

# KNOW YOUR NRD



**PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER**  
Natural Resources District  
Omaha, NE

Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts  
Making the Good Life Better Since 1972

Summer, 2016



## The NRD:

- Prevents loss of life and property through wise floodplain mgmt. and by building effective solutions to potentially catastrophic flooding.
- Patrols over 85 miles of levees and maintains 85 small dams.
- Provides Chalco Hills Recreation Area/Wehrspann Lake for flood control and public recreation.
- Protects water quality by working with hundreds of rural landowners to halt soil erosion.
- Provides high quality domestic water supply through rural water projects in Washington, Thurston and Dakota Counties.
- Builds new public-access recreation sites on local rivers.

## Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting Our Future

### The Papillion Creek Watershed Needs Immediate Attention!

The Papio-Missouri River NRD helps protect against the potential loss of lives and property that can occur due to flash flooding. Time is running out. Increased urbanization has added to already serious flood and water quality concerns in metro-Omaha's Papillion Creek Watershed. The potential is high for loss of life and billions of dollars in property damage.

The NRD is an active participant in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership. This group (Cities of Omaha Papillion, Bellevue, LaVista, Gretna, Ralston, Boys Town, Sarpy County and the NRD) is working to find cost-effective, tax-saving solutions to EPA-mandated water quality issues and the ever-increasing threat of disastrous

flooding.

Visit [www.papiopartnership.org](http://www.papiopartnership.org) to learn more about the Partnership and its mission.

Prairie Queen Recreation Area is a newly-opened reservoir providing flood control on West Papillion Creek to the City of Papillion and other downstream areas.

Dam Site 15A is being constructed by the NRD near 168<sup>th</sup> and Fort Streets and will offer much-needed



flood protection throughout the watershed and water-based recreation for all.

### Erosion and Sedimentation affects both Soil Productivity and Water Quality.

For years, the NRD has placed a high priority on addressing soil erosion on rural lands and the resulting sedimentation of lowland streams. Millions of dollars in cost-sharing to build soil-saving, water quality practices has encouraged hundreds of local landowners to construct erosion-control dams and many miles of terraces.

A Special Watershed project is underway in the 32 sq-mile Pigeon and Jones Creek area in Dakota County. This effort addresses lowland sedimentation and flood control for the City of Hubbard and areas downstream.

## More about the NRD

### Kramper Lake at Danish Alps State Recreation Area offers flood prevention and much more!

Construction of this multi-purpose project near Hubbard, NE is complete and the area is managed for public recreation by the NE Game and Parks Commission. The reservoir and downstream levee work is part of the comprehensive Pigeon/Jones Creek Watershed effort. Kramper Lake is providing flood control, erosion control, and much-needed public recreation. The NE Environmental Trust joined with the NRD, NE Natural Resources Commission, NE Game and Parks Commission, NE Dept. of Environmental Quality and Dakota County to fund the 750-acre reservoir and water-based recreation area.

### Platte and Missouri River Levee Improvements



The security of Omaha and Lincoln well fields, supplying water to nearly 50% of Nebraska's population, was at stake. Three NRDs, the Papio-Missouri River, Lower Platte South and Lower Platte North, worked diligently with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the State of Nebraska to assure that a critically-needed flood control levee improvement bordering western Sarpy County and the Clear Creek area of Saunders County became a reality.



The NRD is in the process of acquiring federal accreditation of the R-616 and R-613 levees south of Bellevue, NE for inclusion in the updated Flood Insurance Rate Map to be published by FEMA in the next few years. Levee improvements are being designed to meet FEMA criteria.

Shown at left is the R-613 Levee holding back potential flood waters during the epic Missouri River high-water event of 2011.

### Safe Water delivered in Rural Areas

Nearly 1,400 rural residents of Washington, Thurston and Dakota Counties, plus homes and businesses in the City of Fort Calhoun, rely on the NRD to supply plentiful, high-quality domestic water. The NRD operates three rural water supply systems. Wise operation and maintenance of these projects assures residents that the water they consume tastes great and meets all safety standards.



### Environmental Education is our Future

Getting our youth away from TV and video screens is no easy accomplishment. However, if we show our children the wonders of nature today, we will surely lessen the natural resources challenges of tomorrow. Nature day camps, field trips, water festivals, and helping teachers develop the tools required to teach about the outdoors are all available through the NRD.

**THE MISSION** of the Papio-Missouri River NRD is to wisely Conserve, Manage and Enhance our Soil, Water Wildlife and Forest Resources for the benefit of all citizens of the District.

The NRD makes valuable use of tax dollars by partnering with federal, state, other local agencies and groups - operating on less than 2% of local property taxes collected.

#### NRD QUICK FACTS:

##### Headquarters Office

8901 S. 154<sup>th</sup> St., Omaha, NE  
68138  
Tel: 402-444-6222

**Board Chairman:** David Klug

**General Manager:** John Winkler

**Asst. Gen. Manager:** Marlin  
Petermann

##### Field Offices:

Sarpy/Douglas Counties - Omaha

Washington County - Blair

Burt County - Tekamah

Thurston County - Walthill

Dakota County - Dakota City

**Population:** 625,000

**Land area:** 1,790 sq miles

The NRD is governed by an elected, 11-member Board.

##### Ranking of top priorities:

1. Reduce Flood Damages
2. Maintain Water Quality and Quantity
3. Reduce Erosion and Sedimentation
4. Provide Outdoor Recreation
5. Provide Domestic Water Supply
6. Improve Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Forest Resources.

Find out more about Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts at [www.nrdnet.org](http://www.nrdnet.org) and the Papio-Missouri River NRD at [www.papionrd.org](http://www.papionrd.org)