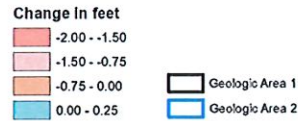
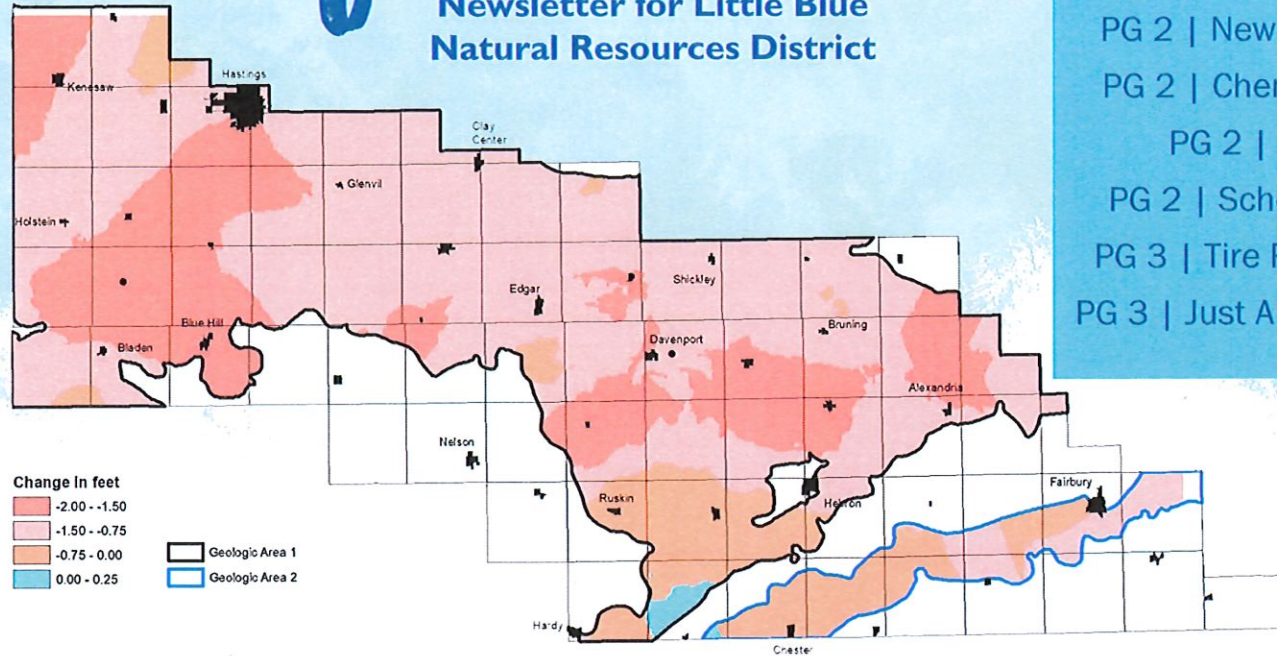


Out of the Blue

Newsletter for Little Blue
Natural Resources District



Spring 2023
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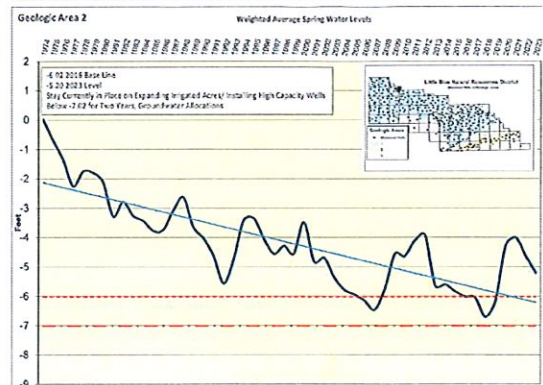
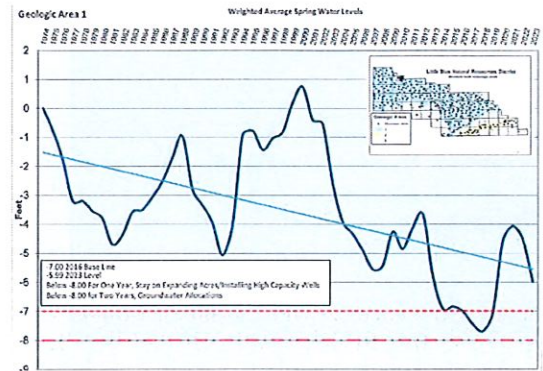
2023 Spring Static Water Levels by: Kevin Orvis

This spring the water levels were completed in the month of April. The map above shows the changes between Spring 2022 and Spring 2023. This map shows a large majority of the District with declines. Geologic Area 1 was down -1.43 feet on average. Some of the hardest hit towns were Kenesaw, Deweese, Ong, Oak, Carleton, Belvidere, the areas between Hastings, Roseland, and Blue Hill. Geologic Area 2 went down -0.58 feet on average. The hardest hit area is around Fairbury and Reynolds. However, there was a small rise around Bryon, unfortunately this is the only area that saw a rise.

If you look at the weighted average spring water level graphs to the right, you will see we are getting closer to our trigger levels for allocations. In Geologic Area 1, the weighted average is sitting 2.01 feet above the trigger levels. If we drop another -2.01 feet, the Board of Directors will immediately put a Stay on expanding acres and installing high-capacity wells, if the groundwater level remains below that level for a second consecutive year, we will be into groundwater allocations. In Geologic Area 2, the weighted average is sitting 1.82 feet above the trigger levels. If we drop another -1.82 feet, the Board of Directors will immediately a Stay on expanding acres and installing high-capacity wells, if the groundwater level remains below that level for a second consecutive year, we will be into groundwater allocations.

Annual rainfall amounts of 24.25 to 30.23 inches leaves the water table fluctuating between declines and rises of 1 foot. Less than that seems to be a predictable decline while more than 32 inches results in a rise.

This information compares spring of 2022 to spring of 2023 static water levels. Fall 2023 will be collected beginning in October and will compare static water levels to fall of 2022.



CONNECT WITH US

Little Blue Natural Resources District
@littlebluenrd
www.littlebluenrd.org | lbndr@littlebluenrd.org



Appointing a New Director

by: Jessica Hedges



In February, the Little Blue NRD Board of Directors voted to appoint a new director to fill the vacancy in sub-district 6. Kyle Knight, of Clay Center won the vote and accepted this appointment. He will serve sub-district 6 until December 2026.

Kyle has an extensive

background in the water well industry and considers himself to be an absolute asset not only to the LBNRD, but also to the residential, commercial and agricultural stakeholders served by the district and its board of directors.

“Knowing how different NRD’s operate and the practices each district follows as it pertains to their geography, groundwater makeup, and farming practices, I believe gives me an open and diversified view of how the NRD’s can succeed. Although I know a good deal about Nebraska groundwater, there’s always knowledge to gain, and that is something I greatly look forward to as a director with the LBNRD.”

– Kyle Knight

Chemigation

by: Alicia Epps

The State of Nebraska gives each NRD the task of collecting payments and inspecting and reporting chemigation permits. By state law, a chemigation permit **MUST** be obtained before any person can legally chemigate.

New Permits: New chemigation permits cost \$60.00 per injection site. Permits should be paid prior to or at the time of inspection.

Renewing Permits: Renewal cost is \$20.00 per injection site. Renewed permits must be received by June 1, along with payment. Any permits not renewed before June 1 will be considered a new permit.

Inspections: Chemigation systems for new permits **MUST** be inspected and approved by the Little Blue NRD staff before initial use. Systems already inspected with a renew permit, are on three year rotation for inspections.

Contact Information: Please provide the best contact information on the permits so that we can call you to schedule any inspections that are needed.

Completed application and payments can be remitted to: LBNRD, P. O. Box 100, Davenport, NE 68335. For more information and chemigation permits go to: <https://littlebluenrd.org/groundwatermanagement/chemigation/>.

FSA

by: Alicia Epps

With planting season ahead, please make sure that if you make changes, submit an FSA 578 and map to Alicia Epps at aepps@littlebluenrd.org, Little Blue NRD, PO Box 100 Davenport, NE 68335 or drop them off at the office in Davenport. Also, make sure to include the legal and irrigation type.

Awarding Scholarships

by: Jessica Hedges

In April, The LBNRD Board of Directors awarded our 6 College Scholarships. This year’s scholarship recipients are: Easton Weber of Bruning, Keaton Mazour of Lawrence, Jessa Lynn Hudson of Belvidere, Samantha Bonifas of Kennesaw, Zach Hoins of Davenport, and Lauren Luehring of Hebron.

This year’s scholarships are a total of \$650.00 each.

This differs from years past, because in March the LBNRD Board of Directors reallocated an additional \$1000.00 to the general scholarship fund. The \$1000.00 that was reallocated came from the youth camp scholarship fund. The Youth Camp Scholarship fund was created to help send students to ACE Camp, but due to the wildfire last year outside of Halsey, Ace Camp will not be happening this year. After the reallocation of funds, we had a total of \$4,000.00 in the General Scholarship fund.

Congratulations to our Scholarship recipients and Good Luck at College!



Upcoming Tire Recycling Dates

by: Jessica Hedges

Nuckolls County - August 4th | 9am - 4pm,
County Road Dept in Nelson

Webster County - August 29th | 8am - 12pm,
102 N University, Guide Rock

Thayer County - September 7th | 8am - 12pm,

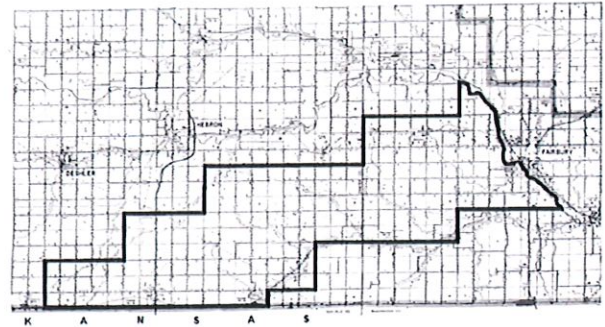
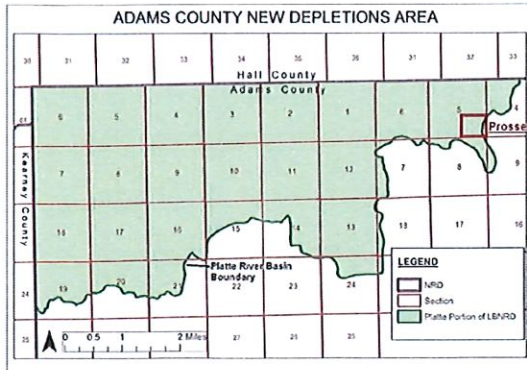
873 4th St, Hebron

Clay County - September 14th | 8am - 12pm,
701 N Martin, Clay Center

Fillmore County - November 21st | 12pm - 4pm,
Fairmont Air Base

Just a Reminder

by: Alicia Epps



The outlined area, known as The Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PPRIP), has been under a stay since May 10, 2018 (Rule listed below).

A stay means to halt, stop, or delay a well permit, action of development, or the expansion of irrigated acres.

You can find your certified irrigated acres on our website, www.littlebluenrd.org, also, on your Irrigation Pumpage Reporting Form.

2.2.7 - The Board has imposed stays in the portions of the District shown in the Appendix to these rules in figure 2. The stays imposed, land impacted, and their implementation date include:

2.2.7.3 - that portion of the Platte River Drainage area in Northwest Adams County where groundwater uses have been determined by Nebraska Department of Natural Resources modeling to impact Platte River stream flow by 10 percent in 50 years. (Effective 5.10.2018.)

You can contact the office if you have any questions. (402) 364-2145.

The outlined area, known as Unit 8, has been under a stay since March 16, 2016 (Rule listed below).

A stay means to halt, stop, or delay a well permit, action of development, or the expansion of irrigated acres.

You can find your certified irrigated acres on our website, www.littlebluenrd.org, also, on your Irrigation Pumpage Reporting Form.

2.2.7.1 - The portion of the paleovalley aquifer known as Unit 8, where high-capacity well permits, the expansion of new irrigated acres and the groundwater transfers are prohibited (Effective March 16, 2006). The stratigraphic boundaries for this stay area are from the land surface through the underlying water bearing silts, clays, sands, and gravels, and include the sandstones, siltstones, chalk, and shale formations which may contain groundwater below the unit.

You can contact the office if you have any questions. (402) 364-2145.

Apr

Apr 1st: April Fool's Day
Apr 7th: Good Friday
Apr 9th: Easter
Apr 11th: LBNRD Board Meeting
Apr 28th: Arbor Day (Office Closed)

May

May 9th: Regular Board Meeting
May 29th: Memorial Day (Office Closed)

Jun

Jun 1st: Chemigation Deadline
Jun 13th: Regular Board Meeting
Jun 19th: Juneteenth (Office Closed)

Jul

Jul 4th: Independence Day (Office Closed)
Jul 11th: Regular Board Meeting



P.O. Box 100
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littlebluenrd.org
402-364-2145

LITTLE BLUE STAFF

Scott Nelson - General Manager
Tyler Goeschel - Assistant Manager
Marie Herbek - Office Administrator
Kathy Boysen - Administrative Assistant
Alicia Epps - Database Specialist
Jessica Hedges - Media & Communication Specialist
Kevin Orvis - Project Manager
Jim Oltmans - Water Resources Technician
Vacant- Natural Resources Technician
Tim Hecke - Operations Technician

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402-462-5412
Clay County NRCS Secretary - Allyson Peshek
402-762-3569
Fillmore County NRCS - Sylvia Jviden
402-759-4017
Jefferson NRD/NRCS Technician - Christine Zabokrtsky
Jefferson County NRCS Secretary - Paula Schultz
402-729-6134
Thayer County NRCS Secretary - Jessica Hynek
402-768-6228
Webster County NRCS Secretary - Lynetta Snelling
402-746-2268

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sub-District 1: Mason Hoffman, Roseland
Sub-District 1: Glen Bonifas, Roseland
Sub-District 2: Brent Hoops, Hastings
Sub-District 2: Courtney Luebben, Hastings
Sub-District 3: Jessi Hoeft, Hastings
Sub-District 3: Glen Bredthauer, Hastings
Sub-District 4: Lyle Schroer, Lawrence
Sub-District 4: Warren Taylor, Glenvil
Sub-District 5: Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Clay Center
Sub-District 5: Aaron Paus, Fairfield
Sub-District 6: Steve Shaw, Edgar
Sub-District 6: Kyle Knight, Clay Center
Sub-District 7: Alan Wiedel, Hebron
Sub-District 7: Alan Kenning, Hebron
Sub-District 8: Bill Glenn, Fairbury
Sub-District 8: Jay Meyer, Daykin
At Large: Russ Ochsner, Roseland

“Little Blue Natural Resources District is an Equal Opportunity & Provider.”

The Little Blue NRD’s Out of the Blue is a publication of the Little Blue Natural Resources District. Requests to be placed on the Out of the Blue mailing list and/or comments regarding information in this publication should be directed to Jessica Hedges, Media & Communications Specialist, 100 East 6th Street, PO Box 100, Davenport, NE 68335.