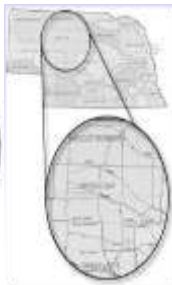




NRD



Upper Loup Scoop

July 2012

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Retiring after 39 Years of Service

Cleo Jacobs, Thedford NRCS field office secretary, retired after 39 years of service. The Thedford NRCS office hosted an open house June 28th, during which co-workers, family members and friends gathered to honor and thank Cleo for almost four decades of service.

Jacobs began working for the NRCS office in 1973 which at the time was located in Mullen. Over the years she has greeted the public in person and on the phone, kept the office in order and well stocked. The most significant change she has seen during her time of service has been the use of technology.

She will miss the public, but does look forward to spending her time gardening, crafting, and involved with more church activities.



ULNRD Receives Environmental Trust Recycling Grant



The ULNRD has received a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust to improve and increase recycling initiatives for the Upper Loup District. Upon implementing the existing recycling program of collecting recyclable materials of aluminum, plastics, tin, and paper, the ULNRD had been strongly

urged to collect cardboard by constituents to help further reduce solid waste that is being sent to the landfill. The overall goal for this project is twofold. One is to meet the expressed **desires of the NRD's residents and two, to establish a means of making the current recycling program sustainable.** Funding was used to construct a new building and loading dock. The building is located on District property which will be used to bale cardboard and paper, tin and aluminum. There will be an open house to help celebrate the new segment of the recycling program sometime late July or early August. Come and see a baling demonstration and put in your guess as to how many bales this pile of cardboard will make.

As this new grant starts, the previous 3 year recycling grant will come to a close, but the program will continue. Throughout the last three years the recycling program has seen much success. Recycling trailers have been placed in the communities of Dunning, Halsey, Hyannis, Mullen, Seneca, Thedford, as well as taking over the transportation of Stapleton's trailer. **The program has also increased the types of materials it collects. We now collect plastics number 1-7, tin, aluminum, paper, and cardboard (limited sites).** For locations of the trailers please visit the ULNRD website www.upperloupnrd.org.



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Are you considering irrigating new acres in 2013?

Application forms for landowners interested in developing new irrigated acres are now available online, at the ULNRD office in Thedford or can be mailed out upon request by calling the office at 308-645-2250. Landowners are reminded that applications will only be accepted by the NRD until December 31 **and will be notified of their application's outcome** by January 31.

According to State Statute and the Upper Loup NRD Ground Water Rules and Regulations the district is allowed up to 2,500 new acres of groundwater irrigation annually. If applications for new irrigation acres exceed 2,500 a ranking process will be used to determine the acres that will be approved. The criteria reviewed in the ranking process include the status of groundwater and surface water levels, the concentration of irrigation, the type of acres being developed, the type of irrigation system to be used, and the soil classification.

An application and application fee is required for EACH legal description. The application form requires: information on the landowner and/or their contact person; field description, an FSA aerial photo depicting the field; the number of acres of new irrigation requested. The application fee is \$75.00 dollars if the request is for 25 acres or less or \$3.00 per acre if the request is for more than 25 acres.

ULNRD Board Approves New Amended Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations

The ULNRD Board of Directors voted on and approved new amended Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations at the June 14th board meeting. Revisions included an additional application permit for any high capacity well that would require more than 300 acre feet withdrawal per year, Phase 2 Area water quality rules and regulations were added, and the sunset date on the allotment of 2,500 new irrigated groundwater acres annually has been removed. A full text copy of the amended Groundwater Rules and Regulations can be obtained from the Upper Loup NRD office or viewed and downloaded from www.upperloupnrd.org.



Please Check Newly Planted Trees & Shrubs

With the extreme heat and minimal rain, it is important to check your newly planted trees and shrubs for stress. Newly planted seedlings require 1-2 gallons of water per week to help cope with the lack of rain. Water slowly and deeply so the water percolates down into the soil. This will help to stimulate deep rooting and help against erosion around the root system. It is better to have one or two deep soakings as opposed to several light ones. Remember to water early in the morning before the warming sun causes evaporation.

Flow Meter Services Available

Flow meters provide a means to determine the flow rate and flow volume of irrigation systems. This flow rate is important in determining the accurate water use for year end reporting. Many producers do not have flow meters, so they must rely on original well registration information. Over time, flow rates can change due to many factors including water table fluctuations and normal wear and tear. As a result, flow rates listed on original well registrations may not be accurate. Thus, it is beneficial to monitor flow rates throughout the irrigation season to ensure that the proper amount of irrigation water is being applied.

The Upper Loup NRD has an ultrasonic flow meter available to assist irrigators in water management. This flow meter attaches to the outside of the pipe to providing a non-intrusive way of measuring flow in a full-flowing pipe.

Upon request, an Upper Loup NRD technician will bring out the ultrasonic flow meter to measure the flow of the irrigation well to help cooperators better schedule their water application. This service is provided free to district producers. For more information, contact Kyle at 308-645-2250.

3rd Annual ACE Camp

Campers from across the state of Nebraska participated in the third annual Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE). ACE was held at the State 4-H Youth Camp near Halsey June 17th-20th. The four-day adventure drew 30 campers from across the state; many of the campers had scholarships from their local NRD. The camp focused on increasing knowledge about water resources, soil and land, forestry, rangeland and wildlife.

During ACE , campers had the opportunity to roll up their sleeves and dig into nature and form a new understanding of the environment through interactive participation. In addition, campers had the chance to experience nature through activities such as tubing, zip line, water rockets, the water slide and other adventures. Campers also learned about possible careers in the area of natural resources from the professionals who work there every day.

“This is a great opportunity for our youth to learn and get excited about natural resources through hands on learning activities taught by experts who are passionate about natural resources” said Anna Baum, Upper Loup NRD, General Manager and ACE committee member. **“Through this experience we hope the youth have learned the importance of our state’s natural resources and will become good stewards of our natural resources.”**

Many sponsors and partners continue to make ACE camp a success. They are the Nebraska NRDs, Nebraska Association of Resources Districts, Olsen’s Agricultural Laboratory, Hooker County Turner Youth Initiative, the Nebraska Environmental Trust and Nebraska Academy of Science, Inc. the University of Nebraska, Nebraska Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nebraska National Forest, Nebraska State 4-H Camp, and Nebraska Pheasants Forever.



Soil Scientist, Chuck Markley, shows how to make mud balls using Nebraska clay.



 ★ 2012 Scholarship Recipients ★
 ★ The Upper Loup NRD provides a variety of scholarships and grants ★
 ★ for teachers and students with an interest in natural resources. ★
 ★ ACE Camp recipients are: Joseph Vinton, Wyatt Sabata, Brodie ★
 ★ Baum, Jentri Sherman, Jessica Starr, and Chris Costillo ★
 ★ Range Camp recipients are: Natalie Jones from Stapleton and ★
 ★ Chelsea Nollette from Whitman ★

Hunter Safety Class Scheduled for September

Firearm Hunter Education is a program ensuring that safe, respectful and responsible hunters participate in the sport of hunting in Nebraska. This program is mandated by the Nebraska Legislature, administered by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and taught by dedicated volunteer instructors. Students are taught a set of standards, established by the International Hunter Education Association. By meeting these standards the Nebraska Hunter Education Program is recognized and honored on the entire North American continent. Everyone born on or after January 1, 1977 who hunts any species of game, game animal or game bird in Nebraska using a firearm or crossbows is required to carry proof of completion on their person while hunting. Anyone under age 12 is not required to carry proof of completion. All hunters must also have a habitat stamp (except for those exempted) on their person while hunting in Nebraska.

The ULNRD has scheduled a hunter safety class for anyone 11 years old or older. The course will be held in Thedford on September 15th &16th from 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. CT at the Upper Loup NRD office. If you are interested please register online at www.outdoornebraska.ne.gov

Test your knowledge:

1. How many Natural Resources Districts are there in Nebraska?
2. What is a term for the area where small boats dock along rivers or lakes?
3. Name the canal that connects the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans?
4. How many seas are there?
5. What is a permit to divert water from a stream called?
6. What is the universal solvent?
7. What is another name for water pressure?

Answers found on pg 4

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Fax: 308-645-2308

We are on the web!
www.upperloupnrd.org

Calendar of Events

July

- 4 Holiday—Office Closed
- 12 ULNRD Board Meeting—
Thedford
- 26 Blaine/Thomas County Fair

August

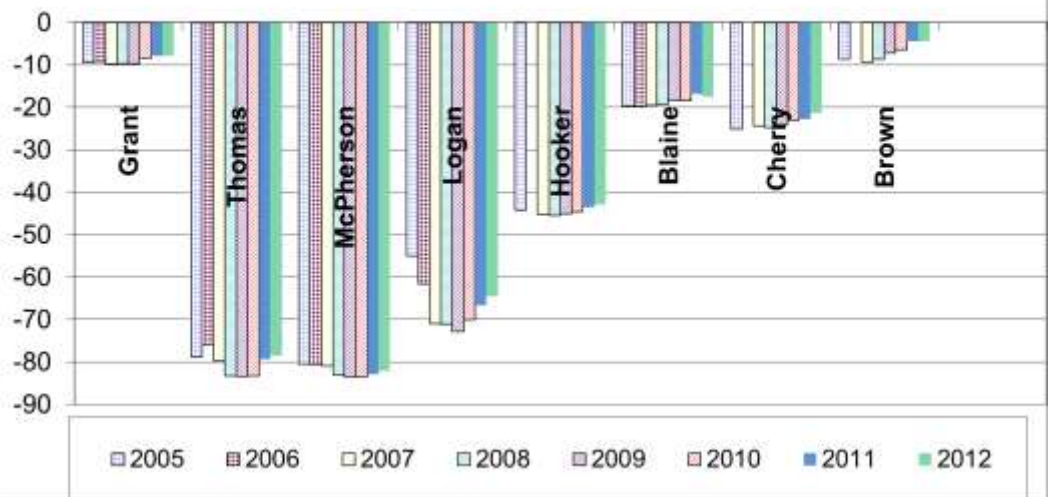
- 2 Hooker County Fair
- 7 Logan County Fair
- 9 ULNRD Board Meeting—
Thedford
- 17 Grant County Fair

September

- 3 Holiday—Office Closed
- 13 ULNRD Board Meeting—
Thedford

TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER

Spring Water Levels in Feet



Dripal Pursuit Answers:

1. 23
2. Marina
3. Panama
4. 7
5. Water Right
6. Water
7. Head

Upper Loup Staff

Anna BaumGeneral Manager
Jack Brummet...Resources Technician
Kyle Yrkoski....Resources Technician
Taylor Spencer...Resources Technician
Leslie Harvey.....Administrative Secretary
Denise Vinton...Information & Education
Cleo Jacobs.... Thedford Field Office Sec.

The 0 on the graph indicates ground level. The graph shows results from the monitoring of 104 wells throughout the District during the last eight years.

The ULNRD has gopher bait on hand for purchase by those individuals that have a current pesticide applicators license. The District also has a gopher machine available for rent. If interested please contact the office for information at 308-645-2250.