



Volume 6, Issue 3  
June 2004

## 2004 Great North Platte/ Lincoln County Cleanup Wrap-up Report

Our Newsletter is now ONLINE. Visit us at [www.keepnorthplattebeautiful.org](http://www.keepnorthplattebeautiful.org)

# Beautiful News

KEEP NORTH PLATTE & LINCOLN COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

### Kick What!?

Heads began to turn on March 31st when KNPCLB joined with the Community Connections ASSETS team & the No Limits group to Kick 'Butts'. The three groups meant to turn heads, and ears, towards their anti-tobacco litter message. It turns out that cigarette butts are the most littered item in the nation. These small pieces of plastic are not quickly biodegradable and pose hazards to our environment. An estimated 20,160 cigarette butts were picked up off North Platte streets from four locations.

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The 'butts' were pulled from curbs, lawns, and bushes. These small, but nasty, pieces of litter run into our sewers and eventually end up in our water resources. Discarded 'butts' can also trigger fires in dry areas. You can help keep our environment 'butt' free by encouraging friends and family to use smoker's 'but' posts outside businesses and their ashtrays in their cars. Encourage businesses to locate 'butt' receptacles outside their entryways.

### 24 Hour Recycling Sites

United Methodist Church at  
E & McDonald

Senior Citizens Center  
900 East 10th

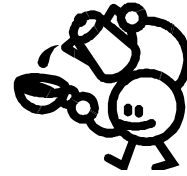
Our Redeemer Lutheran  
Church  
McCabe & Bryan

All sites accept aluminum, office paper, cardboard, newspapers, #1 & #2 plastics, & magazines.



This young KNPLCB volunteer poses a great question to cars as they pass by the KICK BUTTS billboard on March 31, 2004.

# Rethinking Your Morning Coffee



Every morning as I pull myself out of slumber to prepare for my day, the thought of a hot cup of coffee lures me from my warm bed. I seldom stop to think about all the natural resources that I consume just by drinking my two daily cups of coffee.

**Consider these facts taken from the book, "Stuff: The Secret Lives of Everyday Things" by John C. Ryan and Alan Thein Durning:**

It takes about 100 beans to brew a pot of coffee...about 1/16th of the total number of beans grown on a coffee tree in a year. In other words, one

coffee tree would supply me with coffee for a little over 2 weeks.

In a year, I'll drink around 34 gallons of coffee!! And that doesn't include my occasional iced mochas. Columbian coffee farmers have 12 coffee trees to support my personal addiction. It will take about 11 pounds of fertilizer and a few ounces of pesticides to maintain my trees. Columbia's rivers will swell with 43 pounds of coffee pulp stripped from my beans.

Coffee fields affect the biodiversity of the areas they are established. Approximately 5% fewer bird species are found in new coffee fields.

- ◆ Buy organically grown coffee brands or locally grown if possible!
- ◆ Keep a reusable mug at work.
- ◆ Encourage your employer to use only reusable mugs at conferences and events.
- ◆ Coffee grounds make for GREAT compost material.
- ◆ No compost pile at home? Sprinkle your grounds on your houseplants for a happy plant!

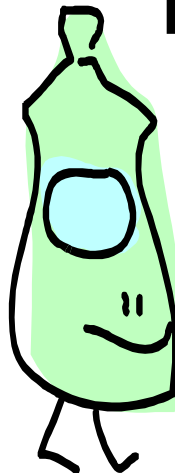
## What you can do!

# Recycling Etiquette

Plastics are the next big thing in recycling. If you are not already recycling this resource, we hope you will start. Regional Recycling (as well as all of the KNPLCB Alley Cat 24 hour recycling sites) accept Plastics #1 and #2.

Processing and sorting plastics can be a time consuming issue for recyclers, like Regional Recycling. Usable materials must be separated from the non-usable, and all must be prepped for their run through the baler. A baler is used to press the collected items into large, flattened, shippable squares. In order to keep labor costs down and make recycling cost effective, it is vital that your home follow proper recycling etiquette.

Don't worry...you won't need to count any fork tongs!



## Proper Plastic Recycling Etiquette

### Check the Number.

Look for a recycling triangle with a number 1-7 on your container. All plastic manufacturers MUST put this label on their materials. Although all plastics can be recycled, Regional Recycling can ONLY accept Plastics labeled #1 or #2. Any extras have to be sorted out and thrown away.

### Remove the Cap or Lid

Lids are generally made from a different type of plastic (usually #7) than the main piece. These will have to be removed by staff if you don't take the time. Keep the caps down and take it off at home!

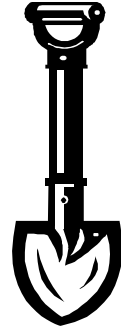
### Rinse

Wash out your plastic container before it begins to smell, drip, or otherwise cause problems. At our home, we run the plastics through with our regular dishes and then place them in the recycling bin. This keeps excess water & gunk out of our recycling bins!

# Beautiful Businesses 2004

## Three Beautiful Business Districts

The Great North Platte/Lincoln County Clean-up would not be possible without the support of our local businesses! Businesses played a vital role in Planting Pride...Not Litter in 2004.



*4th Year Veteran  
The North Platte Downtown Business Association*



*The Eastside Business Association*



Thanks to the City of North Platte for all their assistance during all the cleanup events.

*The Original Town Association*



### The Media

Thank you to the Media for your coverage! KX104, KELN, KJLT, The North Platte Bulletin, The North Platte Telegraph, and KNOP-TV!



### RUNZA

Runza stores in North Platte distributed over 1000 car litter bags with KNPLCB information in it at the beginning of April. Thank you Runza!

### Firestone

As a national level and local sponsor Firestone helped distribute car litter bags to over 700 serviced vehicles! Thanks Firestone!



### Pepsi

Where would a series of clean-ups be without a refreshing beverage to drink! Pepsi was both a national and local sponsor to our Great North Platte/Lincoln County Clean-up Events. Volunteers enjoyed an ever-flowing amount of Pepsi products from our local distributor!

**Thank you Pepsi!**



### Motrin IB

As a national level sponsor, Motrin IB sent a whole bunch of samples for our volunteers to use. Most were distributed at the Senior Center! Thank you Motrin!

# Household Hazardous Waste Day

57 brave volunteers donned rain coats and hats for the 13th Household Hazardous Waste Day Collection Event. Despite a cold rain, the event proved to be a success. Here's the data!



Item	Amount (lbs),	
Computer Monitors		177
Oil		2800
Mixed Batteries		6120
Mixed Paint		9940
Recycled Paint		400
Ink Jet/Laser Cartridges		2
Fertilizer		60
Miscellaneous Chemicals		480
Steel paint cans/aerosol cans		8100
Packer/Non-Toxic		2960
<b>Total Weight (lbs)</b>		<b>31039</b>
<b>Total Recycled Weight</b>		<b>11477</b>
<b>Percent Recycled</b>		<b>37%</b>

Keep North Platte/Lincoln County Beautiful is a private, non-profit, 501-c3 organization. Your tax deductible contributions help make our activities possible. Major funding for our activities comes from grants through the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Thank you for your support!

### Upcoming Events

June 7-18th Tire Collection Event at the Transfer Station

June 14th NEBRASKAland Days Kiddie Parade

June 15th Kids Fun Festival Booth

June 19th Grow Big Red Bikes in Parade

Visit our new Youth Herb & Vegetable Gardens at the Lincoln County Historical Museum all summer!

**June-July Green Vision/Green Thumb Nominations Due**

August Volunteer Recognition Picnic

KNPLCB  
 PO Box 313  
 North Platte, NE 69101  
 (308) 534-8100  
[www.keepnorthplattebeautiful.org](http://www.keepnorthplattebeautiful.org)

**Become a Donor By Mailing Your Address Label and this portion of the newsletter back with your contribution!**

I would like to be a volunteer. Notify me of opportunities.

I would like to become a donating member.

**Membership categories:**

	1 Year	3 Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior Citizen.....	\$ 10.00	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family.....	\$ 25.00	\$65.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Business/Benefactor .....	\$250.00	