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Our mission: to inspire and educate individuals to take daily actions to improve and beautify their community environment.

KCCB Board of Directors

President: Debbie Vidlak
Vice President: Terry Lorensen
Secretary: Rachel Brandenburg
Treasurer: Lois Froistad
Members: Karin Forrest, Elizabeth Umshler

Exec. Director: Dana Stahl

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

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

NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Close the loop...Buy recycled!



"Thank You" 2022 KCCB Partners

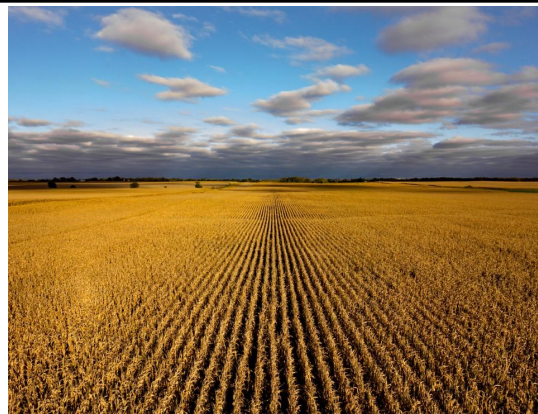
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Keep Cass County "Beautiful News"

Quarterly Newsletter Summer 2022 Issue#30 www.keepcasscountybeautiful.org

KEEP NEBRASKA BEAUTIFUL DAY & Plastic Free July

Keep Nebraska Beautiful Day was June 26th this year. The day focused the state's attention on the importance of keeping Nebraska communities clean, green and beautiful. All Nebraskans were encouraged to volunteer in their communities on June 26 or anytime during the week to pick up litter, plant or display flowers, beautify neighborhoods and work to end littering in our state. KCCB is excited to have a day dedicated to celebrating our state and encour-



aging citizens to care for it!

With our busy schedule this year, and many other commitments, we decided not to host our own event but instead wanted to encourage each individual to take at least one small action toward beautifying or cleaning up their community. Even now, it's not too late! We still hope you'll adopt the "one piece of litter per day" challenge for 2022! In addition, we wanted to share some impactful tips for reducing waste in honor of plastic free July, here are a few tips for creating more beautiful, sustainable communities! If you do something beautiful or make a life change towards sustainability, we'd LOVE to hear about it!

#dobeautifulthingscasscounty #plasticfreejuly #reduceuserecycle



KCCB sets a record year for education!

KCCB had a record year for education in the 2021-2022 school year. We provided lessons for all elementary students Prek-5th grade in spring and fall, we provided after school lessons once a month for Plattsmouth and Conestoga all year & directed the recycle club at Conestoga. We also provided lessons for many middle school students and are now in the midst of our summer school programs. Topics covered included Recycling 101, composting, reducing waste, litter prevention, pollinators, and litter cleanups. It has definitely been a year of education! We thank all the schools and teachers for their ongoing partnership!



KCCB Electronic & Appliance Recycling Events

We kicked off our electronic recycling events in Weeping Water and Elmwood this spring. Thanks to the help of our amazing board members and volunteers thousands of pounds of E waste have been diverted from the landfills. If you missed the first two events? No worries, we will have two more this fall!

Fall Dates and locations will be:

September 17 - Beaver Lake 9:00-12:00 (large appliances included)

October 8- Louisville (1st & Cherry Street) from 9:00 - noon (large appliances included)
Anything with a battery or cord will be accepted.

Limit of 2 large appliances per household at the Louisville event. Fees apply to alkaline batteries, all styles of televisions (including flat screens) and CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) items.

Come to the Cass County Fair: August 10-13

KCCB will have a booth in the Expo building and we'll be recycling plastic bottles, aluminum cans and cardboard on the fairgrounds again. Bring any old cell phones and rechargeable batteries to our booth for recycling and get a free giveaway. Kids can stop by for a litter scavenger hunt and check out our composting worms. We'll have free environmental information and recycled newspaper pencils. Stop by and see us to ask your environmental questions. We'll do our best to answer them.



Sustainability
Spotlight
Feature

Slattery Vintage Estates

by Dana Stahl, Director

Nestled in the heart of rural Cass County, Slattery Vintage Estates offers a unique getaway, night out or even a special place to say “I do.” Being a frequent visitor of SVE, I had noticed on my previous visits that Slattery is in many ways committed to sustainability. Interested in hearing more about their story, I

took a trip out to Slattery Vintage Estates to learn more about SVE and their origins from owner/manager, Barb Slattery.

Purchasing the land in the 90’s and planting a vineyard in 2001, Barb had the vision of eventually opening a Bed and Breakfast. The house was finally built in 2006 , but it was decided due to complications, to set the Bed and breakfast idea aside and instead open a tasting room for Nebraska wines. “We slowly started hosting weddings and opened our Glamping in 2010, we were the first place in Nebraska to start Glamping” Barb states proudly. Since it’s inception, Slattery Estates has welcomed over 100,000 people from all over the world to their unique space to relax in nature and share their love of Agritourism.

When It comes to sustainability, SVE is committed. Barb had just taken a large load of recyclables to the recycle center the day before I arrived. She noted that it’s a lot of work and a bit of a drive but feels it’s the right thing to do. Nearly all food scraps are fed to their chickens and additionally, the chickens keep the bugs at bay. Barb also commented that even our most affordable wedding package includes real dinnerware for the meal so we aren’t creating disposable waste. Walking around the grounds, Barb pointed out all the native plants they have for pollinators and stated that they only use insecticides when absolutely necessary (to protect the grapes). We are adding new recycle bins for our customers this year so they can take more ownership in helping us recycle instead of staff sorting and doing it all Barb noted. In addition, Barb shared that she hopes that taking a trip out to visit us, people that they can not only relax but are newly inspired to care for our resources and have a greater appreciation for Agriculture in Nebraska.

A few special events are booked for the summer such Cajun Fest July 23 and live music every Friday and Saturday evening! For more information about SVE, visit svevineyards.com We are so

thankful to Barb, Mike and Sarah for all your efforts to provide such a nice place to spend time in Cass County and for your continued commitment to sustainability and Agritourism.



Second Annual “Trash to Treasure” Workshop a success!

This years workshop brought seven talented participants! We offered the choice of three different crafts. Crafts included repurposing old T-shirts into reusable bags, making picture frames out of cardboard and puzzle pieces and lastly the most challenging one, making a basket out of reused newspapers! Each student was able to make at least two crafts which they can enter in the Cass County fair this year if they choose to. Their creativity shined and both adults and students alike had a great time. If you’re interested in signing up your child for next year, please contact us!



Recycling at the Cattlemen’s Ball

KCCB undertook a large role at the Cattlemen’s ball this year held at the Cass County Fairgrounds. The Cattlemen’s ball is a once a year fundraiser for cancer research and is held in a different location each year. KCCB provided 26 recycle bins at the fairgrounds and hauled over 750lbs of cans, bottles and cardboard in to be recycled instead of ending up in the landfills. It was a gargantuan task but we know it had a big impact.



Eleven Trees planted in Cass County through a Keep Nebraska Beautiful/ UPS grant!

With the help of many enthusiastic volunteers, eleven new trees were planted in Cass County! Conestoga Elementary school received nine trees to provide more beauty and shade for the students and two additional trees were added to Cedar Creek ball park area. The variety of trees planted were maples, oak and river birch and were purchased from Mr. Landscape who also donated a small amount of mulch and compost and the Conestoga PTO purchased the rest of the mulch. We are so grateful for all the help and support we received and look forward to seeing these trees grow! If you’re interested in helping us water the trees this summer, please reach out to us and we can assign a date.



Support KCCB While Shopping Any Time of the Year at Smile.amazon.com

Select **Keep Cass County Beautiful** to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation of 0.5% to KCCB. Thanks for your support!