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#### **(Neb.) - Nebraska NRDs Carry On Tree Planting Traditions**

By: John Thayer Posted at: 04/27/2012 03:45 PM

(Chadron, NE) Tree planting is a long-standing tradition in Nebraska. Known as the "Tree Planter State," this nickname originated with the creation of Arbor Day in Nebraska in 1872. Many organizations, groups and landowners take part in this tradition each year that protects our soil and natural resources, including Nebraska's 23 natural resources districts (NRDs).

Over the 40 years since their creation by the Nebraska Legislature, NRDs have provided strong leadership in helping educate Nebraskans of all ages about the environmental benefits of planting trees and shrubs in our rural and community landscapes. Statewide, the NRDs have provided more than 85 million tree/shrub seedlings to Nebraska landowners. Most of these seedlings were planted for landowners by local NRD employees, either by hand or by machine. Known today as the "Conservation Trees for Nebraska" program, efforts are coordinated by the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) with each NRD independently managing its own conservation tree and shrub program to best benefit its local district.

The Upper Niobrara White NRD proudly provides assistance to landowners, including a seedling distribution system, planning, site preparation, planting and guidance for windbreak renovation. One might say the NRDs are a one-stop shop for conservation tree and shrub establishment. Your local NRD offers cost-share funding, and products and services that help increase seedling survival rates, including moisture-conserving weed barrier fabric and installation services.

For more information on the UNWNRD Conservation Tree Program or to order tree seedlings and shrubs, please contact Shar Sapp with the Upper Niobrara White NRD at 308.432.6190 or [sapp@unwnrd.org](mailto:sapp@unwnrd.org).