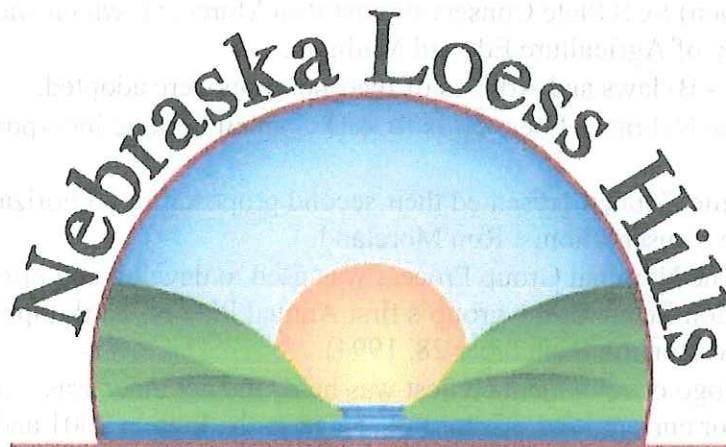


2020 Annual Report

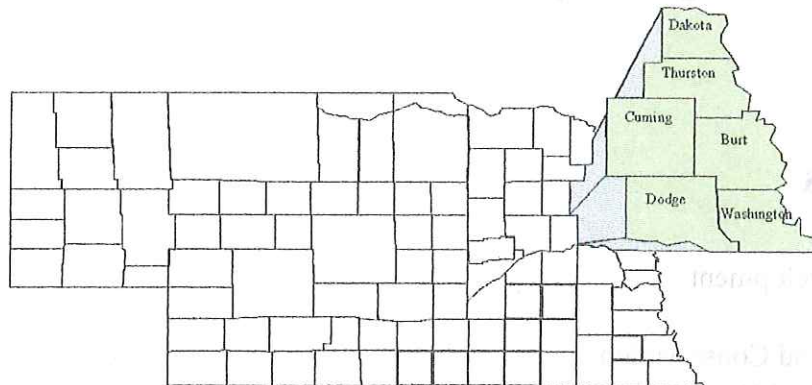


Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council

Burt, Cuming, Dakota, Dodge, Thurston,
and Washington Counties

Resource Conservation & Development Council
PO Box 24, Oakland NE 68045-0024
Ph: (402)685-4020 e-mail: Office@nlhrcd.org

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DODGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA
FRED HYLTY, COUNTY CLERK



❖ History

- October 9, 1991 - The first informational meeting about the RC&D program was held for area residents at the Legion Hall in Walthill.
- March 1, 1992 - A steering committee was formed which proceeded to develop Bylaws and secure Articles of Incorporation and apply to the Secretary of Agriculture for authorization.
- September 23, 1992 - After numerous Steering Committee meetings, meetings of the Application and Bylaws Committees, twelve informational presentations, and six public participation meetings, the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council was formed.
- September 24, 1992 - an application for authorization from the RC&D Board of Directors was submitted to (then) SCS State Conservationist Ron Moreland, which was forwarded to (then) U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan.
- November 16, 1992 - Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation were adopted.
- January 11, 1993, the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council became incorporated in the State of Nebraska.
- October 18, 1993 - the Council presented their second proposal for authorization to (then) Nebraska SCS State Conservationist Ron Moreland.
- August 10, 1994 - The Nominal Group Process was used to develop and prioritize Goals, Objectives, and Action Items for the group's first Annual Plan of Work (approved by the RC&D Board of Directors on September 28, 1994).
- April 11, 1995 - A logo development contest was held, and a winner was selected – it was a pencil drawing of our current logo. (Color was added to the logo in 2001 and was again updated in 2009).
- October 15, 1997 - Another application for authorization was submitted to Dan Glickman, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.
- December 3, 1997 - Received a Federal Tax Identification Number from the IRS.
- April 13, 1998 - The Internal Revenue Service determined the Nebraska Loess Hills Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council Incorporated, to be exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).
- September 7, 2000 - The Board of Directors, despite being passed over for funding numerous times, was persistent and submitted another application for funding.
- January 4, 2001 - Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman authorized the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D.
- April 15, 2011 – President Barack Obama approved the termination of the RC&D Program nation-wide. Staff was given 3 days to redistribute all furniture and vehicle and to vacate the office.

❖ Committees

- Education
- Economic Development
- Tourism
- Environment and Conservation
- Infrastructure and Community Resources
- Finance

Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council

Board of Directors – FY 2020

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Vacant
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Winnebago, NE 68071
(402) 878-4060 ext. 1006

Vacant
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska

Declaration of the Area of Operation:

The Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D consists of six counties – Burt, Cuming, Dakota, Dodge, Thurston, and Washington – encompassing 1,671,808 acres in East Central and Northeastern Nebraska. The Omaha and Winnebago Indian Reservations occupy all of Thurston County and small portions of Burt and Cuming Counties. The area is predominately rural with a population of 100,358 (2000 U.S. Census). About two thirds of area residents live in 38 communities. The largest communities are: Fremont– 25,174; South Sioux City – 11,925; and Blair – 7,512. The median size community in the area is 693. The area hosts 37,823 households. Per capita income for the RC&D area is \$24,927. 10.3% of area residents live in poverty.

The six-county Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Area covers approximately 2600 square miles and is bordered on the east by the Missouri River and the Platte River on the south. A third major river, the Elkhorn, flows through three counties in the southwest part of the area. All three rivers provide recreation for Nebraska and Area residents as well as habitat for several threatened or endangered species such as the Bald Eagle, Piping Plover, Interior Least Tern, and the Pallid Sturgeon. The Missouri River is the primary source of domestic and municipal water supply for several large cities and communities in Nebraska and neighboring states. About 100 miles of Missouri River shoreline border the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Area.

All soils begin as rock or “Parent material”. Destruction of certain properties of parent material leads to unconsolidated forms of “rock” in which soils are forming. Soils can be moved by wind, water, gravity, man/animals, or glaciers. Those soils transported by wind are either loess (pronounced luss), or aeolian sand (windblown sand). Except for the “Sand Hills” where soils formed in aeolian sand, loess is the parent material for many soils throughout Nebraska. A large portion of the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Area lies in the Loess Uplands and Till Plains Major Land Resource Area (102B). About 15% of the area lying along the Missouri River Valley is in the Iowa and Missouri Deep Loess Hills Major Land Resource Area (107N). A small area in southwestern Washington and southeastern Dodge counties is located in the Nebraska and Kansas Loess Drift Hills Major Land Resource Area (106). All three Major Land Resource Areas are characterized by rolling to hilly topography with narrow to moderate ridge tops dissected by numerous drainage-ways. Predominant soils are typically well-drained upland soils with silty clay loam surface layers formed in loess with underlying material of silty clay loam or silt loam. Water erosion (sheet & rill, ephemeral, and gully) is the primary resource concern on these soils.

Warm summers and cold winters characterize the climate of the area. Monthly average high temperatures are in the 20s (degrees F) in January and 80s (degrees F) in July. Annual precipitation averages 24”-26”, with 60% of the precipitation occurring during the May to October growing season.

Types of RC&D Assistance:

GOAL A: ENHANCE & PROTECT LAND-BASED NATURAL RESOURCES & PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP...

- The Middle Missouri Valley Weed Management Area is made up of 5 County Weed Superintendents who work together as a group, facilitated by the RC&D, to identify and treat noxious and invasive weed species. Due to Covid-19, there was no activity from the WMA this year. We were saddened to learn of the tragic passing of the former Dakota County Weed Supervisor, Mr. Leon Pies.

GOAL B: ENHANCE & PROTECT WATER-BASED NATURAL RESOURCES & PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP...

- Household Hazardous Waste Collections were held in 2 communities on September 11th and 12th, 2020: (Blair and Pender). A record 281 vehicles brought in 15,967 lbs of household hazardous materials, including 1,760 lbs. of pesticides, 10,640 lbs. of paint, and 780 florescent bulbs. Fifty volunteers donated 198.5 hours helping with the collections. Thank you to the volunteers at the Blair Recycling Center for your help in a successful collection. The volunteers there are always great to work with. A special "Shout Out" to the Pender FFA Instructor and 19 Students for their help at the collection in Pender.
- Plastic Pesticide containers were collected again in 2020 and sent off to be recycled into more plastic Pesticide containers, posts, parking lot stops, etc. The Papio-Missouri River NRD employees collected the containers and helped load them to be shipped to Minnesota for shredding and recycling.
- The RC&D was planning an E-Waste collection at Oakland in August, but Covid-19 and other events caused that event to be postponed until 2021. The RC&D did help the Papio-Missouri River NRD with their collections – especially the collection in Dakota City where 177 vehicles took part.
- The RC&D co-sponsored a Scrap Tire Collection that was held in Scribner at the Dodge County Fairgrounds on August 28, 2020. A record number of vehicles and trucks brought in 613.22 tons of tires. It takes a lot of people to make an event like this happen. More than 30 volunteers donated at this year's collection.

GOAL C: PROMOTE TOURISM AND DEVELOP RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES...

- The RC&D hosts and facilitates the Lewis & Clark Scenic Byway which is a group dedicated toward promoting area attractions and services which may be of interest to travelers and tourists. The RC&D worked with Byway Committee again, but in March, all activities were suspended and the tours and events planned for 2021 were cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19.
- An RC&D Board Member worked to improve canoe and kayak access to Logan Creek by obtaining funding to create new signage and install the new signage approximately 1.5 miles south of the Highway 94 bridge at Pender. Another RC&D Board Member posted location information at key points and on bridges crossing Logan Creek in case of emergencies.

GOAL D: PROMOTE LAND STEWARDSHIP BY WORKING WITH LOCAL GROUPS TO OFFER RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES...

- The RC&D coordinates and conducts several recycling opportunities for area residents including: Plastic Pesticide Container collection; Scrap Tire collection; E-Waste collection; and Household Hazardous Waste collections.

Completed projects in 2020

HHW WASTE COLLECTIONS

The Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council held Household Hazardous Waste Collections in September at Blair and Pender. Eighteen volunteers helped unload 177 vehicles at Blair while thirty-two volunteers helped unload 104 vehicles at Pender. Totals for both events were:

Pesticides:	1760 lbs
Paint:	10,640 lbs
Acids:	28 lbs
Bases:	7 lbs
Oil:	176 gal
Anti-freeze:	55 gal
Batteries:	1,120 lbs
Florescent Bulbs:	780 ea
2,4-D	11 gal
RoundUp	17 gal
Recyclables:	38 lbs

SCRAP TIRE COLLECTION

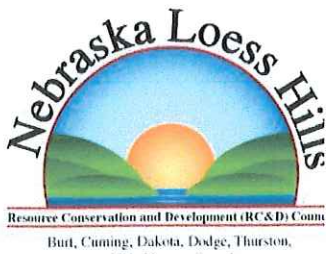
The Scrap Tire Collection went differently this year. Typically, the collection would have been in West Point at the Cuming County Fairgrounds. However, work on the levee in that area was scheduled to begin this past summer, and they needed the space where the tires normally would have been dropped off. So, Scribner volunteered to host the event this past year. The event was a HUGE success and lots and lots of participants thanked the volunteers for making this event happen again in 2020. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy again provided grant-funding for the event, and due to Covid-19, did not require any surveys be completed. We do know however, that there were 613.22 tons of tires collected.

Food for the 30+ volunteers was provided by the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D.

A sincere "Thank You" to our 30+ volunteers.

SCRAP COMPUTER COLLECTION

This year, due to Covid-19 and other issues, the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D was not able to hold their annual Scrap Computer and E-Waste Collection. Instead, the Board of Directors decided to partner with the Papio-Missouri River NRD and help them with their collections in Dakota City and Walthill on July 16th. There were 177 vehicles taking part in the Dakota City collection alone with 14 volunteers helping. This was a Papio-Missouri River NRD project.



Nebraska Loess Hills

Resource Conservation & Development Council

PO Box 24, Oakland NE 68045-0024

(402)685-4020 e-mail: Office@nlhrcd.org

<https://www.facebook.com/NELoessHillsRCDCouncil>

Membership Invoice

Annual Membership Dues – 2021

(January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021)

_____ Associate Member	\$100.00
_____ Supporter	\$200.00
_____ Sponsor	\$350.00 +

In past years, you have been a “Sponsor” at the \$350.00 and above. Your financial support of the programs and projects sponsored by the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D is very much appreciated. Our entire budget is derived from donations from individuals and sponsorships by organizations. We really wouldn’t exist without you!

Please make checks payable to: **Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D**

Send to: **Dick Leitschuck, Treasurer**
Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D
523 East 18th Street
South Sioux City NE 68776

Please complete the following information and return with your payment:

Contact Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone No. _____

Yours truly,

Kent Neumann
Executive Director

The Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council is approved by the IRS as a 501(c)3 Non-profit Organization. Your contributions may be tax-deductible. See your tax preparation specialist for legal advice.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

The Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D is a proud member of the National RC&D Association’s Circle of Diamonds – awarded to a select number of RC&D Councils nationwide for demonstrating; “Excellence by an RC&D Council”.

