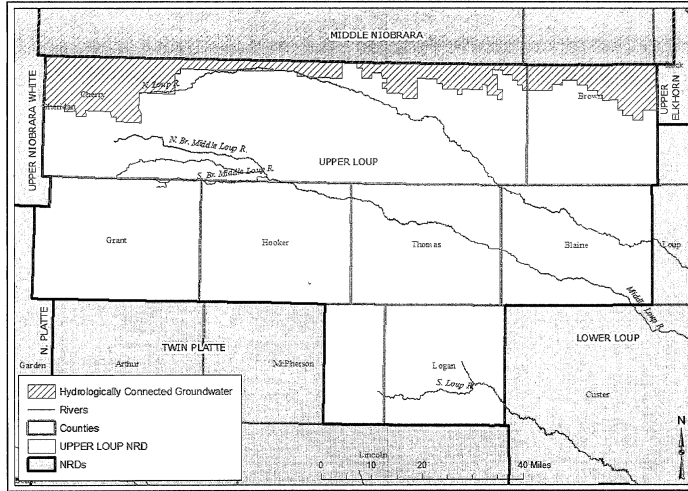


# Upper Loup Scoop

October 2011

## Inside this issue:

- Recycling 2
- 2011-2012 Budget 2
- Water Use Reporting 2
- Hunter Safety Class 3



## Expansion of Irrigated Acres

Are you wanting to increase the number of acres you irrigate with groundwater for the 2012 irrigation season? If so, it is required that you apply for those acres with the District. The ULNRD is allotted 2500 new irrigated acres annually district wide. If applications for new irrigation acres exceeds the 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.

Application forms are available now so that each applicant has the appropriate time to complete the form. Completed applications along with a \$15 non-refundable fee, for the 2012 irrigation season will be accepted by the ULNRD through Dec 31, 2011. **NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Landowners will be notified of the application's outcome by January 31. Application forms for landowners interested in developing new irrigated acres are available online, at the ULNRD office in Thedford or they can be mailed upon request by calling the office at 308-645-2250.

The cross-hatched area, on the above map, represents the Niobrara River Basin Reversal. This area is allotted 174 acres annually, 696 total acres through year 2015.

## Board of Directors

### Sub district 1

Chris Vinton  
Eric Storer

### Sub district 2

Wynn Wiens  
Judy Ridenour

### Sub district 3

Gary Schaeffer  
Chris Higgins

### Sub district 4

Byron Cox  
Gordon Simonson

### Sub district 5

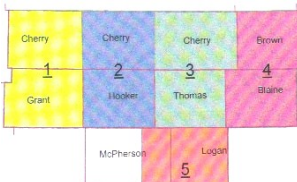
Darwin Frey  
Tom Johnson

### At large

Patrick Wright

## Water Use Reports will in Mailboxes by Dec. 31

Water use reporting is essential to the management of this vital resource. Annual reporting of use is important to protect stakeholder interests, adopting actions in times of water emergencies, and providing data for effective farm management. To protect the farmer's and rancher's interests in any litigation related to the state's right to water use in a given basin, existing water uses must be able to be quantified. Knowing water use also allows a wider range of options for dealing with any future drought-related water emergencies. If you are unsure of the flow rate, the ULNRD has an Ultra-Sonic Flow Meter which is a non-invasive method to measure flow in an irrigation system. This service is provided free to district producers. For more information contact Jack Brummet at 308-645-2250. If you did not irrigate at all in 2011 please let us know that information as well.





## Recycling now in Mullen and Dunning

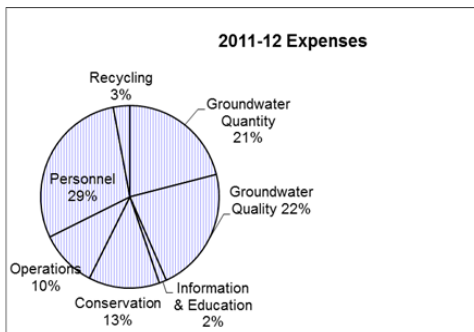
The Upper Loup NRD is excited to announce that the long awaited recycling trailers are now in Dunning and Mullen.

Dunning's trailer is located at the Sandhills High School in the northeast corner of the parking lot. Materials collected in the trailer will be tin, #1 and # 2 Plastics, newspaper, paper, magazines, tin and aluminum.

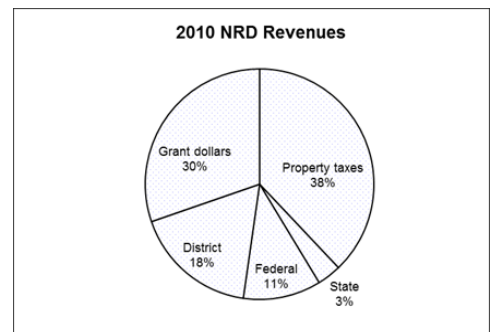
Mullen's trailer is located at the Village Drop-Off Site during normal hours 8 am – 5pm Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Materials collected in the trailer will be tin, #1 and #2 plastics. Mullen currently recycles newspaper, cardboard, magazines, and paper. Please remember to recycle those items in the recycling building.

Recycling is easier than ever. You do not need to rinse or remove labels and you may combine tin and aluminum as well as #1 & #2 plastics. Common #1 & #2 plastics include items such as: plastic bottles for soft drinks, water, juice, sports drinks, mouthwash, ketchup, salad dressing, milk jugs, shampoo, dish & laundry detergents as well as microwavable trays.

If you have any questions regarding the trailer or recyclables please contact the Village of Mullen at 308-546-2625 or the Upper Loup NRD at 308-645-2250. Additional recycling information can be found at [www.upperloupnrd.org](http://www.upperloupnrd.org) under **SERVICES**.



## Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget



Each year the Upper Loup NRD reviews all NRD program and project activities and determines a budget necessary to carry our mission. The Board of Directors approved a FY 2011-2012 budget on September 8th. This Year's budget calls for a property tax levy of .022008 per \$100 of valuation. The .022008 levy would mean that the owner of property valued at \$100,000 would pay a total \$22.00 in property taxes this year to support various NRD projects and programs (such as tree planting, planned grazing, domestic will testing and recycling.) We are happy to report, even with the loss of state aid dollars, the District was able to maintain the same levy as last year. Which is well below the .045 allotment that the State allows.

## Verification of Acre Certification

The Upper Loup NRD will be sending out verification of acre certification information by the middle of November. As a reminder the District groundwater rules and regulations state that **no groundwater user, landowner or operator may irrigate with groundwater until he or she obtains certification from the Upper Loup NRD. Violators are subject to legal action.** To review these rules in their entirety you can visit our website at [www.upperloupnrd.org](http://www.upperloupnrd.org) or call our office for a copy.

Proper certification and groundwater use provides the District with valuable data and documentation of irrigated history in the event that the Loup River Basin is declared fully appropriated by the state. If you find there are some inaccuracies such as: too many/not enough acres, incorrect legal, incorrect landowner, or if use has changed to non-irrigated with the county assessor, please contact our office at 308-645-2250 as soon as possible so we can make the necessary changes prior to the December 31st deadline.

## 2011-12 ULNRD Directors

Starting left going clockwise:

Wynn Wiens (sub-district #2)  
 Chris Vinton (sub-district #1)  
 Eric Storer (sub-district #1)  
 Byron Cox (sub-district #4)  
 Judy Ridenour (sub-district #2)  
 Gary Schaeffer (sub-district #3)  
 Tom Johnson, (sub-district #5)  
 Chris Higgins, (sub-district #3)  
 Darwin Frey, (sub-district #5)  
 Gordon Simonson (sub-district #4)  
 Patrick Wright (at large)



## Hunter Safety Class Held in Thedford

Thanks to volunteer Dane Petersen, 19 participants were able to attend and complete the Hunter Safety class held October 1-2 at the ULNRD office in Thedford. Participants came from several communities that included: Dunning, Mullen, North Platte, Thedford and Valentine.

Firearm Safety Education is a program ensuring that safe, respectful and responsible hunters participate in the sport of hunting in Nebraska. Proof of completion of this course is required for everyone 12 years of age and older, or born on or after January 1, 1977 who hunts any game animal or game bird in Nebraska using a firearm or crossbow.



## Dripal Pursuit. Test your water knowledge:

1. What is the largest lake in North America?
2. What percentage of the world's cropland is irrigated?
3. What is the saltiest sea in the world?
4. The process of water in the soil that leaches or soaks back into the groundwater supply is known as what?
5. Which holds more water, warm or cool air?
6. True or false, contaminated water always tastes and smells bad.
7. What is a large-leafed plant that grows in ponds?
8. Which is heavier, salt or fresh Water?

**Answers found on page 4**

## Available pocket guides

- Trees
- Nebraska Birds
- Animal Tracks
- Wilderness Survival
- Edible Wild Plants
- Butterflies and Moths
- Nebraska Trees & Wildflowers
- The Night Sky
- Home and Garden Pests
- Field Dressing Game
- Invasive Weeds of North America

## Pocket Guides

Do you need help identifying animal tracks that you find in the sand or Nebraska Birds? Can you identify trees and edible plants? How about surviving in the wilderness? The Upper Loup NRD now has available five new handy pocket guides that can assist you in your efforts. Pocket guides are available at the Upper Loup NRD office in Thedford for a cost of \$6.00 per guide, \$8.00 for the Field Dressing Game guide.

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
US Postage Paid  
Thedford, NE 69166  
Permit. No. 11 STD

Upper Loup NRD  
39252 Hwy 2  
Thedford, NE 69166  
Phone: 308-645-2250  
Fax: 308-645-2308

**We are on the web!**  
[www.upperloupnrd.org](http://www.upperloupnrd.org)

### Calendar of Events

#### October

- 1-2 Hunter Safety Class
- 10 Holiday-Office Closed
- 13 ULNRD Board Meeting—  
Thedford

#### November

- 10 ULNRD Board Meeting—  
Thedford
- 11 Holiday—Office Closed
- 24-25 Holiday—Office Closed

#### December

- 8 ULNRD Board Meeting—  
Thedford
- 26 Holiday—Office Closed
- 31 Deadline for Submitting Acre  
Certification Forms

## TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER

#### Dripial Pursuit Answers:

1. Lake Superior
2. 17%
3. Dead Sea
4. Recharge
5. Warm
6. False
7. Water Lily
8. Salt

#### Upper Loup Staff

Anna Baum .....General Manager  
Jack Brummet...Resources Technician  
Kyle Yrkoski....Resources Technician  
Leslie Harvey.....Administrative Secretary  
Denise Vinton...Information & Education  
Cleop Jacobs... Thedford Field Office Sec.



#### Auction Item:

The ULNRD will be accepting bids at their office in Thedford, NE beginning Monday Oct. 24th and ending Friday Oct.28th during regular office hours; 7:30 am - 4:00 pm CST. The vehicle to be auctioned off is a 2002 Quad Cab—4WD Dodge Diesel 3/4 ton pickup with 125,000 miles. This pickup is in great condition and features a 6 speed standard transmission, long box, leather interior, heated seat, grill guard, running boards, towing package and a 5th wheel ball. For more information or to place a bid please contact the NRD office at 308-645-2250. The bid will start at \$12,000.