



Contact Info:

Linda
@KeepCassCountyBeautiful.com
402-949-0874

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The mission of Keep Cass County Beautiful is to educate, enable and encourage all Cass County residents to take greater responsibility for enhancing their community environment.

KCCB Board of Directors

President: Debbie Vidlak
Vice President: Dana Stahl
Secretary: Richard Yoder
Treasurer: Lois Froistad
Exec. Director: Linda Behrns
Members: John Baroni, Roger Behrns, Terry Lorensen

Presentations: Contact us for free environmental programs for youth groups, schools or community organizations.

Financing is provided through the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy, Cass County, and the generosity of local business partners and members. KCCB is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



Close the loop...Buy recycled!



"Thank You"

KCCB Partners

American Exchange Bank,
Ash Grove Cement Company,
Beaver Lake Association,
Bloom Where You're Planted,
Cass County,
Citizen's State Bank,
Cass County Ag Society
City of Louisville,
City of Weeping Water,
Cottage Refunk,
Dana Stahl Realty
Elmwood-Murdock Merchants
Association (EMMA),
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Plattsmouth Hy-Vee,
Plattsmouth Main St. Assoc.,
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Village of Elmwood,
Village of Manley,
Village of Murray,
Village of Union,
Wilbur-Ellis Agribusiness

Keep Cass County "Beautiful News"

Quarterly Newsletter * Spring* Issue #22* www.keepcasscountybeautiful.org



Take advantage of this great opportunity to shred your personal documents.

Saturday, June 13, 2020 from 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Citizens State Bank Parking lot - Plattsmouth West

2020 West 8th Avenue; Plattsmouth, NE 402.296.3333

Thank you Citizens State Bank for providing this service to Cass County residents.



Keep Cass County Beautiful is resuming the Great American Cleanup, and it will run through October 18. This year, the program was suspended because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

KCCB is following current state and local COVID-19 guidelines including the following Sarpy-Cass Health Department recommendations to keep volunteers safe during litter cleanup events.

- Maintain six foot social distancing between volunteers.
- Participants must wear gloves and masks and use litter reach tools to collect litter.
- Only family members should drive together to the cleanup site.
- No more than 25 people gathered for the litter cleanup.

KCCB will partner with local schools, 4-H groups, Scouts and community organizations to plan volunteer events that beautify parks, reduce waste, increase recycling and remove litter. Contact us for trash bags, safety vests, gloves and other litter cleanup supplies for a Great American Cleanup event in your neighborhood. KCCB will award organizations up to \$50 per mile and \$10 per acre for cleaning up litter in public areas along streets, curbs, alleys and sidewalks at schools, parks and in rural areas including county and country roads. Unfortunately, we cannot fund Adopt a Highway events.

Funding for this program is limited and provided by a small grant from the Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy. Applications and cleanup resources can be found at keep-casscountybeautiful.com/ or email Linda@keepcasscountybeautiful.com.

Last year, KCCB helped sponsor 13 litter cleanups with the help of many volunteers who collected over 2,500 pounds of litter. "We appreciate help from all our volunteers who give of their time and service for the betterment of our communities. Litter is costly to clean up, impacts our quality of life and economic development, and eventually ends up in our waterways, rivers and oceans," stated Linda Behrns, KCCB Executive Director.

Guidelines for Cass County Recycling Trailers

The Cass County Recycling Trailer program was started over a decade ago to promote recycling and waste reduction. Trailers were purchased with grant funds and placed in communities on a rotating basis to provide recycling opportunities for Cass County residents. Volunteers and city employees have generously provided time and monetary resources to continue the trailer program and prevent many recyclable materials from entering landfills. Over time, many communities have adopted curbside recycling and no longer felt the need to use the portable trailers. But for those in the rural areas, curbside recycling is not feasible due to increased transportation costs for haulers. With fewer trailers in service, we'd like to remind everyone how to respect and support this county program.



Here are some guidelines to help you with your recycling:

- Rinse food containers, no food or trash. No wet materials in the trailer.
- Please empty all plastic and garbage bags when putting recyclables in the trailer.
- Not all plastics can be recycled in the trailers: no soft plastics such as bread bags, plastic grocery bags, garbage bags, saranwrap and clear plastic wrap around water bottles. Recycle these items at your local grocery store at the recycling drop-off area.
- Break down and flatten all cardboard boxes to save space and put them in the trailer. (Volunteers/employees don't have time to do this.)
- Do not leave **any** materials on the ground, beside or behind the trailer. All materials are to be placed inside the trailer. Leaving them outside the trailer is littering and illegal dumping.
- Anyone may take recyclables for drop off at First Star Recycling in Omaha or Lincoln.
- Consult <https://firststarrecycling.com/recycling-guide/> for more recycling information.



With the Covid-19 pandemic, we regret that we were unable to have our annual KCCB Appreciation Event in March. So, we are postponing the face-to-face celebration until next year. We truly appreciate all of you who helped transport and empty the recycling trailers, the volunteers who helped with litter cleanups, beautification projects, recycling events, the annual household hazardous waste collection, educators at the KCCB Youth Environmental Fair and Pastor Jon and his volunteer team who helped with flood relief efforts. Thank you for your time and service to KCCB and the Cass County community.

KCCB Clips and Tips

Looking for more resources to engage your kids this summer? We've missed coming to classrooms and giving live presentations for youth and adults, so we've launched a **BRAND NEW** environmental education online program called "KCCB Environmental Clips and Tips". Each week look for a new resource, either a video or an activity, on Facebook and our website to extend your learning. Some of the resources will be for kids and some for adults. Our first clip is a video recording of the story [Retrieving with EVIE](#) read by Dana, our new educator. Click the link above or you can also find it on the KCCB webpage education resource tab. It's great for dog lovers and pre-school through lower elementary youth. Enjoy!



Welcome our new board member Dana Stahl

Dana officially joined the KCCB Board of Directors in February. She's from Murray and previously worked for six years at the Harvey County Conservation District in Newton, Kansas. Dana says, "I loved working there educating youth to adults about conservation practices, recycling, teaching about pollinators and habitats. Due to my husband getting a new job in Omaha, I had to leave the district job. I was sad about leaving conservation and was excited to meet Linda at a church picnic where she had recycle bins and information about KCCB. I am very passionate about conservation, so this was a perfect way for me to continue being involved and helping educate. Some of my hobbies include volunteering and fostering for Town and Country Humane Society saving dogs. I've fostered over 100 dogs the past 8 years. I also love training and barrel racing horses. I'm an avid reader and especially like historical fiction and biographies. WWII and the Great Depression are my favorite era. I love to cook and walk my dogs daily. I also absolutely love traveling all over; I've visited all 50 states and over 25 countries. I'm currently a substitute teacher for all grades and subjects as well as a Real Estate Agent in the Beaver Lake/Cass County Area. We enjoy hosting exchange students and have hosted four in the past from Spain, Germany and South Korea."



LITTERING: COVID-19 has created more litter in our communities. Please properly dispose any PPE in trash receptacles and help prevent the possible spread of the virus. If you see someone littering from their vehicle, report the incident by calling the litter hotline or reporting on line at [Keep Nebraska Beautiful](#). All types of trash and all types of vehicles are subject to reporting, as long as you are able to provide the license plate number, date & time, location, type of vehicle and type of litter. You can report anything from cigarette butts to large commercial waste. Reporters will remain anonymous. Please help us reduce roadside litter, preserve our natural environment and save taxpayer money that is spent

REPORT LITTERING
1-877
NO LITTR
(665-4887)

cleaning discarded trash of careless motorists. **In the state of Nebraska, littering is a crime and carries a maximum fine punishable by up to one year imprisonment, \$1,000 fine, or both.**

Start with a BOOM; End with a BROOM

Fireworks create litter and debris that contain heavy metals and harmful chemicals. These substances can pollute air, water and soil. When it rains, these pollutants can enter storm drains which lead to local waterways. You can help by cleaning up your fire-works debris this Fourth of July.

BE SAFE AND FOLLOW THESE EASY STEPS:

- Have the right cleanup equipment ready.
- Allow spent fireworks to sit for several minutes—ensure fire-works are completely extinguished before approaching.
- Use a broom to sweep up debris.
- As a final precaution, temporarily place spent fireworks in a metal bucket or a bucket with sand or water. Place cool fireworks in regular trash for disposal. **Be a good neighbor and pick up your firework litter!**



Louisville Cub Scouts Pack 353 will be collecting aluminum cans for recycling the week of July 4 at the following locations: Louisville: Senior Center, Cedar Creek: in the park, South Bend: by the community bulletin board. Proceeds will help the Scouts build their fund to purchase a trailer to hold camping supplies. Last year this cub scout pack collected over 3,300 pounds of aluminum. Let's help them surpass that amount this year! Did you know that aluminum cans be recycled and back on the supermarket shelf as new cans in as little as 60 days?



Support KCCB While Shopping Any Time of the Year at [Smile.amazon.com](#)

AmazonSmile customers can now support KCCB in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions. 1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device. 2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into "Settings." 3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process. Thanks for your support!