

ENVIRONMENTAL

• EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES •



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

Wahoo, NE • www.lpnrd.org • 402-443-4675

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (LPNNRD), offers a variety of hands-on activities, classroom presentations, field trip opportunities, career exploration, and more!

All activities are free of charge! Most activities can be adjusted to fit into specific classrooms for Kindergarten through 12th grade.

WATER

Water Quantity

Nebraska sits atop the largest aquifer in the United States! Examine aquifers and the importance of groundwater conservation by creating an aquifer in a jar, and observing an aquifer model demonstration.

H₂O No!

Explore the importance of water quality and its impacts on human health. Activities can include: using colorimeters to test the level of nitrates in water samples; point and non-point source contamination; and an aquifer contamination model.



Watershed Mayhem

Groundwater is hidden below the Earth's surface, making it sometimes hard for students to understand how it works. Discover what a watershed is and what issues can impact a watershed by creating a watershed of your own.

Water and You

Water plays an important role in our everyday lives. In this activity, students will learn about the ways we use water, realize how much they depend on water, work with others to create a raindrop collage, then identify multiple ways to conserve water.

Water Works

We all need water! Explore the many uses of water and the interdependence on water in your community. In this activity, learn about the pros and cons of dams, the pros and cons of lawns, and political issues surrounding water usage in an urban and rural setting.

Follow the Yellow Brick Road

Did you know Nebraska is the nation's largest producer of popcorn? Where does the corn grown in Nebraska go? In this presentation we will discuss the types of corn grown, what it's used for and how the Ogallala Aquifer plays a role in Nebraska being third in the nation for corn production.

WILDLIFE

Wildlife CSI

Be a detective and investigate various "critter scenes" to solve the mysteries left behind.

Oh Deer & Carrying Capacity

Students will discover the fluctuations in wildlife populations based on limiting factors, carrying capacity, and habitat components.



Habitats & Camouflage

Finding animals when they are camouflaged is almost like playing "I Spy." In this lesson, students will explore wildlife habitats and learn the importance of animal adaptations.

Wonderful World of Beavers

Beavers play vital roles in our ecosystems. Often referred to as keystone species and ecosystem engineers, beavers cause a ripple effect within their ecosystem. Students will get the chance to make a model of a beaver dam and test the force of water on it.

Elton Meet and Greet

Learn about life cycles, adaptations, habitat diversity, and more with Elton the Western Tiger Salamander.

FORESTRY

Tree Rings

Trees can tell us a story of their own. Students will examine real tree rings to identify the stories they tell, then create their own.

Trees, Leaves and More

Trees provide protection to humans, animals, and crops. Consider the many uses of trees and how they change through the seasons.

SOIL

Don't Lose Ground

Soil is essential for growing food for the world! Investigate various scenarios of soil erosion and conservation practices.

PLANTS AND POLLINATORS

Flower Power

How does pollination happen? Who takes on such a big job? Students will explore the process of pollination through hands-on activities.

What's in the Box?

Seed Dispersal Edition

Are you cooped up during the winter months and looking for a way to bring fun and excitement to your classroom while also learning? By playing a game using limited senses, students will learn as they play!



RECYCLE

Recycling: A Focus on Plastics

Every day we use the materials that are made of plastic. From the clothes and shoes we wear, to the utensils we write with, containers we eat from, or objects we play with—plastic is everywhere. In this lesson, students will learn about single-use plastics and where they end up when they aren't recycled.

EXPLORATION

Natural Resources Career Jeopardy

Explore the various career opportunities in natural resources, conservation and agriculture.

Natural Events Calendar: Phenology Up Close

Within every season, there are always new and exciting topics to explore. Choose from the provided topics and schedule up to 8 classroom visits from August to April, or work together to form a custom list of topics to bring to your students.

FIELD TRIPS

Lower Platte North NRD Recreation Areas

Explore the recreation areas and learn more about the environment with hands-on activities at: Lake Wanahoo (Wahoo), Czechland Lake (Prague), and Homestead (Bruno). Lake Wanahoo also offers a Nature Education Trail and Disc Golf Course.

Local Prairies

Learn about prairie grasses, birds and wildlife first-hand at a local preservation prairie: Clarence & Ruth Fertig Tallgrass Prairie (Richland), Knott Tallgrass Prairie (Yutan), Stanley & Jean Shavlik Prairie (Linwood), and Adrian & Gladys Blatny (Linwood).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 22, 2022

Area 5 Range Judging Contest

Saunders County

The range judging contest is a high school competition that challenges students to gain a better understanding of Nebraska's rangelands. Participants learn how to recognize range plants, range sites and proper grazing practices.

October 5, 2022

East Central Region FFA Land Judging Contest

Location TBD

The land judging contest is a high school competition that challenges students to gain a better understanding of soil structure and land evaluation. Participants learn how to recognize physical features of soil, determine land capability, and evaluate management practices for proper stewardship.

May 3, 2023

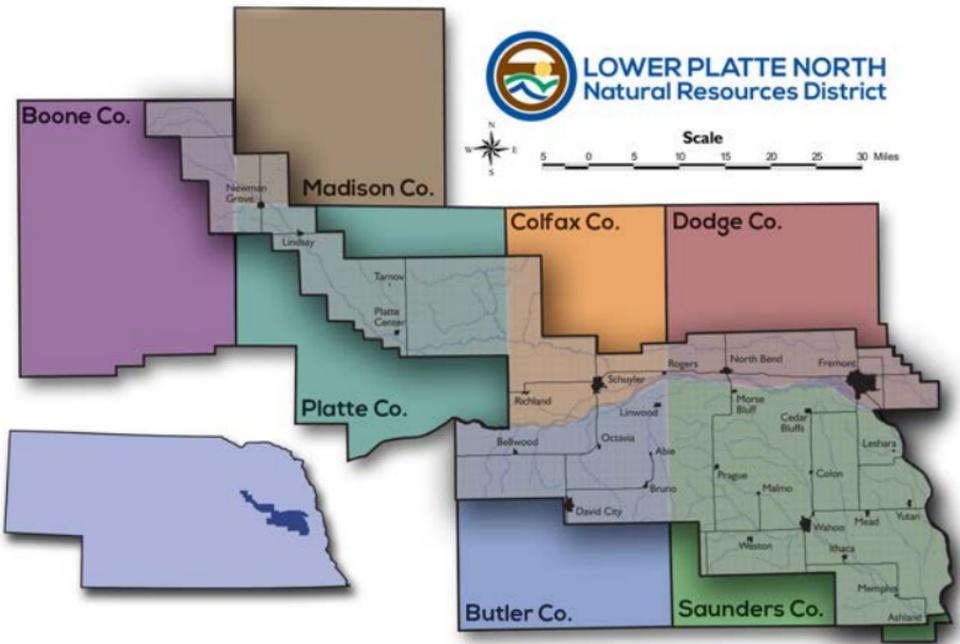
Spring Conservation Sensation

Lake Wanahoo NRD Recreation Area

The Lower Platte North NRD hosts a natural resources festival for 5th and 6th grade students to improve their skills through hands-on activities in water, wildlife, forestry, geography and more.

CONTACT

To set up a classroom visit, field trip, or other information, contact LPNNRD Education Coordinator, Sydney Abbott at sabbott@lpnrd.org or call the NRD at 402-443-4675.



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