

Operations Committee Meeting  
Thursday, April 3, 2025 8:30 AM  
Lower Platte North NRD Office  
P.O. Box 126  
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We don't have unfinished business to address.

2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Nothing to report.

3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

The O & M crew assisted in a prescribed burn on 170 acres of the Wanahoo property. Cut and cleared trees below the Cottonwood 7-A dam. We started moving materials from the grounds on our current property to our Wanahoo shed. Prepared a site for our new fuel barrel working through the State Fire Marshal. Regular maintenance on equipment and vehicles. Cleaned up blizzard/wind damaged trees at Czechland Lake.

3.A. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A, NRCS & HDR

A reimbursement request for \$265,082.99 was submitted to NRCS on 2/20/2025 and funds were received from NRCS 3/26/2025. An extension request is being sent to NRCS to extend the expiration date from 5/31/2025 to 12/31/2025.

The 90% report should be in review by the NRCS.

3.B. Wanahoo Basin Damage & Repair, FEMA

We will pay M.E. Collins \$131,927.60 for the de-watering of the Wanahoo basin. \$2,400.00 was deducted from the contract for materials not used.

Mike Sotak and Ethan Miller of Houston Engineering presented on their inspection of the basin during the de-watering. Slides were shown from the CFD Modeling they are using. The model shows velocities of the water in different colors coming from the spillway. Understanding these velocities in different areas should help figure out mitigation ideas to make the area more robust. In the basin itself, we may have gained 2' of depth but the rip-rap is in place. The gravel materials used as filters was displaced. Ethan provided the findings in the tunnels where the joints are being exposed. They will have recommendations for sealing the joints.

A report will be written and presented in the near future. It is hoped that a project could be started by this Fall.

3.C. No-Till Grass Drill and Triple Axle Dump Trailer

We sold our 2008 No-Till grass drill for \$15,500. It was surplus equipment/property. Our triple axle dump trailer sold at auction, on-line for \$7,925. We purchase it in 2017 for \$8,740.

3.D. Hay Areas on Recreation Areas for 2025

Heimann is developing maps for this year's haying season. We will ask for bids and approve them in May.

3.E. Fire Incident on the Wanahoo Property

On the afternoon of Thursday, March 27th an acreage owner/neighbor on the

Wanahoo property may have been burning. The fire spread away from his residence to the North/NW and burned approximately 50 acres of the Wanahoo grassland, and it also jumped Co. Rd O. In the process, the neighbor was injured and taken to the hospital.

A Press Release was sent out by the District explaining that it was not related to the prescribed burn conducted by Pheasants Forever, NE Game & Parks, and LPN the previous day.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

We received a request for payment from Timberwood Homeowners Association. Their invoices add up to \$20,520 for broken concrete and placing it on the Platte River bank.

We assisted them in 2023 with their invoice of \$19,590 with a cost-share payment of \$4,000.

After the 2019 flood, we changed our cost-share rates. For individuals it's 50% upto \$4,000 and Drainage Districts 50% upto \$6,000. A motion was made to cost-share based on the higher tax valuation provided by the Timberwood development.

After the committee, the Platte Valley Drainage District submitted invoices adding up to \$16,298.75 for work accomplished on the levee in Saunders County. This request was added to the motion by cost-sharing with Platte Valley for \$6,000.

5. LAKE WANAHOO

5.A. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of February, the District received \$2,898.50 in annual park permit revenue.

5.B. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

For the month of February, the District received \$2,661.62 in camping revenue.

5.C. Clint Johannes Education Building

The Clint Johannes Education Building at Lake Wanahoo was rented 9 times in March, with 1 NRD rental. Revenue for the month was \$975.

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC radio ads for March featured tree sales. The monthly ad for April will feature LPNNRD recreation areas.

The Wahoo newspaper e-ad for March also featured tree sales. This will be updated to environmental education opportunities for April.

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 15-25 posts per month. If you are on Facebook or X, please like, follow, share, or retweet the Lower Platte North NRD posts!

If you ever notice on issues on the LPNNRD please let us know so we can get it corrected.

During March, there were a few collaboration posts that boosted our engagement on Facebook with Set Your Sites for Lake Wanahoo's new reservation site. There was also a press release that received almost 4500 views on Facebook.

**Top Posts for Facebook and X included:**

- Press release about fire on East side of Lake Wanahoo (attached)
- LPNNRD Natural Resources Grant availability
- Set Your Sites information
- Job opportunity for O&M technician
- Abandoned well cost-share availability

On the LPNNRD website, we received traffic from NARD (108), Facebook (42), Nebraska Game and Parks (25), Nebraska tourism (16), X (4), Wahoo newspaper e-ad (1).

The reports are attached. There was an issue with the engagement change but it is updated now.

6.A.3. Dodge County Agricultural Society

Dodge County Agricultural Society is looking for sponsorships for the 2025 fair July 29 - August 3. Last year we donated \$500. This included announcer recognition at events, recognition on donation boards at the fairgrounds and on the fair website, plus a banner with our logo that was displayed during the fair. This year, the same recognition would be available at the \$500 level. Attached is the list of sponsorship levels.

6.A.4. Shell Creek Scholarships

Two of the three teachers said there were a few students interested in this, but we did not receive any Shell Creek scholarship applications last month. The deadline was March 15th.

Since Committee Meeting we have received two Scholarship Applications. **Aleeya Morris from Newman Grove**, she will be studying Elementary Education at Wayne State College. She has participated in the Shell Creek watershed monitoring program for five years.

**Brooke Forre from Newman Grove**, she will be studying Pre-Professional Physical Therapy at Chadron State College. She has participated in the Shell Creek watershed monitoring program for six years.

Scholarship recipients will receive ½ of the scholarship upon recipient selection, with the remainder being issued upon proof of successful

completion of the first term with a GPA of B/3.0 or above. If a scholarship recipient fails to attend an accredited two-year or four-year college or university or does not complete their first term with a GPA of at least B/3.0, scholarship funds may be directed to an alternate.

**A motion will be needed at Board Meeting**

**To approve Aleeya Morris and Brooke Forre each for a \$1,000 Shell Creek Watershed Scholarship. Half of the scholarship will be paid after board approval, with the remaining amount paid after successful completion of the first term.**

6.B. Education

6.B.1. Past events

- March 3rd: Survival club (rescheduled from February).
- March 4th: Fremont H.S. - Water Quality (56).
- March 6th: Coffee Lakeside - Butterflies of NE (8)
- March 11th: Lions Club Presentation (15)
- March 24th: Scouts p.m. - Lake Wanahoo, what is conservation? (9)
- March 25th: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K Moths and Butterflies (28).

6.B.2. Upcoming events

- April 2nd: Bishop Neuman M.S. survival skills
- April 3rd: Bishop Neuman M.S. Survival skills
- April 4th: Wahoo 2nd grade - Pollination
- April 8th: Wahoo 1st grade - feathers
- April 10th: Coffee Lakeside - Earth and Arbor Day
- April 11th: Platte Center Elementary K-6th Earth and Arbor Day
- April 14th: Fremont 4th grade AM Earth Day / East Butler 7th grade Arbor Day
- April 15th: Cedar Bluffs 3rd Grade - Earth Day
- April 16th: Newman Grove Elementary Earth and Arbor Day
- April 22nd: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K AM / North Bend 5th Grade Earth Day / Earth Day Event @ Lake Wanahoo
- April 23rd: Wahoo Kindergarten Earth Day
- April 24th: Fremont Ecofair
- April 28th: Re-schedule North Bend and Wahoo Kindergarten
- April 30th: Fremont H.S. Water quality / Presentation pm @ Let's play yoga studio Wahoo

TBD: Survival Club

Spring Conservation Sensation coming up May 7th

6.B.3. Outdoor Classrooms - Bloom Boxes

Nebraska Arboretum has Bloom Boxes, filled with 24 native perennial plants, available for purchase. Boxes are \$125 and are for full sun or partial sun sites;

they come with information on each plant and signage. We reached out to 6 schools in our district to see if they were interested in adding a Bloom Box to their outdoor classroom/learning areas. The 6 schools we chose already have outdoor spaces they use or have a strong FFA / relationship with our NRD. Because of a short deadline to order the boxes, we limited it to those 6 schools, but plan to open it up to every school in our district next year. I've attached the write up and the form that is needed. Wahoo elementary is the only school that will be participating this year.

6.B.4. LPNNRD Natural Resources Grant - Update

No students have turned in the grant application yet. East Butler has been in contact asking questions. Application deadline is May 1st. Form is attached, please share!

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

7.A. Rural Water Operations

The impacts from the blizzard on 3/19 for both RWD:

- Bruno RWD is served by David City water; there was a prolonged power outage throughout Butler Public Power's district. Getting David City power back online took longer than expected and DC utilities requested conservative use of water. There were no reports of pressure loss.
- Colon RWD is served by Wahoo and experienced no interruptions in service.

Over the next month we will plan on flushing hydrants and address other routine maintenance activities; meter inspections, backflow preventers, etc.

7.B. Colon System

The Colon RWD had its biannual sanitary survey completed with NDEE on 3/26. The survey highlighted that the Colon RWD is due for a cross-connection survey for customers which will be done this spring.

Routine monthly sampling completed, bills mailed 3/31.

7.C. Bruno System

Staff was contacted by a customer on the Bruno RWD with concerns about high pressure within their residence. The Bruno system runs high pressure (~105psi) to allow for filling the Bruno water tower. All of the residential customers have pressure reducing valves in the pit, set to 50psi, to protect residential plumbing from surge/hammer. Elliott contacted David City water about changes to system and the explanation was due to multiple repairs, system shut downs/start ups, has caused surges in the system. When the concerned residence was checked the pressures were normal at 50psi.

Routine monthly sampling completed and bills mailed 3/31.

7.D. Other

# TREES & SHRUBS

Available for Spring delivery

Seedling handplants:  
\$1.25 per tree or shrub

Call 402-443-4675 or visit  
[www.lpnnrd.org](http://www.lpnnrd.org)



LOWER PLATTE NORTH  
Natural Resources District

# TREES & SHRUBS

Available for Spring delivery

Seedling handplants: \$1.25 per tree or shrub

Call 402-443-4675 or visit  
[www.lpnnrd.org/projects-and-programs/forestry](http://www.lpnnrd.org/projects-and-programs/forestry)



LOWER PLATTE NORTH  
Natural Resources District

# Environmental Education Opportunities

Hands-on sessions for students  
in wildlife, forestry, soil and more!

Visit [lpnnrd.org/education](http://lpnnrd.org/education) or  
call the NRD at 443-4675  
for availability.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH  
Natural Resources District

# **Environmental Education Opportunities**

**Hands-on sessions for students in wildlife,  
forestry, water, soil and more!**

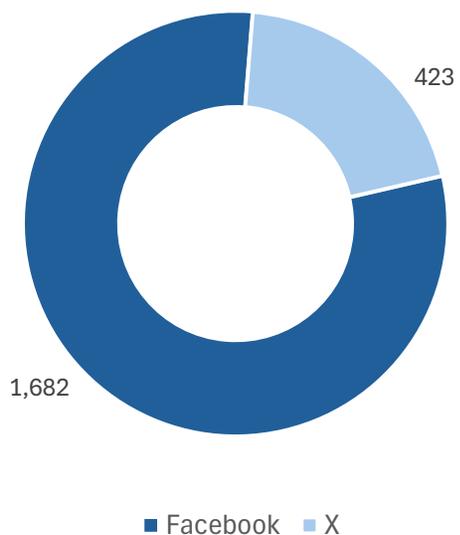
Visit [lpnnrd.org/education](http://lpnnrd.org/education) or call the NRD  
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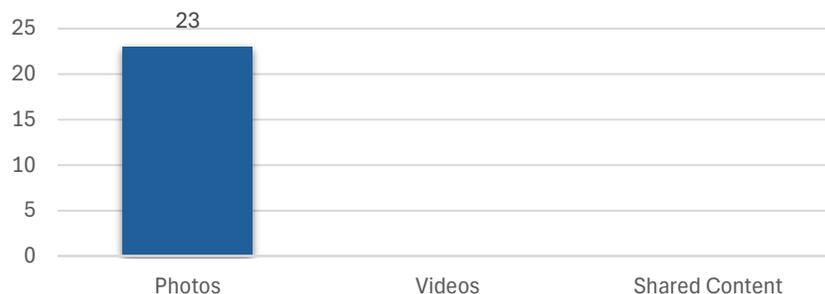


# LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

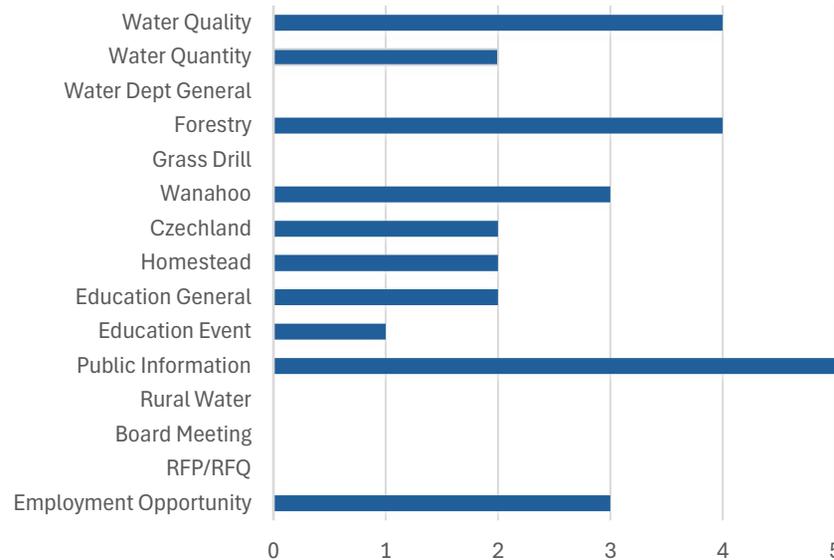
## Social Media Followers



## March Content



## March Post Categories



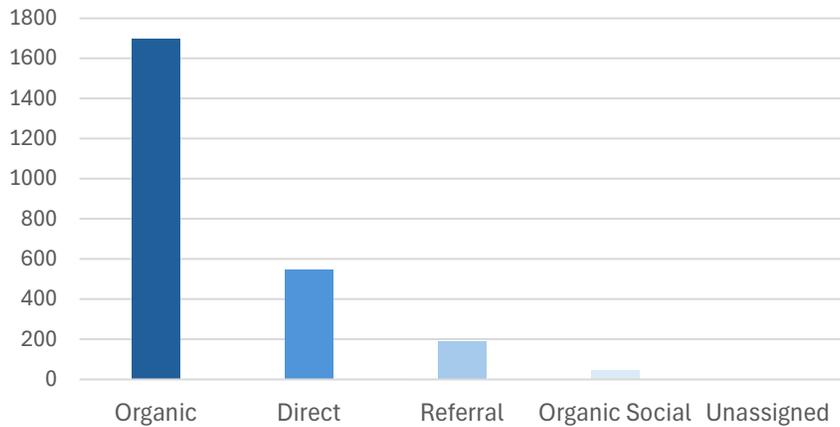
Facebook engagement ↑ 120%

X engagement ↑ 49%



# LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

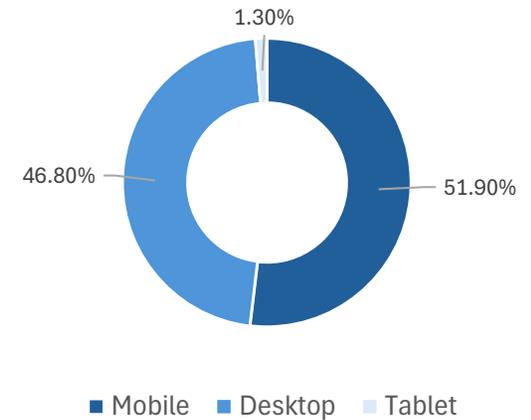
### Traffic Channels



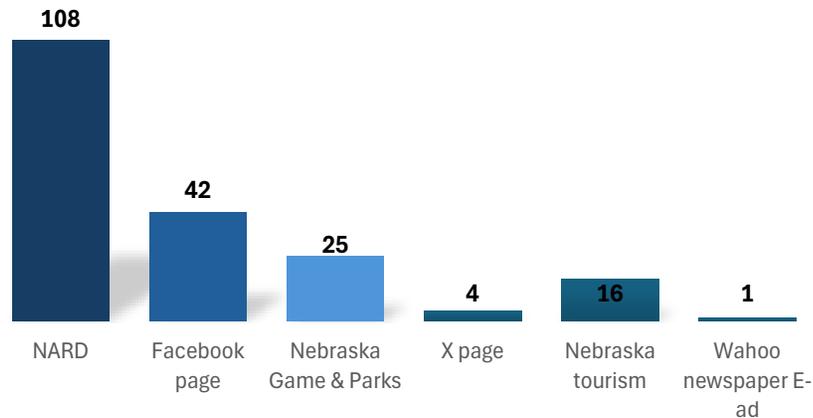
Users



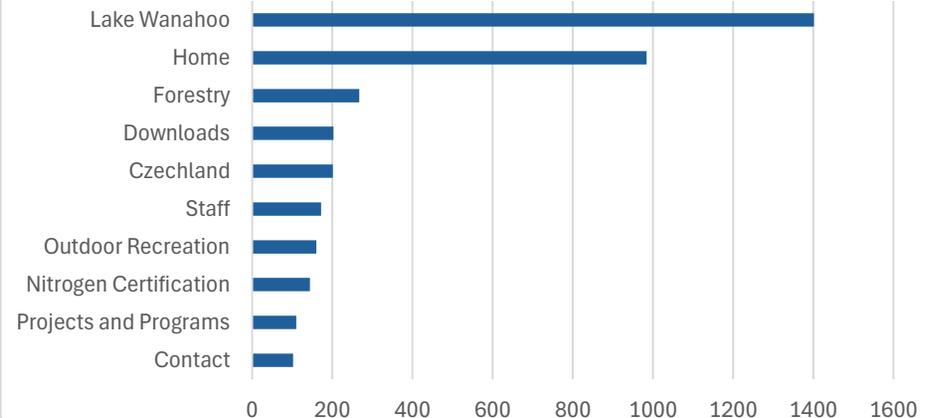
### Devices



### Traffic By Type



### Website Top 10 Pages by Users



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2025

#### Contact:

Bob Heimann, Operations & Maintenance Manager

Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

Office: 402-443-4675

Email: [bheimann@lpnrd.org](mailto:bheimann@lpnrd.org)

### **Fire Incident Unrelated to Prescribed Burn on Lake Wanahoo Property**

Wahoo, NE – A fire incident occurred on March 27, 2025, on the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District's (LPNNRD) Lake Wanahoo property. This fire was not associated with the planned prescribed burn conducted by LPNNRD, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, and Nebraska Pheasants Forever on the west portion of Lake Wanahoo on March 26, 2025. The prescribed burn was a controlled operation conducted for ecological management purposes of the wildlife.

The fire occurred on private property on the opposite side of Lake Wanahoo and spread to the NRD's property. The investigation into the cause of the fire is ongoing. The LPNNRD is very concerned for the well-being and health of our neighbor who was injured in the fire incident. We wish the best for him and his family. Additionally, LPNNRD extends its gratitude to the local fire departments and emergency responders for their prompt and effective response in controlling the fire.

LPNNRD works to decrease the accumulation of dead vegetation by haying around the private property to reduce the risk of uncontrolled wildfires. Additionally, landowners are responsible for maintaining and minimizing trash and debris that can act as fuel for uncontrolled fires, particularly in dry conditions. Prescribed burns are conducted under strict guidelines and safety protocols to ensure the protection of public safety and natural resources.

# Levels of Sponsorship

## **Dodge County Fair Corporate Sponsor**

This sponsorship will include:

- ❖ 2025 Dodge County Fair Sponsor- \$25,000
- ❖ 2025 Concert Sponsorship
  - Main Act-\$20,000
  - Stage- \$10,000
- ❖ Tractor Pull
  - Pull- \$5,000
  - Sled- \$3,000
- ❖ Demo- \$7500
- ❖ All options above allow for naming rights when announcing/advertising
  - Example: "Concert brought to you by....."

## **Overall Champion Level - \$10,000+**

- ❖ Supreme Champion Level plus the following
- ❖ Two banners with your business logo and name displayed during the fair
- ❖ 20 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) *\*Indicate your ticket preferences below*

## **Supreme Champion Level - \$5000-\$9999**

- ❖ Grand Champion Level plus the following
- ❖ 20 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) *\*Indicate your ticket preferences below*
- ❖ Radio and newspaper recognition

## **Grand Champion Level - \$2500-\$4999**

- ❖ Purple Ribbon Level plus the following
- ❖ 10 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) *\*Indicate your ticket preferences below*
- ❖ Vendor/Booth space on fairgrounds
- ❖ Ability to provide Ag Society with your marketing/recruitment giveaways to be shared at chosen event

## **Purple Ribbon Level - \$1000-\$2499**

- ❖ Full Pull Level plus the following
- ❖ 4 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) *\*Indicate your ticket preferences below*
- ❖ Sponsor name on printed fair materials,

## **Full Pull Level - \$500-\$999**

- ❖ Announcer recognition at events
- ❖ Recognition on donation boards located on the fairgrounds during the fair and on the fair website
- ❖ One banner with your business logo and name displayed during the fair
- ❖ 4 Event Tickets (2 for the Outlaw Tractor Pull, 2 for the Demo)

Ticket Requests #  Concert  Outlaw Tractor Pull  Demo Derby

**Sponsor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to:  
Dodge County Agricultural Society  
P.O. Box 58  
Scribner, NE 68057

Email Company logo to [dodgecountyfairne@gmail.com](mailto:dodgecountyfairne@gmail.com)

Please complete this form and send it with your payment to the above address.

\* To allow print time for banners, logos need to be received by July 18th. Thank you!

Please complete this form and send it with your payment to the above address. Thank You

Applications must be received by the LPNNRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.

## SHELL CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**1. ACADEMIC YEAR** – Indicate the academic year for which you are applying for scholarship assistance: Fall of 2025 - Spring of 2026

**2. MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY** – Indicate the major or course of study you will be pursuing:  
Pre-Professional Physical Therapy

**3. COLLEGE** – Indicate the accredited two-year or four-year college or university you will be attending: Chadron State College

### 4. PERSONAL DATA

<b>Applicant Name</b> ( <i>First MI Last</i> ): <u>Brooke A. Forre</u>
<b>Primary Residence:</b> Address <u>53509 824th Rd</u>
City <u>Newman Grove</u> State <u>NE</u> ZIP <u>68758</u>
<b>Primary Phone</b> <u>(402)608-0480</u> <b>Email</b> <u>brookeforre@gmail.com</u>
<b>Parent/Guardian Name(s)</b> <u>Dustin and Erin Forre</u>

**5. PERSONAL ESSAY** – On **one** separate sheet of paper provide an essay stating your chosen major/course of study, how it relates to science and/or natural resources, how long you have participated in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program, and how you believe your experience with the program will help you achieve your academic goals. Do not exceed one page in length.

**6. HIGH SCHOOL GRADES** - Provide a copy of your most recent high school grades/transcript, including GPA.

*Continued on next page*

**7. SAT/ACT SCORES** - If available, provide a copy of your SAT or ACT results.

**8. PROOF OF ENROLLMENT** - Provide proof of enrollment (ie. letter of acceptance, tuition statement, or class schedule) from the college/university you will be attending.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY ONE APPLICATION.** Completion of items 1 through 8 above is mandatory. If the information requested does not apply, enter N/A. Applications should be sent to: **Lower Platte North NRD, PO Box 126, Wahoo, NE 68066**, or emailed to **lpnnrd@lpnnrd.org**

**ELIGIBILITY** – To be eligible, an applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

Be a graduating senior at Newman Grove High School, Schuyler Central High School, or Columbus Lakeview High School.

Have completed at least one year as a member of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program.

Be enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university.

Plan to pursue a major or course of study relating to science and/or natural resources.

**All applications and supporting materials must be received by the LPNNRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.**

Lower Platte North NRD staff and representatives from Newman Grove Public Schools, Schuyler Public Schools and Lakeview Community Schools will evaluate applications. The Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors will make the final award decision.

**I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information given on this application is true, correct, original and complete, and that I understand and will abide by the scholarship requirements if I am chosen as the recipient.**

**Applicant's Signature** Brooke Jones **Date:** 4/8/25

## Shell Creek Watershed Scholarship Essay

**Brooke Forre**

After graduating from Newman Grove High School, I am attending Chadron State College majoring in pre-professional studies for physical therapy. Starting my senior year, my major was undecided and I did not have a clue what I wanted to go into. After undergoing a hip surgery in September of 2024, and going through my own physical therapy treatments, I found my love for what a physical therapist does. Physical Therapists get to bring life back into people's daily lives and help them restart their journey, whether it was a life-changing injury or just simple rehab sessions.

Physical Therapy is science related due to falling under the biology and human life. Physical therapy helps the body of humans and even animals get back to their regular performance levels of physical activity after an injury or incidents that could result in harm. The human body takes lots of care whether it is resting, exercising, fueling the body with nutrients/food/water, or other maintenance services. Without proper rehabilitation, the body would end up shutting down due to an injury and the exertion of the body trying to replace the work load of the injured limb. If the body overworks itself, it will result in burnout which could create bigger problems. Science is incorporated in another way because we have to figure out how and why the body moves or breaks down the way it does when problems occur.

Throughout my years in junior high and high school, I have been highly involved in Shell Creek Watershed for six years. From summer collection - test days and taking the class I have learned lots about water testing and technology. Nitrates were the main focus when testing the creek and peoples' wells but as a group we worked together to spread our focus and knowledge in different areas such as with Fecal Coliform, Nitrites, Phosphates, and looking at Mackerels and organisms living in the creek. Being apart of Shell Creek Watershed has allowed me to develop great qualities such as; teamwork and working with others to get tests performed efficiently, time management and scheduling my summers around testing dates, and scientific knowledge skills(reading charts, graphing data, and using the colorimeter or other scientific tools used during tests).

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## SHELL CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. **ACADEMIC YEAR** – Indicate the academic year for which you are applying for scholarship assistance: 2025-2026

2. **MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY** – Indicate the major or course of study you will be pursuing:

Elementary Education

3. **COLLEGE** – Indicate the accredited two-year or four-year college or university you will be attending:

Wayne State College Wayne, NE

### 4. PERSONAL DATA

**Applicant Name (First MI Last):**

Aleeya C. Morris

**Primary Residence:**

Address 209 N. 6th PO Box 142

City Newman Grove State NE ZIP 68758

Primary Phone 402-992-4522 Email colettealeeya@gmail.com

Parent/Guardian Name(s) Daniel and Andrea Morris

5. **PERSONAL ESSAY** – On one separate sheet of paper provide an essay stating your chosen major/course of study, how it relates to science and/or natural resources, how long you have participated in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program, and how you believe your experience with the program will help you achieve your academic goals. Do not exceed one page in length.

6. **HIGH SCHOOL GRADES** - Provide a copy of your most recent high school grades/transcript, including GPA.

*Continued on next page*

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**I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information given on this application is true, correct, original and complete, and that I understand and will abide by the scholarship requirements if I am chosen as the recipient.**

**Applicant's Signature** Aleeya C. Morris **Date:** 4-3-25  
Aleeya C. Morris

Beginning in the Fall of 2025, I will be pursuing a degree in Elementary Education at Wayne State College. My passion for education is closely tied to my belief that young students can greatly benefit from a science curriculum that emphasizes understanding and caring for the environment. I have always been fascinated by the intersection of science, natural resources, and the environment. My goal is to inspire the same passion in future generations.

Over the past five years, I have participated in the Newman Grove Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program. This program has significantly enhanced my understanding of environmental science and the importance of natural resource conservation. I have had the opportunity to collect and analyze water samples, track changes in local ecosystems, and collaborate with professionals and fellow participants. The work that I completed has helped me better understand how human activity affects our natural resources. The program also gave me a chance to educate the public about why the program is beneficial and how it has improved our local waterways. One of the most memorable things that I accomplished with the Shell Creek Watershed Program was the chance to go to the Iowa National Symposium. I was one of the six students who got an opportunity to talk to people on a national level about what we do. I have also attended many NRD meetings. This unique hands-on experience has deepened my appreciation for the delicate balance of nature and has reinforced my desire to educate others about sustainability and conservation.

My involvement in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program has given me valuable skills that I plan to incorporate into my future teaching practices. Not only have I gained knowledge about environmental science, but I have also developed strong communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. I believe these experiences will help me create engaging, real-world lessons for students. This will allow my future students to connect the importance of science with their everyday lives.

My academic journey in Elementary Education, combined with my experience in environmental monitoring, will allow me to contribute meaningfully to the education of young minds. Ultimately, my goal is to inspire curiosity, environmental responsibility, and critical thinking in the students I teach, while equipping them with the tools to contribute to a more sustainable future.



# LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

PO Box 126 511 Commercial Park Road Wahoo, NE 68066  
Phone 402.443.4675 [www.lpnrd.org](http://www.lpnrd.org) [lpnrd@lpnrd.org](mailto:lpnrd@lpnrd.org)

## Outdoor classroom mini-grant – Bloom Boxes

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (LPNNRD) would love to assist your school in enhancing its outdoor classroom or school grounds with native plants! Incorporating native plants offers an exceptional educational opportunity for students of all ages, covering topics such as plant life cycles, pollinators, soil health, water conservation, and more. It also provides a unique way to strengthen Nebraska connections, civic science connections, and crosscutting concepts within your curriculum. LPNNRD will prioritize applications from schools that currently have an established outdoor classroom or a designated area that is prepared for planting. **Please note that site preparation is mandatory and essential for success. If your site is not ready yet, we encourage you to take this summer to prepare it. Additional applications will be available for the following school year.**

Ready to apply? Please complete the corresponding worksheet and include 1–2 pictures of your site. Site pictures are mandatory. Submit your application via email no later March 31st. Applications will be reviewed, and selected schools will be notified by April 1st. Bloom Boxes will be available for pickup in Lincoln on May 2 and delivered to your school either that day or the following week.

For more information on what is included in the Bloom Box, please visit <https://www.plantnebraskashop.org/bloom-box-products>. This mini-grant exclusively covers the cost of a Full Sun Bloom Box or Part Sun Bloom Box. Please be aware that site preparation and ongoing plant care are not included.

If you have questions or need further information, contact Sydney Abbott, LPNNRD Education Coordinator, at 402-443-4675 or [sabbott@lpnrd.org](mailto:sabbott@lpnrd.org).

1. Name of school: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Project leader and their contact information(email, phone number):  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you currently have an outdoor classroom? Please circle. Yes or no
5. If no, where would you be placing these plants? Please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. These plants will need at least 100 square feet, does your outdoor classroom have room for 24 plants? Yes, no, or please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you have someone who is willing to plant them upon arrival?  
Please circle. Yes or no
8. Do you have a designated person to water these plants over the summer?  
Please circle. Yes or no
9. Would you need the full sun bloom box or the partial shade bloom box? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Would you be willing to invite Sydney Abbott, LPNNRD Education Coordinator, to your classroom in the following school year, to talk about native plants and pollinators? Yes, no, or please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Project leader signature \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder:** Please attach 1-2 photos of your site.



# LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

PO Box 126 511 Commercial Park Road Wahoo, NE 68066  
Phone 402.443.4675 www.lpnrd.org lpnrd@lpnrd.org

## Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Natural Resources Grant

What is this for: The purpose of this grant is to aid high school students monetarily, to achieve success in a natural resources-based project within their community.

Who is the intended audience: High school students who reside within the Lower Platte North NRD, who are actively involved in a community based natural resources project. These projects may include but are not limited to: FFA supervised agricultural experiences (SAE); seminar class projects; 4-H projects; community engagement projects, and more.

What are the expectations: The expectations of this grant are to plan, implement, and carry out a natural resources-based project within your community. These monies can go towards a project with a clear end date, or an ongoing project that is continuously carried out by existing or new leaders.

Application deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

### Overview

The mission at the Lower Platte North NRD is the conservation, preservation, and wise use of our natural resources. The goal of this grant is to award high school students grant monies that will aid them in completing a project that aligns with the mission of our NRD. By outlining your project below, we will assess your needs and rank your grant amongst other submitted proposals. The amount awarded will be based upon your asking, rank, and the number of submitted proposals, with \$500 and up to \$1500 being awarded respectively.

### Statement of need

/50

In 250 words or less, please describe your statement of need, including why you are seeking this grant and how it connects to your current or future project and the mission statement of the Lower Platte North NRD. Additionally, explain who you think will benefit the most from this project.

### Description of Project

/50

In 500 words or less, please outline your goals, timeline for completion, and your plans for implementation.

### Budget and Resources

/50

Please describe in detail the budget for your proposed project, including the total number of dollars needed and justification for each budget line.

**Cover Letter****/25**

Include a one-page cover letter that briefly introduces yourself, your project, and why this is important to you.

**Supporting Documents****/25**

Please include one letter of support for this project and any other pertinent documentation.

**Mail your final documents to:**

Lower Platte North NRD

Attn: Sydney Abbott

P.O. Box 126

Wahoo, NE 68066

**Or email final documents to:** [sabbott@lpnrd.org](mailto:sabbott@lpnrd.org)

**To be filled out by Lower Platte North NRD**

Sections	Description	Points awarded
Statement of need	Description of project, why they are seeking the grant, and how it connects to our mission statement	/50
Description of project	Their goals are outlined (SMART), timeline is concise, plans for implementation are thorough and achievable.	/50
Budget and Resources	Budget is described in detail with actual numbers and description for each line item included. Total dollars asking: \$_____	/50
Cover letter	The one-page letter provides information on who they are, a description of their project, and why this is important to them.	/25
Supporting documents	One letter of support is included for their project. Any other documentation provided is additional but not required.	/25
Additional comments		/200
Questions we have or information we need to proceed.		
Rank = _____	Total dollars being awarded = \$_____	