

## Compliance Issues Regarding the Expansion of New Groundwater Irrigated Acres

Reminder! Landowners who received additional points for Best Management Practices and Planting Trees for the Expansion of new groundwater irrigated acres must comply with the guidelines to keep their irrigated new acres. Using BMPs to gain qualifying points requires the submission of an annual report for 5 years after the acres are developed. Failure to submit reports will result in the forfeiture of expanded acres approved under this contract.

KNOW

Landowners who received additional points when they agreed to plant conservation trees associated with a conservation contract on the site which they Expanded New Groundwater Irrigated acres are required to maintain those trees at 75% for a minimum of 10 years. Landowners should be monitoring these sites and making arrangement for replants when necessary. NRD personnel will be inspecting these sites for compliance.

If you have questions regarding these compliance issues please contact the Upper Elkhorn NRD.



#### UENRD QUICK FACTS:

Natural Resources District

Upper Elkhorn

UENRD encompasses 3,052 sq miles or 1,953,280 acres

2022

- District Population 16,363
- 8744 Registered Wells of which 4873 are for Irrigation
- Collect Data from approximately 600 Irrigation & Monitoring Wells
- Certified over 1,600 Producers in Nitrogen Management
- Maintain a District wide Groundwater Management Area
- Distributed Cost Share to local Cooperators for Conservation Practices throughout the District
- Hired an Agronomy Technician to Facilitate the Implementation of Phase III of the GWMP
- 2022 Celebrating NRDs 50th Anniversary

#### **Protecting the Future**

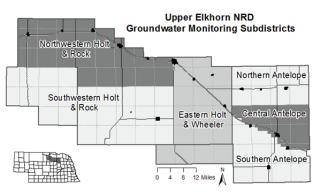
## Upper Elkhorn NRD Board of Directors

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### Your Upper Elkhorn NRD<sup>-</sup>

# 2022 UENRD Spring Static Water Levels

Spring static water levels were collected on 362 wells in March and April of 2022. The results for 2022, 2021, and the trend for the last 20 years (2003 – 2022), are provided. Average depths are derived from 103 Historic



Wells throughout the District. Since 2015, 200 New Irrigation Wells have been added to our static groundwater monitoring program. The District also maintains 59 dedicated Monitoring Wells.

The Upper Elkhorn NRD is divided into six subdistricts: Northwestern Holt and Rock, Southwestern Holt and Rock, Eastern Holt, Northern Antelope, Central Antelope, and Southern Antelope. All 6 subdistricts all decreased from the 2021 levels. The 20 year trend for all 6 subdistricts shows a water level increase over the last 20 years.

## All UENRD Groundwater Irrigated Acres Must Be Certified To Maintain Current Use

The Upper Elkhorn NRD is Continuing to CERTIFY ALL Groundwater Irrigated Acres within the district. Historically irrigated aces or acres that have been brought back into production need to be certified for any possibility of future groundwater irrigation. Get started by visiting the UENRD website at www. uenrd.org for further information on the certification process. Also, landowners who have not responded to the certification letters that were sent to you should do so as soon as possible! To complete the certification process, please contact the UENRD office at 402-336-3867 and schedule an appointment.

### Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources Groundwater Management Plan: Phase II Soil Sampling Reminder

Reminder to everyone in the UENRD Phase II areas – Deep soil sampling analysis required (mandatory two foot sample) for nitrate-nitrogen content on each field going into corn, larger than 40 acres, with more than 50 pounds per acre of actual nitrogen fertilizer applies. This soil sampling information is required on your Phase II report at the end of the 2022 growing season to be submitted to us. Please visit our web-site at www.uenrd.org to verify if you are in the Phase II area, or contact the office at 402-336-3867.

## **Volunteers Wanted for NeRAIN Program**

If you are a weather enthusiast you should consider volunteering for the Nebraska Rainfall Assessment and Information Network (NeRAIN). The network consists of volunteers from all over the state of Nebraska recording precipitation measurements as well as other noticeable weather events and posting them on the NeRAIN website. For further information you can visit the NeRAIN website at https://nednr.nebraska.gov/NeRain or you can contact the Upper Elkhorn NRD at 402-336-3867 for further information.

### Nebraska's NRDs

- Protecting Your Health through Water Quality
- Protecting Your Taxes through Local Control
- Protecting Our Natural Resources for Future Generations

Created by the Nebraska Legislature in 1969 with the passage of LB 1356, Nebraska's NRDs began operating on July 1, 1972. NRDs were formed using Nebraska's 13 major river basins to offer local solutions to local problems. Locally elected officials establish District policies to address the needs of our specific area. This unique form of local government assures that the concerns of the upper reaches of the Elkhorn River Basin are addressed by the people being affected. Locally led conservation for your future.

The Upper Elkhorn NRD continues to maintain a responsible budget to lessen the property tax burdens of its friends and neighbors. This has been accomplished by obtaining additional funding through the Nebraska Environmental Trust and the Dept of Environmental Quality 319 Grants. The FY 22-23 budget request is only 1.91 cents per \$100 of valuation and a total of \$911,727 in property tax asking.

The Upper Elkhorn NRD Board of Directors meet on the 4th Monday of every month at the Upper Elkhorn NRD Office in O'Neill, unless otherwise noted in the public notice. Everyone is welcome to attend and share their thoughts or concerns for our natural resources.