

More than 100 cities, colleges and utilities received awards from the Nebraska Forest Service and Nebraska Statewide Arboretum this spring for their efforts in planting and maintaining trees.

“Communities are becoming more sophisticated with the tools they use to manage their tree resources,” said Graham Herbst, NFS community forestry specialist for eastern Nebraska.

Recipients of the 2013 Tree City USA awards in western Nebraska: Alliance, Arapahoe, Bassett, Bayard, Benkelman, Brady, Broken Bow, Cambridge, Chadron, Chappell, Cozad, Curtis, Farnam, Gering, Gothenburg, Grant, Holdrege, Imperial, Kimball, Lexington, McCook, Mitchell, Morrill, North Platte, Ogallala, Paxton, Potter, Rushville, Scottsbluff, Sidney, Sutherland, Trenton, Wallace, Wauneta.

Ogallala has received 30 years of Tree City USA awards, Gering and Scottsbluff received Tree City Growth awards for practicing higher levels of tree management.