CHAPTER 5:
Land Management Programs

The Land Management Program's objectives are to ensure solid and hazardous wastes are properly managed, assess and remediate contaminated sites, facilitate the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties and administer grant programs that advance waste reduction and recycling practices throughout the state. This chapter will begin discussion with the waste grant programs, the voluntary cleanup program, and is followed by activities performed by the hazardous waste (RCRA), Superfund and solid waste management programs.

Waste Grants Programs

The Grants Section manages the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program and the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grants Program; Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program; and Landfill Disposal Fee Rebate Program.

The Section's responsibilities include:

- Awards financial aid to public and private partners – reviews grant submissions; performs compliance inspections; monitors the activities, budgets, and equipment purchases of grantees; and conducts quarterly performance report reviews.
- Outreach – Promotes the availability of grant funding, coordinates the ranking process, coordinates grant awards, and provides integrated waste management information to the public.

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy/Nebraska Environmental Trust Partnership

Since July 2018, the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the Nebraska Environmental Trust continue a partnership to ensure agency resources are managed in a fiscally responsible manner by agreeing to:

- Participate in the grant review process on those projects where there is a potential for grant awards from both organizations.
- Appoint individuals who will ensure coordination occurs between the organizations.
- Commit to revising the partnership anytime there is a personnel change, new grant programs are created, or existing programs end or are substantially modified.
- Share information on grant awards and grantees that are non-compliant with award conditions or environmental regulatory requirements.
- Meet annually and when critical program or project needs arise for the purpose of discussing issues of mutual concern and opportunities to enhance the partnership.

Litter Percentage Allocation

At the Environmental Quality Council meeting on November 14, 2024, a hearing was held to decide the 2025 Litter Percentage Allocation. Each year, the Council establishes the percentage of how the funds will be allocated for recycling, public education, and cleanup programs or projects. The Department's recommended percentage allocations for 2025 were based on the actual applications received:

Category	2025 Eligible Requests	
Recycling	52%	$2,217,985
Public Education	46%	$1,973,446
Cleanup	2%	$105,007
Totals	100%	$4,296,438

The Department asked for the ability to adjust the percentages by up to 20% for the 2025 grant year, if warranted. The Environmental Quality Council approved this request.

Expected Service Life

The Grants Section programs utilize an expected service life procedure for grant-funded equipment. The expected service life determines how long the grantee is responsible for reporting the status of grant-funded equipment to NDEE and how long NDEE maintains a financial interest in the equipment.

An expected service life is assigned to all equipment purchased with grant funds (in whole or in part) that has a value of $5,000 or more per item. Equipment costing less than $5,000 can be assigned an expected service life on a case-by-case basis. Purchase of equipment is documented at the time of purchase. At the end of the grant period, the grantee is provided with a sticker to properly identify the grant-funded equipment and is notified of the length of the expected service life.

Equipment Redistribution

When grant-funded equipment with an existing expected service life is no longer being used, it is made available for redistribution to other users.

Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program

In 1990, the Nebraska Legislature passed Legislative Bill 163, the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act, which created the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program.

There are three sources of revenue for this program:

- A business fee on sales of tangible personal property, which generates about $500,000 annually.
- A $1 per tire fee on the retail sale of new tires in Nebraska, which generates about $2.4 million annually.
- Fifty percent of the $1.25 per ton disposal fee on solid waste disposed of in permitted landfills, which generates approximately $1.4 million annually for grant awards.

The Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund provides grants to private, non-profit, and

government organizations to assist in financing sound integrated waste management programs and projects.

These programs and projects may include but are not limited to:

- Recycling systems
- Market development for recyclable materials
- Intermediate processing facilities and facilities using recyclable materials in new products
- Food waste composting
- Yard waste composting and composting with sewage sludge
- Waste reduction and waste exchange
- Household hazardous waste (HHW) programs
- Electronic waste collections
- Pharmaceutical collections
- The consolidation of solid waste disposal facilities and use of transfer stations
- Incineration for energy recovery

A portion of the grant funds are obligated to fund scrap tire recycling and/or reduction projects, and another portion of the grant funds are available to smaller cities and counties for abandoned building deconstruction.

Fund Summary Waste Reduction and Recycling Fund July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	
Fund Balance June 30, 2024	**$2,291,413**
Revenues:	
New Tire Fees	$2,356,329
Business Fee	$836,081
Solid Waste Disposal Fee	$1,730,440
Interest, Grant Returns	$76,893
Miscellaneous	$0
Operating Transfers Out	($120,000)
Net Collections for FY Year 2025	**$4,879,743**
Expenditures:	
Administration	$339,936
Grant Funds Expended*	$4,508,411
Total Expenditures FY 2025	**$4,848,347**
Fund Balance June 30, 2025	**$2,322,809**

** Because grants funds are expended on a reimbursement basis, total grant funds expended in a fiscal year will differ from the amount of grants awarded in that fiscal year.*

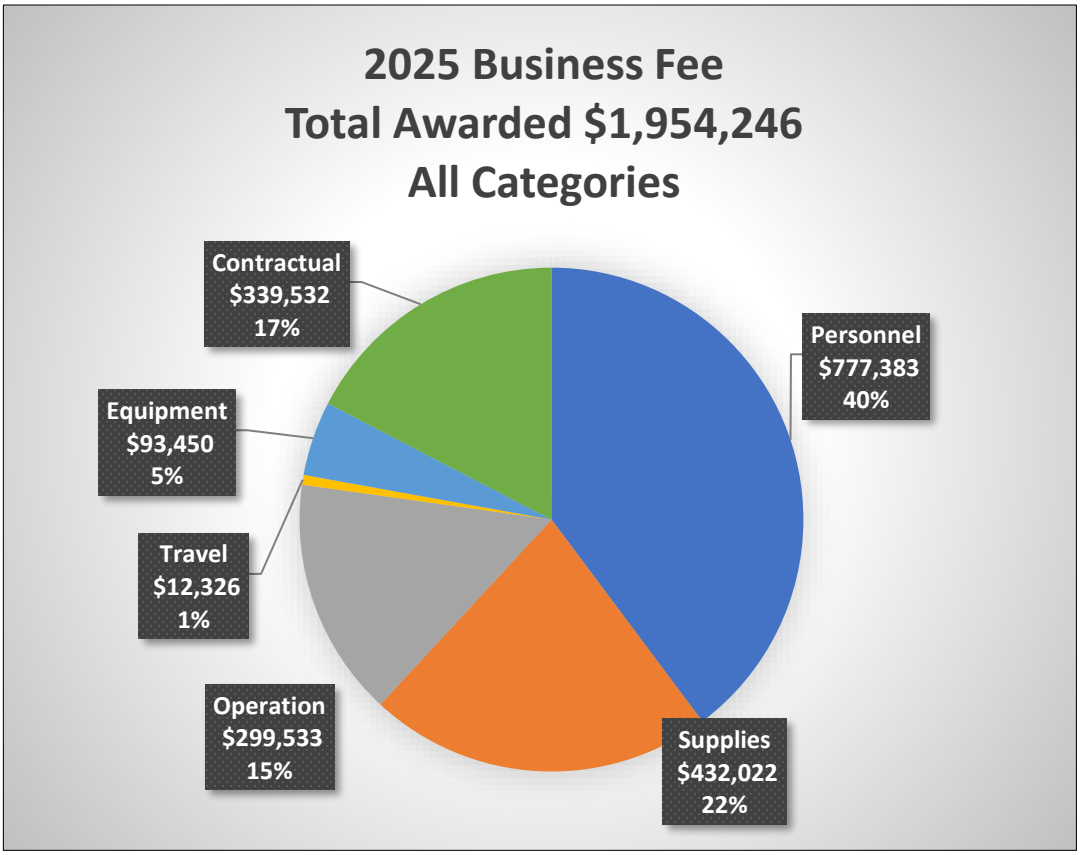
For calendar year 2025, the department awarded $5,502,343 for Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants to 81 projects. There were14 grants awarded from the Business Fee

category ($1,954,246), 10 awarded from the Disposal Fee category ($1,047,178), and 58 awarded from the funds prioritized for scrap tire projects ($2,500,919).

Funds received in the Business Fee, Disposal Fee, and Tire Fee categories are represented by the following graphs. Locations across Nebraska that received funds are represented by the following lists.

Waste Reduction & Recycling Grants for FY 2025

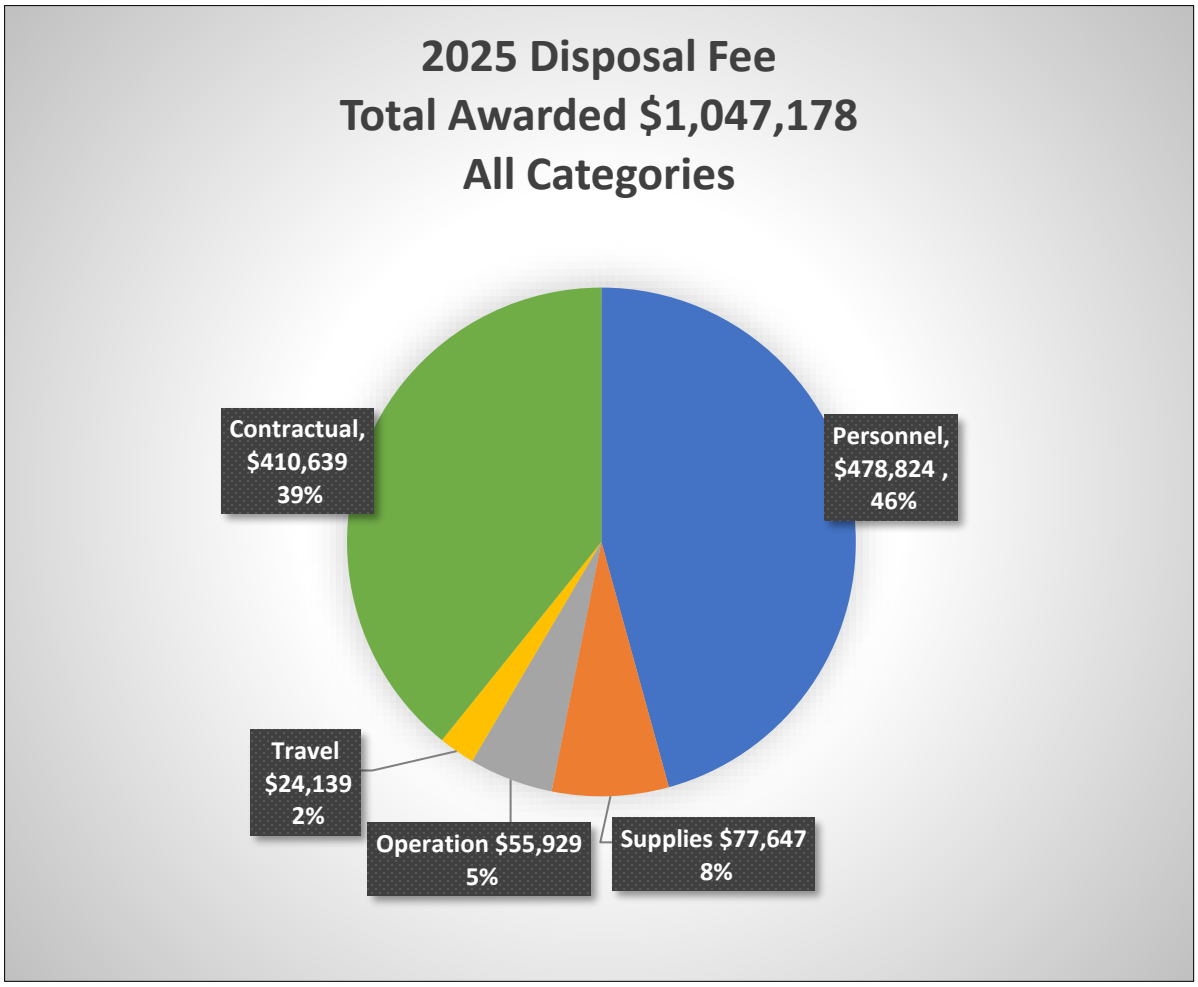
Business Fee

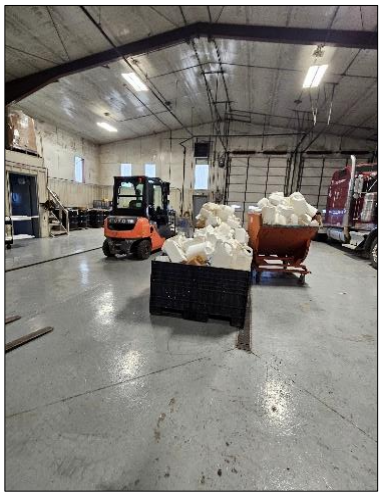


Pictures provided by Keep Chadron Beautiful who was awarded funds to enhance their recycling efforts for corrugated cardboard and white office paper.

Business Fee: $1,954,246 for 14 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	$131,038.00	Funds for operation of the recycling center and education materials
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$74,159.00	Funds to continue the cardboard and office paper recycling for the City of Chadron
Fremont	Keep Fremont Beautiful	$24,083.00	Hold one-day electronics recycling event open to Platte County residents
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	$152,478.00	Funds to continue the HHW facility and properly dispose of materials
Grand Island	Grand Island Disposal, Inc. d/b/a Heartland Disposal	$173,201.00	Funds to purchase 94-gallon yard waste bins; skid loader and trailer to transport bins and recyclables
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	$17,094.00	Funds to continue residential recycling services and expand to the rural residents which will increase recyclables sent to the recycling center
Lexington	Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency	$59,151.00	Funds to host a one-day HHW collection event
Lincoln	Board of Regents, University of Nebraska, University of Nebraska-	$429,286.00	Funds to purchase waste/recycling stations for non-academic buildings
Lincoln	Keep Nebraska Beautiful	$204,000.00	Funds to operate food waste, material exchange, used oil collection, and a school chemical cleanout program statewide
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$157,130.00	Salary for Assistant Sustainability Coordinator to manage various district recycling, waste reduction and diversion programs, and organic composting programs, and other supply costs
Murray	Keep Cass County Beautiful	$2,257.00	Funds to host three electronic recycling collection events at three different locations
Oakland	Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council Inc	$52,564.00	Funds to host three HHW collection events
Ogallala	Western Resources Group	$395,707.00	Funds for the regional processing and shipping facility for recycled materials
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	$82,098.00	Funds to hold a HHW event and Rx take back for the residents of Scottsbluff, Gering, and surrounding areas

Disposal Fee





Pictures provided by Red Willow County Household Hazardous Waste who was awarded funds to continue household hazardous waste collection through their new collection box program.

Disposal Fee: $1,047,178 for 10 grants			
Hastings	City of Hastings, Solid Waste Department	$14,008.00	Host one-day electronics recycling event
Kearney	City of Kearney/Kearney Area Recycling Center	$37,267.00	Operate a HHW facility
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	$359,518.00	Maintain and expand management services for hazardous waste
Lincoln	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	$58,957.00	Direct on-site waste reduction assistance to three Nebraska businesses focused on reducing their solid waste disposal
McCook	Red Willow County Household Hazardous Waste	$150,000.00	Manage Red Willow HW facility in McCook and transport HW for several other entities
Omaha	City of Omaha -- UnderTheSink HHW Regional Collection Facility	$371,839.00	Operate HHW Facility
Sidney	City of Sidney	$23,791.00	Operate recycling facility
Wayne	City of Wayne	$ 5,324.00	Continue household battery recycling program
Wayne	City of Wayne	$8,776.00	Hold annual one-day electronic recycling event
York	Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District	$17,698.00	Join Upper Big Blue NRD in a HHW event that will expand to include agriculture chemicals

Tire Fee

The scrap tire grants are funded by the $1 per tire fee on retail sales of new tires. In 2025, $2,518,134 was awarded to 63 projects.

- Scrap tire cleanup events: 22 grants, $1,007,898 awarded
- Completed projects for the partial reimbursement of the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber: 36 grants, $1,493,021 awarded
- Proposed projects for the partial reimbursement for the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber: 5 grants, $17,215

Scrap Tire Cleanup Events

Funding is provided to political subdivisions for tire collection site cleanups. Twenty-two scrap tire cleanup grants were awarded in 2025 to political subdivisions. The grants totaled $1,007,898 and proposed to clean up 6,005 tons of scrap tires.

Scrap Tire Cleanup Events: 22 grants, $1,007,898 awarded			
Central City	Merrick County Highway Dept	$34,360.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Albion	City of Albion	$22,790.00	Cleanup of 130 tons
Alma	Lower Republican Natural Resources District	$30,282.00	Cleanup of 200 tons
Aurora	Hamilton County Highway Department	$30,750.00	Cleanup of 200 tons
Benkelman	City of Benkelman	$18,732.00	Cleanup of 125 tons
Columbus	City of Columbus	$46,102.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Davenport	Little Blue Natural Resources District	$30,282.00	Cleanup of 200 tons
Fremont	City of Fremont	$60,600.00	Cleanup of 400 tons
Grand Island	Hall County Highway Department	$40,500.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Hartington	Cedar County	$165,396.00	Cleanup of 1000 tons
Holdrege	City of Holdrege	$49,136.00	Cleanup of 350 tons
Mullen	Village of Mullen	$10,528.00	Cleanup of 50 tons
Nebraska City	County of Otoe dba. Otoe County	$87,568.00	Cleanup of 600 tons
Nelson	Nuckolls County Road Department	$24,230.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Ogallala	Keith County	$69,000.00	Cleanup of 500 tons
Omaha	City of Omaha - Public Works Department	$87,528.00	Cleanup of 200 tons
Pierce	Pierce County	$23,114.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Ponca	Dixon County	$13,552.00	Cleanup of 100 tons
Schuyler	City of Schuyler	$46,102.00	Cleanup of 250 tons
Stockville	Frontier County	$22,194.00	Cleanup of 150 tons
Valentine	Middle Niobrara NRD	$41,888.00	Cleanup of 200 tons
Wayne	Wayne County Roads Dept.	$53,264.00	Cleanup of 300 tons

Pictures are provided by Keep Keith County Beautiful who held a scrap tire collection event and collected an estimated 741 tons

Scrap Tire Partial Reimbursement for Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber Grants

In 2025, $1,493,021 was awarded to 36 projects to partially reimburse the purchase of tire-derived products and/or crumb rubber.

Picture provided by the Lincoln Public School, which was awarded for partial reimbursement of artificial turf made with crumb rubber for their new Northwest High School football field.

Partial Reimbursement for the Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber-Completed Projects: 36 projects, $1,493,021 awarded			
Bridgeport	Bridgeport Public Schools	$4,256.00	25% Completed Tiles
Fort Calhoun	Fort Calhoun Community Schools	$110,432.00	25% Completed Turf
Kenesaw	Kenesaw Public School	$4,525.00	50% Completed Mulch
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$7,436.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$3,234.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$5,004.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$1,846.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$1,437.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$2,701.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$5,833.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation	$6,919.00	25% Completed Tiles
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$67,429.00	25% Completed Track
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$63,439.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$97,464.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$89,594.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$47,884.00	25% Completed Track
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$109,582.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	$100,000.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Lincoln Sports Foundation	$17,045.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Nebraska Sports Center LLC	$29,154.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Campus Recreation	$136,697.00	25% Completed Turf
Lincoln	Star City Optimist Youth Foundation	$75,898.00	25% Completed Turf
Omaha	Fort Calhoun Community Schools	$32,245.00	25% Completed Track
Omaha	Omaha Public Schools	$6,241.00	50% Completed Mulch

Oshkosh	Garden County Schools	$314.00	50% Completed Mulch
Papillion	Papillion LaVista Community Schools	$153,775.00	25% Completed Turf
Papillion	Papillion LaVista Community Schools	$58,589.00	25% Completed Turf
Papillion	Papillion LaVista Schools	$158,800.00	25% Completed Turf
Papillion	Papillion LaVista Schools	$48,662.00	25% Completed Turf
Plainview	City of Plainview	$20,493.00	50% Completed Mulch
York	Epworth Village Inc, DBA Epworth Family Resources	$8,878.00	50% Completed Mulch

Partial Reimbursement for the Purchase of Tire-Derived Products and/or Crumb Rubber- Proposed Projects: 5 projects, $17,215 awarded			
Friend	Andrew Cemetery, Friend, Nebraska	$454.00	25% Proposed Benches
Lincoln	RGEM Investments LLC	$2,250.00	50% Proposed Mulch
Morrill	Village of Morrill	$4,629.00	50% Proposed Mulch
Mullen	Village of Mullen	$6,048.00	50% Proposed Mulch
Superior	Nuckolls County Childcare Center	$3,834.00	50% Proposed Mulch

Deconstruction of Abandoned Buildings

The Deconstruction of Abandoned Buildings grant program, part of the Department's Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive grant program, provides funding to assist in the removal of abandoned structures. Building deconstruction means the physical dismantlement of a building's components to recover the materials for reuse or recycling. The process decreases the amount of demolition material lawfully disposed of in landfills or improperly disposed of elsewhere. Nebraska first- and second-class cities, villages, and counties with a population of 99,000 or less are eligible to apply for funding. The buildings selected must not be on, or eligible to be on, the National Register of Historic Places.

Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program

The Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program, established in 1997, is a Waste Reduction and Recycling cleanup program that provides funding assistance to political subdivisions for the cleanup of solid waste disposed of along public roadways or ditches. Through this program, household waste, white goods, construction and demolition waste, tires, furniture, yard waste, and some hazardous wastes are removed from the illegal site and disposed of in a permitted facility or recycled.

Funding for this program is limited to 5% of the total revenue from the disposal fee collected from landfills in the preceding fiscal year. NDEE encourages municipalities, counties, and other political subdivisions to submit applications for the reimbursement of cleanup efforts. In FY2025, the program provided 20 grants, totaling $63,807.58. Funds were provided to:

Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Awards		
Lincoln/Lancaster County - 9	City of Omaha – 7	Seward County - 3
Adams County – 1		

Landfill Disposal Fee Rebate Program

The Landfill Disposal Fee Rebate Program was created as an incentive to political subdivisions to support and encourage the purchasing of products, materials, or supplies that are manufactured or produced from recycled material. Funding for the program is from the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund.

Under the program, which was created in 1994, any municipality or county may apply for a rebate if they have a written purchasing policy requiring a preference for purchasing products, materials or supplies that are manufactured or produced from recycled material. If the policy is approved by NDEE, the applicant may receive a 10-cent rebate from the $1.25 per ton disposal fee. Rebates are provided no more than quarterly and no less than annually.

In FY2025, the program provided $115,422.37 to three counties and five cities participating in the program. All twelve participants processed their requests through email. This option helps to meet our agency's goals for waste reduction efforts and process improvement.

Landfill Disposal Rebate Recipients					
City of Cozad	$368.21	City of Omaha	$76,871.77	Saline County	$2,061.40
City of David City	$363.86	City of Grant	$117.75	Seward County	$1,104.85
City of Lincoln	$30,289.28	City of North Platte	$4,245.25		

Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program

The Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program has been in existence since 1979. Its purpose is to provide funds to support programs to reduce litter, provide education, and promote recycling in Nebraska. Funds from this program are provided from an annual fee assessed to manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers having gross receipts of at least $100,000 on products that commonly contribute to litter. For manufacturers, the annual litter fee is $175 for each million dollars of products manufactured. The annual litter fee for wholesalers and retailers is $175 for each million dollars of sales made in the state. Approximately $2 million is received annually.

The annual litter fee is imposed on products in the following categories:

- Food for human consumption, beverages, soft drinks, carbonated water, liquor, wine, beer, and other malt beverages, unless sold by retailers solely for consumption indoors on the retailer's premises
- Food for pet consumption
- Cigarettes and other tobacco products
- Household paper and household paper products
- Cleaning agents
- Kitchen supplies

Fund Summary Litter Reduction and Recycling Fund July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	
Fund Balance June 30, 2024	**$3,916,230**
Revenues:	
Litter Taxes Collected	$3,174,204
Interest, Grant Returns	$38,044
Miscellaneous Adjustment	$0
Operating Transfer Out	($20,000)
Net Collections for FY 2025	**$3,192,248**
Expenditures:	
NDEE Administration	$178,421
Grant Funds Expended*	$2,688,930
Total Expenditures FY 2025	**$2,867,351**
Fund Balance June 30, 2025	**$4,241,127**

**Because grants funds are expended on a reimbursement basis, total grant funds expended in a fiscal year will differ from the amount of grants awarded in that fiscal year.*

Grant Allocations - Litter Reduction and Recycling Fund

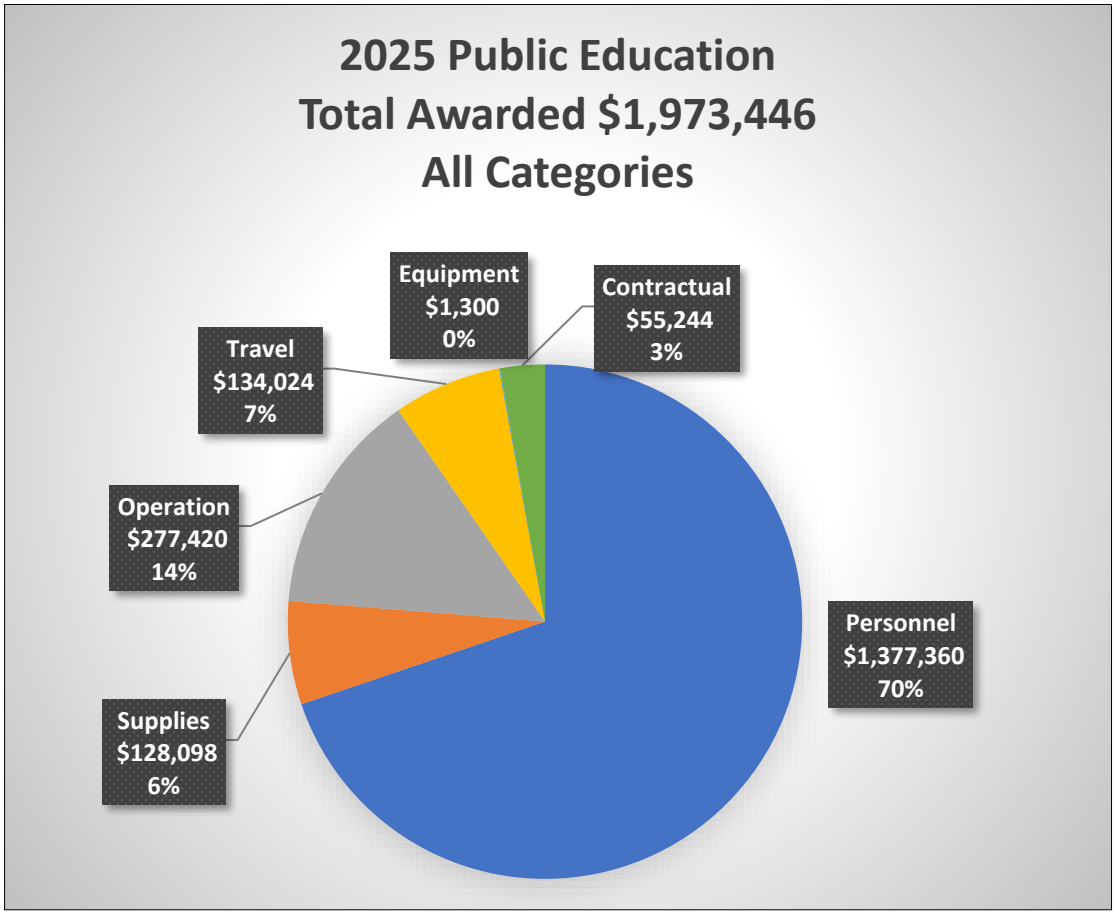
In 2025, $4,296,438 was awarded to 54 Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant recipients. Grant funding is awarded to several types of programs, including non-profit groups, public and private entities, and over 20 Keep America Beautiful affiliates. Many of these programs utilize the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program funds to leverage additional dollars for a comprehensive, statewide approach to litter reduction and recycling.

The breakdown is as follows:

Public Education	(46%)	24 grants	$ 1,973,446
Cleanup	(2%)	11 grants	$ 105,007
Recycling	(52%)	19 grants	$ 2,217,985
Totals	**100%**	**54 grants**	**$ 4,296,438**

Public Education

In 2025, the department awarded 24 grants totaling $1,973,446 under the category of Public Education. The Public Education programs educate citizens in the areas of litter reduction, cleanup, and recycling through a variety of individual and community activities.



Photos provided by Keep Omaha Beautiful who was awarded public education on litter reduction through classroom presentations, community education on source and litter reduction, recycling, food waste elimination, and sustainable waste management.

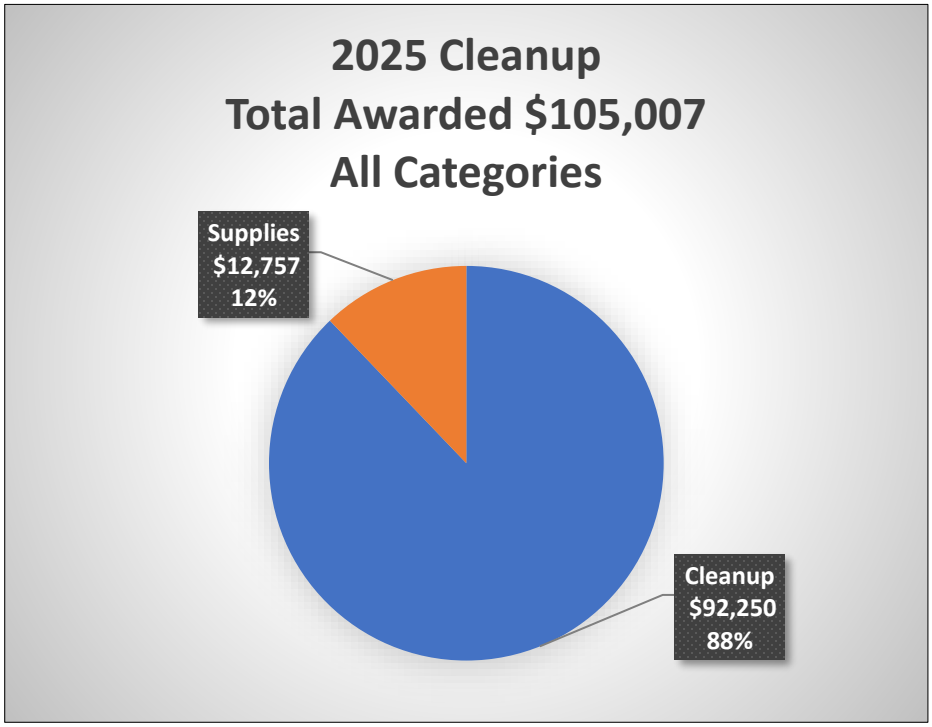
Public Education Awards: $1,973,446 for 24 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	$36,905.00	Provides litter reduction and recycling education. This includes school programs, summer camps at the library, Earth Day and America Recycles Day programs and community events at library and rec center. Recycling center for education.
Beatrice	Keep Beatrice Beautiful	$102,635.00	Litterbag distribution, annual newsletter and website promoting litter reduction and recycling, Earth Day flyers, educational booths at community events, promotion of cleanup events.
Burwell	Loup Basin RC&D Council/Keep Loup Basin Beautiful	$49,623.00	Waste reduction and recycling education. Event recycling for fairs and festivals. Partners for recycling trailers, electronics and battery recycling, bicycle repurposing, scrap metal and iron cleanup, and Burwell Clothing Closet.
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$103,892.00	Classroom presentations and activities on littering and recycling; community presentations; recycling at public events; public service announcements about special events; sponsoring community cleanups.
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	$56,642.00	Provide education and services to the public to increase recycling and litter prevention awareness. Operates 2 recycling trailers for curbside recycling, further develop local recycling programs; and provide hard to recycle material programs.
Fremont	Keep Fremont Beautiful	$108,763.00	Community and school presentations, workshops, fairs, campaigns, print materials, and digital media on recycling; promotion of recycling events.
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	$60,601.00	Educates on recycling through in class programs, distributing brochures with local recycling resources, and being present at events to educate the public.
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	$24,928.00	Educational programs on recycling in Kimball and Banner County schools and summer programs; provide printed materials with City of Kimball utility bill; publicize litter-free events via newsletters and social media.
Lexington	Keep Lexington Beautiful	$85,470.00	Recycling and landfill education in schools 4 days/wk plus summer classes; host summer cleanups; working with elderly residents and with student parents to reach older populations.
Lincoln	City of Lincoln-Solid Waste Management	$36,135.00	Improve food and recycling waste diversion by identifying and how food is wasted, barriers to curbside recycling, and lack of awareness. Will purchase materials for educators, books for education in school libraries, perform outreach and travel for professional development.

Lincoln	Keep Nebraska Beautiful	$128,725.00	Operating Nebraska Litter Hotline in six counties; working with 149 locations to educate students throughout 40 communities; working with schools on litter cleanups; providing recycling curriculum to Community Learning Centers, affiliate coordination for KAB.
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	$149,118.00	Classroom presentations, outreach to festivals/events, and strategic messaging. Encourage litter cleanups to individuals/organizations. Address external barriers that cause littering.
Lincoln	Nebraska Recycling Council	$103,917.00	Support, promote/increase organics recycling, food recovery, compost, biochar, and waste reduction. Educate organics/compost, add to NRC data/mapping. Research best practice food waste disposal reducing GHGs. Climate action plan foundation with NE 2024/2025 waste characterization study.
Lincoln	Nebraska Recycling Council	$176,482.00	Public education program focuses on litter reduction, waste reduction, recycling, proper household hazardous waste disposal, and recognition. Projects are in three main categories: Public Education and Information, Recycling and Proper Disposal Promotion.
Murray	Keep Cass County Beautiful	$102,454.00	Provide education and resources for litter prevention and waste reduction. Will teach about littering and efficient resource management by avoiding and minimizing waste through reusing, reducing, recovery, and recycling.
Nebraska City	Keep Nebraska City Beautiful	$70,054.00	Litter cleanups, recycling in schools, education to create public awareness for the harmful effects of litter. Added Christmas lights recycling, ink cartridge, toner and battery recycling to office programs. Aiming to start city wide recycling drop off.
Norfolk	Keep Norfolk Beautiful	$27,811.00	School presentations, advertising and distribution of materials on recycling and litter cleanup events; planning and conduction recycling and litter cleanup events.
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	$110,311.00	Instill environmental values through summer camps, cleanups, and community events. Will educate classrooms, employees, and industry on environment, recycling, and reducing waste. Goals also include reducing local litter/waste, and increasing recycling.
Ogallala	Keep Kieth County Beautiful, Inc.	$118,527.00	Provide education and community programs about environmental issues, and recycling rights. Litter reduction through source reduction, increasing Hefty Renew bag usage, recycling right, food waste elimination and sustainable waste management.
Omaha	Keep Omaha Beautiful	$181,625.00	Programs on litter prevention, waste reduction, recycling, and composting: 1) school-based education; 2) community outreach; 3) curriculum workshops for

			educators; 4) multi-media Recycle Right education campaign.
Schuyler	Keep Schuyler Beautiful	$31,899.00	Litter reduction/recycling education with school presentations and distributing educational materials at public events. Will do cleanup events, pumpkin/tree take back, and Christmas light recycling.
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	$41,992.00	Educational presentations at public events, social media, and website updates; distribution of litter bags; promotion of Christmas tree recycling and other recycling/clean up events.
Sidney	Keep Sidney Beautiful	$58,612.00	Promote proper recycling, work with schools to establish recycling programs, host and participate in cleanup events, continue to combat ongoing litter problems and improper usage of recycling system.
Wayne	City of Wayne	$6,325.00	Education campaign on Zero Waste: (1) Zero Waste marketing campaign spread awareness how and where to reduce, reuse, and recycle in Wayne; (2) public events celebrating Earth Day; and (3) presentations on zero waste efforts/tips to schools, organizations, municipalities, and other requesting entities.

Cleanup

In 2025, the department awarded 11 grants totaling $105,007 under the category of Cleanup. The cleanup programs utilize Nebraska residents of all ages to pick up litter and debris along Nebraska's highways, waterways, recreation lands, urban areas, and other public-use areas within the state. The awarded cleanup grants propose to clean up litter from 892 road-side miles and 1,690 acres of public areas.

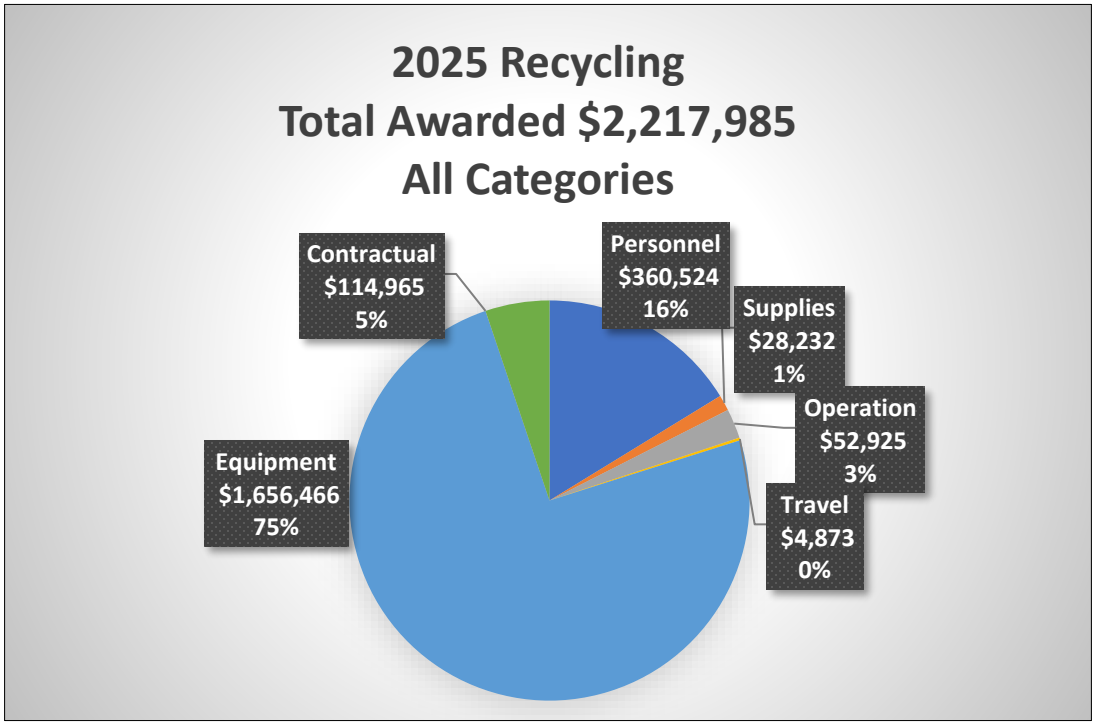


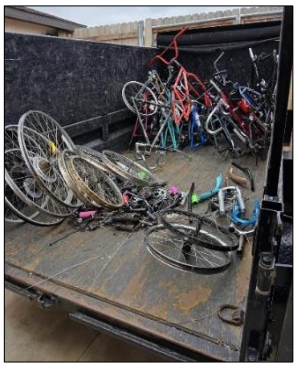
Pictures provided by Grand Island Area Clean Community System, who was awarded funding to clean up public roadways and areas around Grand Island.

Cleanup Awards: $105,007 for 11 grants			
Beatrice	Keep Beatrice Beautiful	$14,434.00	150mi @ $75 = $11,250, 90ac @ $15 = $1,350, Supplies=$1,834
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$7,585.00	100mi @ $75=$7,500. Supplies= $85
Grand Island	Grand Island Area Clean Community System	$7,059.00	80mi @ $75 = $6,000, 25ac @ $15 = $375, Supplies= $684
Lincoln	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department	$30,000.00	100mi @ $75 = $7,500, 1,500ac @ $15 = $22,500
Murray	Keep Cass County Beautiful	$2,250.00	20mi @ $75 = $1,500, 50ac @ $15 = $750
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	$24,855.00	320mi @ $75 = $24,000. Supplies=$855
Ogallala	Keep Keith County Beautiful, Inc.	$4,125.00	50mi @ $75 = $3,750, 25ac @ $15 = $375.
Omaha	Keep Omaha Beautiful	$8,275.00	Supplies=$8,275
Scottsbluff	Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful	$5,158.00	60mi @ $75 = $4,500.. Supplies = $658
Sidney	Keep Sidney Beautiful	$498.00	2mi $75 = $150. Supplies = $348
Steinauer	Steinauer Community Club	$768.00	10mi @ $75 = $750 Supplies = $18

Recycling

In 2025, the department awarded 19 grants totaling $2,217,985 under the category of Recycling. The recycling programs provide an alternative to the disposal of solid waste in Nebraska's landfills. The programs recycle more than just aluminum, paper, glass, and plastic. Materials such as electronic computer components, paint, aerosol cans, fertilizer, pesticides, and household hazardous waste are collected. Materials are either reprocessed to be used again or are disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner.





Pictures provided by the Lincoln Bike Kitchen, which was awarded funding to operate their bicycle recycling facility in Lincoln.

Recycling Awards: $2,217,985 for 19 grants			
Alliance	Keep Alliance Beautiful	$95,014.00	Operate a recycling center and program in Box Butte County. Added another baler for more efficient recycling processing. Implemented curbside recycling and a senior program. Presents at schools and organizations on recycling.
Chadron	Keep Chadron Beautiful	$12,640.00	Organize, promote, and stage a one-day electronic recycling event for the residents of Chadron and surrounding communities including Crawford, Rushville, Hay Springs, and Gordon.
Columbus	Keep Columbus Beautiful	$25,072.00	Collect recyclables at two drop-off locations and transport to Schuyler for sorting/processing; will maintain the 2 semi-trailers that pick up recycling.
Davenport	Little Blue Natural Resources District	$15,365.00	2-week Household Hazardous Waste Collection event for nine counties. Items recycled or reused to the highest degree; ex: oil, paint cans, chemicals, and batteries. Will educate, raise public awareness, and promote event.
Dodge	Village of Dodge	$11,708.00	Continue to educate and promote recycling in Dodge, Nebraska and surrounding areas. Provide recycling service for the Dodge and Snyder area along with a business outside of North Bend.
Kimball	Keep Kimball Beautiful	$77,711.00	Management and operation of Kimball Recycling Center, including collection, processing, and transportation.
Lexington	Keep Lexington Beautiful	$35,684.00	Manage recyclables at five drop-off locations, hold two shredding events, and two pharmaceutical collection events.
Lincoln	City of Lincoln- Solid Waste Management	$394,722.00	Funds to purchase a roll-off truck, mini rear-load truck, and waste management stations to collect and transport recyclables to material recovery facility.
Lincoln	Lincoln Bike Kitchen	$13,500.00	Provides refurbished bikes and parts to the community, for free. Free access to professional tools with team of knowledgeable volunteers, to help others develop basic maintenance skills to keep their bikes in good shape.
Nebraska City	Nebraska City Utilities	$135,744.00	Purchase a skid loader and mulching head to clear right -of- way. Equipment will grind/mulch brush and small trees to reduce waste. Will lend equipment to other entities to maximize usage and waste reduction.
North Platte	Keep North Platte and Lincoln County Beautiful	$44,877.00	Continue to reduce waste generated in North Platte and Lincoln County and increase recyclables collected and used. Will accomplish through drop-off, school, and business recycling programs. Local composters take yard waste compost it for farm usage or sold to local producers.

Oakland	Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council Inc	$4,940.00	Conduct an electronic waste collection event in Dodge County in summer or fall 2025. Anticipate 12,000 lbs of e-waste collected.
Omaha	City of Omaha Compost Operations	$500,000.00	Purchase grinder for compost facility. Replace failing equipment at Omaha's Oma-Gro. Compost facility is relocating over the next 18 months. Site preparations and utility installation done at new location.
Omaha	Green Recycling Enterprises, LLC	$94,982.00	Provides recycling containers at public events, host locations, and municipalities. GRE will create a program to reduce waste and provide recycling options at gas stations, events and host locations. Green Recycling services multiple counties.
Omaha	Spectracom, INC d/b/a River City Recycling	$211,000.00	Purchase 3 trailers to haul complete tires to be ground into tire chips.
Schuyler	Keep Schuyler Beautiful	$80,826.00	Personnel and some operating expenses for Colfax County Recycling Center. The facility collects recyclables for sorting and baling.
Scottsbluff	Langer Industrial Service	$415,000.00	Purchase and install shred/grinding equipment for scrap tire to become crumb rubber.
Tekamah	Papio Missouri River NRD	$18,000.00	Electronic waste collection event
Thedford	Upper Loup Natural Resources District	$31,200.00	Collection, processing and transportation of recyclable materials to and from NRD recycling facility, in Thedford and to end- market. Continued funding for recycling program, contractual services for recycling. Services multiple counties.

Ten-Year Grant History of Amounts Awarded and Requested

Amounts Awarded and Requested for Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant (LRR) Categories

Grant Year	Awarded Recycling	Awarded Public Education	Awarded Cleanup	Total Awarded (All LRR Categories)	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested (All LRR Categories)
2016	$892,975	$819,597	$108,483	$1,821,055	$2,079,033*
2017	$1,326,206	$1,037,895	$126,986	$2,491,087	$2,644,088
2018	$603,867	$651,968	$50,569	$1,306,404	$3,571,584
****2019**	$423,523	$826,761	$49,716	$1,300,000	$2,746,775
2020	$325,938	$1,325,085	$89,153	$1,740,176	$1,827,643
2021	$586,646	$1,431,568	$65,986	$2,084,200	$2,105,370
2022	$587,552	$1,535,370	$56,349	$2,179,271	$2,331,980
2023	$825,104	$1,528,991	$81,458	$2,435,553	$2,435,553
2024	$726,872	$1,766,348	$106,791	$2,600,011	$2,600,011
2025	$2,217,985	$1,973,446	$105,007	$4,296,438	$4,296,438
			Total Amounts	**$17,962,053**	**$24,559,442**

**Estimate*
*** FY2019 Grant awards were for a 6-month grant term*

Amounts Awarded and Requested for Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant (WRR) Categories

Grant Year	Awarded Disposal Fee	Awarded Business Fee	Total Awarded (Both WRR Categories)	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested (Both WRR Categories)
2016	$2,116,399	$1,338,426	$3,454,825	$3,781,465
2017	$1,789,483	$833,734	$2,623,217	$4,036,801
2018	$964,113	$935,887	$1,900,000	$4,402,481
****2019**	$461,365	$300,180	$761,545	$2,188,344
2020	$1,400,186	$828,181	$2,228,367	$2,481,692
2021	$1,661,286	$1,405,815	$3,067,101	$3,469,624
2022	$1,218,800	$948,373	$2,100,578	$3,904,766
2023	$1,608,610	$1,189,408	$2,798,018	$2,798,108
2024	$1,046,954	$1,212,647	$2,259,601	$4,323,265
2025	$1,047,178	$1,954,246	$3,001,424	$3,426,682
		Total Amounts	**$26,519,062**	**$34,813,138**

**Estimate*
*** FY2019 Grant awards were for a 6-month grant term*

Amounts Awarded and Requested for Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant (WRR) Categories

Grant Year	Awarded Disposal Fee	Awarded Business Fee	Total Awarded (Both WRR Categories)	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested (Both WRR Categories)
2016	$2,116,399	$1,338,426	$3,454,825	$3,781,465
2017	$1,789,483	$833,734	$2,623,217	$4,036,801
2018	$964,113	$935,887	$1,900,000	$4,402,481
****2019**	$461,365	$300,180	$761,545	$2,188,344
2020	$1,400,186	$828,181	$2,228,367	$2,481,692
2021	$1,661,286	$1,405,815	$3,067,101	$3,469,624
2022	$1,218,800	$948,373	$2,100,578	$3,904,766
2023	$1,608,610	$1,189,408	$2,798,018	$2,798,108
2024	$1,046,954	$1,212,647	$2,259,601	$4,323,265
2025	$1,047,178	$1,954,246	$3,001,424	$3,426,682
		Total Amounts	**$26,519,062**	**$34,813,138**

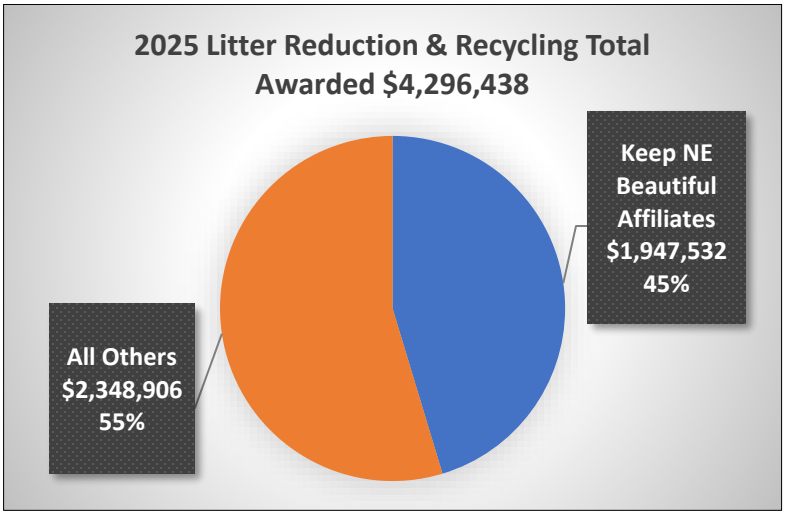
Amounts Awarded for Deconstruction, Illegal Dumpsite, and Landfill Disposal Rebates

Grant Year	Awarded Deconstruction Grants	Awarded Landfill Disposal Rebate	Awarded Illegal Dumpsite
2016		$162,536	$80,872
2017		$75,599	$100,892
2018		$40,433	$99,341
2019		$14,935	$91,630
2020	$186,662	$23,016	$102,061
2021		$101,365	$48,579
2022		$72,591	$30,753
2023		$112,099	$26,012
2024		$117,410	$33,122
2025		115,422	63,807
Total	**$186,662**	**$835,406**	**$677,069**

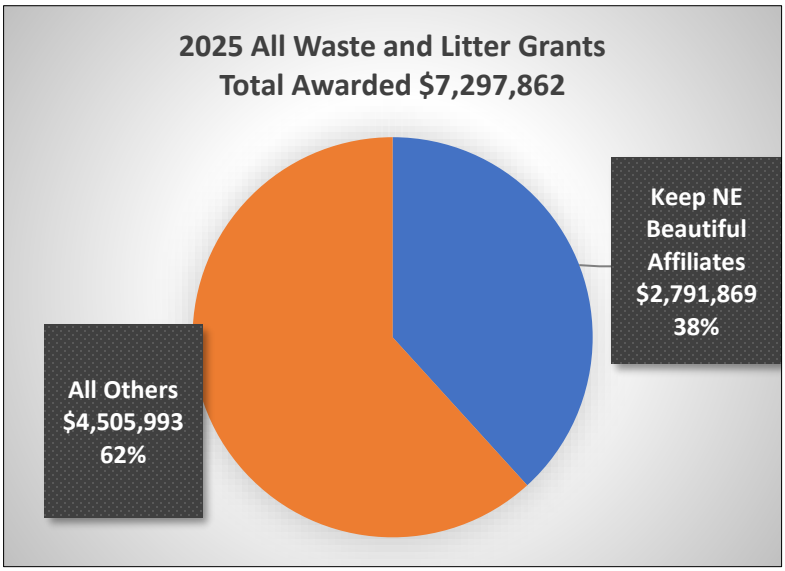
Keep America Beautiful Nebraska Affiliate Funding for 2025

Keep America Beautiful (KAB) is a national non-profit public education organization. Keep Nebraska Beautiful is a statewide affiliate of KAB. There are 20 local KAB affiliate communities in Nebraska. Many of the KAB affiliates receive grant funding from the Litter Reduction and Recycling grant program under the public education category to cover expenses such as personnel and operating expenses. The affiliates teach the importance of reuse, recycling, and reducing waste and litter through school and community-wide education programs.

The Litter grant program also includes the cleanup category, which covers expenses to pick up litter along roadways and in public areas. Recycling is the third category under the Litter grant program and is like the Business Fee category, of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant Program. Through these last two categories, the KAB affiliates have received funding to operate recycling facilities and household hazardous waste (HHW) facilities. They have also held HHW, electronic waste, and pharmaceutical collections. These events are important because they make sure the materials collected are managed and/or disposed of properly. Although they are not eligible for direct grant funding, some KAB affiliates have worked with local political subdivisions (cities and counties) to organize scrap tire cleanup events.

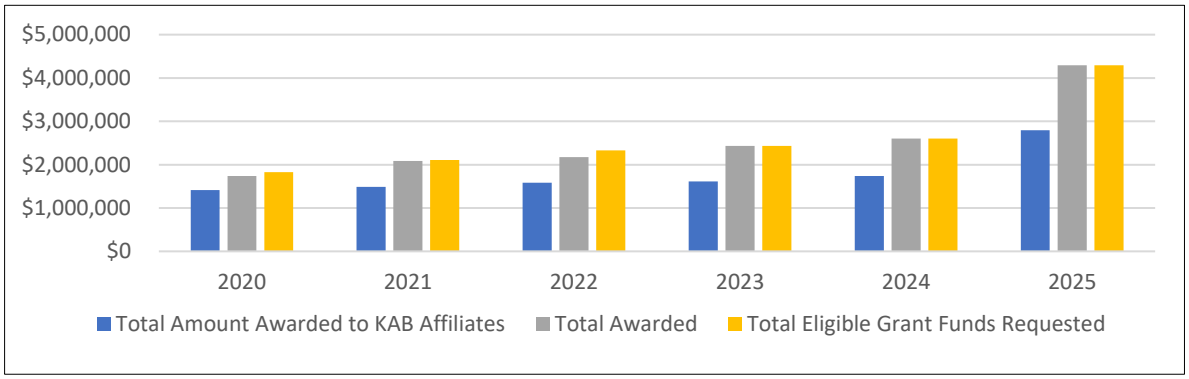

2025 Litter Reduction & Recycling Total
Awarded $4,296,438
Keep NE Beautiful Affiliates $1,947,532 45%
All Others $2,348,906 55%


2025 Waste Reduction & Recycling Total
Awarded
$3,001,424
Keep NE Beautiful Affiliates $844,337 28%
All Others $2,157,087 72%


2025 All Waste and Litter Grants
Total Awarded $7,297,862
Keep NE Beautiful Affiliates $2,791,869 38%
All Others $4,505,993 62%

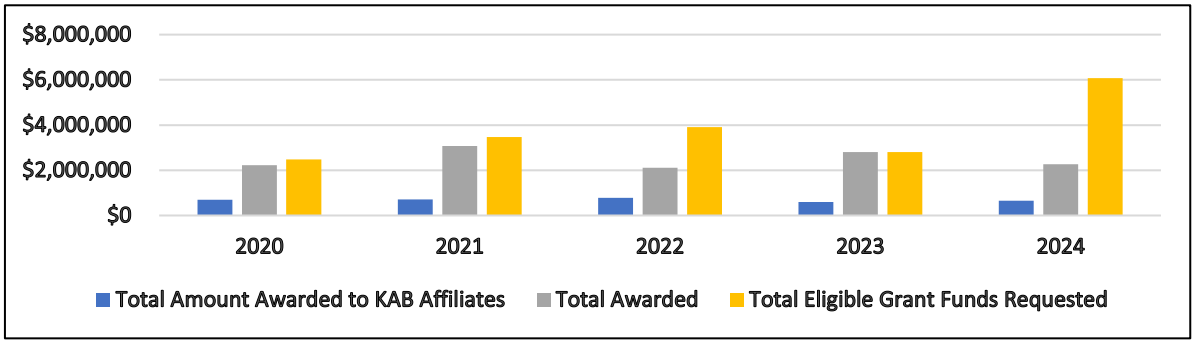
2020-2025 Awarded Litter Reduction and Recycling Grants to Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Nebraska Affiliates

Grant Year	Total Amount Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Percent Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Total Awarded	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested
2020	$1,415,978	81%	$1,740,176	$1,827,643
2021	$1,489,598	71%	$2,084,200	$2,105,370
2022	$1,582,064	73%	$2,176,341	$2,331,980
2023	$1,612,349	66%	$2,435,553	$2,435,553
2024	$1,740,379	67%	$2,600,011	$2,600,011
2025	$2,791,869	65%	$4,296,438	$4,296,438



2020-2025 Awarded Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants to Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Nebraska Affiliates

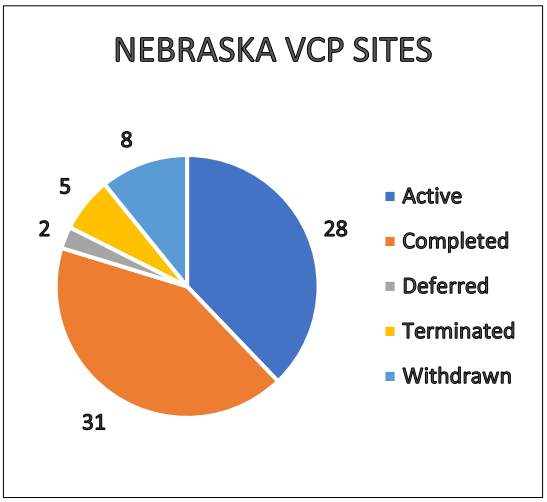
Grant Year	Total Amount Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Percent Awarded to KAB Affiliates	Total Awarded	Total Eligible Grant Funds Requested
2020	$689,675	31%	$2,228,367	$2,481,692
2021	$714,693	23%	$3,067,101	$3,469,624
2022	$778,583	37%	$2,117,673	$3,904,767
2023	$596,797	21%	$2,798,018	$2,798,018
2024	$649,649	29%	$2,259,851	$4,323,265
2025	$844,337	28%	$3,001,424	$3,426,682



Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program

The Remedial Action Plan Monitoring Act (RAPMA), initially created in 1995, established the Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The VCP provides any entity (including, but not limited to, property owners or parties responsible for contamination) a mechanism for developing voluntary environmental cleanup plans that are reviewed and approved by NDEE. It also gives applicants a way to proceed with property cleanup and an opportunity for regulatory review and oversight that may not be available at the federal level. In addition, the state program serves as an alternative cleanup program to more traditional federal cleanup programs like Superfund or RCRA. The application fee to participate in the program is $2,000, and the initial deposit to pay for state oversight costs is $3,000. NDEE has a Memorandum of Agreement with EPA Region 7, which provides federal approval of VCPs. Under this agreement, any applicant that joins the VCP and successfully completes the cleanup action is assured that EPA will not pursue federal enforcement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund.

To date, 74 sites have entered the VCP. Currently, 28 sites are active in the VCP. Two sites have been deferred to the EPA Superfund program. Eight sites withdrew from the program, and five sites have been terminated from the program due to lack of activity in completing the investigation and/or cleanup. Thirty-one sites have successfully completed cleanup requirements; thirty sites have received "No Further Action" letters from NDEE; one site received an 'Acknowledgement Letter' for specific cleanup work completed, but not an official No Further Action letter.



NDEE continues to have significant interest from applicants enrolling properties or sites into the VCP. Six new sites enrolled in the VCP this fiscal year which include the former PCS Nitrogen site in Bellevue; the North Platte Former Manufactured Gas Plant (FMGP) site in North Platte; the Lozier West Plant in Omaha; and the former Lincoln sites of Nature's Variety, IMS Properties, and Alter South.

Investigation activities are ongoing at the Omaha Steel Castings – Parish School site in Omaha, former Goodyear Lease Location #7522 site in Lincoln, Citizens Gas FMGP site in McCook, 48th & Dodge Redevelopment site in Omaha, Flatwater Mews (former Oak Lake Landfill) site in Lincoln, and the Becton, Dickinson and Company site in Columbus.

Cleanup activities are ongoing at the Dettmer Lease Property in Auburn, former Vishay Dale Electronics, Inc. site in Norfolk, International Sensor Systems, Inc. site in Aurora, former Farmland Industries Urea Ammonium Nitrate (UAN) Terminal in Doniphan, Elster American Meter Company site in Nebraska City, former AAA Welding site in Omaha, AltEn, LLC site in Mead, and Vishay Dale Electronics, Inc. Site #6 in Columbus.

Post-remediation monitoring is ongoing at the New Holland site in Grand Island, Former Nebraska Solvents Company site in Grand Island, Archer Daniels Midland site in Lincoln, Hoover Manufacturing site in Beatrice, and the Appleton Electric, LLC site in Columbus.

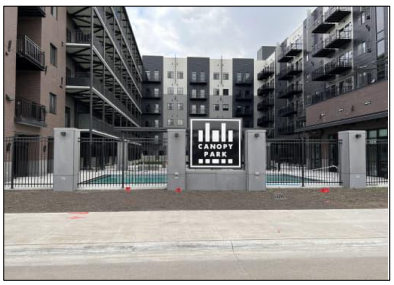
Picture of the former IMS Properties building located at 540 L Street in Lincoln that historically served as an industrial powder coating facility. The building was demolished in the summer of 2025, and soil cleanup is currently ongoing as part of the City of Lincoln's West Haymarket Park project.

As part of the West Haymarket Park redevelopment project in Lincoln, the City of Lincoln enrolled the former Nature's Variety, former IMS Properties, and former Alter South sites into the Nebraska VCP for NDEE guidance and oversight. The historical industrial use of the properties has caused underlying soils to be contaminated with heavy metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Approved remedial actions include excavating contaminated soil, placing a protective barrier over soil with residual contamination, and backfilling the excavation with clean soil. Proposed park amenities include skate parks, a dog park, public areas, paved walking trails and sidewalks, playgrounds, a community building, and an open-air hearth.

NDEE is currently reviewing Remedial Action Reports for the J.A. Woollam Co., Inc. site in Lincoln, Lewis and Clark Landing/Heartland of America Park Redevelopment site in Omaha, and former Max I. Walker Cleaners – Baker Square site in Omaha. The West Haymarket Block 4 site in Lincoln completed the VCP and received a No Further Action letter on January 8, 2025.

Excavation and disposal of contaminated soil

Vapor mitigation system granular layer and membrane



Excavation and disposal of contaminated soil

The West Haymarket Block 4 site in Lincoln is located at the northwest corner of Canopy Street and 'N' Street. Historically, the site operated as a former manufactured gas plant and lumber yard. These previous operations resulted in the contamination of soil, soil gas, and groundwater with metals, volatile organic compounds, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. The remedial action included soil excavation, installation a vapor mitigation system, and implementation of institutional controls (including an Operations and Maintenance Plan) to prevent direct exposure to contaminated soil and groundwater and maintain the effectiveness of the vapor mitigation system. The site successfully completed the remedial action and is now occupied by a mixed-use building (including the Canopy Park Apartments).

Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites and Status			
Site	**Location**	**Date Started**	**Progress**
Active Sites			
New Holland	Grand Island	11/9/2000	Active
Former Nebraska Solvents Company	Grand Island	10/10/2007	Active
Archer Daniels Midland	Lincoln	12/11/2008	Active
Dettmer Lease Property	Auburn	5/19/2011	Active
Hoover Manufacturing	Beatrice	5/27/2011	Active
Former Vishay Dale Electronics, Inc.	Norfolk	4/2/2012	Active
Appleton Electric, LLC	Columbus	3/1/2013	Active
International Sensor Systems, Inc.	Aurora	3/2/2017	Active
Omaha Steel Castings – Parish School	Omaha	3/24/2017	Active
J.A. Woollam Co., Inc.	Lincoln	2/26/2018	Active
Former Farmland Industries UAN Terminal	Doniphan	10/9/2018	Active
Lewis and Clark Landing/Heartland of America Park Redevelopment	Omaha	8/13/2019	Active
Elster American Meter Company	Nebraska City	9/19/2019	Active
West Haymarket Block 4	Lincoln	2/4/2020	Active
Former Goodyear Lease Location #7522	Lincoln	7/21/2020	Active
Former Max I. Walker Cleaners – Baker Square	Omaha	1/11/2021	Active
Former AAA Welding	Omaha	1/11/2021	Active
AltEn, LLC	Mead	6/30/2021	Active
Former Citizens Gas FMGP	McCook	11/6/2021	Active
48th & Dodge Redevelopment	Omaha	12/7/2021	Active
Flatwater Mews (former Oak Lake Landfill)	Lincoln	6/28/2022	Active
Vishay Dale Electronics, Inc. Site #6	Columbus	9/6/2023	Active
Becton, Dickinson and Company	Columbus	9/8/2023	Active
PCS Nitrogen	Bellevue	7/9/2024	Active
North Platte FMGP	North Platte	9/5/2024	Active
Lozier West Plant	Omaha	1/8/2025	Active
Former Nature's Variety	Lincoln	3/27/2025	Active
Former IMS Properties	Lincoln	3/27/2025	Active
Former Alter South	Lincoln	3/27/2025	Active
Completed Sites			
KN Energy	Holdrege	4/3/1995	Completed 5/1/97
Lewis and Clark Landing - American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO)	Omaha-Riverfront	2/5/1996	Completed 10/11/01
Farmland Industries	Scottsbluff	2/9/1996	Completed 7/2/09
Farmland Industries- Equalizer Midwest Inc. Terminal	Hastings-East	6/25/1997	Completed 9/2/03
Lincoln Plating Co.	Lincoln	9/17/1998	Completed 7/26/12
Composite Structures, Inc. (Witco Corporation)	Omaha-North	1/20/1999	Completed 6/29/99
BNSF Railroad Lot 9	Lincoln-Lot 9 Havelock	4/28/1999	Completed 2/20/01
Haymarket Park	Lincoln-Haymarket	11/9/1999	Completed 9/1/06
Progress Rail Services	Sidney-North	11/22/1999	Completed 1/3/05
Omaha Riverfront Redevelopment (3 sites) – Gallup Campus, Omaha Docks, and West Gallup and Miller Property	Omaha-Riverfront	5/18/2001	Completed 6/18/03, 12/9/03, 11/9/04
Union Pacific Railroad Child Development Center	Omaha-N. Downtown	3/5/2004	Completed 1/13/12
Plaza North Station LLC- Max I Walker Inc. Drop Store	Omaha	7/17/2009	Completed 2/11/14
Former Pfizer Facility – JN Medical Corporation	Omaha	7/28/2009	Completed 5/18/16
CVS Pharmacy	Lincoln	10/13/2010	Completed 1/28/15
West Haymarket Redevelopment Area North	Lincoln	10/27/2010	Completed 12/29/16

Izaak Walton Trap Range	Fremont	10/28/2010	Completed 4/13/12
Magnolia Metal Corporation	Auburn	3/9/2011	Completed 10/31/13
Blair FMGP	Blair	6/28/2011	Completed 4/4/16
Plattsmouth FMGP	Plattsmouth	6/28/2011	Completed 4/4/16
Lewis and Clark Landing – Designated Work Area	Omaha	4/20/2012	Completed 12/29/16
West Haymarket Redevelopment Area South	Lincoln	6/11/2012	Completed 9/18/18
Nebraska Machine Products	Omaha	10/1/2012	Completed 3/26/18
20th and Center FMGP/Lynch Park	Omaha	11/20/2012	Acknowledgement Letter issued 10/1/20
Magnus Farley	Fremont	6/16/2014	Completed 8/23/18
Beatrice FMGP	Beatrice	11/13/2015	Completed 8/22/19
Omaha Steel Castings – Saddle Creek Redevelopment	Omaha	4/26/2016	Completed 8/24/20
Former AmFirst Bank Branch	McCook	11/7/2019	Completed 6/22/20
Tiny Houses	Omaha	2/1/2021	Completed 4/11/23
West Haymarket Block 4	Lincoln	2/4/2020	Completed 1/8/25
Deferred, Terminated, or Withdrawn Sites			
Garvey Elevator	Hastings-West	4/13/1995	Deferred to EPA Superfund
Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad	Lincoln-N. Havelock	1/17/1996	Terminated 12/4/06
Union Pacific Railroad	Omaha-N. Downtown	1/17/1996	Withdrawn 3/7/03
Lincoln Journal Star	Lincoln-Downtown	2/26/1997	Terminated 1/28/09
Hastings Area-Wide	Hastings	12/17/1997	Withdrawn 6/23/00
Dana Corporation	Hastings-West	9/27/1999	Deferred to EPA Superfund
Brownie Manufacturing	Waverly-Highway 6	4/25/2000	Withdrawn 7/19/01
BNSF Railroad	Lincoln-Havelock Yards	10/26/2000	Terminated 12/4/06
Owen Parkway East	Omaha-Abbott Drive	12/13/2000	Withdrawn 11/26/02
Sanford & Son	Lincoln-North	1/22/2002	Terminated 4/18/07
Vishay Dale Electronics	Norfolk	11/13/2006	Terminated 4/20/09
Quality Analytical Services	Omaha	8/2/2012	Withdrawn 6/3/14
Former Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products	Lincoln	10/26/2016	Withdrawn 6/11/19
Former Citizens Gas FMGP	McCook	6/4/2018	Withdrawn 7/16/20
Galaxy Laundry	Grand Island	2/2/2022	Withdrawn 1/4/23

Brownfields Assessments and Cleanups

A brownfield site is a vacant or under-used property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Common brownfield properties include historic dry cleaners, former gas stations, auto repair shops, and closed manufacturing facilities. These properties can be contaminated with various chemicals such as tetrachloroethene (PCE) used in dry cleaning, benzene from petroleum fuel, and heavy metals such as lead from manufacturing activities.

NDEE's Section 128(a) Brownfields Program receives funding from EPA to offer various investigations and assistance at no cost to eligible applicants. This includes the following services:

- Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) provide a review of historical documents and regulatory databases to determine if there are any environmental concerns associated with the past use of a property (e.g., the property was a gas station in the 1950s) and surrounding land use.
- Phase II ESAs are completed when environmental concerns are identified in the Phase I ESA, and include collecting soil, soil gas, and/or groundwater samples to identify if there has been a release to the environment and the initial extent of contamination on- site.
- Asbestos-containing materials, lead-based paint, and mold surveys can be completed on building materials as part of a Phase I ESA, Phase II ESA, or independently.
- Brownfield property inventories help to document all brownfields properties in a corridor,

neighborhood, downtown, or other larger area slated for redevelopment.

- Cleanup planning activities (e.g., an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives report) identify cleanup options and cost estimates based on future uses and redevelopment plans. Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives reports are required to qualify for federal cleanup grants.
- Removal of orphan underground storage tanks (USTs) and associated piping can be completed to assess whether contamination from USTs has been released to the environment. Soil and groundwater sampling is completed as part of the removal, as well as backfilling the excavation and restoring the surface.
- Cleanup grants provide partial assistance for asbestos abatement, lead-based paint abatement or encapsulation, cleanup of building materials contaminated with mold, or cleanup to contain and reduce contamination at a site (e.g., treatment or excavation of contaminated soil).
- Other cleanup assistance may include planning grants to assist with developing a cleanup plan for a contaminated site.

During the past year, NDEE has completed nine Phase I ESAs, five Phase II ESAs, seven asbestos-containing materials surveys, two lead-based paint surveys, two mold surveys, and removed two orphan USTs and associated piping at one site. NDEE also provided partial cleanup assistance for asbestos removal to five applicants.

Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church (MMMBC) in North Omaha was bequeathed a former fueling and auto service station located across the street from their church building. MMMBC has a vision to redevelop the property into an Intergenerational Center (rendering on the following page). The proposed Intergenerational Center will host community events, recreational activities, and training programs to provide economic growth and improve overall well-being for the North Omaha community. State Fire Marshal documents indicated that two 6,000-gallon gasoline underground storage tanks were left in place and had not been used since 1986. MMMBC had concerns about redeveloping the site due to the presence of the tanks and any associated releases, so they reached out to NDEE for assistance. The Orphan Tank Removal Program used Section 128(a) funding to conduct a Ground Penetrating Radar Survey to identify the location of the tanks and dispenser piping. Once the locations were identified, the contractor moved forward with the removal of the tanks and piping, and the NDEE Petroleum Remediation Section's contractors completed environmental sampling activities and over excavation of contaminated soil. All these activities were completed at no cost to MMMBC. In addition to tank removal activities, the NDEE Brownfields Program completed a Phase I ESA, Phase II ESA, and asbestos-containing materials survey; and provided a matching cost share to remove asbestos-containing materials from the building so the building could be safely demolished.

Brownfields Program Enhancement and Public Outreach

Program enhancement and public outreach are key components that serve to educate the public on what a brownfield is and promote how NDEE's Brownfields Program can be used by communities for economic development. Workshops, webinars, meetings, and speaking engagements are arranged with a goal to increase knowledge and understanding of the environmental stigma attached to brownfield properties and how NDEE's resources can serve as a catalyst to bring these properties back to productive reuse. These outreach activities serve to connect stakeholders of Nebraska communities with resource providers and may consist of presentations from a variety of people that play an important role in economic development.

The Village of Upland shows NDEE, KSU TAB, and EPA the collapsed commercial building adjacent to their village office building during the Brownfields Resources Roadshow.

Outreach activities completed in FY2025 include:

- Speech at the City of Schuyler as part of Schuyler Community Development's check presentation for their $500,000 Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grant awarded by the U.S. EPA Region 7 – July 24, 2024
- Networking at the National Rural Economic Development Association Annual Conference – City of Omaha, November 13-15, 2024
- Live webinar tilted "Spring Cleaning! Tips and Resources for Nebraska Communities to Revitalize Those Eyesore Properties." – March 12, 2025
- Brownfields Resources Roadshow! – June 2-12, 2025

As part of the Brownfields Resources Roadshow, the NDEE Brownfields Coordinator along with representatives from the Kansas State University Technical Assistance to Brownfields Program (KSU TAB) and EPA Region 7 traveled to various communities across Nebraska to tour their priority

brownfield sites and discuss the brownfield redevelopment resources that can help. NDEE, KSU TAB, and EPA met with the following communities as part of the roadshow:

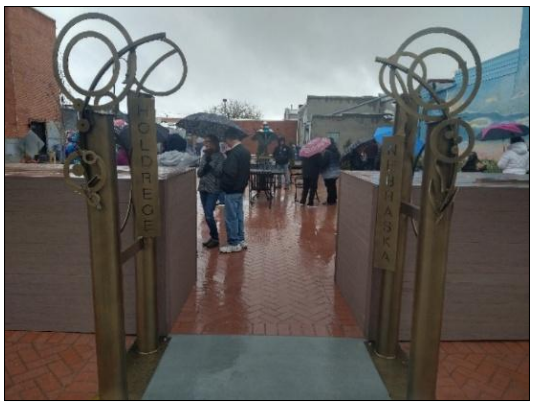
- Maya Economic Development Corporation – June 2, 2025
- Albion Economic Development Corporation – June 3, 2025
- Holt County Economic Development and the City of O' Neill – June 3, 2025
- Omaha Tribe of Nebraska – June 4, 2025
- Benkelman Community Redevelopment Authority – June 9, 2025
- Village of Upland – June 10, 2025
- City of Minden – June 10, 2025
- Spencer Economic Development Corporation – June 11, 2025
- Southeast Nebraska Economic Development District – June 12, 2025

In addition to the Brownfields Resources Roadshow, the NDEE Brownfields Coordinator met one-on-one with representatives of the following communities or organizations to discuss resources and the next steps for redevelopment of their priority brownfield projects:

- City of Beatrice
- City of Lincoln
- RDG Planning and Design
- Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development and New Day Planning
- Open Door Mission
- Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel
- City of Omaha
- Village of Lodgepole
- Sienna Francis House
- City of Bassett

To facilitate the leveraging of public resources, NDEE's Brownfields Program collaborates with EPA Region 7, KSU TAB, and other partners to identify and make available resources that can be used for brownfields activities. NDEE tracks leveraged resources by evaluating the dollars leveraged, cleanup and redevelopment jobs leveraged, and acres made ready for anticipated reuse. In the current Cooperative Agreement periods (starting on July 1, 2020 for Section 128(a) funding provided via the annual appropriation and October 6, 2022 for Section 128(a) funding provided via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act), Nebraska has received $4,594,920 in total funding and has leveraged $3,761,452 in additional assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment funding, 78 cleanup and redevelopment jobs, and 567.24 acres ready for anticipated reuse at 29 properties with 1.04 acres of new green space created. Funding provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act has allowed the NDEE Brownfields Program to expand and develop new resources so a greater number of communities can address their brownfield properties and cultivate healthy, resilient neighborhoods.

Rain couldn't keep the citizens of Holdrege away to celebrate the completion of the awaited Midtown Sculpture Garden. On November 9, 2024, the citizens of Holdrege gathered together to witness the ribbon cutting ceremony officially opening the new public gathering space for their community. The site was previously home to a vacant building that contained asbestos and was structurally unsound. The NDEE Section 128(a) Brownfields Program provided funding to assist with asbestos removal and disposal costs so the building could be safely demolished.



Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Program

The NDEE received authorization from the EPA in 1985 to administer portions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program. Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC) *Title 128 - Nebraska Hazardous Waste Regulations* incorporates the applicable RCRA regulations, which the NDEE updates as Federal regulations change.

The purpose of the RCRA program is to ensure proper management of hazardous wastes from the point of generation until final disposal. Activities performed under the RCRA program include:

- Helping hazardous waste generators maintain compliance through a Compliance Assistance Program
- Performing compliance inspections and enforcement actions
- Investigating complaints
- Reviewing groundwater contamination monitoring and remediation systems
- Reviewing permit applications and determining whether permits should be issued for proposed treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities
- Reviewing/approving closure and post-closure plans for hazardous waste storage areas and disposal sites
- Permitting and regulating the clean-up of hazardous waste that has been released to the environment through the RCRA Corrective Action program
- Maintaining data systems to support decision-making and making information available to the public.

The Compliance Assistance Program helps Nebraska businesses, government entities, and the public comply with hazardous and solid waste regulations in a non-enforcement setting. This program works with the regulated community in a partnership that promotes hazardous waste minimization and pollution prevention to encourage waste generators to take steps that actually reduce the amount of hazardous waste being generated in the state saving them resources, time

and costs. An additional product of these efforts is that it ultimately reduces the number of regulatory requirements on industries by helping hazardous waste generators generate less RCRA hazardous wastes.

Compliance and enforcement activities include investigating complaints and inspecting hazardous waste generators and transporters (including accompanying US EPA Region 7 on their inspections); hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; and used oil marketers and burners. Other compliance and enforcement activities include conducting comprehensive groundwater monitoring evaluations and operation and maintenance inspections of sampling and analysis procedures for RCRA cleanup sites to ensure that useful and representative data is being collected to review and document progress.

The RCRA program also conducts extensive permitting and closure activities to prevent the release of hazardous substances into the environment. Closure actions are required for treatment, storage, or disposal facilities that discontinue operations or that have operated without a permit. Permits are required for all operating treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. Post- closure permits are required for treatment, storage, and disposal facilities that have gone through closure and have contamination remaining on-site.

There is one operating hazardous waste storage and treatment facility in Nebraska: the Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. incinerator near Kimball, which began operation in 1994. This facility has a compliance inspection twice per year and undergoes annual performance test burns to demonstrate proper operation and compliance with applicable Title 128 – *Nebraska Hazardous Waste Regulations* and its permit to operate requirements. Operational and physical changes at the Clean Harbors incinerator, made to improve the performance of the facility and ensure compliance with applicable regulations, result in numerous permit modifications. In addition, Clean Harbors has announced plans to expand the Kimball facility. The Air Quality Construction permit and the RCRA permit have been issued. Nebraska also oversees two active hazardous waste storage facilities that do not treat hazardous waste.

Corrective action addresses past and present activities at RCRA facilities that resulted in hazardous waste and hazardous constituents being released into soil, groundwater, surface water, and air. Corrective action requires investigation and remediation of the release of hazardous constituents from regulated facilities. These regulations make current and former owners of a property responsible for past mismanagement of hazardous waste. NDEE has administered the RCRA Corrective Action Program since January of 2017.

Significant Accomplishments

Significant corrective action accomplishments during FY2025 include the modification of the RCRA permits for both Safety-Kleen facilities (Grand Island and Omaha) and Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc (Kimball).

EPA requires generators use the e-manifest module that is part of the national RCRAInfo database. Nebraska assists generators in the use of the e-manifest system, which provides a more efficient way for tracking the shipment of hazardous waste electronically. It provides a notification system so that those in the chain (generator, transporter, and disposal facility) can see and manage the movement of wastes, as well as for States and EPA to lessen the time spent reviewing paper manifests. The reduction in the use of paper since system implementation has reduced costs and saved generators time by being able to manage the manifest information and correct discrepancies easier. This has provided multiple benefits including less solid waste, and space savings for not having to store all that paper. This system also provides the public a way to review wastes generated and disposed by generators, and the process it followed to be properly disposed.

Nebraska's RCRA program continues to help generators notify and manage their generator status by having them electronically file through the secure Industry national RCRAInfo database. In addition, Nebraska assists facility hazardous waste managers to prepare their Hazardous Waste notification form electronically. NDEE then is notified and approves the requests electronically, which saves NDEE and the hazardous waste facilities time, equating to money saved. Each generator then has electronic notification (email documentation) of the last time their status was updated and by whom. In the rare occurrence that a generator files a notification by mail or thorough an email to the RCRA program staff work with that generator to get them set up to file electronically and upload the information while working with that generator to complete their notification.

Program Funding

Funding for RCRA program activities is provided by an EPA grant, which requires a 25% state match.

The RCRA program collects an annual fee from commercial hazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities. Currently, one facility in Nebraska performs hazardous waste treatment and disposal. The fees are based on the total yearly volume or weight of hazardous waste treated or disposed. Fees are due March 1 and are remitted to the state general fund.

Currently, the RCRA Program oversees the following active sites:

- 95 Large Quantity Generators (greater than 2,200 pounds of hazardous waste generated per month)
- 462 Small Quantity Generators (between 220 and 2,200 pounds generated per month)
- 1,499 Very Small Quantity Generators (Federal Status – less than 220 pounds per month)
- 1 Hazardous Waste Incinerator Facility
- 3 Treatment, Storage or Disposal Facilities
- 25 Hazardous Waste Transporters

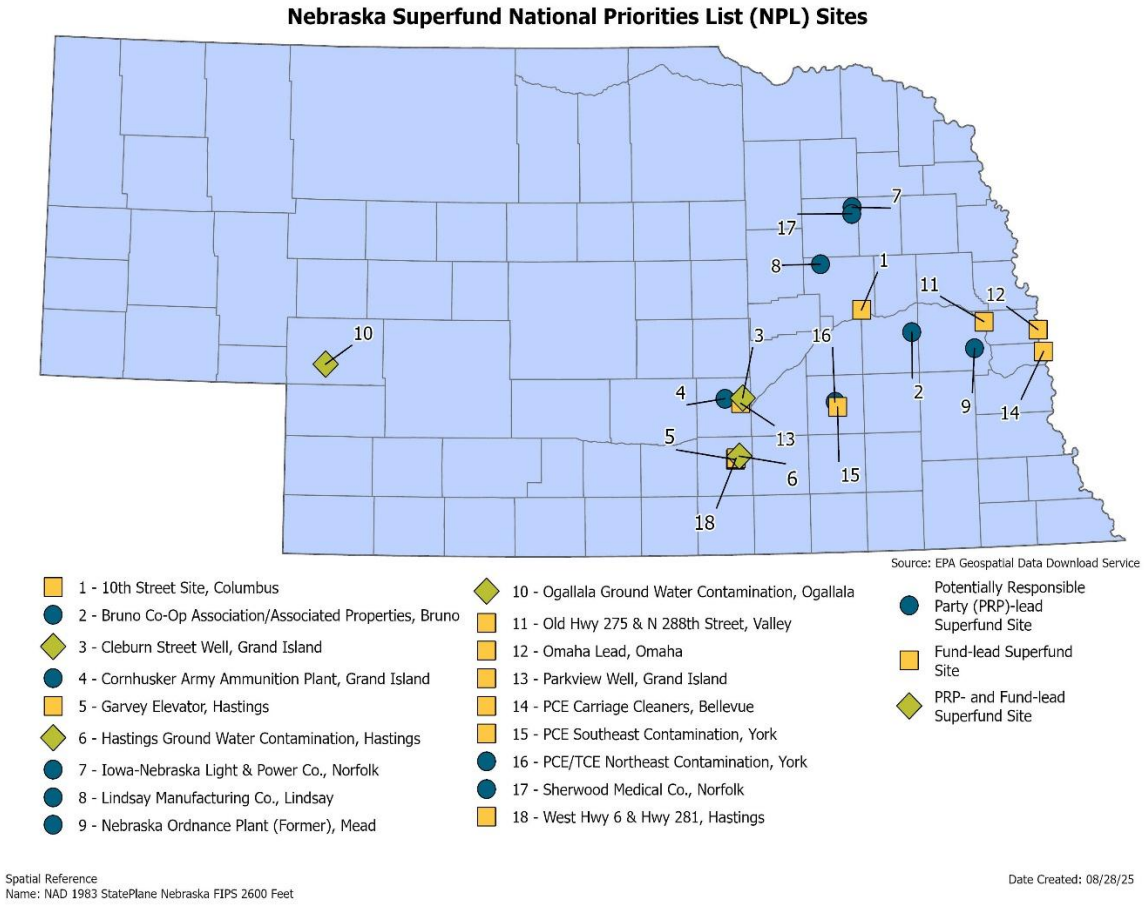
Location by County of Large Quantity Generators in Nebraska Regulated Under RCRA			
Buffalo 3	Kimball 1	Platte 5	Washington 1
Cheyenne 1	Knox 1	Red Willow 1	Wayne 1
Cuming 1	Lancaster 26	Sarpy 9	York 1
Dakota 1	Lincoln 1	Saunders 1	
Dodge 2	Madison 2	Scottsbluff 2	
Douglas 24	Otoe 1	Seward 2	
Hall 4	Phelps 2	Stanton 1	
Hamilton 1			

Summary of SFY2025 Activities		
Compliance	**State**	**EPA**
On-site Visits	0	*
Direct Assistance Contacts	713	*
Public Outreach Presentations (total 30 in attendance)	2	*
Complaints Received	7	*
Complaints Investigated	7	*
Complaints Closed	7	*
		**Data not available*
RCRA Inspections		
Land Treatment Facilities	0	0
Treatment, Disposal, and Storage Facilities	2	2
Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Evaluations	0	0
Operation and Maintenance Inspections	0	0
Facility Self-Disclosure	0	0
Large Quantity Generator	10	7
Small Quantity Generator	11	1
Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators	4	1
Transporters	0	0
RCRA Permitting		
Closure Plans Finalized	0	0
Permits Issued/Renewed	1	0
Modifications	2	0
EPA Corrective Action Orders	0	0
RCRA Record Reviews		
Financial Assurance Closure/Post Closure	1	0
Corrective Action	17	0

Superfund Program

Thousands of contaminated sites exist nationally due to hazardous waste being improperly managed. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) became federal law in 1980 to clean up these sites, which include manufacturing facilities, processing plants, landfills, and mining sites. Superfund is a federal cleanup program designed to investigate and cleanup sites contaminated with hazardous substances under CERCLA. Sites in the Superfund program that are listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) are considered the most highly contaminated and undergo longer-term remedial investigation and cleanups. These sites pose the highest risk to human health and the environment in the nation.

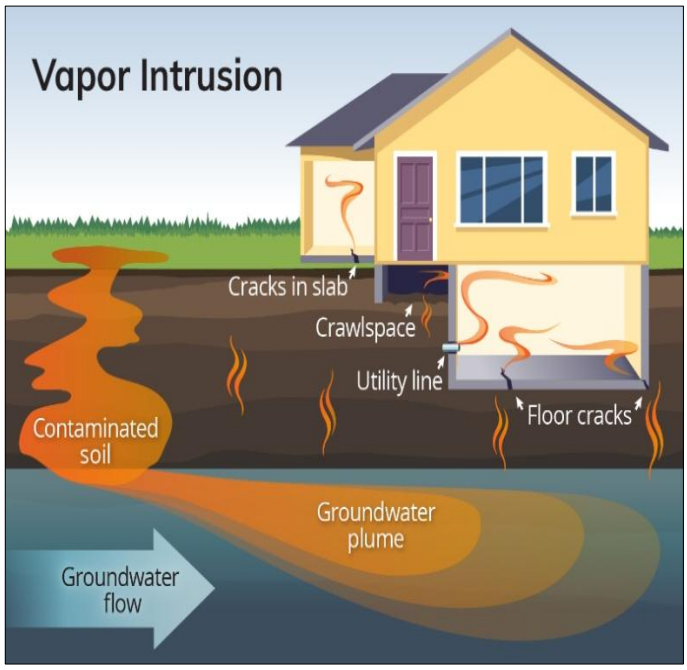
The investigation and remediation of contaminated sites under CERCLA are the primary responsibility of EPA and other federal agencies. NDEE participates in the Superfund process by serving as a technical support agency to EPA and as the environmental representative for the State of Nebraska. The EPA, with concurrence from the State of Nebraska, determines whether a site should be listed on the NPL.



This investigation and remedial work at Nebraska Superfund sites make a visible and lasting difference in communities across the state, giving people healthy places to live and work. NDEE provides technical assistance to EPA Superfund efforts across two programs: the Superfund Site Assessment Program and the Superfund Management Assistance Program.

Superfund Site Assessment Program

The Superfund Site Assessment Program identifies, assesses, and characterizes sites where hazardous substances are known or suspected to pose a threat to public health and/or the environment. Currently, the sites investigated in Nebraska consist primarily of areas around contaminated municipal and private drinking water supply wells or where there is a significant potential for groundwater contamination. It is also becoming more common to investigate sites for potential vapor intrusion from contaminated soil or groundwater.



What is Vapor Intrusion?

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are a class of chemicals that are volatile (evaporate easily) and form a vapor in the air. Vapor intrusion is a way that these volatile chemicals in soil and groundwater near and under buildings can enter and build up inside the buildings, similar to how radon can enter a home. Common uses of VOCs include dry cleaning, treatment of stored grain, and industrial operations. Breathing in certain VOCs at elevated levels can cause adverse health effects based on overall age, health, the length of exposure, and the type of chemical.

Image courtesy of the Washington State Department of Ecology

Site assessment steps:

1. Pre-CERCLA Screening Assessment. This step is a review of existing information on a potential site to determine whether a release has occurred requiring further evaluation through the Superfund process.

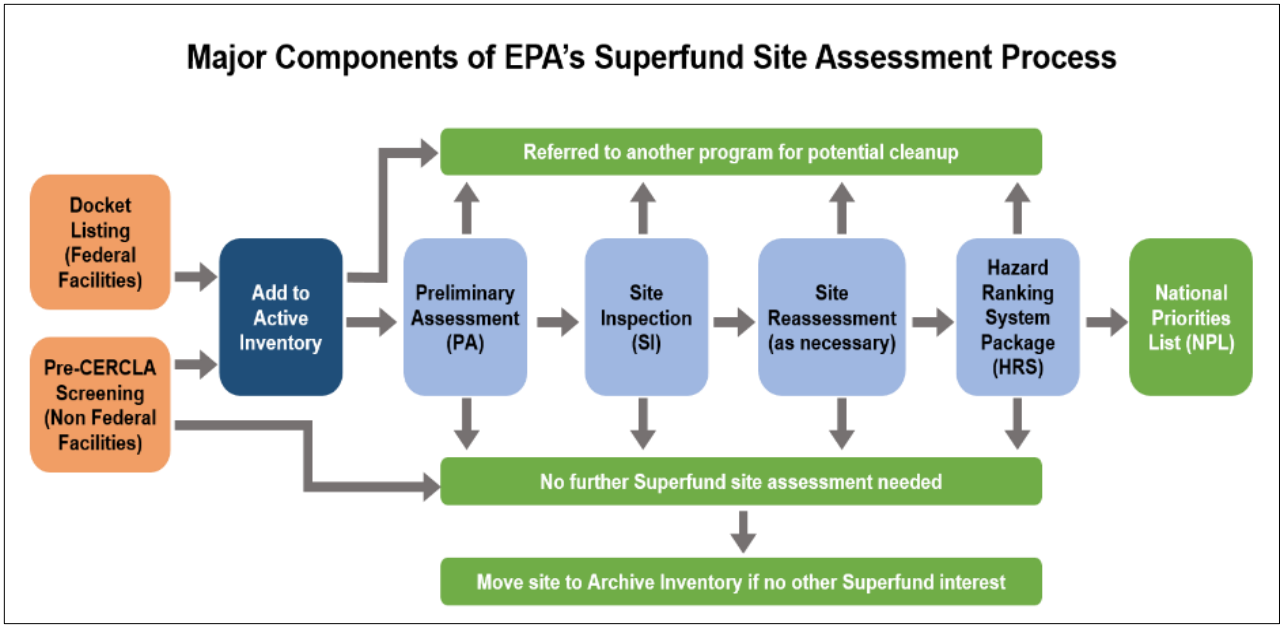
2. Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment/Preliminary Assessment. This step involves collecting background information such as property ownership, operational history, and geology/hydrogeology, and performing a site reconnaissance.

3. Site Inspection. This step involves sampling environmental media, such as soil, soil gas, and groundwater, and evaluating vapor intrusion into indoor air of building structures. In some situations, a combined Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection is conducted.

4. Expanded Site Inspection. This step is performed at large and/or complex sites to collect additional soil and groundwater samples to further define the extent of contamination.

5. Site Re-Assessment. This step is performed at some sites if new information is obtained that indicates that a threat to public health and/or the environment may exist.

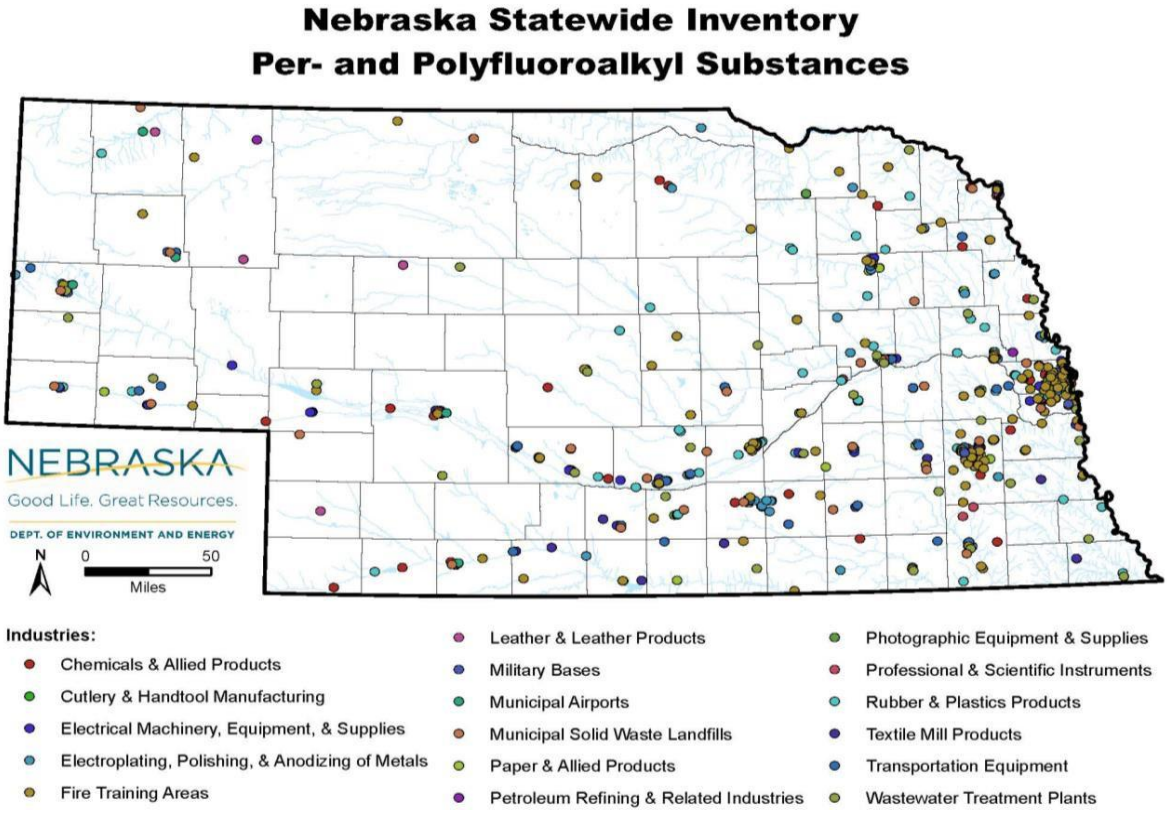
6. Site Scoring under the Hazard Ranking System. At any point during the assessment process, a site can be scored to assess the potential for a site to post a threat to human health or the environment. If a site scores high enough, it could be suggested for the NPL.



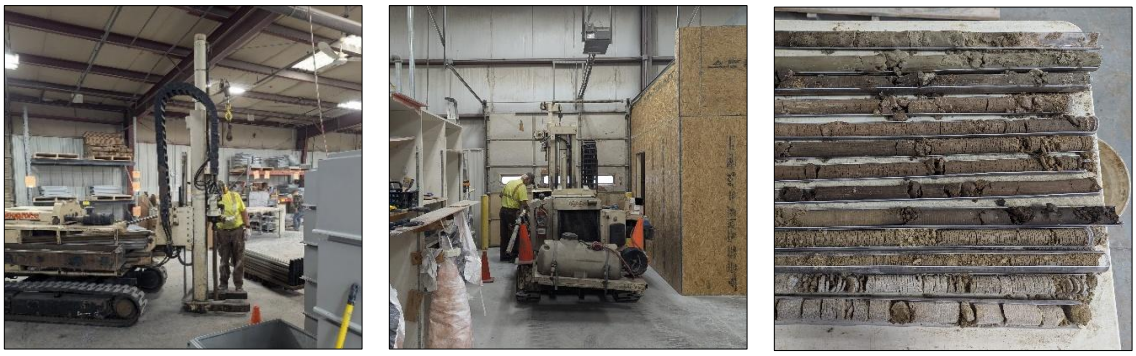
Not all sites that score high will end up on the NPL. Often, a site is referred to another program for remediation, such as the Voluntary Cleanup Program.

NDEE uses inventories to prioritize site assessment projects. In 2017, NDEE compiled a Statewide Inventory of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). PFAS are a large group of man-made chemicals that have been used in consumer products, industrial processes, and firefighting foams since the 1940s. PFAS are resistant to heat, oils, stains, grease, and water, and break down very slowly over time. These unique properties contribute to their wide use and persistence in the environment. EPA has identified PFAS as contaminants of emerging concern that can have adverse health effects if found in drinking water, leading them to adopt a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, including standards for a subset of PFAS, in April 2024.

The figure below illustrates the locations of industries in the 2017 Statewide Inventory. It should be noted that the 2017 Statewide Inventory focused on industries that potentially used or manufactured PFAS, such as metal and chrome plating facilities, fire training areas, and sites where aqueous film-forming foam was used. However, due to the scope of the inventory and research methods used, additional facilities such as landfills, wastewater treatment plants, civilian and military airports, past aviation crash sites, oil spill sites, or other large fire sites were not included.



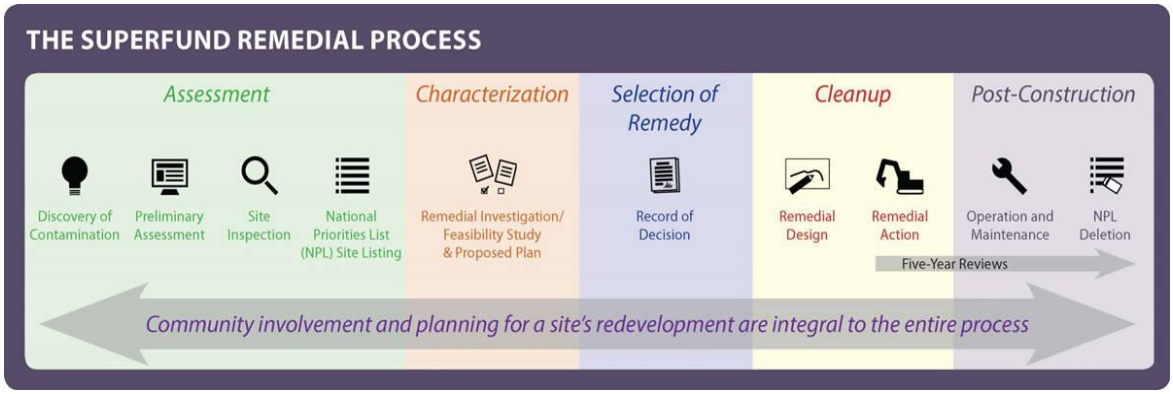
During the past year, NDEE has performed work on seven Pre-CERCLA Screening Assessments, two Abbreviated Preliminary Assessments, three Site Inspections, one Expanded Site Inspection, and three Site Re-Assessments.



In July and November of 2024, NDEE conducted an Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) at the Aurora Highway 34 North site in Aurora, Nebraska. The purpose of the investigation was to determine whether contamination detected at the property during previous investigations was from a source beneath the building or whether the contamination was from an off-site source. NDEE's contractors used a Direct Push Technology (DPT) rig to complete groundwater, soil, and soil gas sampling of the area beneath the Fiberglass Products Inc. building. As part of the investigation, soil cores are logged to create a clearer picture of the subsurface geology. The investigation did not find evidence of a release beneath the building.

Superfund Management Assistance Program

The Superfund Management Assistance program provides management and technical support to EPA at NPL sites in Nebraska. This assistance includes reviewing technical documents and participating in the Superfund remedy selection process. As the most heavily contaminated sites in the nation, NPL sites are generally large and complex, because they often involve more than one contaminated media and have multiple sub-units with varying contaminants. The activities at these sites are organized into several phases, including site assessment, characterization, remedy selection, cleanup, and post-construction activities. NDEE also participates in public meetings with citizens and local officials in the development of cleanup plans.



Nebraska currently has 18 active NPL sites. One site, the Waverly Groundwater Contamination Site, was removed from the NPL on November 20, 2006, upon achieving the cleanup goals for the site. Fifteen of the sites are in the cleanup phase and three sites (the Old Hwy 275 site in Valley; PCE Carriage Cleaners site in Bellevue; and PCE/TCE Northeast Contamination site in York) are relatively new to the NPL and are in the site study stage.

Below is a list of the 18 active NPL sites. Aside each site name is an EPA web address that provides more detailed information about the site.

Active National Priorities List Sites in Nebraska	
Site Name	**EPA Web Address**
10th Street Site, Columbus	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702001
Bruno Co-Op Association/Associated Properties, Bruno	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702000
Cleburn Street Well, Grand Island	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701986
Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant, Grand Island	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702020
Garvey Elevator, Hastings	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704351
Hastings Ground Water Contamination, Hastings	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701973
Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Co., Norfolk	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/CurSites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702377&msspp=med
Lindsay Manufacturing Co., Lindsay	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0701913
Nebraska Ordnance Plant (Former), Mead	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702031

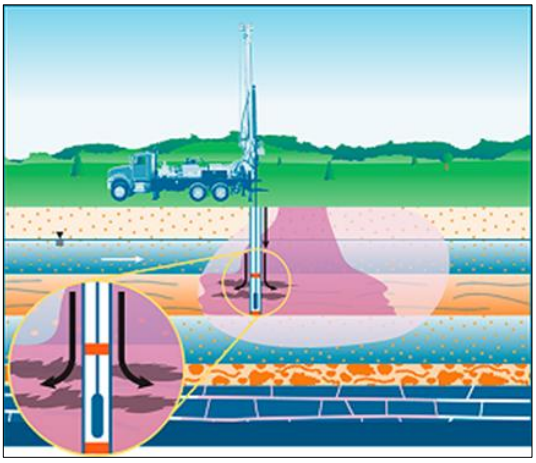
Ogallala Ground Water Contamination, Ogallala	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702287
Old Hwy 275 & N 288th Street, Valley	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704272&msspp=med
Omaha Lead, Omaha	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0703481
Parkview Well, Grand Island	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704456
PCE Carriage Cleaners, Bellevue	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0710226
PCE Southeast Contamination, York	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0706200&msspp=med
PCE/TCE Northeast Contamination, York	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0706105&msspp=med
Sherwood Medical Co., Norfolk	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0702086
West Hwy 6 & Hwy 281, Hastings	https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0704738

Under the Superfund program, EPA has the authority to mandate the parties responsible for the contamination to either perform the cleanup or provide reimbursement for EPA-led cleanup. If the responsible parties are no longer in business or cannot be identified, then EPA has the authority to finance and perform the cleanup itself. State cost obligations occur when the responsible party lacks the financial resources to pay for the cleanup, so federal funds are used.

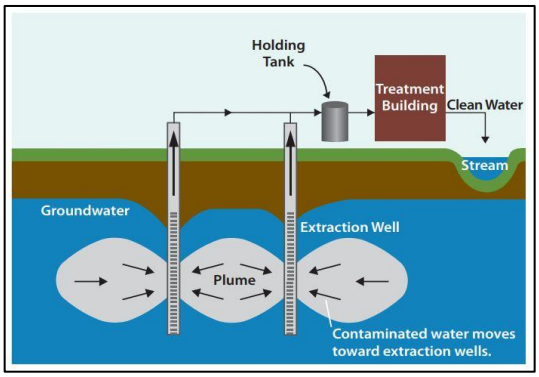
Of the 18 active Nebraska sites on the National Priorities List, seven are being addressed by the responsible party. The remaining 11 sites either are or will be partially or fully financed by Federal and State funds (i.e., “fund-lead”). For fund-lead sites, the State of Nebraska enters into contracts with EPA and agrees to pay 10% of the capital costs of constructing the cleanup system, 10% of initial startup operation costs, and 10% of on-going operation and maintenance costs for the first ten years of the project. State cost obligations may be waived for a portion of the cleanup if EPA uses funds derived from a settlement (or other instrument) with potentially responsible parties or if funds are provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021. After the initial ten years, the State pays 100% of the operation and maintenance costs. Initially, NDEE funded these costs with legislative appropriations of General Funds. During FY 2004-2007, NDEE received Nebraska Environmental Trust grant funding to pay these costs. In FY 2018-2025, the Legislature authorized NDEE to fund these costs through an annual transfer of up to $1.5 million from the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund into the Superfund Cost Share Cash fund. In 2025, the Legislature passed a bill to allow NDEE to pay its State cost obligations from the Integrated Solid Waste Management Cash Fund through an increase in the fee collected to support this cash fund.

During the last year, NDEE paid 100% of operation and maintenance costs related to cleanup at the Cleburn Operable Unit (OU) 3 subsite in Grand Island, Columbus 10th Street site, Hastings Second Street OU 20 subsite, Ogallala OU 2 subsite, and Parkview Well OU 1 subsite in Grand Island.

- At the Cleburn OU 3 subsite, NDEE is completing routine groundwater sampling. The Cleburn OU 3 subsite was contaminated as a result of dry-cleaning operations.
- At the Columbus 10th Street site, NDEE is completing routine groundwater sampling, vapor intrusion sampling, and vapor mitigation system inspections. The Columbus 10th Street site was contaminated as a result of dry-cleaning operations.
- At the Hastings Second Street OU 20 subsite, NDEE is completing routine groundwater sampling and in-situ treatment. The Hastings Second Street OU 20 subsite was contaminated from operation of a coal gas plant.
- At the Ogallala OU 2 subsite, NDEE is completing routine groundwater sampling, vapor intrusion sampling, and vapor mitigation system inspections. The Ogallala OU 2 subsite was contaminated as a result of dry-cleaning operations.
- At the Parkview Well OU 1 subsite, NDEE is operating and maintaining a groundwater extraction and treatment system. NDEE is also completing routine groundwater sampling, vapor intrusion sampling, and vapor mitigation system inspections. The Parkview Well OU 1 subsite was contaminated from industrial operations.



In-situ remediation treats contamination "in place" using chemical or biological approaches. This can be done below ground surface and with minimal disturbance by injecting the chemical or biological substrate directly into the groundwater. The substrate is injected at the appropriate depths and locations to allow it to come into direct contact with the contamination. (Image courtesy of the Interstate Technology Regulatory Council)



Groundwater extraction and treatment uses extraction wells to pump groundwater to an aboveground treatment system. Once treated water meets regulated standards, it is discharged for disposal or beneficially reused. (Image courtesy of the EPA)

This photo shows one of the two air strippers inside the groundwater treatment plant at the Parkview Well OU 1 subsite. Groundwater is pumped to the top of the air stripper, and then runs through the perforated trays. The contaminated air goes out the top of the air stripper. The treated groundwater is either pumped to a storm water drain or to one of the discharges into Kenmare Lake.

NDEE's contractor collects a quarterly water sample from one of sampling ports on the groundwater extraction and treatment system.

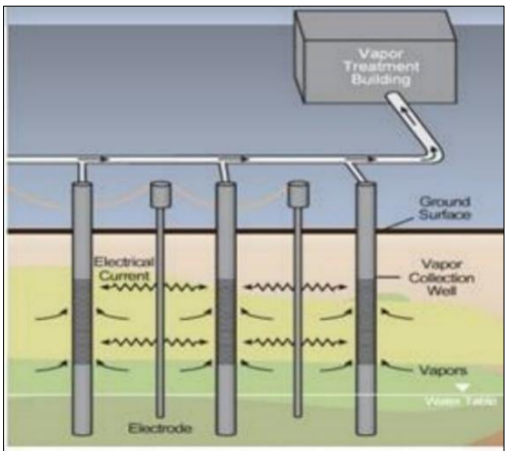
NDEE's contractor collects a quarterly air sample from one of the collection points at the effluent for the air stripper.

IIJA funds are being used for cleanup at the Garvey Elevator OU 1 subsite in Hastings, Hastings Second Street OU 12 subsite, Parkview Well OU 2 subsite in Grand Island, and PCE Southeast OU 1 and OU 2 subsites in York.

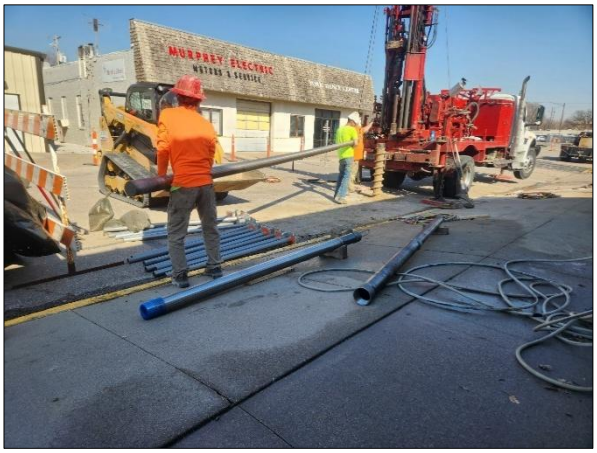
- At the Garvey Elevator OU 1 subsite, IIJA funds are being used for operation and maintenance of a groundwater extraction and treatment system and for routine groundwater sampling. The Garvey Elevator OU 1 subsite was contaminated from the use of liquid fumigant at a grain storage facility.
- At the Hastings Second Street OU 12 subsite, IIJA funds are being used for the

construction and operation of an in-situ thermal treatment system. The Hastings Second Street OU 12 subsite was contaminated from operation of a coal gas plant.

- At the Parkview Well OU 2 subsite, IIJA funds are being used to perform in-situ injections. The Parkview Well OU 2 subsite was contaminated from industrial operations.
- At the PCE Southeast OU 1 and OU 2 subsites, IIJA funds are being used for the construction and operation of an in-situ thermal treatment system. The PCE Southeast OU 1 and OU 2 subsites were contaminated as a result of dry-cleaning operations.



In situ thermal treatment treats contamination "in place" using heat. The heat is generated using either electrodes, steam, or underground heaters, which vaporize chemicals in soil and groundwater. The chemical vapors move through soil and groundwater toward vapor collection wells and are then piped to the ground surface to be treated before being discharged into the atmosphere. (Image courtesy of the EPA)



The PCE Southeast Contamination Site was contaminated due to improper disposal at two former dry cleaners in downtown York. The site was discovered during private well sampling in the area. The contamination is present in the groundwater, soil, and soil gas. EPA is using in-situ thermal treatment beneath the two former dry-cleaners to address the contaminated soil. Source remediation at one of the dry cleaners is complete and is underway at the second one. Once the source areas have been addressed, the groundwater contamination will be addressed using a groundwater treatment and extraction system.

(Left) Installation of the in-situ thermal system near Chances "R" Restaurant & Lounge in York, Nebraska. Workers are installing the screen for one of the extraction wells in this photo.

(Right) The in-situ thermal system is installed and ready to operate. The asphalt has been covered in a concrete thermal blanket. Shown in the background are the power delivery system and row of completed soil vapor extraction wells.

Federal Facilities

Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) Program

Under the DSMOA program, NDEE oversees investigation and cleanup of munitions and hazardous substances at current federal facilities, such as Offutt Air Force Base, and formerly used defense sites (FUDS), such as the former Nebraska Ordnance Plant near Mead. The cleanup efforts are conducted by a Department of Defense (DOD) component, such as the Air Force or the Army Corps of Engineers. Investigation and cleanup of hazardous substances follow the Superfund CERCLA process. Some sites must first be investigated and cleared of munitions and unexploded ordnance before CERCLA work can begin. NDEE also reviews previous no- further-action decisions for facilities and if needed, provides non-concurrence with recommendations for further work. During FY2024, investigation and cleanup activities for hazardous substances were conducted at two active sites and 13 formerly used defense sites, and military munitions response activities were performed for one site.

Photo shows a direct-push rig preparing for in-situ enhanced bioremediation injections into the aquifers beneath the Former Lincoln Air Force Base Atlas "F" Missile Site 1 in Elmwood, NE.

PFAS were found at five DSMOA sites prior to FY2024. NDEE is coordinating with EPA and the DOD components to determine the appropriate response activities at these sites. Follow-up investigations are ongoing at Offutt Air Force Base.

Former USDA/CCC Grain Storage Facilities

Nebraska contains 332 former U.S. Department of Agriculture/Commodity Credit Corporation (USDA/CCC) grain storage facilities. The soil, groundwater, and soil vapor at and near many of these former grain storage facilities is contaminated with carbon tetrachloride, which was commonly used as a grain fumigant during their operation. The USDA/CCC is currently prioritizing, investigating, and cleaning up these former grain storage facilities, and installing vapor mitigation systems in occupied buildings as needed. Investigation and cleanup follow the Superfund CERCLA process. NDEE oversees these efforts under a Nebraska Voluntary Cleanup Program agreement with the USDA. During FY2024, remedial actions were conducted at three sites, investigations were ongoing at six sites, and new groundwater and vapor intrusion investigations were started at nine sites.

Solid Waste Program

Nebraska Solid Waste Program Base Activities

Every day, tons of solid waste are disposed of at landfills across the state. The purpose of the Solid Waste program is to ensure proper management of solid waste, which includes solid waste typically collected and disposed in municipal landfills, and other non-hazardous waste. Solid Waste regulations are incorporated in NAC *Title 132 - Integrated Solid Waste Management Regulations.* The regulations provide technical criteria for land disposal areas and solid waste processing facilities.

Duties assigned to this program include:

- Permit issuance, renewal, and modification;
- Response to inquiries related to facility operations;
- Compliance inspections and enforcement actions;
- Investigation of citizen complaints;
- Alternate waste management method approvals;
- Groundwater investigations and groundwater/soil remediation projects at permitted and non-permitted facilities;
- Gas emissions monitoring related to landfills and other permitted sites;
- Closure inspections and monitoring of closure and post-closure activities;
- Conducting public information sessions and hearings related to permits;
- Financial assurance review and monitoring compliance; and
- Assisting regulated facilities and the general public in recycling, re-use, and proper management of waste-like materials.

The program regulates municipal solid waste disposal areas (landfills), construction and demolition disposal areas (C&D landfills), fossil fuel combustion ash disposal areas (FFCA), industrial waste landfills, delisted hazardous waste disposal areas, and land application sites for the disposal (one time and repeated) or treatment of special wastes. In addition, solid waste processing facilities, such as compost sites, material recovery facilities, transfer stations, and medical waste processing facilities are permitted and regulated by this program.

Permit modification requests are routinely submitted by permitted facilities. Responses to the modification requests are particularly time-critical since the facility may need to expand or construct new waste disposal cells in order to meet their disposal capacity needs.

The LB1101 Solid Waste Management Programs Study, published in 2017, provided a complete description of Nebraska's solid waste programs and reported that the average remaining capacity for waste disposal is approximately 39 years.

The Waste Permit programs coordinate with other NDEE programs to ensure that permits issued include adequate protection of all environmental media. The requirements in solid waste permits include protection against excessive emissions of landfill gas to the atmosphere, storm water runoff controls, and restrictions on accepting hazardous waste for disposal at a landfill, amongst other regulatory requirements.

Currently, the Waste Permit and Compliance Programs jointly oversee the following:

Total Permitted Facilities in FY2025	
Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Areas (Landfills)	22
Solid Waste Compost Sites	7
Transfer Stations	36
Materials Recovery Facilities	3
Construction & Demolition Waste Disposal Areas	31
Delisted Waste Disposal Area	1
Processing Facility	2
Fossil Fuel Combustion Ash Disposal Areas	6
Total	108

The following table indicates the number of inspections, complaints, and permitting-related activities that the program was involved with in FY2025:

Summary of FY2025 Activities	
Compliance	
Facility Inspections (General)	140
Facility Closure Inspection	0
Facility Construction Inspections	10
Facility Comprehensive Renewal Inspections	18
Complaints Received	223
Complaints Investigated	223
Complaints Closed or Referred	223
Permitting	
New Permits Issued	0
Permit Renewals	21
Major Permit Modifications	2
Public Hearings	0
Permits Transferred	0
Financial Assurance Reviews	142
Facilities Closed	0

Assessment Monitoring and Remedial Measures

All solid waste disposal areas (facilities) accepting municipal solid waste, industrial waste, delisted hazardous waste and fossil fuel combustion ash are required to conduct groundwater monitoring. The purpose of the groundwater monitoring is to detect any release of contaminants from the facility that may impact groundwater quality. A phased approach is used from the initial detection of a potential release to making decisions on cleanup actions after groundwater contamination has been fully investigated.

The first phase is detection monitoring. During this phase, a facility will monitor for a discrete number of contaminants that would be indicative of a potential release of contaminants from the facility. During FY2025, 13 operating and two closed facilities conducted detection monitoring. If one or more of the parameters being monitored exceed background levels, the facility must begin assessment monitoring, which includes a more extensive list of contaminants. During FY2025, 15 operating and six closed facilities conducted assessment monitoring.

If during the assessment monitoring phase, contaminant concentrations are detected above a groundwater protection standard, the facility is required to characterize the nature and extent of the release and, if necessary, assess and conduct remedial measures. In FY2025 investigations or remedial measures were continued at 34 active and three closed landfills.

Title 118 Groundwater Investigations and Remedial Actions

Several municipal solid waste disposal areas that closed prior to 1993 have conducted

groundwater investigations and remedial actions pursuant to NAC *Title 118 – Groundwater Quality Standards and Use Classification*. In FY2025, groundwater investigations continued at one site, and remedial actions continued at seven sites.

Financial Assurance and Fees

All permitted solid waste landfills are required to provide financial assurance for closure and post-closure maintenance and monitoring. All privately owned permitted solid waste processing facilities are required to provide financial assurance for closure.

Program Funding

The Waste Permit Section collects permit fees and annual operating fees for all solid waste management facilities. Quarterly disposal fees, based on cubic yards or tonnage, are collected from all municipal solid waste landfills as well as transfer stations moving waste for disposal out of state. Fifty percent of the quarterly disposal fees are redistributed as grants and for administration of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentives Grants Program, and 50% of the quarterly disposal fees are utilized for costs of administering the solid waste program and for investigation and remediation of contamination from solid waste facilities and for other statutorily authorized activities.

Waste Tire Management Program

The NDEE also administers the waste tire management program. Approved beneficial uses of waste tires are outlined in NDEE regulations. Waste tire haulers are required to obtain individual permits annually and post financial assurance. Financial assurance is designed to provide adequate funds to clean up any waste tires that are illegally disposed by the transporter.

Waste tire management facilities (except tire dealers) are allowed to accumulate up to 500 tires while maintaining mosquito control and fire prevention measures. Accumulation of more than 500 waste tires at any location is prohibited by rule.

Compliance assistance is an important aspect of this program. Program activities include responding to inquiries from local and state sources, developing guidance documents, conducting site visits, and providing technical advice. The NDEE develops and maintains guidance documents explaining on a wide variety of topics, including the proper use of waste tires for blow-out and bank stabilization. Direct financial assistance is also available through the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentives Grant program.

The waste tire compliance assurance program includes facility inspections, complaint investigations, and appropriate enforcement actions. Compliance activities are included in the summary of activities for the Solid Waste Program.

Waste Tire Permit Totals, FY2025	
Renewed Hauler Permits	23
New Permits Issued	8
Permits Expired	2
Financial Assurance Reviews	8