

Join Now

To join the GROW Nebraska™ team, please complete the following information or fill out our online form at grownebraska.org/membership.

Contact Person _____
 Business Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____
 Web Site _____
 E-mail _____
 Referred By _____

Please briefly describe your business or product:

Membership Categories: (check one)
 BASIC Membership (\$175)
 BUNDLE Membership (\$325)
 Full-Time Student Membership (\$60)

Payment Method
 Check to GROW Nebraska™
 Please charge my credit card
 Visa MasterCard Discover AmEx

Card # _____
 Exp. Date _____ / _____
 Signature _____

Please include payment method and mail to GROW Nebraska™, PO Box 7, Holbrook, NE 68948, or e-mail it to info@grownebraska.org. Full details of membership benefits can be found at grownebraska.org/benefits or call our toll free number 888.GROW.NEB (888.476.9632).



Benefits of Membership



Join Now

Membership Brochure



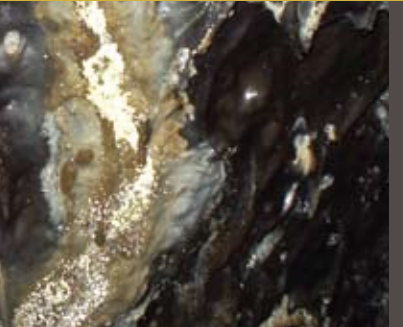
Buy Local



GROW Nebraska
www.grownebraska.org

Who Should Join:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Artists</i> | <i>Resource Providers</i> |
| <i>Food Producers</i> | <i>Web Designers</i> |
| <i>Service Businesses</i> | <i>Bath & Body Designers</i> |
| <i>Designers</i> | <i>Authors</i> |
| <i>Crafters</i> | <i>Retail Stores</i> |
| <i>Jewelry Makers</i> | <i>Galleries</i> |
| <i>Printers</i> | <i>Tourism</i> |
| <i>Photographers</i> | <i>And More ...</i> |



GROWing Since 1998

“My business has grown with both more retail and wholesale sales ... Thanks GROW Nebraska for becoming a part of my business world.”



Janet Bitner
Grandma's Home Brewed Soap
Member since 2010



What We Do

GROW Nebraska™ is a non-profit organization, whose mission is focused on creating sustainable economic development. We do this by supporting entrepreneurs and small businesses through promotion, access to markets and education.

GROW Nebraska™ is an Entrepreneurial Service Organization, which is membership-based and driven. GROW provides entrepreneurial coaching and market access opportunities to its members.

Entrepreneurial coaching includes initial consultations, counseling, product evaluation and market access assistance. GROW Nebraska's™ goal is to connect entrepreneurs and small businesses to the world marketplace.



“I really believe in buying LOCAL and supporting the small business. I also believe that Nebraska, who feeds a good share of the world, has the best products in the world!”

Jackie Hopken
South Fork Vineyard
Member since 2005

Why Join?

GROW Book: Membership includes a listing in the annual GROW Book, the premiere directory of Nebraska entrepreneurs and small businesses, downloadable from the web site.

Technology Assistance: Take advantage of technical assistance such as technology training workshops, product photography and social media assistance.

Flavors Project: If you have a location with a unique “flavor,” join the many restaurants, bed & breakfasts, art galleries, retail stores and museums that participate in this passport program that encourages tourism.

Online Exposure: Increase your online presence with a listing on the GROW web site which receives over 3,400 visits per month. You can also market your products to a global community on the eCommerce site (ShopGrowNebraska.org) or at the GROW eBay store.

Retail Stores and Training Centers: Learn first hand about marketing your product in a retail setting. Have your products featured in the year-round stores in the Hilltop Mall, Kearney; the Conestoga Mall, Grand Island; and downtown Norfolk or at one of the temporary locations at the Nebraska State Fair or the holiday stores. Items are required to go through a critique process to be added to the store.

Evaluations: Get valuable feedback from a panel of experts to improve your products or web presence.

Reduced Rate Cooperative Advertising: Take part in cooperative advertising in statewide and national magazines, television and radio.

Mark it for Market Cooperative UPC Program: Standard UPC barcodes are available for vendors with a small number of products. Use them to market your products to stores like Amazon, Whole Foods and Russ's. Technical assistance is provided to all participants.

Weekly E-mails: Learn about upcoming services offered by the program and partnering programs.

Loans: In collaboration with the Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP), capital is available up to \$10,000.

The Breakdown

FAQ

Q. Who can join GROW Nebraska™?

A. Any Nebraska business with a Nebraska Sales Tax ID number may join. This includes product, service and community organizations.

Q. What is the cost for membership?

A. The BASIC membership fee is \$175. This rate is ideal for businesses and service members who do not want to take part in all additional paid services, such as retail stores. The BUNDLE rate of \$325 packages most professional services into one rate. Members who pay the BUNDLE rate save \$225 over purchasing each professional opportunity separately. GROW also offers a special membership rate of \$60 for full-time students with proof of enrollment.

Q. What is the cost to be in your stores?

A. If you pay the BUNDLE price when you join GROW, there is no additional fee to be in the retail training centers. If you pay BASIC membership, the cost is \$45 per store per year. GROW will retain 40% of sales from stores and GROW eBay and eCommerce sites.

Q. Why does GROW retain a portion of my sales?

A. GROW is a non-profit organization, so all proceeds from sales return directly to the program. The money GROW collects helps pay store-related expenses, such as space rental fees, point of sale machine costs, accountant fees, store employees and utilities. GROW also handles all sales taxes, credit card fees and shipping costs associated with the GROW eCommerce platforms.



"GROW gives you excellent insight and assistance to help make sure your business is a success."

Jodi Jacobs, Nebraska Pantry Member since 2007



"I'm a new photographer that started a business last year, and my membership in GROW Nebraska has given me the opportunity to reach out to many more potential customers across the state through their web site, Facebook, eBay and network of stores."



Jaye Ott
J. Anthony Photography
Member since 2010

GROW retail locations are also in high-traffic mall locations which are more expensive.

Q. How do I get on the GROW eCommerce web site?

A. First you will need to have the product in the Kearney store because that is where all products are shipped from. There is no additional expense as long as you have paid the BUNDLE fee or the \$45 Kearney store fee. You are required to fill out a form to be added to the web site.

Q. How do I get on the GROW eBay store?

A. You must also have your product in the Kearney retail store to be on the GROW eBay Store. The eBay store is free for BUNDLE members and \$6.25/month (\$75/year) for non-BUNDLE members. You are required to fill out a form to be added to the store.

Q. If someone buys my product on your eCommerce sites, do I need to ship it?

A. No. As long as your product is located in the Kearney retail location, we will ship the product. You will receive a monthly check for your sales. GROW pays all shipping costs.

Sponsors and Friends

Platinum: \$25,000 and Up

Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development
Nebraska Enterprise Fund
U.S. Small Business Administration PRIME
USDA Rural Development

GROW Nebraska would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors and friends. Please visit www.grownebraska.org/sponsors for a complete list.

Social Media

Be sure to visit your favorite social media site to find GROW Nebraska.



Honorary Membership

You don't have to be a business owner or live in Nebraska to be a member. GROW Nebraska is dedicated to helping small businesses in Nebraska survive by giving them discounted services and the marketing tools they need to thrive in a largely rural state.

Becoming an honorary member helps sustain these services. As an honorary member you will receive a "Proud GROW Member sign" to place in your home or office, a GROW Nebraska t-shirt and the satisfaction of helping your state's economy. Your honorary membership and any other donation to GROW Nebraska is tax deductible. Becoming an honorary member is easy. Go to the GROW Nebraska web site and donate a minimum of \$175.

This brochure paid for in part by:



Kearney, NE
(308)234-2319
www.lipsprintzone.com
lips@lipsprintzone.com

*All services are available to BASIC members but carry additional fees. If a BASIC member participates in all fee services that the BUNDLE member gets for free, the cost would be \$580 as opposed to the \$325 BUNDLE rate.

**Must participate in Kearney GROW Store.