

Mark Your Calendar

September 19, 2023

Envirothon Field Day

Clint Johannes Education Building on East side of Lake Wanahoo, Wahoo

This training is for teachers and students to participate in a Project Learning Tree Workshop and receive environmental education curriculum.



September 19, 2023

Area 5 Range Judging Contest

Hosted by Lower Niobrara NRD

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.

September 26-27, 2023

State Range Judging Contest

Hosted by Lower Big Blue NRD

October 4, 2023

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.

October 25, 2023

State Land Judging Contest

Hosted by Lower Loup NRD

May 1, 2024

Spring Conservation Sensation

Lake Wanahoo NRD Recreation Area, Wahoo

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

Field Trips

Lower Platte North NRD Recreation Areas

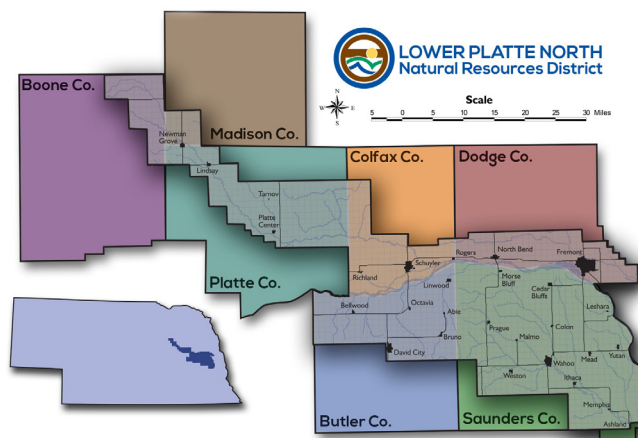
Explore the recreation areas and learn more about the environment with hands-on activities at: Lake Wanahoo (Wahoo), Czechland Lake (Prague), and Homestead (Bruno). Lake Wanahoo also offers a Nature Education Trail and Disc Golf Course.

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).

Contact

To set up a classroom visit, field trip, or for additional information about activities, contact LPNNRD Education Coordinator, Sydney Abbott at sabbott@lpnnrd.org or call the LPNNRD office at 402-443-4675.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD

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

Environmental Education Opportunities



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District in Wahoo offers a variety of hands-on activities, classroom presentations, field trips and more! All activities are free of charge, and most activities can be altered for Kindergarten through 12th grade.

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. For an advanced habitat lesson, ask about our Food Chains, Food Webs, and Ecosystems activity.

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.

Animal Adaptations

Why do salamanders have sticky skin? Can owls really turn their heads 270 degrees? Animals and plants have really cool adaptations that make them unique and play important roles in their lives.

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 & More

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



Water

H₂Oh 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 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 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.

Water Works

We all need water! Explore the many uses of water and the interdependence on water in your community. 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? This activity will discuss the types of corn grown, what it’s used for and how the Ogallala Aquifer plays a role in Nebraska corn production.

Water and You

Water plays an important role in our lives. 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.

Recycle

Recycling: A Focus on Plastics

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. Students will learn about single-use plastics and where they end up when they aren’t recycled.

Plants and Pollination

Flower Power

How does pollination happen? Who takes on such a big job? Students will explore the process of pollination through hands-on activities. For an advanced pollinator lesson, ask about the Angiosperms and Arthropods activity.

What’s in the Box? Seed Dispersal Edition

Seed dispersal happens in many ways. Using wind, water, animals, people, and expulsion, students will learn how vital this step is in a plant’s life cycle.

Tallgrass Prairies

Tallgrass prairie ecosystems are one of the most rare and endangered ecosystems in the world. These ecosystems are home to many grasses and forbs, wildlife, and people. In this lesson, students will reflect on its history; experience the prairie through their senses; and discuss the human impacts on the prairie.

Soil

Don’t Lose Ground

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

The World Below Our Feet

We need healthy soils. Soil gives us life! And so much life lives in the soil. But what is soil? Students will learn all about soil, why it’s important through hands-on activities, and enjoy a tasty treat.



Exploration

Natural Resources Career Jeopardy

Explore the variety of careers 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 students.