



NEBRASKA RECYCLING
COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT



Letter from the Executive Director

As we reflect on 2025, I am filled with gratitude for the partners, communities, businesses, educators, and advocates who continue to advance the mission of the Nebraska Recycling Council. This year reminded us that meaningful progress happens when people come together with a shared commitment to building a more sustainable and resilient Nebraska.

In 2025, the Nebraska Recycling Council welcomed new staff, expanded outreach efforts, strengthened partnerships, and continued advocating for policies and practices that promote long-term environmental and economic sustainability. We were proud to convene professionals from across Nebraska and beyond through conferences, webinars, and networking opportunities that foster innovation and collaboration across our sectors.

Our work would not be possible without the dedication of our members, sponsors, volunteers, board leadership, and supporters. Your investment in this mission helps us educate communities, support local programs, connect stakeholders, and advance solutions that benefit both people and the environment. Every partnership, membership, sponsorship, and conversation contributes to a stronger and more sustainable Nebraska.

As we look ahead, the Nebraska Recycling Council remains committed to advancing practical, collaborative, and forward-thinking solutions that reduce waste, conserve resources, and strengthen communities across our state. Together, we can continue building systems that prioritize reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, and responsible materials management while supporting economic opportunity and environmental stewardship.

Thank you for being part of this work and for your continued support of the Nebraska Recycling Council.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Carroll Steward, Ph.D.
Executive Director
NE Recycling Council

2025 Organizational Highlights

WELCOMED TWO NEW PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Grace Barton joined the Nebraska Recycling Council as Program Director in August 2025. She graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University in May 2025 with a Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies, a minor in Business Administration, and additional coursework in Environmental Studies. Grace brings a strong passion for nonprofit work, sustainability, and education to NRC. She looks forward to collaborating with members and partner organizations across Nebraska to expand the Council's impact and continue growing in her role. Outside of work, Grace enjoys hiking, spending time outdoors, and connecting with family and friends.



Jadyn Chasek joined the Nebraska Recycling Council as Program Director in October 2025. Jadyn first connected with NRC in 2023 as an intern, an experience that deepened her passion for environmental work and community-driven impact. She graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in May 2024 with degrees in Environmental &



Sustainability Studies and Communication Studies. Jadyn is excited to apply her education and experience to support NRC's mission. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time outdoors, walking her dogs, and being with family and friends.

ADVOCATED FOR SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT AT THE STATE CAPITOL

NRC presented at the Nebraska State Capitol during the signing ceremony for the Proclamation of Nebraska Recycles Day, which will now be observed annually on November 15.



INVESTED IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All NRC staff participated in extensive professional development opportunities to strengthen expertise, leadership, and service to communities across Nebraska.

RECOGNIZED BY INDUSTRY PEERS & PARTNERS

- Received the Friend of the Environment - Nonprofit of the Year award from the Green Omaha Coalition.



- Earned Honorable Mention - Best Recycling Nonprofit from the National Recycling Coalition.



Thank You to Our Members

City of Gering
City of Lincoln - Solid Waste
City of Neligh
City of Norfolk
Crossroads Center Inc
Custer County Recycling
Deborah Turner

Douglas County Environmental Services
Flexcon
Foam Cycle LLC
Goodwill Industries, Inc.,
Serving Eastern Nebraska & Southwest Iowa
HDR
Judi Olivetti
Keep Alliance Beautiful

Keep Kimball Beautiful
Keep Nebraska Beautiful
Keep Nebraska City Beautiful
Kimberly Carroll Steward
Laurel Regional Recycling
Lincoln Electric System
Loup Central Landfill

**EXPANDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
& COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

NRC provided nearly 80 hours of direct technical assistance to residents, schools, organizations, businesses, and municipalities. Staff also attended and presented at numerous community events throughout the year.



**COMPLETED THE DURABLE MEDICAL
EQUIPMENT RESCUE & REUSE PROJECT**

NRC successfully completed its Durable Medical Equipment Rescue & Reuse initiative and began consulting with organizations nationwide to help other states implement similar programs.



**INCREASED STATEWIDE &
NATIONAL VISIBILITY**

Staff attended and presented at multiple local, regional, and national conferences. NRC was also featured in several industry publications and media outlets, including Resources Recycling, Waste360, Flatwater Free Press, The National Academies, Alliance Times-Herald, and Sandhills Post.



**ADVANCED POLICY & ADVOCACY
EFFORTS IN NEBRASKA**

NRC continued advocating for improved waste diversion and sustainable materials management policies across the state, including support for the successful passage of LB 36, Adopt the Safe Battery Collection and Recycling Act.



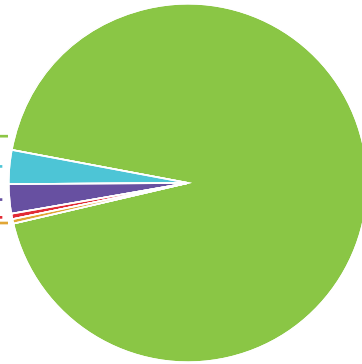
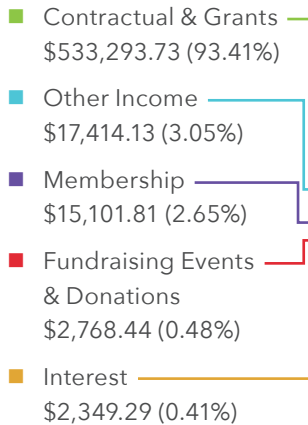
Mary Carol Bond
Middle Niobrara NRD
Nebraska Beverage Association
Nebraska Innovation Campus
Development Corporation
Nebraska Nova, a Goldenrod Company
Nebraska Public Power District
North Central Nebraska RC&D

RecycleMax INC.
Reworld Waste
Riekes Equipment Company
Robert Reinke
Sadoff E-Recycling & Data Destruction
(Sadoff Iron & Metal Company)
Sapphire Americas
Schneider Electric

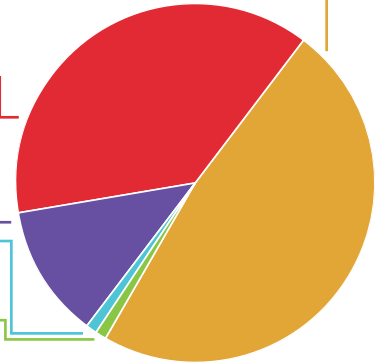
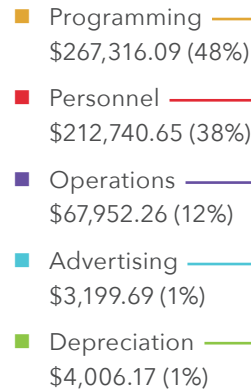
Suzanne Gates
U-Pull It Inc
Upper Loup Natural Resources District
Village Of Hershey
We-Design
Western Resources Group

Supporting Our Mission

2025 REVENUES: \$570,927.38



2025 EXPENSES: \$555,214.86



Partners



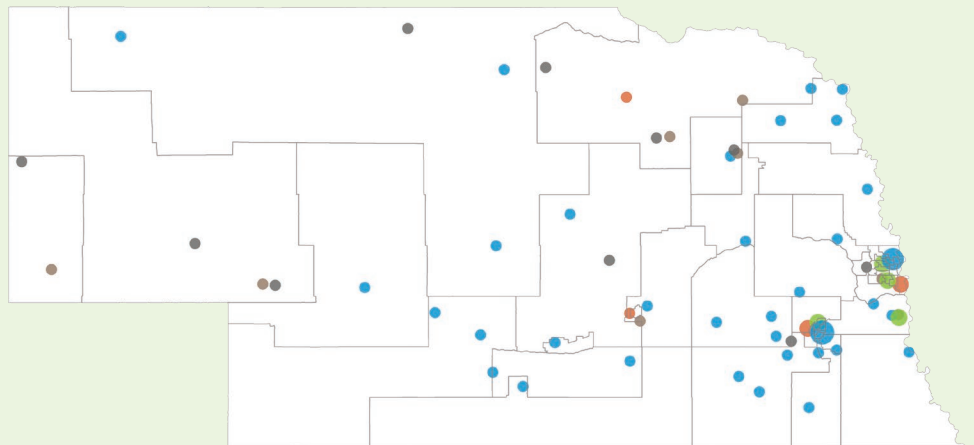
Who We Are & Our Impact

OUR VISION

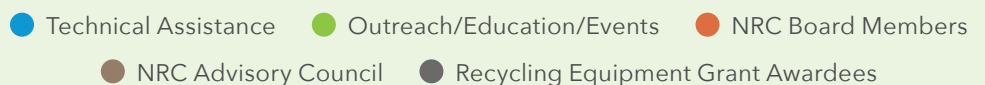
To be the authority on sustainable materials management in Nebraska for a future where all materials and resources are reserved for their highest and best use and landfills are the last resort.

OUR MISSION

To maximize the economic and environmental benefits of resource recovery in Nebraska.



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Out of state support provided in Kansas, Iowa, Arkansas, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Guatemala. Each point typically represents more than one attribute.