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Proposals: Emmy Gifford Environment Program

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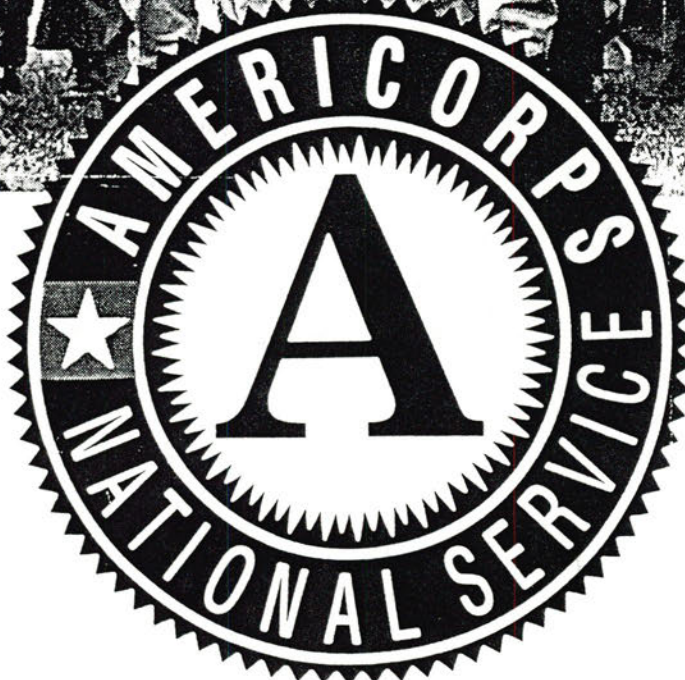
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AMERICORPS

COMING SOON TO COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE



AmeriCorps is the new domestic Peace Corps where thousands of young people will soon be getting things done through service in exchange for help in financing their higher education or repaying their student loans.

Starting this fall, thousands of AmeriCorps members will fan out across the nation to meet the needs of communities everywhere. And the kinds of things they will help get done can truly change America—things like immunizing our infants...tutoring our teenagers...keeping our schools safe...restoring our natural resources...and securing more independent lives for our ill and our elderly.

Learn more about
AmeriCorps
and how you might
get involved
by calling the
AmeriCorps Hotline...
1-800-94-ACORPS

*... Corps members
... the President at the
White House for the signing
of AmeriCorps National
Service legislation*

**AMERICORPS
CAMPUS TOUR '94**

**WANT TO KNOW
MORE ABOUT
AMERICORPS????**

**HERE ARE SOME FACTS
YOU NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT HOW YOU CAN
CHANGE AMERICA !!!!**



WHAT IS AMERICORPS?
AmeriCorps is the new National Service Movement initiated by President Clinton and passed by the Congress last SeptemberAmeriCorps will involve predominately college-age young people...and it will create a massive domestic Peace Corps to **GET THINGS DONE** in our urban and rural communities across the country...AmeriCorps will be launched in **SEPTEMBER OF 1994...** and by the end of the year...as many as 20,000 young Americans will be meeting the critical needs of **COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE!!!!**

HOW WOULD I SERVE?
If you are an AmeriCorps Member...your job will be all about community responsibility and educational opportunity... In exchange for college/ vocational tuition or student loan repayment...you will have **THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE...** doing direct and demonstrable service to meet the **EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, HUMAN, AND ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS OF YOUR COMMUNITY!!!!**

AM I ELIGIBLE TO JOIN?
AmeriCorps Members will be selected from all backgrounds and ages...and **AMERICORPS WILL LOOK LIKE AMERICA..** You are eligible if you are a U.S. citizen or a legal resident... if you are 17 years or older...if you are willing to change your country by caring for your community...and if you are ready to **GET THINGS DONE!!!!**

WHEN WOULD I SERVE?
AmeriCorps Members will serve for one or two years in exchange for education benefits right after **HIGH SCHOOL... OR DURING COLLEGE... OR AFTER COLLEGE!!!!**

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY EDUCATION BENEFITS ?
In exchange for your service...you will receive a stipend/salary...health care...and an education benefit of \$4,725 per year **TO FINANCE YOUR TUITION OR PAY BACK YOUR STUDENT LOANS!!!!**

WHERE WOULD I SERVE?
AmeriCorps Members might serve right in their own communities or in any other part of the country... Right now AmeriCorps is conducting a nationwide competition to select community-based programs which will run service projects and make up the AmeriCorps National Service Network... **AMERICORPS IS NOT JUST ANOTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAM ...IT'S A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT!!!!**

HOW DO I JOIN?
The AmeriCorps National Service Network of programs will be announced soon...AmeriCorps Members will be recruited locally and nationally beginning this summer...and AmeriCorps will be launched across the country this fall... **AMERICORPS... COMING SOON TO COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE!!!!**

WHAT DO I DO NOW?
Learn more about AmeriCorps and how you might get involved by calling the **AmeriCorps Hotline... 1-800-94-ACORPS TDD 1-800-833-3722**

ENVIRONMENT

Neighborhood Environment: reducing community environmental hazards

Getting Things Done:

- . Revitalizing neighborhoods by creating and maintaining recreating areas, green spaces and community gardens
- . Eliminating environmental risks through education, testing, and cleanup
- . Reducing waste through energy efficiency efforts, recycling, and other conservation measures

Natural Environment: conserving, restoring, and sustaining natural habitats

Getting Things Done:

- . Conserving and restoring public lands, forests, rivers, streams and wetlands
- . Making parks more accessible through trail maintenance, infrastructure improvements
- . Sampling, mapping, monitoring, and recording air and water quality and status of ground water, land, plant, and animal resources



CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
★ SERVICE

Dear

Our community is fortunate to have so many groups that actively pursue community service projects. Omaha's USDA AmeriCorps was established to focus on environmental community service projects. It can coordinate projects to maximize your efforts and improve your project effectiveness. We operate under the umbrella of the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission and directly under the USDA - Soil Conservation Service located at Chalco Hills Recreation Area. We can help coordinate community resources.

What can the AmeriCorps team do for your organization?

- . help your group identify environmental community service projects
- . help your group brainstorm and problem solve
- . help supervise the project or actually complete the work depending on the project
- . coordinate equipment or curriculum materials for a project
- . assist in finding sponsors for your project
- . provide an opportunity to meet new people and serve your community
- . provide a link to other groups and organizations
- . assist with environmental education programs, workshops, and provide contacts for curriculum materials
- . assist with and coordinate tree planting ceremonies, outdoor classrooms, and other community or school activities.

Enclosed please find a statement of our environmental goals. If you find these to be consistent with your community action plan, please call us. We look forward to working with you and reading your project proposal.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Anderson, Supervisor
Omaha AmeriCorps

Enc.:

1100 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone 202/462-5000
Fax 202/462-4975

Getting Things Done
A 100-page book
by David Allen
New York: Bantam, 1993

Contact Person:

Address:

Telephone:

Project Date:

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Title: _____

Brief Description:

Use additional sheets if necessary.



CORPORATION

FOR NATIONAL

★ SERVICE

How long would this take to accomplish?

What are your equipment needs?

How many volunteers would be required to participate?

How can the AmeriCorps Design Team help you accomplish your goal?

Return to: Marilyn Anderson, Supervisor
Omaha Americorps
8901 S. 154th St.
Omaha, Ne. 68138
(402) 896-0121

1100 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000
Fax 202-606-4928

Getting Things Done
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Service Corps

Crime Control: improving criminal justice services, law enforcement, and victim services

Getting Things Done:

- Enhancing community policing efforts by working with local law enforcement
- Reducing specific crime problems such as drug dealing, domestic violence, crimes motivated by bias, crimes against senior citizens, and child abuse
- Improving services available for victims of crime and strengthening innovative criminal justice programs such as neighborhood courts and community restitution

HUMAN NEEDS

Health: providing independent living assistance, home-and community-based health care

Getting Things Done:

- Providing independent living assistance and health care to the homebound elderly, people with disabilities, and people living with AIDS
- Improving the health of low-income communities by offering preventive health services through community health clinics
- Offering prenatal care, parenting education, and health care to families of young children through home visits

Home: rebuilding neighborhoods and helping people who are homeless

Getting Things Done:

- Helping people who are homeless by providing shelter support, assisting in moving into permanent housing, and related services
- Renovating and rehabilitating low-income housing
- Helping individuals move from public assistance into self-sufficiency by providing job training, literacy tutoring, and other services

ENVIRONMENT

Neighborhood Environment: reducing community environmental hazards

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- Sampling, mapping, monitoring, and recording air and water quality and status of ground water, land, plant, and animal resources



CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
★ SERVICE

AMERICORPS NATIONAL PRIORITIES

AmeriCorps is the new national service movement which will engage Americans of all ages and backgrounds, especially young people, in full or part-time service that gets things done in communities across the nation. AmeriCorps Members will perform service that will have a direct and demonstrable impact in four critical issue areas: education, public safety, human needs, and the environment.

By the end of the year, up to 20,000 AmeriCorps participants will be getting things done by meeting the critical needs within these national priorities:

EDUCATION

School Readiness: furthering early childhood development

Getting Things Done:

- Improving the quality and availability of child development programs by working in day care and Head Start centers and preschool programs
- Teaching literacy and other basic skills to parents of young children so that they can help their children learn
- Helping teen parents stay in school by providing needed services such as child care

School Success: aiding the educational achievement of school-aged youth and adults who lack basic education skills

Getting Things Done:

- Working in schools with high concentrations of low-income students
- Mentoring, tutoring, and providing after-school and summer learning opportunities
- Coordinating service-learning activities for K-12 students

PUBLIC SAFETY

Crime Prevention: reducing the incidence of violence

Getting Things Done:

- Reducing crimes against youth by making schools-safe, creating safe havens, providing training in conflict resolution, and involving youth in prevention efforts
- Providing substance abuse counseling and education
- Developing specific crime prevention strategies targeted at key locations playgrounds, public transportation points, and other public gathering places

1100 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202 606 5000
Fax 202 606 4928

Getting Things Done
AmeriCorps: National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Service Corps

PROJECT PRIORITY

1. Heron Haven
2. Bison Project
3. Firestation Landscape
4. Conservation Terrace Layout
5. NRD Arboretum
6. Wehrspann Clean Lakes
7. Native Plots (NRD)
8. Community Cleanup at Cunningham Lake
9. Marian H.S. Outdoor Classroom
10. Rumsey Station Wetland Cleanup
11. MSSA "Celebrate Trees" Site Care

PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

The following is a very brief list and description of the projects we are collectively working on:

Heron Haven - Heron Haven is an urban wetland in the process of being reestablished. Our goals there are to work with the Audubon Society to clean up and preserve the wildlife and plant life already existing.

Bison Project - We will be working with the Winnebago tribe to try and recreate a stable diet through buffalo meat, which has much lower levels of cholesterol than does beef. It is important to do so in order to try to combat their growing numbers of diabetes in the community.

Firestation Landscaping - This is self explanatory. We will be aiding in planning and planting the landscapes around our area firestations.

Conservation Terrace Layout - We will be aiding the Soil Conservation Service planning surveying, and constructing terraces, dams, or other projects as needed.

National Resource District Arboretum - Simply, we will help to maintain the arboretum doing whatever is asked of us. This may include wood chipping, planting, or labeling plant life, as well as many other activities.

Wehrspann Clean Lakes - We will be doing data collection for resource inventory purposes for water quality modeling.

Native Plots - Our goal here is to locate virgin prairie land throughout our designated counties in Nebraska in order to preserve and protect our native grasslands before urbanization occurs.

Community Clean Up Cunningham Lake - This is an area that deserves attention due to the contractors abuse of lots close to those that they are currently constructing. We would like to involve citizens from the area that are directly affected by means of a neighborhood clean up project.

Marion High School Outdoor Classroom - This is a follow-up project which involves maintenance of a wetland area that was created by students at Marion High School. The students will participate in the actual process.

Rumsey Station Wetland Clean Up - This is a project much like that of Heron Haven. People have continually thrown their garbage into ravines, waterways, and onto the land. We will clear this wreckage away as to preserve this wildlife habitat.

MSSA "Celebrate Trees" Site Care - Millard Star Soccer Association commissioned approximately 40 trees to be planted around the soccer fields. These trees are now in dire need of mulching. We intend to join the soccer youth in this project.

Our ongoing projects at this time are as such:

"Cans for Corps" - This is our own recycling project. We will be distributing recycle bins for aluminum cans, throughout the Chalco Hills Recreation area. We will be in charge of checking the bins, collecting the cans, and storing them. We will then bring them to the actual recycle center. Any profit made will immediately go back into our own Americorps team in order to give ourselves a small budget.

Piezometer Readings - We will be learning how to correctly use a piezometer in order to collect and study water readings. There will be a set route that we will all learn and follow.

We have many future projects in mind. This is only our current list of projects. As the seasons change and we finish these, our list will change and grow, but as you see, we really are "getting things done".

Project Name	When	Place
Arboretum	ASAP	Chalco Hills
Arbor Day Foundation	Spring	-
Bison Project	ASAP - Oct	Thurston County - Winnegago
Boyer Shute	ASAP	Ft. Calhoun
Christmas Tree Recycling	Dec.	-
Clean Lakes	ASAP	Wehrspann Lake
Emmy Gifford Project with schools	winter	puppetry/plays env. themes
Firestation Landscaping	-	-
Herron Haven	ASAP	114th St.
Native Prairie State I.D. and locating	winter	statewide
Marian High	ASAP	ecosystem and birdhouses for elementary schools
North High	long range	Integrated Science Outdoor Learning Center
Omaha City Recycling	-	-
Pheasants Forever	-	seeding and return to natural habitat
SCS Groundwater Measuring	-	help with data collection
Water Works Festival	May 9,10	help at Schramm Park with canoeing/packet assembly
Well Capping	ASAP	notify farmers with leaflets
Wetland Planting	spring	native grasses
Zoo Proposal	ASAP	animal env. extinction issues natural habitat/drawing clas "Draw From Life"



Cooperative
Extension

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Sarpy County
Sarpy County Courthouse
1210 Golden Gate Drive STE 1105
Papillion, NE 68046-2898
(402) 593-2172



TO: Paul Sweeney & Marilyn Anderson, SCS/Americorps
FROM: Diana Allen, Extension Educator
DATE: September 24, 1994
SUBJECT: Emmy Gifford Environmental Program

I am pleased to receive the preliminary proposal for the Environmental Theatre Production. Marilyn Anderson is to be commended for her speedy efforts to set this project in motion. I think that this project holds great promise for educating youth about key concepts and issues related to water quality and the environment.

After preliminary discussions with colleagues at the University --namely Bob Volk, Director, UNL Water Center & Environmental Programs; and DeLynn Hay, Director, Southeast Research & Extension Center I can report that we are prepared to enter into discussions to get this project underway.

We would like to see this as a cooperative project that would bring together a statewide team of people to provide technical assistance for the project. The charge of this team would be to provide advice related to the focus and content of the proposed theatre production. Members of the team might include people representing Soil Conservation Service, UNL Cooperative Extension, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, The Groundwater Foundation, Nebraska Association of Resource Districts.

In talking to Carol Waterman last week we discussed the idea of developing this production as an issue-based environmental program that would involve the children in an interactive format. It would be great if this production could go out to the Water Festivals that are held throughout the state of Nebraska.

We need to clarify a few items, including:

- Who is funding this project?
- If Americorps doesn't fund this project, then who will take the lead to seek other funding sources?

I must clarify a bit of misinformation contained in Marilyn's memo dated 9/23. I have not "already passed the idea to a nationwide funding source." I have merely talked to Bob Volk at the Water Center, who has talked to Susan Seacrest at Groundwater Foundation. The Groundwater Foundation is interested in being involved in this project, but in no way have they been approached to supply any funds.

I definitely see the need for all parties involved to get together very soon to begin face to face dialogue and discussion. I will check with Bob Volk to arrange a meeting date and time in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Diana Allen
Extension Educator

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN, COOPERATING WITH COUNTIES AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

University of Nebraska-Lincoln University of Nebraska at Omaha University of Nebraska Medical Center University of Nebraska at Kearney

POSSIBLE PROJECTSPresent

NRD Arboretum
 Bison Project
 Wehrspann Clean Lakes
 Fire Station Landscaping
 Heron Haven
 Marian H.S., Outdoor Class
 Native Plot Fix Up (RND)
 Pheasants Forever
 SCS PZometer Reading
 Rumsey Station - Cleanup
 MSSA Tree Planting Care
 Terrace

Winter

Native Prairie
 Omaha Recycling
 Well Recommissioning
 Emmy Gifford

Spring

Arbor Day
 Boyer Chute
 Water Works Festival
 Wetland Planting
 Metro Community College

Long Range and undefined projects

Native Plot Fix Up
 SCS PZometer
 North H.S., Outdoor Class
 Metro Community College
 Rumsey Station
 Bike Trail - Immanuel
 Voices for Children
 Cans for Corps
 Cunningham

Ducks Unlimited
 MSSA Tree Planting
 Clean Up Parks
 Community Garden est.
 Res. Data Collection
 Stocking Fish
 Terrace Layout



September 23, 1994

Project Title: Americorps Environmental School Program in Cooperation
with The Emmy Gifford Children's Theater

Brief Description: This joint project would develop and produce an environmental theater education piece that would focus on soil, water (both surface and ground water), waste, and water quality. Professional actor/teachers from The Emmy Gifford would then take the project into area schools to increase awareness of the focus areas. The project would utilize an existing curriculum, computer programs, and an animation/video developed by Diane Allen at NRD. The theater piece would be developed by actor/teachers prior to January first. From January through May one-hundred elementary school sites would be targeted to participate in the program.

Projected Costs of the Project: Development of the Project

Salaries of three actor/teachers
to research and develop the theater
piece
\$8,000.00

Production

Scenery, costumes, other expenses
\$5,000.00

Outreach

Salaries for three actor/teachers
for 100 performances
\$30,000.00

Total

\$43,000.00

Mark Hoeger
Executive Director

9/05/94
Omaha World Herald

Your Environment

By Fred Thomas



AmeriCorps Volunteers Go to Work

Their uniforms haven't arrived, but AmeriCorps volunteers have begun tackling community-improvement projects in the Omaha area.

They have picked up litter along a highway, cleaned two parks, studied an outdoor environmental education area that could become a model for schools, and volunteered to help resolve a neighborhood erosion problem.

They also have begun planning other projects, including one that will help members of the Winnebago Indian Tribe raise more buffalo to improve tribal members' diet.

"Things are starting to happen," said Marilyn Anderson, AmeriCorps' Omaha supervisor.

AmeriCorps is President Clinton's new national service initiative for volunteers who will work in environmental, education, social service and anti-crime programs.

The Omaha AmeriCorps team, working on environmental and public lands projects, is based in the U.S. Soil Conservation Service's office at Chalco Hills Recreation Area overlooking Wehrspann Lake.

Mrs. Anderson said she and team members began work last week. They picked up litter at Orchard Park and Zornsky Lake Park and removed trash along Sorensen Parkway near 30th Street.

She helped mediate a solution to an erosion problem in a housing area near Cunningham Lake and agreed to bring her team there to clean up litter on vacant lots.

Mrs. Anderson said the team and cooperating groups, working in eight counties, have proposed these projects, with many more to follow:

- Building fences on the Winnebago Indian Reservation in Thurston County so the tribe can expand its buffalo herd and get more meat to feed tribal members.

- Removing stumps and trash at the Heron Haven wetlands near 117th Street and West Maple Road.

- Working on a recreational trail near Immanuel Hospital.

- Spreading wood chips and doing mulching at Chalco Hills Recreation Area.

- Creating community gardens in Omaha.

- Assisting with cultural programs at Henry Doorly Zoo and the Emmy Gifford Theater.

- Helping keep sediment and pollutants out of Wehrspann Lake, lengthening its life.

- Planting trees at the Boyer Chute wildlife-recreation area east of Fort Calhoun.

- Measuring groundwater levels with SCS personnel.

- Landscaping at a new fire station.

- Identifying native prairies statewide.

- Seeding wildlife areas to increase their value as habitat.

- Distributing leaflets to farmers about the need to cap abandoned wells.

- Labeling trees in the Chalco Hills arboretum.

- Recycling Christmas trees.

Team members plan to work with people throughout the service area — from scouts to prisoners on work release.

Mrs. Anderson's team has three members and will add a fourth soon.

People interested in working with the Omaha AmeriCorps may contact Mrs. Anderson at 896-0121 or write her at the SCS office, 8901 S. 154th St., Omaha 68138.

Other teams will work out of Lincoln, Tecumseh and Norfolk.

AmeriCorps Defended

From: Ted Arndt, Omaha

I doubt I will see this letter published, because I am leaving for Denver as a member of the National Civilian Community Corps. I was one of the few Nebraskans chosen to serve in this program.

Hundreds applied for the position I received. I was one of the lucky few who was selected. I was and still am excited at the opportunity to serve my country in this fashion.

A Sept. 14 World-Herald editorial, "AmeriCorps, a Program of Service and Birth of Another Bureaucracy," really angered me. It mentioned only the costs, which are small compared to the total budget and to the huge, sometimes unwarranted U.S. military spending throughout the 1980s.

I will do my best to serve my country and represent Nebraskans. I and the young people I will meet in Denver are inspired. Positive people want to make this country a better place.

I will take a copy of the editorial with me and read it every morning before a hard day of work serving my country. It will motivate me and all others I show it to.



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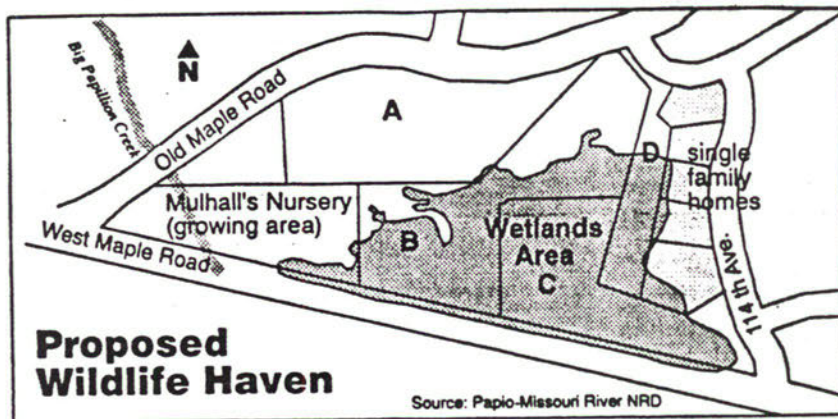
Outreach

Salaries for three actor/teachers
for 100 performances
\$30,000.00

Total

\$43,000.00

Mark Hoeger
Executive Director



Funds from drive would buy parcels A and B... C and D are not buildable.

Audubon Drive's Goal Is Omaha Heron Haven

By Fred Thomas

World-Herald Staff Writer

A haven for herons, kingfishers, ducks and other wildlife would be preserved within the city of Omaha if a fund drive that was announced Monday is successful.

The Audubon Society of Omaha said it would seek to raise \$300,000 to protect a "heron haven" in northwest Omaha.

The money would be used to buy and maintain 10.2 acres of wetlands north of 117th Street and West Maple Road.

Ione Werthman and Glenn Pollock, two Audubon representatives, said the spring-fed site could be saved and become an environmental education area as well as wildlife haven.

A boardwalk and nature-viewing blinds could be built, Mrs. Werthman said.

Sandy Jensen, an Omaha school board member who has lived near the wetlands for 13 years, said she had "great visions" of students visiting the site, viewing wildlife and learning about the value of wetlands.

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board last week voted to seek an option on the 10.2 acres.

The option would give the NRD time to negotiate a purchase price and complete an arrangement with the Audubon Society. Audubon would pay half the purchase price with money raised in the fund drive, the NRD would pay the other half. The NRD would own the land and Audubon would manage it.

NRD officials said the two owners

have asked \$184,000 for the 10.2 acres.

Audubon is calling the area "heron haven" because great blue herons have stayed at the site this winter. So have kingfishers and mallards. Green herons reportedly nested there last summer.

Buying the wetlands alone would not protect the site, Mrs. Werthman and Pollock said. Birds live in big trees nearby, so uplands need to be purchased as well, Pollock said.

The City of Omaha owns an adjoining parcel that contains wetlands. Pollock said Mulhall's Nursery, which grows trees in another adjoining parcel, would be asked, to further protect the haven, not to alter use of its lands.

Mrs. Werthman and Mrs. Jensen said they hope the money can be raised quickly, before another attempt is made to build apartments on the uplands.

John Jensen, Mrs. Jensen's husband and a school teacher, said he hopes businesses contribute to the drive because saving such a site ties into the "quality of life" that corporations look for in deciding where to locate industries.

The Omaha Planning Board twice has turned down a developer's plan to build apartments on the wetlands' edge.

The city has no regulations to save wetlands, and planners have said the site is developable.

Donations may be made to the Audubon Society of Omaha Heron Haven Wetland Drive, in care of Firstier Bank, P.O. Box 3443, Omaha, 68103. Information is available from Audubon at 390-2477.

Audubon Society Honors Omahan

The National Audubon Society has given Omahan Ione Werthman one of its top honors for her "tireless commitment to conservation."

The society gave Mrs. Werthman its William Dutcher award for her efforts to protect the Platte and Niobrara Rivers, to preserve the Heron Haven wetlands in Omaha and other wetlands and for leading Audubon activities for more than a decade, Audubon spokesman Ron Klataske said.

Mrs. Werthman received the award, named for William Dutcher, first president of the society in 1905, at the society's Spring River Conference that concluded Monday in Kearney, Neb.

Mrs. Werthman has led the Audubon Society of Omaha and Nebraska Audubon Council, has testified in Washington on scenic-river protection for the Niobrara and is raising money for Heron Haven, near 117th Street and West Maple Road.

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Wednesday, March 24, 1993

Omaha World-Herald Editorial Page

Unsigned articles are the opinion of The World-Herald

Conservationists Richly Deserving

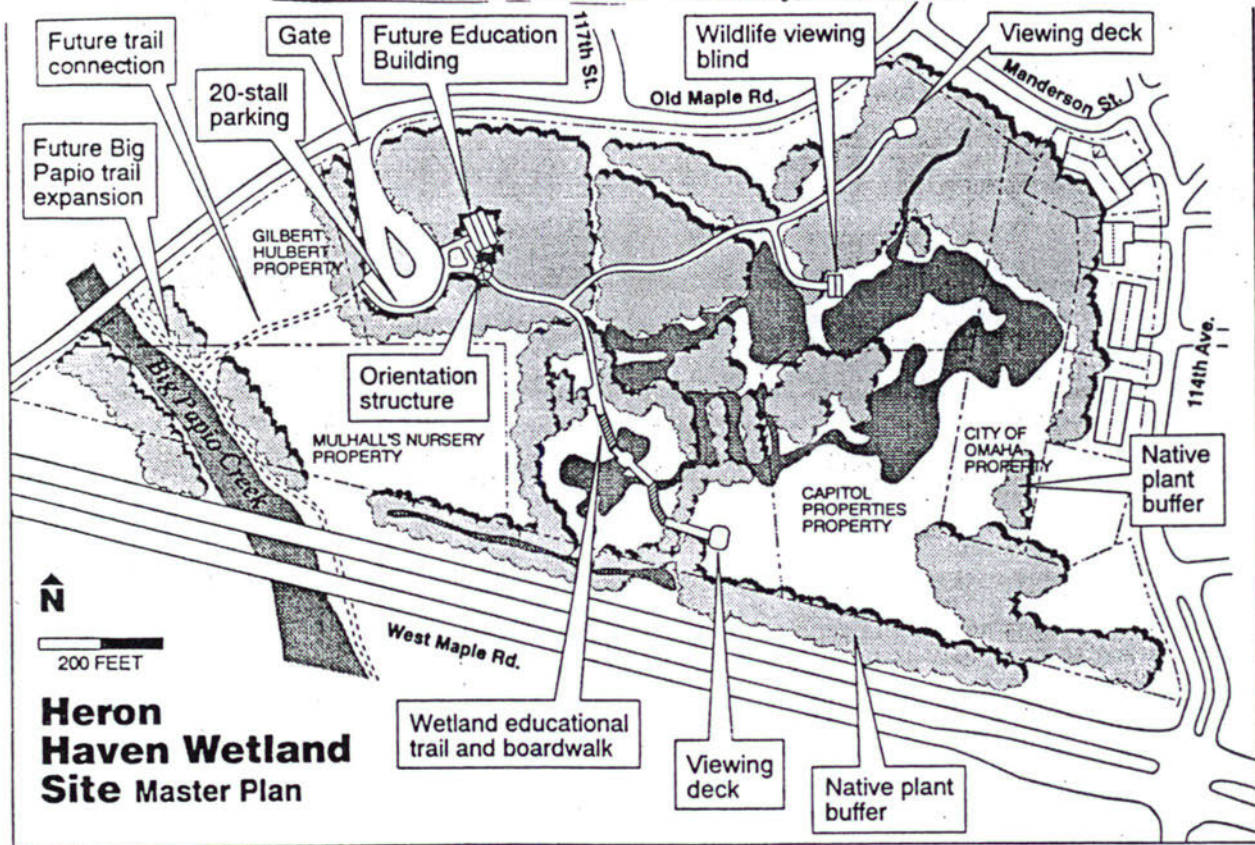
The dedication of two Nebraskans to nature and wildlife has brought them recognition they richly deserve. Paul Johnsgard of Lincoln, a teacher, writer and artist, and Ione Werthman, a leader of the Audubon Society in Nebraska, were honored for their work.

Johnsgard received the top award given at the Wings Over the Platte celebration in Grand Island. He was named crane conservationist of the year for his research, writings, wood carvings, photographs and teaching about wildlife. The widely known ornithologist has written extensively not only on birds, but also on the vital necessity for conserving the habitat that allows them to flourish.

Mrs. Werthman received the National

Audubon Society's William Dutcher award for her commitment to conservation. She has been in the forefront of the movement to preserve Heron Haven, a 10-acre wetland in northwest Omaha. She testified in Washington on scenic-river protection for the Niobrara River. She has been a leader in the Omaha and Nebraska Audubon groups for more than 15 years.

Johnsgard and Mrs. Werthman exemplify the spirit that is needed to be sure that wild things receive adequate protection. Their hard work to preserve endangered species and threatened ecosystems has earned the public's thanks. They are helping to save the heritage that belongs to everyone, now and in the future.



THE WORLD-HERALD

A BIT OF WILDERNESS: Audubon Society has until June 30, 1994, to raise the money to develop and manage this plan.

Heron Haven May Get \$50,000

Kiewit Grant Hinges on Raising Another \$150,000 for Wetlands

BY FRED THOMAS
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

The Peter Kiewit Foundation has pledged to give \$50,000 to the Heron Haven wetlands if the Audubon Society of Omaha raises another \$150,000.

A drive is beginning to raise the \$150,000 by a deadline of June 30, 1994, said Ione Werthman, an Audubon

spokeswoman. The 11-acre wetland area is situated north of 117th Street and West Maple Road.

She said the money would be used for these purposes:

- To build trails, a boardwalk and two viewing stands for observing great blue herons, blue-winged teal and other wildlife.

- To construct a small parking area.

- To build a berm to raise the water level about 2 feet and return the site to one body of water.

- To remove some invading plants that are not natural to the area.

- To plant wildflowers and a native prairie to attract butterflies.

- To plant trees on the Maple Street

Please turn to Page 19, Col. 6

side to muffle traffic noise.

- To plant a living fence of bird-attracting species of bushes and trees around Heron Haven and an adjoining three-acre parcel owned by the city.

- To install nesting boxes to increase the wood-duck populations.

- To repay a loan taken out to help buy the site last year.

Heron Haven, adjacent to the Big Papillion Creek, is one of the last wetlands within the city limits. The area is are fed by five springs.

Last year, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District and the Audubon Society combined to buy the site for \$170,000, and the NRD took title. Audubon agreed to raise money to develop and manage the wetlands.

Mrs. Werthman said fund-raising events would include the sale of Heron Haven T-shirts and buttons and birdathons. A birdathon would involve collecting pledges for every species of bird spotted during a specified period.

Audubon also will seek donations from corporations and individuals.

She said school groups would be encouraged to raise money. Schoolchildren donated about \$2,500 to help buy the land, Mrs. Werthman said.

Once the trails, boardwalk and viewing stands are built, guided tours will be given, she said. No admission will be charged.

Audubon also has longer-range plans to find additional money to erect an education building on the edge of the site, Mrs. Werthman said.

Audubon's volunteers are committed to the project because "preservation of wetlands is a necessity for a good balance of nature and a good ecosystem for humans," she said.

"As the city grows, Heron Haven will become an increasingly valuable oasis in the middle of "a concrete Omaha."

The Kiewit foundation will not give the \$50,000, called a challenge grant, if Audubon fails to raise the money.

People interested in donating to the project may make checks payable to Heron Haven Wetlands and send them to Heron Haven Wetlands, First Tier Bank, P.O. Box 3443, Omaha 68103.

People seeking information on fund-raising efforts may call Audubon at 390-2477.



Cooperative
Extension

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Sarpy County
Sarpy County Courthouse
1210 Golden Gate Drive STE 1105
Papillion, NE 68046-2898
(402) 593-2172



TO: Paul Sweeney & Marilyn Anderson, SCS/AmeriCorps
FROM: Diana Allen, Extension Educator
DATE: September 24, 1994
SUBJECT: Emmy Gifford Environmental Program

I am pleased to receive the preliminary proposal for the Environmental Theatre Production. Marilyn Anderson is to be commended for her speedy efforts to set this project in motion. I think that this project holds great promise for educating youth about key concepts and issues related to water quality and the environment.

After preliminary discussions with colleagues at the University --namely Bob Volk, Director, UNL Water Center & Environmental Programs; and DeLynn Hay, Director, Southeast Research & Extension Center I can report that we are prepared to enter into discussions to get this project underway.

We would like to see this as a cooperative project that would bring together a statewide team of people to provide technical assistance for the project. The charge of this team would be to provide advice related to the focus and content of the proposed theatre production. Members of the team might include people representing Soil Conservation Service, UNL Cooperative Extension, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, The Groundwater Foundation, Nebraska Association of Resource Districts.

In talking to Carol Waterman last week we discussed the idea of developing this production as an issue-based environmental program that would involve the children in an interactive format. It would be great if this production could go out to the Water Festivals that are held throughout the state of Nebraska.

We need to clarify a few items, including:

- Who is funding this project?
- If AmeriCorps doesn't fund this project, then who will take the lead to seek other funding sources?

I must clarify a bit of misinformation contained in Marilyn's memo dated 9/23. I have not "already passed the idea to a nationwide funding source." I have merely talked to Bob Volk at the Water Center, who has talked to Susan Seacrest at Groundwater Foundation. The Groundwater Foundation is interested in being involved in this project, but in no way have they been approached to supply any funds.

I definitely see the need for all parties involved to get together very soon to begin face to face dialogue and discussion. I will check with Bob Volk to arrange a meeting date and time in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Diana Allen
Extension Educator

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN, COOPERATING WITH COUNTIES AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

University of Nebraska-Lincoln University of Nebraska at Omaha University of Nebraska Medical Center University of Nebraska at Kearney



lamp, rynearson & associates, inc.

engineers

surveyors

planners

14747 california street omaha, nebraska 68154-1979 402-496-2498

FAX # 402-496-2730

September 23, 1994

Ms. Marilyn Anderson, Supervisor
Omaha Americorps
8901 South 154th Street
Omaha, NE 68138

REFERENCE: Storm Sewer Improvements
(Lake Cunningham Hills)
Job No. 92036-1402

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Enclosed herewith is a project proposal for improvement of the existing ditch located at the East property line of Lake Cunningham Hills. We have also included a copy of a report we prepared on August 26, 1994.

We would appreciate any help you could provide the district in obtaining funding for this project.

Please contact us if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Yours truly,

LAMP, RYNEARSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Brett J. Wawers, P.E.
Senior Construction Engineer

BJW:sh:9-46

cc: Jim Lang
Lou Liebentritt





Contact Person: Brett Wawers c/o Lamp, Ryneanson & Associates, Inc.
Address: 14747 California Street Omaha, NE 68154-1979
Telephone: (402) 496-2498

Project Date: 9-23-94

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Title: Sanitary Improvement District No. 326
Storm Sewer Section II.

Brief Description:
Use additional sheets if necessary.

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

(SEE ATTACHED REPORT)

How long would this take to accomplish? The length of Actual Construction is 3 to 4 weeks. The Starting Date of the work depends on availability of funds and obtaining approvals from various governmental agencies.

What are your equipment needs? Hydraulic Backhoe, Crane and Earthmovers capable of constructing storm sewer sections weighing 20,000 pounds each. In addition, an estimated 8000 CY of earthwork is required.

How many volunteers would be required to participate? None. Skilled professionals are required for a project of this kind.

How can the Americorps Design Team help you accomplish your goal? By assisting in obtaining of funding for the project.

Return to: Marilyn Anderson, Supervisor
Omaha Americorps
8901 S. 154th St.
Omaha, Ne. 68138
(402) 896-0121

100 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20540
Telephone: 202/696-6000
Fax: 202/696-6000

Getting Things Done
Americorps National Service
100 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20540



lamp, rynearson & associates, inc.

engineers

surveyors

planners

14747 california street omaha, nebraska 68154-1979 402-496-2498

FAX # 402-496-2730

August 26, 1994

Chairman and Board of Trustees
Sanitary and Improvement District No. 326
of Douglas County, Nebraska
c/o Mr. James Lang, Attorney
11306 Davenport Street
Omaha, NE 68154-2630

REFERENCE: Storm Sewer Maintenance
(Lake Cunningham Hills)
LRA Job No. 92036-1400

Dear Members of the Board:

At your direction, we have investigated the conditions at the inlet and outlet of the existing 84" storm sewer, which runs through the subdivision. The pipe drains an area of approximately 175 acres. The drainage area extends to 72nd Street and includes part of the World Communications Park. Below we have summarized the existing storm water flows as well as the anticipated flows when the upstream area becomes developed.

FLOWS TO STORM SEWER INLET (cfs)

	UNDEVELOPED (Neglect SCS Dam)	DEVELOPED (Residential)
10 YEAR	270	480
50 YEAR	460	710
100 YEAR	560	830

The information to determine the runoff rates and pipe capacity was taken from readily available sources and field observation. Detailed analysis and survey information can be expected to refine these values.

The 84" pipe and inlet have a capacity of 830 cfs. As designed, the storm sewer is sized under the current design standards for this area to carry a 100 year storm with single family residential development upstream.



Storm Sewer Maintenance
S.I.D. No. 326 (Lake Cunningham Hills)
LRA Job No. 92036-1400
August 23, 1994
Page 2

INLET AT EAST PROPERTY LINE

The erosion problem at the storm sewer entrance is caused by a significant portion of the runoff not having a path to get to the entrance. The outlet piping through the SCS dam east of the inlet has a capacity of 150 cfs. There is, under present conditions, no storage available behind the dam to store runoff in excess of the capacity of the outlet piping.

The overflow spillway for the dam was near the south end of the embankment. This area has been disturbed and is now planted in corn. The lots downstream of this spillway have been filled to above the cornfield level. Runoff has eroded a gully from the field to the 84" storm sewer entrance. Greater runoff may flow to the street and not be carried in the storm sewer at all.

The storm sewer inlet is over 20 feet below the low point in 81st Street. The projected slope from the entrance to the ground at the residence on Lot 242 exceeds 3:1. With this condition it would be difficult to maintain a stable slope at this location. Saturated soils and continuous flows have under-cut the toe of the slope and aggravated the situation.

We have analyzed the three potential solutions described below.

1. Restore storage capacity to the reservoir and grade the area to direct all run-off through the dam outlet pipe. Reshape and reseed the overflow channel. Provide gabion mattresses for erosion control at steep sections of this channel. This solution will leave the entrance conditions unchanged. The estimated cost of this solution will be \$65,000, provided that the silt can be disposed of on the adjacent property.
2. Construct a gabion lined channel protected with fencing between the 84" concrete pipe and the 36" CM outlet pipe. Construct a channel or pipe to carry the runoff which will by-pass the dam outlet piping. The estimated cost of this solution is \$126,000.
3. Extend the storm sewer east through the dam embankment and construct an inlet structure at that location. Regrade the area to drain to the new inlet structure. The estimated cost of this solution is \$102,000.

All of these options require easements to perform work on the property east of the subdivision.

Storm Sewer Maintenance
S.I.D. No. 326 (Lake Cunningham Hills)
LRA Job No. 92036-1400
August 23, 1994
Page 3

OUTLET AT WEST PROPERTY LINE

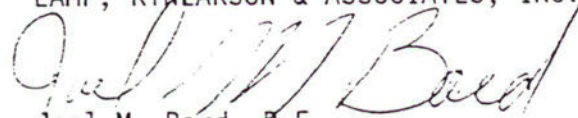
The other area of concern is the outlet of this storm sewer at the westerly boundary. It consists of a 96" pipe with a concrete headwall and a small energy dissipation structure. The channel downstream of this structure does not appear to be eroding severely or cutting back under the structure at this time. The side slopes of the channel are excessively steep and not maintainable.

The length of the unstable channel in the district can be reduced by extending the pipe closer to the property line. An improved energy dissipator will reduce the likelihood that the outlet structure may be under-cut in the future. This project will require review by the Corps of Engineers, which owns the downstream property. The estimated cost of this project is \$81,000.

The project estimates are based on preliminary concepts and current construction costs. They include an estimate for engineering, legal and financing fees, but do not include costs of easements.

Yours truly,

LAMP, RYNEARSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.


Joel M. Bard, P.E.
Project Manager

JMB:sm

8-29

cc: Bill Morrison

CUNNINGHAM LAKE ESTATES

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1994

* * * * *

sponsored by the Omaha--AMERICORPS

- * meet at 81st and Willett at 9:00 a.m.
- * meet your neighbors
- * bring gloves/ we have a truck