



# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY IN NEBRASKA

## *Who We Are*

**T**he goal of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the land and waters they need to survive.

### **Our Origins**

The Conservancy emerged from a professional association of ecologists seeking to turn their knowledge of nature into positive action for conservation. Incorporated as a nonprofit in 1951, the Conservancy completed its first land acquisition with a modest 60-acre purchase in New York. The Nebraska Chapter was founded in 1988. However, the Conservancy began its protection efforts in Nebraska in 1971 with the purchase of 320-acre Pawnee Prairie in Pawnee County.

### **Where We Work**

Starting with the establishment of the first chapter in Eastern New York in 1954, the Conservancy has expanded to encompass all 50 states and 28 countries around the globe, including Canada, Mexico, Australia and countries throughout the Asia-

Pacific region, the Caribbean and Latin America. With more than a million members throughout the world and 4,000 members in Nebraska, the Conservancy has influenced the protection of 14 million acres of critical landscapes in the United States, including more than 100,000 acres in Nebraska, and more than 100 million acres worldwide.

### **Setting Priorities**

The Conservancy protects places where plant and animal species can survive for generations to come. We employ scientific, systematic analysis to identify places large enough in scale and rich enough in plant and animal species to ensure meaningful conservation results. By employing this scientific planning approach – called Conservation by Design – we are developing a blueprint for action throughout the Americas, Asia and the Pacific Islands, to preserve the areas most crucial to the Earth's biodiversity.

### **How We Work**

At each site, we employ a range of methods tailored to meet local needs.

We buy land. In Nebraska, we pay taxes on the land we own. We help other landowners manage their properties. We facilitate public-private partnerships. We collaborate with like-minded organizations. We seek pragmatic solutions. The Conservancy is committed to working with businesses, communities and individuals to meet conservation challenges, using non-confrontational, market-based strategies. In the United States, working with only willing sellers and donors, the Conservancy protects habitat through gifts, exchanges, purchases, conservation easements and management agreements. Internationally, the Conservancy works with government agencies and partner organizations to provide scientific expertise, infrastructure, community development, professional training and long-term funding for legally protected but currently underfunded areas.

### **Contact information**

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