



**NEMAHA NRD QUICK FACTS:**

- Over 470 flood and erosion control dams and structures provide 4,735 acres of permanent water & 96,862 acre feet of flood storage
- Since 1977 over 1.4 million trees and shrubs have been planted to provide wind protection, wildlife habitat, and erosion control
- More than 1,200 abandoned wells have been properly filled and sealed with cost-share assistance
- The Nemaha River basin encompasses all of the Nemaha NRD and a portion of the Lower Platte South NRD in Otoe & Cass Counties

## *Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting the Future*

### Duck Creek Project on Its Way

Dirt is moving on the Duck Creek flood control/recreation project northwest of Peru in Nemaha County. Leroy & Sons Construction is busy working on the \$1.1 million dam and in-lake fisheries, which will result in a 62-acre lake. Dam construction is scheduled for completion by December, and work on the public recreation component will follow sometime in 2016. No-wake boating, camping, fishing, hiking, and picnicking will all be available at the site.



← Kreifels Conservation is doing the earthwork phase for relocation of the county road, which would have been inundated by water from the lake project. Once dirt work is done and has time to properly settle, the next step is to install a bridge and a box culvert. This road project will result in replacement of two aging bridges and provide a safer road that will allow for heavier vehicles and less maintenance.



## Seeing Groundwater More Clearly



In partnership with five other eastern Nebraska NRDs, the Nemaha NRD is participating in electromagnetic mapping of its underground water resources. The flights took place in April, 2015, across the District. A report of the findings, that are anticipated to give water experts a better idea of where and how much water is stored underground and how it may be connected, is expected to be released later this summer.

## NRD Contributes to Outdoor Education

With the help of a \$25,000 urban special project grant from the Nemaha NRD, children in Auburn, Nebraska, will enjoy outdoor fun in a natural setting. Dubbed Scotty's Garden in honor of the original contributor to the project, it provides logs, rocks, sand, plants, and other natural obstacles and playthings to challenge a child's imagination and encourage interactivity. The project was formally dedicated in April, 2015, and is open to all ages.



## Flooding *Not* a Hot Topic in Nemaha NRD



Property below the dam at Kirkman's Cove (including the city of Humboldt located just southeast) remains high and dry thanks to the flood control benefits afforded by this project.

Historic rainfall events were common topics in parts of southeast Nebraska early this summer. However, based largely on the presence of hundreds of flood control structures throughout the Nemaha NRD, flooding was reduced in areas that would have seen significant damage without the projects. That doesn't mean flooding was completely

eliminated. Structures are designed to control just enough water to balance the cost of the projects with the benefits of protecting lives and property. The result: **minor** flooding instead of a **major** catastrophe.

## •Protects lives and property

- Free water testing for nitrates & bacteria
- Continuing efforts to maintain & improve flood control projects

## •Protects our future

- Educating youth through workshops, contests, and school presentations
- Providing funds for outdoor education & recreation in urban areas and schools

## •Protects taxpayer dollars

- Responsible budgeting pairs local tax dollars with other state and federal grants to fund important projects

The Nemaha NRD:

- is one of 23 NRDs
- serves all or parts of eight counties in southeast Nebraska
- is governed by a 21-member board of directors elected by the voters in 10 subdistricts
- meets monthly on the second Thursday to carry out the responsibilities charged to NRDs by the Nebraska Legislature in 1972

Find out more about Nebraska's NRDs at [www.nrdnet.org](http://www.nrdnet.org) and [www.nemahanrd.org](http://www.nemahanrd.org)