

EVERGREENS	QUANTITY
CONCOLOR FIR	
BLACK HILLS SPRUCE	
COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE	
NORWAY SPRUCE	
EASTERN WHITE PINE	
JACK PINE	
PONDEROSA PINE	
RED CEDAR	
DECIDUOUS TREES	
AMERICAN LINDEN	
BLACK WALNUT	
BUR OAK	
CATALPA	
COMMON PERSIMMON	
COTTONWOOD (SEEDLESS)	
CRABAPPLE	
EASTERN RED BUD	
HACKBERRY	
HAZELNUT	
RED MAPLE	
RED OAK	
SHAGBARK HICKORY	
SILVER MAPLE	
SUGAR MAPLE	
SWAMP WHITE OAK	
SHRUBS	
AMERICAN PLUM	
BUFFALOBERRY	
CARAGANA	
CHOKEBERRY	
CHOKECHERRY	
COTONEASTER	
ELDERBERRY	
GOLDEN CURRANT	
GRAPEVINE	
HARDY APRICOT	
LILAC (COMMON)	
NANKING CHERRY	
REDOSIER DOGWOOD	
SANDCHERRY	
SERVICEBERRY	
SKUNKBUSH SUMAC	
TOTAL TREES ORDERED	
PRICE PER TREE	\$1.15

WEED BARRIER SQUARES	
MESH TREE PROTECTORS+	
5 SPECIES ACREAGE PKG*	
5 SPECIES WILDLIFE PKG*	
5 SPECIES FLOWERING PKG*	
TOTAL	
TAX 8.0%	
Subtotal	
HANDLING	\$2.20
TOTAL DUE =	

5 SPECIES ACREAGE PKG* 10 EACH: BUR OAK, COTONEASTER, SWAMP WHITE OAK, CRABAPPLE, CHOKEBERRY.
5 SPECIES WILDLIFE PKG* 10 EACH: CHOKECHERRY, ELDERBERRY, WOODS ROSE, GOLDEN CURRANT, REDOSIER DOGWOOD.
5 SPECIES FLOWERING PKG* 10 EACH: SERVICEBERRY, REDOSIER DOGWOOD, COMMON LILAC, CRABAPPLE, CARAGANA.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Payment Method: Check☐Cash☐Credit Card☐

Payment Amount

Check Number

Prepared by

Date

HAND PLANTS 2022

RETURN YOUR ORDER TO:

Lower Big Blue NRD

P.O. Box 826

Phone: (402) 228-3402

Beatrice NE 68310

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

MEMO

Pay Online or Find More Information at:
www.lbbnrd.net

PLEASE MARK WHERE YOU WILL PICK UP YOUR TREES

BEATRICE

FAIRBURY

WILBER

ORDERING INFORMATION

Trees are not guaranteed
Order in multiples of 25 per species only
Payment required when order is placed
Payment by cash, check or credit card
Last day to order is March 1, 2022

WEED BARRIER SQUARES: \$1.50 EACH

3X3 SQUARE & FIVE 9-GAUGE PINS

MESH TREE PROTECTORS: \$1.00 EACH

18" HIGH, EVERGREENS, BAMBOO STAKE

Now Accepting



	PRICE	QUANTITY
=	\$1.50	X
=	\$1.00	X
=	\$55.00	X
=	\$55.00	X
=	\$55.00	X

NO SPECIES SUBSTITUTIONS FOR PKGS*

THE BLUE BUZZ

LOWER BIG BLUE NRD

“Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago”-Warren Buffett.

Trees are a vital part of the Nebraska landscape. Someone from the past saw the value in the trees you enjoy today. They took the time to work the soil and plant a seedling and then tend to that seedling for several years, watering in times of drought and keeping animals from the young tender foliage. Trees are the living embodiment of hope for the future, since most of those who plant a tree won’t see it in its prime. Today is your chance to plant a tree for the next generation just as someone did for you long ago. Check out the order form on the back of this publication to purchase your trees today.

Photo: Taken in 1973 at the Theodore Goossen farm west of Beatrice. These young evergreens were planted in the spring of 1964.

Protecting Lives. Protecting Property. Protecting the Future.

Lower Big Blue

Natural Resources District

Watershed Capital of Nebraska

“Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting The Future”

805 Dorsey Street

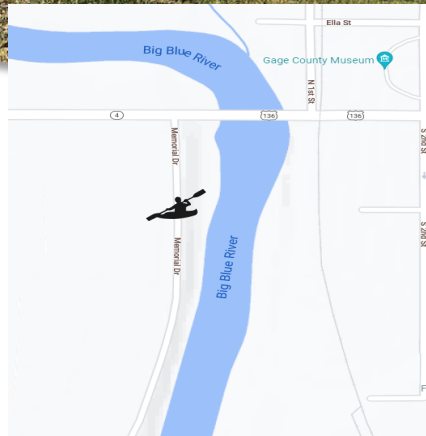
Beatrice, NE 68310

Phone: (402) 228.3402

Fax: (402) 223.4441

www.lbbnrd.net

December 2021



Kayaking Kraze

In the last two years or so, Southeast Nebraska has borne witness to a recreational phenomenon. Its almost as if one day everyone woke up and decided kayaking was the thing to try, and so it was. It seems everyone has or has access to a kayak. Kayaking has become popular for any number of reasons. Many cite the cost. A decent kayak can be had for a few hundred dollars, and one doesn't have to travel to some far away place to find the open water and scenic views necessary for a successful adventure. Opportunities to get out on the water exist at NRD recreation areas but many are drawn to the challenge offered by the Big Blue River. The major downside to kayaking the river has always been access. A lack of safe places to enter and exit the Blue near Beatrice was a problem. Additionally, the low head dam on the south side of the Court Street bridge poses a major safety hazard to anyone who may be caught in its undertow. When community partners approached the NRD board about help constructing kayak access points, The Lower Big Blue provided \$6,000 towards the project. Today, the first access point is finished

and ready for use by outdoor enthusiasts. The access point is located at the south west edge of the bridge on Highway 136 off of Memorial Drive in Beatrice.

Watershed Dams

276 dams and grade stabilization structures are strategically placed throughout the district. Most of these structures are on private property, however, the NRD holds a permanent maintenance easement with these landowners, this means that NRD staff have access to the

site for inspection and maintenance. NRD staff inspects dams on an annual basis, however, we ask landowners to help us identify maintenance needs. If you have an NRD structure on your property, please take note of any trees, debris on trash racks or around tubes, rodent holes, or evidence of beaver activity. All of these things can affect the functionality of the structure. If you see any of these, please contact the office so we can conduct an inspection and address any issues.



Lower Big Blue NRD Newsletter

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Questions or comments regarding the newsletter may be directed to the office of the Lower Big Blue NRD by phone at (402) 228.3402; by fax at (402) 223.4441; by email at kimmerling@lbbnrd.net; or by mail at:

Lower Big Blue NRD
805 Dorsey Street
P.O. Box 826
Beatrice, NE 68310

The Lower Big Blue NRD is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

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Fall 2021 Groundwater Level Measurements

The Lower Big Blue NRD measures the static water level of 170 irrigation and dedicated monitoring wells around the District every Spring (usually the first week in April) and Fall (usually the first week in November). Fall 2021 county average readings are listed below.

County	No. of Wells	Change Fall '20 to Fall '21	Change Spring '21 to Fall '21
Gage	27	-3.14	-5.18'
Saline	42	-1.29'	-3.71'
Jefferson	24	-4.31'	-6.70'
Monitoring Wells	45	-2.48'	-5.80'
Blue River Compact	32	-1.72'	-3.89'

*The Overall District Average water level was down 2.59' from Fall '20 to Fall '21, and down 2.08' from Spring '21 to Fall '21.
Average annual fall to spring recharge is 2.10'



Little Indian Watershed Flood Prevention and Operations Funding Update

The study on the Little Indian watershed in northern Gage County continues. District staff and engineers with JEO Consulting continue to evaluate the watershed. Mild, dry weather has allowed for site visits and cultural resources surveys. Once that is completed and a preliminary plan is established, the district will hold an informational meeting sometime in early 2022. If you would like more information on the project, call the office at 402-228-3402 or Jake Miriovsky, JEO Consulting Group at 402-474-8771.

Partners Keeping Stream Gauge Afloat

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) maintains a network of more than 13,000 data collection points on waterways nationwide. Stream Gauges provide real time data of the flow and elevation at strategic points along our nation's rivers. This data is usually all but ignored by the average American. People go on about their days with little regard for the natural ebb and flow of the river. When large rain events pose a risk to nearby communities, and emergency managers or city governments need to take action to save lives, this data matters most. Often the decision to close a road, stage sandbagging efforts or evacuate a neighborhood is based on the data collected at these sites. Kayakers and fisherman also rely on this data in the pursuit of their hobbies.

One of these sites, on Turkey Creek near DeWitt lost funding from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy in 2019. This left district staff with a choice: allow the site to be discontinued or seek alternative funding to provide for its operation. That was an easy choice to make. There are 2.4 million acres in the Big Blue River Basin, with approximately 2.2 million acres above Hickory Road, east of the Koch Fertilizer Plant. The Turkey Creek Stream gauge monitors approximately 460,000 acres; or a calculated 20 percent of the Big Blue River drainage acres, above Hickory Road. Together with Gage County Emergency Manager, Lisa Wiegand, the district started looking for funding partners. The total cost to maintain is \$15,305 / per year. The USGS has agreed to provide \$6,370/year. The Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District (LBBNRD) will provide \$2,000/year, which leaves an additional \$7,000 needed annually to continue operations.

Nutrien Ag, Koch Nitrogen, Farmers Cooperative and CoBank have all pledged funds to meet the \$7,000 commitment. LBBNRD is pleased that these industries recognize the value in the project and have graciously agreed to provide funding.

