



Lower Republican NRD Review

Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting the Future

FALL 2019

Volume 60

Range Judging & Land Judging Contests

The Area 3 Range Judging contest, one of six statewide, was held on September 17th near Alma. Seventeen schools, from Chase County to Red Cloud, participated in this year's contest. The district schools involved were Alma, Arapahoe, Cambridge, Red Cloud, and Southern Valley. A total of 286 students and 8 adults competed this year. The participants identified 24 individual plants and evaluated three ecological sites and one ranch map.

There are 2 divisions for students to participate in, Junior and Senior. The Senior division is made up of students in 11th and 12th grade. The Junior division is 10th grade or below, although they may participate in the Senior division for team purposes. One Senior Division team from the LRNRD, Southern Valley, placed fifth. The LRNRD also had 1 Junior Division team from Red Cloud placing in the top five. To see the full results from this year's contest, go to <http://www.nesrm.org/RangeJudging>.

The Southwest Region Land Judging Competition was held on October 2nd in Frontier County. The contestants evaluated soil thickness, texture, and particle size. They looked at the slope of the land and determined erosion and flood potential. Land judging is a great introduction to understanding the balance between the soil, water, and air, and how that sustains the life of plants and animals.

District schools competing in this year's competition were Alma, Arapahoe, Cambridge, Franklin and Southern Valley. Eight district teams placed in the top ten with a team from Franklin placing first and a team from Alma placing third. Full contest results will be posted at <https://www.nrdnet.org/nebraska-land-judging-soil-evaluation>.



Directors Honored at NARD Annual Conference

On September 23rd and 24th, NRD staff and directors from across the state gathered in Kearney for the Annual Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) conference. Representing the LRNRD were directors Roger Nelson, Dave Bartels, Nelson Trambly and Marlin Murdoch. Also in attendance were staff members Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, and Shirlee Poyser. The annual event is an opportunity for NRD's to share ideas, meet new employees and collaborate with other districts. During the Conference, Roger Nelson and Nelson Trambly were awarded certificates for 20 years of service on our Board of Directors. Thank you Roger and Nelson for your hard work and dedication to the Lower Republican NRD. Congratulations on your recognition!



Gov. Pete Ricketts, LRNRD Director Nelson Trambly,
NARD President Larry Reynolds



Gov. Pete Ricketts, LRNRD Director Roger Nelson,
NARD President Larry Reynolds

RCPP Conservation Funding Available for Irrigation Improvements

The LRNRD is pleased to announce that agricultural producers in the Upper, Middle and Lower Republican NRD's can receive conservation funding again this year as part of the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The funding is made available for improvements to irrigation systems. Eligible conservation practices include; installing high intensity soil moisture sensors, converting gravity systems to subsurface drip, and permanently retiring end guns on pivots. Interested producers within the Republican NRD's that would like more information or to sign up should contact their local NRCS office. **Application deadline is January 17, 2020.**

Time to plan your Spring Tree Planting

The deadline for having your tree plan completed with the NRCS and ordering trees is March 6. The LRNRD cost-shares trees and shrubs and their planting with minimum orders of 100 trees or \$100.

The benefits of windbreaks are numerous. They protect your home and livestock, and when planted along cropland edges they increase crop production.

Early planning and tree ordering is encouraged. Orders are now being accepted at your county Natural Resources Conservation Service for spring plantings. They will assist you with deciding which tree species will work best for you, draft planting plans, and filling out the cost-share forms. Check with your local NRCS office now.

OPERATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING

All operators who farm in designated water quality sub-areas are required to attend operator training. Re-certification is required every four years. Crop Consultants are also required to attend training and will receive Continuing Education Credits for their participation. The following classes will be held from **9:00—12:00** at the following locations:

12/5—Prairie Loft, Hastings

12/12—Clay County Fairgrounds, Clay Center

12/19—Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Fairbury

1/9/2020—Stastny Community Center, Davenport

The following class will be held from **1:00-4:00** for the Superior/Hardy Sub-Area operators.

2/20/2020—Superior County Club, Superior

Flow Meter Readings

The LRNRD technicians are currently reading irrigation flow meters in the District. These meter readings will be used to determine water usage for the 2019 irrigation season. If you are not done irrigating or there is a possibility that you irrigated after your meter was read, please contact our office at 308-928-2182.

Please remember that it is the water user's responsibility to have operational flow meters on every well. The LRNRD provides assistance to water users to make sure that flow meters are reading properly. The LRNRD staff is certified and trained by McCrometer to make necessary repairs. Additionally, we can provide ultrasonic testing to assist water users with their water management decisions. Contact our office if you believe your meter is not working properly. Please have your flowmeter serial number handy when you call.

Lower Republican NRD Staff Changes

The Lower Republican NRD has made a few staff changes at their main office and in the field office.

Mary Goebel of Franklin is the new Information & Education Coordinator and Rural Water Secretary. Mary has been employed with the LRNRD for 4 years and was previously the Field Office Secretary in the Franklin NRCS office. Mary enjoys reading and spending time with her family in her free time.



Mary Goebel



Deb Klingenger

Deb Klingenger joined the Lower Republican NRD staff on October 28th as the new Franklin County Field Office Secretary. Deb and her husband Jack live in Inavale and have 4 children. In her spare time, Deb enjoys gardening, walking and remodeling houses.

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 - Treasurer
Subdistrict 3	Matt Harrison, Naponee
Subdistrict 4	Nelson Trambly, Campbell
Subdistrict 4	David Bartels, Riverton - Secretary
Subdistrict 5	Terry Hoit, 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
Mary Goebel	Water Secretary/Info. & Edu.
Dave Bantam	Rural Water Superintendent
Scot Lennemann	Water Resources Technician
Mark Bantam	Water Resources Technician
Dave Bantam	Water Resources Technician
Deb Klingengerger	Franklin County Office Secretary
Jennifer Helms	Furnas County Office Secretary
Brittnay Nurnberg	Harlan County Office Secretary
Vacant	Nuckolls County Office Secretary
Lynetta Snelling	Webster County Office Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 28—Thanksgiving, Office Closed

December 12—Board Meeting, 2 pm, Alma

December 25—Christmas, Office Closed

January 1—New Year's Day, Office Closed

January 9, 2020—Board Meeting, 2 pm, Alma

January 17, 2020—RCPP Application deadline

January 20, 2020—MLK Jr Day, Office Closed

**February 6, 2020—South Central Water Conference,
Holdrege**

February 13, 2020—Board Meeting, 2 pm, Alma

This is a publication of the

Lower Republican Natural Resources District

30 North John Street, PO Box 618, Alma NE 68920

308-928-2182 Toll Free: 800-353-1297

E-mail: lrnrd@lrnrd.org website: www.lrnrd.org

Non-Profit Permit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Alma, NE 68920
Permit No. 55

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

