NRDs Are Managing Water Statewide:
Nebraska’s 23 Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) are uniquely positioned to manage the conservation of the state’s natural resources through local governance. Because of Nebraska’s diverse geology, climatology, and hydrology, each NRD—and its locally elected board of directors—are able to enact rules, regulations, and programs that can assist its District’s citizens and protect local natural resources for future generations to share. Water management regulations in particular include allocating groundwater, augmenting surface water, requiring flow meters, instituting well drilling moratoriums, requiring water use reports, and restricting the expansion of irrigated acres. Individual NRDs use these regulations in different combinations and to different degrees depending on their respective geographic areas of concern. Below is a map showing all 23 NRDs and their most recent status of water management techniques.

So why does this matter to you? Quite simply, Nebraska’s NRDs are working to ensure that you and future generations can continue to share in the use and enjoyment of our natural resources. Nebraska’s NRDs: Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, and Protecting the Future...

NRD GROUNDWATER QUANTITY REGULATIONS ACROSS NEBRASKA
(October 2017)

Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes, in sub-areas.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 24"-26"

Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-30"

Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes, in sub-areas.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 22"-27"

Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes, in sub-areas.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 24"-26"

Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, in sub-areas.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes, in sub-areas.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 16"-20"

Allocation: 60/75yrs
Flow meters: Yes, all wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 15"-19"

Allocation: 70/5yrs & Pumpkin Creek = 60/75yrs
Flow meters: Yes, on all wells by 12/31/16.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 14"-18"

Allocation: 30/40/50yrs.
Flow meters: Yes, all wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Limited acre expansion.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 14"-19"

Allocation: 27/3yrs, in sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, in sub-areas.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, but limited irrigated acre expansion.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-30"

Allocation: 27/3yrs, in sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, in sub-areas.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes, in sub-areas.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes, in sub-areas.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-30"

Allocation: 21/3yrs; 97yrs, maximum, in NW sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, all wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, but restrictions on irrigated acres in NW sub-areas.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 28"-37"

Allocation: Yes, on new wells.
Flow meters: Yes, all wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, well permit ranking.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 34"-36"

Allocation: 27/3yrs, in sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, well permit ranking.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 38"-40"

Allocation: 27/3yrs, in sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, well permit ranking.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 38"-40"

Allocation: 27/3yrs, in sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, in sub-areas.
Well Drilling Moratorium: Yes, in sub-areas.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes, in sub-areas.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-30"

Allocation: 21/3yrs; 97yrs, maximum, in NW sub-areas.
Flow meters: Yes, all wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, but restrictions on irrigated acres in NW sub-areas.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 28"-37"

Allocation: Yes, on new wells.
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, well permit ranking.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 34"-36"

Allocation: Set when triggered.
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, well permit ranking.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 28"-30"

Allocation: When triggered = 30/3yrs, then 45/5yrs.
Flow meters: Yes, on all wells by 10/31/17.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-28"

Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, on all wells by 3/1/17.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No, well permit ranking.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-28"

 Allocation: No
Flow meters: Yes, on new wells.
Well Drilling Moratorium: No.
Required Water Use Reports: Yes.
Rainfall Yearly Average: 26"-31"

EDITOR’S NOTE:
The information presented statewide reflects water management and conservation actions as of October 2017.
This map is intended for general reference only. District, and sub-area specific rules and regulations are put in place by a locally elected board of directors for each Natural Resources District. As a result, rules and regulations are subject to change per local board action. Not all restrictions pertaining to water management are printed on this map. Please contact your local NRD to obtain the most current rules and regulations for that District.
Information gathered and published by:
Upper Blue NRD, 1122 North NRD, NE
Updated: October 31, 2017

Average Yearly Rainfall for Nebraska:
Precipitation varies dramatically across the state ranging from 14" to 16" a year in the Panhandle to 34"-36" a year in the most eastern portion of Nebraska. Therefore, allocation amounts, along with historic water use, take precipitation into consideration.