

2012

LBNRD QUICK FACTS:

The Little Blue River Basin drains about 2,691 square miles or 1,722,200 acres of 11 South Central Nebraska counties. Approximately 1,495,234 acres are nonfederal lands of which 1,387,800 are agricultural lands.

All or parts of seven counties make up the Little Blue District: Thayer, Jefferson, Fillmore, Clay, Nuckolls, Webster and Adams Counties.

The total area of the Little Blue District is approximately 1,537,280 acres. The District has sixteen major sub-watersheds.

Protecting Lives – Protecting Property – Protecting the Future

LBNRD Leaving a Legacy of Conservation

Highlights of 40 Years of Accomplishments

- District completed a Hydrogeological Study of the entire District in 2011. (Check it out on the WEB- www.littlebluenrd.org)
- Since 1973 the Little Blue NRD has planted 1,927,586 trees.
- Has established six Recreational Areas: Lone Star, Liberty Cove, Buckley Creek, Prairie Lake, Roseland Lake and Bruning Dam.
- Since 1977 built 113 private dams controlling 40,142 acres of drainage.
- Operate and maintain two rural Water Projects, serving over 400 domestic, livestock and business hookup

Local NRD Works Side by Side with You

- Measure 320 irrigation wells annually and daily logs on 48 dedicated monitoring wells to track groundwater levels.
- Sample 665 irrigation wells annually to track nitrates and pesticides.
- Require fertilizer management activities on over 230,500 acres of high priority water management areas.
- Assisted 24 communities in protecting their water supply through wellhead protection activities.
- Manage a chemigation inspection program for 767 irrigation systems.
- Decommissioned 1,683 old wells to protect water from contamination.
- Administer Buffer Strip Program to protect surface water and provide wildlife habitat.
- Completed nine-county Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Provide cost-assistance to landowners to install hundreds of soil and water conservation practices and water quality measures.
- Provide various environmental education opportunities for youth.
- Cooperate in tire and electronic recycle efforts, and hazardous waste pickup.
- Constructed and maintain 27 flood control dams and one dike in six watershed providing 36,138 acre feet of flood storage.

Some Special Projects in District

- ❖ Hastings College Drainage Project
- ❖ Heartwell Park Water Quality Improvements
- ❖ Crooked Creek Golf Course Drainage (Clay Center)
- ❖ Trail Projects at Lake Hastings, Fairbury, Hebron and Deshler
- ❖ Good Samaritan Village Drainage (Hastings)
- ❖ Study of Groundwater Hydrochemistry in Thayer and Jefferson Counties
- ❖ Deshler Drainage Project
- ❖ Ruskin Drainage Improvement Project
- ❖ Park improvements in Hastings, Fairbury and Bruning.
- ❖ Participated in South Central Nebraska LiDAR Mapping: Total Cost: \$1,969,000, LBNRD share was \$12,000
- ❖ NeRAIN (Nebraska Rainfall Assessment Information Network), since 2004 the state has over 1,500 volunteers. The network is managed by the Little Blue NRD. <http://nerain.dnr.ne.gov/NeRAIN/>

LBNRD Facts

Education

The LBNRD is committed to providing natural resource information to adults and youth. We sponsor or partner with the following events:

- Water/Earth Jamboree
- Water/Earth Festival
- Land & Range Judging Contests
- Outdoor Classrooms
- Arbor Day Tree Program
- Sub-Area Operator Training
- Technology and Irrigation Field Days

Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts are local government entities with broad responsibilities to protect our natural resources. NRDs help Nebraskans respond to natural resource challenges with local control and local solutions. Major Nebraska river basins form the boundaries of the 23 NRDs.

Little Blue NRD is governed by a locally-elected 17-member board of directors. The board sets policy for the district and directs the staff in carrying out the district's goals. The LBNRD works cooperatively with other local and state groups to promote good stewardship of natural resources in the district.

Find out more about Nebraska's NRDs at www.nrdnet.org and www.littlebluenrd.org

