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"Natural Resource District Representatives tour Norfolk tree projects"



Over 30 Natural Resource District (NRD) staff members toured Norfolk tree projects Wednesday afternoon as part of the 2016 NRD Forestry Workshop sponsored by the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resource District (LENRD). Pam Bergstrom, LENRD Forester, coordinated the event.

After a morning of discussion on various tree topics, the group headed south on First Street to the trailhead of the Elkhorn River Trail where the LENRD had helped the City of Norfolk fund the planting of 18 trees. Pat Mrsny, City Park Superintendent, told the group about the benefits of having the trees along the trail. He also showed them 32 newly planted Environmental Adaptable Trees that were planted last week.

The NRD members then travelled west of Norfolk to the Community Forest of 275 trees planted on a City well field. Dennis Watts, City of Norfolk Water and Sewer Superintendent, told how the trees will help protect the City's wells from pollutants and described how the water treatment plant staff took on the duties of caring for the newly planted forest this summer.



Top Photo from left: Terry Schumacher and Justin Novak, both with the Pappio-Missouri River Natural Resources District in Blair, tour the trailhead of the Elkhorn River Trail where the Lower Elkhorn NRD had funded the planting of 18 trees.

Bottom Photo: Richard Gilbert (center), nursery manager for the Nebraska National Forest in Halsey, Nebraska, noted to Watts and Bergstrom that the Ponderosa Pine seedlings in Norfolk's community forest came from Halsey.