

MEMORANDUM

TO THE BOARD:

SUBJECT: General Manager's Report

DATE: September 2, 2011

FROM: John Winkler, General Manager

- A. **INFORMATION/EDUCATION REPORT:** A copy of the I&E Report detailing Information and Education activities for the month of August 2011, is attached for your review.
- B. **PERSONNEL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:**
1. The District has hired Jean Tait to replace Pat Teer as the District's Administrative Coordinator. Ms. Tait officially began her new position on Monday, August 22nd. Jean started with the District in November of 1993 where she served as the District's Purchasing Agent. Jean earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resources from Bellevue University in 2003. I wish her continued success in her new position.
 2. The District has hired Deborah Ward to replace Evelyn Maslonka as the Program Assistant in the Tekamah Field Office. Deb comes to us from the Loess Hills Resource Conservation & Development Council, where she has been serving as Program Support Assistant/Executive Direct for the past 3 years. I look forward to working with Deb and wish her luck in her new position.
 3. The District has hired Heather Guthridge to replace Jean Tait as the District's Purchasing Agent/Files Administrator. Ms. Guthridge will begin her new position on September 12. Heather has been a part of the District's staff since 2007, where she served part-time as an Education Intern and went on to become the District's full-time Environmental Education Assistant. Heather earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from University of Nebraska in 2007. I look forward to working with Heather and wish her luck in her new position.
- C. **REPORT ON PURCHASES – CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, AND PERSONAL PROPERTY:** Pursuant to Board direction, attached is a report indicating construction services, professional services and personal property purchases for the month of August, 2011. Please review this report and contact me if you have any questions.
- D. **PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP REPORT:** The August, 2011 Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership Monthly Update is attached for your review. The next Partnership meeting will be held on September 22, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. at the NRC.

- E. **ELKHORN RIVER RESEARCH STATION:** The Open House for the Elkhorn River Research Station will be held on October 1, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. I encourage Directors to attend.
- F. **NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE – FIRST SESSION HEARING SCHEDULE:** The Interim Hearing Schedules of the Nebraska Unicameral are attached.
- G. **NEWS CLIPS:**
- ✓ August 12, 2011, News Release – NRD Board sets budget with no property tax levy increase for fifth consecutive year
 - ✓ August 20, 2011, OWH article – Fun and Free: Wild water fun for all
 - ✓ August 20, 2011, OWH article – NRDs enhance outdoor fun
 - ✓ August 22, 2011, OWH Editorial – Furthermore
 - ✓ August 22, 2011, Sioux City Journal – Brent Clark named new Dakota City administrator
 - ✓ August 24, 2011, OWH Public Pulse – Don't let flood ruin biking trails

August, 2011 Information/Education Report

Information

- Completed scripting and video production for flood control public service announcements for spring, 2012 air schedule.
- Coordinated with project staff on updates to Mo River flood fighting page.
- Completed design of Platte Landing interpretive sign
- Completed minor update of Trails brochure and ordered brochure printing
- Completed writing and design of Summer Specrum – sent to printer.
- Assisted education staff on World O Water event
- Coordinated NRD contributions to NARD Annual Meeting auction

Education

- Attended FNA Strategic Planning Board Meeting
- Updated the MORE Nature Website
- Continued working with Lanoha on Nature Playground at Chalco
- World O! Water Festival held August 20- Children's Area Coordinated/Facilitated by NRD, Thank you cards sent to all presenters
- NRD Boys Challenge Camp August 2-4, 20, 9-14 year olds
 - Topics: GPS/compass, rock climbing, kayaking, fishing, archery, dutch oven cooking, camping, fire starting, challenge courses
- Chaired MORE Nature Meeting
- Gifford Park Community Garden Go! Play Adventure Program—25 kids
- Continued Coordinating Outdoor Classroom Site at Sandoz Elementary with MPS, Douglas County Health Department, Rocky Mountain Boulder, and Acreage Fences
- Planned and Facilitated Joslyn Elementary Nature Night—300+ people in attendance
- Continued planning Fall NRD in-class programming
- Updated LRIP information
- Continued planning Nature Nights for 2011-2012 school year
- Started planning College of St. May and Creighton University pre-service teacher workshops
- Attended Safe Routes to School Meeting
- Continued coordinating OWH contract on Go! Play Adventure advertising
- Facilitated discussion about MORE Nature supporting the Radical Amazement speaker, Scott Russell Sanders
- Completed and submitted LEP state Coordinator Report
- Continued working with Durham Museum on Boy Scout Soils Workshop to be held October 1
- Continued working on NATS presentation
- Assisted with PSA shoot
- Compiled and proofed August and September E-newsletters, sent Augusts
- School Presentations:
 - Millard North GPS—3 classes
 - Millard South-Environmental Studies class—Nature Hike

August, 2011

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MONTHLY UPDATE

August 2011



A Partnership meeting was held on August 25, 2011. Minutes are updated regularly on the Partnership's website:

www.papiopartnership.org.

Update on Enforcement in Extra Territorial Jurisdiction

Douglas County and Omaha have already executed the draft MOU. La Vista had met with Sarpy County and is in the process of trying to finalize the agreement. Each community will execute a separate agreement with Sarpy County in order to be able to reference city codes. The agreement is with Sarpy County legal counsel for final approval. Upon approval of the agreement from legal counsel, the agreement will be presented to City Councils and the County Board for final approval.

Although Gretna is not designated as a MS4 community, they will execute an agreement to have in place at such time as they are designated. The City of Bennington is also looking into a similar agreement with Douglas County.

Amendment to Stormwater Management Plan for MS4 Permit

Due to Missouri River flooding over the summer, City of Omaha staff have been diverted from regular duties to assist in flood fighting activities. Therefore the BMP monitoring activities the City performs on behalf of the Partnership as required in the stormwater management plan have not been completed this year as anticipated. The City of Omaha has presented a draft amendment of the stormwater management plan to NDEQ for consideration. Once NDEQ has reviewed and approved the amendment, other communities may need to amend their plans as well. Omaha anticipates a

response from NDEQ in September and will report back at the next meeting.

Semiannual Report Due October 1, 2011

The semiannual report to NDEQ on activities listed in the stormwater management plan is due October 1, 2011. A template will be prepared and emailed to everyone prior to the next meeting.

Other Items of Interest

- EPA has delayed the issuance of numeric effluent limitation guidelines in the NPDES construction stormwater general permit. At this time, there is no indication that limit will be issued prior to the Nebraska permit expiring on December 31, 2012.
- The Partnership has not yet been notified if the EPA Wetland Program Development Grant application was successful. The notification should be received by the end of August.
- Applications for LB 1226 Stormwater Funding are due September 30, 2011.

Next Meeting:

The next Partnership meeting will be September 22, 2011 at 10 am at the NRC building.



NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE HEARINGS
August 5, 2011

Monday, August 15, 2011

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee and Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1524, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Joint committee briefing on insurance exchange program by the Nebraska Department of Insurance

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Friday, August 26, 2011

LB603 (Children's Behavioral Health Oversight) Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Briefing on Medicaid changes affecting psychiatric residential treatment facilities and updates on LB603 programs

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Friday, September 16, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR203 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine issues surrounding vacant residential and commercial properties
LR207 (*Dubas*) Interim study to examine the formation and governance of sanitary and improvement districts

LR338 (*Urban Affairs Committee*) Interim study to examine the boundaries and taxing authority of transit authorities

General Affairs Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR279 (*Howard*) Interim study to examine issues relating to the compensation and benefits of the commissioners of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission

LR301 (*Karpisek*) Interim study to examine issues relating to alcohol impact zones

LR303 (*Karpisek*) Interim study to examine issues relating to whether Nebraska State Patrol inspectors of violations under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act should be under the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission's jurisdiction

Monday, October 3, 2011

Education Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR211 (*Education Committee*) Interim study to examine the offering of elementary and secondary courses and high school diplomas through electronic means

Friday, October 7, 2011

General Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR315 (*Christensen*) Interim study to examine simulcast horseracing in Nebraska

LR299 (*Karpisek*) Interim study to examine issues regarding gaming revenue that leaves Nebraska

LR300 (*Karpisek*) Interim study to examine issues relating to horseracing

Monday, November 7, 2011

Education Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR265 (Mello) Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a Career Readiness Certificate program

If auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations are needed for attendance at a hearing, please call the office of the Clerk of the Legislature at (402) 471-2271, or for persons with hearing and/or speech impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at (800) 833-7352 TTY or (800) 833-0920 Voice (24 hours notice is requested). Advance notice of ten business days is needed when requesting an interpreter.

The Interim Hearing Schedule is also available via the Internet at www.nebraskalegislature.gov

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Journal of Management Education 30(6)

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姓名	性别	年龄	职业	住址	电话	备注
王德胜	男	45	教师	XX路XX号	XXXX	
李小红	女	32	护士	XX街XX号	XXXX	
张小明	男	28	学生	XX村XX组	XXXX	
赵大刚	男	55	工人	XX厂XX车间	XXXX	
陈丽娟	女	40	医生	XX医院XX科	XXXX	
刘国强	男	60	农民	XX乡XX村	XXXX	
孙文娟	女	35	会计	XX公司XX部	XXXX	
周志远	男	50	工程师	XX研究所XX室	XXXX	
吴小芳	女	25	记者	XX报社XX部	XXXX	
郑大伟	男	48	律师	XX律所XX楼	XXXX	
冯小华	女	30	歌手	XX音乐厅XX台	XXXX	
马志军	男	52	教授	XX大学XX系	XXXX	
徐小梅	女	22	实习生	XX公司XX岗	XXXX	
黄大刚	男	58	工人	XX厂XX车间	XXXX	
宋丽娟	女	42	医生	XX医院XX科	XXXX	
周国强	男	62	农民	XX乡XX村	XXXX	
孙文娟	女	38	会计	XX公司XX部	XXXX	
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吴小芳	女	28	记者	XX报社XX部	XXXX	
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孙文娟	女	35	会计	XX公司XX部	XXXX	
周志						

Clerk of the State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604
03-22-03

NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE HEARINGS
August 12, 2011

Monday, August 15, 2011

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee and Health and Human Services Committee
9:00 a.m. - Room 1524, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Joint committee briefing on insurance exchange program by the Nebraska Department of Insurance

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Friday, August 26, 2011

LB603 (Children's Behavioral Health Oversight) Committee
9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Briefing on Medicaid changes affecting psychiatric residential treatment facilities and updates on LB603 programs

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Health and Human Services Committee
9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR37 (*Health and Human Services Committee*) Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Health and Human Services Committee
9:00 a.m. - Western Community College, Scottsbluff, NE

LR37 (*Health and Human Services Committee*) Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services

Friday, September 16, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee
9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR203 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine issues surrounding vacant residential and commercial properties
LR207 (*Dubas*) Interim study to examine the formation and governance of sanitary and improvement districts
LR338 (*Urban Affairs Committee*) Interim study to examine the boundaries and taxing authority of transit authorities

General Affairs Committee
1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR279 (*Howard*) Interim study to examine issues relating to the compensation and benefits of the commissioners of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission
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LR303 (*Karpisek*) Interim study to examine issues relating to whether Nebraska State Patrol inspectors of violations under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act should be under the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission's jurisdiction

Monday, October 3, 2011

Education Committee
9:00 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR211 (*Education Committee*) Interim study to examine the offering of elementary and secondary courses and high school diplomas through electronic means

Friday, October 7, 2011

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9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

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Friday, November 4, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR209 (*Urban Affairs Committee*) Interim study to examine all of the building codes in Nebraska

LR227 (*Hadley*) Interim study to examine adopting a comprehensive plumbing code applicable to all jurisdictions that could enforce the comprehensive plumbing code

Urban Affairs Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR241 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Redevelopment Act

Monday, November 7, 2011

Education Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR265 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a Career Readiness Certificate program

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03-22-03
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604
PO Box 94604
State Capitol
Clerk of the Legislature

NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE HEARINGS
August 19, 2011

Friday, August 26, 2011

LB603 (Children's Behavioral Health Oversight) Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Briefing on Medicaid changes affecting psychiatric residential treatment facilities and updates on LB603 programs

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR37 (*Health and Human Services Committee*) Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Western Community College, Scottsbluff, NE

LR37 (*Health and Human Services Committee*) Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - City Council Chambers, Norfolk, NE

LR275 (*Flood*) Interim study to examine Nebraska's behavioral health model concerning transport service of persons who have been placed in emergency protective custody

LR37 (*Health and Human Services Committee*) Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services

Friday, September 16, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR203 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine issues surrounding vacant residential and commercial properties

LR207 (*Dubas*) Interim study to examine the formation and governance of sanitary and improvement districts

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General Affairs Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

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Friday, October 7, 2011

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Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR209 (*Urban Affairs Committee*) Interim study to examine all of the building codes in Nebraska

LR227 (*Hadley*) Interim study to examine adopting a comprehensive plumbing code applicable to all jurisdictions that could enforce the comprehensive plumbing code

Friday, November 4, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee (Canceled and Rescheduled for 10/26)

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR209 (*Urban Affairs Committee*) Interim study to examine all of the building codes in Nebraska

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Urban Affairs Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR241 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Redevelopment Act

Monday, November 7, 2011

Education Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

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NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE HEARINGS
August 26, 2011

Friday, August 26, 2011

LB603 (Children's Behavioral Health Oversight) Committee

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LR37 (*Health and Human Services Committee*) Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services

Revenue Committee

1:30 p.m. - Ockinga Center, University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney, NE

LR226 (*Hadley*) Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a pilot program to incentivize individuals to move to rural counties which has experienced population loss

Friday, September 16, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

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LR227 (*Hadley*) Interim study to examine adopting a comprehensive plumbing code applicable to all jurisdictions that could enforce the comprehensive plumbing code (Canceled and Rescheduled for 11/4)

Friday, November 4, 2011

Urban Affairs Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR241 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Redevelopment Act

2:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR227 (*Hadley*) Interim study to examine adopting a comprehensive plumbing code applicable to all jurisdictions that could enforce the comprehensive plumbing code

Monday, November 7, 2011

Education Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR265 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a Career Readiness Certificate program

Education Committee and Appropriations Committee

10:30 a.m. - Room 1525, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR206 (*Mello*) Interim study to examine funding streams available to adult education programs to better transition adults into postsecondary education through bridge programs

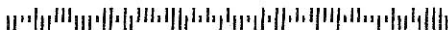
Transportation and Telecommunications Committee and Appropriations Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1113, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Joint Hearing of Transportation & Telecommunications Committee and the Appropriations Committee for Department of Roads Needs Assessment Briefing

If auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations are needed for attendance at a hearing, please call the office of the Clerk of the Legislature at (402) 471-2271, or for persons with hearing and/or speech impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at (800) 833-7352 TTY or (800) 833-0920 Voice (24 hours notice is requested). Advance notice of ten business days is needed when requesting an interpreter.

The Interim Hearing Schedule is also available via the Internet at www.nebraskalegislature.gov

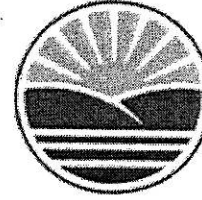


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PAPIO-MISSC.
8901 S 154TH ST
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NRD

Clerk of the
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604
03-22-03

**PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL
RESOURCES
DISTRICT**



8901 S. 154th Street
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News Release

For Immediate Release 8.12.2011

Contact: John Winkler, General Manager

Emmett Egr, Information/Education Coordinator

NRD Board sets budget with no property tax levy increase for fifth consecutive year

At its August 12th meeting, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors adopted a Fiscal Year 2012 general operating budget that once again calls for no tax levy increase. "This is the fifth consecutive year that the NRD has held steady or reduced its property tax levy," said John Winkler, NRD General Manager. "This is being proposed despite the elimination of a half million dollars in state aid to the NRD and the historic Missouri River flood fight in which NRD levees are protecting Offutt Air Force Base, portions of Bellevue and Omaha's Papillion Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant," he said.

Considerable NRD financial and staff resources are being utilized to protect these facilities that are of national and statewide importance. The levees have been bolstered and are being constantly monitored.

The proposed budget calls for a FY 2012 property tax levy of .032753, the same as the current FY 2011 tax levy. This levy would mean that the owner of property valued at \$100,000 would pay a total of \$32.75 in property taxes next year to support NRD projects and programs. The levy is based on an estimated .5 percent increase in valuations across the District. The Papio-Missouri River NRD area includes all of Sarpy, Douglas, Washington and Dakota Counties plus the eastern 60% of Burt and Thurston Counties.

The budget outlines total spending estimated at \$82.3 million. Of this amount, 16.8 million in revenue will be raised through the property tax levy. NRD revenue includes the tax levy, bonds, federal and state cost sharing for specific projects and income from Improvement Project Areas.

"We are able to meet the public safety needs in our area while keeping our programs effective and our employee requirements and benefits at a reasonable level. Our staff is health conscious, resulting in only small increases in our health insurance needs over the last few years," said Winkler.

The NRD Board of Directors will formally set the tax levy requirement at its September meeting after district-wide valuation increases are confirmed.



Published Saturday August 20, 2011

Fun and Free: Wild water fun for all

By Kevin Coffey
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Water's not just for swimming or watering the lawn.

The annual World O! Water event is aimed at educating people about water conservation, quality and recreation.

This fun, free family event will be held Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at **Papio-Missouri River NRD's Natural Resource Center at Wehrspann Lake, 8901 S. 154th St.**

World O! Water will include demonstrations, games, science experiments, canoeing on the lake and face painting.

Children's activities will be held at the lake's windmill, and canoeing and water safety talks will be at the lake's boat ramp.

Lunch will be provided at the resource center on a first-come, first-served basis.

Register in advance and get more information at worldowater.com.

Contact the writer: 402-444-1557, kevin.coffey@owh.com twitter.com/owhmusicguy

NRDs enhance outdoor fun

Omaha W-H
Aug. 20, 2011

By David Hendee
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Nebraska's state park areas are outdoor recreation magnets.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's eight state parks, 66 recreation areas and 10 state historical parks hosted 8.7 million visits last year.

Whether you live in metropolitan Omaha and Lincoln, or in a remote Panhandle village, you're not far from places to fish, hunt, camp, boat, paddle, hike, bike or picnic — and not just at Game and Parks sites.

Several of Nebraska's natural resources districts opened or reopened recreation areas this summer. They complement the Game and Parks sites.

Districts with new or renovated areas include Little Blue, Lower Big Blue, Lower Elkhorn, Nemaha and Upper Big Blue. The areas offer a variety of outdoor recreation activities, including fishing, hiking and camping.

Natural resources districts are local government entities with broad responsibilities to protect water, soil and wildlife.

When an NRD builds a dam or other flood-control structure to protect lives and property, it also provides opportunities for outdoor recreation, enhances wildlife habitat, renovates wetlands and prevents soil erosion, said Mary Ann Worthmann of Crofton, president of the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts.

In the Omaha area, the Papio-Missouri River NRD operates several recreation areas, including Chalco Hills, Heron Haven, Prairie View Recreation Area, bicycle trails and Platte and Elkhorn river public access parks.

This year's new or renovated NRD recreation areas and their features:

- **Little Blue NRD:** Liberty Cove recreation area near Lawrence and Lone Star recreation area near Strang now feature new camper pads. Both recreation areas offer fishing and camping. Liberty Cove has 1.4 miles of walking trail around the lake. Lone Star also has a walking trail.
- **Lower Big Blue NRD:** The Big Indian Lake Recreation Area improvement project near Odell has been completed and the recreation area reopened in June. New features include an emergency helipad, three sediment dikes, four maintenance breakwaters, nine in-lake breakwaters and fish shoals and scallops. Visitors will notice improved shoreline stabilization, improved access, a new boat ramp, boat dock, handicap-accessible restroom, additional and improved camping areas and a new beach with the swimming cove protected by breakwaters.
- **Lower Elkhorn NRD:** The new Maple Creek Recreation Area near Leigh opened in May. The 160-acre reservoir's primary purpose is flood protection for Leigh, downstream bridges and landowners along the west fork of Maple Creek. The reservoir is divided into two parts by Nebraska Highway 91, which was raised to create a sediment retention/wetland area to provide good water quality and extend the life of the reservoir. The recreation area includes camper pads, a swimming beach, a walking/biking trail, fishing, boating (5 mph, no wake) and picnic shelters.
- **Nemaha NRD:** At Iron Horse Trail Lake near DuBois, renovations included tree clearing, sediment removal and construction of sediment traps to slow the movement of new sediment into the lake. Fishing won't be available until newly stocked fish reach catchable size in a few years. The renovation includes improved fish habitat, fishing access points with a handicapped-accessible pier, a boat mooring island near the beach and walking trails. The NRD also added 11 electrical camping hookups and developed a new, primitive recreational vehicle and tent camping area.
- **Upper Big Blue NRD:** Recharge Lake near York has 12 new camping pads, an RV dump station, a refurbished day-use area, dedicated tent camping area, outdoor amphitheater with tiered-seating, new restrooms, two new picnic shelters with tables, cooking grills and fire rings. Landscaping was added and new trees planted. The site already had hiking and biking trails, playground equipment, boat dock and boat ramp.

A new interactive website for all of Nebraska's NRD recreation areas allows searches of dozens of areas perfect for camping, fishing, picnics, hiking, biking, wildlife viewing and more — even the availability of restrooms. The site is www.nrdrec.org.

Anglers, the site is searchable for a specific type of fish. Want to fish for largemouth bass, bluegill, walleye or any of nine other listed species? Click and scroll for a site near you.

And, yes, there's an application software for that. A free app for NRD Outdoor Recreation Areas is available for iPhone, iPod Touch

Published Monday August 22, 2011

Omaha W-H Editorial

FURTHERMORE

For the fifth year in a row, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District's budget contains no property tax levy increase. The credit goes to a fiscally responsible board and staff, but also to the fast-growing tax bases within the district's boundaries.

SC Journal 8/22/11

Brent Clark named new Dakota City administrator

DAKOTA CITY - The City Council of Dakota City recently named Brent Clark as the new city administrator following an extensive search, according to Mayor Jim Roberts. Clark replaces the outgoing Bob Peters and will begin his new duties on Sept. 5.

Clark most recently served as the director of the South Sioux City/Dakota County Convention and Visitors Bureau. He also worked as the grant coordinator and economic development assistant with the City of South Sioux City.

Clark obtained his bachelor's degree from Wayne State College, and is currently working toward a master's degree in public administration from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

"We're excited about the opportunity of having someone with Mr. Clark's enthusiasm and relationships to guide Dakota City into the future," Roberts said. "We're confident that Mr. Clark will provide the leadership that the city employees and the citizens of Dakota City expect."

Clark pledged to work hard to prove worthy of the confidence the mayor and city council have placed in him.

"I am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities involved and I will work closely with the city council to start serving the residents as effectively as possible," Clark said.

Omaha W-H
Public Pulse 8.24.2011

Don't let flood ruin biking trails

One thing Omaha has is wonderful bicycle trails. I ride the Bellevue Loop and Keystone trails daily. Sunday, they were fine. Monday, I started out and the creek was swollen and most of the trails were covered in water.

What in the world happened? No one can tell me the rain we got Sunday night made the creek go up 19 feet, when it was way down Sunday. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers needs to figure this flooding out and not forget common sense.

Many of us in Omaha enjoy the trails. This is the second year in a row for this flooding. The summer was pretty much a waste, unless you traveled out of state for any boating or any other water recreation fun.

Let's get back to basics.

Kim Sobota, Bellevue