Borgman attends weed control conference

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Gage County Weed Superintendent Rebecca Borgman recently attended the Nebraska Weed Control Association (NWCA) 68th Annual Conference. This year's conference was held at the Ramada Inn, Kearney, on Feb. 9-11. The theme was “Formula for Successful Weed Management”.

Tuesday's topics included: PlayCleanGo Campaign, Brent Meyer, Lancaster County Weed Superintendent; The Nature Conservancy's Invasive Management Plan, Chris Helzer, Program Director; How To Build a Great Team, Dr. Bill Podraza-Unique Technique Inc.; The Crane Trust's Invasive Management Plan, Brice Krohn; Waters of the US, Blake Johnson, Nebraska Attorney General's Office; Federal Issues, Ansley Mick, Congressman Adrian Smith's Nebraska Representative; Controlling Invasive Species: Timing and Application Methods, John DuPliссis-Nebraska Forest Service; Nebraska Invasive Species Threats and Infestations, JoLeisa Cramer-Nebraska Invasive Species Council.

Tuesday evening was the Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony, followed by lots of laughter with Comedian David Graham.

Wednesday's topics included: US Fish and Wildlife Noxious and Invasive Weed Control, Mike Assenmacher-WMA Manager; North American Invasive Species Management Association Update, Rob Schultz, Hall/Howard County Supt., and NAISMA Vice President; Current and Future Invasive Species Management, Ritch Nelson, NRCS; Yellow Flag Iris Research, Jordan Spaak, Colorado State University; Crop Science Investigation, Brandy VanDeWalle –UNL Extension, Fillmore Co; Watch List and Possible New Invasive Weeds, Robert Kaul, UNL Curator and Research Professor, C.E. Bessey Herbarium.

The Annual Business meeting Luncheon was held on Wednesday at noon, and resulted in Marty Craig, Dawson/Gosper County Weed Superintendent being re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer of the NWCA. Other NWCA Officers are: President - Brian Crabtree, Hamilton County Weed Supt., and Vice President – Todd Boller, Fillmore County Weed Supt.

This event was the first of four opportunities to obtain the required 20 hours of continuing education annually. Each superintendent must answer roll call twice per day, complete and pass the exam at the end of each day to receive his or her 10 hours of continuing education credit. The NWCA Education Committee works hard to create trainings that will have learning opportunities for new and “seasoned” superintendents, while following the guidelines mandated by the Noxious Weed Act. The next training opportunity will be NWCA Spring Training at Kearney Ramada Inn April 1-2, 2015.
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