

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NEBRASKA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

2019 GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

On January 23 and 24 over 300 attendees gathered for the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference. The event took place at the Holthus Event Center in York, Nebraska. Despite the snowy weather, the show went on as planned.

Wednesday morning started off with dynamic keynote speaker Ron Rosenberg. Ron shared proven service strategies to help develop rapport, enhance customer loyalty and increase retention rates. Ron also provided two breakout sessions, covering marketing and web strategies. Some of the other breakout sessions topics included ecological landscape design, native plants, viburnum for Nebraska, and more.



Gary Ladman with Brian Munk

The exhibit hall was filled with thirty-two exhibitors. Attendees had the opportunity to bid on items for the silent auction throughout the day. A live auction and social time capped off the day. A special thanks to those companies that donated items for the auction.

Thursday morning featured keynote speaker Mark Duntemann. Breakout sessions were offered throughout the rest of the day covering topics such as using 3D design, drones, climate and pests, business operations and more.



Rachel West with Brian Munk and Miles Imel

The NNLA Annual Meeting was held during lunch on Wednesday. President Neely completed her 2 year term and moved into the position of Past President, with Vice President Brian Munk moving up to the position of President for the 2019-2020 term. Directors re-elected to the Board were Ashly Neneman of Sun Valley Landscaping and Brett Schroer of Urban Roots Landscape. Jason Kuehl of Plant Right, LLC. was elected to the Vice President position and Lee Olson of Landscapes INK was appointed to fulfill his remaining term.

Rachel West was the recipient of this year's scholarship. She is studying landscape design at Metropolitan Community College. The NNLA Hall of Fame Award was presented to Gary Ladman. This award is given to a member of the NNLA who was instrumental in advancing the NNLA and the nursery and landscape industry and been active in the industry for more than twenty years.

NNLA Landscape Awards were also presented. View the winning projects at the end of the newsletter. Thank you to those who served on the planning committee.

Nebraska Flooding

NNLA offers heartfelt thoughts of strong and speedy recovery for anyone affected by the devastating floods (in the East) and blizzards (in the West) we have experienced this spring. NNLA hopes all of you, your families, friends, neighbors and your businesses have come through this safely and with as minimal damage as possible.

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY BRIAN MUNK



I am very happy and proud to be your new president. I have served the past three years as vice president under Marti Neely and I served two terms on the board of directors prior to that. I currently work for the Downtown Lincoln Association where I am the Deputy Director of Maintenance, soon to be the Director of Maintenance, for approximately a 90 square block area in the heart of downtown Lincoln. I have a MS in Horticulture Science from UNL and I've worked in the green industry since I began college.

The 2019 Great Plains Winter Conference, held in York this year, appeared to be well received and attended despite Mother Nature giving us a little show of force the preceding day. I wish to thank everyone who braved the roads and made the trip to York. Together, you all had a hand in make this year's conference successful. I also wish to thank the committee and staff members who worked very hard behind the scenes in getting speakers, vendors and all other aspects put together for this conference to be a success! During this year's annual meeting, Ashly Neneman and Brett Schroer were elected to the Board of Directors and Jason Kuehl was elected to the Vice President position. The Board appointed Lee Olsen to fill the remaining Director's term of Jason Kuehl. I want to thank each of them for their willingness to contribute their time and effort in support of our organization.

The Great Plains Conference provides a terrific opportunity for members to network with each other and industry representatives. That, in conjunction with the value added benefits of the education received, work to enhance the professionalism of the members of the green industry. In addition to the Great Plains Conference, your NNLA board is working hard to develop new and innovative approaches to reach out to new individuals that currently are working in our industry or seeking to work in our industry in the future. We have active communication with Nebraska FFA Association, various community and state colleges and the University of Nebraska in an outreach effort to connect with new and emerging members of our industry. For current members of the NNLA, we are working to plan more single day workshop events. The events we have coordinated in the past have had very high reviews and we wish to offer more of them for our members.

If anyone has any ideas we would absolutely like to hear your suggestions. Topics for future workshops, locations for events to be held, and speakers for the future conferences are all areas we would love to hear your ideas. Along with ideas, if anyone would have the time and wish to become more involved with the NNLA, either as a committee member or a board of director position, please feel free to contact a Board member or our NNLA office. Details can be found on the NNLA website at nnla.org.

Thank you all for your time and I wish everyone a wonderful, safe, and busy season this year!
Brian Munk NCN, NCA - NNLA President

FUTURE OF GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

The NNLA Board feels it is important to inform you on the current state of the relationship between NNLA and the NNA. Many of you have probably heard there is to be a split between NNLA and the NNA for the Great Plains Conference.

Last year there was a vote by the NAA board to discontinue the shared relationship with the NNLA. The NNLA Board did not vote to end this relationship. As of our last meeting at the beginning of March, NNLA sent a proposal to the NAA board in an effort to continue working together. As of this writing, the NAA board has rejected the offer but is open to revisiting for the 2021 conference.

Primarily, our proposal asked to continue the partnership but allow NNLA to offer a modified price structure for the Great Plains Conference. Our intention was for a first-time attendee to attend the conference at a reduced rate and organizations that wished to bring multiple numbers of employees to the conference to have a tiered price break after a given number of attendees. We asked for this modification while providing a guarantee that NNLA would cover our share of the cost of the conference.

The NNLA Board did this with the belief that we would see an improvement in the attendance by people in the nursery and landscape industry and we continue to have that belief. This is a very general outline of some of the items concerning this issue. NNLA members are welcome to look at minutes from our meetings as they are open to all members upon request.

While it is unfortunate that this split appears to be happening, your board has been working diligently to establish a contingency plan. That plan is not fully developed at this point, however, we do have some options in place and we are looking forward in the development of a revised NNLA organization. We tend to see this as an opportunity for our organization and our industry to add new members to our network, provide valuable education and professional certification to them which will help their businesses and our industry as a whole, grow, advance and prosper.

We will keep everyone informed on the progression throughout the year as we move through this time of change. There are some great opportunities for our organization ahead and the future looks quite promising for the NNLA.

Sincerely, Brian Munk, NNLA President

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

PLANT NATIVE

Ninebark, *Physocarpus opulifolius*

Height: 5-8' **Spread:** 4-6'

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Dry to medium



This native shrub has leaves similar to spirea and viburnum. It bears clusters of small pink or white flowers in spring, which produce clusters of reddish fruit. Foliage turns yellow in fall and, when they fall, reveals its attractive, exfoliating bark (the common name ninebark refers to these multiple layers). It can tolerate drought once established and a wide variety of soils, including clay. It can be pruned after flowering or cut to the ground to rejuvenate it or reduce its size. It's a very long-lived shrub that requires a minimum of care once established. It's a good pollinator plant and is useful for stabilizing slopes.

** Native plant recommendations from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org
For release in December, PLANT NATIVE, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Contact: Karma Larsen, 402-472-7923
klarsen1@unl.edu, December 2018*



OUTSTANDING STATE LEADER AWARD

Adelaide (Addie) D. Kinghorn was presented the Outstanding State Leader award at the 2019 WNLA Awards ceremony held in Kansas City on January 16, 2019. The NNLA Board of Directors nominated Addie for this recognition. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals who have demonstrated a dedication to the work and the mission of the green industry through exceptional efforts on behalf of state associations.




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NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES: A DOG-FRIENDLY YARD (FOR YARD-FRIENDLY DOGS)



It can be a challenge to have a yard that’s perfect for you as well as for your dog. The primary goals are often at odds... a place to run and dig versus the somewhat fragile beauty of seasonal plants. But with a little bit of thoughtful planning, there are ways to accommodate both.

to retreat during summer heat. Having decks, arbors, patios and other hardscaping in both sunny and shady areas can keep owners and their pets happily together.

Pathways also serve both human and canine purposes. If your dog has already beaten down a particular path, it’s easiest to work with that rather than trying to force a different route. Dogs like to patrol and protect the property line, so pathways 2-3 foot wide along the property’s edges allow them to “do their job,” in a number of different ways. With good plant selection, these paths can remain somewhat hidden. Stepping stones, gravel and wood chips or mulch can handle the traffic but avoid cocoa mulch, which can be poisonous to dogs. Dogs intent on escape may require fencing with underground barriers like chicken wire, rebar or other constraints.

Planted areas require a little more protection and forethought. Raised beds and mounds will generally keep pets out. A rock edging or low fencing can also help keep them out of planted areas. Tougher plants like ornamental grasses and dense, low shrubs can create barriers to protect plants around and behind them. Plants may have to be purchased in larger sizes to protect them until they get more established.

Access to food and water is important, possibly by installing dog doors so food sources remain inside where raccoons, opossums and other animals can’t get to them. Some dogs might like access to a water feature where they can cool off on especially hot days, but that can be a bigger-ticket item that will require space and effort to manage.

PLANTS AND MANAGEMENT

- Limit the use of fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides or use the safest organic options. Pesticides have been linked to a 70 percent higher incidence of canine malignant lymphoma.
- Some of the best plants to reduce fleas are herbs like lavender, rosemary and mint.
- Most herbs also discourage or are resistant to dog urine, along with grasses like feather reed grass, shrubs like dogwood and viburnum and groundcovers like ajuga, snow-in-summer and sedum.
- Poisonous plants to avoid include lily, anemone, daffodil, chrysanthemum, foxglove, iris, monkshood, tobacco plant, lily of the valley and many others.
- To avoid yellow and brown spots on turf or other plants, some homeowners install “dog potty areas” with gravel, sand, soil, artificial grass or a screen for easier pickup.

Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

For release in January, BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES monthly column from Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Contact: Karma Larsen, 402-472-7923, klarsen1@unl.edu

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NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES: SEEDS ARE THE FUTURE



“Recipes, instruction manuals, last testaments: by making seeds the plant condenses itself, or at least everything it knows, into a form compact and durable enough to survive winter, a tightly sealed bottle of genetic memory dropped onto the ocean of the future.” Michael Pollan

For gardeners who grow their plants from seed, seeds are the promise of good things to come—tomatoes, spinach, summer flowers. If trees are your thing, the promise is much larger... and the wait much longer. To immigrants leaving the familiar behind, they bring the look, taste and fragrance of the past into an uncertain future. To birds and other creatures in winter months, they are sheer survival.

Most of us don't think much about seeds until the rest of their plant structure has faded. But midwinter they're the visible remains of the summer's bounty and their bright berries or tan or chocolate brown seeds give visual interest to snow-covered landscapes.

Even the most superficial glance reveals amazing diversity in the way plants condense and pass on their genetic history. Don't expect a horticultural treatise here, but on a winter's day they're worth a closer look. Here's just a small sampling of the amazing variety of seed forms in our winter landscapes.

SEEDS OVERHEAD

- We don't tend to think of pine cones as seedpods but, for birds with specially curved beaks, they're a hidden pantry they alone can reach.
- Winter tree ornaments include the long narrow seedpods of Kentucky coffeetree

- and Catalpa, the shorter ones of redbud, the spiky balls of sweetgum.
- For something worth keeping in your pocket, you can't do much better than a lucky buckeye. They have an appealing, waxy sheen that begs to be rolled between your fingers.
- Acorns may have already been “squirreled away,” but a few damaged ones likely remain.
- The red, shriveled berries of crabapple and viburnums are some of the last to disappear—many of which need to go through a series of freeze-thaw cycles before wildlife will eat them.

GROUND LEVEL SEEDS

- Coneflowers, prairie clover and many other prairie plants remain stiff and upright, offering a mid-winter food source for birds above the snow.
- The spikes of Liatris and other plants ripen to fluff and seed themselves around.
- Peony seeds take the form of joker's hats while poppy and lotus store their seeds in flat-topped vessels.
- While most seedheads take a discernible form, those of Illinois bundleflower look like they were grabbed and bundled tightly together.
- Cattails are by now unbunched to spread far and wide.
- It's no surprise that Baptisia seedheads were used as baby rattles, with their seeds loose and noisy in the fat pods.
- The airy seedheads of milkweed and clematis are perfectly designed for wind dispersal.

Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

Attached photo shows seedheads, top to bottom, of clematis, bundleflower and poppy.

For release in February, BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES monthly column from Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Contact: Karma Larsen, 402-472-7923, klarsen1@unl.edu

NNLA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal forms will be sent in May for the 2019-2020 membership year. The NNLA membership year runs from July 1 - June 30. Be sure to renew your membership to continue to receive the quarterly newsletters, email updates, discounted educational rates for workshops, and Field Days, marketing & outreach and much more...



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NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

PLANT NATIVE

Bladdernut, Staphylea trifoliata

Height: 10-15'

Spread: 10-15'

Sun: Part Shade, Shade

Water: Dry to medium

American bladdernut is a large suckering shrub that grows 10-15 feet high and wide. It bears white, bell-shaped blossoms in drooping clusters in early spring and is a nectar source for emerging pollinating insects. The flowers give way to inflated, bladder-like, papery seed capsules which mature in late summer and often persist into winter. The dark green, three-parted leaves remain attractive all season, turning light yellow in the fall. The young twigs and bark are olive green and smooth, but older twigs develop handsome bark, brownish-gray with white streaks along the trunk, a nice contrast against the greenish twigs. It will grow in heavy clay, dry soil and full shade or part shade and is found growing naturally in bottomlands and woodlands of eastern Nebraska. This easy-to-grow plant can form dense colonies, so it's best grown in areas where it can be confined by a mowed edge. In full shade suckering is greatly reduced, making this a great naturalizing plant for shady woodlands.

** Native plant recommendations from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org
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Pictured is Todd Faller and his parents, Don and Sylvia Faller at the GPC. Photo credit: James Keeper

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NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

PLANT NATIVE

Black oak, Quercus velutina

Height: 50-60' high **Spread:** 45-50' high

Sun: full sun

Water: adaptable; extremely drought tolerant

Black oak is similar in appearance to red oak but its dark green leaves are usually more leathery and glossy. In early spring the tiny emerging leaves, covered in a fine fuzz of hairs, are a beautiful, velvety red. Yellow spring flowers or catkins emerge at the same time. They are among the showiest of any oak in the spring and stand out against the new foliage. In fall the leaves turn from deep bronze yellow to maroon and often persist well into winter. Black oak is one of the most drought- and heat-tolerant oaks, but it prefers organically rich, well-drained soil to grow its best. It grows naturally on the loess bluffs of far southeastern Nebraska, into Iowa and south into eastern Texas, making it a great native tree for prairie states. The common name refers to the black bark color on mature trees. It grows slowly when first planted, putting energy into roots, but soon catches up with top growth.



Black oak, Quercus velutina

*For release in February, PLANT NATIVE, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Contact: Karma Larsen, 402-472-7923, klarsen1@unl.edu, February 2019 * Native plant recommendations from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org*

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NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES: OUR GARDENS DESIGNED OR ACCUMULATED?

FOR GOOD OR FOR BAD, CHANGE IS CONSTANT IN ANY LANDSCAPE, WITH PLANTS LIKE MILKWEED SEEDING THEMSELVES IN WHILE OTHERS GRADUALLY FADE.

“A garden that didn’t change and grow wouldn’t be a garden at all.” Ken Druse. How did your garden become what it is today? Is it just as you planned it and imagined it to be? Did it happen just like that, with all of it coming together in one year or one growing season?

We’re guessing not. Planning is an excellent thing. We believe in it, encourage it and, for public grant projects, require it. But how many gardeners have a blueprint or written plan? Or, if we have one, stay with it? It’s not because we don’t value designs or because it’s easier to “wing it.” It’s not. The problems associated with not having a plan can be expensive and time-consuming.

A landscape design, whether you created it yourself or someone developed it for you, will save time and money in the long run. Why then are gardeners hesitant to create, hire or stick to a plan?

- Gardeners tend to be do-it-yourselfers, and opinionated as well. A garden is no easy thing to create, so it requires a certain amount of stubbornness, commitment, flexibility and hard work. Those qualities can make it difficult to commit to a plan.
- Assumed expense. Planning and planting as you go usually seems less expensive... though that may well be because the expenses occur little by little rather than being made clear from the onset.
- We’re frugal so we use the plants we have access to. Our own plants get crowded or a friend is removing or dividing some plants—do we want some? And so the garden shifts. Constantly.
- Plants change, like all living things, and require flexibility. We have a plan for the perfect shade garden carefully with complementary sizes, shapes, textures and seasonal characteristics. Then a storm takes out a limb on an overstory tree or pests or diseases intrude, and suddenly the shade-loving plants are in full sun. Even without external changes, plants rarely grow as expected in terms of height, width, aggressiveness, month of bloom. Sometimes the resulting serendipity is better than our plans, as when annuals like larkspur, cleome or milkweed seed themselves around; other surprises may be less to our liking.



Our gardens, in short, accumulate. We may have started out with the notion of having a native plant garden, a pollinator garden, a spring garden but suddenly it is, well, what it is.

This is not an argument against planning, not at all, but it is a kind of confessional about how much our goals and gardens change. So yes, do have a plan for your landscape, but recognize all the influences that affect our landscapes, use what you have knowing that things will change... and enjoy it.

Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

For release in November, BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES column from Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Contact: Karma Larsen, 402-472-7923, klarsen1@unl.edu

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES: INVITING BIRDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS (AND ALL WINTER LONG)

We do a lot of preparation for the visitors we'll see over the holidays but since some of our favorite visitors are birds, they deserve some preparation as well. It's not the season for planting of course, but there are plenty of things you can do now and some of the preferred plants listed below may be worth adding to your landscape in future years.

Some of the things we can do and offer are highly visible to us as well as to them. Birdfeeders, of course, in a variety of shapes and sizes and with a variety of offerings—suet, seeds ranging from tiny thistle seeds to sunflower and safflower seeds. Having heated water available offers them moisture even on the coldest days, and trees and shrubs with the fruits and berries mentioned below are a visual treat to us and essential foods to them.

While we may think of dead leaves and plants as just, well, dead leaves and plants, they're a full pantry for many birds. Besides the seeds they contain, they shelter overwintering insects and lots of organic matter.

FRUITING SHRUBS

- Conifers offer food for cedar waxwings, swallows, bluebirds and catbirds.
- Crabapples with small fruits are best. Many crabapples and other fruits require freeze and thaw to become palatable, so they're important late-season offerings.
- Dogwoods help feed migrating songbirds, robins, bluebirds, thrushes, catbirds, vireos, kingbirds, juncos, cardinals, warblers, wild turkey and grouse.
- Hackberry seeds are relished by cardinals, northern flickers and northern mockingbirds.
- Hawthorns, especially our native downy hawthorn.
- Oaks with small acorns are best for birds—dwarf chinquapin oak offers an abundance of them.
- Persimmons are sought after by bobwhites and eastern bluebirds.
- Sumacs offers persistent fruits for more than 30 species of birds.
- Viburnum berries are sought-after by many birds, and often late in the season.

BERRIES, BUT NOT JUST ANY-BERRY

- Birds need high-fat, high-carb foods in fall, either for a demanding migration or to survive harsh winters. Appropriately the native berries ripening late season—black raspberry, elderberry, chokecherry and rough-leaf dogwood—are some of the most nutritious and contain 30-50 percent fat.
- By contrast, non-natives like multiflora rose, Amur honeysuckle and autumn olive contain just 3-4 percent fat. And birds may not recognize or eat them, even when they're hungry.
- Species that don't migrate, like cardinals and woodpeckers, depend heavily on winter berries.
- Cardinals and native sparrows crush berries before swallowing, so they can eat larger berries.
- Robins and bluebirds eat berries whole and then spit out seeds, ultimately replanting some of their favorite foods.
- Robins, bluebirds, cedar waxwings, and mockingbirds aren't able to hull seeds with their bills, so they're very dependent on berries.
- Persistence makes a difference. Honeysuckle and dogwood fruits are usually eaten or rotted by late November while roses, crabapples and viburnums offer wintering birds like waxwings and robins sustenance into early spring.

Give me shelter

- Conifers offer valuable shelter during harsh winter months when deciduous trees have lost their foliage.
- Most birds roost just 4-6 feet from the ground, so having different layers of groundcovers, grasses, taller perennials, shrubs, vines and trees is essential for protection from the elements and from predators.
- The denser, more camouflaged and more prickly the habitat, the better protection it offers from predators on the ground or overhead.
- In spring, Baltimore orioles and other birds use the strong fibers of dried up plant stems to build nests.
- Safety is as important as food. Birds may choose less-favored foods in safe conditions over more desirable foods with less protection.
- Sheltered areas that face south take advantage of winter sun.

Justin Evertson, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

For release in December, BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES column from Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Contact: Karma Larsen, 402-472-7923, klarsen1@unl.edu



NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NNLA JANUARY 2019 WORKSHOP

NNLA offered two all-day workshops to get the creative juices flowing for members of the industry. The workshops took place on Friday, January 11 at Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha with 37 attending.

The first workshop's topic was advanced planning design and was presented by award-winning designer, artist and educator, Lisa Orgler. Lisa is the creator of the website, Paper Garden Workshop, a spirited place to learn garden design. Lisa uses her illustration skills to teach the topics she adores - garden design and landscape graphics. She does this full time in the horticulture department at Iowa State University, plus part-time on her website. To top it off, Lisa also holds degrees in landscape architecture and is registered in the state of Iowa.

This workshop explored the beauty of arranging plant materials in your garden beds. Topics covered included the elements of planting design including an in-depth look at form, texture and color; how to use these elements to compose a planting design, traditional and contemporary planting models, plus some basic graphics of plant symbols and drawing in elevation, so participants can communicate their ideas to others. This was a great hands-on workshop, where attendees were able to learn, draw, design and have fun. The evaluation results indicated that this was a great workshop and that NNLA should invite Lisa back for another workshop in the future.

The second workshop was provided by Jeffrey Scott, MBA. The workshop's focus was on issues of recruiting, retaining and developing top talent and great employees. He discussed becoming a Destination Company®; attracting and recruiting great employees and creating dream teams; on-boarding new employees for maximum "return on investment" and retention; and building a strong culture of accountability and excellence.

Jeffrey Scott, MBA, is the leading authority on growth and profit maximization in the landscape industry. He grew his landscape company into a successful \$15 million multidiscipline enterprise, and he's now devoted to helping others achieve profound success. He has consulted with over two hundred landscape companies and facilitates the largest global peer group of landscape business owners in the world. Jeffrey is the founder of the Destination Company® culture program allowing companies to attract and retain the best employees and build their competitive advantage. He is the author of 3 books and has published hundreds of articles in all the major industry publications and over 10,000 people read his weekly newsletter, Growth Tips.

The workshops were well received and the board plans to provide more workshops in 2018. If you have ideas for future NNLA workshops, please contact the office or a board member.

JAPANESE BEETLE UPDATE

Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) is present in some areas of the state, particularly the Omaha metro area. In 2018, a total of 158 JB traps (124 detection and 34 certification traps) were set in 24 counties across the state. Traps are located at airports, state parks, special quarantine compliance areas, and nurseries. The traps were in place from the end of May until October 1, 2018. A total of 48 traps were positive, in 15 counties.

After the 2018 trapping season, NDA declared three more counties as being infested with JB: Nance, Pierce, and Polk. Prior to 2018, Adams, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Cass, Clay, Colfax, Cuming, Dakota, Dawson, Dodge, Douglas, Fillmore, Gage, Hall, Hamilton, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Lincoln, Madison, Merrick, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Phelps, Platte, Richardson, Saline, Sarpy, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, Thurston, Washington, Wayne, and York were already listed as infested.

Continued on next page...



NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

Continued from previous page...

Counties are considered infested based on survey results. However, most of these counties have low level or localized infestations. At this time, only Douglas and Sarpy counties are known to be widely infested, with significant adult feeding damage reported.

The Nebraska Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act requires that all nursery stock distributed or being offered for distribution in the state be apparently free of injurious plant pests. The presence of Japanese beetle grubs in rootballs or containers, or adults in or on nursery stock, violates this requirement.

Nebraska nurseries in infested counties can take several steps to minimize the potential to spread Japanese beetle in nursery stock. These include:

- Weed maintenance – eliminate weeds from containers and the root zone of field grown plants (the root area that will be dug).
- Apply pesticides to turfgrass areas, targeting grubs.
- Incorporate granular pesticide into container potting mix
- Remove landscape plants known to be highly attractive to JB, such as roses, lindens, Prunus, and grapes, from the growing, loading, or holding area.
- Inspect enclosed trailers or shipping containers for adult beetles prior to loading.
- Visually inspect nursery stock just prior to shipping for JB adults in the foliage.
- Avoid loading nursery stock during peak flight on warm, sunny days, roughly 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Nurseries shipping to other states should contact NDA to learn the specific entry requirements set by the other state, and how those requirements can be met.

Questions about certifying Nebraska nursery stock for shipment to other states can be directed to Jessica Schueth, NDA Export Certification Coordinator, at (402) 471-5902 or agr.phyto@nebraska.gov .

Questions about Nebraska's Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act or NDA's Entomology Program can be directed to Julie Van Meter, NDA Entomology Program Manager/State Entomologist, at (402) 471-6847 or Julie.vanmeter@nebraska.gov.

Western
Nursery & Landscape Association

JOIN THE WNLA'S OMAHA EMERGING LEADERS GROUP
Connect with other young professionals (35 and under) in the horticulture industry!

EMERGING LEADERS CAFE
Western Nursery & Landscape Association
The Emerging Leaders of the WNLA strive to enrich our industry and ourselves through community outreach, innovation, and education.

SPRING MEETUPS:
Feb 27 | March 27 | April 24

Contact sarah@wnla.org for more info!

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

WHO NEEDS A NEBRASKA NURSERY LICENSE?

The Nebraska Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act requires any person that distributes biennial, perennial or woody nursery stock (basically winter hardy plants) in the state to obtain a Nebraska Nursery Stock Distributor license with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, for the location from which they distribute the nursery stock.

The Act defines distribute to mean selling, exchanging, bartering, moving, or transporting; offering to sell, exchange, barter, move, or transport; holding nursery stock for sale, exchange, or barter; acting as a broker; or otherwise supplying. Entities requiring a license include:

- Permanent greenhouses
- Seasonal or temporary greenhouses
- Wholesale nursery stock facilities
- Nursery stock growers
- Groups holding plant sales (even non-profit groups)
- Landscape installation companies
- Tree spade operators
- Nursery stock brokers

The license is issued for a specific physical location (not a person), and is valid until the end of the calendar year in which it is issued. Changes in ownership or physical address will cause the license to be void.

Firms that grow a portion of the nursery stock they distribute must also apply for a certification inspection of the Nebraska grown nursery stock. The inspection must occur before beginning to distribute that nursery stock.

Information on nursery license requirements is available on the Nebraska Department of Agriculture web site <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/plant/entomology/nursery/index.html> and includes a link to apply for a license online. Or contact Julie Van Meter, Entomology Program Manager, at (402) 471-2351 or julie.vanmeter@nebraska.gov.

NNLA WELCOMES TWO NEW NEBRASKA CERTIFIED NURSERYMEN



SHANNON HEKRDLE

The Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association's newest Nebraska Certified Nurserymen are Shannon Hekrdle and Brett Schroer. They took the NCN Certification test during the Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference in January and passed all three segments of the test.

Shannon attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and graduated in 2016 with a degree in Turfgrass and Landscape Management, with an emphasis in Landscape Design. She hopes to encourage diverse plantings in the area while still maintaining functionality for customers.

"I wanted to become certified to promote the professionalism of the landscaping and horticulture industry." - Shannon



BRETT SCHROER

Brett studied horticulture at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln with an emphasis in Landscape Design. He has worked in the nursery industry for over twenty years in both landscape design and plant production.

"I became a certified nurseryman for personal growth and to connect with other industry professionals in the hopes of building a stronger and more unified state association." – Brett

The NCN program was established to promote the professionalism of individuals within the industry. A rigorous three-part test, which covers plant identification, landscape, and the NCN manual, must be successfully completed. Are you interested in becoming a Nebraska Certified Nurseryman? Visit www.nnla.org/certification for more information.

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

MORE TREES PLEASE! NEBRASKA FOREST SERVICE TREE CARE WORKSHOPS

Are you a fan of all things trees? The Nebraska Forest Service will be holding a tree care workshop in Lincoln on Thursday, March 28th covering a wide range of topics presented by our expert staff PLUS nursery professionals, arborists, and other knowledgeable Nebraska tree professionals!

DATES/LOCATIONS

Lincoln, Thursday, March 28 (9am-3pm)
Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 O Street

Omaha, Friday, March 29 (9am-3pm)
National Park Service MW Regional Office, 601 Riverfront Dr.



AGENDA

- The Value of Trees: Why We Care (or should care). Most people like trees and yet canopy continues to decline in many of our communities. This session will remind us how important trees are while summarizing some of the challenges trees face in the community forest.
- Green Industry & Wood Utilization Perspectives
Nursery, arborist and wood utilization professionals will cover some of the rewards and challenges they face in providing trees, managing them and utilizing those that have died.
- Tree Health (or lack thereof): A myriad of tree health concerns will be summarized including emerging diseases and insect pests and the growing concern of herbicide damage.
- Some of Our Favorite Trees: Over 200 species of trees grow in Nebraska and yet less than 20 species dominate our planted forests. A few tree huggers will highlight some of their favorite trees with the goal of improving tree diversity.
- Nebraska's Champion Tree Program: Big trees naturally catch our attention. This presentation will cover some of the big trees in Nebraska and explain how Nebraska's champion tree program works.
- Optional Outdoor Activity: Come outside (weather permitting) to see how a potential tree champion is measured in Lincoln or to help evaluate street trees planted in Omaha.

Organizers and Presenters: Justin Evertson, Graham Herbst, Laurie Stepanek & Eric Berg of Nebraska Forest Service. Plus nursery professionals, arborists, and other more! Audience participation will be encouraged. Please come prepared to share thoughts and opinions.

DETAILS

Doors open at 8:30, workshop begins at 9:00am. Registration cost is \$25. Register online: nfs.unl.edu/workshops. Lunch is included in registration. Registration deadline is March 26th, 2019.

DRIFTWATCH

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is encouraging all commercial specialty crop growers, anyone who sells a portion of their crop, to register their crop(s) on the DriftWatch/BeeCheck website. This is a voluntary tool to increase communication between commercial specialty crop growers and nearby pesticide applicators to reduce incidents of pesticide drift. Growers register their contact information and crop locations on the online map, and farmers and other pesticide applicators check the map to see where specialty crops are located. Specialty crops include grapes, other fruits, vegetables, beehives, greenhouses/high tunnels, nursery crops, tree/nut orchards, fish farms, non-specialty certified organic and transition to certified organic crops, and an 'other' category, which could include plants grown for seed, cut flowers, flowers for scented products, woody florals, etc. Many commercial and private applicators are taking advantage of the features of this service by visiting the web map or getting direct data feeds to their mapping program or handheld app. Because some product labels now require applicators to check DriftWatch, survey adjacent properties for specialty crops or beehives, and take special precautions nearby, more applicators will be using DriftWatch in the coming year. NDA would like to have the most current, complete, and beneficial registry possible by including you!

Go to www.fieldwatch.com to start the registration process. There is a user guide for specialty crop growers found in the Resources section at this link. For questions, contact NDA at 402-471-2351.

2019

NEBRASKA GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

JANUARY 22-24, 2019 | HOLTHUS EVENT CENTER, YORK, NE

2019 NOLA Landscape Award Winner Hugh Morton - Sun Valley Landscaping Residential Installation \$50,001+



2019
**NEBRASKA
GREAT PLAINS
CONFERENCE**

JANUARY 22-24, 2019 | HOLTHUS EVENT CENTER, YORK, NE

2019 NOLA Landscape Award Winner
Todd Faller - Faller Landscape
Residential Installation Under \$15,000



2019
**NEBRASKA
GREAT PLAINS
CONFERENCE**

JANUARY 22-24, 2019 | HOLTHUS EVENT CENTER, YORK, NE

2019 NOLA Landscape Award Winner
Tena Ehlers - Faller Landscape
Residential Installation \$15,000 - \$50,000

