

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST’S MONTHLY REPORT
5/15/2026**

PERSONNEL/OFFICE

- The Lancaster and Cass County Service Centers are under normal operations.
- Zack Zimmerman, Contract Survey Aide, started a new partner position with the Lower Big Blue NRD in Beatrice.

| 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 |
| Contract Survey Aide | VACANT as of 4/2026 |

| 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 |
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LPSNRD LAND TREATMENT

- Weather and moisture conditions continue to allow construction.
- 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
 - 0 Summer 2026 Structural Applications
 - 3 Fall 2026 Structural Applications
 - Cass County Field Office
 - 2 Summer 2026 Structural Applications
 - 4 Fall 2026 Structural Applications

USDA PROGRAMS

- Planning staff are assessing FY26 USDA program applications (CSP) and writing contracts (EQIP)
- Planning staff/Biologists are writing CRP contracts
- Annual Food Security Act Compliance Reviews beginning

UPCOMING/CURRENT EVENTS

- 2/12/26 – Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) enrollment opened
- 5/25/56 – USDA Offices closed for Memorial Day

Tom Cowan – District Conservationist