By David Lott
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Take time to sharpen tree, lawn and landscape maintenance skills by attending the first annual Lawn and Landscape School Jan. 31 through Feb. 2 at the West Central Research and Extension Center, 402 W. State Farm Road, in North Platte.

This three-day school will help grounds keepers, maintenance crews, landscaping firm workers and advanced skill homeowners build an integrated approach to maintaining landscapes in public and private settings through common sense applications.

These applications can be used together to benefit trees, lawns and landscapes for all-around landscape health and sustainability.

Learn from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and Nebraska Forest Service professionals in an interactive setting how to maintain and improve landscapes while reducing dependency on pesticides and fertilizers in landscapes.

Participants will learn how plant selection, soil fertility management, environmental conditions, insect and disease pressure impact trees, lawns and ornamental plants and their relation to each other in the landscape.

Each class will start at 8 a.m., CT, and conclude at 5 p.m.

Along with interaction with the speakers, participants will receive a large binder of resource material that will be covered in the school, reference charts and materials that can be used throughout the year.

A copy of the “Integrated Turfgrass Management of the Northern Great Plains,” written by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension professionals, is also included.

The tuition fee includes resource material, speaker fees, meals and breaks for the three-day school. Lodging is the responsibility of the participant.

Participant registrations are due by Friday, Jan. 6, to David Lott, Extension Educator, 402 W. State Farm Road, North Platte, Nebraska, 69101.

For copies of the Lawn and Landscape School brochure call Lott at (308) 696-6781, sending an e-mail to dlott2@unl.edu, or visit your local University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Office.