



Lower Republican NRD Review

Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting the Future

Winter 2018
Volume 53

South Central Water Conference

On Tuesday, January 30th at the Phelps County Ag Center the 2018 South Central Water Conference (formerly the Holdrege Water Conference) is being held. The Lower Republican Natural Resources District (LRNRD) has joined with the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (TBNRD), Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID), UNL Extension and Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce to host the conference.

The conference provides valuable information about water related issues concerning agricultural producers in central Nebraska. Representatives from area agri-businesses will be available to visit with conference attendees.

There is no charge for the conference and a lunch is provided for attendees. See the proposed schedule (on the right) for conference topics.

College Scholarships

The LRNRD has a post high school scholarship program with two \$1,000.00 scholarships available. These scholarships are available to first, second, and third year college students.

Applicants must attend college in Nebraska and be registered to attend their college of choice. Applicants must also have a permanent residence in the LRNRD and plan to major in a natural resources related field (i.e. forestry, park management, agronomy, agri-business, etc.).

Applications and additional information regarding these scholarships are available at the LRNRD, high schools within the District, and at colleges within Nebraska. Applications are available on our website: www.lrnrd.org. The application deadline is **April 1, 2018**.



South Central Water Conference

2018 Tentative Agenda

- 9:30 Registration**
- 10:00 Cornerstone Resources Observation Plot-Test Irrigation Project (CROP-TIP), Dan Leininger, Water Conservationist, Upper Big Blue NRD**
- 10:45 Insights from the UNL Testing Ag Performance Solutions (UNL-TAPS) 2017 Farm Management Competition Daran Rudnick, Nebraska Extension Irrigation Management Specialist, UNL West Central Region**
- 11:15 Irrigation Efficiency vs. Sustainability: Confusing Productivity with Aquifer Life, Darel Martin, Nebraska Extension Irrigation Management Specialist, UNL Water Resources**
- 12:00 Lunch**
- 12:30 Keynote: Climate Extremes in Nebraska, Ken Dewey, UNL Regional Climatologist**
- 1:30 Platte Republican Diversion Project Feasibility Study, John Thorburn, TBNRD & Scott Dicke, LRNRD**
- 2:15 Water Resources Update, Cory Steinke, CNPID, Nolan Little, TBNRD, Scott Dicke, LRNRD, Craig Scott, US Bureau of Reclamation**

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LRNRD District Groundwater Level Changes 2005-2016



Trees Available

CONIFERS		BROADLEAFS	
Eastern Redcedar - Anselmo	American Elm	Hackberry	
Juniper, Rocky Mountain	Amur Maple	Hazelnut	
**Austrian Pine	Black Cherry	Honeylocust	
Colorado Blue Spruce	**Black Walnut	Kentucky Coffeetree	
Jack Pine	Catalpa	Manchurian Apricot	
Norway Spruce	Cottonwood - Hybrids RC	Oak, Bur	
Ponderosa Pine	Cottonwood - Native	Oak, Red	
**Scotch Pine	Crabapple, Manchurian	Oak, Swamp White	
South Western White Pine		Silver Maple	
SHRUBS			
American Plum	Currant, Golden	Nanking Cherry	
Buffaloberry	Currant, Wax	Oak, Gambel	
Caragana	Dogwood, Gray	Sandcherry	
Chokeberry, McKenzie	Dogwood, Red Osier	Serviceberry	
Chokecherry	Elderberry	Sumac, Skunkbush	
Cotoneaster, Centennial	False Indigo (PMC), Survivor	Woods Rose	
Cotoneaster, Peking	Lilac, Common		

The LRNRD Cost shares on minimum orders of 100 trees or \$100 per planting from the LRNRD. Orders are accepted at the County NRCS offices for planting this spring.

On the left is a list of trees and shrubs. Please contact your local NRCS office for availability. The deadline for tree orders is **March 9th**.

** Check Availability *All Trees (including tax) must be paid for when ordered* *All Trees are sold in bundles of 25* ** Nebraska State Forester recommends limiting the numbers of Black Walnut, Austrian & Scotch Pine. Black Walnut can develop canker disease that kills them and Austrian & Scotch Pine is susceptible to pine wilt.*

2018 Election

The LRNRD Board of Directors are elected positions. There are two directors from each of the five Subdistricts and one at-large member all serving four-year terms. If you are interested in serving on the board, the incumbent deadline to file is February 15; non-incumbent deadline is March 1, 2018. For information call (308) 928-2182 or visit the Nebraska Secretary of State's website at: <http://www.sos.ne.gov/dyindex.html>.

Pooling

LRNRD irrigators have two optional methods of pooling water. The Pooling Arrangement would involve a single landowner while a Pooling Agreement would be between two or more owners of land under common management. Penalties will apply to overuse, please see updated Groundwater Rules and Regulations on our website at www.lrnrd.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 308-928-2182 or 800-353-1297 or stop in. Pooling Agreement(s)/Arrangement(s) must be filled out at the District office and both landowners and operators must have notarized signatures. Forms must be completed by **June 1st** to be effective for the 2018 irrigation season. Current Pooling Agreement(s)/Arrangement(s) shall be continued into the 2018-2022 Allocation Period unless otherwise notified with written cancellation of the Arrangement/Agreement.

Chemigation

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requires that all applicators of chemicals to land or crops by Chemigation, must obtain a permit. The LRNRD will be mailing out renewal permits within the next couple of months. These renewal permits must be returned to the LRNRD no later than **June 1, 2018**.

According to the Rules and Regulations of DEQ, Chemigation systems, must be inspected on a regular four-year rotating basis. However, Chemigation in or near Wellhead Protection areas may be inspected at any time.

The LRNRD appreciates your attention and time for getting inspections completed. Scheduled appointments are prioritized by new permits then renewal permits. Any missed or canceled appointments may be assessed a \$100.00 fee. You will be notified by the LRNRD if you are due for an inspection and a technician will set up an appointment to inspect your site. All permit fees and replacement parts must be paid for prior to or at the time of inspection.

If you did not renew your Chemigation permit last year, or you have a new site in which you will be applying chemical, you will need to apply for a new Chemigation permit and it will also need to be inspected by a LRNRD technician before chemical can be applied. Permits are available on our website at: www.lrnrd.org.

Please contact the LRNRD at 308-928-2182 or 800-353-1297 if you have any questions or need to apply for a New Chemigation permit.

Occupation Tax Exemption

To be exempt from the Occupation Tax in 2018 you must fill out an exemption form that identifies the amount and location of the certified irrigated acres that will not be irrigated in 2018. The exemption form is available at the LRNRD office in Alma or on our website: www.lrnrd.org. The form must be submitted by **June 1, 2018**.

Groundwater acres that are exempted from the tax will not receive allocation for that year. Surface water allocations can be moved and pooled on other surface water acres without losing allocation. **If you have ground that is enrolled in EQIP, AWEP, or CREP you still need to fill out an exemption form each year it is in the program.** The district will be closely monitoring the acres being excluded from the tax and strict penalties will apply to any violators.

Irrigated Taxes

The LRNRD is working with the county assessors in the district to make our certified acres match more closely with the assessors' irrigated acres. This is a reminder that you must be paying irrigated taxes on acres certified as irrigated with the LRNRD whether you are irrigating them or not. If irrigated taxes are not being paid on acres certified with the LRNRD, those acres may be taken off your LRNRD certification.

Board of Directors

Subdistrict 1	Clark Andrews, Holbrook
Subdistrict 1	Toby tenBensel, Holbrook
Subdistrict 2	Bill Bose, Orleans - Vice Chair
Subdistrict 2	Marlin Murdoch, Orleans - Chair
Subdistrict 3	Tim Kahrs, Franklin - Secretary
Subdistrict 3	Matt Harrison, Naponee
Subdistrict 4	Nelson Trambly, Campbell
Subdistrict 4	David Bartels, Riverton - Treasurer
Subdistrict 5	Terry Hoyt, Red Cloud
Subdistrict 5	Roger Nelson, Superior
At-Large	Bradley Wulf, Red Cloud

LRNRD Staff

Todd Siel	General Manager
Scott Dicke	Assistant Manager
Shirlee Poyser	Administrative Assistant
Kristi Heft	Water Resources Administrator
Sasha Hahn	Water Secretary/Info. & Edu.
Lonnie Knehans	Rural Water Superintendent
Scot Lennemann	Water Resources Technician
Maclane Scott	Water Resources Technician
Colt Livingston	Water Resources Technician
Mary Goebel	Franklin County Office Secretary
Jennifer Helms	Furnas County Office Secretary
Brittnay Nurnberg	Harlan County Office Secretary
Carolyn Janda	Nuckolls County Office Secretary
Lynetta Snelling	Webster County Office Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 11**—Board Meeting 8:30 am, LRNRD
January 15—Martin Luther King Jr Day, Office Closed
January 30—South Central Water Conference, Holdrege
February 8—Board Meeting 2 pm, LRNRD
February 19—President’s Day, Office Closed
March 8—Board Meeting 2 pm, LRNRD
March 9—Tree Orders Due
April 1—LRNRD Scholarship Application Due
April 12—Board Meeting 7 pm, LRNRD
April 24-25—Water Jamboree, Harlan County Reservoir

This is a publication of the
Lower Republican Natural Resources District
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308-928-2182 Toll Free: 800-353-1297
E-mail: lrnrd@lrnrd.org website: www.lrnrd.org

DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2018

Chemigation Renewals
Occupation Tax Exemption
Pooling Deadline

Permit No. 55

Alma, NE 68920

PAID

U.S. Postage

Non-Profit Permit

Lower Republican Natural Resources District
PO Box 618 - 30 North John Street
Alma NE 68920

