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

KCCB Board of Directors

John Baroni, President
 Mindy Rush-Chipman, Vice Pres.
 Richard Yoder, Secretary
 Mitch Pearrow, Treasurer
 Roger Behrns & Terry Lorenson
 Linda Behrns, Executive Director

Presentations: If you would like to have a speaker for your school, church or organization about litter prevention, recycling or beautification, please contact us.

Financing provided through the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and the generosity of our donors and members. KCCB is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



Close the loop...Buy recycled!



KCCB participates in the following Keep America Beautiful and Keep Nebraska Beautiful programs:

- Great American Cleanup
- America Recycles Day
- Cigarette Litter Prevention Program
- Waste in Place
- National Planting Day
- Litter Free School Zones
- Earth Day
- Grow Big Red

Keep Cass County "Beautiful News"

Volunteer/Member Appreciation Event

Keep Cass County Beautiful hosted its second annual Volunteer/Member Appreciation Event on Saturday, March 12 at the Louisville Senior Center. Thirty-eight guests from Cass County communities enjoyed recognition and dinner donated by Plattsmouth Hy-Vee.



Linda Behrns, KCCB director, presented an Appreciation Award to the Village of Cedar Creek for their ballfield renovation and for litter clean-ups. Cedar Creek Village Board Member, Mitch Pearrow, accepted the award on behalf of the board. With Pearrow's help, KCCB received a \$20,000 Keep America Beautiful/Lowe's Community Improvement Grant for the project. The Cedar Creek Tree and Park Board sponsored litter cleanups to help beautify the Cedar Creek spur. Behrns thanked them for their membership donation and community improvement.



Jolene Dalton, Manley clerk, and Mickey Dalton, Manley Village Board member accepted the second award. The Manley board approved and now offers curbside recycling for all of its residents. They held a Great American Cleanup of the Manley spur in the spring, planted 10 beautiful trees in their city park through the Nebraska ReTree program, and used the KCCB recycling bins to host a litter-free, recycling event at their "Pillage the Village" annual event. "We thank them and all our members and volunteers who supported Keep Cass County Beautiful projects, programs and events in 2015," Behrns stated.

Quarterly Newsletter
 Spring 2016
 Issue #6



KCCB Launches 2016 GAC

This year's Great American Cleanup theme, — "CLEAN YOUR BLOCK PARTY" — encourages and empowers all volunteers and participants to take what they learn from a Great American Cleanup event and bring it home to organize an event on their own block. Keep America Beautiful is encouraging participants to celebrate their hard work and accomplishments with neighbors, family and friends.

Keep Cass County Beautiful (KCCB) will partner with local organizations to plan volunteer events and environmental programs structured to beautify parks, reduce waste, increase recycling, remove litter, plant trees and "Grow Big Red" gardens, that will inspire generations of environmental stewards.

KCCB will provide trash bags and loan banners, safety vests, gloves and some pick-up tools to Cass County communities and organizations who wish to participate in a Great American Cleanup event.

In 2015, KCCB provided supplies for 11 clean-ups in the county that engaged help from 66 adults and 135 youth who spent 346 hours to collect 129 large bags of trash.

Volunteers are Needed

The Cedar Creek Tree and Park Board is scheduling a Great Nebraska Trash Off/Great American Highway Cleanup of Spur 13-H on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Volunteers are needed and should meet at the fire hall at 8:00 A.M.

Trash bags, safety vests and pick-up tools will be provided. Wear gloves and dress accordingly for the weather. If it rains, we will schedule an alternate date.

KCCB Plant Sale Fundraiser

What: Keep Cass County Beautiful will be selling locally grown Plantman Nursery assorted vegetables, annual flowers and hanging baskets at the Rural Route Rust Vintage & Handmade Market Event.

Where: Bloom Where You're Planted Farm, 911—108th St., rural Avoca, NE

When: April 16, 2016 from 10 A.M.—5 P.M. (Rain or Shine)

Why: Fundraising event to help support KCCB projects

Admission: \$3.00; Ages 11 & under Free

Come purchase your plants and also enjoy fifty of the best vendors of antiques, vintage, rusty, chippy, unique and hand-made goods in the Midwest! Nestled amidst the historic farm buildings, shoppers can enjoy family-friendly play areas, farm animals, and food vendors, as well as plenty of places to sit and relax in the country air. **Thanks for your support!**



Cass County Waste Plan Update

Cass County's review of the 1994 Solid Waste Plan is ongoing. The new plan will seek to provide recommendations to the County and Communities to mitigate disposal costs and increase economic opportunities by better utilizing wasted resources. We would appreciate if residents could take the time to assist us in the planning of this by answering some short questions at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SFTVMV7>. Please submit all survey responses by April 30th.

We are also seeking feedback from businesses within the community at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SB7GJJ2> and people within the farming and agricultural industry at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q25L9NT>.

In addition, we welcome any further feedback, comments and suggestions to Danielle Easdale, Project Manager of the Cass County Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant Program at danielleeasdale@gmail.com.

***Stay connected. Follow KCCB on Facebook & Twitter & watch our website for local community cleanup events.**

Thanks 2016 Corporate Sponsors and Nebraska DEQ

American Exchange Bank (Elmwood)	Ash Grove Cement Company	
Bloom Where You're Planted Farm	Cass County Fair Board	
City of Louisville	Janet McCartney	John's Appliance
Leibman Financial Services	Oxbow Animal Health	Papillion Sanitation
Plantman Nursery	Plattsmouth Animal Hospital	Plattsmouth Hy-Vee
PCS Phosphate Co.	Soil Dynamics Composting Farm	Union JunKtion
Village of Cedar Creek	Village of Manley	Village of Union



Plattsmouth Hy-Vee Continues Recycling Food Waste

According to Valerie Simpson, Plattsmouth Hy-Vee Manager of Perishables, "We are still partnering with Sanimax, a food recycling corporation, and carrying on with what we have done in the past and it's going great." Sanimax collects animal and meat by-products, used cooking oil and organic waste from stores and turns it into tallow, protein, biofuel and compost.

Hy-Vee continues to be a responsible steward in reducing waste in our nation's landfills and supports other environmental practices. According to Hy-Vee 2016 Corporate Citizenship Report magazine, in 2015 Hy-Vee increased the number of vehicle charging ports by more than 25%. The Plattsmouth location has one charging station located in the south parking lot where customers can charge their electric vehicle. They've expanded the number of stores diverting food waste to more than 220 stores in their eight state region, and now, companywide, divert up to 2 million pounds per month.

In the last three years, Hy-Vee's efforts have resulted in the recycling of an estimated 6 million pounds of plastic, 250 million pounds of cardboard and 1 million pounds of paper. Hy-Vee encourages their employees and customers to place more items in reusable shopping bags, thus reducing the number of plastic bags customers take home. Plastic bags can be dropped off in recycling bins at the entrance of the stores where they are sent off for recycling.



Electronics Recycling Event

The Plattsmouth Chamber of Commerce will be hosting an Electronic Recycling Event on May 20th from 2—4 P.M. at the Chamber parking lot located at 918 Washington Avenue, Plattsmouth. The event is open to all Cass County residents and most items will be accepted for FREE except CRT monitors are \$10 and TVs up to 30 inches start at \$20.

Bring any used **electronics, appliances, equipment or metals** for recycling and refurbishing. All sales and services provide solutions to Poverty through work at the Cross Training Center, Cross Electronic Recycling. For additional information contact Cindy Cruse, Executive Director, Plattsmouth Chamber at ccruse@plattsmouthchamber.com or 402.296.6021.