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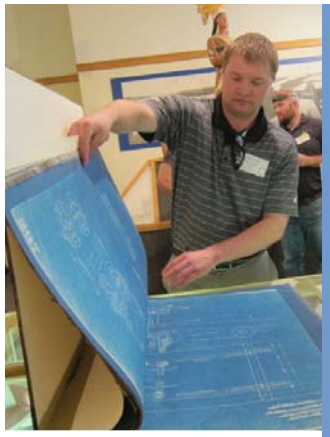
Nebraska Water Leaders Academy



SCHOLARSHIPS A limited number of need-based scholarships are available. To request a scholarship, contact Lee Orton, 402.476.0162.

WHEN TO APPLY The Academy begins accepting applications on **October 31** of each year. Deadline for submission is **November 15**. Applicants are notified of their acceptance by **December 1**. Classes start in January of the following year.

All applications and tuition payments are accepted at www.waterleadersacademy.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION About application requirements, expectations of participants and costs: www.waterleadersacademy.org or call Lee Orton, 402.476.0162.

"Newfound confidence allows alumni to become more aware of their leadership skills and how to use them" *... 2015 Nebraska Water Leaders Academy, final report.*

ACADEMY SPONSORS

Cost of tuition is kept to a minimum through continued support by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, Diamond Plastics Corporation, and more than 25 other supporters. Additional support is provided by the Water Futures Partnership-Nebraska, a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt corporation.

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- North Platte Natural Resources District
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The Academy is funded through a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The Trust is funded by proceeds from the Nebraska Lottery and has awarded more than $245 million to conservation projects in Nebraska since 1992.

The Nebraska Environmental Trust
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www.waterleadersacademy.org

Nebraska State Irrigation Association
WATER LEADERS ACADEMY

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NEBRASKA WATER LEADERS Since 2009, men and women from every corner of Nebraska and some from neighboring states have met in a year-long program to learn the principles of transformational leadership and about the vital role of rivers, streams and aquifers in Nebraska. The mission of the Nebraska Water Leaders Academy is to provide learning opportunities that focus on cooperative approaches to solving Nebraska's water issues.

CONSIDER THIS YOUR INVITATION to join a unique experience that will allow you to change and grow as a leader and progress in your knowledge of water and natural resource issues in Nebraska.

The experience: The Academy is structured around two learning tracks—leadership and resources.

LEADERSHIP TRACK University of Nebraska tenured professors and other experts have joined the Academy to share proven concepts and practical applications of leadership principals. The Academy's leadership track comprises transformational leadership, leading innovation, civic capacity, conflict management, personal empowerment and motivation.

RESOURCES TRACK At each Academy session, experts explain the history of water compacts, decrees and regulations. Sessions focus on water policy, research and the economic value of our most important river basins. The goal is to gain a basic understanding of Nebraska's natural resources and water issues.

This track includes classroom presentations and field trips at four sessions.

FACULTY Academy presenters come from varied backgrounds and are experts in fields such as: academics, policy making, regulation, politics, natural resources districts, irrigation and power districts, federal officials and more.

FIELD TRIPS A float trip on the Niobrara, a tour of water projects in the Panhandle and a tour of urban water projects in Omaha are examples of hands-on experiences that the Academy offers.

TEAM PROJECTS As part of a group, each participant is required to produce a final project about a natural resource-related topic developed from their Academy experience. The Academy experience provides insights in working together, examining important issues and developing innovative approaches to problem solving.

WHAT GRADUATES SAY:

The great speakers and instructors helped to explain how all the pieces fit together.

Randy Hartmann, Class II
Farm manager and sales agent
Grand Island

The Academy was a personally and professionally transformative experience for me. The blend of technical information, leadership training and group discussion was excellent.

Patrick McNamara, PhD, Class III
Visiting Professor
University of Nebraska at Omaha

At its roots, the Academy is a gathering of those who have limited knowledge of both water resource issues and leadership, knowing that after spending a year together, everyone will not only learn from the instructors, but from each other.

Paul Woodward, Class III
Water Resources Engineer
Omaha