

# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NEBRASKA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

## NNLA WELCOMES FIVE NEW NEBRASKA CERTIFIED NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONALS

The Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association’s newest Nebraska Certified Nursery and Landscape Professionals (NCNLP) are Logan Faller, Travis Fricke, Kolby Jurgens, Samantha Rozic, and Brittany Timoney. They took the NCNLP Certification test in February and passed all three components.

The NCNLP program was established to promote the professionalism of individuals within the industry. A rigorous three-part test, which covers plant identification, landscape, and the NCNLP manual, must be successfully completed. To learn more about becoming a Nebraska Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional, visit [nnla.org/certification](http://nnla.org/certification).

### LOGAN FALLER FALLER LANDSCAPE, INC., YORK, NE

**What factors motivated you to become certified?**

My Dad was a big influence along with everyone I work with. They all pushed me to get better and get certified.

**Educational and Work Background**

I went to college at Northeast Community College and received an associate’s degree in Horticulture while working at Earl May. I then came home to work for my dad at Faller’s Landscape and have been here ever since.



Logan Faller

### TRAVIS FRICKE LANDMARK NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE

**What factors motivated you to become certified?**

I felt the certification would validate my knowledge of plants and landscaping. Being seen as an expert in my field and having people ask my landscaping questions and plant suggestions helps me fulfill my goals.

**Educational and Work Background**

I went to Southeast Community College to get my associates degree in Horticulture. I worked at Campbell’s Nursery for four years and then I worked for Downtown Lincoln Association for two years. Currently I would for Landmark Nursey and Landscaping.

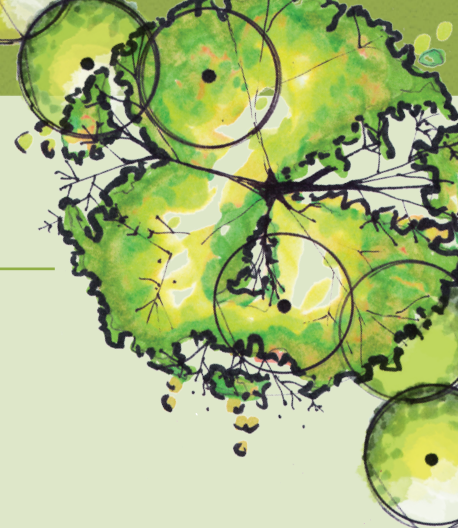


Travis Fricke

**PLANT TALKS**

The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum’s First Thursday Plant Talks are Facebook Live events. Watch on the NSA Facebook page – [facebook.com/NeArb](https://www.facebook.com/NeArb). A different topic will be discussed each month on the first Thursday.

Continued on page 3...

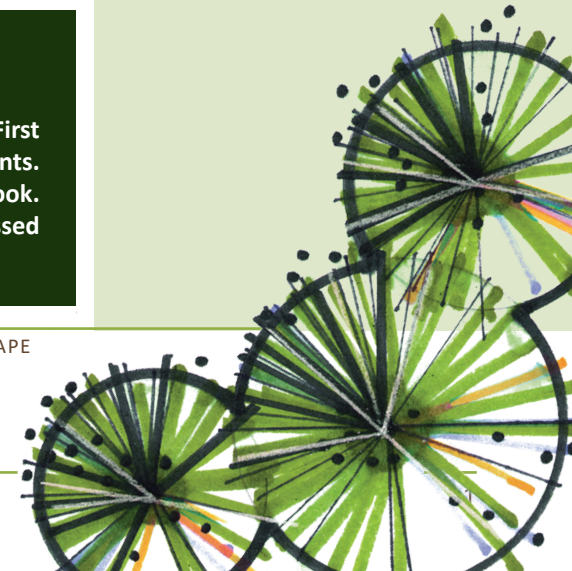


## Save the Date!

**NNLA Eastern Field Day**  
Friday, August 6  
UNL East Campus, Lincoln  
*Flyer attached at end of this newsletter.*

**NCNLP Testing**  
Thursday, August 5  
*Go to [nnla.org](http://nnla.org) to register!*

**NNLA 2021 Winter Conference**  
December 7 & 8  
*Watch [members.nnla.org/nnla-events](https://members.nnla.org/nnla-events) for details!*



THE NNLA MISSION: TO ADVANCE THE NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NETWORKING, EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND CERTIFICATION TO INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTIVELY GROWING THEIR BUSINESSES.

**NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** BY JASON KUEHL, NCNLP



Happy July!

I hope that the spring has been good for business and you have kept safe. It has been another wild spring in our business. Weather has been typically atypical, and once again we face similar issues to what we have seen the last couple years or so. Labor is still one of the biggest concerns. Finding the people to help us get through spring rush has been a difficult challenge throughout the country. Covid issues have resulted in more chaos even as we finally come through this pandemic. For one reason or another there is unwillingness to actually come to work for some people. In certain states regulations have affected loading of trucks due to restrictions on how many people can even be inside a truck at one time. That has slowed the amount of trucks that can be loaded per day. Early season storms affected the plants we need and increased the demands for plant material.

Trucking and trucking freight rates have been frustrating to say the least. Prices are high for all kinds of reasons, but mostly supply and demand. According to one trucking survey at one point mid spring there were 19 loads for every 1 truck coming out of the Pacific Northwest. Often plants would be pulled to docks in expectation of a scheduled truck, but no truck would appear to take the load. The lure of a better rate or an easier run I suppose. It has gotten a little better lately. Thank goodness for small favors.

As the green industry fights though another spring we continue to move forward, striving for solutions. Every day brings another challenge and every day we get through another solution has been earned. Soon we will finally see each other in person and do what we have always done; share our problems and our solutions and with that comes the great thing about the green industry but more importantly the green industry in Nebraska. We learn and get better together through our challenges.

We appreciate your continued support and membership. You should have received your membership renewal the beginning of June. I am looking for your ideas on increasing our membership and what you would like to see NNLA add for more programming so we can continue to become better at our craft together. I encourage you to mark your calendars as we send out the event schedules for field day and our winter conference this December.

I am very excited about what we have planned already.

Stay tuned!  
Jason Kuehl, NCNLP, NNLA President

**Advertise in the  
NNLA NEWSLETTER**

Would you like to see your company featured in an ad in the Nebraska Nursery & Landscape Association's quarterly newsletter, Nebraska Nursery News?

You will have the opportunity to present your company logo, products/services and company identity to members from across the state. Check out the new lower advertising rates on the last page of the newsletter. This is a great, affordable opportunity to reach members and anyone who views the newsletter on the website. Please contact the NNLA office at [jennifer@youraam.com](mailto:jennifer@youraam.com) or (402) 381-7154 for further details.

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# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

Continued from page 1...

## KOLBY JURGENS JENSEN GARDENS

### What factors motivated you to become certified?

I wanted to figure out what I did and did not know when it comes to landscaping.

### Educational/Work Background

I studied Landscape Design and Grounds Management at Metropolitan Community College. While in school I did landscaping and grounds maintenance across several apartment complexes. I worked on irrigation systems, planted annuals, installed landscapes, and did general plant maintenance. After I was finished with school I started as a residential landscape designer.



Kolby Jurgens

## SAMANTHA ROZIC NEBRASKA NURSERY & COLOR GARDENS

### What factors motivated you to become certified?

It has been important to me to continue my education throughout my career and by becoming certified, it shows that I have learned and mastered the requirements to be a landscape professional.

### Educational/Work Background

I earned an associate's degree from Southeast Community College for Horticulture and Agribusiness. I then earned a bachelor's from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln in Horticulture with a focus in Landscape – Design/Build. My passion for horticulture started when I was in high school through FFA. I have been involved in the horticulture industry going on thirteen years. I worked for Great Plains Nursery before going back to school. While I was in college, I did internships with Bailey Nurseries and Nebraska Department of Agriculture.



Samantha Rozic

## BRITTANY TIMONEY HEARTLAND LAWNS

### What factors motivated you to become certified?

I love to continue my education in any way that I can. I feel that becoming a NCNLP and a NNLA member will open doors to networking and learning from others in the industry.

### Educational/Work Background

I graduated from Southeast Community College in Beatrice with an associate's degree in horticulture and a business certificate. In college, I completed an internship with Monrovia Nurseries in Visalia, California. After finishing college, I worked full-time at Campbell's Nurseries as a landscape designer and nursery sales associate. I am currently at Heartland Lawns as a landscape designer and continue to learn and grow in the industry.



Brittany Timoney

## PLANT NATIVE: COMMON HACKBERRY



Common Hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*

Height: 50-70 feet      Spread: 50-70 feet  
Sun: full sun to part shade      Water: medium to wet

Hackberry is a tough, adaptable tree that provides a canopy of shade for many decades. Its deep root system helps prevent soil erosion and provides habitat and food for a wide variety of wildlife, from pollinators to game birds to large mammals. The small dark brown fruits are edible to both humans and wildlife and often persist into late winter if not devoured by wildlife. Its warty bark, often streaked with lichens, makes it easily identifiable and it tends to develop attractive yellow fall color. It's native to woodlands throughout the state and also a good landscape tree for tough sites.

Native plant recommendations from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, [plantnebraska.org](http://plantnebraska.org)

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# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

## BETTER TOGETHER: GOOD PLANT COMBINATIONS

### BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES COLUMN FROM THE NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM

Plants are much like humans, they need each other. Very few of them look good or do well all by themselves surrounded by bare soil or even by expanses of mulch. More importantly, they're healthier planted together where they shelter each other from exposure to all the elements—wind, sun, snow, heavy rains.

It can be dramatic to see huge swaths of one particular plant in a landscape and large public gardens have enough space to allow it. But most home gardeners want more variety in their limited space and don't have large numbers of a single species to plant at one time. A biodiverse landscape is healthier in the long run, far less expensive to develop initially and more interesting through all the seasons.

Most ornamental plants are seasonal and have their own particular time to shine, whether that's early spring, mid-summer, late fall or in a barren winter landscape. Having other plants nearby means the focus can change from one plant to another as the season progresses.

Physical support is another very real advantage to grouping different plants. Prairies are the ultimate mixed landscape, with the dense basal growth of grasses propping up tall but weak-stemmed vertical plants like pitcher sage, sunflowers and asters. Many tall ornamental plants have "bare legs"—lower stems with a minimum of foliage. For them, both the physical and visible support of plants with lower, bushier foliage helps them look their best.

It can be fun to "wow" visitors with a show-stopping seasonal garden but our seasons are short, so the more the interest is spread out, the better.

Here's some plant companions that require about the same amount of sun and moisture, look beautiful together and can lean on each other for visual and physical support when they're not at their best.

### COMBINATIONS TO TRY

Purples and yellows are complementary colors on the color wheel and in the garden. In the photos opposite, *Liatris* mixes well with *rudbeckia* at the Backyard Farmer Garden (ALWAYS worth a visit).

Alliums and sedums, both with silvery, gray-green foliage and soft white to pink flowers, are beautiful together.



*Butterfly milkweed and blue grama gaura*



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Orange and pink may not seem like a good mix but these alliums with butterfly milkweed are happy together and offer a contrast of round to umbel-shaped flowers and grassy green to gray-green foliage.

For shady areas, the silver and purple foliage of ghost ferns combines well with purple gray coral bells; no flowering required for this mix to shine.

Gaura and blue grama. Where does one plant end and the other begin? It's impossible to tell in this photo from the Yeutter Garden on UNL's East Campus. These two airy-stemmed plants twine their similarly lacy seedheads and pale pink flowers together for a subtle but stunning long display in mid-summer.

*Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org*

## NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

### HERBS FOR THE LANDSCAPE: YARD TO KITCHEN

#### BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES COLUMN FROM THE NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM

What defines an herb? It's a plant with leaves, seeds or blossoms that can be used for flavoring, food, medicine or perfume. Most of them have essential oils that leave a telltale fragrance when you rub their leaves.

For the most part, perennial herbs hardy in Nebraska are easy to grow. Their needs vary from full sun to part shade and from moist to dry soils. Growing them in containers or raised beds allows for more flexibility in how much moisture and/or drainage they receive but since these sites dry out quickly, mulching will help protect them from drying out. Here's a few of our favorite yard-to-kitchen herbs.

Calamint, *Calamintha*, grows into a compact mound 15-18" high. Its gray-green foliage is a popular ingredient in Italian cuisine for its distinctive flavor of mint and savory that complements garlic-based sauces, soups and stews. The dried leaves also make an appealing tea. It's a pollinator magnet with loads of tiny, airy white blooms in upright sprays from June until frost.

Chives, *Allium schoenoprasum*, has grass-like foliage that tastes of fresh onion useful in a wide range of dishes.

Tarragon, *Artemisia dracunculus*, is a woody perennial that will grow 2 feet high in full sun and rich, well-drained soil. It has a minty anise flavor useful for herbal vinegars and other uses.

Hyssop, *Hyssopus officinalis*, tastes like mint with a hint of lavender and a slight bitterness that lightens up vegetable and other dishes. It thrives in hot, dry summers under full sun. It has narrow, dark green leaves and spikes of small blue flowers in summer.

Lavender, *Lavandula* species can be used in everything from bath salts, soaps and lotions to scones and pound cake. To enjoy its fragrance year-round, dry and preserve it by hanging small blooming bunches upside down in a dark, dry room. For winter protection, it's best surrounded with tall plants and leaf fall.

Lemon Balm, *Melissa officinalis*, has wonderful lemon-scented foliage that can be used to flavor salads, fruit cups or herbal tea. It can be quite aggressive so is best planted in confined spaces in sun or part shade. Frequent pruning will encourage new, more fragrant, leaves and minimize spread.

Lovage, *Levisticum officinalis*, has sturdy stalks of flat-topped, yellow flowers up to 6 feet high in late spring, making it an excellent vertical addition to used just like celery in salads, soups, stews, frittatas, egg and potato salad. And if you like bloody Marys, the hollow stalk of lovage is perfect for them.

Mints, *Mentha* species, are very aggressive. To prevent spreading, plant them in containers, confined spaces or raised beds. They add a minty flavor to a wide range of dishes.

Oregano, *Origanum* species, grow 12-24 inches high and 10-20 inches high, and is a flavorful addition to Italian pastas and stews. It requires full sun and well-drained soil. Its loose clusters of small white flowers are a great nectar source for bees and butterflies.

Sage, *Salvia officinalis*, is an attractive low shrub with velvety, greyish green leaves. Frying it mellows its flavor; fried sage can be crumbled over a dish to heighten flavor at the last moment. It can also be added fresh to teas and drinks and fresh or dried to sauces, compound butters, meat marinades, pastries and breads.

Savory, *Satureja montana*, is a compact plant with dark green leaves and woody stems, growing to 15" high and needing protection from winter winds. The aromatic foliage has a strong peppery flavor. It's often paired with beans during cooking since adding salt can toughen the beans. Fresh or dried leaves can be used to infuse vinegar, make herb butters or steeped for tea.

Thyme, *Thymus vulgaris*, is a small, many-branched perennial shrub 12 inches and wide that adds a minty, somewhat peppery flavor to a variety of culinary dishes. Like lavender, it's best sheltered in mulch or leaf litter through the winter.

Bob Henrickson, [plantnebraska.org](http://plantnebraska.org)



*Calamint is a flavorful herb and beautiful mounding perennial herb that blooms June into September.*

## NEBRASKA FOREST HEALTH REPORT

May 2021 Nebraska's Forest Health Report is available online here.

Read articles about:  
Grow Days & Climate Predictions  
Browning Evergreens  
Injection Treatments for EAB  
Anthracnose  
Diplodia Tip Blight

**NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS**

**PLANT NATIVE: SASKATOON SERVICEBERRY**



Saskatoon Serviceberry, *Amelanchier alnifolia*

Height: 6' or higher

Sun: full sun for best fruiting but grows well in part shade

Spread: 4-5'

Water: prefers medium moisture but drought-tolerant

While hard-to-grow blueberries are touted for nutritional value, the very similar-tasting berries of Nebraska's native serviceberry or Juneberry are surprisingly underused though they are "higher in protein, fat, fiber, calcium, magnesium and manganese than blueberries and strawberries" (Montana State University Extension). Serviceberry has three strong seasons of interest. The common name serviceberry derives from the use of March/April blossoms at pioneer burials when little else was flowering. The other common name Juneberry refers to edible berries in early summer which birds quickly devour, and in fall the foliage tends to develop good color. Both the native species and developed cultivars are adaptable and easy to grow as an understory shrub/tree, though they prefer a somewhat moist, protected environment as many are native to moist areas along streambeds. *Native plant recommendations from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org*

**Study: Northeastern U.S. Has Widest Tree Cover Disparities In The Country**

Click to view an article by Jesse Remedios of WBUR covering a first of its kind study to examine tree cover inequality nationally.

Click to view the study abstract published by Plos One.

Article link - <https://www.wbur.org/earthwhile/2021/04/28/urban-tree-cover-disparities>

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# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

## FIVE TIPS TO MAKE YOUR DIY LANDSCAPE LOOK PRO

### BENEFICIAL LANDSCAPES COLUMN FROM THE NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM

Want to give your home landscape the professional touch without hiring out? Here are some pointers that can help your yard become a neighborhood favorite. And if you'd rather opt for handing all or some of the work over to a pro, selecting a gardener rather than a lawn specialist might give the best results.

**Don't crowd the house.** Few sights make this designer's brow curl like an 18-inch planting strip between the house and the lawn. Give your beds some breathing room by laying them out with a few feet of clearance on either side of the biggest plants. This guideline should typically result in landscape planting areas that are a minimum of 5 feet wide, with smaller plants placed in front of larger ones to help smooth the visual transition from wall to lawn. Such a practice doesn't just put the eyes at ease, it allows for building access behind plantings, reduces the need for clipping and prevents chronic mowing conflicts.

**Think twice before running for a dwarf shrub.** There is a bounty of beautiful, long-lived herbaceous perennials that reach the same 3-foot size class as many dwarf shrubs, and in half the time for a third of the price. Be sure to space them far enough, usually 2-3 feet apart, so they can fill out for a shrubby look. Some fine examples for sun: bluestar, baptisia, New Jersey tea, aromatic aster, mountainmint. For part-sun: Saint John's wort, smooth hydrangea. For shade: black cohosh, goatsbeard, hardy fern. For wet: hardy hibiscus, Fireworks goldenrod, Little Joe pye flower.

**Grow plants, not mulch.** When visiting award-winning landscapes in their prime, you might notice the striking textural contrasts in leaves and seedheads or the pleasing color combinations among flowers and foliage. What you usually don't see is the mulch in between. If a summer photo of your flower bed shows as much "woodchip brown" as "leafy green," it's time to ditch the trimmers and pack in some more plants.



*Calamint is a flavorful herb and beautiful mounding perennial herb that blooms June into September.*

**Plant things that will get bigger than you.** For many, the most remarkable landscapes tend to be the most immersive, which is another way of saying that our favorite gardens are the ones that make us feel smaller. So, no matter the size of your landscape, allow some vertical layering through the incorporation of at least a few larger shrubs and trees. Just make sure to place them far enough away from roofs and walkways to avoid conflicts.

**Embrace DIY fails.** Plants are mysterious and the path to a green thumb is never straight. Give yourself grace when things don't grow the way you thought they would, as well as time to learn from the unexpected. We assure you, do-it-yourself gardening is a journey worth taking, even when it feels like the whole block is watching. To lessen the sting, share your commiserations with a circle of friends in the same boat—and celebrate successes together, too.

*Rachel Anderson, Community Landscape Specialist & Designer, plantnebraska.org*

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## NNLA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal forms have been sent for the 2021-2022 membership year. Thank you to those who have renewed. If you did not receive your renewal invoice, contact the NNLA office. Membership dues must be received by September 1, 2021.



# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

## JAPANESE BEETLE UPDATE

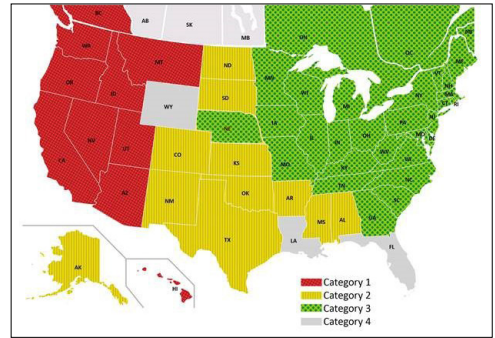
Nebraska has numerous counties infested with Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*). As this pest becomes more common across the state, the prevalence of Japanese beetle has implications for nurseries that ship out of state.

As of January 1, 2021, Nebraska shifted to a Category 3 state, considered generally infested, in the National Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan (JBHP). Nursery stock must now be certified as free of Japanese beetle, in order to be shipped to Category 1 (uninfested) or Category 2 (partially infested) states. This special certification is in addition to a regular nursery inspection and license, and may include soil sampling, trapping surveys, inspections and/or chemical treatments. The JBHP can be found at <https://nationalplantboard.org/japanese-beetle-harmonization-plan/>

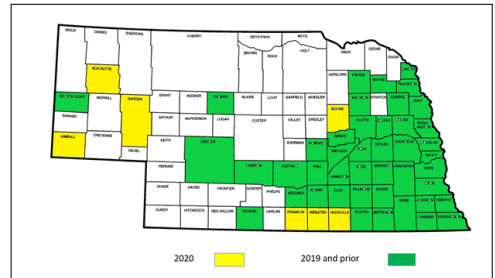
In addition to the certification requirements found in the JBHP, several states including California, Colorado, Oregon and Washington, have Japanese beetle quarantines in place that either prohibit nursery stock movement from infested areas or place limits on the movement of nursery stock.

NDA continues to monitor for the presence of Japanese beetle in our state. Based on trapping surveys, nearly half of Nebraska counties are considered infested as of 2020.

All Nebraska nurseries involved in interstate shipment of nursery stock should contact NDA now to determine what certification measures will be needed. Be proactive in contacting NDA; do not wait until you are ready to ship. Contact Jessica Schueth, Export Certification Coordinator, at 402-471-5902 or by email at [agr.phyto@nebraska.gov](mailto:agr.phyto@nebraska.gov), for more information or to discuss certification requirements.



**National Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan Map showing Japanese beetle infested status of each state.**



**Nebraska Counties infested with Japanese Beetle, as of January 1, 2021**

## JOB OPENINGS

As a member benefit, NNLA will post job openings to our website for no cost. To view current posting, go to [nnla.org/resources/job-openings-2/](http://nnla.org/resources/job-openings-2/). If you have a current posting, notify NNLA if you want it removed or updated. To list an opening, email [jennifer@youraam.com](mailto:jennifer@youraam.com) with the information to be posted.



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## HELP WANTED: JOIN A NNLA COMMITTEE

The NNLA Board of Directors is looking for interested members to join one of the three standing committees to help direct the work of the Association. Contact the NNLA office at [jennifer@youraam.com](mailto:jennifer@youraam.com) if you are interested in helping with committee work.

**MARKETING COMMITTEE** – assist with the website and social media oversight, newsletter articles, outreach to consumers, industry partners, etc.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** – Identify and recruit potential members, encourage membership renewals, and recommend additional member benefit/services to the Board of Directors

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE** – assist with the development of topics, speakers, and venues of NNLA events, such as, webinars, Field Day, Winter Conference, and workshops.

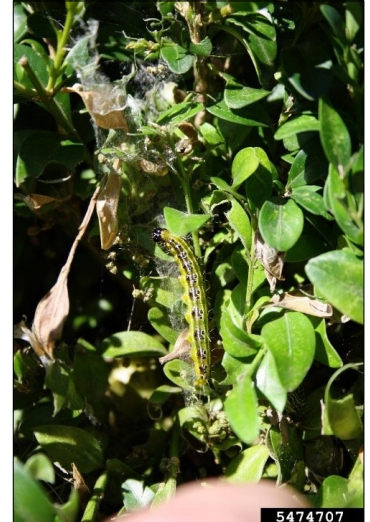
# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

## BOX TREE MOTH

Box tree moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) is an exotic, invasive pest that impacts boxwood plants. The moth is originally from Asia, and is not known to be established in the U.S. However, in spring 2021, a nursery in Ontario, Canada shipped infested nursery stock to six states in the U.S., including a large wholesale location, which further distributed to plants across the U.S.

USDA APHIS PPQ and State Departments of Agriculture have been working together to track down and destroy the infested plants, to prevent establishment. Additionally, box tree moth traps and lures are being provided to states to conduct surveys at the receiving facilities and high risk locations.

USDA also issued a Federal Order halting the importation of host plants from Canada, including boxwood (*Buxus* species), Euonymus (*Euonymus* species), and holly (*Ilex* species), which went into effect May 26, 2021.



**Box tree moth larva feeding on boxwood foliage. Note the webbing and damaged leaves. Photo credit: Ferenc Lakatos, University of Sopron, Bugwood.org**



**Adult box tree moths are most typically like the white and brown specimen on the left. However, occasionally moths will be almost entirely brown, with small white marks on the forewings (moth on the right). Photo credit: Szabolcs Sáfán, University of West Hungary, Bugwood.org**

Box tree moths defoliate the boxwood plants, causing plant stress and eventual death. If foliage is not available, the larvae may even feed on the bark.

Signs of a box tree moth infestation include skeletonized leaves, webbing among leaves, and green-black frass on leaves.

If you see any evidence of box tree moth infestation on boxwood plants, please take pictures and immediately report your concerns to NDA at (402) 471-6847 or [agr.plant@nebraska.gov](mailto:agr.plant@nebraska.gov).

More information about box tree moth, including pictures of life stages and damage, can be found online at [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant\\_health/alert-box-tree-moth.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant_health/alert-box-tree-moth.pdf)

## FFA CONVENTION

The NNLA continues to reach out to the next generation and encourage them to consider a career in the diverse horticulture field. The Association sponsors the Nursery Operations Proficiency Award and the Landscape Management Proficiency Award during the FFA convention. The 2021 FFA Convention was held virtually.

**Landscape Management - Entrepreneurship/Placement Winners:**  
 First Place: Ben Flynn of Ainsworth  
 Second Place: Garrett Rasmussen of Boone Central  
 Third Place: Sarah Wallinger of Stuart

**Nursery Operations - Entrepreneurship/Placement Winners:**  
 First Place: Isaiah Langston of Norris  
 Second Place: Hannah Urban of Twin River  
 Third Place: Maci Nemetz of West Holt

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## Do you ship nursery stock out-of-state?

More than just your NE nursery license may be required.  
Don't risk shipping without proper certification!

For info about requirements, contact the  
Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Export Certification Coordinator at:  
402-471-5902 or [agr.phyto@nebraska.gov](mailto:agr.phyto@nebraska.gov)



# NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

## PLANTS FOR SANDY SOIL

By Rachel Anderson, Community Landscape Specialist, Nebraska Forest Service and Nebraska Statewide Arboretum

If you're sitting on sandy soil and don't have a flower garden, please do start growing one immediately. The rest of us—who sigh with disappointment every time we read “must have well-drained soil” in a nursery catalog—can't let you waste this opportunity lying at your feet.

Sand, the largest of soil particles (and the only one visible to the naked eye), is no stranger to the state and can be found along the Platte River lands and all over the Sandhills. Characterized by excellent drainage, low fertility, and resistance to compaction, sandy soil creates a truly unique setting for landscaping in Nebraska. If you are willing to leave behind the nutrient- and water-loving specimens often featured in magazines (astilbe, bleeding heart, hellebore, hardy hibiscus, viburnum, hydrangea, daylily), you will find a whole new palette of plants worth their salt in color, texture and toughness. Fold in compost for a boost in nutrient and moisture retention, and the possibilities are striking.

Not only do prairie natives seem to behave better in sandier conditions—what flops for someone else can stand straight for you (little bluestem, blazingstar), what stretches to six feet for them may stay content at four (big bluestem, milkweed)—but the saturated reds, blues and oranges you usually have to drive to the Rocky Mountains to see are suddenly growable at home. Just don't jeopardize the good thing you've got going: avoid over-mulching and over-irrigating, which can both cause rot in most xeric plants. In other words, if you find it wilting, don't run for the hose; replace it with something else that will appreciate its circumstances. And less mulch might mean more weeds until things fill in, but sandy soil makes pulling or hoeing them almost fun.

**Try these flowers for sand:**

**Purples, Pinks and Blues:**

- Garden salvia, *Salvia nemorosa*
- Dianthus, *Dianthus* cultivars
- Penstemon, *P. strictus*, *P. grandiflorus*, *P. x mexicale*
- Resonous skullcap, *Scutellaria resinosa*
- Hummingbird mint, *Agastache rupestris*
- Purple prairie clover, *Dalea purpurea*
- Blazingstar, *Liatris punctata*, *L. squarrosa*
- Prairie flax, *Linum lewisii*
- Appleblossom grass, *Gaura lindheimeri*
- Purple poppymallow, *Callirhoe involucrata*

**Whites and Greens:**

- Fendler's aster, *Aster fendleri*
- Prairie sage, *Artemisa ludoviciana*, *A. frigida*
- Cushion spurge, *Euphorbia polychroma*

**Yellows, reds and oranges**

- Oriental poppy, *Papaver orientale*
- Butterfly milkweed, *Asclepias tuberosa*
- Lanceleaf coreopsis, *Coreopsis lanceolata*
- California fuschia, *Zauscheneria garrettii*
- Pineleaf penstemon, *Penstemon pinifolius*
- Yarrow, *Achillea* cultivars
- Torchlily, *Kniphofia uvaria*

- Primrose, *Calylophus serrulatus*, *Oenothera macrocarpa*
- Prairie zinnia, *Zinnia grandiflora*
- Skyrocket gilia, *Ipomopsis aggregata*
- Lupine, *Thermopsis villosa*, *T. montan*

**Grasses:**

- Grama, *Bouteloua curtipendula*, *B. hirsutus*, *B. gracilis*
- Little bluestem, *Schizachyrium scoparium*
- Sand lovegrass, *Eragrostis trichodes*
- Plains muhly, *Muhlenbergia cuspidata*
- Junegrass, *Koeleria macrantha*
- Blue oat grass, *Helictotrichon sempervirens*
- Blue fescue, *Festuca ovina*
- Buffalograss, *Buchloe dactyloides*

**And for part sun:**

- Balloonflower, *Platycodon grandiflorus*
- Sprengel's sedge, *Carex sprengellii*
- Appalachian sedge, *Carex appalachica*
- Prairie petunia, *Ruellia humilis*
- Dwarf spiderwort, *Tradescantia tharpaii*
- Fremont's clematis, *Clematis fremontii*
- Pussytoes, *Antennaria parviflora*
- Birdsfoot violet, *Viola pedata*
- Ornamental onion, *Allium senescens* var. *glaucum*, *A. stellatum*, *A. cernuum*
- Yellow columbine, *Aquilegia chrysantha*



*Lanceleaf coreopsis, with sunburst blooms and seedheads favored by goldfinches, couldn't be happier in sandy soil.*



*Pineleaf penstemon features hot red trumpet flowers in June that attract hummingbirds.*

### WILDFLOWER WEEK CELEBRATED STATEWIDE IN JUNE

Wildflowers and other native plants are important to a region's sense of place. They grow uncultivated, without human care or control. Their presence indicates the natural environment is healthy and they provide food for native wildlife and pollinators. Grown in home landscapes, they bring visitors in the form of birds, butterflies and other creatures and they benefit and connect us with the larger environment.

June events are hosted by Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and other organizations that recognize the value of wildflowers, both environmentally and personally, as sources of inspiration and restoration.

Opportunities for wildflower enthusiasts across the state include tours, talks and native plant sales. Or make your own event by planting wildflowers or visiting parks, wildlife refuges or other natural areas near you. Check for event updates at <https://plantnebraska.org/wildflower-week/>.



PRESENTS

# KICK THE DIRT!

## 2021 NNLA Summer Field Day

Friday, August 6, 2021 - UNL East Campus, Lincoln, NE

Join our hosts Nebraska Extension and Backyard Farmer on UNL East Campus for the Nebraska Nursery and Landscape (NNLA) Summer Field Day on Friday, August 6. The event includes guided walking tours featuring turf management plots, the Backyard Farmer Garden, stormwater projects, hops, research plots, the nut orchard, and pollinator gardens. Connect with other professionals while enjoying the great outdoors.



# AGENDA

Attendees Can Earn Up to 5.0 NCNLP CE Credits!

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Registration** - Located at the Plant Science building, Room 199

9:00 a.m. – Noon

**Educational Sessions** - We will begin the morning with a welcome and an update on the pesticide safety education program. Then join members of the Dept. of Agronomy and Horticulture faculty as they demonstrate the work happening in the Turfgrass Science Research Plots and the Backyard Farmer Garden

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

**Lunch (provided) and Networking** – pick up your box lunch at Plant Science building, Room 199 - *Has it been a while since your last visit to East Campus Keim and Plant Science Halls?* Enjoy your lunch in one of the remodeled rooms in Keim and Plant Science Halls or at the picnic tables the #BYFGarden

### OPEN ROOM LOCATIONS:

- 274 Plant Science Hall
- 275 Plant Science Hall
- 280 Plant Science Hall (Gooding Learning Center)
- 2nd Floor Keim Hall Student lounge (East side of Building)

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Guided Campus Walking Tour** - Featuring new landscape areas, focusing on how student work is being incorporated into existing campus projects; stormwater projects; Humulus lupulus (hops) research plots; the nut orchard, and apiary/pollinator gardens.

3:00 p.m.

**Adjourn**

**PARKING** - Parking is included in your registration fee. Park in the A/C Judging Pavilion lot. A parking attendant will be available at the Fair Street entrance from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. to give you a permit.

**LUNCH** - A sandwich box lunch is included in your registration fee.

### TO REGISTER:

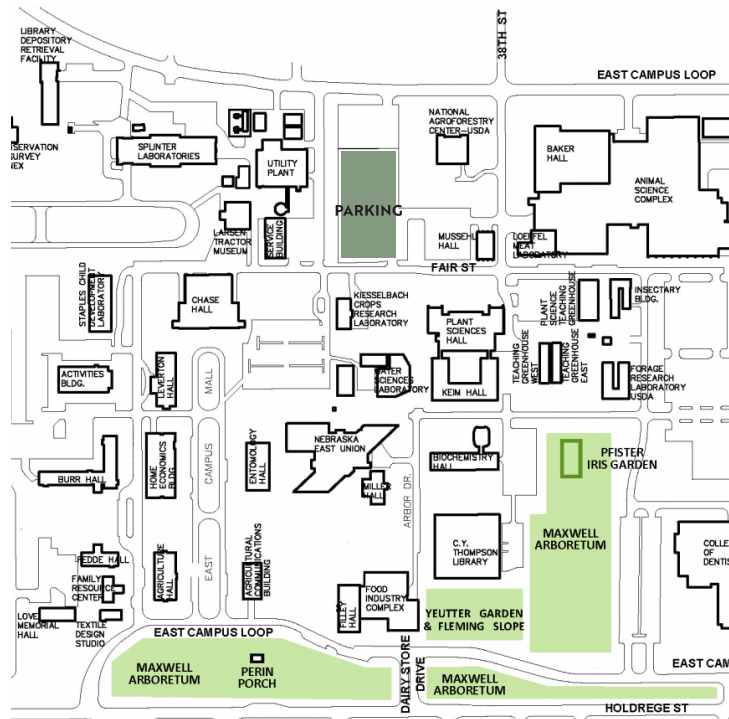
**ONLINE:** Go online at [www.nnla.org/nnla-events](http://www.nnla.org/nnla-events)

**MAIL:** Mail registration to  
PO Box 10, Milford, NE 68405

**EMAIL:** Email completed form to  
[Jennifer@youraam.com](mailto:Jennifer@youraam.com)

**Questions?** Call 402-761-2216 or email [Jennifer@youraam.com](mailto:Jennifer@youraam.com)

NNLA is not liable for any injury or damage resulting from willful acts of attendees. Attendees assume all risk and danger relating to the Field Day event, whether occurring prior to, during or after the event.



**EAST CAMPUS**

# 2021 NNLA SUMMER FIELD DAY REGISTRATION FORM

Friday, August 6, 2021 - UNL East Campus, Lincoln, NE

NAME

COMPANY

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE

EMAIL

PHONE

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION FEE

\$50.00

Donation to NNLA Scholarship Fund

\$\_\_\_\_\_

## SPONSORSHIPS

Event Sponsor - \$100 - ***Includes: Logo on all event materials***

Water Sponsor - \$250 - ***Includes: Logo on all event materials and specific signage at water stations, One event registration***

Lunch Sponsor - \$500 - ***Includes: Logo on all event materials and specific signage at lunch, Two event registrations, If requested, up to three minutes to speak at welcome to group***

***Cancellation Policy:*** A refund, less a \$10 administrative fee, will be given for all written requests postmarked by July 26, 2019. Requests received after that date will be reviewed by the NNLA Board of Directors. In the unlikely event the Summer Field Day is cancelled due to uncontrollable circumstances, your payment will be considered a donation to NNLA.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Send check, payable to NNLA, to NNLA, PO Box 10, Milford, NE 68405

Or please bill my credit card for the total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

*When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.*