



Upper Loup Scoop

Upper Loup NRD

April 2022

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Calendar of Events

April

- 14 Board Meeting- ULNRD
Office @ 7 PM CT
- 22 Earth Day
- 29 Arbor Day

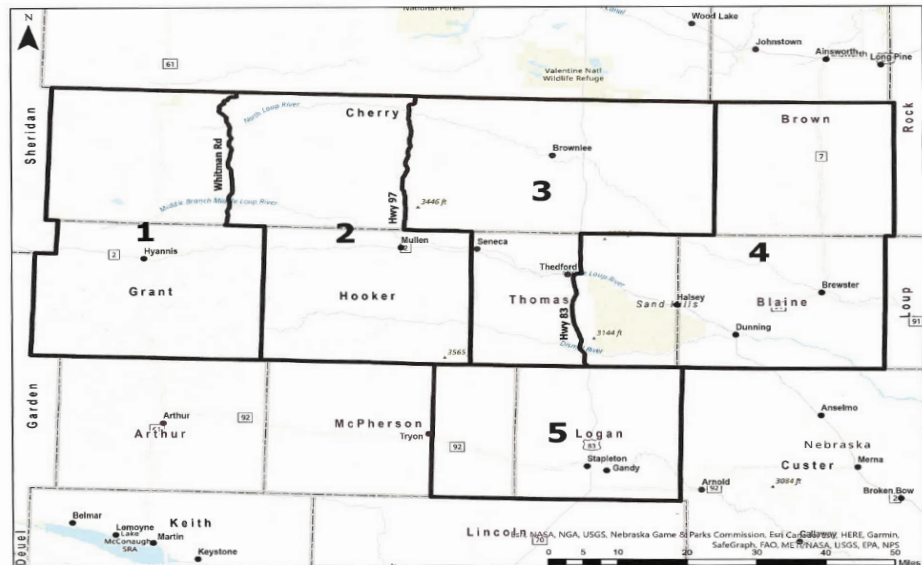
May

- 12 Board Meeting-ULNRD
Office @ 7 PM CT
- 26 Chemigation training-
ULNRD Office @ 1 pm
- 30 Office Closed:
Memorial Day

June

- 9 Board Meeting-ULNRD
Office @ 7 PM CT
- 19 Office Closed: Juneteenth
- 26-29 ACE Camp, 4H Camp
Halsey, NE

New Sub-District Boundary Changes



Adjustments to the Upper Loup NRD subdistrict boundaries were made to align with the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau data. Legislature requires that each subdistrict be substantially equal in population. With a total NRD population of 4,114 people (down 221 from the 2010 census), each subdistrict now averages 822 people and all 11 directors will remain in their current subdistrict.

Spring Trees Available

Spring is a great time to plant trees so it is important to utilize this time to



reinforce existing windbreaks or create more habitat for wildlife. There are trees available to suit all of your needs such as a variety of hardwoods, conifers, as well as shrubs. Trees and shrubs will be bare root and sold in bundles of 25, costing \$27.69/bundle. To purchase trees please contact the NRD office.

Domestic Well Testing

The Upper Loup NRD recommends that all domestic wells, either registered or unregistered, get tested at least every five years. Each of our sub-districts is on a rotating testing schedule where, annually, various areas around one sub-district are tested to observe nitrate levels. Domestic well owners residing in Sub-District 2, your sub-district is next in our current well testing rotation. We are glad to offer this safety service to you at no charge. Samples are most often collected from an outside faucet around the testing site.



Due to the sandy soil in our District, well owners are at an increased risk for groundwater contamination. Potential sources of groundwater contamination which may be present near your home include septic tanks, animal waste, rusted irrigation systems, pesticides, fertilizers, fuel storage tanks, household chemicals, used motor oil, etc. Unfortunately, the only way to know if nitrates or bacteria are in your drinking water is by testing because both contaminants are odorless, colorless, and tasteless. A water test for nitrates is highly recommended for households with infants, pregnant women, nursing mothers, or elderly people, as these groups are most susceptible to nitrates.

Resource technicians will begin testing early this summer. If you have questions about being placed on our list, what tests we offer, or any additional questions please contact our office or email lpurlin@upperloupnrd.org.

Chemigation Permits

Before an irrigator can begin chemigation, state law requires a permit to be obtained on an annual basis. Permit fees through the ULNRD are as follows: **Renewal:** \$30, **New:** \$60, **Special:** \$60, and **Emergency:** \$250. Renewal permits and fees are due to the NRD office no later than 4 pm CT on June 1st, 2022. For any producers needing to attend a chemigation class to renew their applicator license, there will be a training opportunity that will be held at the NRD office in Thedford on May 26th at 1pm CT. If you can't attend this session, there will be more opportunities through UNL Extension.

No-Till Drill

No-till drilling is a management tool used in conservation practices. The Upper Loup has a 10' Great Plains Minimum Till Drill that rents \$8.00/acre with a minimum of \$80. The drill is on a first come first serve basis. The producer must be willing to pick up and return the drill to the NRD office in Thedford 48 hours after the producer has completed planting. Please contact the office if you would like to be put on the list.



Earth Trivia

- How many chemical elements are on the periodic table?
A. 126 B. 95
C. 118 D. 205
- What is the hardest metal known?
A. Steel B. Tungsten
C. Iridium D. Titanium
- What is the largest mountain range on the planet?
A. Andes B. Mid-Ocean Ridge
C. Rockies D. Transantarctic
- A group of owls is called a:
A. Pandemonium B. Collection
C. Congregation D. Parliament
- Spider silk is stronger than steel. **True or False?**
- Oxygen, in solid and liquid form, is colorless. **True or False?**

Answers on page 4

NRDs Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Throughout 2022, Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts will celebrate 50 years of protecting lives, property, and the future. During the remainder of the year, the NRDs will commemorate breakthroughs and achievements in conservation.

After the devastation of the Dust Bowl, special purpose districts were developed to solve local soil and water-related problems. While this was a step in the right direction, the overlapping authorities and responsibilities still proved to be confusing.

In 1969, Senator Maurice Kremer introduced legislative bill 1357 to combine Nebraska's 154 special purpose entities into 24 Natural Resources Districts by July 1972. In 1989, the Middle Missouri Tributaries NRD and the Papio NRD merged to become the Papio-Missouri River NRD resulting in today's 23 Natural Resources Districts.

Across the state, NRDs construct projects, implement programs and offer a major source of assistance to landowners in conservation and natural resources management. When necessary, they enact regulations to protect our resources. While all NRDs share the 12 main responsibilities, each district sets its own priorities and develops its own programs to best serve and protect Nebraska's natural resources.

Today, Nebraska's unique system of locally controlled, watershed-based conservation is widely admired throughout the nation. In recent years, at least 11 states ranging from Washington to Arkansas and Illinois to California, have inquired about applying a similar system for natural resources management. Despite being the most irrigated state in the country, Nebraska's statewide groundwater levels have been sustained at levels less than a foot below pre-irrigation development in the 1950s.



**NEBRASKA'S NATURAL
RESOURCES DISTRICTS**
PROTECTING LIVES. PROTECTING PROPERTY. PROTECTING THE FUTURE.

Adventure Camp about the Environment to be held, Scholarships available

Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE) will be returning to the State 4-H camp in Halsey! ACE 2022 is to be held **Sunday, June 26th- Wednesday, June 29th**. The camp is for students who have completed 6th, 7th and 8th grade in the 2021-2022 school year. During camp, youths will have the opportunity to learn about



Nebraska's natural resources through hands-on learning sessions while still enjoying fun camp activities! Core sessions will focus on water, forestry, soils, range, and wildlife with exciting other sessions such as edible plants, nature photography, and more! The Upper Loup NRD will be providing five full scholarships to qualifying individuals from our District. To be qualified for a scholarship, you must: reside in the ULNRD boundaries, fill out and submit a scholarship form to the NRD, and complete a camp registration form. Scholarship applications can be found on our website. The registration deadline for camp is June 10th, 2022.

ULNRD Staff

Anna Baum <i>General Manager</i>	Jamie Green <i>Administrative Secretary</i>
Shane Young <i>Resources Technician</i>	Pam Petersen <i>Field Office Secretary</i>
Lexi Spurlin <i>Information & Education, Resources Technician</i>	Earl Rowley Jr <i>Recycling Coordinator</i>

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Thedford, NE 69166
Permit. No. 11

ULNRD Board of Directors

<i>Sub-District 1</i> Eric Storer Rebecca Connealy	<i>Sub-District 3</i> Chris Higgins Miles Maseberg
<i>Sub-District 2</i> Judy Ridenour John Kraye	<i>Sub-District 4</i> Eric Schipporeit Tony Ruhter
<i>Sub-District 5</i> Tom Johnson Richard Burnside	<i>At Large</i> Patrick Wright

TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER

Registration Form for 2022 ACE Camp

Deadline is June 10th, 2022

Camp Cost: \$235

To register for camp please fill out the online form that can be found on our website or by using the QR code below.



<https://forms.gle/Umk4nTXdt7N7VNwPA>

Resources Technician Position Opening

- Full-time salaried position plus benefits package
 - Bachelor's or Associate's degree in Natural Resources preferred
 - GIS/GPS preferred
 - Computer literacy required
 - Must be able to work in outdoor environment and lift a minimum of 50 lbs
 - Work required licenses or certification (within 12 mo of employment):
 - NE driver's license
 - Natural Resources Groundwater Technician certification
 - Duties:
 - groundwater quality and quantity activities
 - No till drill activities
 - maintenance, repair, delivery
- For full job listing please visit our website

1. C) 118 2. B) Tungsten 3. B) Mid-Ocean Ridge 4. D) Parliament 5. True 6. False