



Lower Platte River CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

LEAD. ORGANIZE. INSPIRE. The voice of the Lower Platte.

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Monthly Report for November 2014

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River Obstruction Removal

I attended the RTP Committee meeting in mid-November. The RTP committee uses the meeting as an opportunity to review the grant applications with the applicants in attendance to provide some more information and answer any questions the committee has. The committee votes on grant funding at the end of the meeting. Their decision is not official until the Commission meets in November.

Watershed Management Plan

The LRPCA submitted 3 grants related to the implementation of the watershed management plan during the first week of September. The first was a 319 application to implement the voluntary septic tank upgrade program, expanded education and outreach, and implementation planning for our priority 1 watersheds. The remaining two grants were a 319 and a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant developed in partnership with NARD. The 319 grant would develop a BMP effectiveness database for the 20 most utilized BMPs in Nebraska. The NET grant will develop a web based tool with GIS applications that will allow users to identify and evaluate placement and effectiveness of BMPs to reduce pollutant loads down to the field level. Unfortunately we were notified that neither 319 application was selected for funding this year. I will plan to resubmit the grants in the coming year and also work to initiate some components of implementing the WMP in the coming year. We are still hopeful the BMP assessment tool may be selected for funding by the NET.

LPRCA Summit

The biennial Lower Platte River Summit was held on Thursday, November 6th at Camp Carol Joy Holling near Ashland, NE. Chuck Schroeder, Executive Director of the Rural Futures Institute provided the keynote presentation. The presentation was followed by a panel discussion and a session of the activity called Plainsopoly. Following lunch there was a tour with stops at the Kennedy Farm which is protected by a Nebraska Land Trust easement. The second stop was in Plattsmouth where we heard from representatives of their Main Street Association, city planning department and a historian. There was also an opportunity to tour the Cass County History Museum. A more complete summary of the event as well as pictures are on the LPRCA website. The next Summit will be held in 2016 and most likely at a location in the upper portion of the Corridor.

Upcoming Events:

LPRCA Quarterly Meeting: January 21, LPNNRD, 9:00 a.m.

NARD Legislative Conference: January 26-28