**PIE GRANTS UPDATE**

NAS received six applications for the fourth quarter of 2016. Applications were received from NE Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Foundation, Hosting the 77th Midwest Fish & wildlife Conference; Board of Regents-UNL, Stormwater Slueth Demonstration; UNL Dept of Computer Engineering, Auto Component-based Dynamic Plant Phenotyping Analysis; Community Crops, Urban Homestead Series; Board of Regents-UNL, Pilot Watershed Mgt Curriculum for Water Resources Managers; and NE Assistive Technology Partnership, Managing Waste Through Reuse of Durable Medical Equipment. A total of $11,550 was awarded to the NE Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Foundation, the two UNL Projects – Stormwater Slueth Demonstration and Pilot Watershed Management Curriculum, and to the Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership.

13 first quarter 2017 PIE grant applications were received and processed in early January. Applicants include the UNL Environmental Sustainability Committee –Earthstock: four Weeks to Learn and Grow; The Nebraska State Fair – Interactive Sustainability Display; Southern Heights Food Forest – Enhancing Educational Partnerships; Middle Niobrara NRD – 100% Recycling Education; Envirorun – Envirorun-Lincoln; Lee Simmons Conservation Park – Girls Covering Ground; Center for Rural Affairs – Santee Community Gardens Soil Testing and Amendment; Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart – Recycling Behavior Change Campaign; Nebraska Wildlife Federation – Nebraska’s Climate Future for Civic Leaders; habitat for Humanity of Omaha – ReStore Deconstruction Program Outreach; keep Columbus Beautiful – Be Recycled Campaign; Keep Omaha Beautiful – Omaha Spring Cleanup: Promoting Proper Disposal and Recycling; and The Nature Conservancy – Prairie Perspectives: Seeing Nature with Drones. A total of $37,528 was requested. Five awards totaling $$14,478 were granted to the UNL Environmental Sustainability Committee, the Center for Rural Affairs, the Nebraska Wildlife Federation, Habitat for Humanity-Omaha, and Keep Omaha Beautiful.

The Nebraska Environmental Public Information and Education MiniGrant Program awards MiniGrants of up to $3,000 each, to 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.

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)

Second quarter 2017 applications are due April 14, 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.

