The Groundwater Guardians’ Outdoor Learning Area features native plants or species that have adapted to Nebraska. One example: Bur Oak trees. The roots of Bur Oaks typically extend 2-3 times the tree’s height. A mature tree can reach 50-70 feet tall, so the root system can spread out to a distance of 100-210 feet. With a root zone like that, it is not surprising Bur Oaks can survive some of Nebraska’s harshest conditions.

**STEM—creating sustainability to keep Nebraska growing**

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