

Lower Salt Creek Groundwater Reservoir Management Area Phase II Best Management Practices



Lower Platte South
Natural Resources District

3125 Portia Street
PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581
(402) 476-2729
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Problem

An NRD study has concluded elevated nitrate levels in the Lower Salt Creek Ground Water Reservoir is largely due to over application of nitrogen fertilizer. The cost-sharing programs listed here are a result of work by an advisory group with various water interests from throughout the reservoir and by the NRD. The programs are tailored exclusively for landowners within the reservoir and we believe the number of landowners who take advantage of these special offerings will have a direct impact on the likelihood of reversing the upward trend in nitrate levels.

Fertilizer Calibration Meter and Manifold Program

Landowners, operators and those who custom apply anhydrous ammonia fertilizer within the reservoir get a cost-share rate of 75% from the NRD on the purchase of fertilizer flow meters, with the NRD cost not exceed \$2,850. The District will pay 100% of the cost of manifolds and new hoses with the District's share not to exceed \$500.

Soil Sampling Program

The NRD will reimburse 75% of the cost of soil sampling to approved cooperators, with the District cost not to exceed \$400 per cooperator. Cooperators are eligible for soil sample cost-sharing every other year.

Water Flow Meter and Moisture Probe Program

The NRD will pay 75% of the cost of purchasing a water flow meter and a moisture probe, with the NRD cost not to exceed \$675 for the meter and \$90 for the probe. The equipment assures accurate applications and assists in applying only as much water as the crop will use.

Irrigation Water Management Practices Program

Cooperators must apply through the NRCS office for 75% NRD cost-sharing on irrigation components. Eligible components include buried pipeline, surge valves, drop pipes, conversion nozzles, rainfall auto-shutoff valves, reuse pits, return pipe, and more. NRCS technical specifications and standards apply.

Please complete the application on the following page and send it to the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District. This cover page can be retained by the applicant for informational purposes.

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District is one of 23 districts in the state of Nebraska, formed in 1972 for the purpose of managing the state's natural resources. Programs and activities include all areas of natural resource management and development: tree planting, flood protection, wildlife habitat, streambank stabilization, environmental education, land treatment, water monitoring and many others.

The districts are partially funded by property taxes and are governed by a board of directors--elected representatives who serve four-year terms. The NRD system is local government working to protect local natural resources. The Lower Platte South NRD includes nearly all of Lancaster and Cass counties and parts of Seward, Saunders, Otoe and Butler counties.

The Lower Platte South Natural Resource District is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Purpose: To encourage and demonstrate the use of a fertilizer flow meter and manifold to reduce pollution of water and soil through the accurate use and uniform application of nutrients.

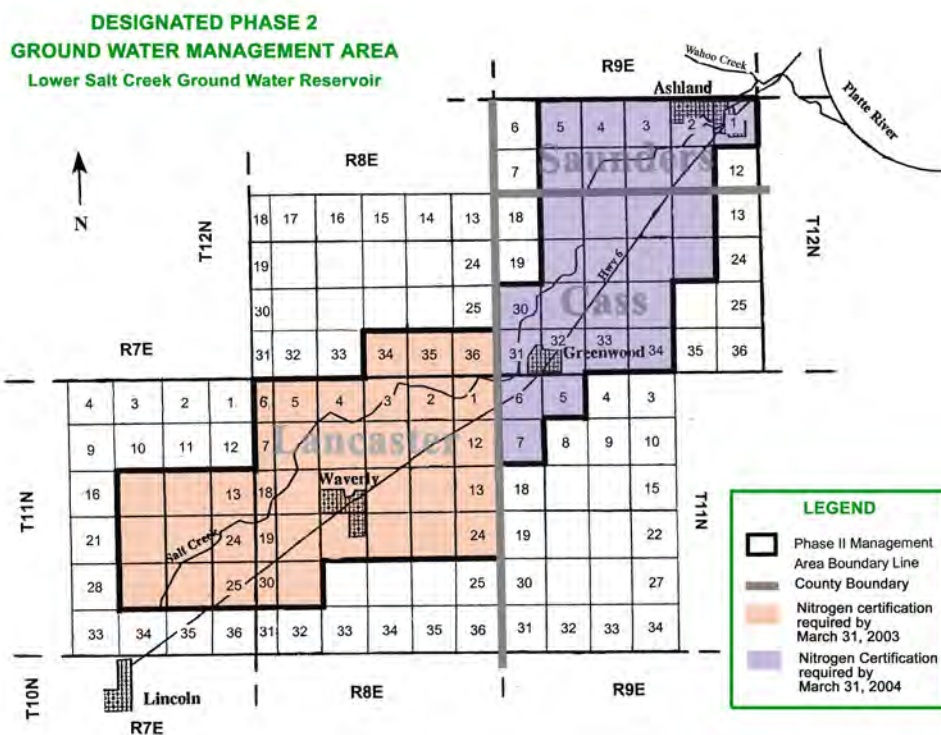
Applicability: This cost-share program is available to operators that farm land in the Lower Salt Creek Groundwater Reservoir Phase Two Groundwater Management Area in the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District. The precise and uniform application of nutrients is a known best management practice that will help reduce soil and water pollution on lands devoted to crop production.

Terms:

1. The owner/operator must use the equipment on lands within the Lower Salt Creek Ground Water Reservoir Phase Two Groundwater Management Area of the Lower Platte South NRD.
2. Owner/Operator must keep the equipment in their possession and use it for a minimum of five (5) years after the date of approval or must refund the cost-share payment to the Lower Platte South NRD.
3. Claims for payment will not be accepted more than ninety (90) days from the date the application is approved.
4. Owner/operator may be requested to report to the Lower Platte South NRD on the use and effectiveness of the equipment acquired during the term of this agreement..

Cost-Share Rate: 75% of actual cost of the meter (\$2,850.00 maximum NRD Share).

100% of actual cost of the manifold and new hoses (\$500.00 maximum NRD Share).



Contact the
Lower Platte South NRD
(402) 476-2729
3125 Portia
P.O. Box #83581
LINCOLN, NE 68501-3581



LOWER SALT CREEK GROUNDWATER RESERVOIR SOIL SAMPLING PROGRAM (LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NRD)



Step 1: APPLICATION APPROVAL – Fill out information below, sign and return. This application will not be effective until approved by the Lower Platte South NRD. **Claims for payment must be submitted within 45 days from receipt of the laboratory results.** Items of cost for which reimbursement is claimed are to be supported by documentation of payment made or due along with the laboratory results. Cost-share is 75% of the actual cost up to \$400 maximum per cooperator.

Owner: _____ **Social Security # or Federal ID #:** _____
(please check appropriate box below)

Individual / Sole Proprietor
 Corporation
 Partnership
 Other _____

Address: _____ **Phone:** (_____) _____

City: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

State & Zip: _____

Tenant: _____ **Phone:** (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

List legal descriptions with farm number for each farm field to be sampled:

- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County
- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County
- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County
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- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County
- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County
- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County
- Farm # _____ Legal: _____ ¼, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, _____ County

Applicant: I understand that I must be in compliance with all rules and regulations of the Lower Platte South NRD's programs in order to receive approval.

APPLICATION APPROVAL: The Lower Platte South NRD Board of Director approved the Applicant's request.

Owner / Operator

Date

NRD Representative

Date

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS APPLICATION TO THE NRD OFFICE FOR PRIOR APPROVAL

Step 2: COST-SHARE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

Please compile and submit the following: (a) FSA aerial photo of each farm / field soil sampling cost-share is being requested. Be sure the section, township and range are legible. Show on the photo(s) which fields were sampled. (b) to each photo attach a copy of the corresponding laboratory results showing the name of the laboratory and who collected the soil samples.

Actual Cost	PERFORMED (To Be Filled Out By NRD) 75% of Actual	Maximum of \$400	Cost Share Amount

Owner / Operator Certification & Agreement: I certify that the samples for which payment is claimed were furnished to a qualified laboratory for analysis and that the charges are reasonable. I agree to the terms listed below. I understand that if I fail to comply with the terms, I must refund the cost-share money I received from the District.

Owner / Operator _____ Date _____ NRD Representative _____ Date _____

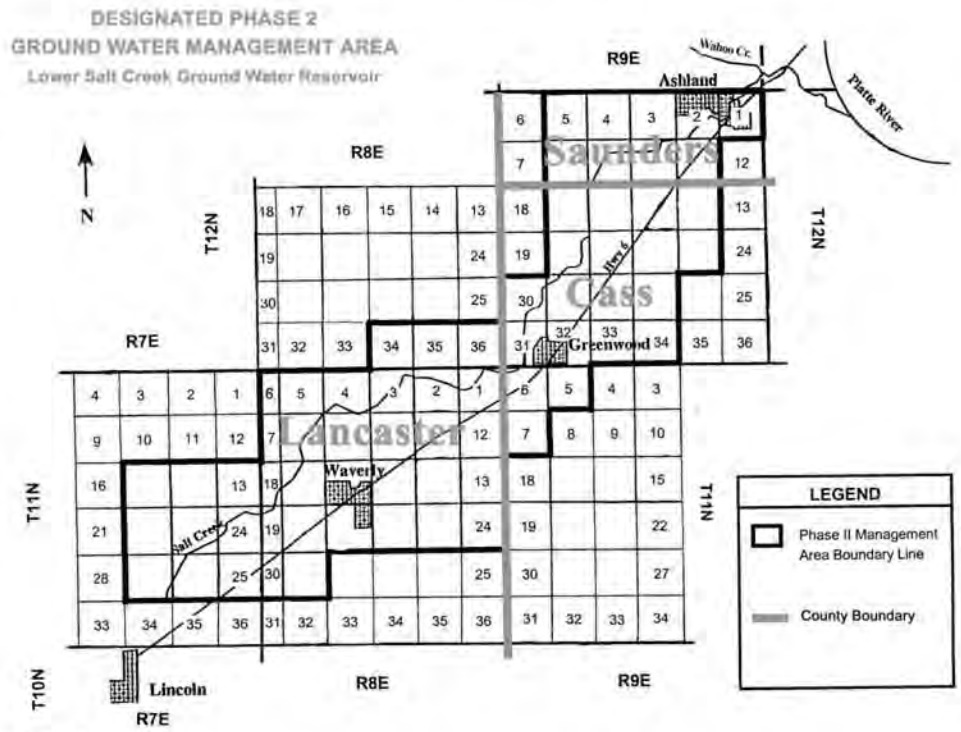
PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS APPLICATION WITH DOCUMENTATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Purpose: To encourage the practice of sampling soils and analyzing for nutrients content to assist in determining the application rate of additional nutrients needed for a field while reducing the potential for water and soil pollution.

Applicability: This cost-share program is available to operators that farm land in the Phase Two Lower Salt Creek Groundwater Reservoir of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District. Determining the proper amount of nutrients to apply to a field prior to application is a know best management practice that will help reduce soil and water pollution on land devoted to crop production and on land where turf maintenance is needed.

Terms:

1. Eligible cooperators must own or operate land in the Lower Salt Creek Groundwater Reservoir.
2. Samples collected must be from lands within the Lower Salt Creek Groundwater Reservoir boundary.
3. Composite samples from a 40-acre field shall include a shallow sample 0 – 8” in depth and a deep sample 12 – 30” in depth.
4. Analysis can include a complete package for the shallow sample and only nitrates for the deep sample.
5. Cooperators must provide a FSA aerial photo of each farm / field sampled showing which fields were sampled, who collected the soil samples, and a laboratory copy of the results.
6. Cooperators and fields are eligible for cost-share every other year.



Cost-Share Rate: 75% of the actual sample analysis cost with the District's share not to exceed \$400 per cooperator.

Contact:
 Lower Platte South NRD
 3125 Portia St.
 P O Box 83581
 Lincoln, NE 68501-3581
 402-476-2729



**FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT
(District wide)**

I am applying for cost-share for a new flow meter. (Eligible for maintenance cost share once every three years, when meter needs maintenance).

Number of meters applying for? _____

A. Program application (Please use separate application for each flow meter request)

1. Fill in the information requested in the box below:

LANDOWNER (Please print) _____

MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City or Town, State, Zip Code) _____

(Please check appropriate box below)

Individual / Sole Proprietor Corporation Partnership Other _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

TENANT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER (If Applicable) _____

B. Location(s)

1. List all well registration numbers and legal descriptions where flow meter will be located and used:

Legal: _____ Section _____ Township _____ N, Range _____ E

C. Moisture Probe Cost Share is Requested? _____ YES _____ NO

D. Landowner and Lower Platte South NRD Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT, by and between _____, hereafter called the Landowner, and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, hereafter called the District, shall be effective from and after its acceptance by the District.

The Landowner and District agree as follows:

1. The Landowner will:

- a. Purchase a flow meter equipped with a totalizer and moisture probe (if applicable) and provide a copy of the invoice(s) to the District within 30 days of purchase.
- b. Install and use the flow meter on the well or wells listed on this application on a regular basis.
- c. Maintain the flow meter in good working condition for a minimum period of 10 years.
- d. Provide an aerial photo of the location where the new meter will be utilized.
- e. Report annual water usage information obtained from totalizer readout on flow meter.

2. The District will:

- a. Upon verification of the Landowner's installation of the flow meter, reimburse the Landowner 75% of the cost to purchase a flow meter with the District's cost not to exceed \$675.00
- b. Upon verification of the Landowner's installation of the moisture probe, reimburse the Landowner 75% of the cost to purchase a moisture probe with the District's cost not to exceed \$90.00 (if applicable)
- c. Provide the Landowner with information on how to utilize the flow meter and moisture probe (if applicable) can be utilized.

LANDOWNER SIGNATURE

DATE

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NRD

DATE