

CHAPTER 5:

Land Management Programs

The Land Management Program's objectives are to ensure solid and hazardous wastes are properly managed, assess and remediate contaminated sites, facilitate the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties and administer grant programs that advance waste reduction and recycling practices throughout the state. This chapter will begin discussion with the waste grant programs, the voluntary cleanup program, and is followed by activities performed by the hazardous waste (RCRA), Superfund and solid waste management programs.

Waste Grants Programs

The Grants Section manages the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program and the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grants Program; Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program; and Landfill Disposal Fee Rebate Program.

The Section's responsibilities include:

- Awards financial aid to public and private partners – reviews grant submissions; performs compliance inspections; monitors the activities, budgets, and equipment purchases of grantees; and conducts quarterly performance report reviews.
- Outreach – Promotes the availability of grant funding, coordinates the ranking process, coordinates grant awards, and provides integrated waste management information to the public.

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy/Nebraska Environmental Trust Partnership

Since July 2018, the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the Nebraska Environmental Trust continue a partnership to ensure agency resources are managed in a fiscally responsible manner by agreeing to:

- Participate in the grant review process on those projects where there is a potential for grant awards from both organizations.
- Appoint individuals who will ensure coordination occurs between the organizations.
- Commit to revising the partnership anytime there is a personnel change, new grant programs are created, or existing programs end or are substantially modified.
- Share information on grant awards and grantees that are non-compliant with award conditions or environmental regulatory requirements.
- Meet annually and when critical program or project needs arise for the purpose of discussing issues of mutual concern and opportunities to enhance the partnership.

Litter Percentage Allocation

At the Environmental Quality Council meeting on November 10, 2022, a hearing was held to decide the 2023 Litter Percentage Allocation. Each year, the Council establishes the percentage of how the funds will be allocated for recycling, public education, and cleanup programs or projects. The Department's recommended percentage allocations for 2023 were based on the actual applications received:

Category	2023 Eligible Requests	
Recycling	34%	\$825,104
Public Education	63%	\$1,526,992
Cleanup	3%	\$81,458
Totals	100%	\$2,433,554

The Department asked for the ability to adjust the percentages by up to 20% for the 2023 grant year, if warranted. The Environmental Quality Council approved this request.

Expected Service Life

The Grants Section programs utilize an expected service life procedure for grant-funded equipment. The expected service life determines how long the grantee is responsible for reporting the status of grant-funded equipment to NDEE and how long NDEE maintains a financial interest in the equipment.

An expected service life is assigned to all equipment purchased with grant funds (in whole or in part) that has a value of \$1,000 or more per item. Equipment costing less than \$1,000 can be assigned an expected service life on a case-by-case basis. Purchase of equipment is documented at the time of purchase. At the end of the grant period, the grantee is provided a sticker to properly identify the grant-funded equipment and is notified of the length of the expected service life.

Equipment Redistribution

When grant-funded equipment with an existing expected service life is no longer being used, it is made available for redistribution to other users.

Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program

In 1990, the Nebraska Legislature passed Legislative Bill 163, the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act, which created the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program.

There are three sources of revenue for this program:

- A business fee on sales of tangible personal property, which generates about \$500,000 annually.
- A \$1 per tire fee on the retail sale of new tires in Nebraska, which generates about \$2.4 million annually.
- Fifty percent of the \$1.25 per ton disposal fee on solid waste disposed of in permitted landfills, which generates approximately \$1.4 million annually for grant awards.

The Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund provides grants to private, non-profit, and government organizations to assist in financing sound integrated waste management programs and projects.

These programs and projects may include but are not limited to:

- Recycling systems
- Market development for recyclable materials
- Intermediate processing facilities and facilities using recyclable materials in new products
- Food waste composting
- Yard waste composting and composting with sewage sludge
- Waste reduction and waste exchange
- Household hazardous waste (HHW) programs
- Electronic waste collections
- Pharmaceutical collections
- The consolidation of solid waste disposal facilities and use of transfer stations
- Incineration for energy recovery

A portion of the grant funds are obligated to fund scrap tire recycling and/or reduction projects, and another portion of the grant funds are available to smaller cities and counties for abandoned building deconstruction.

Fund Summary Waste Reduction and Recycling Fund July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023	
Fund Balance June 30, 2023	\$2,322,044
Revenues:	
New Tire Fees	\$2,559,440
Business Fee	\$486,551
Solid Waste Disposal Fee	\$1,605,591
Interest, Grant Returns	\$49,255
Miscellaneous	\$273
Operating Transfers Out	(\$120,000)
Net Collections for Year	\$4,581,110
Expenditures:	
Administration	\$375,068
Grant Funds Expended*	\$4,352,849
Total Expenditures FY 2023	\$4,727,917
Fund Balance June 30, 2023	\$2,175,237

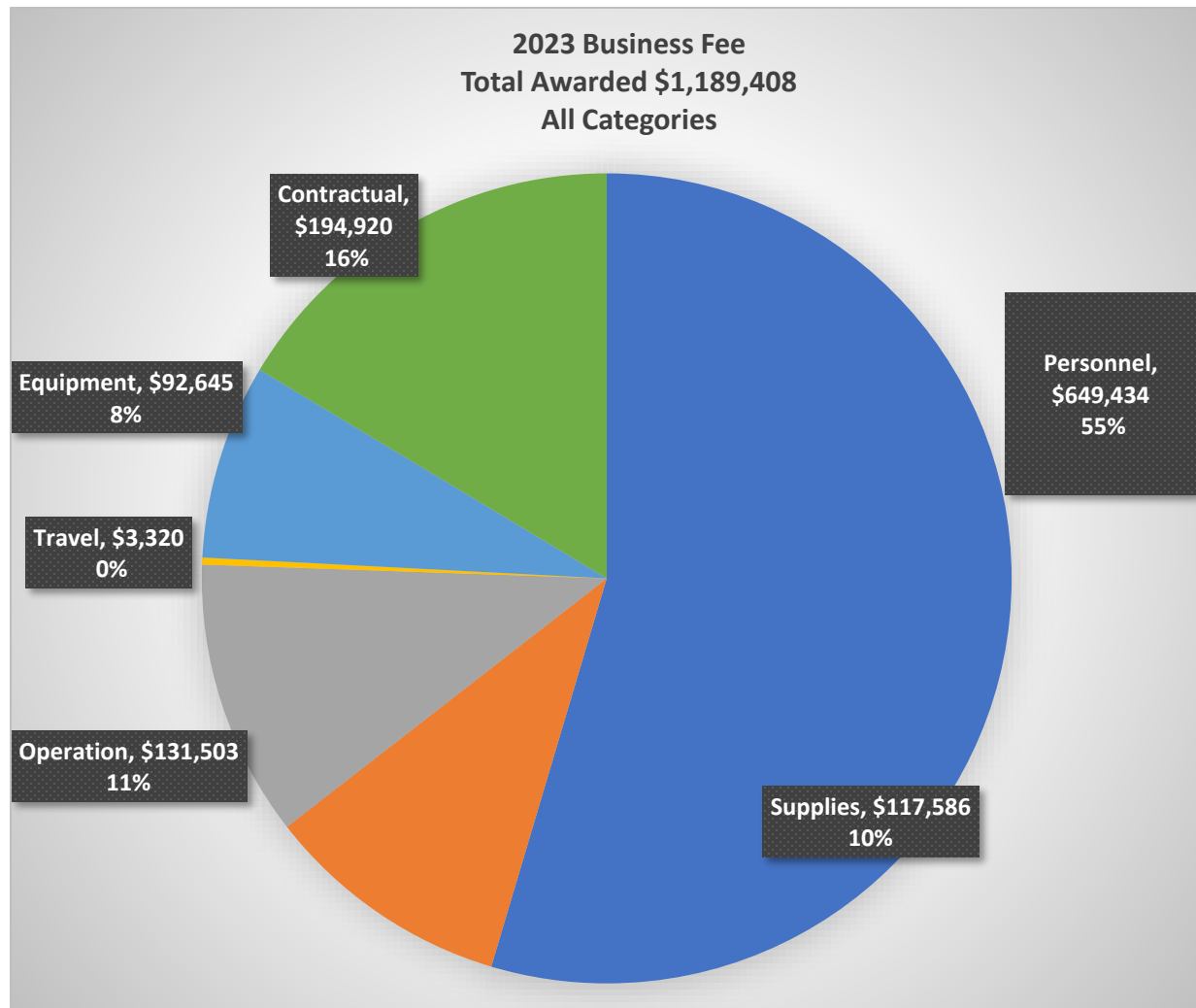
** Because grants funds are expended on a reimbursement basis, total grant funds expended in a fiscal year will differ from the amount of grants awarded in that fiscal year.*

For calendar year 2023, the department awarded \$5,297,516 for Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants to 98 projects. There were 16 grants awarded from the Business Fee category (\$1,189,408.00), 10 awarded from the Disposal Fee category (\$1,608,610), and 72 awarded from the funds prioritized for scrap tire projects (\$2,499,498.10).

Funds received in the Business Fee, Disposal Fee, and Tire Fee categories are represented by the following graphs. Locations across Nebraska that received funds are represented by the following lists.

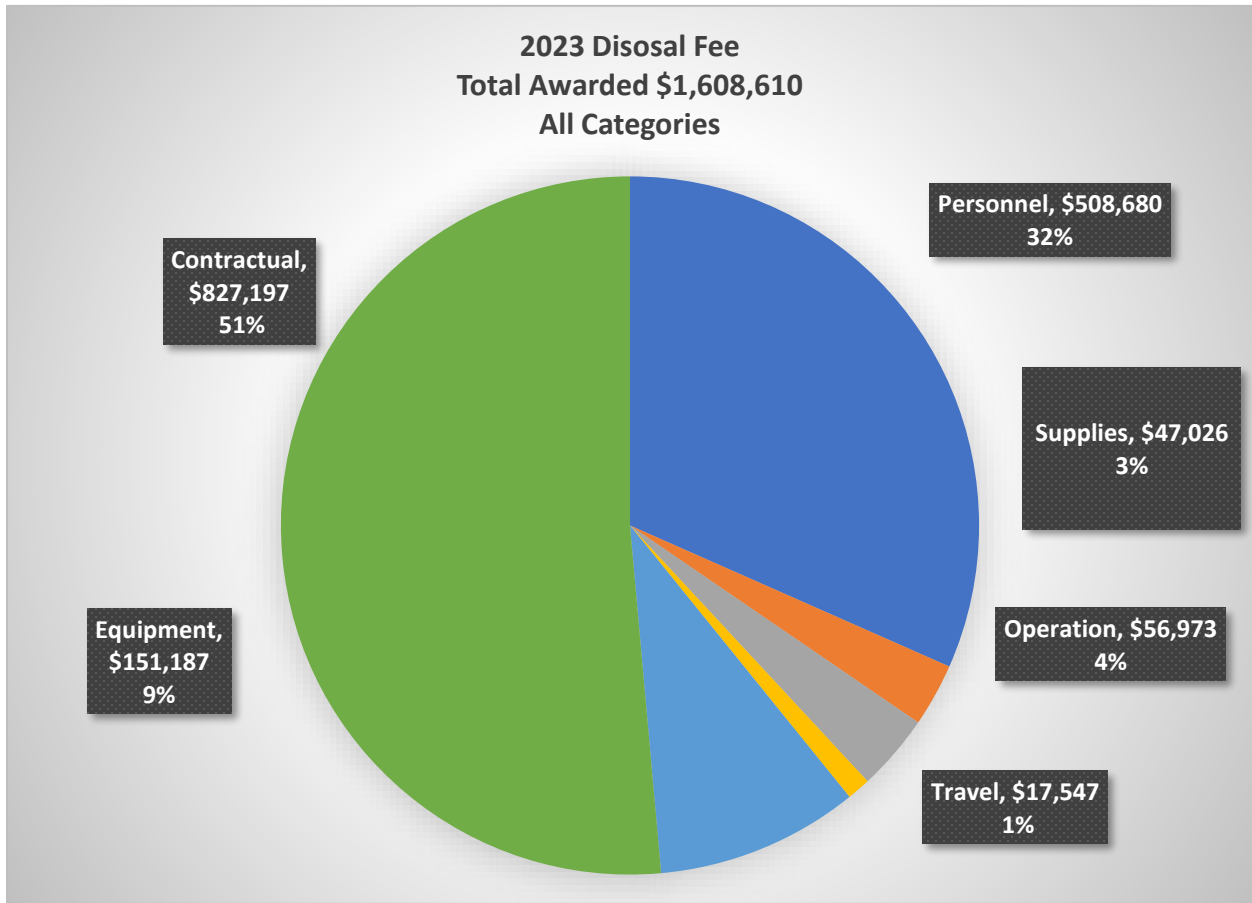
Waste Reduction & Recycling Grants for FY 2023

Business Fee



Business Fee: \$1,189,408 for 16 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	\$99,663.00	Funds for operation of the recycling center and education materials
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	\$63,213.00	Funds to continue the cardboard and office paper recycling for the City of Chadron
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	\$26,197.00	Funds for holding an HHW Event for the residents of City of Columbus and surrounding areas
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	\$11,667.00	Hold one-day electronics recycling event open to Platte County residents; expect 35,000 lbs
Fremont	Keep Fremont Beautiful	\$26,221.00	Funds to hold a one-day HHW event for the residents of Dodge County and surrounding areas, one-day paper shredding event, and recycling opportunities at public events
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	\$148,166.00	Funds to continue the HHW facility and provide services to dispose waste
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	\$17,094.00	Funds for pick-up services for the "Residential Alley Recycling Program," around Kimball and rural areas
Lexington	Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency	\$29,048.00	Conduct HHW collections in the Fall of 2023
Lincoln	Board of Regents, University of Nebraska, University of Nebraska-	\$90,122.00	Purchasing 165 waste/recycling stations to standardize the campus recycling effort with graphics from Recycle Across America
Lincoln	Keep Nebraska Beautiful	\$100,913.00	Funds to operate a food waste, material exchange, used oil collection, and a school chemical cleanout program statewide
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	\$78,158.00	Salary for Assistant Sustainability Coordinator to manage various district recycling and organic composting programs, plus new recycling stations and other supply costs
Oakland	Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council	\$19,117.00	Funds to hold three HHW events in Thurston, Dodge, and Washington Counties in the late summer or fall of 2023
Ogallala	Western Resources Group	\$344,157.00	Funds for the regional processing and shipping facility for recycled materials and replacing the main roll-off collection truck and office computer
Papillion	Papio Valley Nursery, INC	\$66,790.00	Funds to purchase a front-end loader to increase the amount of wood waste to produce dyed mulch for the market
Plattsmouth	Keep Cass County Beautiful	\$1,330.00	3 events at different locations
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	\$67,552.00	Funds to hold a HHW event and Rx take back for the residents of Scottsbluff, Gering, and surrounding areas

Disposal Fee



Pictures provided by City of Wayne which was awarded funds to host a community electronics recycling event

Disposal Fee: \$1,608,610 for 10 grants			
Gretna	City Of Gretna	\$81,433.00	Purchase of 2 skid loaders, UTV, Toolcat, and dump trailer to use for street repair and recycling and tree removal and recycling and planting
Kearney	City of Kearney/Kearney Area Recycling Center	\$47,926.00	Purchase second skid steer loader for recycling center
Lincoln	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	\$57,163.00	On-site waste reduction assistance to three Nebraska manufacturing businesses (to be recruited). Identify process improvements that reduce waste and address regulatory compliance concerns
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	\$388,797.00	Manage HHW Collection Facility in Lincoln
Lincoln	City of Lincoln - Solid Waste Management	\$353,356.00	Year three of asphalt/pavement repairs for Bluff Road Compost pad
McCook	Red Willow County	\$267,209.00	Manage Red Willow HW facility in McCook and transport HW for several other entities
Omaha	City of Omaha Under the Sink	\$374,130.00	Operate Household Hazardous Waste Facility
Sidney	City of Sidney	\$22,840.00	Salary for materials handler at recycling facility (created and NDEE-funded during previous grant year)
Wayne	City of Wayne	\$8,966.00	Promote and hold annual community electronics recycling event
Wayne	City of Wayne	\$6,790.00	Household battery recycling program

Tire Fee

The scrap tire grants are funded by the \$1 per tire fee on retail sales of new tires. In 2023, \$2,499,498.10 was awarded to 72 projects.

- Scrap tire cleanup events: 30 grants, \$1,182,699 awarded
- Completed projects for the partial reimbursement of the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber: 24 grants, \$796,828.75 awarded
- Proposed projects for the partial reimbursement for the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber: 18 grants, \$519,970.35

Scrap Tire Cleanup Events



Funding is provided to political subdivisions for tire collection site cleanups. Thirty scrap tire cleanup grants were awarded in 2023 to political subdivisions. The grants totaled \$1,184,155 and proposed to clean up 6,775 tons of scrap tires.

Scrap Tire Cleanup Events: 30 grants, \$1,182,699 awarded			
Alliance	City of Alliance	\$203,928.00	Cleanup of 800 tons
Alma	Lower Republican NRD	\$15,982.00	Cleanup of 100 tons
Alma	Lower Republican NRD	\$22,982.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Alma	Lower Republican NRD	\$31,107.00	Cleanup of 175 tons
Atkinson	City of Atkinson	\$35,712.00	Cleanup of 200 tons
Beaver City	Furnas County	\$30,752.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Center	Knox County	\$24,738.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Central City	Merrick County	\$20,610.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Columbus	City of Columbus	\$33,852.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Cuming	Cuming County	\$82,514.00	Cleanup of 650 tons
Davenport	Little Blue NRD	\$37,982.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Davenport	Little Blue NRD	\$37,982.00	Cleanup of 250 tons

Davenport	Little Blue NRD	\$41,732.00	Cleanup of 275 tons
Fremont	City of Fremont	\$46,110.00	Cleanup of 300 tons
Grand Island	Hall County	\$41,000.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Hubbard	Dakota County Road Department	\$16,277.00	Cleanup of 100 tons
Humbolt	City of Humbolt	\$4,643.00	Cleanup of 25 tons
Imperial	Chase County	\$29,352.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Kimball	City of Kimball	\$56,348.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Mullen	Village of Mullen	\$7,158.00	Cleanup of 30 tons
Nelson	Nuckols County Road Department	\$20,270.00	Cleanup of 120 tons
North Platte	City of North Platte	\$50,278.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Pawnee City	Pawnee County	\$18,152.00	Cleanup of 100 tons
Schuyler	City of Schuyler	\$35,852.00	Cleanup of 300 tons
Springview	Keya Paha County	\$64,638.00	Cleanup of 300 tons
Stuart	Village of Stuart	\$58,638.00	Cleanup of 300 tons
Tecumseh	Johnson County	\$15,970.00	Cleanup of 100 tons
Tryon	McPherson County	\$31,216.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Wayne	Wayne County Roads	\$41,264.00	Cleanup of 300 tons
Wilber	Saline County	\$25,660.00	Cleanup of 200 tons

Scrap Tire Partial Reimbursement for Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber Grants

In 2023, \$1,316,799.10 was awarded to 42 projects to partially reimburse the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber.



Pictures provided by the Gretna Public School, which was awarded for partial reimbursement of artificial turf made with 421,800 lbs. of crumb rubber for their baseball field.



The Dodge County Agricultural Society received a 50% reimbursement for the purchase of 22,000 lbs. of rubber playground mulch.

Partial Reimbursement for the Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber-Completed Projects: 24 projects, \$796,828.75 awarded			
Atkinson	City of Atkinson	\$ 459.00	25% Reimbursement for Playground Borders
Atkinson	City of Atkinson	\$ 4,076.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Atkinson	West Holt Public Schools	\$ 49,349.00	25% Spray On Surface
David City	City of David City	\$ 9,750.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Elwood	William Denker	\$ 5,112.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Falls City	Falls City Public Schools	\$ 103,125.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Gretna	Gretna Public Schools	\$ 174,638.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf Projects
Kenesaw	Kenesaw Public Schools	\$ 617.00	25% Reimbursement for Timbers
Kenesaw	Kenesaw Public Schools	\$ 4,308.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Lincoln	UNL Athletics	\$ 4,621.00	25% Reimbursement for Poured in Place
Lincoln	St. Patrick Catholic Church	\$ 5,412.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Lincoln	UNL Athletics	\$ 109,669.25	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Christian School	\$ 11,475.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Christian School	\$ 1,060.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Litchfield	Litchfield Public Schools	\$ 15,422.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Macy	Umonhom Nation Public Schools	\$ 128,942.00	25% Reimbursement for Tiles, Turf, Track
Murray	Village of Murray	\$ 980.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
O'Neill	Little Disciples Christian Childcare	\$ 1,518.00	25% Reimbursement for Poured in Place
Schuyler	Schuyler Community Schools	\$ 2,812.50	25% Reimbursement for Poured in Place
Tecumseh	St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool	\$ 4,725.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Uehling	Dodge County Agricultural Society	\$ 3,852.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Waverly	Waverly School District 45-Waverly	\$ 148,500.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf and Track
York	Upper Big Blue NRD	\$ 2,152.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Sterling	Village of Sterling	\$ 4,254.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch

Partial Reimbursement for the Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber-Proposed Projects: 18 projects, \$519,970.35 awarded			
Axtell	Cari Callan	\$ 750.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Blair	Blair Family YMCA	\$ 69,488.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Bridgeport	Carla McGrath	\$ 55.00	25% Reimbursement for Rubber Mats and 50% for Rubber Mulch
Bridgeport	Carla McGrath	\$ 999.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Columbus	Columbus Community Hospital Foundation	\$ 106,422.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Davenport	Little Blue NRD	\$ 11,957.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Exeter	Village of Exeter	\$ 13,570.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Grand Island	Northwest Public Schools	\$ 110,875.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Gretna	Gretna Elite Academy	\$ 173,420.00	25% Reimbursement for Turf
Holdrege	Holdrege Public Schools	\$ 6,091.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Johnson	Johnson-Brock Public School	\$ 2,313.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Lincoln	Hug-A Bunch Child Care Center	\$ 2,938.00	25% Reimbursement for Rubber Tiles
Lincoln	Westminster Preschool	\$ 1,289.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Madison	Madison Public School	\$ 3,440.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
Norfolk	Kurours Kiddo's Public Schools	\$ 250.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch
O'Neill	Nikke Spangler	\$ 325.00	25% Reimbursement for Rubber Tiles
Pawnee City	Pawnee Public Schools	\$ 11,788.35	25% Reimbursement for Poured in Place
Springview	Keya Paha Public Schools	\$ 4,000.00	50% Reimbursement for Rubber Mulch

Deconstruction of Abandoned Buildings

The Deconstruction of Abandoned Buildings grant program, part of the Department’s Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive grant program, provides funding to assist in the removal of abandoned structures. Building deconstruction means the physical dismantlement of a building’s components to recover the materials for reuse or recycling. The process decreases the amount of demolition material lawfully disposed of in landfills or improperly disposed of elsewhere. Nebraska first- and second-class cities, villages, and counties with a population of 99,000 or less are eligible to apply for funding. The buildings selected must not be on, or eligible to be on, the National Register of Historic Places.



(Photo provided by the City of Oshkosh) A grant was awarded in 2020 to the City of Oshkosh for the deconstruction of the abandoned Midwec Building at 602 Main St.

Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program

The Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program, established in 1997, is a Waste Reduction and Recycling cleanup program that provides funding assistance to political subdivisions for the cleanup of solid waste disposed of along public roadways or ditches. Through this program, household waste, white goods, construction and demolition waste, tires, furniture, yard waste, and some hazardous wastes are removed from the illegal site and disposed of in a permitted facility or recycled.

Funding for this program is limited to 5% of the total revenue from the disposal fee collected from landfills in the preceding fiscal year. NDEE encourages municipalities, counties, and other political subdivisions to submit applications for the reimbursement of cleanup efforts. In FY2023, the program provided 25 grants, totaling \$26,012.48. Funds were provided to:

Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Awards		
Adams County - 3	City of Omaha – 5	Hamilton County - 1
Lincoln/Lancaster County - 13	Seward County - 3	

Landfill Disposal Fee Rebate Program

The Landfill Disposal Fee Rebate Program was created as an incentive to political subdivisions to support and encourage the purchasing of products, materials, or supplies that are manufactured or produced from recycled material. Funding for the program is from the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund.

Under the program, which was created in 1994, any municipality or county may apply for a rebate if they have a written purchasing policy requiring a preference for purchasing products, materials or supplies that are manufactured or produced from recycled material. If the policy is approved by NDEE, the applicant may receive a 10-cent rebate from the \$1.25 per ton disposal fee. Rebates are provided no more than quarterly and no less than annually.

In FY2023, the program provided \$112,099 to five counties and seven cities participating in the program. All twelve participants processed their requests through email. This option helps to meet our agency's goals for waste reduction efforts and process improvement.

Landfill Disposal Rebate Recipients					
Buffalo County	\$ 5,685	Butler County	\$ 2,377	City of Cozad	\$ 80
City of David City	\$ 250	City of Grant	\$ 109	Jefferson County	\$ 20
City of Lincoln	\$ 29,472	City of North Platte	\$ 3,727	City of Omaha	\$ 65,695
Saline County	\$ 2,442	Seward County	\$ 1,767	City of S. Sioux City	\$ 475

Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program

The Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program has been in existence since 1979. Its purpose is to provide funds to support programs to reduce litter, provide education, and promote recycling in Nebraska.

Funds from this program are provided from an annual fee assessed to manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers having gross receipts of at least \$100,000 on products that commonly contribute to litter. For manufacturers, the annual litter fee is \$175 for each million dollars of products manufactured. The annual litter fee for wholesalers and retailers is \$175 for each million dollars of sales made in the state. Approximately \$2 million is received annually.

The annual litter fee is imposed on products in the following categories:

- Food for human consumption, beverages, soft drinks, carbonated water, liquor, wine, beer, and other malt beverages, unless sold by retailers solely for consumption indoors on the retailer's premises
- Food for pet consumption
- Cigarettes and other tobacco products
- Household paper and household paper products
- Cleaning agents
- Kitchen supplies

Fund Summary Litter Reduction and Recycling Fund July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023	
Fund Balance June 30, 2022	\$2,690,779
Revenues:	
Litter Taxes Collected	\$2,841,090
Interest, Grant Returns	\$75,457
Miscellaneous Adjustment	\$273
Operating Transfer Out	(\$20,000)
Net Collections for FY2023	\$2,896,820
Expenditures:	
NDEE Administration	\$300,958
Grant Funds Expended*	\$2,233,741
Total Expenditures FY2023	\$2,534,699
Fund Balance June 30, 2023	\$3,052,900

*Because grants funds are expended on a reimbursement basis, total grant funds expended in a fiscal year will differ from the amount of grants awarded in that fiscal year.

Grant Allocations - Litter Reduction and Recycling Fund

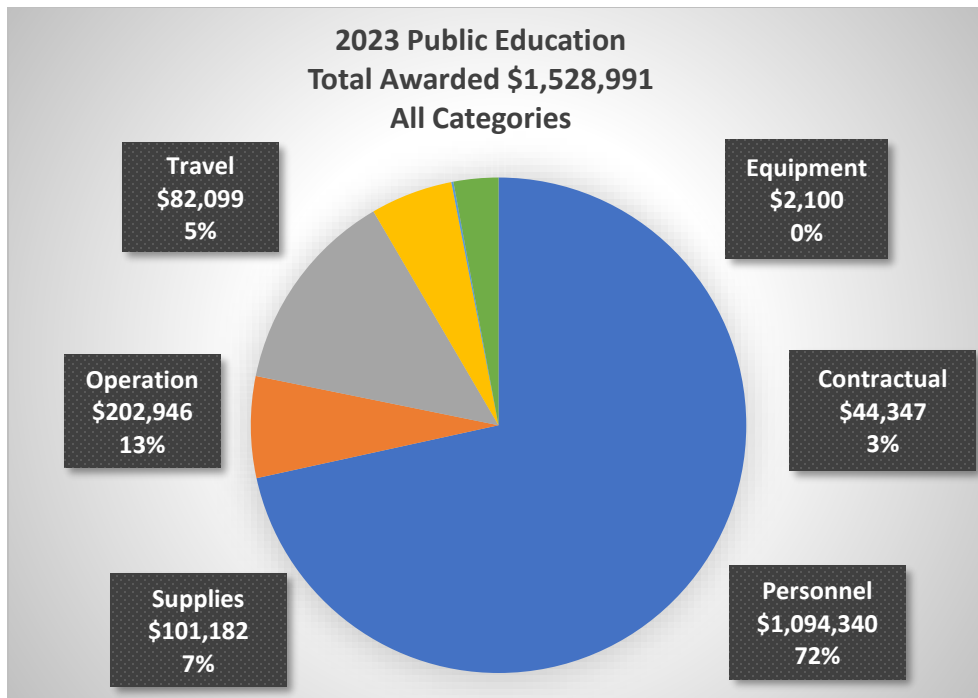
In 2023, \$2,435,553 was awarded to 46 Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant recipients. Grant funding is awarded to several types of programs, including non-profit groups, public and private entities, and over 20 Keep America Beautiful affiliates. Many of these programs utilize the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program funds to leverage additional dollars for a comprehensive, statewide approach to litter reduction and recycling.

The breakdown is as follows:

Public Education	(63%)	22 grants	\$ 1,528,991
Cleanup	(3%)	9 grants	\$ 81,458
Recycling	(34%)	15 grants	\$ 825,104
Totals	100%	51 grants	\$ 2,435,553

Public Education

In 2023, the department awarded 22 grants totaling \$1,528,991 under the category of Public Education. The Public Education programs educate citizens in the areas of litter reduction, cleanup, and recycling through a variety of individual and community activities.



Photos provided by Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (KLLCB) which was awarded public education on litter reduction through classroom presentations, outreach at public festivals/events, and strategic messaging. Outreach to individuals and organizations to encourage litter cleanups.

Public Education Awards: \$1,528,991 for 22 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	\$54,352.00	Educational programs in Hemingford and Alliance schools and summer camp programs; Earth Day and America Recycles Day school programs; community presentations on recycling/upcycling at library and rec

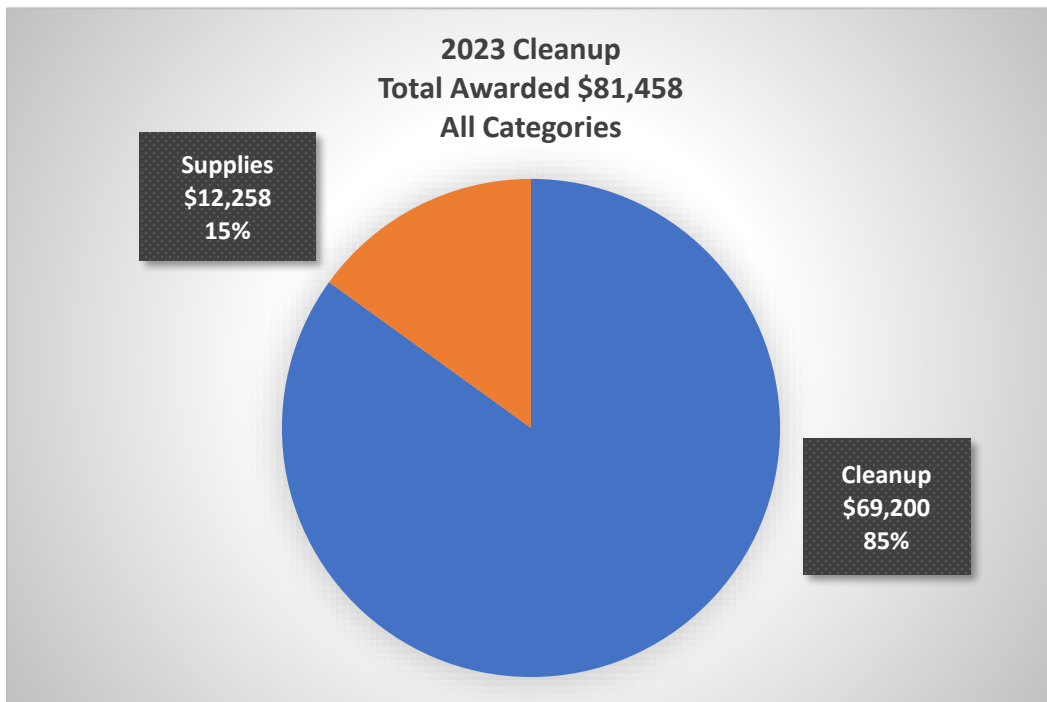
			center and at public events; advertising for community events
Beatrice	Keep Beatrice Beautiful	\$39,900.00	Litterbag distribution, annual newsletter and website promoting litter reduction and recycling, Earth Day flyers, educational booths at community events, promotion of cleanup events
Burwell	Loup Basin RC&D Council/Keep Loup Basin Beautiful	\$49,155.00	School and adult group presentations; booths at area fairs and events to distribute educational materials; twice-monthly KLBB radio show; plan and promote cleanup events
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	\$74,220.00	Classroom presentations and activities on littering and recycling; presentations to community organizations; placing recycling containers at public events; public service announcements about special events; sponsoring community cleanups
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	\$41,680.00	Provide educational presentations to schools and local community groups on increasing recycling and litter prevention; promote recycling drop-off program through quarterly open house events; promote and participate in litter free events
Fremont	Keep Fremont Beautiful	\$93,057.00	Community and school presentations, workshops, fairs, campaigns, print materials, and digital media on recycling; promotion of recycling events
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	\$56,247.00	Variety of community outreach and educational programs. School, after-school, library, and summer camp programs, Earth Day and other public events, presentations and booth at Nebraska State Fair
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	\$24,928.00	Educational programs on recycling in Kimball and Banner County schools and summer programs; provide printed materials with City of Kimball utility bill; publicize litter-free events via newsletters and social media
Lexington	Keep Lexington Beautiful	\$50,087.00	Recycling education in schools 4 days/wk plus summer classes; host summer cleanups; advertising recycling opportunities via newspaper and TV; participate in community events
Lincoln	Nebraska Recycling Council	\$104,340.00	Partial funding of salaries and operating expenses for programs supporting local and regional recycling systems, recycling

			service providers, outreach and training on composting, technical assistance and training, and public education
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	\$144,660.00	Classroom presentations, outreach at public festivals/events, and strategic messaging. Outreach to individuals and organizations to encourage litter cleanups
Lincoln	Keep Nebraska Beautiful	\$116,028.00	Operating Nebraska Litter Hotline in six counties; working with 48 schools in Litter Free School Zones program; providing recycling curriculum to Community Learning Centers; affiliate coordination for KAB
Nebraska City	Keep Nebraska City Beautiful	\$66,829.00	School and community presentations to promote recycling; advertising by mail, social media, and radio to promote litter-free event
Norfolk	Keep Norfolk Beautiful	\$28,021.00	School presentations, advertising and distribution of materials on recycling and litter cleanup events; planning and conduction recycling and litter cleanup events
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	\$91,359.00	Community and school presentations to increase diversion rate and reduce contamination rate. Promotion of recycling drop-off sites, household hazardous waste and electronics collection site, and tire and oil recycling program
Ogallala	Keep Keith County Beautiful, Inc.	\$164,064.00	School (e.g. PepsiCo Recycle Rally) programs and public/community education on source and litter reduction, recycling, food waste elimination, and sustainable waste management
Omaha	Keep Omaha Beautiful	\$159,545.00	Programs on litter prevention, waste reduction, recycling, and composting: 1) school-based educational programming; 2) community outreach via events & partnerships; 3) curriculum certification workshops for educators; 4) multi-media Recycle Right education campaign
Plattsmouth	Keep Cass County Beautiful	\$73,201.00	Environmental programs for 6 school districts, youth environmental fair; adult educational events and presentations to community groups; booth at county fair and other events; quarterly newsletter; sponsoring litter hotline; distributing car litter bags

Schuyler	Keep Schuyler Beautiful	\$16,050.00	Resume litter reduction/recycling education with school presentations and distributing educational materials at public events and by mail to homeowners
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	\$39,747.00	Educational presentations at public events such as Earth Day; media releases, social media, and website updates on litter prevention and cleanups; distribution of litter bags; promotion of Christmas tree recycling and other recycling/clean up events
Sidney	Keep Sidney Beautiful	\$35,496.00	Promote proper recycling, work with schools to establish recycling programs, host and participate in cleanup events
Wayne	City of Wayne	\$6,025.00	Zero Waste marketing campaign, advertising for Earth Day public events, and lessons/presentations to elementary school students

Cleanup

In 2023, the department awarded 9 grants totaling \$81,458 under the category of Cleanup. The cleanup programs utilize Nebraska residents of all ages to pick up litter and debris along Nebraska's highways, waterways, recreation lands, urban areas, and other public-use areas within the state. The awarded cleanup grants propose to clean up litter from 1230 road-side miles and 770 acres of public areas.



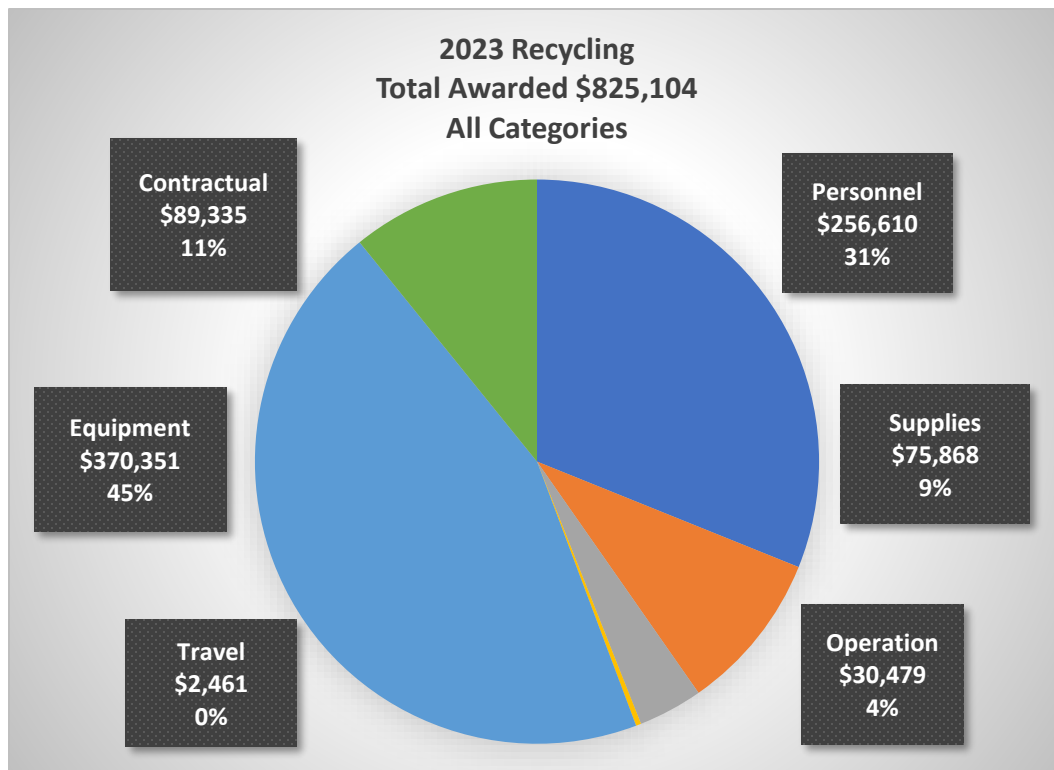


Pictures provided by Keep Omaha Beautiful (KOB), which was awarded funding to clean up public spaces around City of Omaha. As of June 30, 2023, over 2,000 KOB volunteers have cleaned up over 1,760 trash bags of litter from area parks, trails, streams, and other public spaces throughout the city.

Cleanup Awards: \$81,458 for 9 grants			
Beatrice	Keep Beatrice Beautiful	\$6,000.00	100 mi @ \$50 = \$5,000, 60 ac @ \$10 = \$600
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	\$5,212.00	Provide cleanup mini-grants to organizations and individuals. 100 miles @ \$50 = \$5,000
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	\$6,000.00	100 mi @ \$50 = \$5,000 + 50 acres @ \$10 = \$500. Supplies: gloves \$500
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	\$30,000.00	Provide Community Improvement Grants to clean up litter in public places
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	\$16,819.00	320 mi @ \$50 = \$16,000
Omaha	Keep Omaha Beautiful	\$6,380.00	Provide supplies for volunteer cleanups
Plattsmouth	Keep Cass County Beautiful	\$1,600.00	Provide cleanup mini-grants to schools and organizations. 20 mi @ \$50 = \$1,000 + 60 acres @ \$10 = \$600
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	\$8,885.00	100 miles on roads in Scottsbluff area
Steinauer	Steinauer Community Club	\$562.00	10 miles @ \$50 = \$500; garbage bags \$62

Recycling

In 2023, the department awarded 15 grants totaling \$825,104 under the category of Recycling. The recycling programs provide an alternative to the disposal of solid waste in Nebraska’s landfills. The programs recycle more than just aluminum, paper, glass, and plastic. Materials such as electronic computer components, paint, aerosol cans, fertilizer, pesticides, and household hazardous waste are collected. Materials are either reprocessed to be used again or are disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner.



Pictures provided by Keep Alliance Beautiful (KAB), which was awarded funding to operate the recycling center and recycling program in Box Butte County

Recycling Awards: \$825,104 for 15 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	\$64,658.00	Operate the recycling center and recycling program in Box Butte County
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	\$11,690.00	Electronics collection event – one day
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	\$26,200.00	Collect recyclables at two drop-off locations and transport to Schuyler for sorting/processing
Grand Island	Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska	\$23,565.00	Purchase and installation of a baler for mixed rag textiles at McCook retail store
Kearney	Board of Regents University of Nebraska dba UNK	\$48,110.00	Promote recycling on camps by providing more recycling stations and advertising
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	\$74,186.00	Management and operation of Kimball Recycling Center, including collection, processing, and transportation of recyclables
Lexington	Keep Lexington Beautiful	\$27,706.00	Manage recyclables at five drop-off locations and hold two shredding events
Lincoln	Nebraska Recycling Council	\$57,639.00	Update data for regional hub-and-spoke recycling efforts in rural areas; make onsite visits to provide technical assistance to community recycling programs; provide 10 scholarships for recycling operators to attend a SWANA “Managing Recycling Systems” course; research on end markets for textile waste in Nebraska
Lincoln	City of Lincoln - Solid Waste Management	\$311,617.20	Purchase 480 desktide waste and recycling containers for city offices; purchase Recycle Across America stickers for recycling containers; purchase 34 roll-off containers for two consolidated recyclables collection sites
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	\$34,876.00	Operate local recycling program and increase collection at drop-off sites and at area events through advertising
Oakland	Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council	\$5,750.00	Conduct an electronic waste collection event in North Bend summer/fall 2023; anticipate 15,000 lbs collected
Omaha	City of Omaha (Environmental Quality Control)	\$45,186.95	Purchase of solar-powered surveillance camera trailer for deployment at city recycling drop-off sites to discourage illegal dumping and reduce litter and contamination of recycling stream
Papillion	Papio Missouri River Natural Resources District	\$20,550.00	Contract services for sorting, loading, transport, and processing of electronics at four collection events
Schuyler	Keep Schuyler Beautiful	\$48,170.00	Personnel and some operating expenses for Colfax County Recycling Center
Theford	Upper Loup Natural Resources District	\$25,200.00	Contractual costs for transporting recycling trailers and collection totes from collection locations to ULNRD recycling for processing and then to Western Resources group in Ogallala.

Ten-Year Grant History of Amounts Awarded and Requested**Amounts Awarded and Requested for Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant (LRR) Categories**

Grant Year	Awarded Recycling	Awarded Public Education	Awarded Cleanup	Total Awarded (All LRR Categories)	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested (All LRR Categories)
2014	\$1,052,402	\$887,141	\$67,164	\$2,006,707	\$3,083,431*
2015	\$1,176,580	\$821,346	\$97,938	\$2,095,864	\$2,266,267*
2016	\$892,975	\$819,597	\$108,483	\$1,821,055	\$2,079,033*
2017	\$1,326,206	\$1,037,895	\$126,986	\$2,491,087	\$2,644,088
2018	\$603,867	\$651,968	\$50,569	\$1,306,404	\$3,571,584
**2019	\$423,523	\$826,761	\$49,716	\$1,300,000	\$2,746,775
2020	\$325,938	\$1,325,085	\$89,153	\$1,740,176	\$1,827,643
2021	\$586,646	\$1,431,568	\$65,986	\$2,084,200	\$2,105,370
2022	\$587,552	\$1,535,370	\$56,349	\$2,179,271	\$2,331,980
2023	\$825,104	\$1,528,991	\$81,458	\$2,435,553	\$2,435,553
			Total Amounts	\$19,460,317	\$17,662,993

Amounts Awarded and Requested for Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant (WRR) Categories

Grant Year	Awarded Disposal Fee	Awarded Business Fee	Total Awarded (Both WRR Categories)	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested (Both WRR Categories)
2014	\$1,012,371	\$1,107,888	\$2,120,259	\$3,083,431*
2015	\$1,435,558	\$822,233	\$2,257,791	\$3,101,500*
2016	\$2,116,399	\$1,338,426	\$3,454,825	\$3,781,465
2017	\$1,789,483	\$833,734	\$2,623,217	\$4,036,801
2018	\$964,113	\$935,887	\$1,900,000	\$4,402,481
**2019	\$461,365	\$300,180	\$761,545	\$2,188,344
2020	\$1,400,186	\$828,181	\$2,228,367	\$2,481,692
2021	\$1,661,286	\$1,405,815	\$3,067,101	\$3,469,624
2022	\$1,218,800	\$948,373	\$2,100,578	\$3,904,766
2023	\$1,608,610	\$1,189,408	\$2,798,018	\$2,798,018
		Total Amounts	\$23,378,296.00	\$27,063,191.00

***Estimate** FY2019 Grant awards were for a 6-month*

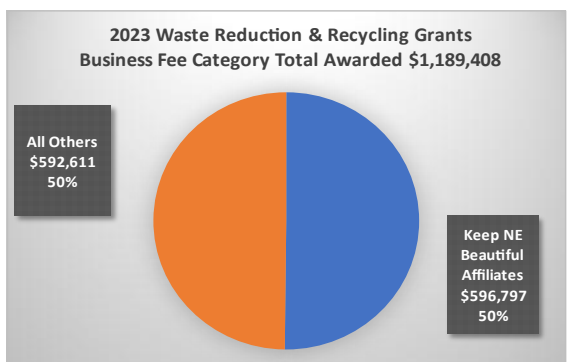
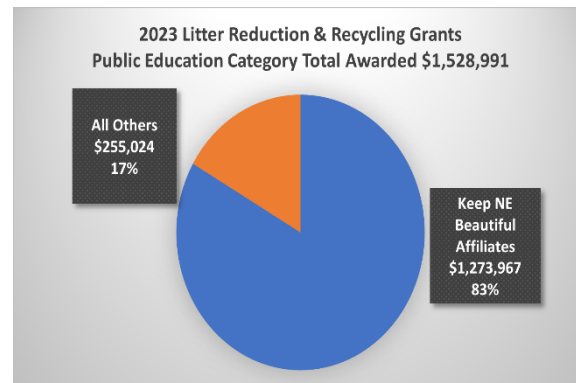
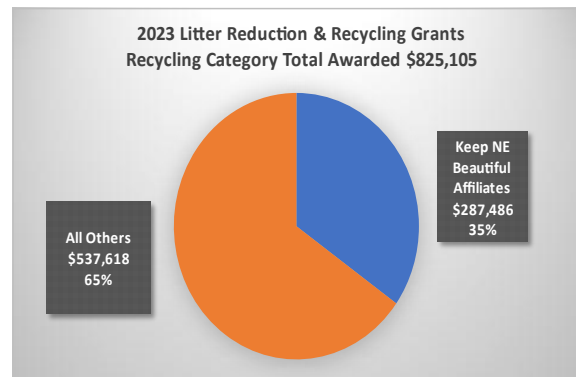
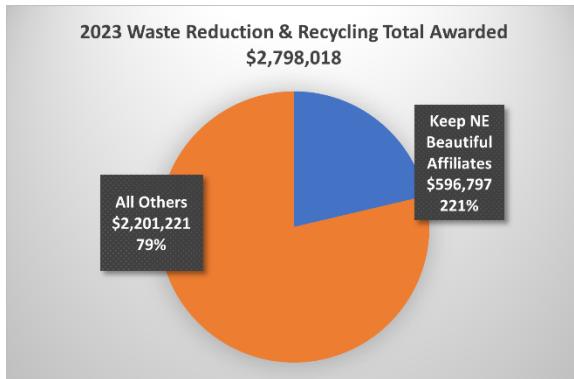
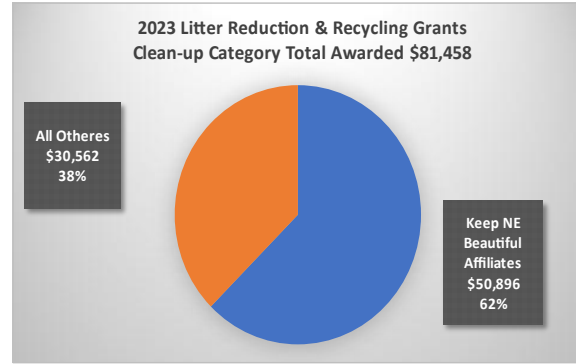
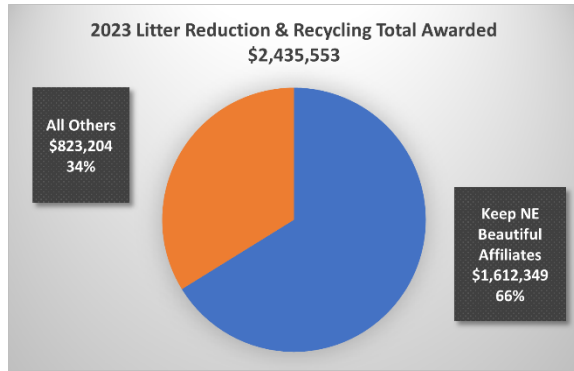
Amounts Awarded for Deconstruction, Illegal Dumpsite, and Landfill Disposal Rebates

Grant Year	Awarded Deconstruction Grants	Awarded Landfill Disposal Rebate	Awarded Illegal Dumpsite
2014		\$49,792	\$101,810
2015		\$28,058	\$94,859
2016		\$162,536	\$80,872
2017		\$75,599	\$100,892
2018		\$40,433	\$99,341
2019		\$14,935	\$91,630
2020	\$186,662	\$23,016	\$102,061
2021		\$101,365	\$48,579
2022		\$72,591	\$30,753
2023		\$112,099	\$26,012
Total	\$478,162	\$583,043	\$947,380

Keep America Beautiful Nebraska Affiliate Funding for 2023

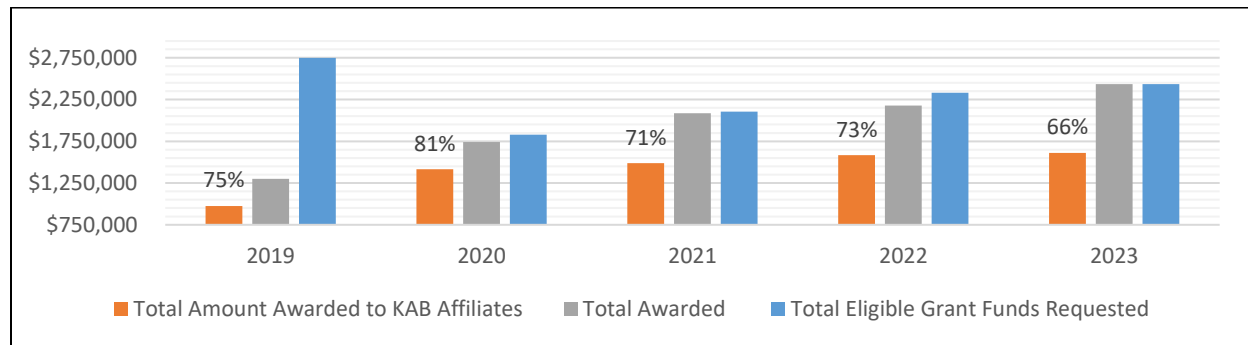
Keep America Beautiful (KAB) is a national non-profit public education organization. Keep Nebraska Beautiful is a statewide affiliate of KAB. There are 20 local KAB affiliate communities in Nebraska. Many of the KAB affiliates receive grant funding from the Litter Reduction and Recycling grant program under the public education category to cover expenses such as personnel and operating expenses. The affiliates teach the importance of reuse, recycling, and reducing waste and litter through school and community-wide education programs.

The Litter grant program also includes the cleanup category, which covers expenses to pick up litter along roadways and in public areas. Recycling is the third category under the Litter grant program and is like the Business Fee category, of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant Program. Through these last two categories, the KAB affiliates have received funding to operate recycling facilities and household hazardous waste (HHW) facilities. They have also held HHW, electronic waste, and pharmaceutical collections. These events are important because they make sure the materials collected are managed and/or disposed of properly. Although they are not eligible for direct grant funding, some KAB affiliates have worked with local political subdivisions (cities and counties) to organize scrap tire cleanup events.



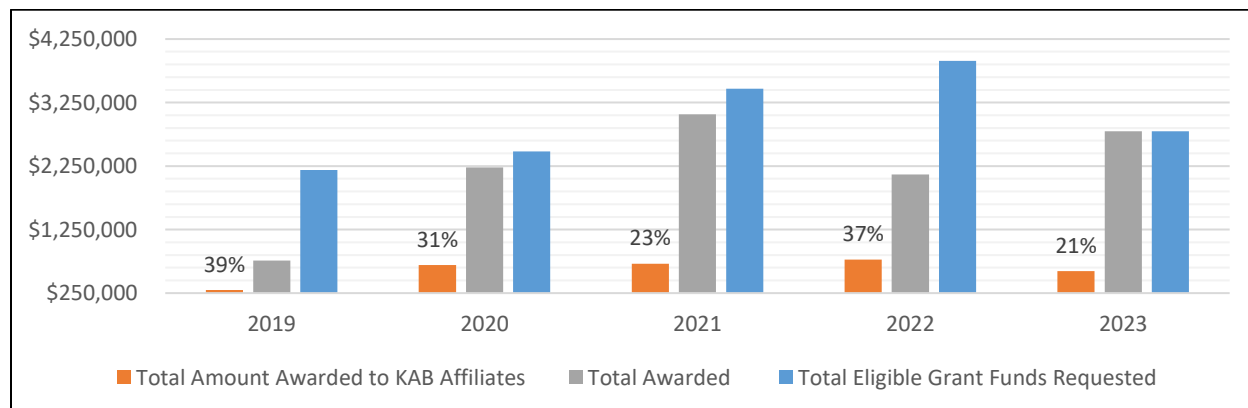
2019-2023 Awarded Litter Reduction and Recycling Grants to Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Nebraska Affiliates

Grant Year	Total Amount Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Percent Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Total Awarded	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested
2019	\$976,436	75%	\$1,300,000	\$2,746,775
2020	\$1,415,978	81%	\$1,740,176	\$1,827,643
2021	\$1,489,598	71%	\$2,084,200	\$2,105,370
2022	\$1,582,064	73%	\$2,176,341	\$2,331,980
2023	\$1,612,349	66%	\$2,435,553	\$2,435,553



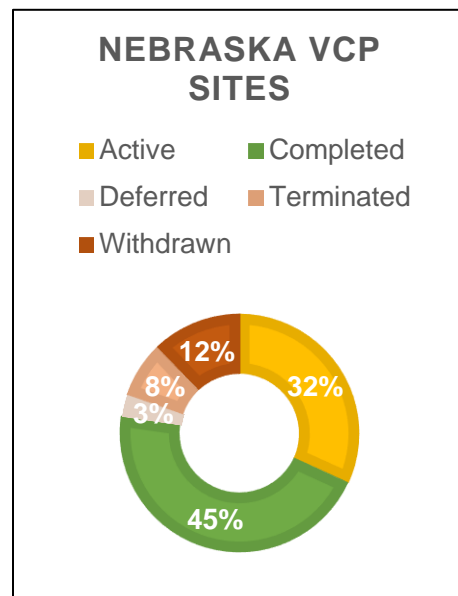
2019-2023 Awarded Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants to Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Nebraska Affiliates

Grant Year	Total Amount Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Percent Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Total Awarded	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested
2019	\$299,956	39%	\$761,545	\$2,188,344
2020	\$689,675	31%	\$2,228,367	\$2,481,692
2021	\$714,693	23%	\$3,067,101	\$3,469,624
2022	\$778,583	37%	\$2,117,673	\$3,904,767
2023	\$596,797	21%	\$2,798,018	\$2,798,018



Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program

The Remedial Action Plan Monitoring Act (RAPMA), initially created in 1995, established the Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The VCP provides any entity (including, but not limited to property owners or parties responsible for contamination) a mechanism for developing voluntary environmental cleanup plans that are reviewed and approved by NDEE. It also gives applicants a way to proceed with property cleanup and an opportunity for regulatory review and oversight that may not be available at the federal level. In addition, the program serves as an alternative cleanup program to the more traditional federal cleanup programs like Superfund or RCRA. The application fee to participate in the program is \$2,000, and the initial deposit to pay for state oversight costs is \$3,000. NDEE has a Memorandum of Agreement with EPA Region 7, which provides federal approval of VCPs. Under this agreement, any applicant that joins the VCP and successfully completes the cleanup action is assured that EPA will not pursue federal enforcement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund.



To date, 66 sites have entered the VCP. Currently, 21 sites are active in the VCP. Two sites have been deferred to the EPA Superfund program. Eight sites withdrew from the program. Five sites have been terminated from the program due to lack of activity in completing the investigation and/or cleanup. Twenty-nine sites have successfully completed cleanup requirements and have received "No Further Action" letters from NDEE, and one site received an Acknowledgement Letter for cleanup work completed to date, but not an official No Further Action letter.

NDEE continues to have significant interest from applicants enrolling properties or sites into the VCP; however, there were no new properties enrolled in the VCP this fiscal year.

Investigation activities are ongoing at the Omaha Steel Castings Parish School redevelopment site in Omaha, former Goodyear Lease Location in Lincoln, Citizens Gas FMGP site in McCook, 48th & Dodge Redevelopment site in Omaha, and the former Oak Lake Landfill in Lincoln.

Cleanup activities are ongoing at the Dettmer Lease Property in Auburn, Vishay Dale Electronics site in Norfolk, International Sensor Systems, Inc. site in Aurora, J.A. Woollam Co., Inc. site in Lincoln, former Farmland Industries Urea Ammonium Nitrate (UAN) Terminal in Doniphan, Elster American Meter Company site in Nebraska City, West Haymarket Block 4 site in Lincoln, Former AAA Welding site in Omaha, and the AltEn site in Mead.

Post-remediation monitoring is ongoing at the New Holland site in Grand Island, Nebraska Solvent site in Grand Island, Archer Daniels Midland site in Lincoln, Hoover Manufacturing site in Beatrice, Appleton Electric site in Columbus, and Former Max I. Walker Cleaners – Baker Square site in Omaha. NDEE is currently reviewing Remedial Action Reports for the Lewis and Clark Landing/Heartland of America Park Redevelopment site in Omaha.



The photos on the top row show cleanup activities at the Lewis and Clark Landing Kiewit Discovery Center Foundation in Omaha. Remedial measures were taken during construction of the foundation of the Kiewit Luminarium to address and repair disturbances to the multi-layered protective capping system that was installed during cleanup of the American Smelting and Refining Company site (photos courtesy of the Remedial Action Report dated October 20, 2021). The photo on the bottom row shows the completed Kiewit Luminarium, which opened to the public on April 15, 2023, as a community space and interactive learning environment (photo modified from the Kiewit Luminarium webpage).

Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites and Status			
Site	Location	Date Started	Progress
Active Sites			
New Holland	Grand Island-Southwest	11/9/2000	Active
Union Pacific Railroad Nebraska Solvent	Grand Island	10/10/2007	Active
Archer Daniels Midland	Lincoln	12/11/2008	Active
Dettmer Lease Property	Auburn	5/19/2011	Active
Hoover Manufacturing	Beatrice	5/27/2011	Active
Vishay Dale Electronics	Norfolk	4/2/2012	Active
Appleton Electric	Columbus	3/1/2013	Active
International Sensor Systems, Inc.	Aurora	3/2/2017	Active
Omaha Steel Castings – Parish School	Omaha	3/24/2017	Active
J.A. Woollam Co., Inc.	Lincoln	2/26/2018	Active
Former Farmland Industries Doniphan UAN Terminal	Doniphan	10/9/2018	Active
Lewis and Clark Landing/Heartland of America Park Redevelopment	Omaha	8/13/2019	Active
Elster American Meter Company	Nebraska City	9/19/2019	Active
West Haymarket Block 4	Lincoln	2/4/2020	Active

Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites and Status			
Site	Location	Date Started	Progress
Former Goodyear Lease Location #7522	Lincoln	7/21/2020	Active
Former Max I. Walker Cleaners – Baker Square	Omaha	1/11/2021	Active
Former AAA Welding	Omaha	1/11/2021	Active
AltEn, LLC	Mead	6/30/2021	Active
Citizens Gas FMGP	McCook	11/6/2021	Active
48 th & Dodge Redevelopment	Omaha	12/7/2021	Active
Flatwater Mews (Oak Lake Landfill)	Lincoln	6/28/2022	Active
Completed Sites			
KN Energy	Holdrege	4/3/1995	Completed 5/1/97
American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO)	Omaha-Riverfront	2/5/1996	Completed 10/11/01
Farmland Industries	Scottsbluff	2/9/1996	Completed 7/2/09
Farmland Industries	Hastings-East	6/25/1997	Completed 9/2/03
Lincoln Plating Co.	Lincoln	9/17/1998	Completed 7/26/12
Composite Structures, Inc. (Witco Corporation)	Omaha-North	1/20/1999	Completed 6/29/99
BNSF Railroad	Lincoln-Lot 9 Havelock	4/28/1999	Completed 2/20/01
Ballpark Complex	Lincoln-Haymarket	11/9/1999	Completed 9/1/06
Progress Rail Services	Sidney-North	11/22/1999	Completed 1/3/05
Omaha Riverfront Redevelopment (3 sites)	Omaha-Riverfront	5/18/2001	Completed 6/18/03, 12/9/03, 11/9/04
Union Pacific Railroad Child Development Center	Omaha-N. Downtown	3/5/2004	Completed 1/13/12
Plaza North Station LLC	Omaha	7/17/2009	Completed 2/11/14
Former Pfizer Facility	Omaha	7/28/2009	Completed 5/18/16
CVS Pharmacy	Lincoln	10/13/2010	Completed 1/28/15
West Haymarket Redevelopment Site North	Lincoln	10/27/2010	Completed 12/29/16
Izaak Walton Trap Range	Fremont	10/28/2010	Completed 4/13/12
Magnolia Metal Corporation	Auburn	3/9/2011	Completed 10/31/13
Blair FMGP	Blair	6/28/2011	Completed 4/4/16
Plattsmouth FMGP	Plattsmouth	6/28/2011	Completed 4/4/16
Lewis and Clark Landing	Omaha	4/20/2012	Completed 12/29/16
West Haymarket Redevelopment Site South	Lincoln	6/11/2012	Completed 9/18/18
Nebraska Machine Products	Omaha	10/1/2012	Completed 3/26/18
20th and Center FMGP/Lynch Park	Omaha	11/20/2012	Acknowledgement Letter issued 10/1/20
Magnus Farley	Fremont	6/16/2014	Completed 8/23/18
Beatrice FMGP	Beatrice	11/13/2015	Completed 8/22/19
Omaha Steel Castings – Saddle Creek Redevelopment	Omaha	4/26/2016	Completed 8/24/20
Former AmFirst Bank Branch	McCook	11/7/2019	Completed 6/22/20
Tiny Houses	Omaha	2/1/2021	Completed 4/11/23
Deferred, Terminated, or Withdrawn Sites			
Garvey Elevator	Hastings-West	4/13/1995	Deferred to EPA Superfund
Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad	Lincoln-N. Havelock	1/17/1996	Terminated 12/4/06
Union Pacific Railroad	Omaha-N. Downtown	1/17/1996	Withdrawn 3/7/03
Lincoln Journal Star	Lincoln-Downtown	2/26/1997	Terminated 1/28/09
Hastings Area wide	Hastings	12/17/1997	Withdrawn 6/23/00
Dana Corporation	Hastings-West	9/27/1999	Deferred to EPA Superfund
Brownie Manufacturing	Waverly-Highway 6	4/25/2000	Withdrawn 7/19/01

Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites and Status			
Site	Location	Date Started	Progress
BNSF Railroad	Lincoln-Havelock Yards	10/26/2000	Terminated 12/4/06
Owen Parkway East	Omaha-Abbott Drive	12/13/2000	Withdrawn 11/26/02
Sanford & Son	Lincoln-North	1/22/2002	Terminated 4/18/07
Vishay Dale Electronics	Norfolk	11/13/2006	Terminated 4/20/09
Quality Analytical Services	Omaha	8/2/2012	Withdrawn 6/3/14
Former Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products	Lincoln	10/26/2016	Withdrawn 6/11/19
Former Citizens Gas FMGP	McCook	6/4/2018	Withdrawn 7/16/20
Galaxy Laundry	Grand Island	2/2/2022	Withdrawn 1/4/23

Brownfields Assessments and Cleanups

A brownfield site is a vacant or under-used property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Common brownfield properties include historic dry cleaners, former gas stations, auto repair shops, and closed manufacturing facilities. These properties can be contaminated with various chemicals such as tetrachloroethene (PCE) used in dry cleaning, benzene from petroleum fuel, and heavy metals such as lead from manufacturing activities.

NDEE's Section 128(a) Brownfields Program receives funding from EPA to offer various investigations and assistance at no cost to eligible applicants. This includes the following services:

- Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) provide a review of historical documents and regulatory databases to determine if there are any environmental concerns associated with the past use of a property (e.g., the property was a gas station in the 1950s) and surrounding land use.
- Phase II ESAs are completed when environmental concerns are identified in the Phase I ESA, and include collecting soil, soil gas, and/or groundwater samples to identify if there has been a release to the environment and the initial extent of contamination on-site.
- Asbestos-containing materials, lead-based paint, and mold surveys can be completed on building materials as part of a Phase I ESA, Phase II ESA, or independently.
- Brownfield property inventories help to document all brownfields properties in a corridor, neighborhood, downtown, or other larger area slated for redevelopment.
- Cleanup planning activities (e.g., an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives report) include cleanup options and cost estimates based on future uses and redevelopment plans. Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives reports are required to qualify for federal cleanup grants.
- Cleanup grants provide partial assistance for asbestos abatement or cleanup to contain and reduce contamination at a site (e.g., treatment or excavation of contaminated soil). Other cleanup assistance may include planning grants to assist with developing a cleanup plan for a contaminated site.

During the past year, NDEE has performed 21 Phase I ESAs, five Phase II ESAs, 12 asbestos surveys, nine lead-based paint surveys, and nine mold surveys. NDEE also provided partial cleanup assistance for asbestos removal to three applicants.



The historical Maginnis building in Kimball originally served as a blacksmith shop for manufacturing galvanized steel flumes, which were used to irrigate the rough topography in the early years of Kimball County's settlement. The building also served as the Maginnis hardware store, the Maginnis Café with hotel in the upper level, and most recently as a Longhorn Steakhouse restaurant. When the restaurant closed in 2012, the building sat idle for years and began to fall into disrepair. To encourage redevelopment and help save the building, NDEE completed a Phase I ESA, Phase II ESA, asbestos-containing materials survey, and mold survey; and assisted the City of Kimball with asbestos abatement costs. In total, NDEE expended \$34,034 in Section 128(a) funding to remove environmental hurdles and make the property ready for reuse. A local business owner purchased the property and raised approximately \$500,000 of public and private

Brownfields Program Enhancement and Public Outreach

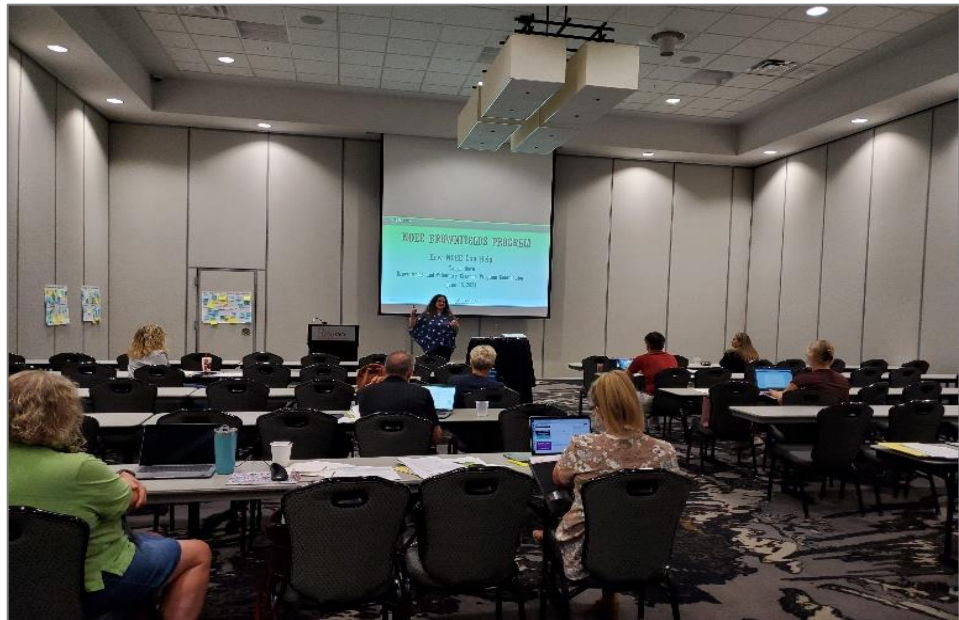
Program enhancement and public outreach are key components that serve to educate the public on what a brownfield is and promote how NDEE's Brownfields Program can be used by communities for economic development. Workshops are arranged with a goal to increase knowledge and understanding of the environmental stigma attached to brownfield properties and how NDEE's resources can serve as a catalyst to bring these properties back to productive reuse. These workshops serve to connect stakeholders of Nebraska communities with resource providers and consist of presentations from a variety of people that play an important role in economic development.

Outreach events held in FY2023 include:

- Kansas State University (KSU) Beatrice Public Schools Project Tour – September 16, 2022
- EPA Brownfields and Urban Agriculture Meeting with the City of Lincoln – October 20, 2022
- Beatrice Open House for KSU Urban Development Project – November 3, 2022.
- EPA Technical Assistance Dana College Open House in Blair – December 6, 2022.
- Community Revitalization Through Brownfields Redevelopment: Partners, Tools & Resources for Nebraska Communities Webinar – February 23, 2023
- Technical Assistance Meeting with the Village of Elm Creek – March 9, 2023
- Interview with WOWT – March 14, 2023
- Meeting with Beatrice Public Schools – March 29, 2023.
- Bringing Back Value to Blighted Properties in Your Community Workshop in Omaha – March 30, 2023
- Funding Workshop Open House in O'Neil – May 11, 2023
- 2023 Grant Writing Workshop in Kearney – June 14-15, 2023
- EPA Ceremonial Check Presentation to the City of Chadron, Nebraska – June 29, 2023

The NDEE Brownfields Program also meets one-on-one with community members as an outreach approach. NDEE, along with KSU Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) and EPA, held two

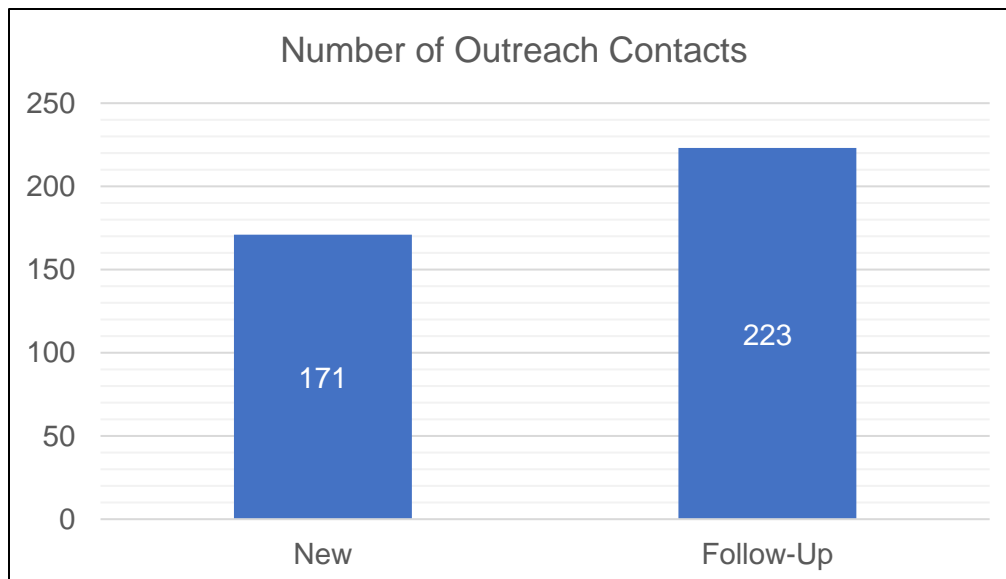
Partnership Resource Review virtual meetings the past year to discuss strategies to help a community develop a competitive EPA 104(k) Brownfields Assessment, Cleanup, or Revolving Loan Fund Grant Proposal, and make communities aware of the funding and technical assistance these programs have to offer. Communities that participated in a Partnership Resource Review meeting included the City of Hastings and the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency.



NDEE's Brownfields/VCP Coordinator, Taryn Horn, presented on NDEE's brownfields resources at the 2023 Grant Writing Workshop in Kearney, NE. The purpose of the two-day workshop was to deconstruct the EPA grant guidelines into manageable "bites", provide helpful hints and tips how to approach each of the required sections, step through interactive exercises, and introduce attendees to helpful resources to make their application stand out.

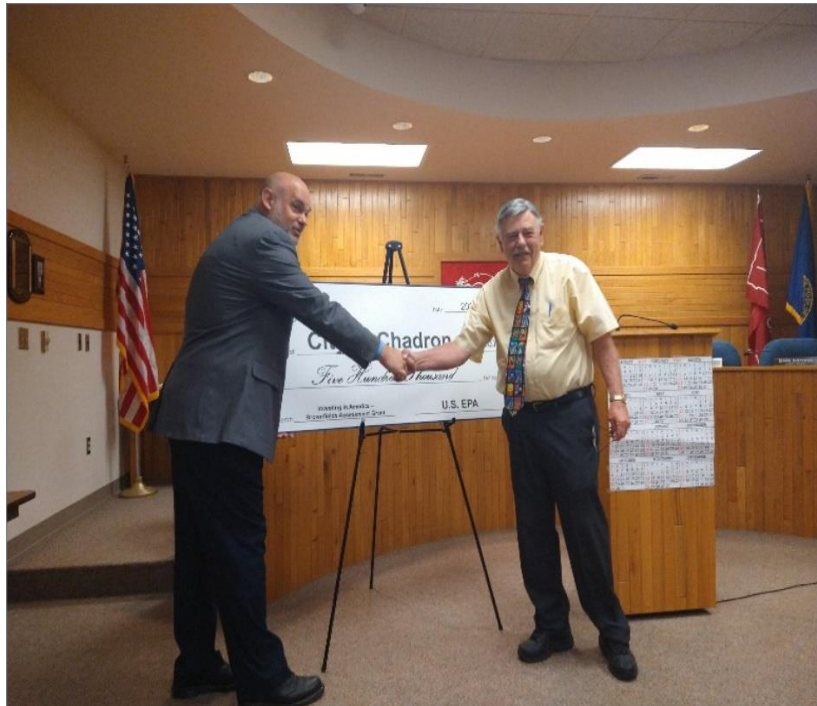
The NDEE Brownfields Program also had separate calls with the following municipalities and organizations to discuss how the Brownfields Program can help bring their projects and vision to fruition:

- City of Tekamah
- City of Omaha Planning Department
- Community Crops - Lincoln
- City of Fairbury
- Cooperative Producers - Hastings
- City of Lincoln
- City of North Platte
- York County Development Corporation
- Seward County
- Holy Name Housing – Omaha
- Kenesaw Community Development
- Cuming County Economic Development
- Village of Beaver Crossing
- Hall County Housing Authority
- Johnson County Historical Group
- Gresham Community Club
- City of Beatrice
- Village of Cedar Bluffs
- West Central Nebraska Development District
- City of Schuyler
- City of Neligh
- Southeast Nebraska Development District
- Village of Lodgepole
- Central Nebraska Economic Development District
- South Central Economic Development District
- City of Central City
- Three Rivers Housing Development
- City of Lexington
- Village of Nehawka



Overall, the NDEE Brownfields Program made 171 new contacts and followed up with 223 contacts on project progress, leveraged funding, and additional assessment work this fiscal year.

Outreach efforts by the NDEE Brownfields Program also helped the Village of Elm Creek secure a technical assistance grant from the EPA. Elm Creek has been working with L & M Homes, LLC to transform a vacant former service garage and fueling station that sits right off the Lincoln Highway. The blighted property is one of the first features that people see when driving west through Elm Creek and impacts the impression left by travelers. The property also occupies a prime piece of real estate easily accessible by the highway that is not serving as a beneficial use for the community. The technical assistance grant will help provide a feasibility study, site planning, and exploration of different use options for the property; and will map out all available resources that may assist with the redevelopment financial gaps.



On May 25, 2023, EPA announced that the City of Chadron was selected to receive a Community-Wide Assessment Grant in the amount of \$500,000. A Community-Wide Assessment Grant provides funding for a grant recipient to inventory, characterize, and assess brownfields sites in their community; conduct a range of planning activities; develop site-specific cleanup plans; and conduct community engagement. NDEE has previously supported the City of Chadron by using Section 128(a) funding to complete environmental site assessments at several properties, including at least two properties that the City considers "priority sites" for

In addition to providing public outreach, NDEE awards travel stipends to local community representatives to attend the National Brownfields Training Conference and other educational brownfields workshops. In 2022, NDEE awarded four travel stipends to Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, City of Curtis, Cozad Development Corporation, and City of Hastings to attend the National Brownfields Training Conference in Oklahoma City, OK from August 16-19, 2022. In 2023, NDEE awarded three travel stipends to the City of Neligh, City of Blair, and West Central Nebraska Development District to attend the Brownfields Grant Writing Workshop in Kearney, NE from June 14-15, 2023.

Leveraged Funding

To facilitate the leveraging of public resources, NDEE's Brownfields Program collaborates with EPA Region 7, KSU TAB, and other partners to identify and make available resources that can be used for brownfields activities. NDEE tracks leveraged resources by evaluating the dollars leveraged, cleanup and redevelopment jobs leveraged, and acres made ready for anticipated reuse. In this Cooperative Agreement period (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023), Nebraska has received \$3,788,920 and has leveraged \$2,224,519 in additional cleanup and redevelopment funding, 54 cleanup and redevelopment jobs, and 165 acres ready for anticipated reuse at 11 properties.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Program

The NDEE received authorization from the EPA in 1985 to administer portions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program. Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC) *Title 128 - Nebraska Hazardous Waste Regulations* incorporates the applicable RCRA regulations, which the NDEE updates as Federal regulations change.

The purpose of the RCRA program is to ensure proper management of hazardous wastes from the point of generation until final disposal. Activities performed under the RCRA program include:

- Helping hazardous waste generators maintain compliance through a Compliance Assistance Program
- Performing compliance inspections and enforcement actions
- Investigating complaints
- Reviewing groundwater contamination monitoring and remediation systems
- Reviewing permit applications and determining whether permits should be issued for proposed treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities
- Reviewing/approving closure and post-closure plans for hazardous waste storage areas and disposal sites
- Permitting and regulating the clean-up of hazardous waste that has been released to the environment through the RCRA Corrective Action program
- Maintaining data systems to support decision-making and making information available to the public.

The Compliance Assistance Program helps Nebraska businesses, government entities, and private citizens comply with hazardous and solid waste regulations in a non-enforcement setting. This program works with the regulated community in a partnership and promotes hazardous waste minimization and pollution prevention to help waste generators actually reduce the amount of hazardous waste being generated in the state. An additional product of these efforts is to ultimately reduce the number of regulatory requirements on our industries by helping to bring hazardous waste generators into lower RCRA threshold levels.

Compliance and enforcement activities include investigating complaints and inspecting hazardous waste generators and transporters; hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; and used oil marketers and burners. Other compliance and enforcement activities include conducting comprehensive groundwater monitoring evaluations, and operation and maintenance inspections of sampling and analysis procedures at RCRA sites to ensure that useful and representative data is being collected.

The RCRA program also conducts extensive permitting and closure activities to prevent the release of hazardous substances into the environment. Closure actions are required for treatment, storage, or disposal facilities that discontinue operations or that have operated without a permit. Permits are required for all operating treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. Post-closure permits are required for treatment, storage, and disposal facilities that have gone through closure and have contamination remaining on-site.

There is one operating hazardous waste storage and treatment facility in Nebraska: the Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. incinerator near Kimball, which began operation in 1994. This facility undergoes annual performance test burns to demonstrate proper operation and compliance with applicable regulations and permit requirements. Operational and physical changes at the Clean Harbors incinerator, made to improve the performance of the facility and ensure compliance with applicable regulations, result in numerous permit modifications. In addition, Clean Harbors has announced plans to expand the Kimball facility. The Air Quality Construction permit and the RCRA permit have been issued. Nebraska also oversees two active hazardous waste storage facilities that do not treat hazardous waste.

Corrective action addresses past and present activities at RCRA facilities that resulted in hazardous waste and hazardous constituents being released into soil, groundwater, surface water, and air. Corrective action requires investigation and remediation of the release of hazardous constituents from regulated facilities. These regulations make current and former owners of a property responsible for past mismanagement of hazardous waste. NDEE has administered the RCRA Corrective Action Program since January of 2017.

Significant Accomplishments

Significant corrective action accomplishments during FY2023 include the reissuance of the RCRA permits for both Safety-Kleen facilities (Grand Island and Omaha) and Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc (Kimball).

EPA continues to move generators to use the e-manifest module that is part of the national RCRAInfo database. Nebraska recommends generators use the e-manifest system, which provides a more efficient way for tracking the shipment of hazardous waste in an electronic process. It provides a notification system so that those in the chain (generator, transporter, and disposal facility) can see and manage the movement of wastes, as well as for States and EPA to lessen the time spent reviewing paper manifests. The reduction in the use of paper as the system is implemented will ultimately reduce costs. This provides multiple benefits including less chance to lose copies, less solid waste, and a reduction in the need to have storage space for all that paper. This provides the public a clearer understanding of wastes generated and disposed, and the process it followed to disposal.

Nebraska's RCRA program helps generators notify and manage their generator status by having them use the myRCRAID module, also within the national RCRAInfo database. In addition, Nebraska recommends that the facility hazardous waste managers prepare their 8700-12 Hazardous Waste notification form electronically. The Department currently has over 900 facilities that have requested and received permission to file electronically. NDEE approves the requests electronically, which saves NDEE and the hazardous waste facilities time, equating to money saved. Each generator then has electronic notification (email documentation) of the last time their status was updated and by whom.

As a result of process improvement, the RCRA program emails confirmations to generators who submit 8700-12 Hazardous Waste notification through the US EPA RCRAinfo system and for contingency plan update submittals mailed in to NDEE. The electronic system helps the department save time and reduce costs.

Program Funding

Funding for RCRA program activities is provided by an EPA grant, which requires a 25% state match.

The RCRA program collects an annual fee from commercial hazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities. Currently, one facility in Nebraska performs hazardous waste treatment and disposal. The fees are based on the total yearly volume or weight of hazardous waste treated or disposed. Fees are due March 1 and are remitted to the state general fund.

Currently, the RCRA Program oversees the following active sites:

- 109 Large Quantity Generators (greater than 2,200 pounds of hazardous waste generated per month)
- 406 Small Quantity Generators (between 220 and 2,200 pounds generated per month)
- 1,478 Very Small Quantity Generators (Federal Status – less than 220 pounds per month)
- 1 Hazardous Waste Incinerator Facility
- 3 Treatment, Storage or Disposal Facilities
- 23 Hazardous Waste Transporters

Location by County of Large Quantity Generators in Nebraska Regulated Under RCRA			
Buffalo 4	Gage 1	Madison 2	Saunders 3
Cuming 1	Hall 4	Otoe 1	Scotts Bluff 2
Chase 1	Hooker 1	Perkins 1	Seward 2
Cheyenne 2	Holt 2	Phelps 3	Stanton 1
Dakota 1	Kimball 1	Platte 4	Washington 2
Dodge 2	Knox 1	Red Willow 1	Wayne 1
Douglas 28	Lancaster 24	Sarpy 10	York 1
Franklin 1			

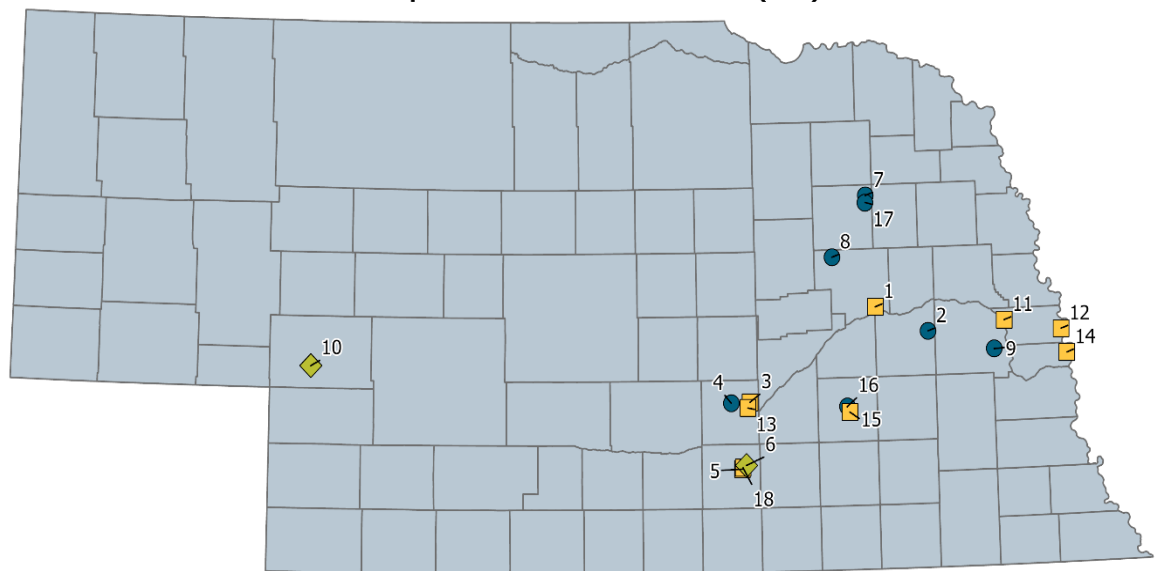
Summary of SFY2023 Activities		
Compliance Assistance	State	EPA
On-site Visits	2	*
Direct Assistance Contacts	601	*
Public Outreach Presentations (total 12 in attendance)	1	*
Complaints Received	7	*
Complaints Investigated	0	*
Complaints Closed	3	*
<i>*Data not available</i>		
RCRA Inspections		
Land Treatment Facilities	0	0
Treatment, Disposal, and Storage Facilities	1	2
Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Evaluations	0	0
Operation and Maintenance Inspections	0	0
Facility Self-Disclosure	0	0
Large Quantity Generator	16	4
Small Quantity Generator	12	1
Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators	1	0
Transporters	0	0
RCRA Permitting		
Closure Plans Finalized	0	0
Permits Issued/Renewed	3	0
Modifications	0	0
EPA Corrective Action Orders	0	0
RCRA Record Reviews		
Financial Assurance Closure/Post Closure	12	0
Corrective Action	17	0

Superfund Program

Thousands of contaminated sites exist nationally due to hazardous waste being improperly managed. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) became federal law in 1980 to clean up these sites, which include manufacturing facilities, processing plants, landfills, and mining sites. Superfund is a federal cleanup program designed to investigate and cleanup sites contaminated with hazardous substances under CERCLA. Sites in the Superfund program that are listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) are considered the most highly contaminated and undergo longer-term remedial investigation and cleanups. These sites pose the highest risk to human health and the environment in the nation.

The EPA, with concurrence from the State of Nebraska, determines whether a site should be listed on the NPL. Nebraska currently has 18 active NPL sites. One site, the Waverly Groundwater Contamination Site, was removed from the NPL on November 20, 2006, upon achieving the cleanup goals for the site. Fourteen of the sites are in the cleanup phase and four sites are relatively new to the NPL and are in the site study stage.

Nebraska Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) Sites



Source: EPA Geospatial Data Download Service

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 - 10th Street Site, Columbus 2 - Bruno Co-Op Association/Associated Properties, Bruno 3 - Cleburn Street Well, Grand Island 4 - Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant, Grand Island 5 - Garvey Elevator, Hastings 6 - Hastings Ground Water Contamination, Hastings 7 - Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Co., Norfolk 8 - Lindsay Manufacturing Co., Lindsay 9 - Nebraska Ordnance Plant (Former), Mead | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 - Ogallala Ground Water Contamination, Ogallala 11 - Old Hwy 275 & N 288th Street, Valley 12 - Omaha Lead, Omaha 13 - Parkview Well, Grand Island 14 - PCE Carriage Cleaners, Bellevue 15 - PCE Southeast Contamination, York 16 - PCE/TCE Northeast Contamination, York 17 - Sherwood Medical Co., Norfolk 18 - West Hwy 6 & Hwy 281, Hastings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially Responsible Party (PRP)-lead Superfund Site Fund-lead Superfund Site PRP- and Fund-lead Superfund Site |
|---|--|--|



Spatial Reference
Name: NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 Feet

Date Created: 9/11/2023

Under the Superfund program, EPA has the authority to mandate the parties responsible for the contamination to either perform the cleanup or provide reimbursement for EPA-led cleanup. If the responsible parties are no longer in business or cannot be identified, then EPA has the authority to finance and perform the cleanup itself. State cost obligations occur when the responsible party lacks the financial resources so federal funds are used to pay for the cleanup.



In December 2022, EPA announced the addition of the Tetrachloroethene (PCE) Carriage Cleaners in Bellevue, Nebraska to the NPL. Historical dry-cleaning operations at the PCE Carriage Cleaners site released PCE and trichloroethene (TCE) into the soil and groundwater. This contamination has led to a vapor intrusion concern for overlying residential and commercial buildings, meaning that indoor air is or has the potential to exceed health-based benchmarks. NDEE's role during the NPL listing process is to pursue support from City representatives for listing, recommend Governor concurrence, provide technical assistance to EPA, identify State requirements, and represent the interests of the State.



Top: Street view of the PCE Carriage Cleaners site; now a vacant lot (photo courtesy of Google Maps)

The investigation and remediation of contaminated sites under CERCLA are the primary responsibility of EPA and other federal agencies. NDEE participates in the Superfund process by serving as a technical support agency to EPA and as the environmental representative for the State of Nebraska. This investigation and remedial work at Nebraska Superfund sites make a visible and lasting difference in communities across the state, giving people healthy places to live and work. NDEE provides technical assistance to EPA Superfund efforts across two programs: the Superfund Site Assessment Program and the Superfund Management Assistance Program.

Superfund Site Assessment Program

The Superfund Site Assessment Program identifies, assesses, and characterizes sites where hazardous substances are known or suspected to pose a threat to public health and/or the environment. Currently, the sites investigated in Nebraska consist primarily of areas around contaminated municipal and private drinking water supply wells or where there is a significant potential for groundwater contamination. It is also becoming more common to investigate sites for potential vapor intrusion from contaminated soil or groundwater.



Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

What is Vapor Intrusion?

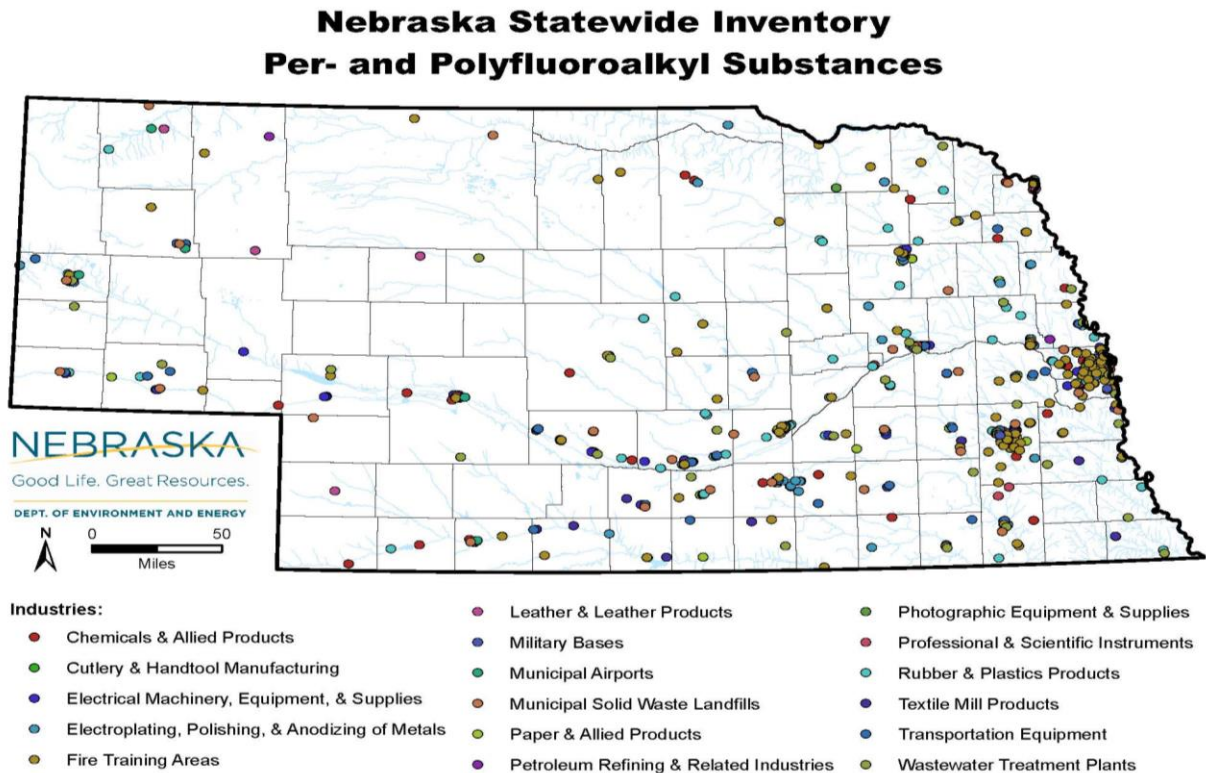
Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are a class of chemicals that are volatile (evaporate easily) and form a vapor in the air. Vapor intrusion is a way that these volatile chemicals in soil and groundwater near and under buildings can enter and build up inside the buildings, similar to how radon can enter a home. Common uses of VOCs included dry cleaning, treatment of stored grain, and industrial operations. Breathing in certain VOCs at elevated levels can cause adverse health effects based on overall age and health, the length of exposure, and the type of

Site assessment steps:

1. Pre-CERCLA Screening Assessment. This step is a review of existing information on a potential site to determine whether a release has occurred requiring further evaluation through the Superfund process.
2. Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment. This step involves collecting background information such as property ownership, operational history, and geology/hydrogeology, and performing a site reconnaissance.
3. Site Inspection. This step involves sampling environmental media, such as soil, soil gas, and groundwater, and evaluating vapor intrusion into indoor air of building structures. In some situations, a combined Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection is conducted.
4. Expanded Site Inspection. This step is performed at large and/or complex sites to collect additional soil and groundwater samples to further define the extent of contamination.
5. Site Re-Assessment. This step is performed at some sites if new information is obtained that indicates that a threat to public health and/or the environment may exist.

During the past year, NDEE has performed work on one Pre-CERCLA Screening Assessment, two Abbreviated Preliminary Assessments, three Site Inspections, two Expanded Site Inspections, and four Site Re-Assessments.

NDEE often uses inventories to guide its prioritization of site assessment projects. In 2017, NDEE compiled a Statewide Inventory of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). PFAS are a large group of man-made chemicals that have been used in consumer products, industrial processes, and firefighting foams since the 1940s. PFAS are resistant to heat, oils, stains, grease, and water, and break down very slowly over time. These unique properties contribute to their wide use and persistence in the environment. The figure below illustrates the locations of industries present across the state that potentially used or manufactured PFAS based on the 2017 Statewide Inventory.



EPA has identified PFAS as contaminants of emerging concern that can have adverse health effects if found in drinking water supplies. One of the main uses of PFAS is in aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), which is a commercial surfactant solution used to extinguish hydrocarbon fires. The Federal Aviation Administration requires the storage, use, and testing of AFFF firefighting foams at all airports that have a Federal Aviation Regulation Part 139 Airport Operating Certificate. Releases of AFFF to the environment may have occurred during routine training and testing exercises, or as a result of a discharge from actual aircraft rescue situations, fixed fire protection (aircraft hangar deluge) systems, or the removal and replacement of AFFF concentrate from vehicles during maintenance. Additionally, residual AFFF/ AFFF wastewater may have drained to existing infrastructure on the airport property to be directed to a wastewater treatment facility. In Nebraska, nine municipal airports have a Part 139 Airport Operating Certificate. NDEE has completed Abbreviated Preliminary Assessments at all nine of these sites to evaluate any potential impacts to the environment. Other high priority processes and facilities identified in the Statewide Inventory include metal and chrome plating facilities and fire training areas.

During the past year, NDEE evaluated one site in eastern North Platte to determine the source of PFAS that were detected in groundwater during a previous investigation. The results did not definitively identify a source area; additional sampling is warranted to determine if private well users are impacted above levels protective of human health. NDEE also initiated a new project in western North Platte to determine the source of PFAS that were detected during a previous investigation. That project will be completed during the next fiscal year.

NDEE continued to work with the EPA Region 7 Superfund Site Assessment and Removal Programs to investigate the potential trichloroethene (TCE) detections in soil, groundwater, and soil gas. Additional sampling was completed to identify the source areas for TCE contamination and determine if vapor intrusion is a concern in nearby commercial and residential buildings.



The photo on the left shows the collection of a soil boring using direct-push technology near a former dry-cleaning facility. The photo on the right shows the soil core from one boring location (photos courtesy of Tetra Tech).

Superfund Management Assistance Program

The Superfund Management Assistance program provides management and technical support to EPA at NPL sites in Nebraska. This assistance includes reviewing technical documents and participating in the Superfund remedy selection process. As the most heavily contaminated sites in the nation, NPL sites are generally large and complex, because they often involve more than one contaminated media and have multiple sub-units with varying contaminants. The investigation and cleanup activities at these sites are organized into several phases, including remedial investigations, groundwater modeling, baseline risk assessments, feasibility studies/engineering cost evaluations, field-scale pilot studies, remedy design/construction, and remedy operation and maintenance. NDEE also participates in public meetings with citizens and local officials in the development of cleanup plans.

EPA seeks to identify those responsible for contamination to pay for the cleanup. If it is not possible to identify the responsible party, or if the responsible party is insolvent, cleanup is paid for by a combination of Federal and State funds. Of the 18 active Nebraska sites on the National Priorities List, seven are being addressed by the responsible party. The remaining eleven sites either are or will be partially or fully financed by Federal and State funds (i.e., “fund-lead”). For fund-lead sites, the State of Nebraska enters into contracts with EPA and agrees to pay 10% of the capital costs of constructing the cleanup system, 10% of initial startup operation

costs, and 10% of on-going operation and maintenance costs for the first ten years of the project. State cost obligations may be waived for a portion of the cleanup if EPA uses funds derived from a settlement (or other instrument) with potentially responsible parties or if funds are provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021. After the initial ten years, the State pays 100% of the operation and maintenance costs.

Initially, NDEE funded these costs with Legislative appropriations of General funds. During 2004-2007, NDEE received Nebraska Environmental Trust grant funding to pay these costs. Beginning in FY18, NDEE was authorized to fund these costs through a transfer of up to \$1.5 million from the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund into the Superfund Cost Share Cash fund. For FY2023, NDEE's cost share was \$666,808.79. Future projections of these costs are \$747,223 in FY2024, \$1,008,233 in FY2025, and \$3,325,621 in FY2026. In FY2024, NDEE is not expected to have a 10% cost share for remedial activities at Fund-lead sites due to the use of IIJA funds; however, it will retain its responsibility for 100% of the operation and maintenance costs at the four sites described below.

During the last year, NDEE paid 100% of operation and maintenance costs related to cleanup at the Columbus 10th Street site, Hastings Second Street Operable Unit (OU) 20 subsite, Ogallala OU 2 subsite, and Parkview Well site.

- At the Columbus 10th Street site, NDEE initiated a pilot study for in-situ treatment near the southern municipal well field. The results of this pilot study will be evaluated during the next fiscal year. NDEE is also completing ongoing groundwater sampling, vapor intrusion sampling, and vapor mitigation system inspections.

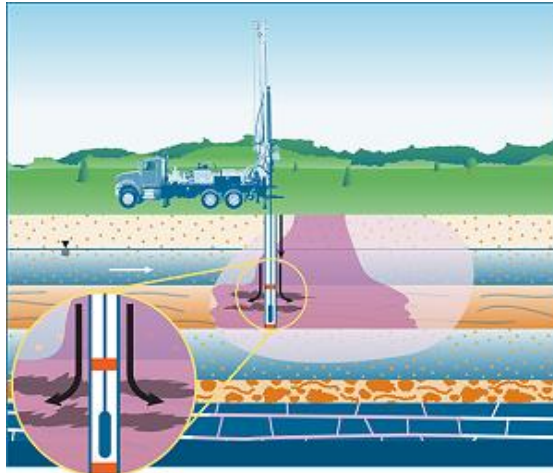


Image courtesy of the Interstate Technology Regulatory Council

What are In-Situ Injections?

In-situ remediation treats contamination "in place" using chemical or biological approaches. This can be done below ground surface and with minimal disturbance by injecting the chemical or biological substrate directly into the groundwater. The substrate is injected at the appropriate depths and locations to allow it to come

- At the Hastings Second Street OU 20 subsite, NDEE is completing ongoing groundwater sampling and in-situ treatment.
- At the Ogallala OU 2 subsite, NDEE is completing ongoing groundwater sampling, vapor intrusion sampling, and vapor mitigation system inspections. This year, NDEE reduced the frequency for groundwater sampling from semi-annual to annual, resulting in a cost savings of ~\$8,000 per year in contractual costs. This cost savings

- will allow NDEE to increase its operation and maintenance efforts at other Superfund sites in Nebraska.
- At the Parkview Well OU 1 subsite in Grand Island, NDEE is operating and maintaining a groundwater extraction and treatment system. NDEE is also completing ongoing groundwater sampling, vapor intrusion sampling, and vapor mitigation system inspections.

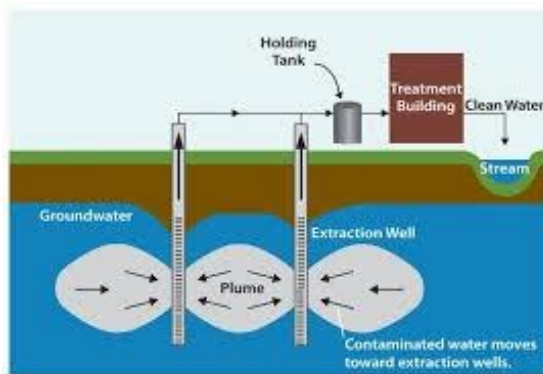


Image courtesy of the Environmental Protection Agency

What is Groundwater Extraction and Treatment?

Groundwater extraction and treatment uses extraction wells to pump groundwater to an aboveground treatment system. Once treated water meets regulated standards, it is discharged for disposal or further reuse.

NDEE expects that IIJA funds will be used for cleanup at the Garvey Elevator OU 1 subsite in Hastings, Hastings Second Street OU 12 subsite, Parkview Well OU 2 subsite in Grand Island, and PCE Southeast OU 1 and OU 2 subsites in York. The expected IIJA funds is expected to result in a cost savings of \$2,622,747 in NDEE's cost share.

The Omaha Lead site is associated with two former lead-processing facilities, American Smelting and Refining Company, Inc. (ASARCO) and the Aaron Ferer & Sons Company (later the Gould Electronics, Inc.) lead battery recycling plant. Both the ASARCO and Aaron Ferer/Gould facilities released lead-containing particulates to the atmosphere from their smokestacks, which were deposited on surrounding residential properties. NDEE concurred with the partial delisting of 13 properties this year; the partial deletion rule allows EPA to delist portions of NPL sites provided that deletion criteria are met. This allows portions of a site to be available for productive use before cleanup of the entire site has been completed. To date, a total of 2,294 partial deletions from the NPL have been made at the Omaha Lead site.

On the following page is a list of the 18 active NPL sites. Below each name is an EPA web address that provides more detailed information about the site.

Active National Priorities List Sites in Nebraska	
Site Name	Web Address
10th Street Site, Columbus	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702001
Bruno Co-Op Association/Associated Properties, Bruno	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702000
Cleburn Street Well, Grand Island	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701986
Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant, Grand Island	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702020
Garvey Elevator, Hastings	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704351
Hastings Ground Water Contamination, Hastings	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701973
Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Co., Norfolk	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/CurSites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702377&msspp=med
Lindsay Manufacturing Co., Lindsay	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701913
Nebraska Ordnance Plant (Former), Mead	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702031
Ogallala Ground Water Contamination, Ogallala	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702287
Old Hwy 275 & N 288th Street, Valley	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704272&msspp=med
Omaha Lead, Omaha	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0703481
Parkview Well, Grand Island	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704456
PCE Carriage Cleaners, Bellevue	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0710226
PCE Southeast Contamination, York	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0706200&msspp=med
PCE/TCE Northeast Contamination, York	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0706105&msspp=med
Sherwood Medical Co., Norfolk	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702086
West Hwy 6 & Hwy 281, Hastings	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704738

Federal Facilities

Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) Program

Under the DSMOA program, NDEE oversees investigation and cleanup of munitions and hazardous substances at current federal facilities, such as Offutt Air Force Base, and formerly used defense sites (FUDS), such as the former Nebraska Ordnance Plant near Mead. The cleanup efforts are conducted by a Department of Defense component, such as the Air Force or the Army Corps of Engineers. Investigation and cleanup of hazardous substances follow the Superfund CERCLA process. Some sites must first be investigated and cleared of munitions and unexploded ordnance before CERCLA work can begin. NDEE also reviews previous no-further-action decisions for facilities and if needed, provides non-concurrence with recommendations for further work. During FY2023, investigation and cleanup activities for hazardous substances were conducted at 2 active sites and 12 formerly used defense sites, and military munitions response activities were performed at 4 sites.

PFAS were found at Offutt Air Force Base and the Lincoln Air National Guard Base prior to FY2023; however, to date no threats or impacts to public or private drinking water supplies have been found. During FY2023, follow-up investigations were conducted at Offutt Air Force Base.

Former USDA/CCC Grain Storage Facilities

Nebraska contains 332 former U.S. Department of Agriculture/Commodity Credit Corporation (USDA/CCC) grain storage facilities. The soil, groundwater, and soil vapor at and near many of these former grain storage facilities is contaminated with carbon tetrachloride, which was commonly used as a grain fumigant during their operation. The USDA/CCC is currently prioritizing, investigating, and cleaning up these former grain storage facilities, and installing vapor mitigation systems in occupied buildings as needed. Investigation and cleanup follow the Superfund CERCLA process. NDEE oversees these efforts under a Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program agreement with the USDA. During FY2023, remedial actions were conducted at three sites, investigations were ongoing at 5 sites, new groundwater investigations were started at 21 sites, and vapor intrusion investigations were begun at 14 sites.

Solid Waste Program

Every day, tons of solid waste are disposed of at landfills across the state. The purpose of the Solid Waste program is to ensure proper management of solid waste, which includes solid waste typically collected and disposed in municipal landfills, and other non-hazardous waste. Solid Waste regulations are incorporated in NAC *Title 132 - Integrated Solid Waste Management Regulations*. The regulations provide technical criteria for land disposal areas and solid waste processing facilities. In May 2023, Title 132 marked a milestone of 30 years.

Duties assigned to this program include:

- Permit issuance, renewal, and modification;
- Response to inquiries related to facility operations;
- Compliance inspections and enforcement actions;
- Investigation of citizen complaints;
- Alternate waste management method approvals;
- Groundwater investigations and groundwater/soil remediation projects at permitted and non-permitted facilities;
- Gas emissions monitoring related to landfills and other permitted sites;
- Closure inspections and monitoring of closure and post-closure activities;
- Conducting public information sessions and hearings related to permits;
- Financial assurance review and monitoring compliance; and
- Assisting regulated facilities and the general public in recycling, re-use, and proper management of waste-like materials.

The program regulates municipal solid waste disposal areas (landfills), construction and demolition disposal areas, fossil fuel combustion ash disposal areas, industrial and delisted hazardous waste disposal areas, and land application sites for the disposal (one time and repeated) or treatment of special wastes. In addition, solid waste processing facilities, such as compost sites, material recovery facilities, transfer stations, and medical waste processing facilities are regulated by this program.

Permit modification requests are routinely submitted by permitted facilities. Responses to the modification requests are particularly time-critical since the facility may need to expand or construct new waste disposal cells in order to meet their disposal capacity needs.

A Solid Waste Management Programs Study conducted in 2016 provides a complete description of Nebraska's solid waste programs and reported that the average remaining capacity for waste disposal is approximately 39 years.

The Waste Permit programs coordinate with other NDEE programs to ensure that permits issued include adequate protection of all environmental media. The requirements in solid waste permits include protection against excessive emissions of landfill gas to the atmosphere, storm water runoff controls, and restrictions on accepting hazardous waste for disposal at a landfill, amongst other regulatory requirements.

Currently, the Waste Permit and Waste Compliance Programs oversee the following facilities:

Total Permitted Facilities in FY2023	
Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Areas (Landfills)	22
Solid Waste Compost Sites	8
Transfer Stations	36
Materials Recovery Facilities	4
Construction & Demolition Waste Disposal Areas	31
Delisted Waste Disposal Area	1
Processing Facility	2
Fossil Fuel Combustion Ash Disposal Areas	7
Total	111

The following table indicates the number of inspections, complaints and permitting-related activities that the program was involved with in FY2023:

Summary of FY23 Activities	
Compliance Assistance	
Facility Inspections (General)	120
Facility Closure Inspection	0
Facility Construction Inspections	10
Facility Comprehensive Renewal Inspections	18
Complaints Received	156
Complaints Investigated	155
Complaints Closed or Referred	155
Permitting	
New Permits Issued	0
Permit Renewals	22
Major Permit Modifications	2
Public Hearings	0
Permits Transferred	1
Financial Assurance Reviews	142
Facilities Closed	0

Assessment Monitoring and Remedial Measures

All solid waste disposal areas (facilities) accepting municipal solid waste, industrial waste, delisted hazardous waste and fossil fuel combustion ash are required to conduct groundwater monitoring. The purpose of the groundwater monitoring is to detect any release of contaminants from the facility that may impact groundwater quality. A phased approach is used from the initial detection of a potential release to making decisions on cleanup actions after groundwater contamination has been fully investigated.

The first phase is detection monitoring. During this phase, a facility will monitor for a discrete number of contaminants that would be indicative of a potential release of contaminants from the facility. During FY2023, 13 operating and 4 closed facilities conducted detection monitoring. If one or more of the parameters being monitored exceed background levels, the facility must begin assessment monitoring, which includes a more extensive list of contaminants. During FY2023, 17 operating and 3 closed facilities conducted assessment monitoring.

If during the assessment monitoring phase, contaminant concentrations are detected above a groundwater protection standard, the facility is required to characterize the nature and extent of the release and, if necessary, assess and conduct remedial measures. In FY2023 investigations or remedial measures were continued at 4 active and 2 closed landfills.

Title 118 Groundwater Investigations and Remedial Actions

Several municipal solid waste disposal areas that closed prior to 1993 have conducted groundwater investigations and remedial actions pursuant to NAC *Title 118 – Groundwater Quality Standards and Use Classification*. In FY2023, groundwater investigations continued at 1 site, and remedial actions continued at 9 sites.

Financial Assurance and Fees

All permitted solid waste landfills are required to provide financial assurance for closure and post-closure maintenance and monitoring. All privately owned permitted solid waste processing facilities are required to provide financial assurance for closure.

Program Funding

The Waste Permit Section collects permit fees and annual operating fees for all solid waste management facilities. Quarterly disposal fees, based on cubic yards or tonnage, are collected from all municipal solid waste landfills as well as transfer stations moving waste for disposal out of state. Fifty percent of the quarterly disposal fees are redistributed as grants and for administration of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentives Grants Program, and 50% of the quarterly disposal fees are utilized for costs of administering the solid waste program and for investigation and remediation of contamination from solid waste facilities and for other statutorily authorized activities.

Waste Tire Management Program

The NDEE also administers the waste tire management program. Approved beneficial uses of waste tires are outlined in NDEE regulations. Waste tire haulers are required to obtain individual permits annually and post financial assurance. Financial assurance is designed to provide adequate funds to clean up any waste tires that are illegally disposed by the transporter.

Waste tire management facilities (except tire dealers) are allowed to accumulate up to 500 tires while maintaining mosquito control and fire prevention measures. Accumulation of more than 500 waste tires at any location is prohibited by rule.

Compliance assistance is an important aspect of this program. Program activities include responding to inquiries from local and state sources, developing guidance documents, conducting site visits, and providing technical advice. The NDEE develops and maintains guidance documents explaining on a wide variety of topics, including the proper use of waste tires for blow-out and bank stabilization. Direct financial assistance is also available through the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentives Grant program.

The waste tire compliance assurance program includes facility inspections, complaint investigations, and appropriate enforcement actions. Compliance activities are included in the summary of activities for the Solid Waste Program.

Waste Tire Permit Totals, FY2023	
Renewed Hauler Permits	23
New Permits Issued	8
Permits Expired	2
Financial Assurance Reviews	8