

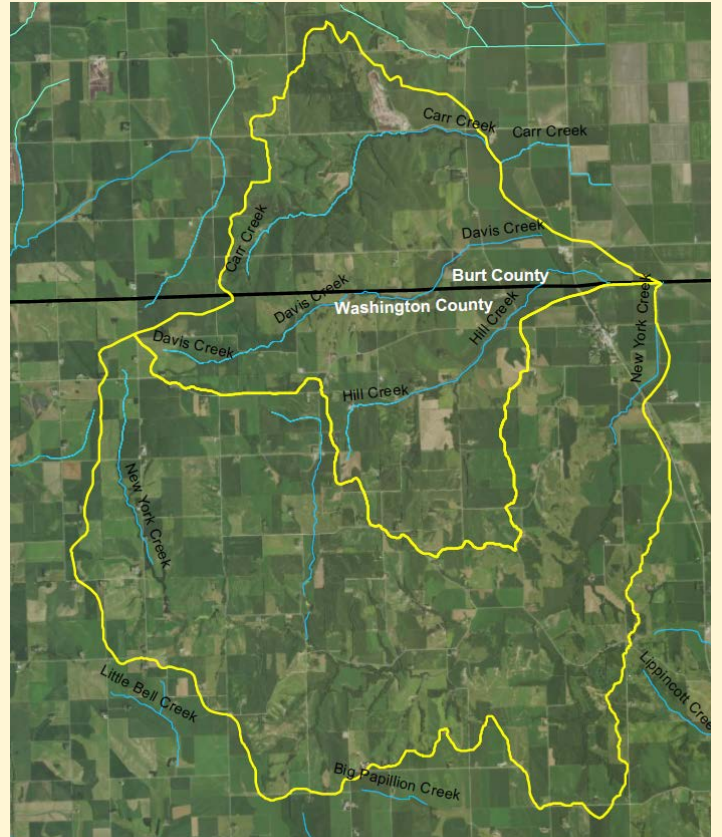
BLAIR FIELD OFFICE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NINTH EDITION - SEPTEMBER 2021

DISTRICT TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION FEASIBILITY REPORT IN DAVIS CREEK WATERSHED

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District (PMRNRD) accepted proposals for a Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Project in the Davis Creek Watershed. This watershed is a tributary to the Missouri River, encompassing parts of the Hill Creek and New York Creek Watersheds. Davis Creek lies in the northern part of Washington County and through the Southern region of Burt County (see map).

PMRNRD will conduct interviews with firms that have submitted proposals. Once a firm is selected, the District will move forward with a Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report (PIFR). The PIFR will collect historical and on-site data to determine if projects can be completed that meet the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards to reduce sedimentation and streambed degradation in the watershed.



6th Grade

"Conservation Days"

Summit Lake,

Tekamah



September 21st

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PARTNERING WITH 319 SEPTIC SYSTEM PROGRAM

The 319 Septic System Program started in January 2021 and is available to homeowners in the Papillion Creek Watershed. This program provides cost-share on installation and construction costs for a functional waste management system. We are excited to announce that Habitat for Humanity of Omaha is now partnering with us on this program!

Dependent on income, Habitat for Humanity is able to provide grants or zero interest loans. These funds can be used for any remaining balance related to the inspection, construction, or installation of the septic system. Contact Papio-Missouri River NRD Watershed Coordinator Kyle Madsen (402) 350-3695 for more information.

DID YOU
KNOW?

Under Nebraska Law, NRDs have 12 main areas of responsibility. They are: flood prevention & control, soil conservation, forestry & range management, erosion prevention & control, flood damage prevention, water supply development, pollution control, waste disposal, outdoor recreation, fish & wildlife habitat, water management & conservation, and drainage improvement.

FIELD NOTES:



An example of reduced yield in a Washington County cornfield. Corn stalks around the edge range 1-2 feet shorter than the rest of the field. This area could benefit from field borders through CRP. In the Papillion Creek Watershed, landowners can receive up to \$400/acre for field borders.



NRD and NRCS staff met with Washington County contractors for an annual meeting to discuss upcoming projects.

Tribute - Terry's

A Word from Terry Schumacher,
Land & Water Programs Coordinator

LOCK DOWN! 😞

Your local USDA Service Centers have been in lock down for 18 months, give or take. I know this has been frustrating to landowners and operators in the area. It has also been frustrating and challenging to the employees of NRCS, FSA and the NRD.

There have been many meetings with our customers at the picnic table outside the Blair Office as well as in the field. I can tell you that staff members are willing to do whatever it takes to assist you in your conservation needs. Funds are available with the USDA and NRD programs and I encourage you to contact the USDA Service Center if you need assistance.

With this dry weather, the combines will be rolling before you know it and everyone will be busy. I also want to note that the deadline to sign up for EQIP is November 19, 2021. I have been told that application numbers are down, so it may be an opportune time to apply for funding!

MEET ROBERT HALL, YOUR NRCS RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST!



Robert Hall is the Resource Conservationist in the Blair Field Office. He manages contracts for Sarpy, Douglas and Washington counties. Robert has been with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for over 36 years! He originally started as a Soil Conservationist in Blair where he worked for 10 years before moving to the Omaha Office. He's been back out in Blair for the past 5 years and we're so happy to have him here!

Robert enjoys the wide variety of projects and practices that he's able to do every day with NRCS. He also enjoys working with landowners and seeing them implement new practices that improve their land. When he's not working on EQIP, CSP and CRP contracts, you can find him on the golf course!