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SOUTH PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

2022 FISCAL YEAR SPNRD BUDGET APPROVED

The Board of Directors voted to approve the 2022 fiscal year budget during the board meeting Tuesday, September 14. The tax rate was set to an increase of 3.02% for the fiscal year of 2022. The 2021 fiscal year tax asking was \$1,209,730. The 2022 fiscal year tax asking is \$1,261,689; an increase of \$51,959. For a \$100,000 valued home, this is a tax rate of \$50.36, where previously in fiscal year 2021, it was \$48.88 in property taxes.



THE END OF ANOTHER SUMMER AT OLIVER RESERVOIR

Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area (ORRA) is located 8 miles west of Kimball on Hwy 30, and is managed by SPNRD. 2021 has brought campers from all over the United States. All donations made to ORRA are utilized to upgrade the recreation area and to make it more user friendly for all people. 78% of all donations are from travelers out of state. Some updates that have been made include but are not limited to new entrance signs, a new dump station, over 40 new trees planted to provide more shade, the handicap accessible ramp will be repaired in Spring of 2022, and new registration envelopes. Please refer to spnrd.org/oliverreservoir for rules and regulations, updates, reviews and other information regarding the recreation area. There are many websites with information regarding Oliver Reservoir, however, spnrd.org will have the most up to date information.



BOARD MEETINGS

Board of Director Meetings are hosted the second Tuesday of every month at the South Platte NRD office located at 551 Parkland Dr, Sidney, Nebraska.

BOARD MEETING DATES

- October 12, 2021 @5pm
- November 9, 2021 @5pm
- December 14, 2021 @5pm
- January 10, 2022 @5pm



STAFF CHECKING FLOWMETERS

SPNRD staff will be out in the fields starting in early October through the end of October checking flowmeters throughout the District.



TREE ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE MID OCTOBER

The tree order forms will be available on spnrd.org mid to late October under Forestry on the main Menu. Please keep an eye out in the January Newsletter for the updated tree order form. All Tree Order forms are due the first of March. However, there are certain tree species that sell out quickly. It is first come first serve for all tree species.



HIGH TUNNEL WORKSHOP HOSTED AT FANNY'S FRUIT FARM



Beth Kokjer, owner of Fanny's Fruit Farms is one of many in the SPNRD who is looking for more efficient ways of growing crops. Utilizing the High Tunnel Green House, Kokjer has been able to extend her growing season and reduce her carbon foot print. However, it was not always this easy. After the first few years of the High Tunnel System, she would find her crop becoming damaged from the heat. Her High tunnel greenhouse was producing temperatures up to 115 degrees. After several years of trying different tactics to keep the temperature from rising, Kokjer has finally figured out a way to stabilize the temperature and to keep her crop from burning up. This 2021 growing season was a successful

year of the high tunnel and Kokjer wants to encourage anyone considering using a High Tunnel to take the leap. Kokjer utilized the Natural Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS) to help with the funding of the High Tunnel which is available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). High tunnels have a variety of benefits, these include but are not limited to, longer growing seasons, preventing direct rainfall on the plants and utilizing drip irrigation to provide more efficient water delivery, pest control, and pollen and pesticide drift. High Tunnels are beginning to gain popularity and Kokjer wants to offer a lunch and learn to provide information on what worked and what didn't with the High Tunnel Green House.

LUNCH & LEARN

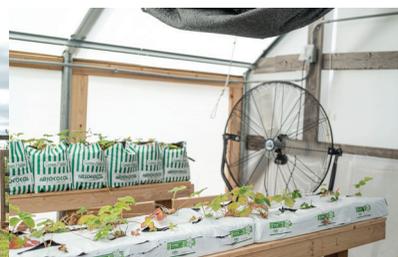
DATE:

Monday November 8, 2021

FOR MORE INFO:

RSVP to Sydney Norris
snorris@spnrd.org
308.254.2377

Food is provided by Fanny's Fruit Farm. Workshop is directed towards only those who are seriously interested in how to better utilize their high tower green house or are interested in building one. Max attendance is 20. To Attend, please contact Sydney Norris, Public Relations and Education Manager with SPNRD for more workshop information. The Lunch and Learn will run roughly an hour to hour and a half long.

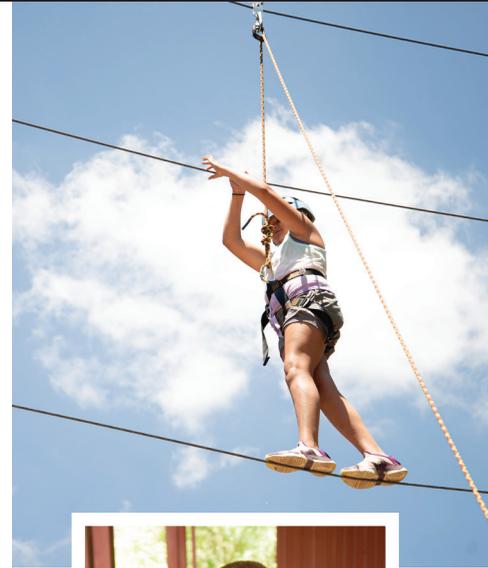


EDUCATION UPDATES



ACE CAMP OVERVIEW

Every Summer in July, the Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE Camp) is held at the 4H camp in the Nebraska National Forest. Students from all over the State can apply for a scholarship through their Natural Resources District (NRD). Four students were offered a scholarship by SPNRD that covered the ACE Camp costs. The four students who attended ACE Camp in the District were Riley Benish, Ian Davis, Kaitlyn Nicklas and Austin Craig. Staff members from NRDs around Nebraska come to present fun activities about Natural Resources to the students who attend.



KAITLYN NICKLAS



RILEY BENISH



IAN DAVIS



AUSTIN CRAIG



RANGE JUDGING CONTEST

Range Judging is a high school competition that challenges students to gain a better understanding of Nebraska rangelands. Range judging enables each participant to learn how to recognize range plants, range sites and the need for proper grazing practices. NRDs work with the Society for Range Management, NRCS and UNL Extension to host Range Judging contests all over the state each September. Students in the SPNRD attended the Range Judging Contest that was hosted by Upper Niobrara White Natural Resources District near Alliance on September 15th. A total of 8 schools participated including Creek Valley and Sidney High school.





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PIPELINE
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This is an official publication
 of the South Platte Natural
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ACE Camp Photo Feature pg 3

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