

# Media Release

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Immediate Release

## ***Statewide tree decorating contest open to all Nebraskans***

**GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (Aug. 4, 2020)** – Nebraska State Fair is inviting the entire state to participate in a new contest this year. State residents are asked to follow the lead of over 40 central Nebraska non-profits, and “bomb a tree” across the state. Trees being decorated at a home, business, church, or school need the permission of the owner. The contest, complete with prizes is open to all Nebraskans.

“We’ve had such success with our initial non-profit tree bombing activity along State Fair Boulevard, that we wanted to invite everyone to participate,” exclaimed Laura Hurley, director of sponsorships, “This contest replaces the hay bale contest which was suspended after the 2018 Fair, and actually allows more people, businesses and organizations to participate, no matter where in the state they are located.”

The artistic term is “yarn bombing,” as crafty decorations are temporarily applied to the tree. Each participant has a full month to decorate their assigned tree and submit photos of their work of art. We encourage using cheerful and entertaining themes, much like the Fair to incorporate into their display.

“These bombing installations have been done around the world at events and festivals, but we believe we are the very first State Fair to do it as a statewide contest. There are rules involved for the protection of all your trees, and as long as the installations are in good taste and have a family friendly theme, they are eligible to enter the contest.” replied Hurley.

Guidelines on how to “bomb a tree” and how to enter the contest can be found on our website, [statefair.org](http://statefair.org) search under contests. Additional questions may be directed to: [Lhurley@statefair.org](mailto:Lhurley@statefair.org). There is no entry fee to participate, but photos must be received before midnight Aug. 31, 2020 via mail or email. The benefits are to provide beauty, fun and community engagement across our great state. The trees will be judged, and prizes awarded by Sept. 30, 2020. Winners will be notified by email and posted to our Facebook page and website.

For more information on the state’s largest event, visit [statefair.org](http://statefair.org).

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**ABOUT NEBRASKA STATE FAIR**

Traditionally, Nebraska State Fair is an annual 11-day event held in late August ending on Labor Day, at Fonner Park, in Grand Island, Nebraska. Celebrating 151 years of entertaining families, the State Fair is home to the finest facilities in the country.