlife Habitat - \$1,045,000.00

### **Nebraska Game and Parks Commission**

- Increasing Awareness of Nebraska's Aquatic Resources - \$31,400.00
- Grassland Enhancement Initiative - \$500,000.00
- Soldier Creek Habitat, Water Quality, and Access Improvement Project - \$750,000.00

### **Nebraska Pharmacists Association**

- Promoting a Healthy Nebraska: Mitigating Contamination, Ensuring Safe Disposal, and Enhancing Medication Access - \$1,200,000.00

**Nebraska Recycling Council**

- Durable Medical Equipment Rehome & Collection Events - \$54,579.00
- Recycling Equipment Grants - \$709,015.00

**Nemaha Natural Resources District**

- Burr-Cook Paleovalley Aquifer Sub-Area Resiliency Project - \$37,800.00

**North Platte Natural Resources**

- District Windbreak Renovation Pilot Project- \$60,000.00

**Northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation & Development Inc.**

- Household Hazardous Waste Collections - \$40,000.00

**Northern Prairies Land Trust**

- Extending the Tallgrass Prairie Partnership \$375,000.00

**Omaha Public Power District**

- OPPD's Solar Corners Pilot Project \$500,000.00

**Pheasants Forever, Inc.**

- Habitat Share Program - \$198,000.00
- Community Based Approach to Increasing Public Access on Private Lands - \$845,000.00

**Pine Lake Association**

- Pine Lake Rehabilitation Project- \$425,000.00

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

- Enhancement of Field Equipment for the Continued Benefit of Nebraska's Species of Conservation Concern - \$87,500.00
- Benefiting Nebraska's Species of Conservation Concern through Multiple Land-Management Prescriptions - \$300,000.00

**Platte Valley Weed Management Area**

- Invasive Plant Species Control Along the Central Platte River - \$225,000.00

**Sandhills Task Force**

- Sandhills Prairie and Wetland Habitat Improvement Project - \$300,000.00
- Birdwood Creek Stream Restoration - \$809,000.00

**South Central Economic Development District**

- Small Towns Achieving Recovery & Resiliency (STARR) through Waste Management - \$398,000.00

**Southwest Weed Management**

- 2024 -2025 Western Republican River Basin Riparian Habitat Project - \$147,839.00

**Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center**

- Tallgrass Prairie Conservation and Restoration at Spring Creek Prairie and across the Denton Hills Landscape - \$465,000.00

**The Nature Conservancy**

- Increasing Sandhills Resilience: The Future on the Fireline - \$315,003.00

**Twin Valley Weed Management Area**

- Eastern Republican and Little Blue Watershed Improvement Project - \$210,035.00



