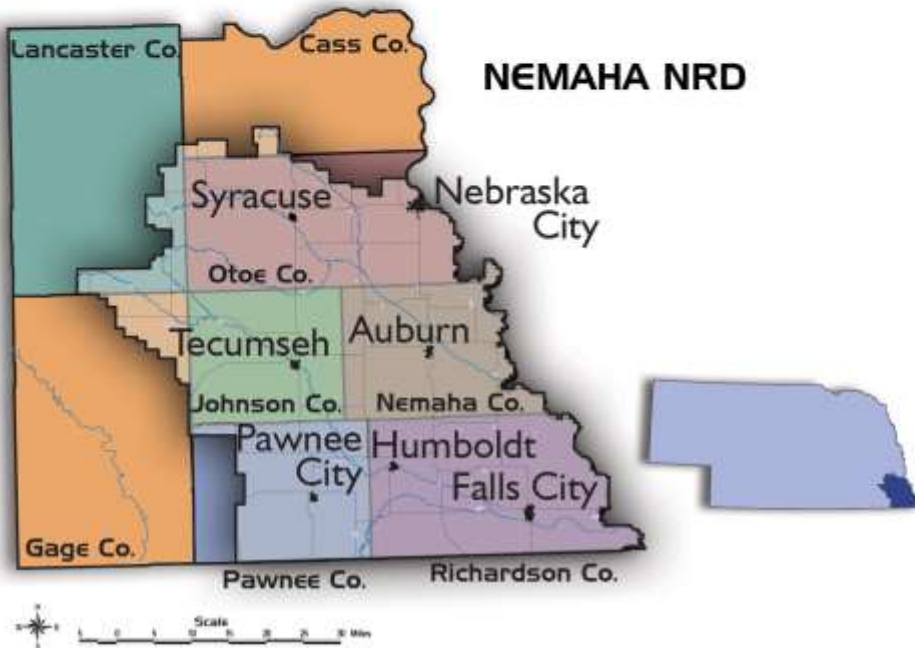




Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts  
Making the Good Life Better Since 1972



**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***

## Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Improving

Outdoor enthusiasts will soon experience both new and improved recreational opportunities thanks to a couple of projects in the Nemaha NRD. Northwest of Peru the dam and the county road relocation are completed for the Duck Creek project, and interior roads and parking lots are now under construction by Tim Sisco Construction of Firth. Projected for completion in the fall of 2017, the new recreation facility in Nemaha County will provide no-wake boating, fishing, camping, hiking, and picnicking. Additional phases of construction will include utilities, signage, and picnic and restroom facilities.

The hiking and bicycling community will benefit from renovations to a two-mile stretch of the Steamboat Trace trail. Resurfacing problem areas with concrete paired with drainage improvements will provide a smoother surface and alleviate some of the erosion concerns experienced in this area. The site under repair is between Honey Creek and Weldon Creek (approximately mile markers 19 to 22 between Peru and Brownville). Kreifels Conservation & Excavating, Nebraska City, is expected to complete the work around the end of September, 2016.



Impacts from the county road (left) above the trail (right) will be addressed during renovations.

### Groundwater Concerns Taken Seriously

Nemaha NRD staff and directors are working to address concerns about groundwater quantity in parts of the District. Rules and regulations are in place to protect everyone's right to water while striving to share it efficiently. However, changes are imminent as different issues are raised. Since no one-size-fits-all solution exists, the board is looking at ways to designate different aquifer regions so that rules can be applied accordingly. Citizen input is encouraged; and prior to any final changes, public hearings will be required. Though a target date for completion of the rules updates has not been announced, the board's goal is to have something in place soon.

### Urban Areas Benefit from Special Funding

Unadilla and Auburn both completed public trail projects in their communities last year with the help of funding from the NRD's Urban Special Project program. Each received a matching grant of \$25,000. Auburn completed their paved trail and associated native plantings with educational aspects



around their sports complex on the north side of town. Unadilla added a paved trail around the Nemaha Roadside Park on the east side of town. Both trails allow visitors to enjoy nature while participating in healthy, outdoor activities.

### Watershed of Wonders – Always a Hit!



On a warm day in June, 61 children ages 10-12 gathered at Kirkman's Cove Recreation Area near Humboldt to experience a *Watershed of Wonders!* Held only in even numbered years, the free day camp gives kids a chance to have a boat ride, learn archery, try to catch a fish, and even compete for the title of champion in an amazing water race. NRD staff and directors along with many, valuable volunteers lead the camp. Goal #1 for the camp is to provide fun and safe activities; the kids might not realize that Goal #2 is for them to learn something about natural resources along the way. The next installment of "WoW" is set for summer, 2018!

## Your NRD:

- 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.nemahard.org](http://www.nemahard.org)