



Becoming Affiliated with the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Inc.

The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Inc. is a private, nonprofit organization working to enhance the culture and beauty of Nebraska. Rather than operating from a single location, NSA, Inc. is a unique statewide network of arboretums, botanical gardens, historic places and high-quality landscapes linked up to foster knowledge and appreciation of plants and excellence in landscape practice in Nebraska. The professional staff, located at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, supports the efforts of these local sites by providing technical and financial assistance along with offerings of unique plant material.

Organizations, institutions and communities in Nebraska can become part of this statewide network through one of the two affiliation programs described below.

I. Landscape Steward, Historic Landmark Site & Community Arboretum

Purpose: To enhance the appearance, function and landscape value of parks, schoolyards, campuses and other important landscapes and to preserve and interpret landscapes of historic or cultural significance.

Categories, Key Attributes and Expectations

1. Landscape Steward Site: A managed landscape (public or private) exhibiting excellence in design, plant diversity and maintenance. Can include multiple sites.
2. Historic Landmark Site: Stewardship of a significant historic or cultural landscape.
3. Community Arboretum: A community or neighborhood that exhibits excellence in promotion, planting, species diversity and care of the local community forest.

Process of Affiliation

1. Submittal of application
2. Visit and evaluation by NSA, Inc. staff and board
3. Approval by NSA, Inc. staff and board

Benefits of Affiliation

1. Frameable certificate of affiliation.
2. Opportunity to purchase official NSA, Inc. on-site recognition signage.
3. Authorization to use official NSA, Inc. plant labels (purchased through NSA, Inc.).
4. Professional development opportunities through annual curator meetings.
5. Access to new plant material distributed by NSA, Inc. (15% discount to affiliate sites).
6. Access to NSA, Inc. affiliate site grant programs.
7. Statewide exposure through NSA, Inc. publications, web site and outreach efforts.
8. Opportunity to recognize local supporters and volunteers through NSA, Inc. awards program.
9. Full benefits of NSA, Inc. Associate Membership including:
 - NSA publications
 - Discount on NSA, Inc. horticulture and landscape consulting services.
 - Reduced admission to NSA, Inc. sponsored workshops and events.
 - Free admission to more than 270 public gardens in North America.
 - Monthly E-news

II. Accredited Arboretum/Public Garden

Purpose: To develop a statewide network of horticultural plant collections for display, education and research.

Key Attributes and Expectations

1. Planned collection of plants assembled to carry out an identified mission.
2. Public access.
3. Ongoing curation (record-keeping).
4. Oversight by an organized support association (committee) comprised of at least five members representing a broad spectrum of the community.
5. Education program (entry signage, labeling, orientation brochure and public events).

Process of Affiliation

1. Official designation and authorization of local support association and curator.
2. Written master plan (identifying mission and guiding design, development and maintenance).
3. Inspection by NSA, Inc. Site Selection Committee.
4. Presentation to NSA, Inc. Executive Board and approval by staff and board.

Benefits of Affiliation

All benefits of Landscape Steward affiliation plus:

1. Authorization to use NSA, Inc. logo on signage and publications.
2. Authorization to use official NSA, Inc. community entrance signs (purchased through NSA, Inc.).
3. Free annual visit/consultation by NSA, Inc. staff.
4. Discount on NSA, Inc. horticulture or landscape consulting fees.

For more information or to obtain application materials, contact

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