

Arbor Day will celebrate 140 years of successful tree planting and environmental stewardship on April 27 and throughout the year 2012. Many of Nebraska's financial institutions have joined this national celebration by participating in the Nebraska Bankers Association's National Arbor Day tree care program, "Planting Roots for the Future."

This year, 19 financial institutions (none locally) from across the state have joined the tree planting effort by providing 1,425 Norway Spruce seedlings to community groups, schools and their customers. This is the 22nd year Nebraska financial institutions have teamed up through the NBA-sponsored program to encourage tree planting and celebrate National Arbor Day.

"Trees are traditional symbols of strength and stability—attributes that aptly apply to Nebraska's financial institutions," said NBA President and CEO George Beattie. "Providing trees is just one of the many ways that our member banks are contributing to the vitality and beauty of the communities throughout our state."

Since 1990, Nebraska financial institutions have donated nearly 149,900 trees through the "Planting Roots for the Future" program.