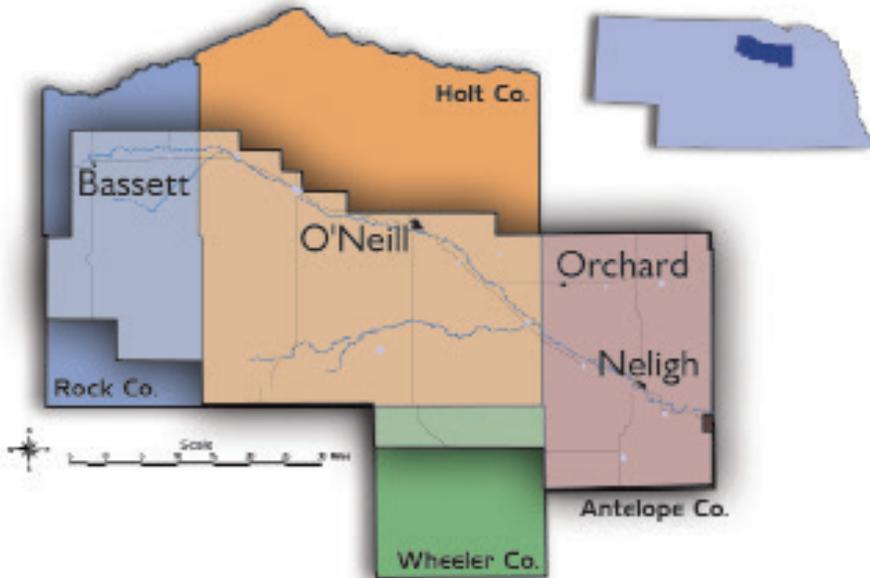


Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts
Making the Good Life Better Since 1972



UPPER ELKHORN NRD

UENRD QUICK FACTS:

- UENRD encompasses 3,052 sq miles or 1,953,280 acres
- Niobrara River Basin Designation 233 square miles
- Lower Platte River Basin Designation 2803 sq miles
- District Population - 17,935
- 8377 Registered Wells of which 4821 are for Irrigation
- Collect Data from approximately 600 Irrigation & Monitoring Wells
- Certified over 1,600 Producers in Nitrogen Management
- Maintain a District wide Groundwater Management Area
- Distributed Cost Share to local Co-operators for Conservation Practices throughout the District

Protecting Lives

Protecting Property

Protecting the Future

Upper Elkhorn NRD Moving Forward with Voluntary Integrated Management Plan (V-IMP)

The Upper Elkhorn NRD is working with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) to develop a Voluntary Integrated Management Plan (V-IMP) for the District. The V-IMP will assess the balance between water supplies and water uses within the District for the short and long term. The plan will manage and protect water rights of existing users, while allowing for responsible development of surface and groundwater resources in the future. As a part of the planning process, a community based Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be consulted for input and needs from irrigators, municipalities, and other groups who may be

affected by future water management decisions. Stakeholder meetings were held in May, June and August to develop the goals, objectives and action items for the plan. Implementation of the UENRD V-IMP is scheduled for January of 2019.



June Stakeholders Meeting

UENRD Approves Groundwater Irrigated Acre Expansion

The Upper Elkhorn NRD is taking applications for the expansion of new groundwater irrigated acres during the month of October for the 2019 growing season. The sign up is not on a first come first served basis; but, on a new ranking criteria based on current water quality and quantity issues within the district. Applications will be accepted from the landowner or their power of attorney from October 1 through October 31, 2018 with a minimum application fee of \$125 or \$5.00 per acre. Appointments are recommended for the application process. For further information visit the Upper Elkhorn NRD website at www.uenrd.org.

Niobrara River Basin Alliance

The Niobrara Basin NRDs, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Nebraska Public Power District agreement to preserve the future of the Niobrara River Basin continues moving forward. All parties are reviewing the agreement which would give authority back to the local level to manage the river for wildlife, recreation, fisheries and basin management.



- Protecting Your Health through Water Quality
- Protecting Your Taxes through Local Control
- Protecting Our Natural Resources for Future Generations

Created by the Nebraska Legislature in 1969 with the passage of LB 1356, Nebraska's NRDs began operating on July 1, 1972. NRDs were formed using Nebraska's 13 major river basins to offer local solutions to local problems. Locally elected officials establish District policies to address the needs of our specific area. This unique form of local government assures that the concerns of the upper reaches of the Elkhorn River Basin are addressed by the people being affected. Locally led conservation for your future.

Volunteers Wanted for NeRAIN Program

If you are a weather enthusiast you should consider volunteering for the Nebraska Rainfall Assessment and Information Network (NeRAIN). The network consists of volunteers from all over the state of Nebraska recording precipitation measurements as well as other noticeable weather events and posting them on the NeRAIN website. The Upper Elkhorn NRD would like to find volunteers scattered throughout the district to represent our area in this state-wide program. Volunteers will receive a rain gauge and are asked to spend a few minutes each day recording their precipitation and/or any noticeable weather events. For further information you can visit the NeRAIN website at <https://nednr.nebraska.gov/NeRain> or you can contact the Upper Elkhorn NRD at 402-336-3867. All you need is a computer with internet access and a few minutes each day to report readings from your gauge!



Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources Groundwater Management Plan: Phase II Soil Sampling Reminder

Reminder to everyone in the UENRD Phase II areas – Deep soil sampling analysis (mandatory two foot sample) for nitrate-nitrogen content on each field going into corn, larger than 40 acres, with more than 50 pounds per acre of actual nitrogen fertilizer applies. This soil sampling information is required on your Phase II report at the end of the 2018 growing season to be submitted to us. Please visit our web-site at www.uenrd.org to verify if you are in the Phase II area, or contact the office at 402-336-3867.

UENRD Certifying GW Irrigated Acres

The Upper Elkhorn NRD is Continuing to CERTIFY ALL Groundwater Irrigated Acres within the district. Historically irrigated acres or acres that have been brought back into production need to be certified for any possibility of future groundwater irrigation. Get started by visiting the UENRD website at www.uenrd.org for further information on the certification process. Also, landowners who have not responded to the certification letters that were sent to you should do so as soon as possible! To complete the certification process, please contact the UENRD office at 402-336-3867 and schedule an appointment.

The Upper Elkhorn NRD continues to maintain a responsible budget to lessen the property tax burdens of its friends and neighbors. This has been accomplished by obtaining additional funding through the Nebraska Environmental Trust and the Dept of Environmental Quality 319 Grants. The FY 18-19 budget request is only 1.54 cents per \$100 of valuation and a total of \$755,985 in property tax asking. A decrease of \$6,120 from FY 17-18.

The Upper Elkhorn NRD Board of Directors meet on the 4th Monday of every month at the Upper Elkhorn NRD Office in O'Neill, unless otherwise noted in the public notice. Everyone is welcome to attend and share their thoughts or concerns for our natural resources.