

*An Arborist takes
care of a tree for life.*



OUT ON A LIMB

Summer 2022, VOLUME 42, ISSUE 2



*Do you know what caused this?
Story on page 9.*

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ARBORIST?

By Dustin Nelson, DNTree

What does being an Arborist mean to you? Is it the tests and classes we take? Or is it the passion for the green industry we possess? For many of us that are in it for the long haul, the passion is what defines our trade and therefore our title. Please do not misinterpret what I am trying to say. Don't get me wrong, the classes are very important, and becoming Certified through the NAA was one of my proudest moments (Most of you who know me know how much I advocate for training and safety.)

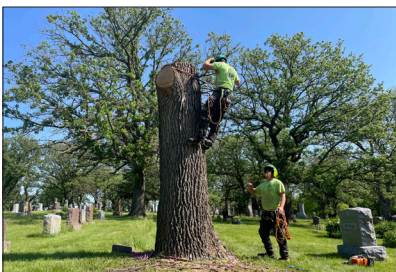
So, what makes us Arborists? I feel an Arborist is anyone who truly cares about trees and their landscapes by committing their working career to taking care of them. It's that simple. And because we dedicate our careers to this cause, you will often see most of us at Summer Field Day or the Winter Conference. Then it's only a matter of time before we seek out more knowledge and certifications to further enhance our ability to guide our fellow humans to help care for their trees. To be an Arborist is almost like a way of life to most of us far more than just a job.



***DNTree team member cutting
and removing part of a tree.***



***DNTree team member moving a fallen
tree out of the water.***



***DNTree team members removing part
of a tree.***

You might find us at a climbing competition or maybe even a large tree care expo. As it is no secret that the modern arborist is attracted to anything new and shiny, but that's not the main takeaway from any of these aforementioned events. We gather together to LEARN! And weirder yet (compared to other industries that also have annual or semi-annual conferences) we not only enjoy such activities, but we look forward to them.

We are a truly unique bunch of people. The takeaway here ladies and gentlemen is that this does not exclude those of us who are still studying to be Certified or are still finding our passion for the urban forest.

So, if you are still reading this, I just came here to say YOU are an Arborist. Keep loving what you do and enjoy this amazing way of life that somehow feels like a recreational activity, yet still allows us to support our families.

A QUARTERLY UPDATE OF THE NEBRASKA ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT ARTICLES:

If you have anything you would like to submit for inclusion in the Quarterly Update, please contact staff@nearborists.org



Save the Date!

**2023 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS
Conference**
Tuesday & Wednesday, January 17-18,
2023
Embassy Suites, Lincoln, NE



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FROM THE PRESIDENT



After two years of unprecedented growth, the tree industry has met the hard realities of our times. Inflation is real. Fuel prices are real. Labor shortages are real. And there is some evidence that we are already in a recession.

The question is now, what can we do about it? Mindset is important here.

You have options:

1. You are the victim of unfair circumstances that are out of your control. You can scream at the government and the opposing political party; you can wring your hands and howl at the moon.

2. You can own the fact this it is what it is... and it may get worse. You did not cause this. It is not your fault. Alas, you are the only one who can do anything about it. Organize your thoughts. Make a plan. Take action.

Option one is very attractive. Blaming and complaining are mechanisms for dispelling negative emotions. In other words, it makes us feel better in the moment, but is it a winning strategy?

Option two is a harder pill to swallow: Recognizing that you are the captain of your own ship. You may be on a collision course with an iceberg, and you are the only one who can save you. Recognize that blaming and complaining will rob you of the energy you need to survive what lies ahead.

Good times come and go. Enjoy and relish in the good times - because they will pass. Don't panic, it is a part of the cycle of life. Good times will come again. The hard times, too, will come and go. Endure the hard times and grow from them. They will not last forever. This is your opportunity to forge your character and learn new lessons. If you approach difficult times with the right mindset, you will be a wiser, stronger, and more self-confident person on the other side.

Remember the following:

Action cures fear: develop a plan and take action. All of life is curriculum. Life is your classroom. Embrace, and brace for, the lessons life has to teach you. Every action you take and thought you think is a vote for the type of person you want to become. Choose wisely.

All my best,

Jeff Grewe, President
Nebraska Arborist Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

NE GREAT PLAINS Eastern Summer Field Day

Thursday & Friday, August 11-12, 2022

Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE

2022 Arborist School

Tree ID, Evaluation Selection, Planting, Pruning & Establishment Seminar

Wednesday & Thursday, September 7-8, 2022 (11 NAA CEUs)

VFW Hall & Wayne Park, Waverly, NE

Pruning, Climbing, & Safety Seminar

Thursday & Friday, October 13-14, 2022 (13 NAA CEUs)

Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE

Plant Health & Tree Biology Seminar

Thursday & Friday, November 17-18, 2022 (11 NAA CEUs)

Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE



TREE CITY USA
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

Tree City USA Summary

NEBRASKA

2021

BY THE NUMBERS

91
TREE CITY USA
COMMUNITIES
1 NEW

65.68%
OF STATE
LIVES IN A TREE CITY
USA COMMUNITY

LONGEST-RUNNING
ACTIVE TREE CITY USA
COMMUNITY:
Auburn
46 YEARS

98.90% RECERTIFICATION RATE

\$8,173,046

SPENT ON
URBAN FORESTRY
MANAGEMENT



REPORTED NUMBER OF
TREES PLANTED 6,947

LARGEST

Omaha
POPULATION 486,051

SMALLEST

Julian
POPULATION 59



\$6.34
average per capita

Growth Award

16 Growth Award
Recipients

LONGEST ACTIVE GROWTH AWARD
Gretna
25 YEARS

1 NEW Growth
Award Recipients

BEYOND TREE CITY USA

**TREE
CAMPUS**
HIGHER EDUCATION
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

7 Recognized
Nebraska Schools

0 NEWLY
Recognized Schools

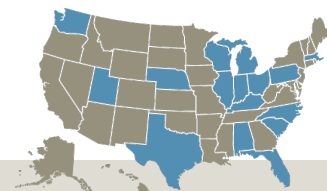
**TREE
LINE USA**
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

4 Tree Line USA
Utilities

LONGEST ACTIVE UTILITY:
Omaha Public Power District
22 YEARS

**TREE
CAMPUS**
HEALTHCARE
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

Recognized Healthcare Facilities:



 **Arbor Day Foundation**
arborday.org

90555301



2022 ARBOR DAY



ARBOR DAY GIVEAWAY

By Mitch Waite, American Arborist

American Arborist hosted their second annual “Arbor Day Giveaway.” Our team contributed with us donating the revenue to a family we chose who has a 15 year old son that has been battling brain cancer for 4 years now and they are at the point where they are trying anything to beat this. The family has not had time or even thought to take care of their trees so this was a bright spot that we were grateful to bring to them during a challenging time for the family! To view the video please go to <https://fb.watch/cQeNgJq7ju/>

CHADRON, NE ARBOR DAY

By Scott Schremmer, City of Chadron – Parks Department

Chadron Nebraska’s first program was to honor Lucinda Mayes husband by one of the fifth-grade classes helping her plant a memorial tree in one of Chadron’s Parks.

Chadron Nebraska’s second program was Hosting with Upper White NRD conservation festival with the help of Chadron tree board members and Chrissy Land. We hosted over 250 children from 5 different communities in our station that participated in an arbor day scavenger hunt.



NE811 ARBOR DAY

By Jill Geyer, One Call Concepts, Inc. | Nebraska811

Nebraska811 partnered with the City of Geneva, Fillmore Central High School, Fillmore Central Elementary, Faller Landscaping for a presentation to Fillmore Elementary in Geneva and they planted several trees as part of their poster contest and lesson.

ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION PLANS TO PLANT 500 MILLION TREES IN FIVE YEARS

By Aaron Bonderson, News Student Worker at Nebraska Public Media News April 27, 2022

The 150th Arbor Day happened April 29, 2022, while the Arbor Day Foundation turned 50-years-old on the same day. Friday, April 29th, marked the 150th Arbor Day. It started in Nebraska City, Nebraska, in 1872.

In 50 years, the Arbor Day Foundation has planted approximately 500 million trees. The Lincoln-based organization said it intends to plant another 500 million trees in the next five years alone, to celebrate 50 years of service.

Pete Smith is a program manager and arborist with the foundation. He said reaching the goal would help create a safer planet. “While our goal is 500 million trees, we know that we need billions - some would say a trillion trees planted, to address some of the major issues facing the globe like climate change,” Smith said.

Smith said 150 years of Arbor Day should be a source of pride for Nebraskans. The foundation placed signs around its office on 12th and P Streets in downtown Lincoln sporting its 50th anniversary logo. Smith said the logo will be used throughout the year, to celebrate its half-century in existence. The Arbor Day observance encourages people around the world to grow trees. It occurs on the final Friday of April in many countries and states.



Read the article here: <https://nebraskapublicmedia.org/en/news/news-articles/arbor-day-foundation-plans-to-plant-500-million-trees-in-five-years/>

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

By Tanna Jensen-Nelson, DNTree



DNTree team donating a day of work to the Cass County Fairgrounds.

We are DNTree LLC, a small arborist company based out of Weeping Water, NE. We serve the Omaha, Lincoln, and Nebraska City areas, with a large focus on our home county, Cass.

As is tradition with many in the arborist community, we donated a day's worth of work as a celebration of Arbor Day. We chose to donate this day of work to our Cass County Fairgrounds, as it plays such a large role in our community. The fairground board was ecstatic to hear from us and promptly responded to our offer. After meeting with the head of the board and going over specific requests, we set to work in making our community look great.

The fairgrounds are used year-round for an array of events from the yearly fair, to teaching seminars, and even wedding venues, so it is important for the grounds to be looking their best, and we are so glad we could help with this!

Cass County has been full of support for us as we have built our company, and we just wanted to give back to our community members. It is often easy to forget the support you receive when you are so focused on building your business, but it is important to remember that your community is who helped build it. We are already looking for areas in our customer area to donate to next year!

Here's to hoping that this little article drives you and your company to invest some time back into the community that has invested so much in you.

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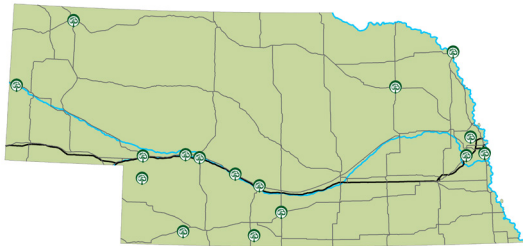
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Bellevue
Bennington
Chadron
Gothenburg
Grant
Gretna
Hershey
Holdrege
Lexington
Morris
Norfolk
North Platte
Ogallala
South Sioux City
Trenton



NEBRASKA TREE SPECIES RATINGS, 2022

Research provided by Phillip Pierce & Nebraska Arborists Association Tree Species Committee

Species is a major component of the plant appraisal process according to the “Guide for Plant Appraisal, 10th Edition,” published by the International Society of Arboriculture (pages 15-16, 23, 29, 34, 58, 64, all of the examples in chapter 5, and Appendix 1.) This publication is the Nebraska Tree Species Rating List to be used as an aid when determining the value of existing trees in the Nebraska landscape.

THE TREE SPECIES COMMITTEE OF THE NEBRASKA ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION

Philip Pierce, Chair	ForesterPhil Consulting
Justin Evertson, Co-Chair	Nebraska Forest Service, Green Infrastructure Coordinator
Graham Herbst	Nebraska Forest Service
Pam Bergstrom	Forester with the Nebraska Forest Service
Jason Severe	Forest Management/Rural Forester, Nebraska Forest Service
Todd Filipi	North Platte Natural Resource District
Barry Burrows	Grand Island, Parks Superintendent
Lyle Minshull	North Platte, Park/Cemetery Supervisor

SPECIES CLASSES FOR NEBRASKA TREES

- 1) The tree species are rated on a percentage scale and assumes that their distribution approximates a normal distribution. Ratings are noted in increments of 5%.
- 2) Species class criteria include: hardiness, longevity, insect and disease resistance, maintenance requirements, form, invasiveness, soil and water requirements, flowering and fruiting characteristics. The species listed are common in the Nebraska’s urban landscapes.
- 3) Unique conditions may exist that justify giving a higher or lower species rating.
- 4) The species rating is not a recommendation for planting. For example, existing Siberian Elms (*Ulmus pumila*) have value, but they are not recommended as a landscape tree. Also, a number of species are borderline in hardiness. This listing is for appraisal of existing trees in the landscape.

Continued on page 8-9...

WANT TO LEAF AN IMPACT?

Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium has **FREE** dropoff for freshly cut Trees and Bushes.

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for more information.



Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium’s mission is to inspire, educate and engage people to serve as lifelong stewards for the conservation of animals and their habitats.

NEBRASKA TREE SPECIES RATINGS

Scientific Name	Species	% East	%West	West Irrigate
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Arborvitae	60%	35%	irrigate
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Ash, Green	40%	50%	irrigate
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Aspen, Quaking	30%	45%	irrigate
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Baldcypress	80%	n/a	
<i>Betula nigra</i>	Birch, River	55%	40%	irrigate
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Buckeye	50%	25%	irrigate
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Catalpa	60%	60%	irrigate
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Cherry (Chokecherry)	25%	55%	
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Cherry, Black	65%	40%	irrigate
<i>Prunus x 'Schubert'</i>	Cherry, Canada Red	45%	25%	
<i>Castanea mollissima</i>	Chestnut, Chinese	50%	n/a	
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Cottonwood	50%	60%	irrigate
<i>Populus delt. 'Siouxland'</i>	Cottonwood, 'Siouxland'	10%	10%	irrigate
<i>Malus x sp.</i>	Crabapple	75%	70%	irrigate
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas Fir	80%	25%	irrigate
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Elm, American	50%	60%	
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Elm, Siberian	40%	55%	
<i>Abies concolor</i>	Fir, Concolor (White Fir)	100%	50%	irrigate
<i>Malus, Pyrus, Prunus</i>	Fruiting Trees	55%	70%	irrigate
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgo	90%	40%	irrigate
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry	65%	95%	
<i>Carya sp.</i>	Hickory	60%	75%	
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honeylocust	60%	60%	
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horsechestnut	55%	n/a	
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Juniper, Redcedar *	50%	75%	
<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	Juniper, Rocky Mountain	45%	80%	
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky Coffeetree	55%	60%	irrigate
<i>Larix sp.</i>	Larch	55%	25%	irrigate
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Linden, American	65%	70%	irrigate
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Linden, Littleleaf	45%	20%	irrigate
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Locust, Black	40%	55%	
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Maple, Boxelder	35%	55%	
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Maple, Norway	50%	45%	irrigate
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Maple, Red	55%	45%	irrigate
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Maple, Silver	50%	45%	irrigate
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Maple, Sugar	70%	25%	irrigate
<i>Morus sp.</i>	Mulberry	35%	50%	irrigate
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Oak, Bur	90%	85%	
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Oak, Chinkapin	70%	70%	irrigate
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Oak, English	70%	55%	irrigate
<i>Quercus justin</i>	Oak, Gamble	60%	75%	
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Oak, Red	65%	45%	irrigate
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Oak, Pin	50%	25%	irrigate
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Oak, Shingle	55%	n/a	
<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Oak, Shumard	60%	65%	
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Oak, Swamp White	75%	50%	irrigate
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Olive, Russian **	20%	45%	irrigate
<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	Osage Orange	55%	45%	
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Pear, Callery	45%	25%	irrigate
<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Pecan	55%	25%	irrigate
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	Persimmon	55%	20%	irrigate
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Pine, Austrian	45%	70%	
<i>Pinus aristata</i>	Pine, Bristlecone	55%	35%	
<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	Pine, Jack	35%	45%	
<i>Pinus bungeana</i>	Pine, Lacebark	45%	20%	
<i>Pinus cembroides</i>	Pine, Pinyon	45%	50%	
<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Pine, Ponderosa	70%	85%	
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Pine, Scotch	25%	55%	irrigate

Pinus strobus	Pine, White	85%	15%	
Populus alba	Poplar, White	35%	40%	
Cercis canadensis	Redbud	65%	25%	irrigate
Picea pungens	Spruce, Colorado	60%	80%	
Picea abies	Spruce, Norway	70%	25%	
Ailanthus altissima	Tree of Heaven	30%	30%	
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tuliptree, (Yellow Poplar)	65%	n/a	
Juglans sp.	Walnut	55%	60%	
Salix sp.	Willow, Black	45%	35%	irrigate
Salix sp.	Willow, Weeping	40%	25%	irrigate

* See Eastern Redcedar on the Great Plains, A Position of the Great Plains Society of American Foresters (GPSAF), August 1, 2020.

** Russian Olive is a pioneer species similar to Eastern Redcedar but is not native.

Notes: The line between eastern and western Nebraska is left undefined.

When appraising other species and cultivars consider factors such as high temperatures, rainfall, soil, acclimation period, and seed source as discussed in “The Dilemma with Plant Hardiness Zones: Ball J. 2022, Arborist-News, April 22.

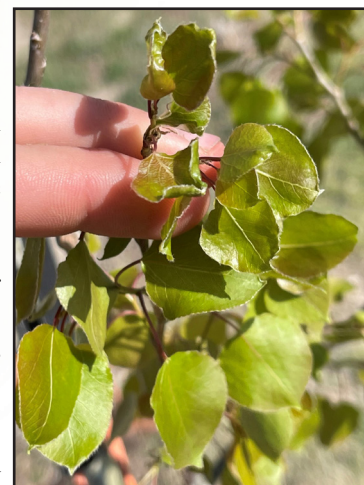
PANHANDLE SPRING FREEZE MAY 2022

By Laurie Stepanek, NFS Forest Health Specialist

When freeze warnings are posted, gardeners carefully cover susceptible garden vegetables and flowers with blankets, sheets, buckets, and garbage cans. But larger shrubs and trees must fend for themselves. The late spring freeze on May 21-22 left many woody plants across the panhandle with brown, drooping leaves and shoots.

“The first few weeks of May were unusually warm, which pushed a lot of new growth on our trees,” said Chrissy Land, Western Community Forester with the Nebraska Forest Service. “This new growth is very susceptible to freeze. I noticed damage on a wide range of trees: oak, ginkgo, Kentucky coffeetree, honeylocust, catalpa, redbud, ash, aspen, birch and maple.”

Symptoms of freeze damage include curled, drooped, or shriveled leaves, shoots, and flowers. Affected tissues turn brown or black. Killed tissues eventually drop off, but new shoots usually grow from dormant buds.



Trees most noticeably affected are those with new succulent growth, however trees that have not yet budded can also be affected by a late freeze. Poor leaf out on these trees may occur if buds are killed. Leaves that do emerge may have numerous holes—a condition known as leaf tatter.

Freeze damage may also trigger development of latent fungal infections, resulting in twig or branch death later in the season. Guidelines for managing freeze-damaged trees include basic tree care including pruning out dead branches and mulching with wood chips or another organic mulch to help improve the root environment. Watering is also important.

“In the hot climate and sandy soils typical of the panhandle, apply two inches of water per week over a large area around the tree if it does not rain,” recommended Land. “However, do not fertilize unless there is a known nutrient deficiency.”

“Trees receiving good care will better handle the stress of an untimely freeze than those in poor health,” said Land.



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If you have employees and you have a shop or office where employees congregate, you are required to display the above poster – Job Safety and Health. IT'S THE LAW! Three ways to obtain the poster. Order a copy online from OSHA Publications webpage. Order a print copy by phone by calling OSHA Publications Office at 202-693-1888. Last way, you can download a copy from the OSHA website. There are also other online resources to contact for the poster.

NEW MEMBERS

Corey Adelson
Dylan Baker
Kim Boehle
Steven Greise
Zachary Tucker
Jose Vasquez

NEWLY CERTIFIED ARBORISTS

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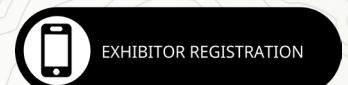


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TICK TIPS FOR TICK “SEASON”

By Kait Chapman, Extension Educator in Lancaster

During the spring and summer, we receive a lot of inquiries regarding tick prevention and management. While peak season for ticks in Nebraska is throughout May and June, ticks can actually be active year-round in the state. As long as temperatures are above freezing, there is a possibility you may encounter a questing tick, even in the winter. This is why it is important to stay vigilant and protect yourself from ticks and tick-borne illness no matter the season.

PREVENTION

Luckily, there are several things you can do to protect yourself and prevent tick bites while spending time outdoors, including:

- Use a DEET repellent applied to skin.
- Wear long pants tucked into socks.
- Treat or purchase pre-treated clothing with permethrin used to repel ticks.
- Protect your pets with a tick prevention program.
- Perform regular, full-body tick checks on yourself, your children and your pets.

Keep in mind that ticks are associated with their animal hosts, including wildlife, and pesticide sprays applied to a lawn or landscape may only provide limited and temporary protection.

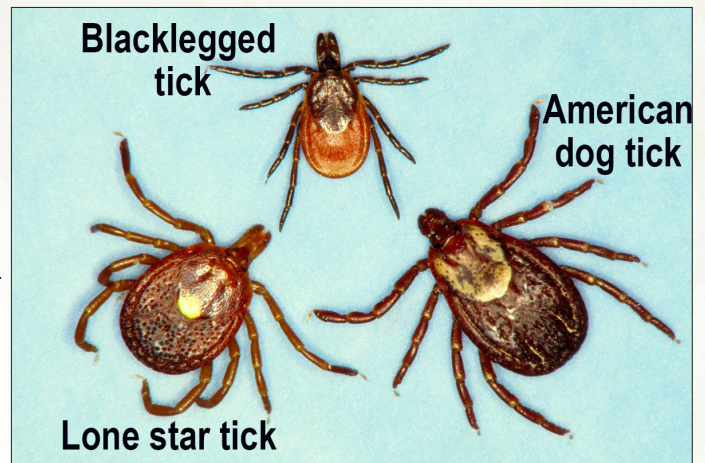
Checking yourself for ticks after spending time outdoors is perhaps one of the most important steps in preventing tick-borne illness. Removing infected ticks as soon as possible reduces the risk of disease transmission. If you do find a tick actively feeding and embedded, remove it as soon as possible with a pair of tweezers. Grasp the tick firmly near the skin and pull it straight out. After removing a tick, disinfect the bite area and keep the tick for identification.

IDENTIFICATION

Why is it important to identify a tick? Different tick species transmit different illnesses and, should symptoms develop, knowing what type of tick may have transmitted the pathogen could help rule out certain diseases. In Nebraska, two of the most encountered tick species are the American dog tick and the lone star tick. While both of these tick species cannot transmit the bacteria responsible for Lyme disease, a third species of tick in Nebraska, the blacklegged tick, can. To date, established populations of the blacklegged tick have only been confirmed in Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders and Thurston Counties.

CONTRIBUTE TO DATA ON STATEWIDE TICK DISTRIBUTION

With new tick species being identified in the state, records of tick presence are critical to understanding which species are found where. University of Nebraska–Lincoln’s Tick Tag Go is a community-powered effort to establish baseline data on tick distributions in Nebraska and relies on passive surveillance — the collection of ticks you come across in your daily routine and activities. Submit your tick photos and data for identification at <https://ticktaggo.unl.edu>.



ANNOUNCEMENT:

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An advertisement for Arbor Aesthetics. The top half shows a fleet of white service trucks with green accents parked in a lot. A group of employees in green shirts stands in front of the trucks. The bottom left features a 'Best of Omaha 2022 Winner' award logo. A QR code is labeled 'CAREERS'. A handwritten-style note says 'Wait 'til you see our benefits!'. The Arbor Aesthetics logo and name are in the bottom right.



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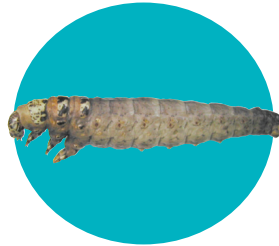
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