I want to start off by congratulating our water technician Dana Christensen on the birth of her daughter, Opal Ann. Dana reports that both she and Opal are doing well and Opal's big sister Maggie is a big help! The TBNRD office is excited for a visit from the Christensen family soon! Dana has been working remotely from home and has done a terrific job of taking care of her family while helping with office needs. Congratulations Dana and Tim!

If the calendar didn't remind you that September has arrived, perhaps the cooling temperatures have! My family spent Labor Day weekend kayaking on the Middle Loop river in the Sandhills. Most years we have a warm weekend and find time to swim and explore. This year the weather was wet, rainy, and cool but that didn't stop us from having a good time. However, little did I know that just six days later the temperature would dip to 34° F overnight! In fact, several places in Nebraska were well below freezing this past weekend and some locations set new overnight low temperature records! The cool temperatures have also helped with fall sports, as cross country has only had a couple days where practice had to be held in the morning or shortened due to extreme afternoon heat.

Last week I attended the Central Platte NRD board meeting. Due to a scheduling conflict, they held their August board meeting on September 4, but even with the additional week between board meetings they had little to cover on their agenda. The biggest news for CPNRD is construction on their new office and educational building is moving along quickly and the building should be fully enclosed soon. They expect to be moving sometime before spring 2026. It will be a very nice facility.

This week I'll be attending Husker Harvest Days and working in the NARD building. Husker Harvest Days has seen some dramatic improvements over the years and it's much more enjoyable to attend. Most folks visit the NARD building to receive a free tree, which is always a popular give-away item. Over the years I've planted a number of trees in my on my own land and it's great to see my tree line starting to grow and provide shade and shelter.

With the recent rains, our summer waters sampling has come to an abrupt end. We don't have all the testing results yet, and it will be some time before everything is compiled, but we were able to get significantly more samples this summer because of the weather and thanks to our interns.

That's all I have for this month. I've seen a few combines in fields already - as harvest season approaches, I hope everyone has a safe and bountiful harvest!