



"Close the Loop" Trail Project Complete!

Enjoy these photos of the four non-contiguous segments of new hike-bike trail in northwest Lexington. Already we've noticed a sharp increase in trail usage in the area. This project was made possible by the Recreational Trails Project

(RTP) grant administered by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. The NGPC awarded Lexington \$250,000 to build this 10-foot-wide, 4,368-foot-long concrete trail in four segments to close gaps in existing trails.

Additional trail sections around the community are planned for the future.



W 13th Street, North side of Plum Creek Park



North side of homes on Patriot Drive, east of Patriot Park



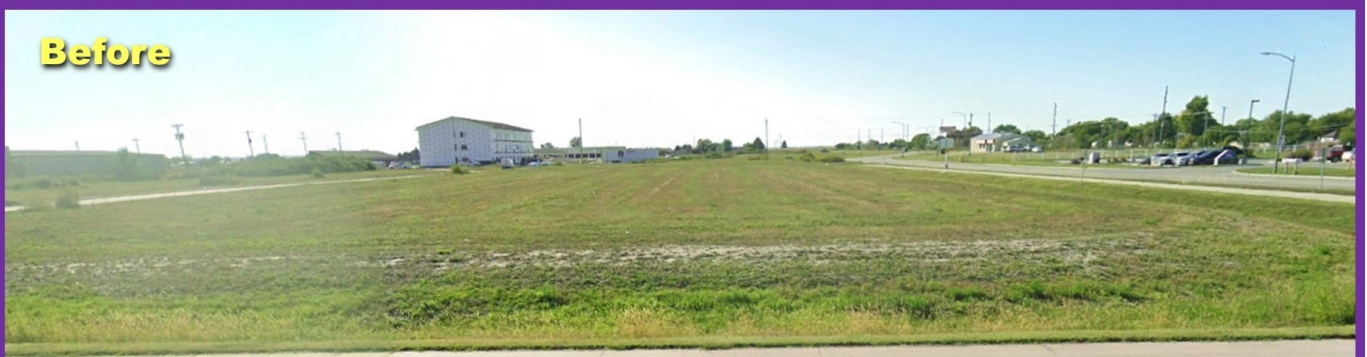
West side of Lexington Field House, on up to Patriot Park



Heading east from Driving Range through Optimist Rec Complex



Before



YOUR **2023** CITY

Plum Creek Pkwy & Cattlemen Dr.

After



CITY OF
Lexington
NEBRASKA

City Hall Lobby Hours Shortened

Sometime this month of October, City Hall will implement a new schedule, permanently closing its lobby one hour earlier in the afternoon. The new hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This 4:00 to 5:00 hour already receives fewer visitors, and the change will allow employees uninterrupted time to complete daily close-of-day tasks. We apologize for any inconvenience.





Library News



907 N Washington
(308) 324-2151



by Jennifer Norton
Library Director

"Few things are better in the world than a room full of librarians. I consider them literary heroes, the keepers and defenders of the written word." - Louise Penny, Canadian Mystery Novelist



Join us October 6 from 4-5 p.m. as we kick off the **National Endowment for the Arts Big Read** project.

Mayor John Fagot will proclaim **BIG READ DAY** and encourage residents to participate in the projects and events associated with the **BIG READ** initiative. Free copies of **The Grapes of Wrath** by **John Steinbeck** will be available, as well as more information on the programs and offerings during this opportunity for Lexington residents.

Rachel Olsen from the **National Willa Cather** Center will be here Thursday, Oct. 9, for the final



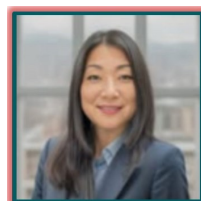
program of the **2025 One Book, One Lexington** program. "**Willa Cather Writes the Immigrant Experience in Rural Nebraska**" will begin at 7 p.m. and is **FREE** and open to the public.

Celebrate your freedom to read during **Banned Books Week** October 5-11 because "Censorship is so 1984." Stop by the library to learn more about your

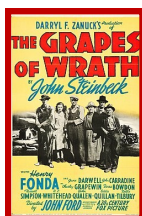


1st Amendment right to read, and the books that have received the most challenges.

The second program in the Library's **Lunch & Learn** series is Tuesday, Oct. 14, beginning at 11:30 a.m.



Learn from **Yoko Lawing** of **Zen Wealth Strategies** about home health coverage, cost of care and estate planning. This program is **FREE** but please register by calling the Library at 308-324-2151. Lunch is provided.



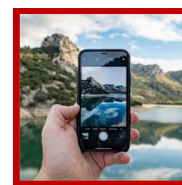
A **FREE** movie screening of the classic **Henry Fonda** film, **The Grapes of Wrath** will be held at the Library on October 20 at 2 & 7 p.m. **FREE** admission & **FREE** popcorn will be available.

Humanities Nebraska speaker **Bill Ganzel** will present "**Dust**



"Bowl Descent" on Thursday, October 21, at 7 p.m. Part of the **NEA Big Read** project, this program explores photos and oral history interviews to illustrate what it was like to live through the **Dust Bowl** of the 1930s.

Register for **Smart Phone Photography** classes at the Library. These are taught by **Rose Maple** begin October 27 and run for five consecutive weeks from 2-4 p.m. (October 27, November 3, 10, 17 and 24). These classes are **FREE** and will prepare you to take photos as part of the community art project of the Big Read initiative. Call 308-324-2151 to register.



Library Learning Club begins October 7 for Kindergarten through 5th grade pupils from 3:30-5:30 pm. Space is limited so please register by filling out the registration form available at the library. Tuesdays: Kindergarten & 1st grade,



Like us on Facebook

(Library News continues on next page)



Library News

(continued from previous page)



Wednesdays: 2nd & 3rd grade, and Thursdays: 4th & 5th grade. Snacks, games, crafts, stories, homework help and more will be provided for students who register for the Library Learning Club.

Join us October 16 as **Keep Lexington Beautiful** and the Library partner to bring you the annual **Family Fun Fall Festival**. A meal of chicken noodle soup starts at 5:30 p.m. Following the meal, attendees can expect games, crafts, face painting, a photo booth and some surprise animal guests. A bake sale of goodies and treats will also be happening during the event. Community partners will be on hand to add to the fun offering games and treats for all.

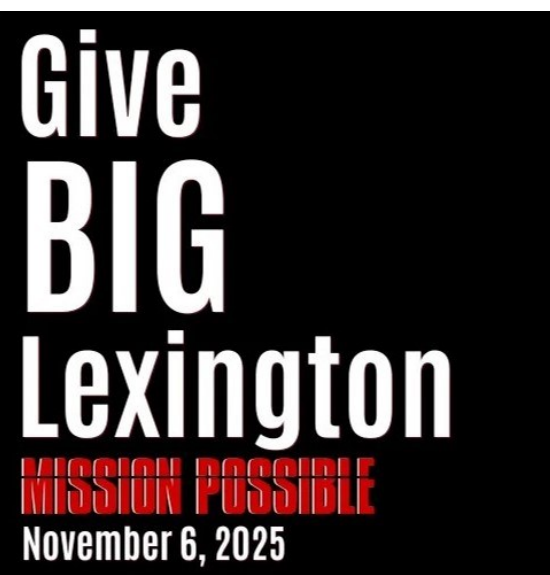


The final Lunch & Learn program of 2025 will be on Tuesday, November 4, at 11:30 a.m. Come learn healthy lifestyle tips from **Lexington Regional Health Center**. Please register; space is limited.

Support the Lexington Public Library and the **Friends of the Library** during **Give Big Lexington** on November 6. The Friends would like to purchase four weather-resistant picnic tables for the Library.



Don't miss **LEGO Club** on Thursday, November 13, and **Family Fun Night** on November 20.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
for the **ARTS**
BIG READ
Managed by Arts Midwest
arts.gov/neabigread

Kickoff Event

Monday, Oct. 6
4-5 pm
Lexington Public Library

- Mayoral Proclamation
- Community Art Project presentation
- FREE copies of *The Grapes of Wrath*
- Refreshments



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
for the **ARTS**
BIG READ
Managed by Arts Midwest
arts.gov/neabigread

AMERICA
250



907 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850
308.324.2151

LEXINGTON
community foundation

YARD WASTE ONLY!

At the Yard Waste Site at 1201 E Industry Drive



Violators subject to fines.

Other large items may be disposed of at The City Service Building, 801 W Vine.



Willa Cather Writes the Immigrant Experience in Rural Nebraska

Presented by Rachel Olsen
Nat'l Willa Cather Center



Thursday, October 9, 2025

7 pm

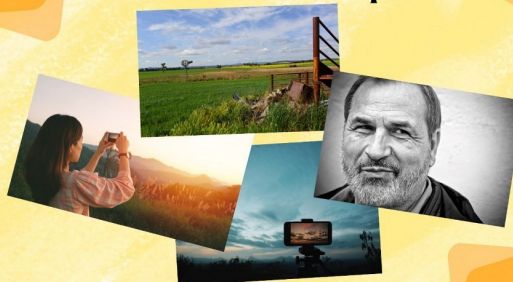
Lexington Public Library



907 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850
308.324.2151



SMARTPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY with Rose Mapel



- October 27, November 3, 10, 17 & 24
- 2-4pm @ the Lexington Public Library
- Registration required. Call 308.324.2151
- Participants should attend EACH class
- All classes are FREE
- Photo exhibit & Community Art Project



907 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850
308.324.2151



Lunch & Learn

@ the
Lexington Public Library

Join us for lunch, stay to learn.

Adult financial wellness

Tuesday, October 14

11:30am-1pm

Bridge the Gap- with Yoko Lawing

Learn what you can do
now to "Bridge the Gap"
and stay home when the
unexpected occurs.



- Home Health Coverage
- Cost of Care
- Estate Planning



Space is limited.
Please register by calling
308.324.2151



907 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850
308.324.2151



Dust Bowl Descent

Tuesday, October 21

7 pm

**Lexington Public
Library**

Bill Ganzel presents photos and oral
history interviews to illustrate what
it was like to live through one of the
most desperate times in our Nation's
history.



907 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850
308.324.2151





EnergyWise Tip: Seeing the Light

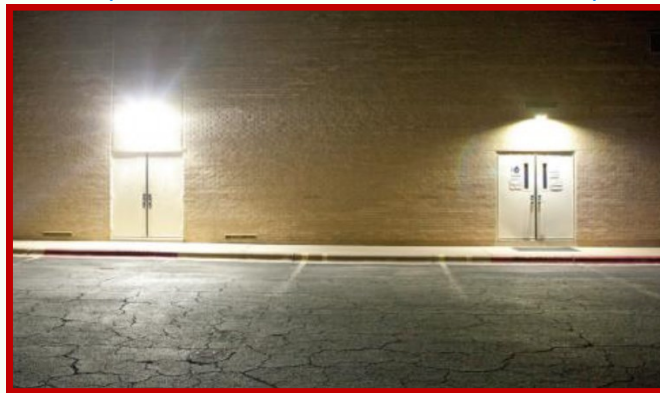


by NPPD Energy Efficiency
Program Manager
Cory Fuehrer

Have you stopped at or driven by a convenience store in the middle of the day and noticed the canopy lights over the gas pumps are on? Or have you noticed a streetlight in your area that never shuts off? What about a glaring yard light that irradiates over much more than the owner's yard? Finally, when is the last time you entered a room and found the lights left on after the last person left? These are all examples of improper or needless use of electricity through illumination.

Through the 2020 Residential Energy Consumption Survey, the U.S. Energy Information Administration found that electricity consumption for lighting accounted for about 6% of the electrical use in U.S. homes. That equates to 81 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity. In similar surveys for commercial

buildings and industrial facilities, lighting accounted for about 17% (208 billion kWh) and 6% (53 billion kWh) of total electricity use in those areas respectively. Unfortunately, it is estimated that about half of all energy used for lighting is unnecessarily lost.



Here are the leading causes of wasted lighting energy:

Over-illumination – using too much light or leaving lights on unnecessarily.

Inefficient fixtures – light is lost within the fixture before it can provide illumination of the desired area.

Inefficient light source – bulbs like incandescent bulbs waste energy by creating much more heat than light.

Poor fixture design –

Some are not properly shielded and/or aimed sending light where it is not needed or desired. Poor design usually leads to glare. The picture to the right illustrates this problem. The fixture on the left either lost its shielding or never had any causing light to go directly into the observer's eyes. The fixture on the right is properly shielded. Most of the light produced strikes the area being illuminated before reflecting into our eyes.

Uncontrolled lighting – lack of lighting controls, occupancy sensors, or dimming systems allow lights to run unnecessarily.

Not utilizing natural light – not taking advantage of natural daylight when and where it is available can lead to increased reliance on artificial lighting.

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Seeing the Light

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Now that you know the primary causes, here are the solutions:

Energy-efficient lighting –

Switching to energy-efficient LED lighting and using smart lighting controls.

Proper fixture design – Ensuring light fixtures are shielded and aimed correctly by directing light only where it's needed, reducing waste and glare.

Natural light utilization –

Maximizing natural daylight through window placement during building design to reduce the dependence on artificial lighting.

Lighting controls – Installing and integrating occupancy and daylight sensors, smart switches, smart building systems and task lighting to optimize energy use.

Lexington Utilities System, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, wants to help you gain the most beneficial light from the energy you purchase. They even offer EnergyWiseSM lighting incentives to help you make the most efficient choice. To find additional information, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit www.energywisenebraska.com.



LET'S GO SHOP SMALL

**NOV 29, 2025
SMALL BUSINESS
SATURDAY**

SHOP SMALL

Shop Small Saturday is always the Saturday after Thanksgiving, a day to emphasize shopping at small, local businesses!

FREE TREES.

Find out more about our free energy-saving tree giveaway at blackhillsenergy.com/trees.

©580002_23

What Not To Flush

(or put down the drain)

Could clog your drains or sewers!

- ▶ paper, plastic or cardboard
- ▶ feminine hygiene products
- ▶ wipes (baby or personal)
- ▶ prophylactic items
- ▶ cloth or string
- ▶ grease, oil, wax or fats
- ▶ diapers
- ▶ wrappers
- ▶ bottles
- ▶ cat litter
- ▶ medicines



DRIVING RANGE OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Self-Service



May be closed if cold or stormy . . .

Just southeast of the Lexington Fieldhouse
Optimist Recreation Complex
13th & Airport Road

Small Bucket

about 40 balls

\$3

Medium Bucket

about 75 balls

\$5

Large Bucket

about 105 balls

\$7

Buy a New Electric Lawn & Garden Tool, Get a Rebate



20% incentive on any NEW battery powered or corded lawn mower, chain saw, tiller, edger, trimmer, pruner, or leaf blower

Must be new and purchased on or after Jan. 1, 2025

Costs NOT eligible: installation, taxes, shipping/delivery, and setup costs

Chargers and additional battery purchases are eligible for the incentive at the time of initial snow blower purchase.

Proof of purchase required.



Nebraska Public Power District

Find the application form at www.EnergyWiseNebraska.com

Return paperwork to LEXUS, 406 E 7th, PO Box 70, Lexington, NE 68850





Like us on Facebook!

Get the latest scoops about what's going on in Lexington!

FaceBook users: be sure to search for "City of Lexington, Nebraska" (not to be confused with the generic page the FaceBook folks created). Only our official **page gives you the latest news** and updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Lexington-Nebraska/157277430966096>



**801 West Vine St.
308-324-5995
Mon. - Fri.
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

SUMMER SATURDAYS

(May - October):

**The Service Building is open
the **third Saturday** of the month
8 a.m. - 12 p.m**



- dispose of furniture, appliances, and other large items (small fee may apply)
- recycle paper, plastic, and cardboard
- pick up free wood chips or compost



#BERECYCLED



America Recycles Day

A KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL INITIATIVE

**America
Recycles Day
November 15**

Supported by
Keep America Beautiful
Keep Nebraska Beautiful
Keep Lexington Beautiful
City of Lexington

SHOPPING LOCAL ISN'T
JUST A TREND,
IT'S A WAY OF LIFE.

SHIFT10

— keep it local —

**SHIFT10 is a national movement to
encourage shoppers to shift 10% of their
spending to local businesses in communities
across the United States.**

SHIFT10 Day is October 10 (10/10)



Lexington Gets Free Trees

Thanks to the **Trees for Nebraska Towns Initiative (TNT)**, an effort of the **Nebraska Statewide Arboretum** and the **Nebraska Forest Service**, the City of Lexington has received 10 free trees to enhance the Close the Loop Trail Project (see page 1).

Specifically, the 10 trees were planted around the north end of Plum Creek Park, around one of the four non-contiguous sections of the northwest trail project. When mature, they will provide significant shade for the trail, W 13th Street, and the tennis courts in the afternoon and evening.

The City used the opportunity to partner with Lexington High School to provide hands-on training for students to learn tree-planting techniques. High School teacher and Future Farmers of America counselor Keith Nielson brought 13 students to receive a brief demonstration by Lexington Tree Board experts and Parks staff. Then the students themselves planted the rest of the trees.

The obvious benefits of community trees are shade and beauty, but they give us so much more, including increased comfort, better health, energy savings and a wide range of other social, economic, and environmental benefits.

The TNT program goals are not just to plant more trees, but also to increase appreciation and awareness of the significant value of community forests in Nebraska.

Special emphasis is placed on species diversity and higher impact projects, especially street tree planting and projects in neighborhoods of highest need.

The TNT Initiative is funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust and the USDA Forest Service through grants received by both the NSA and the Nebraska Forest Service.



Above, A group of students plant a Bur Oak toward the west end of the project.

Below Left: Tree Board member Dave Stenberg (standing) explains while Marty Smith (kneeling) demonstrates root preparation. Teacher Keith Nielson (left) looks on.

Below Right: The High School students pose with one of the trees they planted.



Come to a moving exhibition of the

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

Oct. 14, 2025
7:00 p.m.

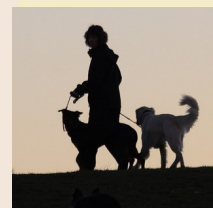
Presented by
ROBERT SANKEY
Former Lexington Middle School Teacher and Coach, who will share sound and video of local veterans that he has recorded for many years.

Sponsored by
Bonneville Chapter
Daughters of
the American Revolution

DAR
Daughters of the American Revolution

**Dawson County
Historical Museum**
805 N Taft Street

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS



As you and your dog are out walking in your neighbor-hoods, in the City's parks or on the trails, please remember to clean up after your dog.

A simple plastic bag slipped over your hand like a glove makes an efficient and clean pick-up tool. Picking up is just part of having a dog. It may seem silly at first, but people who see you do it will know any mess left behind is NOT from your dog. Picking up shows pride in your community, in yourself, and in your dog. You'll set a great example for others, and will help create a positive image for dogs and their owners.

**WE ALL WIN
WHEN WE EMBRACE
FAIR HOUSING.**



It is the policy of the City of Lexington to support equal housing opportunity as a fundamental guiding principle.



Lexington snow and ice removal

Winter weather will be here soon And the City would like to remind citizens of the following points related to snow removal. There is also the Emergency Snow Route map on the next page.

Property owners are required to remove snow and ice from sidewalks abutting their property, within 48 hours of the snowfall. Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks not only ensures safe passage for pedestrians (including school children), but also limits liability. Someone who sustains injuries from slipping on ice might claim their injuries resulted from property owner neglect. Please remember that snow and ice removed from your property is not to be placed into the street. Instead move it to non-paved areas.

The City needs the cooperation of all citizens as we work to remove snow and ice from the streets. Citizens are encouraged to listen to local radio stations or read the local newspaper (including online) for

announcements of possible Snow Emergency situations where substantial snowfall is experienced or anticipated.



In times of a declared Snow Emergency, parking along streets in the designated Snow Emergency Route is prohibited. Commercial Areas may also be included (see Snow Route map).

Citizens living along these routes are encouraged to comply with the prohibition and move their vehicles from the street.

In addition, during a Snow Emergency, parking in the Downtown area is prohibited. In non-emergency times, citizens are still encouraged to move their parked vehicles off of the street in a reasonable period of time after snowfall to allow City crews access to remove the snow and ice. Information regarding the removal of snow in your area of the City can be obtained by contacting Tom Nelson at 308-324-5995.

The City of Lexington would like to reiterate that snow and ice removal is important for vehicular traffic as well as Pedestrian traffic.

Please take the time to do your part to keep our streets and sidewalks safe. The City of Lexington thanks everyone for their cooperation and prompt attention to this issue.



