

Operations Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 31, 2024 8:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
We have nothing to consider for unfinished business.
2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS
Nothing to report.
3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS
O & M staff finished the mowing circuit, assisted the Big Game Conservation group to erect a third deer blind on the Wanahoo property, cleared and made a path to the Wanahoo wetland weir to remove trees and tree debris, finalizing firebreaks on the Wanahoo area, and other dam maintenance such as the need to replace a rubber seal on the drawdown slide gate at Sand/Duck Dam 13.
 - 3.A. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A, NRCS & HDR
HDR completed their cultural resource's investigation. They sent their 90% study report to NRCS for review and asked for availability for meeting dates to discuss the 90% report in the next 3 weeks.
 - 3.B. Wanahoo Basin & Other Property Damage - FEMA
Staff and Mike Sotak met with FEMA and NEMA personnel on Tuesday, October 29. Staff and Sotak described in detail the damage sustained from the spring rains. FEMA went over their program and policies in assisting the NRD to repair our damaged property.
The staff is recommending that the District sole source the engineering to Houston because of the past experience in repairing the previous damage to the stilling basin of the Wanahoo Dam. See the attached three-phase proposal by Houston Engineering for the repair and potential mitigation of the Stilling Basin and Breakwater structure.
Sotak will have a fully executable contract for Phase I services at the Board meeting.
 - 3.C. Wanahoo Breakwater Repairs
During staff's meeting with FEMA we were given approval to proceed with breakwater damage repairs. Due to safety issues and the need to get this portion of the repairs completed as soon as possible, staff is recommending M.E. Collins be contacted to complete only breakwater repairs. Collins was the firm who repaired the breakwater after the 2019 damage and is very familiar with all components associated with the structure. Once complete, our plans are to bid out damage repairs to Wanahoo trail system and fishing jetties.
FEMA also reported to us, mitigation improvements will be available to the breakwater as we proceed with potential future plans for the structure.
 - 3.D. Carl Sousek Water Line Cottonwood 6-B
The staff met with Mr. Sousek, AWS and Tim Gokie of DNR Dam Safety on site at Cottonwood 6-B on Thursday, October 17th. The options for Mr. Sousek's water

line was discussed in detail. Because of the cost to bore under a deep creek bed and the slim chance of that cost recurring if the water line fails in that area, it was decided to allow the water line to go over the outlet pipe of the dam (attached location) with engineering specifications (attached) from DNR Dam Safety. Specifications for the 2–2" water lines and the French Drain (perforated pipe) are that they are encased in 47B sand as a filter and the French Drain daylighted downstream. Monument markers will be used as locators of the water line in the area of the dam. These drawings are filed with the easement.

Mr. Sousek is in need of a new water system before winter.

3.E. Equipment Purchase

Staff would like to purchase an 84" snow blade from Bobcat for our Bobcat Toolcat for snow removal. The cost of the snow blade is \$3,306.94.

3.F. Bellwood Ditch 4 Flood Damage

As previously mentioned in August, a head cut developed on Bellwood Ditch 4 cutting into Todd Yindricks property. Heimann is obtaining bids from 2–3 contractors in hopes of having them by the Board meeting. Pictures attached.

We are proposing using a 36" CMP to drain the field in a flood event.

We received two bids as listed, F & S Trenching - \$15,850 and Krivanek

Construction - \$14,075. The bids are to use a 50' x 36" CMP w/ a flared end inlet, an estimated 600 yards of earthfill & readjust drain tile in the field.

We would like to accept a bid at the Board meeting.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

We have not received any applications or requests for payment.

5. LAKE WANAHOO

5.A. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of **September**, the District received \$4,552.50 in annual park permit revenue. The year by year break down is listed below.

Month	Monthly Total	YTD
September 2024	\$4,552.50	\$73,171.50
September 2023	\$2,060.00	\$71,240.00
September 2022	\$2,602.50	\$74,050.00
September 2021	\$2,496.85	\$82,534.35
September 2020	\$2,937.50	\$95,560.00
September 2019	\$2,014.00	\$77,041.50

5.B. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

For the month of September, the District received \$12,631.98 in camping revenue. The year by year comparison is below.

September 2024	\$12,631.98	\$103,903.55
September 2023	\$13,989.38	\$111,866.44

September 2022	\$19,008.27	\$113,053.01
September 2021	\$16,007.74	\$109,926.11
September 2020	\$15,057.66	\$120,901.01
September 2019	\$11,151.60	\$86,577.24

5.C. Clint Johannes Education Building Rentals

The Clint Johannes Education Building at Lake Wanahoo was rented 15 times in October. Revenue for the month was \$1,150.

5.D. Wanahoo Amphitheater Project

As discussed at prior Operations Committee meetings, Lonny Hansen is interested in building a public amphitheater on our Wanahoo property. The location is in our long-range plan and the structure would be built and maintained by a trust fund set up by Mr. Hansen. At this point in the process Mr. Hansen's attorney is requesting some form of official recognition from the LPNNRD board stating the NRD's willingness to work with him to come to an agreement on site location and land lease. If granted, Mr. Hansen will continue to develop design concepts for the amphitheater and bring plans back to the board. Discussion and possible recommendation is requested.

5.E. Set Your Sites Video

The owners of Set Your Sites (Stacy and Dustin Dam) approached LPNNRD to assist financially in the production of a storytelling video featuring Lake Wanahoo and Czechland Lake Recreation Areas to help in promoting the lakes and their business through social media. The video will feature the use of Set Your Sites at both locations. They have contracted Loudr to create the video. The total cost is \$2,000 for the video with LPNNRD providing \$1,000.

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC radio ads for October featured the water reports reminder for producers (not too early for the December deadline!) and will continue through November. The Wahoo newspaper e-ads for October featured the availability of grass drill rentals. November's Wahoo newspaper e-ads will feature the water use report deadline. The ads are attached.

6.A.2. Analytics

The LPNNRD Facebook and X pages, along with the website are some of the fastest ways to get information out to the public. Facebook and X posts range from 12 -18 posts per month. If you are on Facebook or X, please like, follow, share, or retweet the Lower Platte North NRD posts!

Total reach/impressions show how many people saw the post/tweet. Engagements include likes, comments, shares/retweets and link clicks.

6.A.3. Nebraska Public Media

Last year, we worked with Nebraska Public Media and shared the I&E

video for 12 weeks on Wednesdays during the kids' educational programming. This was a great new addition to the marketing of LPNDRD. We would like to do something similar again with the Operations and Maintenance video that discusses projects and structures. Attached is the proposal Nebraska Public Media has provided. This would be for 11 weeks during December 15, 2024 - March 2, 2025.

6.B. Education

6.B.1. Past events

- October 4th: Ag literacy festival at the fairgrounds (Daryl), Ashland-Greenwood middle school pm. Close to 40 students learned about the Owls of Nebraska.
- October 9th: Survival Club initial meeting; close to 30 students attended.
- October 10th: Coffee Lakeside: Bird Eggs. 13 people attended.
- October 14th: Wahoo 3rd grade field trip AM. Over 80 students came out for a morning at Lake Wanhoo playing disc golf, going on a nature hike, reading the story walk, and playing on the play ground.
- October 16th: Students from Yutan High school came out to play disc golf and go on a nature walk.
- October 17th: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K visit 27 students learned about spiders.

6.B.2. Upcoming events

November 6th: Owl's of Nebraska Night - flyer attached.
November 7th: Coffee Lakeside - flyer attached.
November 8th: Wahoo Kindergarten am.
November 12th: Senior Citizen Center Presentation.
November 14th: Science and Scenes Night - flyer attached.
November 15th: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K visit.
November 18th: Yutan High School visit.
November 19th: David City Aquinas Middle school visits.
November 20th: Survival club - Knot Tying.

6.B.3. New Office Buddies

The snake was put into brumation, so he offered me some baby snapping turtles. Pip and Squeak are about a month old; check them out in my cubicle. They will be used in classrooms for education and outreach.

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

7.A. Rural Water Operations

The lead service line inventories (LSLI) for both RWDs were submitted to NDEE on 10/11. These inventories are a will be updated on a regular basis as required by EPA guidelines.

We have been working with Julian Delley, formerly of PWG, in assisting with data

transfer from our old WaterWorks software to our new Neptune system.

A new residential customer within the Bruno RWD was tapped the week of 10/14.

7.B. Colon System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read, and bills to be mailed 11/1.

7.C. Bruno System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read, and bills to be mailed 11/1.

7.D. Other

7.D.1. Wanahoo Memorial Park Benches

The District would like to purchase three memorial park benches for Lake Wanahoo to keep on hand for future memorial requests.

HOUSTON ENGINEERING LAKE WANAHOO REPAIR PROPOSAL

Mike Sotak would estimate that with LPNNRD Board approval at the November meeting, Houston could get the NRD a draft of the Phase I deliverable in early 2025. Houston would then aim for a Fall of 2025 construction of the repairs/mitigation efforts.

Phase I: Mitigation Alternatives Analysis

Major Tasks:

1. Assist NRD with any repair work that is restoring damage to original condition.
2. Assess Mitigation Alternatives (Improvements to pre-damage conditions.)
 - a. Breakwater overtopping resiliency
 - b. Dam PS Conduit joints
 - c. Dam Stilling Basin
 - i. Matting protecting HDPE Gabions
 - ii. Rock Riprap Sizing
 - iii. East outlet channel bank stabilization
3. Summarize all costs of repairs and potential mitigation projects
4. Estimate funding scenarios (repair/mitigation split, FEMA/NEMA cost share, BCA potential)
5. Prepare Technical Memorandum
6. Assist NRD with any FEMA reporting/correspondence as required.

Phase 1B: (Potential Task): Have contractor set up de-watering system using existing pressure relief wells and baseflow/seepage well by-pass system similar to what was used last time in apron/stilling basin repair and de-water the basin for a more thorough investigation BEFORE design of any repair/mitigation begins. Ultimately, the system would be used for the construction phase, so the only duplicate costs would be mobilization and energy used to pump the basin down for inspection. This would save us having to scramble during the construction phase if we pumped it down and didn't notice until then that there is something else that needs to be done and didn't have FEMA's commitment at that point to do the work. If the NRD is interested in this, I would need to double check w/ Griffin (de-watering contractor from original repair project) on the conversion of the newly constructed downstream pressure relief wells back into de-watering wells (I think it will be simple...).

Phase II: Design of Repairs/Mitigation Efforts

Major Tasks:

1. Prepare construction documents for selected repairs and mitigation projects (To include all work not already performed as emergency repairs by NRD to date.)
2. Document all design decisions in design memo for FEMA review.
3. Prepare all required permits for construction.
4. Prepare bidding documents/specifications in accordance with Federal guidelines.
5. Assist NRD with any FEMA reporting/correspondence as required.

Phase III: Bidding/Construction

Major Tasks:

1. Advertise Project for Bidding
2. Conduct Bid Letting
3. Work with NRD to Award Bid
4. Construction Observation Services during construction
5. Project closeout.
6. Assist NRD with any FEMA reporting/correspondence as required (Project Closeout.)

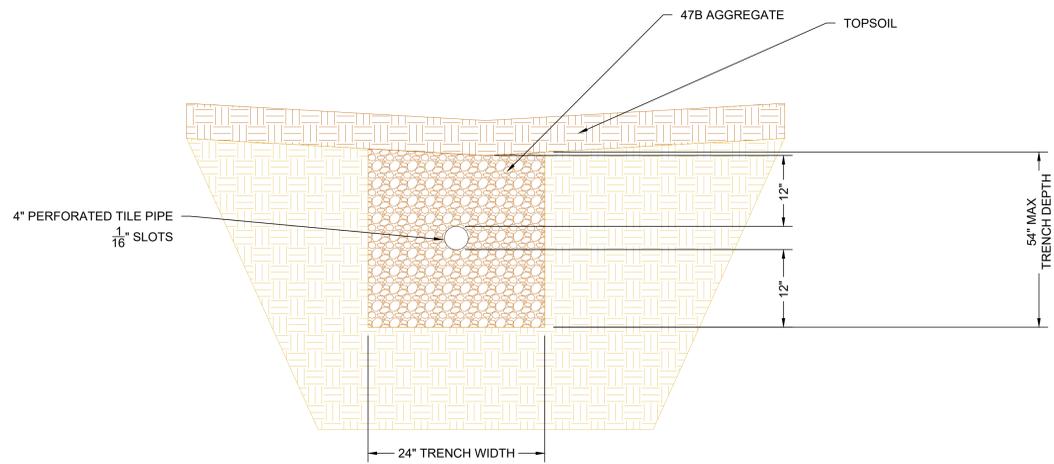
Mike Sotak, PE*, BC.WRE

Senior Civil Engineer | Principal

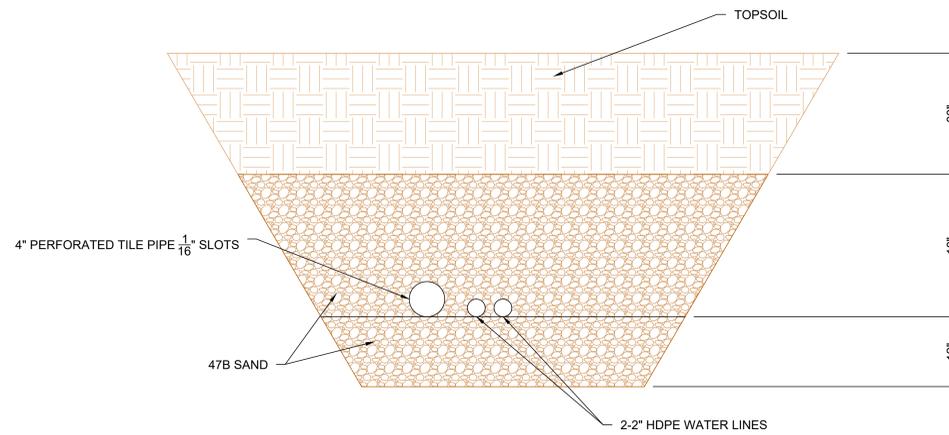
📞 402.407.1099 | 📠 402.934.8328 | 📠 402.850.6169



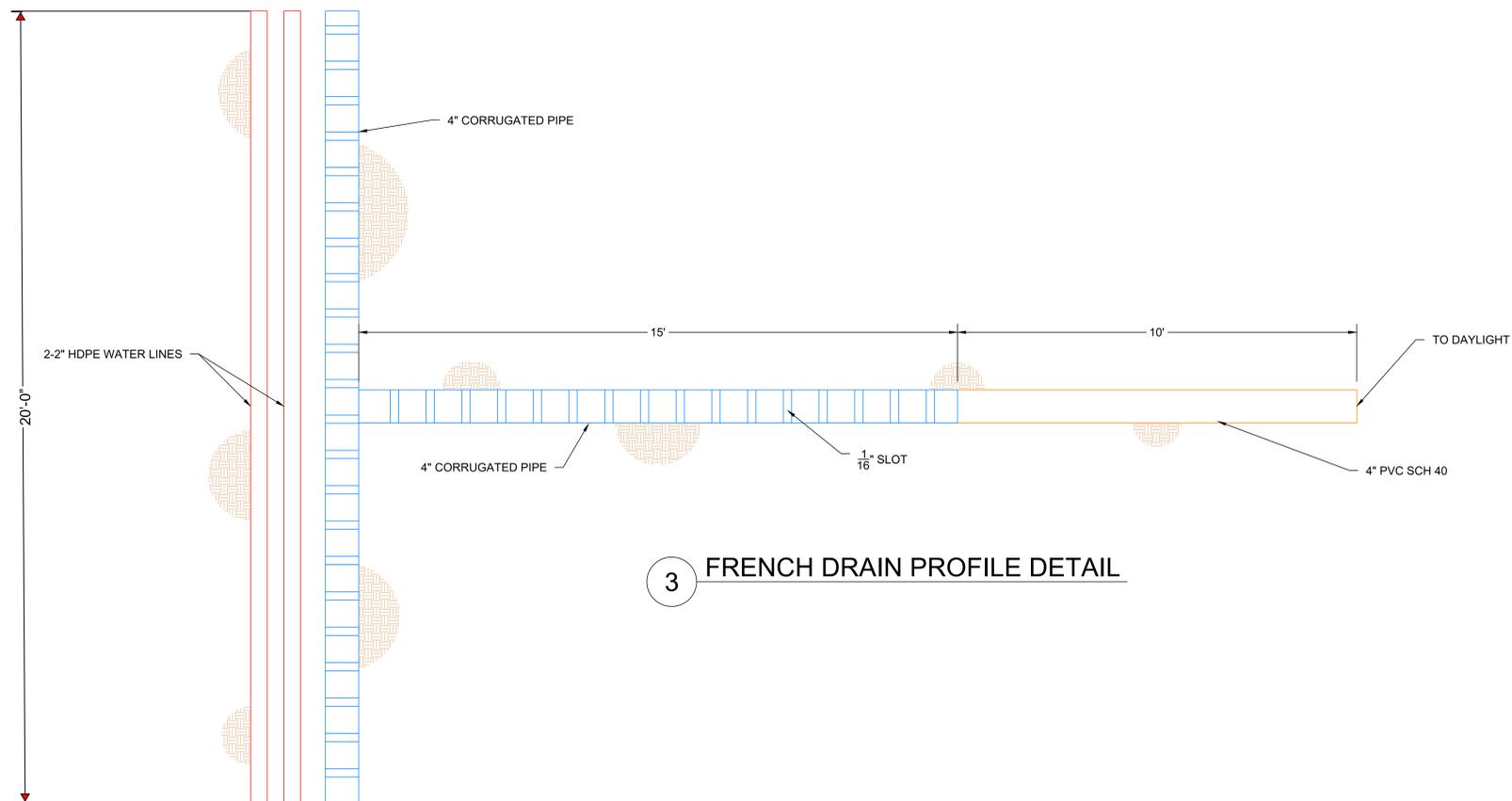
**Licensed in IA, KS, NE, SD*



1 FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL - TO DAYLIGHT



2 FRENCH DRAIN DETAIL - ALONG TRENCH



3 FRENCH DRAIN PROFILE DETAIL

Pipe Details

Carl Sousek

1597 Country Road 10
Mead, NE 68041-4028
Office: (402) 624-3895
Email: info@awsowell.com







Looking to plant native grasses, grains or legumes?

Great Plains no-till drills are available through local cooperatives. Cooperators can assist in setting the drill for mixtures. Visit lpnnrd.org or call 402-443-4675 for more information.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District



Looking to plant native grasses, grains or legumes?

Great Plains no-till drills are available through Schuyler Co-op, Rosendahl Feed & Seed, and Rezac Seed. Cooperators can assist in setting the drill for mixtures.

Visit lpnrd.org or call 402-443-4675 for more information.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District



Water Use Reports

Producers in the LPNNRD area that are required to report:

- special quantity areas
- received a variance for a new well
- acre expansion in the last 10 years

Report online by December 15
at <http://producer.lpnnrd.org>



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

Water Use Reports

Producers in the LPNNRD area that are required to report:

- special quantity areas
- received a variance for a new well
- acre expansion in the last 10 years

Report online by December 15 at <http://producer.lpnnrd.org>

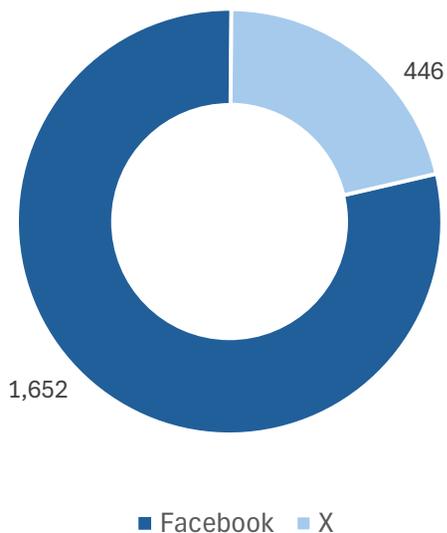


LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District



LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

Social Media Followers



October Content



October Post Categories



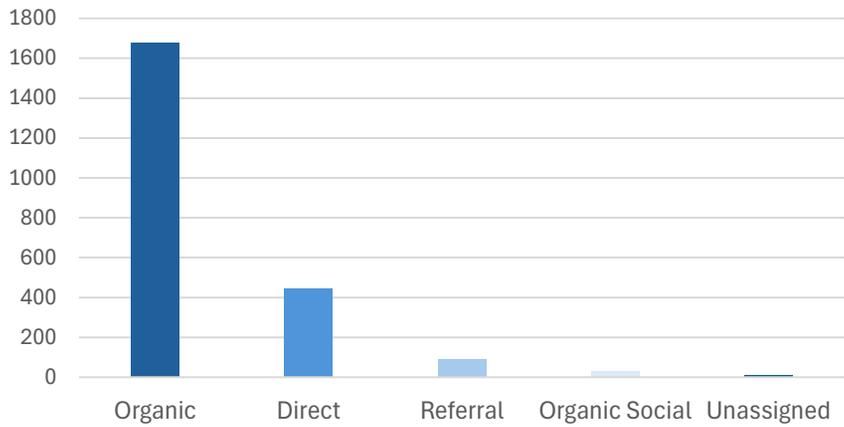
Facebook engagement ↑ .03%

X engagement ↑ .2%



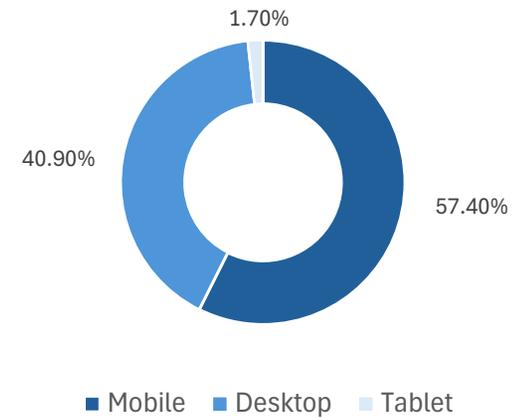
LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

Traffic Channels

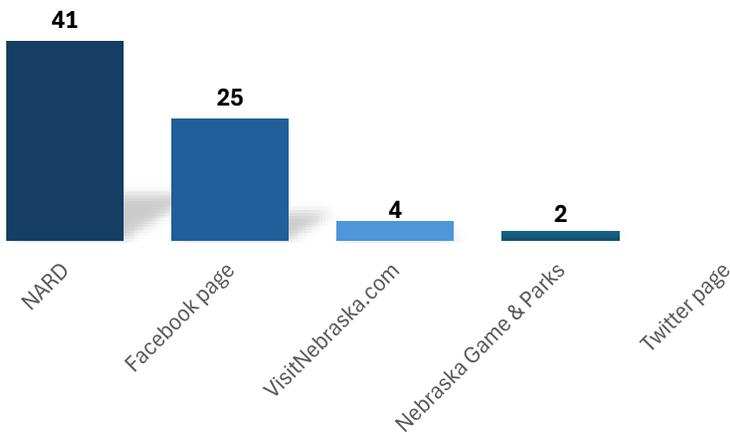


Users
↓
0.08%

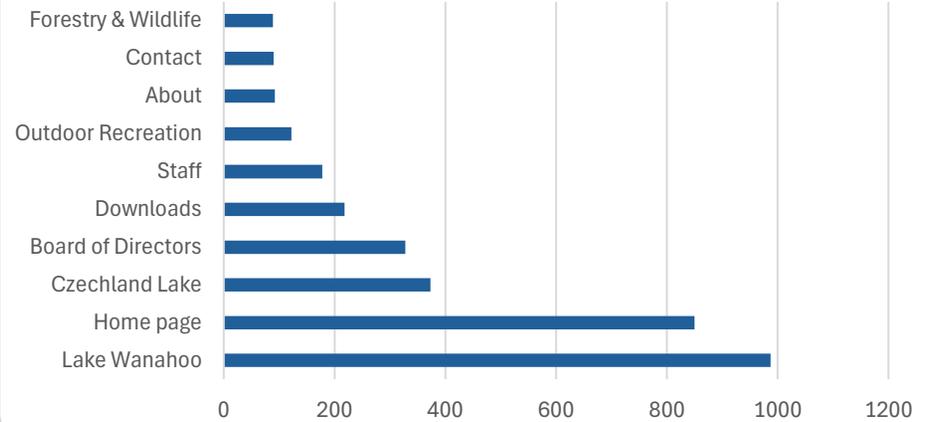
Devices



Traffic By Type



Website Top 10 Pages by Users



Proposal For : Lower Platte North NRD

Spots to run December 15, 2024 – March 2, 2025

Option 1: \$1,815

(33) Total spots (3) spots per week for 11 weeks

- (11) :30 spots around Prime Time Programming (7-11pm Monday – Sunday)
Programs such as...American Outdoors with Baratunde Thurston, Nature, Finding Your Roots, and more.
- (11) :30 spots around Early Fringe Programming (2-6pm Monday - Friday)
Programs such as...Antiques Roadshow, Masterpiece, Curious Traveler, and more.
- (11) :30 spots around Saturday How To's (11am-6pm Saturday)
Programs such as...America's Test Kitchen, This Old House, Rick Steves' Europe and more.

Option 2: \$1,705

(33) Total spots (3) spots per week for 11 weeks

- (11) :30 spots around Prime Time Programming (7-11pm Monday – Sunday)
Programs such as...American Outdoors with Baratunde Thurston, Nature, Finding Your Roots, and more
- (22) :30 spots around Early Fringe Programming (2-6pm Monday – Friday)
Programs such as...Antiques Roadshow, Masterpiece, Curious Traveler, and more.

Option 3: \$1,585 – includes a 1-month digital tile ad

(2) Total spots (2) spots per week for 11 weeks, plus a 4-week digital tile ad

- (11) :30 spots around Prime Time Programming (7-11pm Monday – Sunday)
Programs such as...American Outdoors with Baratunde Thurston, Nature, Finding Your Roots, and more
- (22) :30 spots around Early Fringe Programming (2-6pm Monday – Friday)
Programs such as...Antiques Roadshow, Masterpiece, Curious Traveler, and more.
- 1-month digital tile ad on nebraskapublicmedia.org
 - Includes mobile and desktop
 - We can build a tile ad for you if you do not already have a digital ad
 - Click-through to your website
 - Rotating 1/10 of total site impressions, or roughly 37,500 impressions
 - You choose the 4 weeks you'd like ad to run online



Owls of Nebraska

November 6

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Clint Johannes Education Building
at Lake Wanahoo, Wahoo

Learn all about the
owls of Nebraska,
dissect owl pellets,
make owl crafts,
plus more!

Perfect for ages 8 and up!

Space is limited.

RSVP to Sydney Abbott
at sabbott@lpnnrd.org or
call the LPNNRD at 402-443-4675



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District



Thursday

NOVEMBER 7

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.



WOODLANDS OF NEBRASKA

Nebraska is a true prairie state, but hidden amongst the sea of grasses were pockets of trees. These woodlands support plants and animals found nowhere else in Nebraska. Join Sydney Abbott as she discusses the importance of these woodlands and an interesting bit of history that lead to the largest hand planted forest in the western hemisphere.

Join us monthly for a “Coffee, Lakeside” educational event at the Clint Johannes Education Building at Lake Wanahoo, 1655 County Road 16, Wahoo.

Each month will focus on a new topic, with hot coffee and fresh donuts available to all who attend.

Are you curious about a specific topic and want to learn more?

Email your topic suggestions to sabbott@lpnrd.org



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District



Science and Scenes

Freshwater Mussels of Nebraska

November 14

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Clint Johannes Education Building
East side of Lake Wanahoo, Wahoo

Join us for a free educational event focused
on Nebraska's freshwater mussels!

We will transform mussel shells into
beautiful jewelry dishes and explore the
numerous types of mussels in Nebraska.

This free event is open to participants aged 14 and older.

Limited space available!

Call LPNNRD at
402-443-4675 or
email Sydney at
sabbott@lpnnrd.org to
reserve a spot.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District