

SOUTH PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

PIPELINE

NEWSLETTER



Photo by Tyler Sanders

2025 SPNRD TREE PROGRAM

Nebraska's NRDs encourage the planting, upkeep and preservation of trees which benefit both people and animals. While each NRD program varies, all NRDs provide trees and/or shrubs for conservation purposes.

Each year, the South Platte NRD offers a variety of trees and shrubs conducive to our dry climate. Financial assistance (cost share) is also available to improve tree resources through effective planning, tree planting, removal, and maintenance. Our program begins mid-October collecting orders through the end of March. Trees are received in April and staff sorts and distributes them in time for spring planting.

Our Conservation Tree Program Policy was recently updated and with the approved changes, cost share now covers material and labor for drip systems and/or fabric weed barrier on first year plantings. The price point for Hefty Root Plus increased from \$3.00 to \$3.40 per tree, however, overall tree costs remain very reasonably priced. For additional information about our tree program and cost share, please contact Chris Kaiser, Natural Resources Conservationist, at (308) 254-2377 or ckaiser@spnrd.org.

American Sycamore, McKenzie Chokeberry, and Wavy Leaf Oak were added to our bare root inventory. Kaiser also secured a supply of Limber Pine, 2-7/8" container, and American Sycamore, 5" container. There are limited quantities of both container trees, please contact our office if you are interested. Our Tree Order Form is available within this newsletter, on our website and at the office. The form is kept current with available inventory, please visit <https://www.spnrd.org/forestry> to access the updated form. Be sure to place your order early as inventory sells out quickly. TREES are the ANSWER!

TO IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT

- Enhance habitat and food
- Provide shelter from weather
- Provide cover from predators

TO SNOW MANAGEMENT

- Deter road drifts
- Improve field moisture
- Protect homes

TO LIVESTOCK PROTECTION

- Improve calving success
- Minimize winter stress
- Increase feed efficiency

TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

- Reduce soil erosion
- Stabilize streambanks
- Filter contaminants

TO IMPROVE PROPERTY

- Increase property value
- Reduce noise & dust
- Reduce heating/cooling costs

TO CROP PRODUCTION

- Increase yields
- Conserve soil & plant moisture
- Reduce wind damage & abrasion

TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY

- Lower stress & increase wellbeing
- Improve air & water quality
- Stimulate economic development

TO FOREST PRODUCTS

- Building materials
- Medicinal oils
- Wood chips for mulch or fuel

TAKE ADVANTAGE of our Conservation Tree Program to purchase low cost trees in bulk for your home, farmstead, or business.

BOARD MEETINGS

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

BOARD MEETING DATES

December 10, 2024
 January 14, 2025
 February 11, 2025

SPNRD TREE ORDER FORM 2025

Original 10.14.24

CUSTOMER INFORMATION ***Please check spnrd.org/forestry for the updated form***

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

☐ Contractor - Name of Contractor: _____

OFFICE USE	
Prepayment (≥ 200 trees)	
Date	_____
Amount	_____
Check No.	_____
Full Payment	
Inventoried	_____
Amount	_____
Check No.	_____
Invoice No.	_____

A. BARE ROOT

Bare Root = \$ 1.20 each
Minimum Order of 10 per species.

CONIFERS

_____ Eastern Redcedar
_____ Rocky Mountain Juniper

TOTAL CONIFERS _____

DECIDUOUS

_____ American Elm
_____ American Sycamore
_____ Black Walnut
_____ Bur Oak
_____ Native Cottonwood
_____ Hackberry
_____ Manchurian Apricot
_____ Honeylocust
_____ Russian Olive

TOTAL DECIDUOUS _____

SHRUBS

_____ American Plum
_____ Buffaloberry
_____ Caragana
_____ Chokecherry
_____ Cotoneaster
_____ Golden Currant
_____ Lilac
_____ McKenzie Chokeberry
_____ Sand Cherry
_____ Sumac
_____ Wavy Leaf Oak

TOTAL SHRUBS _____

TOTAL BARE ROOT _____

B. HEFTY ROOT

Hefty Root = \$ 1.80 each
Minimum Order of 10 per species.

_____ Eastern Redcedar
_____ Rocky Mountain Juniper
_____ Austrian Pine
_____ Ponderosa Pine

TOTAL HEFTY ROOT _____

C. HEFTY ROOT PLUS

Hefty Root Plus = \$ 3.40 each
Minimum Order of 10 per species.

_____ Austrian Pine
_____ Limber Pine
_____ Rocky Mountain Juniper
_____ Ponderosa Pine
_____ Colorado Blue Spruce
_____ Black Hills Spruce
_____ Pinyon Pine

TOTAL HEFTY ROOT PLUS _____

A. TOTAL BARE ROOT \$1.20 each \$ _____

B. TOTAL HEFTY ROOT \$1.80 each \$ _____

C. TOTAL HEFTY ROOT PLUS \$3.40 each \$ _____

D. TOTAL 2-7/8" CTR \$6.25 each \$ _____

D. TOTAL 5" CTR \$15.25 each \$ _____

Subtotal \$ _____

Sales Tax: 7.5% Sidney \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

Please return this form and your check to South Platte NRD:

Mail - PO Box 294, Sidney, NE 69162

Deliver - 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney

The SPNRD Office will call customers when trees are sorted and ready for pick up. All orders must be picked up at our office. Contact: Chris Kaiser (308) 254-2377/ckaiser@spnrd.org.

D. CONTAINERS *** LIMITED QUANTITIES - CONTACT SPNRD ***

_____ Limber Pine (2-7/8" = \$6.25 each)

_____ American Sycamore (5" = \$15.25 each)

BARE ROOT TREES

- Have about 60% of their root system
- Roots are visible when planting
- Require more regular watering the first year

HEFTY ROOT TREES

- Have 100% of their root system. Grown/raised in a pot or container
- Roots may need to be loosened before planting to avoid girdling later
- Root system is quicker to establish in the first year

HEFTY ROOT PLUS TREES

- Larger root system and thicker caliper than Hefty Root



BARE ROOT
JUNIPER

HEFTY ROOT
JUNIPER

HEFTY ROOT PLUS
JUNIPER

50% non-refundable down payment must accompany orders of 200 trees or more. SPNRD reserves the right to collect 100% prepayment for goods and services. A storage fee of five cents (.05¢) per tree will be added to orders not picked up by SPNRD's assigned date. Contact your power company for proper planting distance from power lines and your county road superintendent for setback distance from roads.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT - NiRIA

NITROGEN REDUCTION INCENTIVE ACT (NiRIA) PROGRAM

As stated in LB1368, “The Legislature finds and declares that: 1) Agriculture is the state’s number one industry; 2) Water is Nebraska’s most precious resource; 3) Nebraska farmers are leading the charge on sustainable agriculture initiatives that will make Nebraska a world-renowned leader and ensure we protect our land and water for generations to come; and 4) The NiRIA encourages farmers to adopt efficient and sustainable practices to help Nebraska protect these natural resources and positions our farmers to compete.”

And to that end, LB1368, NiRIA, established a state program to provide incentive payments to producers for reducing the use of commercial fertilizer and to encourage incorporating innovative technology into farming practices. The program will be offered to corn, sugar beet, and potato producers who verify reduction in nitrogen fertilizer application rates as the lesser of 40 pounds per acre or 15% of their baseline application rate.

NiRIA begins with the 2025 growing season. Applications are currently being accepted and are due before January 15, 2025. Total funding currently available for the program is capped at \$1 million statewide.

The Department of Natural Resources collaborated with Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) to administer the program. The program will operate under priority areas. The NRDs will determine methods for prioritizing applications. Incentive payments are set accordingly with priority areas and vary from \$10 to \$15 per acre. An important note is under no circumstance can other nitrogen sources (manure, wastewater, etc.) replace the reduced commercial fertilizer. Producers must complete the application process and be approved for program participation by the NRD to be eligible for incentive payments.

For an application or questions, please contact Galen Wittrock, General Manager, (308) 254-2377 or gwittrock@spnrd.org.

IRRIGATION AND NITROGEN MANAGEMENT 5 YEAR CERTIFICATION TRAINING & EDUCATION WILL BE SCHEDULED IN CHEYENNE AND DEUEL COUNTIES

All operators of irrigated land within a Ground Water Quality Management Subarea are required to obtain certification every five (5) years by successfully completing the District’s training and education program.

The time frame for training is January/February 2025 and will be held in Cheyenne and Deuel Counties. Letters will be mailed to producers who are required to participate in the training and education program.

If you have any questions about the upcoming training, contact Travis Glanz, Water Resources Specialist, (308) 254-2377 or tglanz@spnrd.org.

WATER TRANSFERS/POOLING ARRANGEMENTS

The South Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors must approve all water transfers and pooling arrangements before they occur.

Pooling arrangements are due by February 28th and upon approval will be effective for the remainder of the current Allocation Period, 2025 through 2027.

If you are in need of an Application to Transfer Ground Water or Ground Water Pooling Arrangement Application, contact Travis Glanz, Water Resources Specialist, (308) 254-2377 or tglanz@spnrd.org.

2024 FLOW METER READINGS

Tyler Sanders, Water Resources Coordinator, has been out in the fields reading flow meters. There are approximately 1,000 meters throughout the District that are read October 1st - December 27th. As the project winds down, you may see additional staff assisting. If you have any questions about flow meters, please contact Sanders, (308) 254-2377 or tsanders@spnrd.org.



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This is an official publication
of the South Platte Natural
Resources District.

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SPNRD STAFF

Galen Wittrock	General Manager
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Don Davis	Administrative Manager
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Travis Glanz	Water Resources Specialist
Chris Kaiser	Natural Resources Conservationist
Tyler Sanders	Water Resources Coordinator
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