

North Platte Natural Resources District Irrigation Newsletter

Issue 7

Surface Water Registration

The North Platte NRD is currently mailing surface water registration paperwork to landowners who irrigate with surface water only. If you receive a packet, please review the materials carefully and follow the instructions to complete your registration and return the signed forms.

This registration process is part of the NRD's effort to improve nitrate management and maintain accurate, up-to-date records. Beginning January 1, 2025, all surface water irrigated acres must be registered and approved by the NRD under updated rules and regulations. This registration will not impact your existing water rights or any agreements with your Surface Water District. Registering your acres ensures they are associated with annual nitrogen sample data in the NRD's database, supporting better groundwater protection and resource planning.

As of September, Farmers Irrigation District, Gering-Fort Laramie Irrigation District, and Enterprise Irrigation District have had registration paperwork mailed out. If you have not received any paperwork for these irrigation districts, please reach out to the North Platte NRD.

Board Meetings

The public is welcome to attend all Board meetings and the Committee meetings. The North Platte Natural Resources District conducts its Board Meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 3 pm. Committee meetings are held as needed. The meetings are held at the office located at 100547 Airport Road, Scottsbluff. We welcome your thoughts and opinions on upcoming projects.



Welcome to Issue #7 of the Irrigation Newsletter! This newsletter is intended to inform **groundwater and surface water irrigators** within the District. The information included in this newsletter is made possible with the help of the University of Nebraska Extension and USDA-NRCS.

Visit or Contact Us

100547 Airport Road

Scottsbluff, NE

308-632-2749

www.npnrd.org



Cost Share for Irrigation Well Sampling

Cost share will be available for water samples from May 15th through August 1st annually.

Samples will be accepted at the North Platte NRD office and the NRCS offices in Scottsbluff, Bridgeport, and Oshkosh. Landowner cost will be \$10 per sample with an approved cost share application. Payment is due at the time of sample drop-off.

Sample bottles can be picked up from the same offices.

The pump should run for at least 15 minutes to purge the well.

Samples must be collected from the well or at the final point of distribution. Samples taken from the final point of distribution must be georeferenced, and each well registration number that feeds into the final point of distribution must be provided. Please do not take a sample from a distribution point when surface water would be part of the sample collected.

If chemigation has occurred, wait 14 days before collecting a sample.

Label the sample bottle with your name, the location, date, and time the sample was collected.

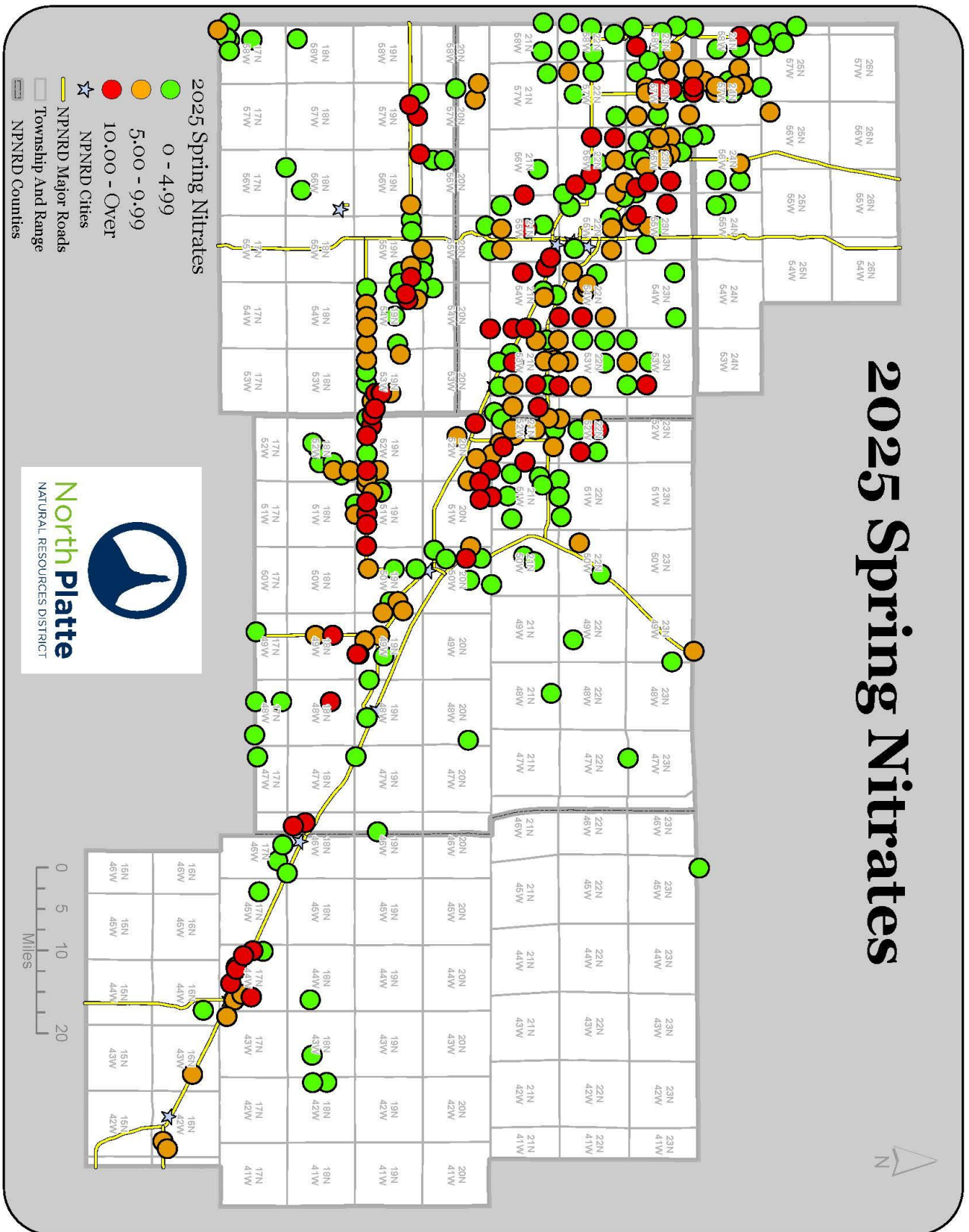
Samples must be kept below 40 degrees Fahrenheit once the sample has been collected.

Samples must be received at the NRD or NRCS office within 48 hours of collection.

If you choose to send samples yourself, select a lab of your choice and follow the instructions they provide. Samples must be taken between October 1 and September 31. Those results must be submitted to the North Platte NRD before December 31st of the same year. Below is a compiled list of labs you can send water samples. This is to provide the necessary information for people to be able to follow our Rules and Regulations. This is not a complete list, we are not endorsing these businesses, and if you would like to be added to this list, please contact the North Platte NRD and let us know.

Water Labs	Phone Number	Address	City	State
Green Analytical Laboratories	970-247-4220	75 Suttle Street	Durango	CO
Analytical Laboratories Inc.	208-342-5515	1804 N 33rd St	Boise	ID
Teton Microbiology	208-529-0077	300 S. Freeman Ave	Idaho Falls	ID
IAS Envirochem Laboratory	208-237-3300	3314 Pole Line Rd	Pocatello	ID
Magic Valley Lab	208-733-4250	210 Addison Ave	Twin Falls	ID
SDK Laboratories, Inc.	620-665-5661	1000 Corey Road	Hutchinson	KS
American Agricultural Laboratory	308-345-3670	700 West D Street	McCook	NE
Midwest Laboratories, Inc.	402-334-7770	13611 B Street	Omaha	NE
Ward Laboratories, Inc.	800-887-7645	4007 Cherry Ave (shipping); P.O. Box 788	Kearney	NE
Regen Ag Lab	308-627-0065	31740 Hwy 10	Pleasanton	NE
Central District Health Department	308-385-5175	1137 South Locust	Grand Island	NE
MCS Family of Companies	308-635-1926	818 S Beltline Hwy E	Scottsbluff	NE
South Dakota Agricultural Laboratories	605-692-7325	1335 Western Ave	Brookings	SD
SGS Brookings	605-692-7611	1405 32nd Ave	Brookings	SD
Wyoming Department of Agriculture Lab	307-742-2984	1174 Snowy Range Rd	Laramie	WY

2025 Spring Nitrates



Spring Nitrate Results

The North Platte NRD maintains a network of around 600 monitoring wells. Our water technicians sample these wells twice a year, in the spring and fall. We collect data on multiple parameters, with nitrates being our primary concern. Shown above are the results from the spring 2025 sampling season.



100547 Airport Road, P.O. Box 280
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0280

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Flow Meter Reads and Maintenance

Employees of the North Platte NRD will start the annual flow meter reading process beginning October 1, 2025, and continue through the middle of November. Flow meters that are on the NRD maintenance schedule and due for maintenance will be serviced at the time of reading.

It may be necessary to enter some properties more than once. We will calculate the water pumped for the past water year and report the results as soon as the information is processed.

Winterizing Flowmeters

As we move into September, now is a great time to plan ahead for winterizing your flow meters. The North Platte NRD encourages producers to begin preparing their irrigation equipment before colder weather sets in. Draining water from the pipelines where meters are installed can prevent ice buildup, which can crack or damage meters, leading to costly repairs or replacements. Taking a few simple steps now can save time and money later in the season.

This is part seven of an ongoing series designed to provide education and information to the Landowners and Operators irrigating within the North Platte Natural Resources District boundaries.

Information found in this Newsletter has been reproduced from "Irrigation and Nitrogen Management, User Education/Certification Program" a Nebraska Extension Circular EC2008. If you would like more information, please contact the North Platte Natural Resources District.