### ABOUT THE NRD

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, with an emphasis on watershed management. Programs and activities include all areas of natural resource management and development: tree planting, flood protection, wildlife habitat, stream bank stabilization, environmental education, land treatment, water monitoring and many others. The districts are partially funded by property taxes and 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.

### ФILTER STRIP PROGRAM

Lower Platte South NRD • 3125 Portia Street
PO Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581
Phone: (402) 476-2729 • Fax: (402) 476-6454

Contact: Ariana Kennedy-Resources Conservationist
The Lower Platte South NRD is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

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**APPLICATION**

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The undersigned agree to the terms of the program listed within and does hereby apply for assistance to install and maintain the filter strips as shown on the aerial photo to be attached.

| Landowner Signature |  |
| Date |  |
Purpose
To encourage landowners to establish bands of vegetation adjacent to cropland that will improve water quality downstream by filtering out sediment and associated pollutants.

Terms
- Contract begins on date of establishment
- Contract length: 10 years
- Grazing is allowed September 1 through March 31 (except in areas planted to trees)
- Haying is permitted once per calendar year after July 1
- Seed mixture: Switchgrass and/or Big Bluestem, Switchgrass and brome mixture
- Minimum width: 20 feet
- Minimum total length per farm: 1/2 mile
- Maximum width: 66 feet
- Encroachment with tillage equipment or overgrazing will result in 50% or 0% payment that year
- Annual payment:
  - Opt. 1: $75 / acre / year with double payment both first & last year
  - Opt. 2, 3: $55 / acre / year with double payments both first & last year
- First year double payment to offset planting and materials
- Last year double payment to encourage participation all 10 years
- Landowner would be restricted from participating in other governmental programs except the USDA-FSA set-a-side program

Procedure
1. Landowner works with NRCS on tentative filter strip locations.
2. Landowner submits application to LPSNRD.
3. LPSNRD considers the application.
4. Landowner establishes filter strips.
5. Upon establishment, LPSNRD inspects and contract begins
6. LPSNRD inspects and makes payments annually.

Eligible Sites
This practice applies only to existing cropland.

Opt. 1: Cropland adjacent to rivers, creeks, seasonal streams (excluding sod waterways), lakes and wetlands.

Opt. 2: Cropland where contour buffer strips can be established on the contour and alternated with cropland.

Opt. 3: Cropland that will take the place of end rows or are adjacent to sod waterways.

How to Apply
1. Fill out the application form in this brochure
2. Include an aerial photo of the section(s) to be placed in the program. Maps can be obtained at the FSA/NRCS office.
3. Mail this application with photo to the Lower Platte South NRD office.