

2022 Sustainable Nebraska Report



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Vision, Mission, and Background

Vision

Grow Nebraska

Mission

Effective and efficient state government through environmental stewardship.

Background

Administrative Services provides shared services support to our peer agencies for the business processes that support State government. Through a strategic focus on sustainability, our department can improve the environmental impact of State government operations across the enterprise, while also saving money for taxpayers.

Director's Message

Under Governor Ricketts' leadership, the State of Nebraska concludes our second year of a focused effort toward environmental stewardship. Employing a sustainability strategy across State government operations generates benefits to our environment and concurrently drives customer satisfaction and taxpayer savings. The following areas continue to lead our focus on eco-friendly achievements:

- Transportation
- State Buildings
- Waste Reduction
- Procurement

Fundamental to advancing these environmental outcomes, State government operations incorporate innovation, industry best practices, and technology within these four areas. The results resoundingly support our focused efforts in these prominent areas as highlighted in the report to follow.

Department of Administrative Services approach to sustainability reinforces and aligns with the State's overarching mission to create opportunity through more effective, more efficient, and customer-focused State government. Going forward, we have put into motion an enduring environmental stewardship plan for replication and continued success across Nebraska's governmental enterprise.

Sincerely,



Jason Jackson, Director



Program 1: Transportation

Department of Administrative Services - Transportation Services Bureau will continue to leverage renewable fuels across the breadth of fleet operations.

- **GOAL** | 90% or more of the State vehicle fleet can run on E15 fuel.
- **RESULTS** | 100% of the State's vehicle fleet operates on E15 fuel, with E15 being the standard fuel for the State's vehicle fleet. The use of higher ethanol blends resulted in a 12.4% savings compared to regular gasoline usage. For FY 2021-2022, this saved the State an estimated \$993,516.

Program 2: State Buildings

Department of Administrative Services – State Building Division will adopt building and land use practices that minimize the use of natural resources and reduce energy consumption. The Task Force for Building Renewal (TFBR) will continue to focus on upgrading existing facility infrastructure with more efficient and sustainable systems.

- **GOAL** | Continue to seek opportunities for energy conservation in State building projects, including updates to systems and installation of LED lighting in State office buildings.
- **RESULTS** | The elevator modernization project at the Nebraska State Office Building (NSOB) provided upgrades to both save energy and increase efficiency for State teammates. The TFBR allocated over two million dollars for the modernization. Operational continuity is not only more reliable, but eases the electrical load and avoids power disruptions.
- In conjunction with the renovation, LED lighting installation has expanded to the NSOB fourth floor, enhancing the teammate work experience, cutting electrical costs, and reducing the energy footprint of the State's highest capacity office building. LED lighting is estimated to last fifteen times longer and use 90% less energy.¹ The TFBR allocated \$220,000 for this LED enhancement and efficiency with an anticipated return on investment over the next several years.
- **GOAL** | Simplify and integrate conservation practices at State buildings.
- **RESULTS** | The Department of Administrative Services - State Building Division has strategically increased the amount of bottle refilling water fountains in State buildings, currently operating 17 stations. With refill access, cumulatively, hundreds of thousands of disposable water bottles have avoided the landfill. Bottle refilling water fountains encourage State teammates to bring their reusable water bottles and offers an ecological convenience for refill. The refill stations underscore another measure of environmental conservation in day-to-day State operations.

¹ [Upgrade Your Lighting | ENERGY STAR](#)

Program 3: Waste Reduction

Department of Administrative Services - Materiel Division's Recycling and Excess Property programs are both well positioned to contribute to reducing landfill waste. The State of Nebraska provides convenient opportunities to recycle and properly dispose of products, while educating on the benefits of creatively reusing and reducing the amount and type of products consumed. Whenever possible, waste is diverted from the landfill through recycling, reduction, and reuse.

- **GOAL |** Reduce excessive electronic devices across the enterprise.
- **RESULTS |** Reducing the volume of printers, which initially totaled nearly 3,500, is an ongoing initiative of the Department of Administrative Services. To date, 310 excess printers have been removed from use, resulting in an electricity draw down and approximate energy savings of 146,630 KW on an annual basis.
- The Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) implemented new criteria for stand-alone printer usage to correspond with this reduction strategy. Further evaluation from State teammates regarding initiation of paper printouts is a consequential benefit that reduces paper waste and material resources.
- **GOAL |** Enhance and promote recycling of small electronic devices to reduce waste.
- **RESULTS |** The Department of Administrative Services held its first-ever personal electronics recycling drive, giving State teammates the ability to easily recycle their small personal devices that may otherwise have been thrown away. This effort, in combination with DAS' efforts to recycle State-owned property, resulted in the recycling of over 400 cell phones, laptops, and tablets.

Program 4: Procurement

Department of Administrative Services - Materiel Division serves as procurement experts and the central point of contact for procurement operations. Procurement can help the State meet its sustainability goals by purchasing green products and leveraging domestic suppliers.

- **GOAL |** The State will purchase green products when the cost is the same or less than non-green products.
- **RESULTS |** The State is estimated to have purchased nearly \$2 million of green products in FY 2021-22. Additionally, over 24,000 articles of the State's surplus property have been diverted from the landfill by being reused or recycled by State agencies or members of the public.