



Greener Nebraska Towns

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM



A rain garden walk at the state fairgrounds in Grand Island, a 2012 Waterwise Landscapes project.

*A Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Program for
Citizens and Their Communities*

Sustainable landscapes for healthy homes and communities



NEBRASKA STATEWIDE
Arboretum
plantnebraska.org

Planting Smart for Healthy Communities

Landscapes can help manage resources like water, soil, habitat, energy and waste to have a positive impact on the environmental health and vibrancy of our communities. By utilizing native and waterwise plants and managing them with wildlife and waterways in mind, we can make our towns more resilient, maintainable and attractive. The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum works with residents who are committed to showcasing sustainable practices to benefit the larger community.

Greener Nebraska Towns Program

The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum offers the Greener Nebraska Towns (GNT) Program to Nebraskans collaborating with communities and not-for-profit organizations to implement sustainable public landscape projects in town. Planning assistance, educational resources and cost-share funds are available to help support these projects. These funds are provided by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, a beneficiary of the Nebraska Lottery.

Program Focus Areas for 2016-2017:

- Sustainable Schoolyards
- Trees for Nebraska Towns
- Waterwise Landscapes
- Native Plants for Pollinators

Project Requirements

Participants are reimbursed up to \$25,000 for 50 percent of their project expenses, which may include the value of donated and in-kind goods and services and volunteer labor. At least 70 percent of cost-share funds must be used for plant material and site preparation and supplies necessary for its survival. Up to 30 percent of cost-share funds can go toward project design, educational signage and hardscape material. Traditional lawns and irrigation, equipment and property purchases, rock mulches, plastic edging and weed barriers are ineligible for reimbursement.

The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum wants help from participants to spread the word about sustainability in their communities. As part of GNT, a committee representing project stakeholders maintains an active role in fostering meaningful participation by involving others in project phases, hosting educational efforts devoted to sustainability and keeping the media informed of project developments.

Application deadlines are July 21 and October 1, 2016.

For more information: Rachel Anderson at randerson28@unl.edu or plantnebraska.org.





Greener Nebraska Towns Application

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM

Contact Information

Project Coordinator/Primary Contact

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day Phone(s): _____ Email: _____

Project Information

Project Name: _____

Project Address/Location: _____

Project Sponsor(s): _____

Project on land owned by: _____

Project will be maintained by: _____

Amount of funding requested: _____

Estimated amount of cash match: _____

Estimated amount of in-kind match: _____

Estimated total value of project: _____

Statement of Assurances and Agreement

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the participants listed above understand the program requirements and are committed and able to fulfill their responsibilities if we are accepted as a Greener Nebraska Towns partner.

Signature of primary contact person

date

Title and organization of primary contact person

Greener Nebraska Towns Application, Continued

Local Organization

1. Please attach a list of the members of the project committee. There must be a minimum of five members. Project committees should include community members involved with planning, using, and maintaining the project. Special consideration will be given to applicants who recruit youth for project committees. Be sure to include committee members' names, addresses, occupations, affiliations, phone numbers and email addresses.
2. Describe how the project committee will help contact other community members to participate in the process and how project developments and events will be communicated (300 words or less).
3. Please name and briefly describe the most important people, businesses and organizations that will assist the project committee with the project, including professional design resources (300 words or less).

Narrative Description

4. Please describe the project being proposed, including the need, goals and anticipated outcomes (500 words or less).
5. What is the current land use on the project site and adjacent lands? What are the project site's unique challenges and opportunities (300 words or less)?
6. Please attach at least three photographs of the project site or sites and an aerial map or sketch delineating the site area. Also include any photos of specific problem areas as described in the question above.
7. Do you have a planting plan already developed? No Yes (please attach)

Budget and Long-term Maintenance

8. Please attach a preliminary project budget that delineates your anticipated costs for the project and where the funds will come from, including these grant funds, cash-value donations and in-kind donations. A final budget will be created after projects are selected. Categories to consider include: design services, grading/site preparation, plant material costs, plant installation, mulch/soil amendments, equipment usage, irrigation supplies, hardscape and initial maintenance.
9. Landscape projects require management. How will this project be taken care of? Who will maintain it and what is their level of experience? Where will the funding for maintenance (labor, plant replacements, etc.) come from (300 words or less)?

Please return completed applications by July 21 or October 1, 2016 to:

Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Attn. Rachel Anderson, 102G Keim Hall, Lincoln, NE 68583-0965 or email to randerson28@unl.edu with the subject heading "Greener Nebraska Towns Application".