CHAPTER 5:
Land Management Division

The Land Management Division's objective is 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.

Planning and Aid Section

The Land Planning and Aid Section manages the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program, including Scrap Tire Grants and Deconstruction Grants; Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant 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 Environmental Quality/Nebraska Environmental Trust Partnership

In July 2018, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (now NDEE) and the Nebraska Environmental Trust entered into 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 7, 2019, a hearing was held to decide the 2020 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 2020 were based on the actual applications received:

Category	2020 Eligible Requests	
Recycling	20.1%	$367,390
Public Education	75.0%	$1,371,100
Cleanup	4.9%	$89,153
Totals	100%	$1,827,643

The Department asked for the ability to adjust the percentages by up to 20% for the 2020 grant year, if warranted. The Environmental Quality Council granted this request.

New Grant Application Guidance Updates

To address common issues with grant recipients, the division created grant application guidance in 2018 to provide direction and set limits on grant-funded expenses. The purpose is to provide fair and equitable reimbursements, especially when requests exceed the amount of grant funding available. A subcommittee of the Nebraska Environmental Quality Council reviewed the guidance in the fall of 2018 and accepted it at the November 15, 2018, Environmental Quality Council meeting. The guidance affects grant applications received after January 1, 2019. Further updates were made in 2020 to clarify eligible reimbursements for personnel and other expenses.

Alignment of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant Program and Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program grant terms to a calendar year

Beginning with 2020 awards, the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive grant term changed from a fiscal year to a calendar year. With this change, both the Litter Reduction and Recycling and Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive grant programs will be on a calendar year. This change will allow our grant programs to more closely align with the grant application period of the Nebraska Environmental Trust. Scrap tire grant applicants wanting to hold a scrap tire collection event, or who plan to do construction projects (artificial turf, running tracks, or playground surfaces) will have notification of their grant award in December, rather than late spring or early summer. To make the transition to a calendar year, the 2019 awards for the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive grant program (which includes Scrap Tire Grants) were awarded for a six-month grant term, from July 1 through December 31, 2019. All 2020 grant terms are from January 1 through December 31, 2020.

Updated Online Grant Application

In 2020, an updated online application was created for the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program and the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program. The updated application provides more instruction on each screen where data is entered to improve the application process.

Expected Service Life

The Planning and Aid Section grant 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. One redistribution of equipment was made in 2020.

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.

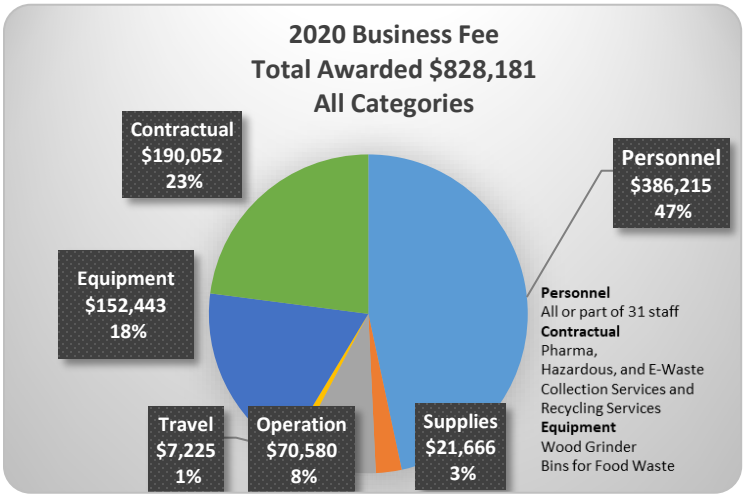
Fund Summary Waste Reduction and Recycling Fund July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020	
Fund Balance June 30, 2019	**$808,767**
Revenues:	
New Tire Fees	$2,370,057
Business Fees Waste Reduction & Recycling Fee	$466,451
Solid Waste Disposal Fee	$1,462,850
Interest, Grant Returns	$33,095
Miscellaneous	$21,550
Operating Transfers Out	$-240,000
Net Collections for Year	**$4,114,003**
Expenditures:	
Administration	$329,111
Grant Funds Expended*	$2,759,259
Total Expenditures FY 2019	**$3,088,370**
Fund Balance June 30, 2020	**$1,834,440**

**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 2020, $4,271,764 was awarded for Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants to 110 projects. There were 18 grants awarded from the Business Fee category ($828,181), 14 were awarded from the Disposal Fee category ($1,400,186), one grant was awarded for Deconstruction of Abandoned Buildings ($186,662), and 77 were awarded from the funds prioritized for scrap tire projects ($1,856,735).

These grants were awarded for a calendar year for the first time. This allows for both the Waste and Litter grants to be on the same grant cycle. The following lists indicate the locations across Nebraska that received funds in the Business Fee category and the Disposal Fee category.

Business Fee

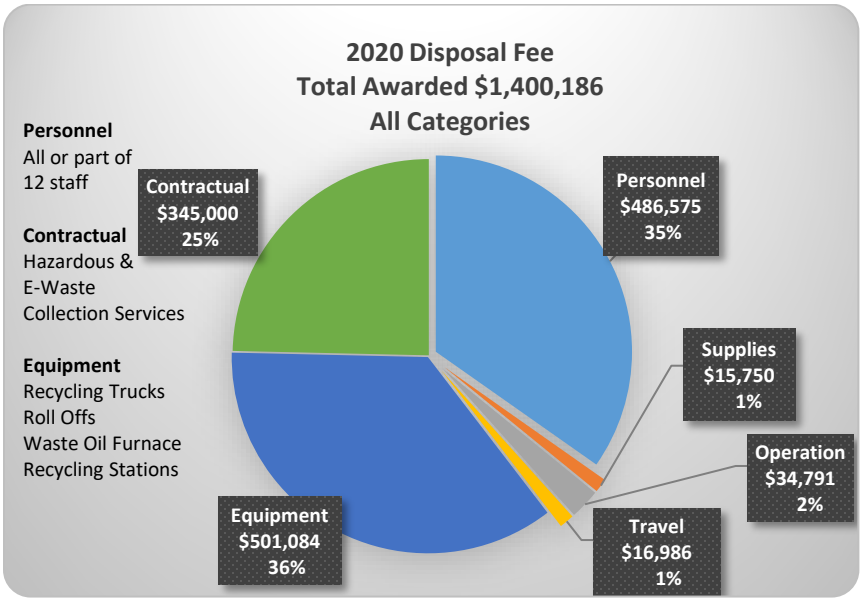


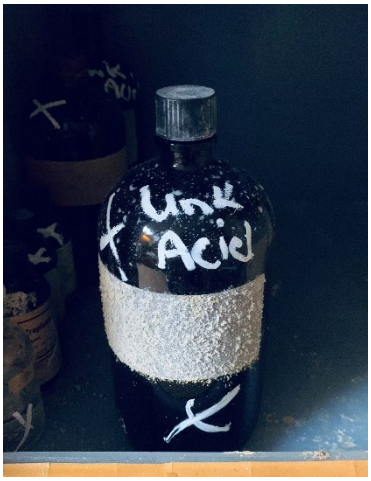
This photo was provided by Papio Valley Nursery, which was awarded funds toward a wood grinder to process 55,000-75,000 yards of wood waste annually. The wood chips will be used for a wood burning broiler system for their greenhouses.

Business Fee: $828,181 for 18 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	$98,746	Funds for the recycling center operations for Box Butte Co. and surrounding area, and waste reduction & recycling education programs.
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$61,976	Funds to continue the paper and cardboard recycling program for the city of Chadron.
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	$625	Advertising expenses for an electronic waste collection event in Columbus for Platte County residents.
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	$24,141	Funds to hold a household hazardous waste collection event in Columbus for Platte County residents. Anticipate collecting 15,000 lbs. of waste.
Fremont	Keep Fremont Beautiful, Inc.	$21,302	Funds to hold a household hazardous waste collection event for residents in Fremont and Dodge County. Also provide recycling opportunities at public events and maintain an ongoing program to promote waste reduction and improve recycling efforts.
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	$143,562	Funds to operate the Betty Curtis HHW facility for Hall, Hamilton, Howard, Merrick, and Adams counties.
Hebron	Trailblazer Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)	$32,500	Funds to host seven electronic waste collections in Clay, Thayer, Nuckolls, Webster, Franklin, Fillmore, and Harlan counties. Anticipating collecting 130,000 lbs. of e-waste.
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	$16,994	Funding to increase recycling by providing collection services for rural residents and residential alley recycling pickups.
Lexington	Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency	$23,823	Funds to hold two household hazardous waste collection events in central Nebraska.
Lincoln	Keep Nebraska Beautiful	$74,970	Funds to operate the Materials Exchange Program (reuse/recycle >10 mil. lbs. of materials annually; saving landfill fees of $200,202, and purchasing costs of $302,733), Food Waste Program, and Used Oil Collection Program.

Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$46,380	Continue the successful recycling and composting program and expand the quantity and variety of recyclable and compostable materials to include construction waste. Anticipate diverting 2.7 million lbs. of material from the landfill.
Lincoln	Nebraska Recycling Council	$49,927	Funds to develop the hub and spoke model for recycling for an additional 20 counties in southeast Nebraska. Continue working with two hub and spoke recycling programs for 38 Nebraska counties.
Louisville	Keep Cass County Beautiful	$1,900	Funds for educational materials and to hold four electronic waste recycling events for Cass County. Cross Training Center in Omaha will take items collected at no cost.
Oakland	Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D	$7,025	Funds to host one electronic waste collection in event in Oakland to serve Burt, Cuming, Dodge, Dakota, Thurston, and Washington counties. Anticipate collecting 16,000 lbs. of e-waste.
Oakland	Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D	$16,988	Funds to hold three HHW collections in Blair, Pender, and North Bend. Anticipate collecting 30,000 lbs. of waste.
Ogallala	Keep Keith County Beautiful	$788	Funds to provide pick up service for recyclables from 10 containers at Lake McConaughy and at local schools during the school year. Thirty tons of recyclables were collected over the 4th of July weekend in 2019.
Papillion	Papio Valley Nursery	$150,000	Funds to provide 50% of a wood grinder used to process 55,000-75,000 yards of wood waste collected annually. Chips will be used for a wood burning boiler system for their greenhouses.
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	$56,534	Funds to host both pharmaceutical take back and household hazardous waste collection events for Scottsbluff, Gering, and surrounding residents.

Disposal Fee





These photos were provided by York Public Schools. The school was awarded funds for the proper disposal of school science chemicals at York High School. Some of the chemicals were over 50 years old.

Disposal Fee: $1,400,186 for 14 grants			
Kearney	City of Kearney	$90,558	Funds toward 50% of a recycling truck for Kearney's cardboard curbside collection program to replace a truck that is getting less dependable.
Kearney	City of Kearney	$137,400	Funds toward 50% of a recycling truck for Kearney's free curbside recycling program to replace a truck. About 215 semi-loads of baled recyclables are collected each year.
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	$188,137	Funds to operate Lincoln's household hazardous waste facility, the HazToGo marketing plan, and toxics reduction education (including a green cleaning kit project) for residents of Lancaster County.
Lincoln	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	$174,963	25% of the cost of 450 standardized recycling stations for UNL's City and East Campuses to meet the City of Lincoln's recycling goal of 50% by 2022.
Lincoln	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	$85,762	Funds for UNL student interns to provide 11-week onsite technical assistance to educate selected Nebraska manufacturers on volume and/or toxicity reduction to reduce waste and save energy.
Lincoln	City of Lincoln	$132,000	Funds to update Lincoln's Solid Waste Management Plan for 2040 future waste management in Lincoln/Lancaster Co.; funds toward a truck to assist with servicing overwhelming volumes at recycling drop-off locations.
McCook	Red Willow County	$164,436	Funds to provide a minimum of 37 household hazardous waste collections and 10 household hazardous waste pickup/disposals. Expect to collect about 200,000 lbs. of waste in 2020 from 34 counties.
North Platte	City of North Platte	$13,900	Funds for two recycling roll-off containers to collect plastic bags, agricultural tubes, and irrigation tubing to haul to a local recycler. Estimate diverting one ton of recyclables each month through this program.
Omaha	City of Omaha - UnderTheSink HHW Facility	$350,000	Year 5 of a 5 multi-year grant for Omaha's UnderTheSink HHW facility serving Douglas & Sarpy counties.
South Sioux City	City of South Sioux City	$8,263	Funds toward a waste oil furnace to use in South Sioux City's Public Works maintenance facility. Approximately 750 gallons of used oil is collected annually from city fleet vehicles and residents.
Valentine	Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District	$1,500	Funds for an educational display board, brochures, and supplies to promote and educate about a woody biomass boiler system.
Valentine	Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District	$41,300	Funds to continue composting efforts, which include woody biomass and livestock manure.
Wayne	City of Wayne	$7,667	Funds for an electronic waste collection event for the City of Wayne and surrounding towns. Anticipate collecting 20,000 lbs. of e-waste.
York	York Public Schools	$4,300	Funds for proper disposal of school science chemicals at York High School, including some that are over 50 years old.

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 cities of the second class, villages, and counties with a population of 5,000 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.

Deconstruction of Abandoned Buildings: $186,663 for 1 grant			
Oshkosh	City of Oshkosh	$186,662	Deconstruction of the Midwec Building at 602 Main St., Oshkosh, NE. This is a 3-story, 1/4 acre building primarily made of concrete. Concrete to be crushed and used for rock surfacing.

Scrap Tire Grants

The scrap tire grants are funded by the $1 per tire fee on retail sales of new tires. In 2020, $1,856,735 was awarded to 77 projects.

- Scrap tire cleanup events: 33 grants, $698,127 awarded
- Completed projects for the partial reimbursement of the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber: 34 grants, $494,145 awarded
- Proposed projects for the partial reimbursement for the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber: 9 grants, $326,962
- Scrap Tire Equipment grant: 1 grant, $337,500

Scrap Tire Cleanup Events

Funding is provided to political subdivisions for tire collection site cleanups. Thirty-three scrap tire cleanup grants were awarded in 2020 to political subdivisions. The grants totaled $698,127 and proposed to clean up 5,271 tons of scrap tires.

Photo provided by Custer County Recycling, which was awarded a proposed 150-ton scrap tire cleanup in Broken Bow for Custer County and portions of the following counties: Blaine, Dawson, Logan, Loup, Sherman, and Valley.

Scrap Tire Cleanup Events: 33 grants, $698,127 awarded			
Albion	City of Albion	$16,490	Proposed 140-ton scrap tire cleanup in Albion for Boone County.
Alma	Lower Republican Natural Resources District	$8,812	Proposed 70-ton scrap tire cleanup in Hildreth for Franklin County.
Alma	Lower Republican Natural Resources District	$13,096	Proposed 106-ton scrap tire cleanup in Alma for Harlan County.
Alma	Lower Republican Natural Resources District	$11,192	Proposed 90-ton scrap tire cleanup in Guide Rock for Webster County.
Auburn	Nemaha County	$10,875	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Nemaha County at two locations.
Beatrice	Gage County	$50,852	Proposed 450-ton scrap tire cleanup in Beatrice for Gage County.
Beaver City	Furnas County	$18,370	Proposed 150-ton scrap tire cleanup in Arapahoe for Furnas, Frontier, and Red Willow counties.
Benkelman	City of Benkelman	$13,896	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Benkelman for Dundy County.
Blue Hill	Banner County Road Dept.	$10,302	Proposed 75-ton scrap tire cleanup near Harrisburg for Banner County.
Broken Bow	Custer County Recycling	$20,200	Proposed 150-ton scrap tire cleanup in Broken Bow for Custer County, and portions of the following counties: Blaine, Dawson, Logan, Loup, Sherman, and Valley.
Center	Knox County	$12,538	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Center for Knox County.
Central City	Merrick County Highway Dept.	$12,002	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Central City for Merrick County.
Ceresco	Village of Ceresco	$2,829	Proposed 15-ton scrap tire cleanup in Ceresco for residents.

Columbus	City of Columbus	$36,102	Proposed 250-ton scrap tire cleanup in Columbus for Platte County.
Cozad	City of Cozad	$20,084	Proposed 150-ton scrap tire cleanup in Cozad for Cozad residents and the immediate surrounding countryside.
Davenport	Little Blue Natural Resources District	$15,952	Proposed 130-ton scrap tire cleanup in Hebron for Thayer County.
Davenport	Little Blue Natural Resources District	$26,662	Proposed 220-ton scrap tire cleanup in Clay Center for Clay County.
Elwood	Gosper County	$19,631	Proposed 150-ton scrap tire cleanup in Elwood for Gosper County.
Grand Island	Hall County Highway Department	$13,554	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Grand Island for Hall County.
Holdrege	City of Holdrege	$40,914	Proposed 350-ton scrap tire cleanup in Holdrege for Phelps, Harlan, and Furnas counties.
Hubbard	Dakota County Road Department	$10,777	Proposed 80-ton scrap tire cleanup in Hubbard for Dakota County.
Imperial	Chase County	$13,652	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup near Imperial for Chase County.
Madison	City of Madison	$6,382	Proposed 50-ton scrap tire cleanup in Madison for rural residents of Madison County, but not the residents of the City of Norfolk.
Minden	Kearney County	$24,764	Proposed 200-ton scrap tire cleanup in Minden for Kearney County.
Nelson	Nuckolls County	$15,780	Proposed 120-ton scrap tire cleanup in Nelson for Nuckolls County.
Norfolk	Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District	$92,105	Proposed 625-ton scrap tire cleanup in West Point for Burt, Colfax, Cuming, Dakota, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Stanton, Thurston, and Washington counties.
Omaha	City of Omaha	$72,864	Proposed 400-ton scrap tire cleanup in Omaha for Douglas County. Will hold five events in the Spring and four events in the Fall.
O'Neill	North Central District Health Department	$27,759	Proposed 200-ton scrap tire cleanup in O'Neill for Holt County.
Pawnee City	Pawnee County	$8,151	Proposed 75-ton scrap tire cleanup in Pawnee City for Pawnee County.
Pierce	Pierce County	$10,520	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Pierce for Pierce, Knox, Cedar, and Madison counties.
Ponca	Dixon County	$12,298	Proposed 100-ton scrap tire cleanup in Allen for Dixon County.
Tecumseh	Johnson County	$8,526	Proposed 75-ton scrap tire cleanup in Tecumseh for Johnson County.
Thedford	Village of Thedford	$20,196	Proposed 150-ton scrap tire cleanup in Thedford for Thedford and the surrounding countryside.

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

In 2020, $821,107 was awarded to 43 projects to partially reimburse the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber.

Photo provided by the City of Louisville, which was awarded partial reimbursement of the installation of a rubber bonded playground surface. The surface was made from 14,977 pounds of recycled tire rubber.

These photos were provided by Chadron State College, which was awarded partial reimbursement of the installation an artificial turf football field. The project was made from 305,000 pounds of recycled tire rubber.

Partial Reimbursement for the Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber- Completed Projects: 34 projects, $494,146 awarded			
Adams	Village of Adams	$2,702	25% reimbursement of an 851 sq. ft. poured-in-place rubber playground surface, using 3,750 lbs. of recycled tire rubber.
Arlington	Arlington Public Schools	$13,650	50% reimbursement of 101,400 lbs. of rubber playground mulch for playground.
Bancroft	Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools	$7,825	50% reimbursement of 56,000 lbs. of rubber playground mulch for playground.
Bartley	Southwest Public Schools	$393	25% reimbursement of 5,850 lbs. of rubber mulch. Mulch used at playground at Southwest Elementary.
Bellevue	Bellevue Public School District	$30,000	25% reimbursement of artificial turf for the baseball infield at Bellevue West High School. 58,000 lbs. of crumb rubber used.
Blue Hill	Blue Hill Public Schools	$174	25% reimbursement of the cost of two 6-foot benches, made from 4.5 passenger tire equivalents. The benches were placed outside the school.
Central City	Central City Public Schools	$2,100	50% reimbursement of the cost of 15,600 lbs. of rubber playground mulch for the elementary playground.
Central City	Central City Public Schools	$1,130	50% reimbursement of the cost of 7,800 lbs. of rubber playground mulch for the elementary playground.
Chadron	Chadron Public Schools	$28,222	50% reimbursement of 173,550 lbs. of rubber mulch and 25% reimbursement of two poured-in-place surfaces made from 6,600 lbs. of rubber.
Chadron	Chadron State College	$101,546	25% reimbursement of artificial turf for the football field at Elliot Field at Don Beebe Stadium. 305,000 lbs. of crumb rubber were used.
Columbus	Columbus Community Hospital Child Care Center	$4,857	50% reimbursement of 34,597 lbs. of rubber playground mulch and 25% reimbursement of five rubber mats, using 403 lbs. of recycled tire rubber.
Elkhorn	Lord of Life Lutheran Church	$1,240	25% reimbursement of freight and installation costs, only of 1,512 sq. ft. of rubber playground tiles made from 8,278 lbs. of crumb rubber.
Fremont	Fremont Public Schools	$9,936	50% reimbursement of 64,000 lbs. of rubber playground mulch for playground at Washington Elementary, which had been damaged by the 2019 flood.
Gibbon	Gibbon Public Schools	$16,492	25% reimbursement of the cost of a top coating track maintenance system at Gibbon High School. Used 6,290 lbs. of crumb rubber.
Gordon	Gordon Elementary School	$3,640	50% reimbursement of 23,400 lbs. of rubber playground mulch.
Grand Island	Grand Island Public Schools Foundation	$129,357	25% reimbursement of an artificial turf football/soccer field at Memorial Stadium. 313,162 lbs. of rubber were used.
Grant	Perkins County Schools	$3,547	50% reimbursement of rubber mulch and 25% reimbursement of 23 rubber swing mats. 120,680 lbs. of rubber used in project. Installed at the elementary playground.
Hastings	Adams Central Public Schools	$5,200	50% reimbursement of 39,000 lbs. of rubber mulch for playground at the Adams Central Early Childhood Center.
Hastings	Jeremy Borrell	$866	50% reimbursement of 5,850 lbs. of rubber mulch, used in a home play area.
Homer	Homer Community Schools	$13,874	25% reimbursement of an athletic track resurfacing, using 18,000 lbs. of crumb rubber.
Louisville	City of Louisville	$5,389	25% reimbursement of a bonded rubber playground surface, made from 14,977 lbs. of recycled tire rubber.
Loup City	Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership	$4,411	25% reimbursement of a 320 sq. ft. poured-in-place playground surface made from 1,045 lbs. of rubber, and

			50% reimbursement of 19,500 lbs. of rubber playground mulch.
Loup City	Sherman County	$457	25% reimbursement of two 6-foot picnic tables and one 6-foot bench. Tables and bench were made from 15.75 passenger tire equivalents. Placed at the Bowman Recreation Area.
McCook	St. Patrick School/Church	$9,345	50% reimbursement of 64,350 lbs. of rubber playground mulch and 25% reimbursement toward 6 rubber swing mats made from 451 lbs. of recycled rubber.
Millard	Millard Public School	$30,000	25% reimbursement of athletic track surface. 160,000 lbs. of crumb rubber were used.
Monroe	Anthony Kush	$11,537	50% reimbursement of the cost of 177,501 lbs. of rubber mulch to put underneath 1,900 sq. ft. of ground-mount solar arrays to prevent weeds and unwanted grass.
Norfolk	Christ Lutheran School	$19,735	50% reimbursement of 144,000 lbs. of rubber mulch for playground.
Norfolk	Helping Hands Child Care	$3,850	50% reimbursement of the cost of 2,000 lbs. of rubber mulch for playground.
Omaha	Morning Star Preschool & Child Care Center	$750	25% reimbursement of a bonded rubber playground surface. 1,850 lbs. of recycled tire rubber were used.
Ralston	Ralston Public Schools	$7,500	Reimbursement of 50% of the cost of 50,000 lbs. of rubber mulch. Mulch added to elementary schools' playgrounds.
Red Cloud	Red Cloud Community Schools	$1,142	50% reimbursement of 7,800 lbs. of rubber mulch. Mulch installed at the Red Cloud Elementary playground.
Sidney	Sidney Public Schools	$11,120	25% reimbursement of an athletic track maintenance coating system, using 4,030 lbs. of crumb rubber.
Waverly	Villa Marie Home & School for Exceptional Children	$8,258	25% reimbursement of 3,124 sq. ft. of rubber floor tiles made from recycled tire rubber.
Wisner	City of Wisner	$3,900	25% reimbursement of two 600 sq. ft. poured-in-place playground surfaces, using 6,000 lbs. total of crumb rubber.

Partial Reimbursement for the Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber- Proposed Projects: 9 projects, $326,962 awarded			
Brainard	Village of Brainard	$8,364	Proposed purchase of 66,300 lbs. of rubber mulch for the city park playground.
Elkhorn	Elkhorn Legion Baseball Post 211	$33,935	Proposed 25% reimbursement of artificial turf for the infield at Fredrich's Legion Field to be installed in 2020.
Elkhorn	Elkhorn Public Schools	$81,186	Proposed 25% reimbursement of an artificial turf playing field at Elkhorn North High School.
Elkhorn	Elkhorn Public Schools	$83,301	Proposed 25% reimbursement of an artificial turf for the football/soccer field at Elkhorn Public Schools stadium.
Elkhorn	Elkhorn Public Schools	$81,104	Proposed 25% reimbursement of an artificial turf for the field at Elkhorn South High School. Project to be done June 2020.
Elm Creek	Village of Elm Creek	$9,975	Proposed 50% reimbursement of 74,100 lbs. of rubber playground mulch, to be used in two playground areas in the Village park.
Gothenburg	City of Gothenburg	$2,362	Proposed 50% reimbursement of 17,550 lbs. of rubber mulch to be purchased for the city playground.

Lincoln	Nebraska Game & Parks	$23,108	Proposed 25% reimbursement of 148 picnic tables made from recycled scrap tires and plastic, to be placed in 13 State park and recreation areas across Nebraska.
Lyons	Lyons-Decatur Northeast School	$3,627	Proposed 25% reimbursement of 1,152 sq. ft. of rubber playground tiles.

Scrap Tire Equipment Grants $337,500 for 1 grant			
David City	Butler County Landfill	$337,500	50% reimbursement for a tire shredder and electrical service to replace an existing shredder

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, 2019 - June 30, 2020**	
Fund Balance June 30, 2019	**$1,051,155**
Revenues:	
Litter Taxes Collected	$2,324,361
Interest, Grant Returns	$43,275
Miscellaneous Adjustment	$22,335
Operating Transfer Out	$-30,000
Net Collections for FY2020	**$2,359,971**
Expenditures:	
NDEE Administration	$384,125
Grant Funds Expended*	$1,222,738
Total Expenditures FY2020	**$1,606,863**
Fund Balance June 30, 2020	**$1,804,263**

**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

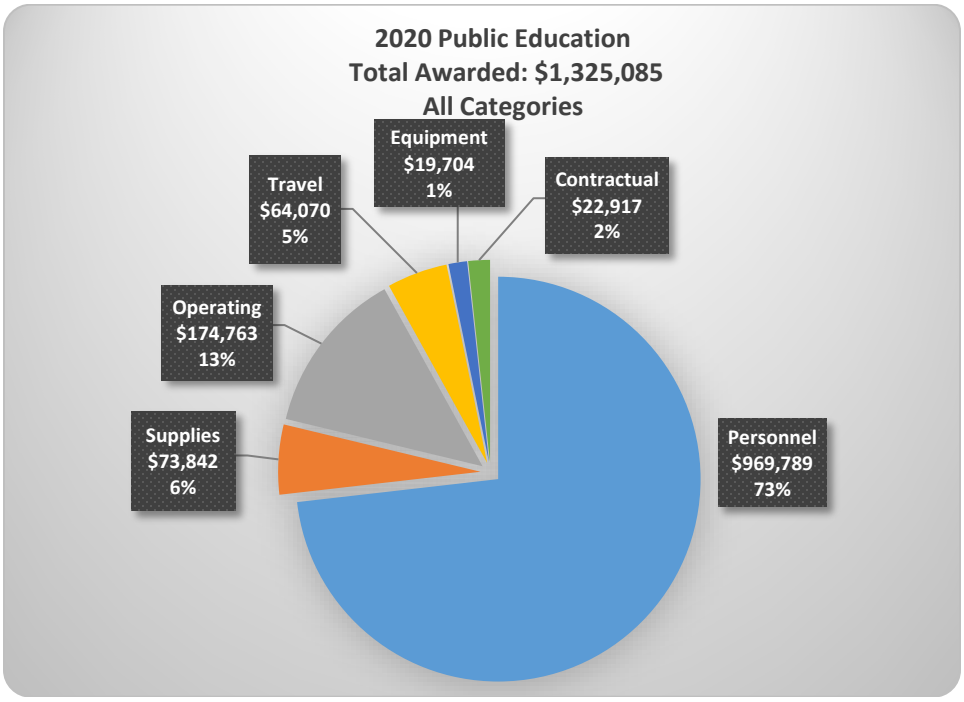
In 2020, $1,740,176 was awarded to 51 Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant recipients. Grant funding is awarded to several types of programs, including non-profit groups, public and private entities, and over 20 Keep America Beautiful affiliates. Many of these programs utilize the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program funds to leverage additional dollars for a comprehensive, statewide approach to litter reduction and recycling.

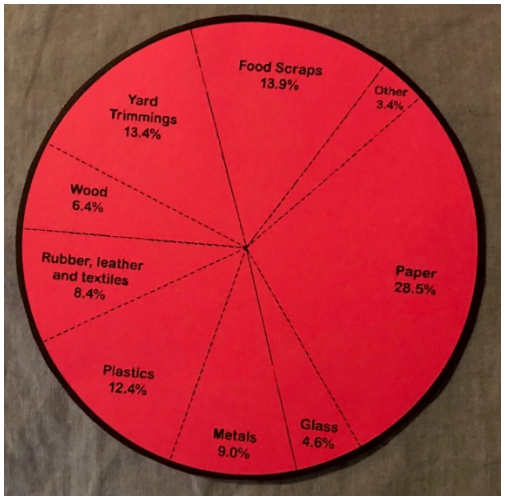
The breakdown is as follows:

Public Education	(76%)	27 grants	$ 1,325,085
Cleanup	(5%)	11 grants	$ 89,153
Recycling	(19%)	13 grants	$ 325,938
Totals	**100%**	**51 grants**	**$ 1,740,176**

Public Education

In 2020, 27 grants totaling $1,325,085 were awarded 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 Keep Norfolk Beautiful (KNB), which was awarded a public education grant to promote litter prevention, encourage recycling, and instill proper waste handling habits. KNB works with local schools and community organizations. The above photos were of KNB's "Waste in Place – Garbage Pizza" activity at the Lower Elkhorn NRD's H_20 Daze event. This was a hands-on activity lesson for 84 students in fifth grade. Students were educated about ways to reduce or end littering, the importance of extending landfill life by diverting materials, and ways to increase recycling.

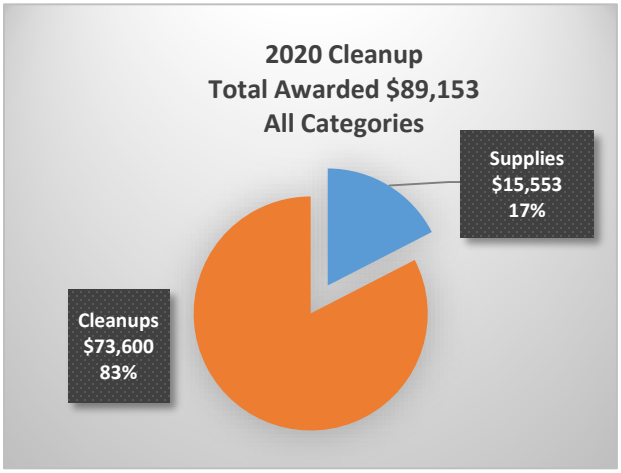
Public Education Awards: $1,325,085 for 27 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	$68,671	Provide waste reduction and litter prevention education to Box Butte County students and residents. Teach practical habits to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
Beatrice	Keep Beatrice Beautiful, Inc.	$40,756	Partner with Gage County, the City of Beatrice, and local organizations to educate and encourage recycling and the importance of purchasing recycled content products. Promote "use less stuff" in schools.
Burwell	Loup Basin RC&D Council/Keep Loup Basin Beautiful	$47,462	Public education program for youth and adults that focuses on litter prevention, waste reduction, and recycling in Central and North Central Nebraska.
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$59,396	Public education to establish new attitudes and behaviors toward litter reduction and recycling. Provide monthly educational presentations to schools. Conduct community presentations and help with litter-free events. Provide cigarette receptacles and pocket ashtrays.
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	$36,168	Public education to increase recycling and raise awareness for litter prevention for Platte County by working with the City of Columbus, local schools, businesses, and organizations.
Fremont	Keep Fremont Beautiful, Inc.	$58,725	Public education program involving schools, community events, and a local media campaign to increase resident participation for properly disposing of waste materials.
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	$39,601	Provide public education and outreach on recycling and reuse/repurposing to schools, community events, and day cares. Provide education on proper disposal of household hazardous waste. Provide recycling containers and supplies at local events.
Grand Island	Literacy Council of Grand Island	$22,295	Provide environmental literacy programming for adult English-learning students and the greater community. Litter reduction and recycling education will be provided through direct instruction (groups and one-on-one), the Earth Day Festival, and a public education campaign.

Kearney	University of Nebraska at Kearney	$375	Funds for signage for the resident halls to support recycling initiatives on the University of Nebraska at Kearney campus.
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	$22,955	Provide environmental education for Kimball and the surrounding area on litter prevention and waste management. Work with Kimball Public Schools and Banner County School.
Lexington	Keep Lexington Beautiful	$13,725	Provide recycling education to Lexington Public Schools students through the after-school program. Work with one middle and four elementary schools. Some students are from immigrant families who have not been exposed to recycling in the past. Also provide recycling education to two assisted living facilities.
Lincoln	City of Lincoln	$38,197	Programs to reduce illegal dumping and reduce contamination in the recycling streams. Fund a municipal waste measurement tracking program and standardized recycling labeling.
Lincoln	Keep Nebraska Beautiful	$77,664	Operate the Litter Hotline to increase community awareness of litter. Educate K-12 students with the litter-free school zones program. Help develop after-school curriculum focusing on food waste and resource management.
Lincoln	Lincoln and Lancaster County Health Department	$135,469	Public education to promote litter reduction and waste management to reduce landfill waste and divert waste when possible and help prevent illegal dumping. Work with schools and local organizations.
Lincoln	Nebraska Recycling Council	$79,387	Provide outreach and educational programs on recycling and materials management, technical assistance and publications, municipal and regional recycling system design assistance, and business waste audits.
Louisville	Keep Cass County Beautiful	$66,839	Public education to promote waste reduction and focus on litter prevention, reducing, reusing, repurposing, and recycling. Provide bins and cigarette receptacles for local community events.
McCook	Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department	$5,000	Create the Green & Clean in Southwest Nebraska Program. Work with community leaders to help change attitudes and approaches for a litter-free community. The goal is to eliminate litter and increase recycling in the 9-county health district. Partner with Red Willow County.
Nebraska City	Keep Nebraska City Beautiful	$25,155	Promote litter reduction, increase recycling, and raise public awareness through litter cleanups, recycling in the schools, and community presentations.
Norfolk	Keep Norfolk Beautiful	$34,144	Public education programs to promote litter prevention, encourage recycling, and instill proper waste handling habits. Work with local schools and community organizations.
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	$84,177	Public education to encourage waste reduction and a litter-free environment. Focus on purchasing with recycling in mind, food waste reduction, and composting.
Ogallala	Keep Keith County Beautiful	$117,260	Public education program with a mission to eliminate litter and increase recycling. Assist with eliminating food waste and provide sustainable waste management in a 6-county area.
Omaha	Firstar Fiber Corporation	$40,200	Develop the Community Outreach Recycling Engagement (CORE) project to interact with the community and develop strategies that target waste campaigns.
Omaha	Keep Omaha Beautiful	$122,732	Public education on litter prevention, waste reduction, and recycling. Provide educational activities at schools and community events. Coordinate the 'Waste Not & Recycle Right' campaign.

Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	$36,463	Public education on litter prevention, waste reduction and recycling in classrooms and at public events. Planning for a household hazardous waste and pharmaceutical take-back event.
Sidney	Keep Sidney Beautiful	$24,044	Public education programs to help reduce litter and increase recycling in the city of Sidney and Cheyenne County.
South Sioux City	Keep Northeast Nebraska Beautiful	$27,550	Educational programs to reduce waste and eliminate litter through cleanups and recycling activities for students, businesses, and residents in an 11-county area in northeast Nebraska.
Wayne	City of Wayne	$675	Hold an annual Earth Day celebration with a free environmental documentary public movie. The purpose of the movie is to educate the community to reduce waste and how to recycle right.

Cleanup

In 2020, 11 grants totaling $89,153 were awarded 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 1,083 road-side miles and 2,370 acres of public areas.

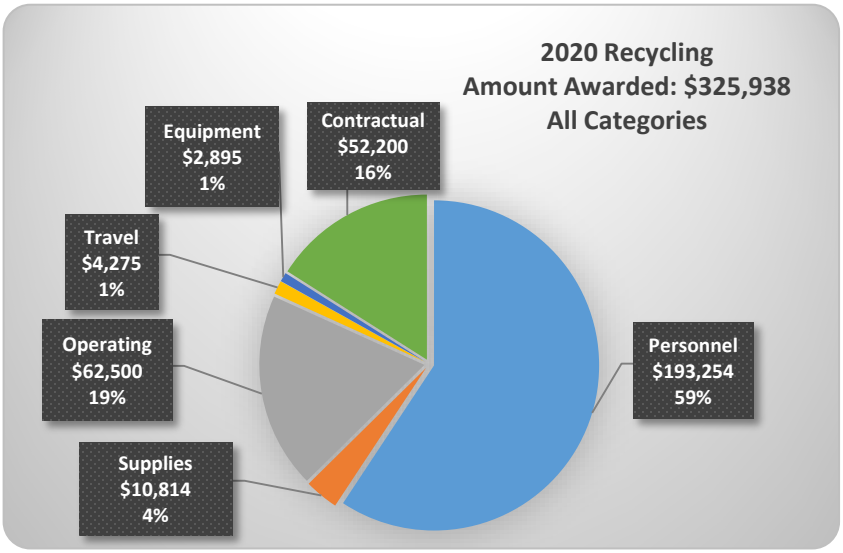


The photos at right were provided by Lincoln and Lancaster County Health Department, which was awarded funding to clean up a proposed 276 roadside miles and 1,880 acres in Lancaster County. Despite issues with Covid-19, as of September 1, 2020, 73 miles of roadway and over 840 acres of open space were cleaned by over 500 volunteers contributing 1,200 hours of service. About 3,000 lbs. of litter and 930 lbs. of recyclable material were collected.

Cleanup Awards: $89,153 for 11 grants			
Beatrice	Keep Beatrice Beautiful, Inc.	$6,200	Clean up 100 roadside miles and 60 acres in Gage County.
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$5,060	Clean up 100 roadside miles in Dawes County.
Grand Island	Grand Island Clean Community System	$6,000	Clean up 50 acres and 100 roadside miles in Hall, Hamilton, and Merrick counties.
Lincoln	Lincoln and Lancaster County Health Department	$32,600	Clean up 276 roadside miles and 1,880 acres in Lancaster County.
Louisville	Keep Cass County Beautiful	$1,600	Clean up 16 roadside miles and 80 acres in Cass County.
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	$16,314	Clean up 320 roadsides miles in Lincoln County.
Ogallala	Keep Keith County Beautiful	$2,800	Clean up 50 roadside miles and 30 acres in Keith County plus parts of Duell, Arthur, and Perkins counties.
Omaha	Keep Omaha Beautiful	$8,035	Funds for cleanup supplies to assist over 10,000 volunteers to conduct an estimated of 500 litter cleanup events in the City of Omaha.
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	$6,000	Clean up 100 roadside miles around Scottsbluff, Gering, Terrytown, Mitchell, and/or Minatare, and along the highway entrance to Scotts Bluff National Monument.
Steinauer	Village of Steinauer	$544	Clean up 10 roadside miles coming into and around the Village of Steinauer.
Wakefield	ESU#1	$4,000	Clean up 20 roadside miles and 300 acres in 24 school districts in Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Knox, Thurston, and Wayne counties.

Recycling

In 2020, 13 grants totaling $325,938, were awarded 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.

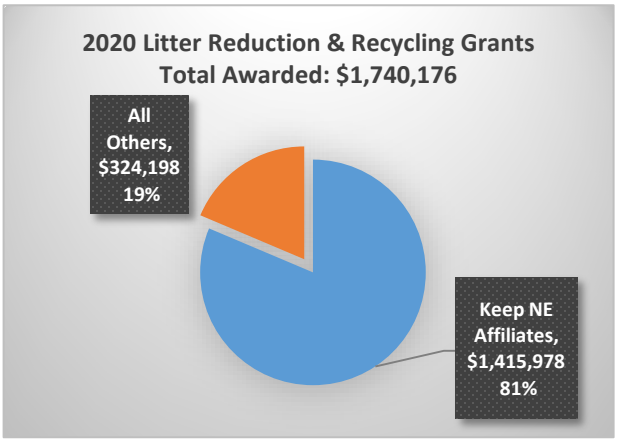


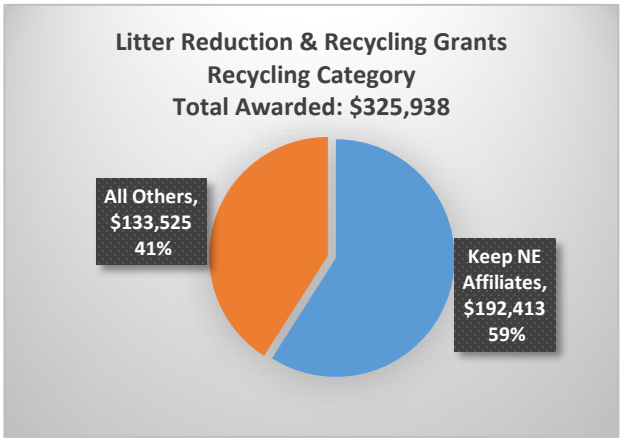
Recycling Awards: $325,938 for 13 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	$44,752	Funds to operate the recycling center in Alliance serving Box Butte County.
Bertrand	Village of Bertrand	$2,895	Purchase a trailer to collect and transport recyclables to the closest recycling center in Holdrege.
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	$16,100	Hire a recycling coordinator to transport recyclables from two trailer locations in Columbus to the recycling center in Schuyler. This will provide a recycling opportunity for Columbus residents.
Dodge	Village of Dodge	$11,350	Promote recycling in Dodge by posted signage and educational material mailed quarterly to residents.
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	$62,385	Funds to operate the Kimball Recycling Center, the only local option for household recycling needs within a 50-mile radius.
Lexington	Keep Lexington Beautiful	$1,410	Funds to support five recycling trailers in Lexington that are available year-round.
North Platte	All Business & Commercial Recycling, LLC	$2,880	Funds toward costs to pick up recyclables from businesses, farmers, and ranchers and return them to the warehouse for processing. ABC will pick up hard-to-recycle plastics, such as grain liners, lick tubs, fertilizer tanks, and jugs.
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	$34,247	Programs to reduce waste generated and increase recyclables collected and restored through reputable end-markets. Partner with schools and businesses. Plan to increase the collection of electronics, non-contaminated yard waste, and household hazardous waste for proper disposal and reuse.
Ogallala	Keep Keith County Beautiful	$1,000	Funds for advertising expenses for a household hazardous waste collection for Keith County.
Omaha	Angels on Wheels, Inc	$81,700	Hold 33 electronic waste collection events in the Omaha area; 8 of the events will take place in rural areas.
Omaha	Open Door Mission	$10,000	Purchase 100 plastic gaylord boxes to be used multiple times, rather than cardboard boxes that can only be used a few times.
Schuyler	Keep Schuyler Beautiful	$32,519	Operating expenses for the Colfax County Recycling facility, also serving parts of Butler, Platte, and Dodge counties.
Tekamah	Papio Missouri River NRD	$24,700	Hold four electronic waste recycling collections in Washington, Burt, Thurston, and Dakota counties.

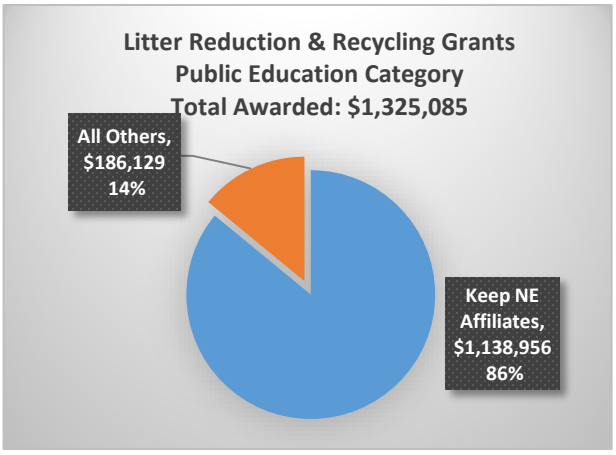
Keep America Beautiful Nebraska Affiliate Funding for 2020

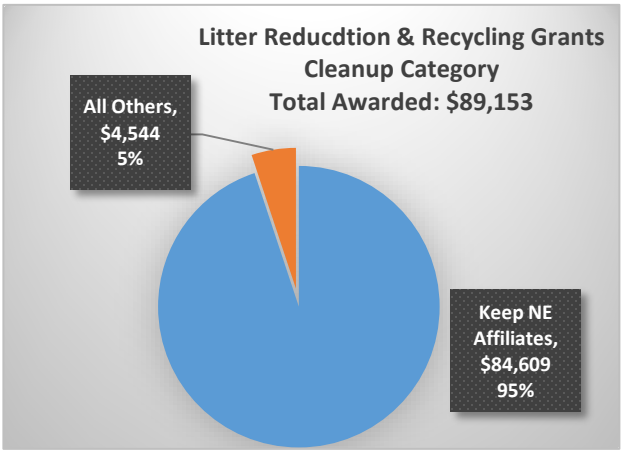
Keep America Beautiful (KAB) is a national non-profit public education organization. Keep Nebraska Beautiful is a statewide affiliate of KAB. There are 20 local KAB affiliate communities in Nebraska. Many of the KAB affiliates receive grant funding from the Litter Reduction and Recycling grant program 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 similar to 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.

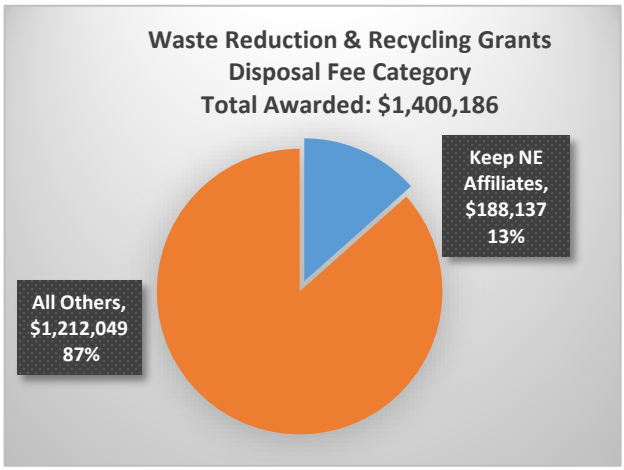


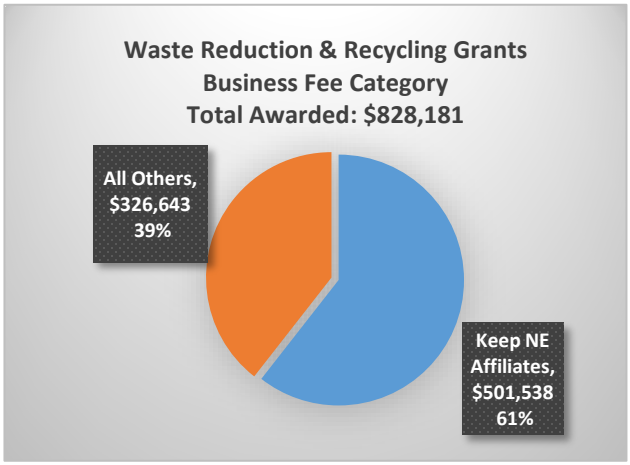







Waste Redution & Recycling Grants
Total Awarded: $2,228,367
Keep NE Affiliates, $689,675 31%
All Others, $1,538,692 69%

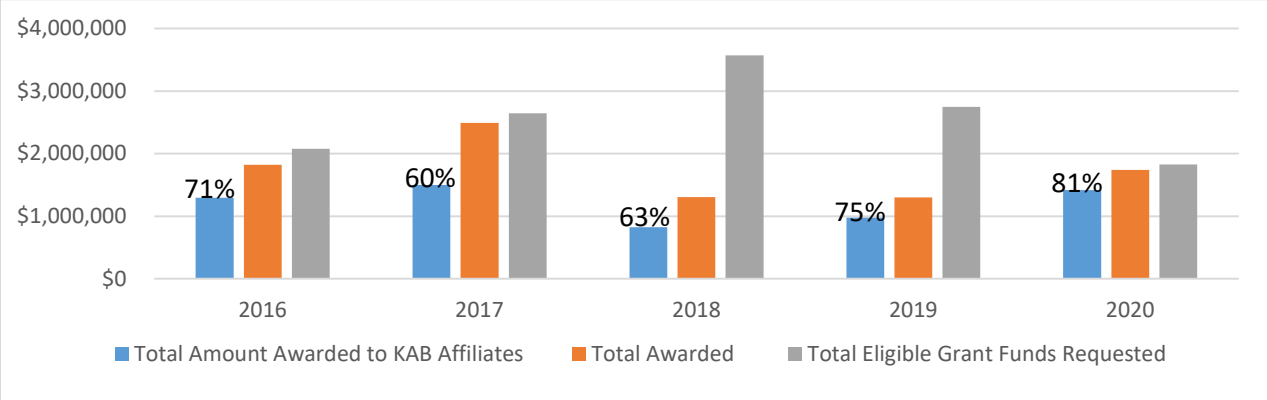

Waste Reduction & Recycling Grants
Disposal Fee Category
Total Awarded: $1,400,186
Keep NE Affiliates, $188,137 13%
All Others, $1,212,049 87%


Waste Reduction & Recycling Grants
Business Fee Category
Total Awarded: $828,181
All Others, $326,643 39%
Keep NE Affiliates, $501,538 61%


2020 Waste & Litter Reduction
& Recycling Grants
Total Awarded: $3,968,543
Keep NE Affiliates, $2,105,653 53%
All Others, $1,862,890 47%

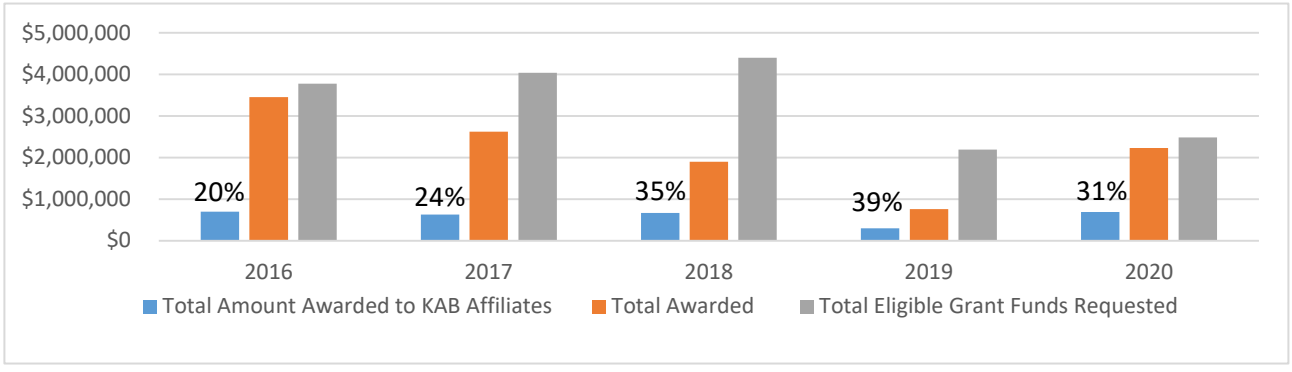
2016-2020 Awarded Litter Reduction and Recycling Grants to Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Nebraska Affiliates

Grant Year	Total Amount Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Percent Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Total Awarded	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested
2016	$1,294,329	71%	$1,821,055	$2,079,033
2017	$1,499,123	60%	$2,491,087	$2,644,088
2018	$823,506	63%	$1,306,370	$3,571,584
2019	$976,436	75%	$1,300,000	$2,746,775
2020	$1,415,978	81%	$1,740,176	$1,827,643



2016-2020 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
2016	$696,947	20%	$3,454,825	$3,781,465
2017	$627,484	24%	$2,623,217	$4,036,801
2018	$668,415	35%	$1,900,000	$4,402,481
2019	$299,956	39%	$761,545	$2,188,344
2020	$689,675	31%	$2,228,367	$2,481,692



Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program

Photos provided by Washington County.

The Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program, established in 1997, is a 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 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 FY2020, the program provided 24 grants, totaling $23,016.94. Funds were provided to:

Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Awards		
City of Lincoln - 11	City of Omaha – 2	Seward County - 6
Lincoln/Lancaster County - 1	Washington County - 3	Clay County - 1

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.

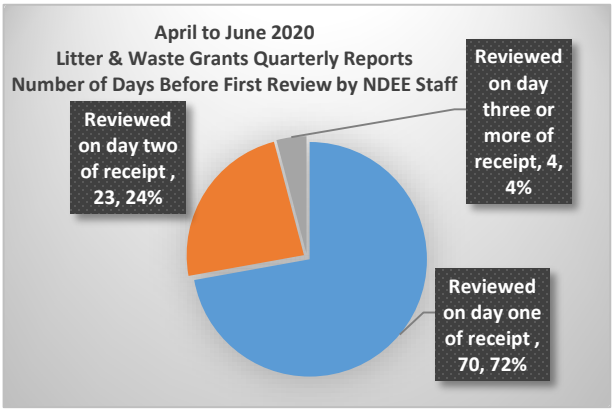
In FY2020, the program provided $102,061 to five counties and six cities participating in the program. All of the eleven participants processed their requests through email. This option helps to meet our agency's goals for waste reduction efforts and process improvement.

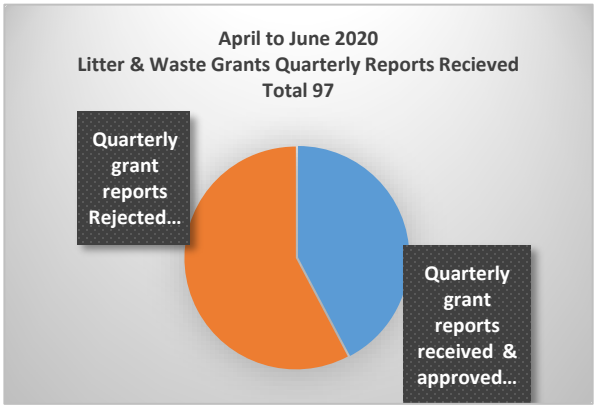
Landfill Disposal Rebate Recipients					
Buffalo County	$ 6,048	Butler County	$ 3,132	City of David City	$ 288
City of North Platte	$ 3,812	City of Lincoln	$30,370	Saline County	$ 2,713
City of Omaha	$ 52,707	South Sioux City	$ 596	Jefferson County	$ 608
Seward County	$ 1,673	City of Grant	$ 114		

Grant Reporting

Each grantee is required to submit a report quarterly, even if there is no activity. Below you will find two pie charts reflecting the number of reports received and the time it took the Agency to do the first review for the quarter April through June 2020 and a list of the top reasons for rejection.
The top reasons for report rejection are:

- Payroll, benefits, and/or taxes wrong
- Missing invoices or other documents
- Volunteer calculation missing or wrong
- Travel missing documentation
- Requesting ineligible expenses





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)
2011	$1,125,000	$323,789	$60,000	$1,508,789	$3,730,926*
2012	$852,500	$620,003	$81,675	$1,554,178	$2,044,451*
2013	$821,092	$751,559	$109,937	$1,682,588	$2,499,447*
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
			Total Amounts	**$17,506,848**	**$26,493,645***

**Estimate*

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)
2011	$791,488	$349,395	$1,140,883	$2,446,958*
2012	$916,461	$774,715	$1,691,176	$2,387,797*
2013	$816,990	$549,524	$1,366,514	$2,388,515*
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
		Total Amounts	**$19,544,577**	**$30,298,984***

**Estimate*
*** FY2019 Grant awards were for a 6-month grant term.*

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

Grant Year	Awarded Deconstruction Grants	Awarded Landfill Disposal Rebate	Awarded Illegal Dumpsite
2011	$10,080	$83,533	$82,653
2012	$291,500	$42,468	$118,662
2013		$44,841	$108,674
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
Total	**$488,242**	**$565,211**	**$981,454**

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 property owners and parties responsible for contamination with a mechanism for developing voluntary environmental cleanup plans that are reviewed and approved by NDEE. It also gives businesses 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.

NDEE has a Memorandum of Agreement with EPA Region 7, which provides federal approval of VCPs. Under this agreement, any site that joins the Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program 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).

To date, 62 sites have entered the Voluntary Cleanup Program. Currently, 22 sites are active in the VCP. Two sites have been referred to the EPA Superfund program. Six 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-seven sites have successfully completed cleanup requirements and have received "No Further Action" letters from NDEE.

NDEE continues to have significant interest from applicants enrolling properties or sites into the VCP. New applicants include the Lewis and Clark/Heartland of America Park Redevelopment project in Omaha, the Elster American Meter Company in Nebraska City, the Former AmFirst Bank Branch in McCook, and West Haymarket Block 4 in Lincoln. Investigation activities are ongoing at the J.A. Woollam, Co. site in Lincoln, the Former Citizens Gas FMGP (former manufactured gas plant) site in McCook, the International Sensor Systems, Inc. site in Aurora, and the former Bladen, Bradshaw, Eustis and York USDA grain bin sites. Cleanup activities are ongoing at the former Farmland Industries UAN Terminal in Doniphan, the Archer Daniels Midland facility in Lincoln, the Dettmer Lease property in Auburn, Hoover Manufacturing in Beatrice, the former Nebraska Solvents Company site in Grand Island, the Vishay Dale Electronics site in Norfolk, the Appleton Electric site in Columbus, and the former Murdock and Utica USDA grain bin sites.

This photo shows the final grade of the former Omaha Steel Castings site following completion of remedial activities. Remedial activities included excavation of contaminated soils, removal of several underground storage tanks and building foundations, and placement of clean soil in excavated areas.The site – conveniently located across from the University of Nebraska Medical Center – is now ready to be redeveloped for new residential housing and commerical businesses.

Cleanup activities were completed at the former Omaha Steel Castings site in Omaha, the former AmFirst Bank Branch in McCook, and the Beatrice FMGP site in Beatrice. Post-remediation monitoring is ongoing at the Lynch Park FMGP site in Omaha and Case New Holland in Grand Island. Issuance of a No Further Action letter is anticipated to be completed next year for the former Omaha Steel Castings site in Omaha. The application fee to participate in the program is $2,000, and the initial deposit to pay for state oversight costs is $3,000.

Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites and Status			
Site	**Location**	**Date started**	**Progress**
KN Energy	Holdrege	4/3/95	Completed 5/1/97
Garvey Elevator	Hastings-West	4/13/95	Deferred to EPA Superfund
ASARCO	Omaha-Riverfront	2/5/96	Completed 10/11/01
BNSFRR	Lincoln-N. Havelock	1/17/96	Terminated 12/4/06
Union Pacific RR	Omaha-N. Downtown	1/17/96	Withdrawn 3/7/03
Farmland Industries	Scottsbluff	2/9/96	Completed 7/2/09
Lincoln Journal Star	Lincoln-Downtown	2/26/97	Terminated 1/28/09
Farmland Industries	Hastings-East	6/25/97	Completed 9/2/03
Hastings Area wide	Hastings	12/17/97	Withdrawn 6/23/00
Lincoln Plating Co.	Lincoln	9/17/98	Completed 7/26/12
Witco Corporation	Omaha-North	1/20/99	Completed 6/29/99
BNSFRR	Lincoln-Lot 9 Havelock	4/28/99	Completed 2/20/01
Dana Corporation	Hastings-West	9/27/99	Deferred to EPA Superfund
Ballpark Complex	Lincoln-Haymarket	11/9/99	Completed 9/1/06
Progress Rail Services	Sidney-North	11/22/99	Completed 1/3/05
Brownie Manufacturing	Waverly-Highway 6	4/25/00	Withdrawn 7/19/01
BNSFRR	Lincoln-Havelock Yards	10/26/00	Terminated 12/4/06
New Holland	Grand Island-Southwest	11/9/00	Active
Owen Parkway East	Omaha-Abbott Drive	12/13/00	Withdrawn 11/26/02
Omaha Riverfront Redevelopment	Omaha-Riverfront - 3 sites	5/18/01	Completed 6/18/03, 12/9/03, 11/9/04
Sanford & Son	Lincoln-North	1/22/02	Terminated 4/18/07
Union Pacific RR Child Development Center	Omaha-N. Downtown	3/5/04	Completed 1/13/12
Vishay Dale Electronics	Norfolk	11/13/06	Terminated 4/20/09
Union Pacific RR Nebraska Solvent Site	Grand Island	10/10/07	Active
Archer Daniels Midland	Lincoln	12/11/08	Active
Plaza North Station LLC	Omaha	7/17/09	Completed 2/11/14
Former Pfizer Facility	Omaha	7/28/09	Completed 5/18/16
CVS Pharmacy	Lincoln	10/13/10	Completed 1/28/15
West Haymarket Redevelopment Site North	Lincoln	10/27/10	Completed 12/29/16
Izaak Walton Trap Range	Fremont	10/28/10	Completed 4/13/12
Magnolia Metal Corporation	Auburn	3/9/11	Completed 10/31/13

Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites and Status			
Site	**Location**	**Date started**	**Progress**
Dettmer Lease Property	Auburn	5/19/11	Active
Hoover Manufacturing	Beatrice	5/27/11	Active
Blair FMGP	Blair	6/28/11	Completed 4/4/16
Plattsmouth FMGP	Plattsmouth	6/28/11	Completed 4/4/16
Former USDA CCC Grain Bin Sites	Multiple Sites (Bladen, Bradshaw, Eustis, Murdock, Utica, York)	3/16/12	Active – 6 sites
Vishay Dale Electronics	Norfolk	4/2/12	Active
Lewis and Clark Landing	Omaha	4/20/12	Completed 12/29/16
West Haymarket Redevelopment Site South	Lincoln	6/11/12	Completed 9/18/18
Quality Analytical Services	Omaha	8/2/12	Withdrawn 6/3/14
Nebraska Machine Products	Omaha	10/1/12	Completed 3/26/18
Lynch Park FMGP	Omaha	11/20/12	Active
Appleton Electric	Columbus	3/1/13	Active
Magnus Farley	Fremont	6/16/14	Completed 8/23/18
Beatrice FMGP	Beatrice	11/13/15	Completed 8/22/19
Omaha Steel Castings	Omaha	4/26/16	Active
Former Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products	Lincoln	10/26/16	Withdrawn 6/11/19
International Sensor Systems, Inc.	Aurora	3/2/17	Active
J.A. Woollam Co., Inc.	Lincoln	2/26/18	Active
Former Citizens Gas FMGP	McCook	6/4/18	Active
Former Farmland Industries Doniphan UAN Terminal	Doniphan	10/9/2018	Active
Lewis and Clark Landing/Heartland of America Park Redevelopment Project	Omaha	8/13/2019	Active
Elster American Meter	Nebraska City	9/19/2019	Active
Former AmFirst Bank Branch	McCook	11/07/2019	Completed 6/22/20
West Haymarket Block Four	Lincoln	2/4/2020	Active

Brownfields Assessments and Cleanups

A brownfield site is a vacant or under-used industrial or commercial property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by unresolved contamination concerns. 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 tetrachloroethylene (PCE) used in dry cleaning, benzene from petroleum fuel, and heavy metals such as lead from manufacturing activities. The Section 128(a) Brownfields Program performs assessments and cleanups at brownfield sites in Nebraska. These assessments and cleanups are performed by NDEE, typically with federal funds, at no cost to interested parties in Nebraska communities. A Brownfields assessment is a preliminary investigation to evaluate the environmental conditions at a property, similar to a Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment. The brownfields assessment can also include surveys of existing building structures on the property for the presence of lead-based paint, mold or asbestos. Cleanups consist of asbestos abatement and can also involve a variety of measures that are implemented to contain and reduce contamination at a site. During the past year, NDEE has performed eight Phase I assessments, three Phase II assessments, two asbestos surveys, and one lead-based paint survey. NDEE received two applications this year for partial cleanup assistance for removal of asbestos prior to building renovation or demolition. NDEE also used Brownfields funding to assist with cleanup costs of a sludge pit at a former oil refinery property in Gordon.

NDEE used Section 128(a) Brownfields funding to complete a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, asbestos-containing materials survey, and asbestos abatement at the former Rialto Theater in Cozad. The building closed in 2008 after a part of the roof caved in and it became unsafe for patrons. The vacant building soon became an eyesore and health hazard to the community. Brownfields funding served as a catalyst for safe demolition of the building. Today the Cozad City Council is working on placing a new bandstand in the area for summer concerts and other festivities.

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 our 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 our 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.

In the past year, NDEE organized and held a Brownfields Resources workshop in Omaha, helped plan and moderate a Region 7 Brownfields Grant Writing Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri, presented on a state-wide live webinar that was subsequently archived on NDEE's website, and began planning another Brownfields Resources workshop slated to take place in McCook next fiscal year. The Brownfields Coordinator was invited to speak at a Hazard Mitigation Funding Workshop at the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District in York and presented at the Aurora Cooperative Annual Meeting in Grand Island. The NDEE Brownfields Program also sponsored a booth at this year's Nebraska League of Municipalities Mid-winter Conference in order to network and promote our resources to city leaders.

NDEE's Brownfields Coordinator, Taryn Serwatowski, moderates a Revitalization Panel at a Brownfields Resources workshop in Omaha. The panel consisted of representatives from the City of Omaha, the Omaha Land Bank, the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency, and the non-profit organization One Omaha.

Meeting individually with community members is another outreach approach that the NDEE's Brownfields Program uses to assist communities in need. In the past year, the Brownfields Coordinator met with the City of Beatrice and the Southeast Nebraska Development District to discuss strategies in drafting competitive 104(k) Brownfields Grants administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); met with the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska to discuss resources and next steps for redevelopment of a former service station and food barn; met with NeighborWorks Lincoln to discuss NDEE's asbestos cleanup program; met with the Mayor of Norfolk to discuss resources for a riverfront redevelopment project; met with the City of Ralston to discuss resources and redevelopment in their Opportunity Zone; held a virtual meeting with the City of Lincoln to discuss approaches to tackle their brownfield properties; and participated in a teleconference with the City of Cozad regarding technical assistance for redeveloping the former Tenneco site.

In addition to NDEE workshops, meetings, speaking engagements, conferences and training events provide a great opportunity to network and gain knowledge that can help enhance the program. The Brownfields Coordinator attended and participated in a Region 7 Brownfield Competition and Outreach Strategies workshop in Lenexa, Kansas, to help increase the number of successful EPA Brownfield grantees in Region 7; met with the EPA and Department of Economic Development to discuss a plan to help redevelop Nebraska's Opportunity Zones; attended and participated in the Association of State and Territorial Sold Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) Brownfields Focus Group Meeting and planned and moderated a resources for small community redevelopment session at the ASTSWMO Annual Meeting – both held in Washington D.C.; and attended the National Brownfields Training Conference in Los Angeles. In addition, the NDEE Brownfields Program awarded travel stipends to several community representatives to attend the conference. The Coordinator is also a member of the NDEE-Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) Partnership and was actively involved in one partnership meeting and attended the annual NPPD Power Summit.

Other program enhancement activities included working with Nebraska Public Power District on an outreach partnership to increase the number of shovel-ready sites in Nebraska; updating the Section 128(a) Assessment Application to include new Agency name and a section for asbestos, lead-based paint, and mold surveys; creating a separate Section 128(a) Brownfields Inventory Application; and drafting a Brownfields and Voluntary Cleanup Program Frequently Asked Questions Fact Sheet.

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, and
- 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 amount of regulatory requirements on our industries by helping to bring hazardous waste generators into lower RCRA threshold levels.

Since March 2019, the NDEE has had ongoing responses to two major activities: statewide flooding in 2019 and COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The NDEE continues to provide compliance assistance to generators and the public for the disposal of flood-related wastes as part of the Governor's Long Term Recovery Task Force, and regularly examines potential hazardous waste issues related to pandemic response activities. The NDEE is generating and updating guidance documents pertaining to responses to flood and pandemic issues as new questions on waste handling arise.

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 rules and 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, Nebraska 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 corrective action accomplishments during FY2019 include:

- Completed Ready for Anticipated Use Determination (YES) for Douglas County State Street Landfill.
- Corrective Action Terminated for Platte Chemical NED000819078.
- Completed Initial Controls in Place by installing proprietary institutional controls for Loveland Products, Inc.
- Referred Elster American Meter Company LLC to Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program.
- Referred Platte Chemical NED98639726 to the EPA Toxic Substances Control Act program.
- Issued a public notice on the remedy of proprietary institutional control for Snyder Industries.

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 381 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 process improvement plan, the RCRA Section has been emailing confirmations to 8700-12 Hazardous Waste notification changes and to contingency plan submittals. In the past, a formal letter was prepared and mailed certified for each request.

Program Funding

Funding for RCRA program activities is provided by an EPA grant, which requires a 25% state match. Additionally, the Department can charge proposed commercial hazardous waste management facilities a fee to cover expenses for facility siting committee activities. One new hazardous waste treatment facility was proposed in 2017. The facility, near Alda, Nebraska, completed the siting committee activities but did not submit a RCRA permit application and has since closed.

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:

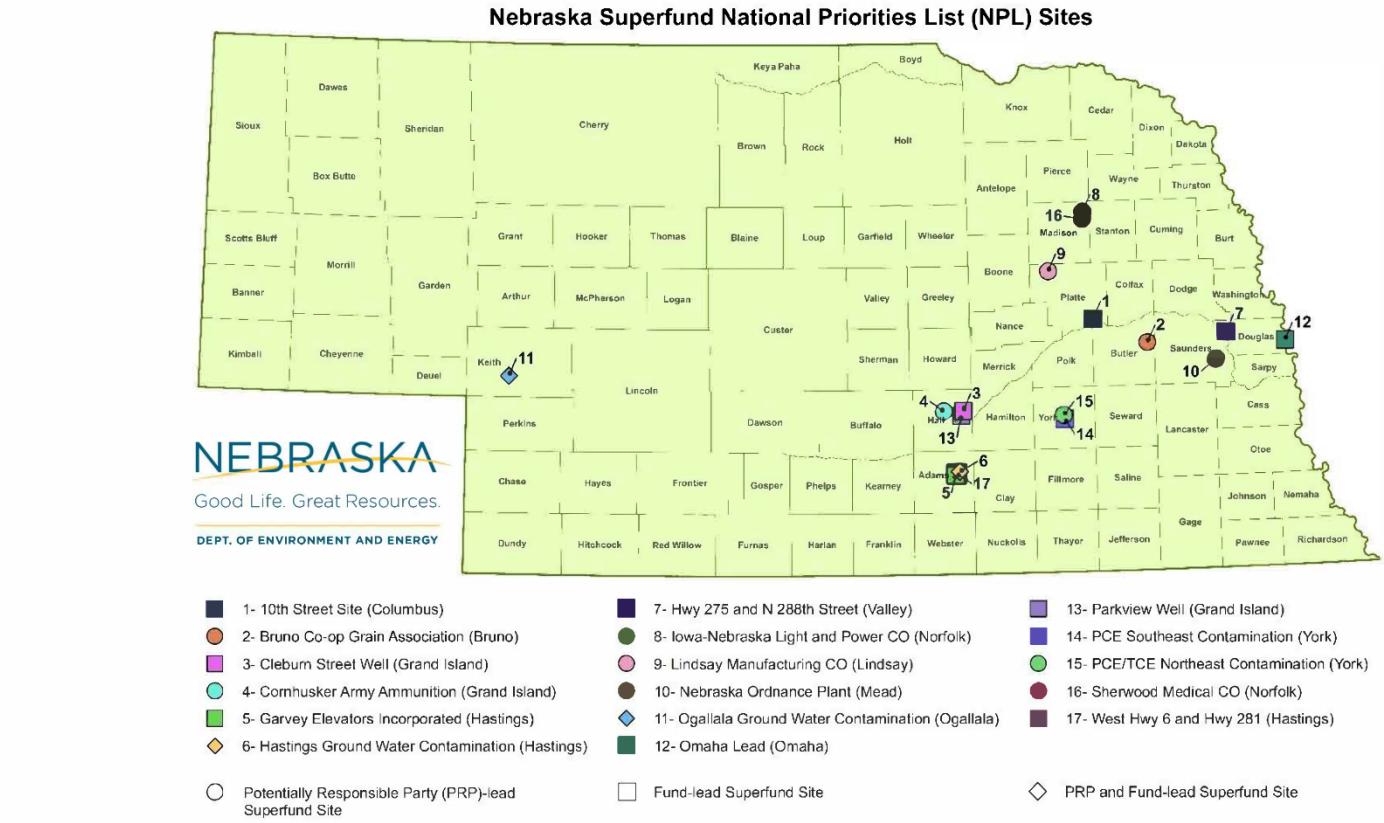
- 95 Large Quantity Generators (greater than 2,200 pounds of hazardous waste generated per month)
- 391 Small Quantity Generators (between 220 and 2,200 pounds generated per month)
- 1,436 Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (less than 220 pounds generated per month)
- 1 Hazardous Waste Incinerator Facility
- 3 Treatment, Storage or Disposal Facilities
- 18 Hazardous Waste Transporters

Location by County of Large Quantity Generators in Nebraska Regulated Under RCRA			
Buffalo 4	Gage 1	Madison 3	Stanton 1
Butler 1	Hall 4	Otoe 1	Thayer 1
Cuming 1	Hooker 1	Phelps 1	Washington 2
Cheyenne 1	Holt 3	Platte 4	Wayne 1
Dakota 2	Kimball 1	Red Willow 1	York 1
Dawson 1	Knox 1	Sarpy 6	
Dodge 1	Lancaster 23	Scotts Bluff 2	
Douglas 22	Lincoln 1	Seward 2	

Summary of FY2020 Activities		
Compliance Assistance	**State**	**EPA**
On-site Visits	0	*
Direct Assistance Contacts	612	*
Public Outreach Presentations (total 325 in attendance)	3	*
Complaints Received	19	*
Complaints Investigated	19	*
Complaints Closes	16	*
*Data not available		
RCRA Inspections		
Land Treatment Facilities	0	0
Treatment, Disposal, and Storage Facilities	0	1
Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Evaluations	0	0
Operation and Maintenance Inspections	0	0
Facility Self-Disclosure	0	0
Large Quantity Generator	10	1
Small Quantity Generator	12	2
Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators	5	4
Transporters	1	0
RCRA Permitting		
Closure Plans Finalized	1	0
Permits Issued/Renewed	0	0
Modifications	4	0
EPA Corrective Action Orders	1	0
RCRA Record Reviews		
Financial Assurance Closure/Post Closure	24	0
Corrective Action	1	0

Superfund Program

Thousands of contaminated sites exist nationally due to hazardous waste being improperly managed. These sites 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. Sites 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 United States EPA, with concurrence from the State of Nebraska, determines whether a site should be listed on the NPL. Superfund forces the parties responsible for the contamination to either perform cleanups or reimburse the EPA-led work. Unfortunately, the responsible parties are often long gone and out of business, so Superfund gives EPA funds and authority to clean up contaminated sites. State cost obligations occur when the responsible party lacks the financial resources so federal funds are used to pay for the cleanup.



The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) became federal law in 1980. The Superfund National Priorities List includes the nation's most contaminated sites. Nebraska has 17 active NPL sites. One site, the Waverly Groundwater Contamination Site, was removed from the National Priorities List on November 20, 2006, upon achieving the cleanup goals for the site. Thirteen of the sites are in the cleanup phase and four sites (York PCE/TCE Northeast Contamination site, York PCE Southeast Contamination site, Iowa-Nebraska Light and Power Co. site in Norfolk, and the Old Highway 275 and North 288th Street site in Valley) are relatively new to the National Priorities List and are in the site study stage.

Numerous other non-National Priorities List sites with known or suspected releases of hazardous substances exist in the state, but are not being addressed through the federal Superfund process.

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

Site Assessment

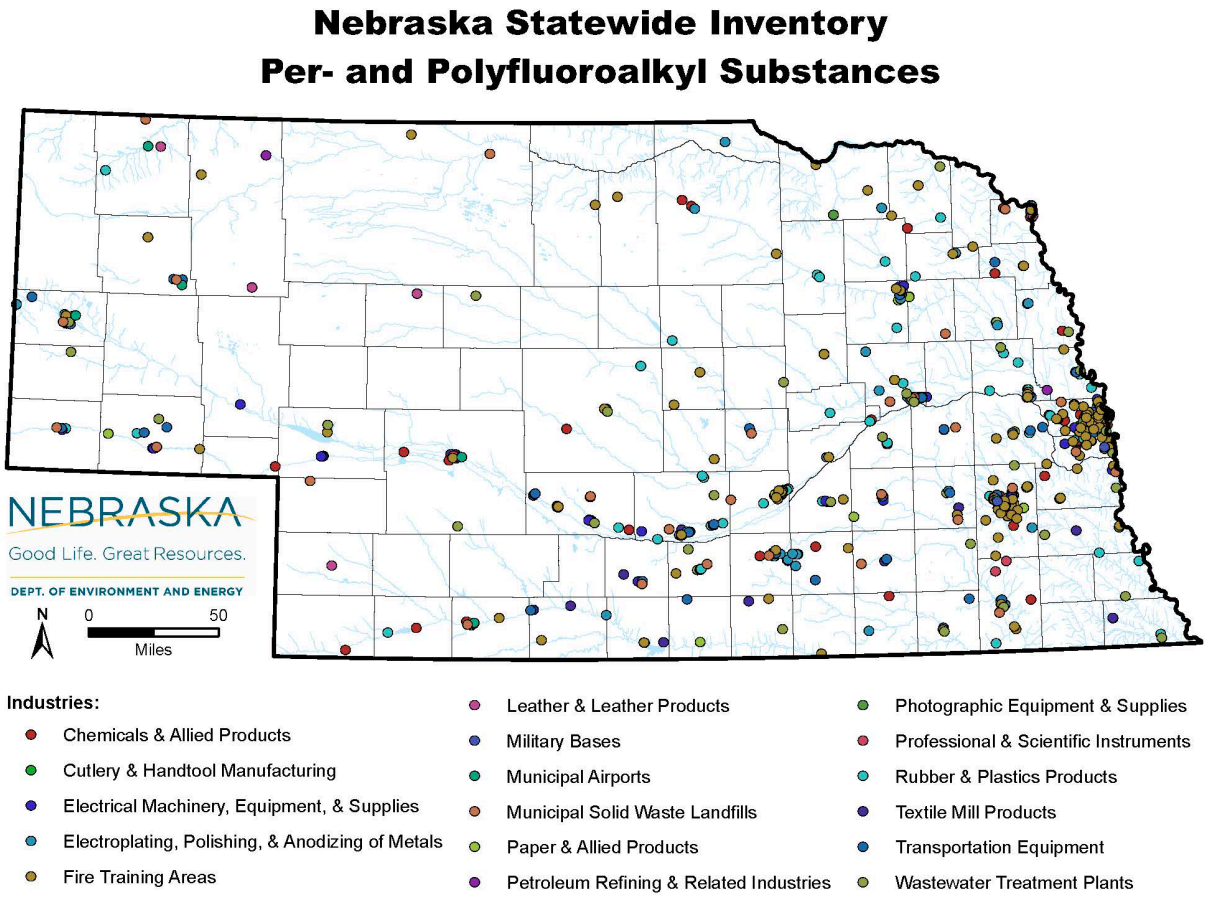
The Superfund Site Assessment program identifies, assesses, and characterizes sites where hazardous substances are known or suspected to pose a threat to public health and/or the environment. Currently, the sites investigated in Nebraska consist primarily of areas around contaminated municipal and private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

Site assessment steps:

1. Pre-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 investigation is the third step. It 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 investigation is conducted.
4. For large and/or complex sites, an expanded site investigation is performed to collect additional soil and groundwater samples to further define the extent of contamination.
5. In addition, some sites are reassessed 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 10 pre-screening assessments, seven abbreviated preliminary assessments, one site investigation, two expanded site investigations, and one site reassessment.

Based on NDEE's 2017 Statewide Inventory of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) such as perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), six of the 10 pre-screening assessments conducted by the Superfund Program consisted of sampling private wells for PFAS compounds. PFAS are a large group of man-made chemicals used in consumer products, and industrial processes, and in firefighting foams. In use since the 1940's, PFAS are resistant to heat, oils, stains, grease, and water—properties which contribute to their persistence in the environment. EPA has identified PFAS as emerging contaminants that can have adverse health effects if found in drinking water supplies. The figure below illustrates the locations of industries present across the state that potentially used or manufactured PFAS based on the 2017 state inventory report.



NDEE also requested federal assistance from the EPA Region 7 Superfund Removal program to install vapor mitigation systems at several commercial and residential properties near a former dry cleaner in Bellevue where a release of tetrachlorethylene (PCE), which was commonly used in the dry cleaning industry, was found in soil and groundwater at the site. The vapor mitigation systems are being installed due to unacceptable levels of PCE in the indoor air of building structures. Vapor mitigation systems are similar to radon control systems where the system captures and redirects the vapor from below the building foundation before it enters the indoor air.

What is Vapor Intrusion?

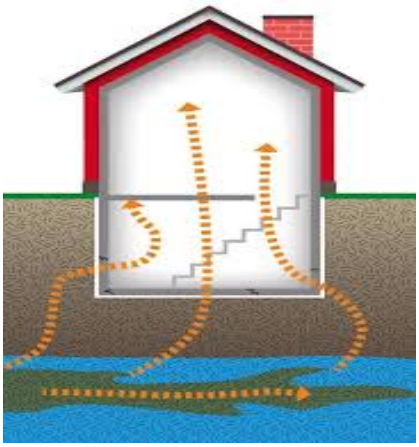


Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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 chemical.

Pictured right: An installed vapor mitigation system at a residence; view is of the installed fan (top) and protective cover (bottom).

The former B&T Metals site in Gering was also referred to the EPA Region 7 Superfund Removal program. The City of Gering utilized an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant to characterize the extent of soil and groundwater contamination at the site with the intent to purchase and redevelop the property. The characterization detected significant levels of lead contamination in soil that would require cleanup. Neither the current property owner nor the City of Gering had the resources to perform the cleanup so the site was referred to the EPA Region 7 Superfund Removal program. The site cleanup was recently completed.

This photo shows metal scrap and debris at the B&T Metals site in Gering.

NDEE also reviewed numerous site assessments conducted by EPA in the state and provided recommendations on the need for follow-up action.

NPL Site Management Assistance — The Superfund Management Assistance program provides management and technical support to the EPA at Superfund 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.

The Superfund law 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 17 active sites on the National Priorities List, seven are being addressed by the responsible party and eight are being addressed as fund lead by Superfund dollars, and two are being addressed as both responsible party and 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 10 years of the project. After the initial 10 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 FY2020, a total of $700,881 was transferred to pay for these costs. Future projections of these costs are $822,163 in FY2021, $1,165,679 in FY2022 and $1,891,679 in FY2023.

During the last year, groundwater monitoring has been conducted at the Cleburn Street site in Grand Island to monitor the performance of the completed in-situ thermal remedy. In-situ thermal treatment utilizes heat to vaporize and remove chemicals in soil and groundwater. This site is the first use of an in-situ thermal remedy in the State. NDEE believes this remedy will save the State a significant amount of future operation and maintenance costs to achieve the cleanup goals for the site. In-situ thermal treatment will also be used at the Hastings Second Street subsite and the York PCE Southeast site in the near future. NDEE will be responsible for 10% of the costs for the capital construction and operation and maintenance costs for these actions.

What is In-Situ Thermal Treatment?

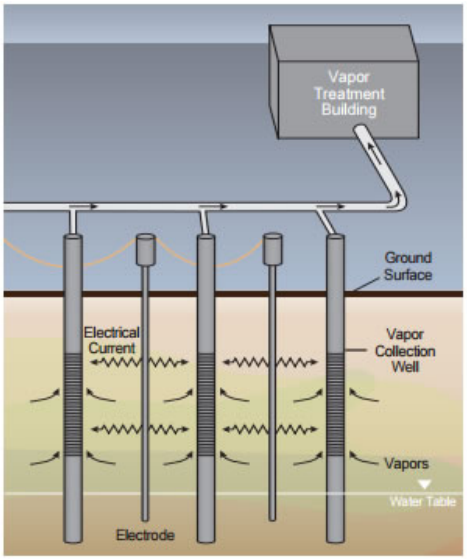


Photo courtesy of the EPA

In-situ thermal treatment uses heat to mobilize chemicals in soil and groundwater. Some chemicals are destroyed underground by the heating process. The remaining chemicals will move toward wells, where they are collected and treated aboveground using other methods.

Pictured right: Photos of the in-situ thermal remedy at the Cleburn Street site in Grand Island. During the remedial action, part of the thermal system was installed beneath Eddy Street (top). The installation included electrode wells, temperature wells, extraction wells, and monitoring wells. Heat is generated by the passage of electrical currents between the electrodes (bottom).

The State began paying 100% of the operation and maintenance costs for the 10th Street Site in Columbus in January 2016, the Ogallala Groundwater Contamination Site in December 2016, and the Hastings Second Street subsite of the Hastings Groundwater Contamination Site in June 2017. For the Columbus 10th Street site, NDEE has entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Columbus for City personnel to operate and maintain the groundwater extraction and treatment system and beneficially reuse the treated water for City of Columbus drinking water. NDEE is currently participating in an Adaptive Management Study with EPA and the City of Columbus to determine when it may be possible to shut down the extraction system and utilize an in-situ treatment remedy to clean up the remaining groundwater contamination. The Parkview Well Site in Grand Island will be transferred to the State in September 2021 for conducting operation and maintenance of the groundwater extraction and treatment system. Below is a list of the 17 active National Priorities List sites. Below each name is an EPA web address that provides more detailed information about the site.

What is Groundwater Extraction and Treatment?

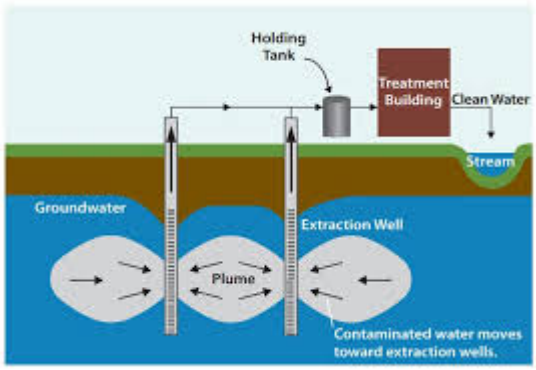


Photo courtesy of the EPA

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 use.

Pictured right: The remedy at the Columbus 10th Street site includes a groundwater extraction and treatment system. Treated groundwater is then either beneficially reused as a municipal drinking water supply, or discharged to the Loup River.

Active National Priorities List Sites in Nebraska

Cornhusker Army Ammo Plant (Grand Island)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702020

Hastings Groundwater Contamination (Hastings)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701973

Lindsay Manufacturing Co. (Lindsay)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701913

Nebraska Ordnance Plant (Mead)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702031

10th Street Site (Columbus)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702001

Cleburn Street (Grand Island)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701986

Ogallala Groundwater Contamination Site (Ogallala)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702287

Bruno Coop Association (Bruno)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702000

Sherwood Medical (Norfolk)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702086

Omaha Lead Site (Omaha)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0703481

Parkview Well Site (Grand Island)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704456

Garvey Elevator (Hastings)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704351

West Highway 6 & 281 (Hastings)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704738

York PCE/TCE Northeast Contamination
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0706105&msspp=med

York PCE Southeast Contamination
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0706200&msspp=med

Iowa-Nebraska Light and Power Co. (Norfolk)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/CurSites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702377&msspp=med

Old Highway 275 and North 288th Street (Valley)
https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704272&msspp=med

Federal Facilities — The Superfund Federal Facilities program provides technical assistance and regulatory oversight to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in support of site assessment and cleanup activities and military munitions response activities at Department of Defense active facilities and formerly used sites. Active Federal installations include the Lincoln Air National Guard Base in Lincoln, Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue and Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant in Grand Island. One hundred known formerly-used defense sites exist in Nebraska that include small former defensive surface-to-air missile sites, bomber target sites, radar and communications sites, and other formerly occupied Department of Defense properties. Under the current Defense-State Memorandum of Agreement, investigation and cleanup activities are being performed or planned to be performed at two active sites and 12 formerly used defense sites. Military munitions response activities are being performed at three sites. A military munitions response site is a site that may have the potential for unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents in soil and groundwater that may pose an explosive hazard or threat to the environment.

PFAS sampling conducted at both the Lincoln Air National Guard Base and Offutt Air Force Base detected significant levels of PFAS compounds in soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment. Private drinking water well sampling near the Lincoln Air National Guard Base did not detect PFAS chemicals in any of the private wells above the EPA Health Advisory Limit of 70 parts per trillion for PFOA/PFOS. Future site investigation to characterize the extent of PFAS contamination will be conducted by the Air Force, however, this site will be a low priority nationally as there are no threats or impacts to any public or private drinking water supplies.

The Air Force has committed to conducting private well sampling at Offutt Air Force Base and will prioritize this site as a higher priority site for further site investigation. The Air Force has committed to performing further site investigation and private well sampling in the upcoming year.

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.

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 FY2020	
Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Areas (Landfills)	23
Solid Waste Compost Sites	8
Transfer Stations	36
Materials Recovery Facilities	5
Construction & Demolition Waste Disposal Areas	32
Delisted Waste Disposal Area	1
Processing Facility	2
Fossil Fuel Combustion Ash Disposal Areas	8
Total	115

The following table indicates the number of inspections, complaints and permitting-related activities that the program was involved with in FY2020:

Summary of FY20 Activities	
Compliance Assistance	
Facility Inspections (General)	94
Facility Closure Inspection	1
Facility Construction Inspections	0
Facility Comprehensive Renewal Inspections	13
Complaints Received	135
Complaints Investigated	135
Complaints Closed or Referred	114
Permitting	
New Permits Issued	1

Permit Renewals	13
Major Permit Modifications	4
Public Hearings	2
Permits Transferred	0
Financial Assurance Reviews	134
Facilities Closed	1

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 FY2020, 13 operating and four 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 FY2020, 17 operating and three 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 FY2020 remedial measures continued at two active and one 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 FY2020, groundwater investigations continued at one site, and remedial actions began at one site and continued at eight 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.

Waste Tire Permit Totals, FY2020 Permitting	
Renewed Hauler Permits	23
New Permits Issued	0
Permits Expired	1
Financial Assurance Reviews	7

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.

Significant Accomplishments

Significant accomplishments in the Solid Waste Program during FY2020 included the following:

NDEE provided assistance to NEMA and local officials as part of ongoing flood response by serving on the Governor's Long Term Flood Recovery Task Force. NDEE provided expertise in recovery efforts, answered questions on debris management, and assisted with the development of the Baseline Conditions and Impact Assessment Report (finalized March 2020) and the State of Nebraska's Long-Term Recovery and Resilience Plan (finalized July 2020).

NDEE also assisted in Hazard Mitigation Planning as part of the support the Solid Waste program gives to its role in managing Emergency Support Function 10 under the State of Nebraska's Emergency Operations Plan. The agency's ESF 10 and 12 coordinators review projects that are being developed to mitigate or address problems across the state from flooding and other hazards. The coordinators review projects and provide input on those that could potentially qualify for flood mitigation.