

Nelson: Recycle trash into cash

By JOSH FUNK
Senior Reporter

Gov. Ben Nelson has big plans for Nebraska's garbage.

Tuesday Nelson announced that he wants to develop a use for the more than 300,000 tons of waste materials Nebraskans recycled in 1996.

The goal is to develop a market for recyclables here in Nebraska as the number of collection sites and the amount collected continues to increase.

This new program will work to improve the entire recycling process from start to finish. Mainly, though, it will focus on developing an industry to make products made from recycled materials, said Pat Langan, a Department of Economic Development Recycling Economic Development advocate.

Creating a demand for recycled products will stimulate the entire recycling loop, Langan said.

"We want businesses to start using more recycled content products — even 5 or 10 percent recycled content would make a difference," Langan said.

Nelson hopes to build on the recycling companies already in the state such as Sandhill Plastics in Kearney, which produces plastic sheeting from milk jugs.

Omaha is currently considering building a paper-pulp mill that would turn junk mail into paper towels, Langan said.

Any new industries attracted to the state would bring economic development and new jobs, he said.

Recycling plants have a regional draw, Langan said, attracting business from surrounding states. And, an accomplished in-state recycling industry would lower the cost of recycling for Nebraskans.

Along with the new recycling

industry program, Nelson announced Nebraska's membership in the Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWi\$e program.

Nebraska is one of only a few states that have joined the program, which was originally designed for businesses.

WasteWi\$e focuses on three areas: preventing waste, collecting recyclable goods and buying more recycled content products, said State Recycling Coordinator Steve Danahy.

In the voluntary program, the state will set goals in those three areas, Danahy said.

WasteWi\$e offers help and advice to program partners as an incentive to change.

Both programs are in the early stages, and a lot of work needs to be done, Langan said.

"We're making strides, but we have a long ways to go."



MATT HANEY/DN

Ecology Now sponsors activities

■ Earth Day celebrations featuring music will be held in the greenspace.

From Staff Reports

UNL students can partake in a worldwide event today, as millions of people around the globe prepare to celebrate the 28th anniversary of Earth Day.

Ecology Now will sponsor an all-day celebration on the greenspace in front of the Nebraska Union from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Michelle Haddix, project coordinator, said the event is designed to educate students about environ-

mental issues in society.

Earth Day events include musical performances, as well as food and games. The bands playing include Nub, Pablo's Triangle and Ripple Effect. Acoustic guitar acts Chris Sayers, Larry Everman, Jumpin' Kate, Luck of Aelea and Shanti will also play. A drum circle will start at 2 p.m.

Open Harvest and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's VEGGIN group will sell food. The Student Operations Services Advisory Board will have a "Smash the Can" game where participants can attempt to smash a can with a mallet.

The day also will include informational booths to answer any

questions students may have.

Student organizations, such as UNL's Wildlife Club, Amnesty International and Outdoor Adventures will have booths. Local businesses will participate to help promote the day too, she said.

Haddix said the event also will include a number of guest speakers. Among them will be a representative of U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey, who will speak about environmental issues in government.

The event gives students the chance to participate in an important event that takes place in nearly 150 nations worldwide.

Haddix said: "A lot of times people forget how important the environment is."

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Henry Friedlander, a professor in the Department of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College, City University of New York, was interviewed during World War II in various concentration camps, including Auschwitz. His presentation will give a historical and personal perspective on the atrocities committed by Nazi doctors on the disabled during the Holocaust.

Presented by
Henry Friedlander
Brooklyn College

Wednesday, April 22, 1998 • 7:30 p.m.
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Sponsored by the Harris Center for Judaic Studies, the Department of History and the Charles and Linda Wilson Program for Humanities in Medicine