

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST’S MONTHLY REPORT

2/12/2026

PERSONNEL/OFFICE

- The Lancaster and Cass County Service Centers are under normal operations.

Lincoln Field Office (Lancaster Co) Staff	
District Conservationist	Tom Cowan
Resource Conservationist	VACANT as of 11/2024
Soil Conservationist	VACANT as of 12/2025
Soil Conservation Tech.	VACANT as of 10/2024
Program Assistant	Rebecca Wusk
LPSNRD District Secretary	Connie Hansen
LPSNRD Resources Tech.	John Albert
LPSNRD Resources Tech.	Bridget McKinley
PF Farm Bill Biologist	John McClinton
NWTF Forester	Zack Zimmerman

Weeping Water Field Office (Cass Co) Staff	
Resource Conservationist	Devin Heusinkvelt
Soil Conservationist	VACANT as of 10/2024
Soil Conservation Tech.	James Conradi
LPSNRD District Secretary	Shelly Nielsen
LPSNRD Resources Tech.	Lesli Lair

LPSNRD LAND TREATMENT

- Continued warmer weather and adequate moisture is allowing construction to continue.
- Technicians and planning staff are:
 - Processing cost-share program projects (survey, design, staking, field visits, check out, documentation, and payment processing).
 - Actively communicating with producers/landowners about cost-share program opportunities
- LPSNRD currently has the following active or completed land treatment cost-share program applications:
 - Lancaster County Field Office
 - 4 Fall 2025 Structural Applications (1 cancelled)
 - 12 Fall 2025 Cover Crop Applications
 - Cass County Field Office
 - 20 Fall 2025 Structural Applications (1 cancelled)
 - 1 Fall 2025 Cover Crop Application (cancelled)

USDA PROGRAMS

- Planning staff are assessing FY26 USDA program applications.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2/12/26 – Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) enrollment opens
- 2/16/26 – USDA Offices closed for President’s Day Holiday
- 3/9/26 - 4/17/26 – General CRP enrollment open

Tom Cowan – District Conservationist