**PIE GRANTS REPORT**

NAS has been approved to administer another three year grant cycle for the Nebraska Environmental Trust Public Information and Education Minigrant program. We are honored to be able to continue this very worthwhile program which provides small grants up to $3000. These grants support the presentation and dissemination of information and perspectives that will stimulate enhanced environmental stewardship in any category eligible for Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) funding. These categories are habitat, surface and ground water, waste management, air quality, and soil management. The grant expands dialogue on important current conservation topics and provides information on emerging or highly useful conservation methods. All Nebraska individuals, private organizations, and public entities are eligible to apply for these funds.

NAS received 11 applications for the second quarter of 2017. Applications were received from the Nebraska Recycling Council - Annual Awards Luncheon and Workshops; Omaha by Design - Neighborhoods USA Conference: Growing Green Neighborhoods Track; UNL - Students Promoting Diversity (in tree plantings); UNL - Fostering Future Foresters; NE Game and Parks Commission - Distribution of “The Fishes of Nebraska” to Schools; Prairie Pines Partners - Prairie Pines Nature Preserve “Second Saturdays” Nature Experience and Education Project; The Groundwater Foundation - Groundwater Education and Technology; Elkhorn Valley Museum - Our Wild Neighbors; Community Crops - Greening Your Home Workshop Series; Friends of Heron Haven - Environmental Education at Heron Haven, an Urban Wetland; and the Nature Conservancy - Prairie Perspectives: Seeing Nature with Drones. Evaluations are currently underway and grant recipients will be announced in June.

The Nebraska Legislature created the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 1992. Using revenue from the Nebraska Lottery, the Trust has provided over $250 million in grants to over 1,700 projects across the state. Anyone – citizens, organizations, communities, farmers and businesses – can apply for funding to protect habitat, improve water quality and establish recycling programs in Nebraska. The Nebraska Environmental Trust works to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources for future generations. [http://www.environmentaltrust.org/](http://www.environmentaltrust.org/%09)

Third quarter 2017 applications are due July 7, 2017.

Grant forms and information can be found on our website, [www.neacadsci.org](http://www.neacadsci.org). Click on NAS and then click on Grants and Scholarships.

