

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NEBRASKA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

2021 NNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

Cindy Christensen, Landscape Designer at ASPM Landscapes in Norfolk was elected to serve as an At-Large Director

Cindy's love of horticulture started the summer after her freshman year of college. She got a summer job working at a design/build landscape company working on a maintenance crew. At that time, she had no idea that landscape design even existed. The Landscape Designers that worked there absolutely fascinated her - always in a hurry, walking around with their rolled-up paper plans and meeting with clients. At the time she was majoring in Food Science but knew that was not for her. Her sophomore year she switched to Horticulture/Landscape Design, earning her Bachelor of Science from the University of Nebraska in the fall of 1997.



Cindy Christensen

Cindy has been working as a landscape designer for the past 24 years, a Nebraska Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional for over 20 years, and now serves on the NCNLP Committee. She regularly attends NNLA conferences, field days and continuing education. She has been working at ASPM Landscapes in Norfolk for the past four years where she does 3-D design/estimating for residential clients, commercial bidding, and plant ordering. Her and her husband live in Wayne, he is a science professor at Wayne State College. They have two grown boys and a Sphynx cat named Chloe.

Ashly Neneman, General Manager at Sun Valley Landscaping in Omaha was elected to serve an additional term as an At-Large Director

As General Manager of Sun Valley Landscaping, Ashly Neneman leads the company through the many challenges and hurdles of the green industry and the Omaha market, and more recently Covid-19. In the last 10 years Ashly has been part of exponential growth, seeing the company from \$950,000 in revenue to a goal of almost \$7 million at the end of 2021. In that time, she has helped the company navigate a merger and five acquisitions, which included a complete re-brand and an irrigation division start-up.



Ashly Neneman

Ashly was recognized as Midlands Business Journal's 40 Under 40 in 2015 and currently serves as a board member for the Nebraska Nursery Landscape Association. Sun Valley has been recognized locally and nationally for their community outreach efforts by the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Landscape Management and Lawn and Landscape magazines, and most recently, the National Association of Landscape Professionals. Ashly founded Commit20 in 2015 as a way for the company to celebrate their 20th year in business by not only giving back, but to encourage a shift in mindset of employees at Sun Valley.

zines, and most recently, the National Association of Landscape Professionals. Ashly founded Commit20 in 2015 as a way for the company to celebrate their 20th year in business by not only giving back, but to encourage a shift in mindset of employees at Sun Valley.

*Save
the Date!*

**NCNLP Testing to be held
February 28, 2022**

**NNLA Summer Field
Day
TBD**

**NNLA 2023 Winter
Conference
January 26 & 27**

*Watch
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



I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and have had a chance to unwind and relax a bit from a long season. It sounds to me like everyone had a good year and it looks to be a good spring. Hoping for good weather and a strong business season. In my travels and visits it sure seems to be looking good, and even with the challenges we face there is much optimism moving forward.

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Nebraska Winter Conference. The staff and board did a great job and the venue was tremendous. The speakers were very good, and attendance was more that we could have hoped for. The combination of speakers, sponsors, and a fantastic location made for a super day and a half. It sure didn't hurt that we were all ready to see each other again after a year apart. I saw some new faces and some old friends and it was very gratifying to see the turnout. A lot of work was put in to make it possible, and you made the conference one of the better ones in some time, and set the bar very high for next year. We have secured Innovation Campus in Lincoln again for next year. The support from our vendors and your attendance seemed to make that an obvious choice.

The board relishes your input and ideas for the next conference, please consider being a part of the committee that works on setting up the show. Give us a call or drop an email. New ideas are appreciated and valued. Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey and giving us your opinions, on paper or in person. Help encourage others to join the association and come to the events. We are also working on in person field days so make sure to check your emails from NNLA.

The coming year will have its challenges in the supply chain and shipping. Have a good break and recharge but stay in front of your planning for what looks to be a good 2022 season. Delays in getting material are a reality. Teach your staff and customers to value the services we provide. Hopefully we get past this current round of the pandemic and can work towards a new normal.

Sincerely,
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 or (402) 381-7154 for further details.

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Thank you for your continued support of the Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association!

As a way to promote our members and learn about each other, NNLA will begin highlighting members with a spotlight feature on the NNLA Facebook page, website, and in the NNLA newsletter/emails. In order to participate, you must complete and submit the Member Spotlight form.

NNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

Jason Kuehl, NCNLP

PRESIDENT 2021-22
Plant Right, LLC
5656 S. 188th St., Omaha, NE 68135
402-669-6703
jasonkplants@gmail.com

Brett Schroer, NCNLP

VICE PRESIDENT 2021-22
Urbanroots Landscape
15259 Cooper St., Omaha, NE 68138
402-819-4913
brett@urbanrootslandscape.com

Sheila Schrader, NCNLP

TREASURER 2021-23
Lincoln Landscaping Company
10810 Saltillo Rd., Roca, NE 68430
402-423-0334
sheila@lincolnlandscapingcompany.com

Brian Munk, NCNLP

PAST PRESIDENT 2021-22
Downtown Lincoln Association
206 S. 13th, Ste. 101 Lincoln, NE 68508
402-441-0020
btmunk@hotmail.com

Lee Olson, NCNLP

2020-2022
Landscapes Ink.
392 Leighton Ave, Union, NE 68455
402-881-0713
landscapesink@gmail.com

Ashly Neneman

2012-24
Sun Valley Landscaping
5601 Harrison St., Omaha, NE 68157
402-932-5704
ashly@sunvalleyomaha.com

Aaron Oltmans

2020-2022
Plains Tree Farm Inc.
306 East 12th St., Davenport, NE 68335
402-364-2186
sales@plainstreefarm.com

Dawn Dawes

2021-23
Mulhall's Nursery
4936 N 120th Street, Omaha, NE 68164
402-963-0734
ddawes@mulhalls.com

Cindy Christensen

2022-24
ASPM Landscapes
2501 E. Omaha Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701
402-316-4272
cindy@aspmlandscapes.com

Terri James

UNL Department of Agronomy and Horticulture Lincoln, NE
402-472-8973 - Tjames2@unl.edu

Julie Van Meter, NCNLP

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Lincoln, NE - 402-471-6847
julie.vanmeter@nebraska.gov

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

JUST HOW PERENNIAL IS THAT PERENNIAL?

While the word perennial is defined as “lasting or existing for a long or apparently infinite time,” a perennial plant is defined much more modestly as “a plant that lives more than two years.”

Thankfully there are many that survive for a decade or more and make a gardener’s life much easier. Beds don’t have to be replanted, much of the structure of the garden remains upright and visible throughout the year and plants don’t have to be purchased annually.

Long-lived Perennials

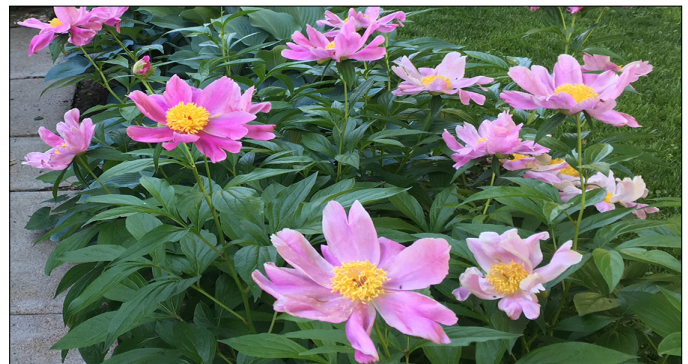
Below are some of the longest-lived of the perennials. This varies greatly by how favorable the site is, how much care they receive and how much competition they have from other plants. (Note: For plants with dissimilar or lesser-known scientific names, the scientific name follows the common one in the lists below.)

Aster, Symphyotrichon
 Astilbe
 Balloon flower, Platycodon
 Bee balm, Monarda
 Blazing star, Liatris
 Bleeding heart, Dicentra
 Butterfly milkweed, *Asclepias tuberosa*
 Campanula
 Catmint, Nepeta
 Coneflower, Echinacea
 Daylily, Hemerocallis
 Evening primrose, *Oenothera*
 False indigo, Baptisia
 Geranium
 Hosta
 Iris
 Joe-pye weed, *Eupatorium*
 Lenten rose, *Helleborus*
 Peony (under the right conditions some peonies have survived 70-100 years)
 Rudbeckia
 Sedum
 Yarrow, *Achillea*

Short-lived Perennials

Just as gardeners happily plant annuals every year and are thankful for a summer of bright colors and extended bloom, there are many short-lived perennials we plant knowing they may only survive for a few years. And some of them pay it forward to future years by reseeding themselves into the future. Still, we plant them happily and hope they will continue on by reseeding themselves.

Blanket flower, *Gaillardia*
 Blue-eyed grass, *Sisyrinchium*
 Columbine, *Aquilegia*
 Delphinium
 Flax, *Linum*
 Lobelia silphitica
 Pinks, *Dianthus*
 Penstemon
 Pincushion flower, *Scabiosa*



Peonies have been known to live 100 years

Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

STATEWIDE PLANTING EFFORTS RECOGNIZED BY ARBORETUM

Organizations and individuals were honored by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum at an awards reception Nov. 5 in Lincoln. The awards are given annually to recognize exceptional plant and landscape efforts aimed at making community spaces more beneficial to the larger environment.

This year’s awards and recipients were:

- President’s Citation—Bob Brandt of Unadilla for planting, promotion and other community efforts.
- Affiliate Excellence Award—Hastings College for campus improvements, education and demonstration.
- Johnny Appleseed Award—Steve Rasmussen of Wayne for tree-planting and garden development in northeast Nebraska.
- Jim Kluck Honor Award—Gene Maffit of South Sioux City for citywide planting, trails, conservation and tree diversity.
- Educator Award—Marjie Ducey of Omaha for environmental outreach.
- Blazing Star Award—Benjamin Vogt of Lincoln for promoting native plants.
- Volunteer Award—Heidi Novotny of Louisville for planting efforts.
- Community Landscape Awards—Gifford Park of Omaha and Central Community College efforts in Grand Island, Hastings, Columbus and Ord for education, improvements and outreach in public areas.

PLANT TALKS

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

Premium Quality Turfgrass

FOR EVERY LANDSCAPE



Turf-Type Buffalograss
Offering a New Dimension
in Turf Maintenance.



Rhizomatous
Tall Fescue
The Only Tall Fescue
with True Rhizomes.



Kentucky Bluegrass
Engineered for
Ultimate Performance.



www.toddvalleyfarms.com
info@toddvalleyfarms.com • 800.869.8544
950 Cty Rd M • Mead NE 68041

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY UPDATE

Winter is a good time to scout for spotted lanternfly (SLF) egg masses on trees, outdoor furniture, and vehicles. Inspect tree trunks, the under sides of branches, and horizontal surfaces near the ground. It is especially important to check vehicles that have traveled into or through infested areas last summer and fall. Look in the wheel wells, behind spare tires, and in all the nooks and crannies where an insect can hide an egg mass.

Egg masses are a gray-brown color and about 1.5 inches in length. The female lays approximately 40-60 eggs, then covers them with a putty-like substance. As this covering ages, it gets lighter and cracks.



Emelie Swackhamer, Penn State University,

SLF was first found in Pennsylvania in 2014 and has since spread throughout several eastern states. In 2021, small populations were also confirmed in Ohio and Indiana. As with any exotic invasive pest, early detection is key to effective control. No SLF has been found in Nebraska to date.

If you think you've found an SLF egg mass, take pictures or collect a specimen, and report your suspicions to your NDA Entomology Inspector, or contact Julie Van Meter, NDA Entomology Program Manager/State Entomologist at 402-471-6847 or Julie.vanmeter@nebraska.gov .



Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, bugwood.

NEW NDA ENTOMOLOGY INSPECTOR

Bonnie Straka is the newest central Nebraska plant inspector for the Department of Agriculture. Originally from the Washington D.C. area, Bonnie was raised a Cornhusker and decided to make it official by attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for her undergrad. Bonnie double majored in entomology and forensic science. She became interested in the agricultural industry when she started working in a lab that studied Western Corn Rootworms and their resistance to different transgenic corn traits. Bonnie has held multiple entomology internships, including a research position at Dupont Pioneer in Des Moines and a pest management position at Disney World. After her time in Florida, Bonnie moved back to Nebraska, where she got married and settled down in Omaha with her husband Mark and black lab Elliot. Bonnie started a master's program in natural resources and environmental science through the University of Illinois and a biology internship with the Army Corps of Engineers. Although she enjoyed her time at the Corps, Bonnie wanted to return to her entomology roots and found the NDA inspector position. Bonnie is based in Hastings and enjoys getting to know her clients in the industry and exploring more of Nebraska through her work.



ONLINE STORE
NOW AVAILABLE!

- ✓ SOIL
- ✓ MULCH
- ✓ RIVER ROCK
- ✓ PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE
- ✓ CONTRACTOR DISCOUNTS
- ✓ DELIVERY

Shop our supply yard online today!








SunValleyOmaha.com/Products
5601 Harrison St. Omaha, NE 68157 | (402) 932-5704

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

In addition to our current job posting webpage, a 'Tools and Equipment' page will be located on the NNLA website as an exclusive benefit to members to list tools an equipment they would like to advertise. The webpage will be viewable by the public but only members will be able to list items. To place your ad, simply send the NNLA office an email at jennifer@youraam.com. Include all pertinent information and attach a photo if appropriate. Ads will be listed for 30 days, and the posting of ads will not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by NNLA.

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

PERENNIALS: DIVIDE TO MULTIPLY

Dividing perennials is a great way to expand a flower bed. It rejuvenates older plants which may have begun to die out in the center, and the new clumps are sturdy enough to become healthy, mature plants in the first year. It can help prevent an existing bed from being taken over by one plant and it's fast, easy and inexpensive. If you have a new space that will require about 20 plants to fill in, for instance, you might consider buying only five perennials and filling the rest of it with annuals until the perennials get large enough to divide.

When and How to Divide?

It's best to divide plants when they're still healthy and looking good but even older, failing plants can be rejuvenated by division. The mild weather of fall and early spring is a good time to divide perennials—when they're using their energy to establish roots rather than for top growth. While air temperatures may be freezing, soil isn't likely to freeze hard enough to limit planting until late November. For best root establishment, it's best to plant a full month before the ground freezes.

In general, it's best to divide spring-blooming flowers in fall and summer- and fall-bloomers in spring. If you divide plants later in the season, cut back the foliage to reduce heat stress and encourage new growth. Warm, windy days will cause the foliage to wilt, no matter how moist the soil. Work in the cool hours of the day if possible and try to avoid windy days. It's best to divide a few days after rain or watering so the root system is moist and doesn't fall apart.

Some plants are fibrous or have a loose crown and root system, making it easy to pull them apart. A flat spade, pitchfork or knife can be used to break clumps into halves or quarters, while trying to leave the crown sections of the plants fairly intact. It may be easier to remove the entire plant before dividing. Keeping the clumps fairly large reduces stress and aids in establishment. If you'll be moving a lot of plants or sizable ones, consider using a wheelbarrow half filled with compost to fill any holes left behind; the compost will provide renewed, fertile soil for both the old and new plants.



To divide plants, it's easiest to dig the whole plant up and then slice it in half or in quarters before replanting



Cutting top growth off makes it easier and more compact.

Place the plants at their original depth in a hole at least as wide and deep as the root spread so the roots aren't tipped up or curled back against each other. After planting, mulch with a 1-2" layer of grass clippings or straw and water them generously. When new growth appears, plants are on their way to establishment and can be watered less frequently to encourage roots to grow deep into the soil.

Specific Plants

- Perennials, easy to divide: aster, beebalm, black-eyed susan, boltonia, coneflower, day-lilies, goldenrod, hosta, sedum, spiderwort
- Perennials, difficult to divide: anemones, balloon flower, candytuft, columbine, Euphorbia, foxglove, gas plant, geranium (perennial), milkweed, oriental poppy
- Perennials, difficult to transplant because of woody stem: Baptisia, butterfly bush, lavender
- Perennials, woody-stemmed ones that may propagate by branch-rooting—separating a side shoot or branch and covering the stem with soil to create a new plant while still attached (cut once established): Artemisia, leadplant, Russian sage
- Grasses, easy to divide: feather reed grass, sedges, switchgrass, big bluestem, indiagrass
- Grasses, difficult to divide because of woody crown or tight-clumping: little bluestem, prairie dropseed, Miscanthus

Bob Henrickson, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

ECONOMICS OF URBAN FORESTRY IN THE US

Urban trees are a powerful force in America. They create jobs and opportunity. They cool our homes, increase property values, and deliver important benefits to society. Now, in a first-of-its-kind study, researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Business Research, in cooperation with the Arbor Day Foundation and the USDA Forest Service, have quantified the value of the urban forestry sector to our national economy and our quality of life.

View the national findings at: <https://www.arborday.org/urban-forestry-economic/>

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

The Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association held their annual membership meeting on December 7, 2021 at Nebraska Innovation Campus.

Jason Kuehl, President, called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. and introduced the 2021 Board of Directors. He also recognized and thanked the past presidents for their service. Brian Munk was presented a plaque for his service as Board President from 2019 – to 2021.



President Kuehl provided a year in review for the association including activities, sponsorships, advertising, Field Day, and workshops.

Taylor Cammack, the 2022 scholarship awardee provided an update on how she used the scholarship monies and her career goals.

The 2021 awards were then presented.

Julie Van Meter provided an update from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Lee Olson provided an updated from the Nebraska Certified Nursery and Landscape Professionals (NCNLP) committee. Lee congratulated and presented plaques to the NCNLPs who passed the test in 2021.

Board of Director elections were held electronically prior to the annual meeting. Two director terms expired this year. Ashly Nene-man and Cindy Christensen were nominated for these positions. A ballot was emailed to all Active and Associate members three times during the election period of November 18 through December 3 asking them to submit their vote. Twenty ballots were received back. Twenty votes were cast in favor of Ashly Neneman and Cindy Christensen for the NNLA Board of Directors. Kuehl welcomed the new Board members and thanked Sarah Shanahan for serving on the Board.

With no further business, President Kuehl adjourn the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Wedgle® Direct-Inject™ TREE INJECTION SYSTEM

Our advanced technology for tree treatment allows you to

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TREES YOU TREAT IN A DAY!



- ◆ No drilling damage
- ◆ No mixing at job sites
- ◆ No guarding or return trips
- ◆ No waiting for uptake
- ◆ Treats most trees in five minutes or less!
- ◆ Successful and most profitable add-on service

Multiple injection tips designed for all types of trees, conifers and palms
Insecticides • Fungicides • PGRs • Antibiotics • MicroNutrients

Learn more! Call 800.698.4641 or visit ArborSystems.com for information and videos



NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NATURE'S SUBTLE BEAUTY

"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold." Aristotle

The just completed fall season was a glorious one with an extended rainbow explosion of vibrant colors. It's one of nature's displays that is hard to miss and very easy to enjoy. It's no wonder we might feel a bit let down when the dramatic show is over and "gloomy" winter takes hold.

Yet a skilled observer with a keen eye and appreciation for subtle beauty knows nature's wondrous show continues after that last colorful leaf has fallen. Although the ongoing show may be elusive, faint, or fleeting, it can also be quite profound. Developing the skill to look deeper, longer, or more closely, to see and appreciate this type of beauty is very rewarding; best of all it pulls the curtain back on a whole new world of possibilities.



Coralberry: often found in wild woodland areas

Where can it be found? It's actually all around us and very accessible. Here are just a few examples:

Plants—beyond flowers and fall color. Plants offer a wide range of attractive and interesting characteristics beyond their relatively brief show of flowers or fall color. The picturesque structure of an old bur oak or Kentucky coffee tree, the unique bark of the river birch or the sycamore, the persistent fruit of a crabapple or viburnum, or the lingering and interesting seed heads of many ornamental grasses and perennials can be quite appealing and are best viewed in the winter months. These are just a few examples of the underappreciated beauty offered by plants. It seems the deeper and more closely one looks the more appealing and amazing plants become.

Birds. There may be fewer birds who spend their winters with us, but because leaves have fallen, our feathered friends are much easier to see and appreciate. Of course, flashy cardinals and blue jays clearly stand out, but even the muted tones of birds like juncos and sparrows are more visible and attractive against a backdrop of snow. Whether in the wild, your neighborhood, or at the birdfeeder outside your window, birds are always available to be noticed and admired. Other animals are also easier to spot and enjoy after leaf drop. And after a light snow it's fun to check for tracks to discover which wildlife visitors secretly visited and where they went.

Weather. I know, many of us in the Midwest "hate" winter weather, but if we are open and looking for beauty, there is a lot to see. It's hard to dispute the magical appeal of a fresh blanket of snow or a thick coat of hoarfrost. And if you get a chance to closely examine individual snowflakes or the patterns of frost on a window, the geometric intricacy is amazing to behold. Taking a moment to notice and be grateful for these natural wonders lifts the spirits and just might make it easier to handle the scooping or travel hassles that may follow.

Photography. Great photographers have a tremendous ability to find subtle beauty in nature, and Nebraska is lucky to have two of the best nature photographers in Joel Sartore and Michael Forsberg. Some of their most appealing images are of everyday things or scenes, simply from a different perspective. Their photos are clearly wonderful to enjoy by themselves, but they can also be a great source of inspiration of how to look for nature's charm in less obvious places.

Growing the skills of perception and awareness to find and appreciate subtle beauty may take a bit of effort, but the payoff is well worth it. Instead of only enjoying a glorious show a few times a year, you can savor something from nature almost every time and everywhere you look.

Kendall Weyers, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org

Committed to Client Success



federatedinsurance.com

Commercial Insurance | Property & Casualty
Life & Disability Income | Workers Compensation
Business Succession and Estate Planning | Bonding
Federated Mutual Insurance Company and its subsidiaries*

*Not licensed in all states.
20.09 Ed. 4/20 © 2019 Federated Mutual Insurance Company

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

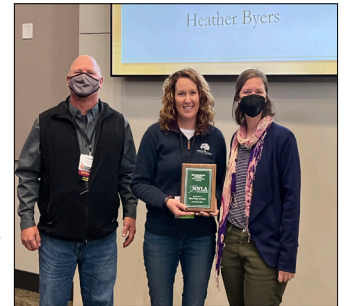
NNLA 2021 AWARDS

2021 Distinguished Nursery Professional Award

Heather Byers, NCNLP
Great Plains Nursery

Heather is a dedicated supporter of NNLA and our mission. She has been a Nebraska Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional since 2012. Heather and her team hosted the NNLA Summer Field Day in 2018.

Heather and her husband Bryan began Great Plains Nursery in 2008. The team at Great Plains Nursery are leaders in the green industry. They are dedicated to growing healthy, hardy, native trees from local seeds whenever possible. They have also added shrubs, fruit trees, and bare root trees to their nursery offerings over the past 13 years. By using a system proven to grow healthy roots, they are ensuring that every tree they sell or donate will be given the best possible chance to grow and thrive. Their nursery stock is sold to municipalities, retail nurseries, arborists, landscapers, and some retail to homeowners. They utilize the GreatPlants® Program in selecting the species they grow. This program gives recognition to species that are especially suited for the Great Plains Region. This is a joint program of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and Nebraska Nursery & Landscape Association. Heather's trees have been used by the Free Trees for Fall Planting program which provides trees for community planting projects. This program is supported by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum's Trees for Nebraska Towns Initiative funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust.



2021 Distinguished Landscape Professional Award

Marti Neely, FAPLD, CPLD, NCNLP
Marti Neely Design & Associates

Marti has been in practice as a landscape designer over thirty years. She has been a strong supporter of NNLA and helping advance the green industry in Nebraska and nationally. Marti is always willing to lend a helping hand to new landscapers as they embark on their career. Marti develops designs that are not only functional and meet the unique needs of her clients but also support sustainable practices. She has written several articles published in 'The Designer' magazine and is the Northern Midwest Regional Reporter for the online edition of 'Fine Gardening' magazine. Marti is actively involved in the industry, leading to her chairing committees, and serving on the board of both the Association of Professional Landscape Designers and the Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association.



2021 Distinguished Nebraska Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional Award

Cindy Christensen, NCNLP
ASMP Landscapes

Cindy has been a NCNLP for over twenty years and exemplifies the standards of this award. The award is given to an individual who exceeds the ideals and standards associated with the NCNLP program and actively assists with the advancement of the program. She currently serves on the NNLA NCNLP Committee and assists with testing and promoting the certification. Cindy was also elected to the NNLA Board of Directors this year. NNLA appreciated the time and talent Cindy brings to the organization.



2021 Gold Leaf Nursery Award

Bailey Nurseries, Inc.
St Paul, MN

Bailey Nurseries has been a long-standing supporter of the NNLA for more than two decades. The nursery promotes the principles of the NNLA and is one of the longest active associate members. Whether it's through their constant research and breeding of cold hardy plant varieties for the upper Great Plains, their partnership with UNL Horticulture to trial their Easy Elegance line of roses, or the internship opportunities they provide for the next generation of horticulturalists they are constantly working to move the industry forward.



NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

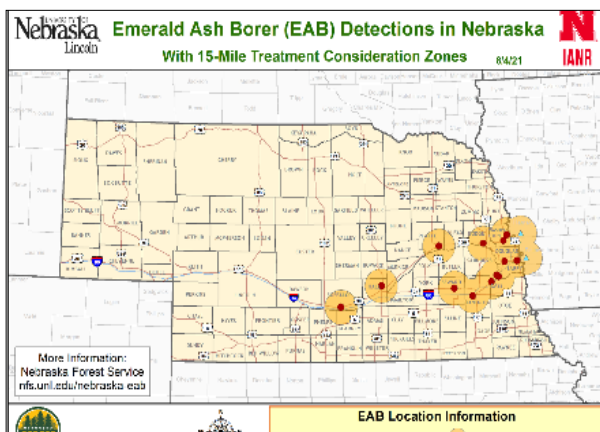
EMERALD ASH BORER FOUND IN COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

Nebraska's 2021 emerald ash borer (EAB) survey is complete, and one new county was found positive. An inspector with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) discovered multiple EAB adults in an NDA trap in Columbus, NE (Platte County) in 2021. This is the first detection of EAB in Platte County. EAB, an invasive beetle that attacks and kills ash trees, was first discovered in Nebraska in 2016. Since that time, EAB has been confirmed in Cass, Buffalo, Dodge, Douglas, Hall, Lancaster, Platte, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

EAB is a small, metallic-green beetle that is about ½ inch long. The larvae of this wood-boring insect tunnel under the bark of ash trees, disrupting the flow of water and nutrients, ultimately causing the tree to die. EAB-infested ash trees will exhibit thinning or dying branches in the top of the tree, S-shaped larval galleries under bark, D-shaped exit holes and suckers (along the trunk and main branches).



D-shape exit hole made by an EAB adult. Photo credit J. Van Meter, NDA



If you are in a non-infested county and think you have located an EAB infestation, please report it to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at 402-471-2351, the Nebraska Forest Service at 402-472-2944 or your local USDA office at 402-434-2345.

Nebraskans are encouraged to contact a certified arborist to assist with EAB treatment and tree removal. Find local certified arborists through the Nebraska Arborists Association at <https://nearborists.org/search-for-an-arborist/>.

Additional information on EAB can be found on NDA's website at: nda.nebraska.gov/plant/entomology/eab/. Nebraska-specific recommendations for homeowners and municipalities can be found on the Nebraska Forest Services' website at <https://nfs.unl.edu/nebraska-eab>.

August is National Tree Check Month

USDA has declared August as National Tree Check Month. There are a number of exotic, invasive plant pests that threaten Nebraska's trees, and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is encouraging the public to monitor their trees for exotic pests like Asian longhorn beetle (ALB) and spotted lanternfly (SLF). ALB and SLF are not known to occur in Nebraska, but could accidentally be introduced to the state on firewood, nursery stock, or even by hitchhiking on a vehicle. Keeping an eye out for these pests, and reporting possible sightings to NDA, is one way to help find these pests early, should they be introduced.



ALB is an invasive wood-boring beetle that attacks 12 types of hardwood trees including maple, elm and willow. Larvae tunnel inside tree trunks and branches, then chewing their way out as adults. Infested trees do not recover and eventually die. These trees can become safety hazards as branches drop and trees fall over, especially during storms.

Spotted lanternfly is a relatively recent invasive insect to the U.S., first found in Pennsylvania in 2014. It likely came to the U.S. on solid wood packing material or imported stone. It is now found in 10 states including much of the mid-Atlantic region, plus small infestations in Ohio and Indiana.

SLF is known to feed on over 70 species of plants. The most significant damage has been reported on grapes and nursery stock, and in landscapes. Smaller plants and grape vines have been killed by SLF, while larger, more established plants show decline, branch die-back, and reduced vigor.



EAB larval gallery. Photo credit J. Van Meter, NDA

Continue on the next page..

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

Continued from previous page..

Fall is an excellent time to monitor for SLF, because adults will be congregated on Tree of Heaven. Look for these large gray insects near the base of these trees.

If you think you have found one of these invasive insects, take pictures or collect specimens. Report possible finds to NDA at (402) 471-2351 or agr.plant@nebraska.gov.



LANDSCAPE TIPS & RESOLUTIONS

Did your yard meet your expectations last year? For most of us, and almost every year, not entirely. Did you enjoy being out in it? For most of us a big yes, we can hardly imagine not having a green landscape around us.

Still, if there's a way to work less and enjoy more, we're all in. Here's a few things some of us who have been gardening a very long time (i.e. we've killed more plants than you) are resolving to do this year.

Making sure trees and shrubs are mulched around the base, possibly in the form of the living mulch of lower-growing plants, eliminates or reduces damage from mowers and string trimmers, reduces competition with turf for water, stabilizes temperature extremes, inhibits weed germination, conserves moisture and usually looks better too.

Creating cleaner lines or edges to further define lawn or flower beds. Clean edges make the whole landscape look better. Whether that's a mown path or using logs to outline flower beds or pathways (they can be rolled aside to mow and they're quick, cheap and easily movable markers to make the landscape look a little more "planned").

Paying more attention to how much or little we're watering. Placing a rain gauge where the sprinkler is hitting can let us know exactly how much plants are being watered. It's especially helpful for trees and shrubs that give less immediate notice of too much or little moisture.

Saving and using organic matter whenever we're working the soil. It doesn't have to be a huge project, it can become part of normal activities to add a shovelful of leaves, clippings or kitchen waste when we're planting. Gradually it will make the soil richer and easier to work. And composting doesn't have to be complicated. Just dig a hole out of sight, put in kitchen or other waste, add some water and cover it with soil. Moisture and worms will break it down within weeks. Trench composting is much faster than dry, aboveground methods and it can be done almost year-round except when soil is frozen hard mid-winter.

Giving more thought to what we're planting. For trees and shrubs, natives and edibles, the longer-lived the plant the more care should go into selecting the right one for the right site.

Leaving some wild areas on the edges for a little less maintenance, more biodiversity and habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

Figuring out which weeds are most problematic in our yards and relaxing about them more. There will always be weeds. Some are temporary while others are problematic and best controlled early on. If there's large areas of them, smothering them for a season with a layer of cardboard covered with mulch might be the easiest way to get them under control.

Spreading a tarp when we're weeding or doing other cleanup makes the mess easier to haul away; no raking or picking up when we're done. And for those of us who tend to lose small tools in the chaos of weeding or pruning, spraying bright handles on small tools makes them easier to find.

Thinking more about the visitors we want to invite in. If that's neighbors, plan a shady spot with seating and places to set the lemonade. If it's birds and butterflies, make sure there's food and varying heights for them to land on in both sun and shade.

Enjoying our yards more. In many parts of the world, having a yard is a rare and expensive luxury. Most of us in this generous and spacious state take it for granted; appreciating the landscapes we have right now is a resolution worth making.

Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org



Spacing plants close together leaves less space for weeds—and weeding.

NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NNLA WINTER CONFERENCE

On December 7 & 8, 2021 over 160 attendees gathered for the 2021 NNLA Winter Conference. The event took place at the Nebraska Innovation Campus in Lincoln, Nebraska.



The conference featured eight sessions, both in-person and virtually. The sessions included the topics of: NDSU Woody Plant Improvement Program, research surrounding wire baskets, native trees and plants, recent and first editions plant releases, work visas, and a designer's native plant tactics and new garden strategies.

The generosity of our sponsors is greatly appreciated. Thank these sponsoring businesses next time you see them. A full list of sponsors is highlighted in this section.

The exhibit hall was filled with fourteen exhibitors showcasing tools, ideas and products applicable to everyday work life. Check out the full list of exhibitors highlighted in this section.



Thank you to all those who helped make this conference successful.

GOLD SPONSOR

Greenleaf
Garden Debut
Mirage Enterprises

SILVER SPONSORS

Mulhall's
Papio Valley
Tessman Company

EXHIBITORS

Bailey Nurseries, Inc.
Bluebird Nursery, Inc.
FNIC formerly INSUR
Heartland Pond Supply
Helena/Arbor Systems
Kankakee Nursery
LG Everist, Inc.
Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Papio Valley Nursery
Plains Tree Farm Inc. & Oak Prairie
Nursery
PlantRight, LLC
Sester Farms
SiteOne Landscape Supply
Urban Roots Nursery

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

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Roots.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



NEBRASKA NURSERY NEWS

NNLA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

For our first member spotlight, we head to Norfolk and visit with ASPM Landscapes.

Tell us about your business' background and history. How did the company start and where it is today? Describe your path to get here.

ASPM Landscapes started as a professional landscaping business in the Chicago area in 2008, dba All Seasons Property Maintenance, and moved to Norfolk, Nebraska in 2012. In 2018, we changed our business name to ASPM Landscapes because we had moved away from the property maintenance side of our business and wanted to reflect that in our name and branding. Because of substantial growth, we built a new facility/location in 2019 which gave us more visibility, more space, and more functionality. Matt Wilke, owner, worked for Kiewit Corporation for many years, most notably spearheading work on the Chicago O'Hare airport runway. He eventually decided to take that knowledge base and use it to form his own business in the landscaping industry.

What are you known for or what is your niche?

ASPM Landscapes operates multiple divisions — Commercial and Residential Landscaping; Grading, Seeding & Erosion control for commercial and residential properties; Commercial Snow & Ice Management, and Side Dump Operation. We have a full-time designer with a degree in Landscape Design and Horticulture who is also a Nebraska Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional.

What are some highlights of serving your community?

We support many different organizations with monetary donations throughout the year.

What awards or recognition has the business received?

Best of Northeast Nebraska NCN 2021 - Best Employer Under 50 Employees (2nd Place) Teammates Mentoring of Norfolk 2021 - Top Donor "Most Valuable Player Club"

Anything else you would like to tell people about yourself or the company?

ASPM is fully licensed and insured and regularly attend expos, workshops, and hands-on training events to bring our customers the latest trends and products available. We are a member of Nebraska LICA (Land Improvement Contractors of America), have a Nebraska Nursery Stock Distributor License, and are registered as a contractor with the Nebraska Department of Labor. Overall, our top-notch, hard-working team has over 40 years of experience in the landscape industry.

ASPM Landscapes
 Aspmlandscapes.com
 info@aspmlandscapes.com
 Phone: (402) 316-4272



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/. If you have a current posting, notify NNLA if you want it removed or updated. To list an opening, email jennifer@youraam.com with the information to be posted.

Ingredients to a Great Impression

QUALITY. VARIETY. EXPERIENCE. EXPERTISE. SERVICE.

Our priority is to deliver the best and freshest products that meet your highest standards and help you grow your business.

B&B Trees • Evergreen Trees/Shrubs
 Bagged Trees • Deciduous Shrubs
 Shrub Roses • Ornamental Grasses
 Perennials • Annuals • Grafted Evergreens
 Topsoil • Hardwood Mulch

pvn
Papio Valley
nursery

11015 South 48th Street
 Papillion, NE 68133
 Phone: 402.547.5001
 Fax: 402.505.3421
 papiovalley.com