

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
RELATING TO THE LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES
DISTRICT AND THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
VOLUNTARY INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Pursuant to *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 46-718, the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (District) and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (Department) hereby provide notice that the District and the Department shall hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 5:00 p.m., at the District office, 511 Commercial Park Rd, Wahoo, NE 68066. As required by *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 46-718(1), the purpose of the hearing is to take testimony on the proposed voluntary integrated management plan (IMP) and the proposed regulatory actions (controls).

The voluntary IMP was cooperatively developed by the District and the Department in consultation with a diverse stakeholder group, with a purpose to jointly manage hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water to achieve and sustain a balance between water uses and supplies within the geographic area of the District.

The general contents of the IMP chapters are as follows: 1.) Authority and effective date, 2.) Introduction, 3.) Background, 4.) Public participation process, 5.) Map and description of the IMP area, 6.) Goals and objectives, 7.) Long-term studies, 8.) Regulatory actions, 9.) Monitoring plan, 10.) Incentive programs, 11.) Funding options (includes a possible occupation tax), 12.) Review process and modifications, and 13.) Information considered in the development of the IMP.

Chapter 8 of the voluntary IMP outlines the two controls for groundwater management and two controls for surface water management that are consistent to meet the goals and objectives of the IMP. These controls are 1.) Limits on the development of new groundwater and surface water irrigated acres, and 2.) Required municipal water use reporting for groundwater, groundwater transfer and surface water permit holders. The groundwater controls apply to a geographic sub-area of District; a map of which can be accessed in Chapter 5. The surface water controls apply to the Platte Basin portion of the District, a map of which can also be accessed in Chapter 5.

The full text of the proposed IMP and proposed controls may be obtained via the Internet at the District's website at <http://www.lpnnrd.org/> or the Department's website at <http://dnr.nebraska.gov> or by contacting the District or the Department by mail, email or telephone, using the following contact information:

Lower Platte North NRD
Attn: Daryl Andersen
511 Commercial Park Rd
Wahoo, NE 68066
402-443-4675
danderson@lpnnrd.org

Department of Natural Resources
Attn: Amy Zoller
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94676
402-471-2363
amy.zoller@nebraska.gov

Any interested person may appear at the hearing and present written or oral testimony concerning the proposed IMP and proposed controls. Testimony or other information relevant to the purposes of the hearing may also be submitted in writing to the District or Department, using the contact information above, and must be received no later than 5 pm on Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

Individuals with disabilities may request auxiliary aids and service necessary for participation by contacting the District or Department, no later than 5 pm on Friday, April 27, 2018, using the contact information above.

Following the public hearing on the proposed voluntary IMP and proposed controls, the District and the Department will make a joint decision within 60 days of whether to implement the proposed voluntary IMP with or without modifications and whether to adopt and implement the groundwater and surface water controls proposed in the voluntary IMP.