

## 2011 Highlights of the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society

### Annual Conference

Rural Advantage & Healthy Farms Conference featuring Nebraska's own Chuck Hassebrook as well as Abe Collins

### Rivers & Wildlife Celebration

Held in Kearney this event highlights conservation efforts throughout Nebraska

### Farm Beginnings Nebraska

The 3<sup>rd</sup> course facilitated in conjunction with UNL and held at the ARDC near Mead. We graduated several new farmers

The 4<sup>th</sup> course began in December with classes being held in Syracuse.

The 5<sup>th</sup> course will begin in 2012 and will be held in Greater Nebraska

### Western Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Conference

Featured Don Tanaka from ARS and had numerous sessions on sustainable agriculture

### Western Nebraska Fruit and Vegetable Group

We assisted in the formation and facilitation of this group which features farmers and growers from across the panhandle region interested in local and sustainable food and agriculture

### Nebraska High Tunnel Project

Created and implemented a project geared at increasing the number of growers using high tunnels. Workshops held in Lincoln and North Platte were attended by over 200 people, and webinar held in the spring have been attended and viewed by over 400.

## Partnerships

Once again partnered with organizations across the spectrum of agriculture and food including; Buy Fresh Buy Local Nebraska, Slow Food Nebraska, No More Empty Pots, Nebraska Environmental Action Coalition, Community Crops, Women Food & Agriculture Network, Farm Aid, Center for Rural Affairs, Land Stewardship Project, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Nebraska Cooperative Development Center, Weston A. Price, Nebraska Environmental Trust and more

## White House Round Table Initiative

Held a series of roundtable discussions with representatives from the State Department as well as the White House on what is sustainable agriculture

## Farmer Fly-ins

Sponsored farmers travel for fly-ins to Washington D.C. to advocate for sustainable agriculture in the upcoming farm bill as well as the local foods bills. Farmers met with both senators and their congressional representative

## Healthy Farms Healthy Kids

The sustainable agriculture project for Nebraska youth geared at promoting sustainable farming and foods in Nebraska and the possibilities, all geared at raising the next generation of farmers in Nebraska