

BUY A TRAIL PASS, GET BETTER TRAILS

Your voluntary trail pass donation is used exclusively to maintain existing trails. Passes are available at boxes along the trails, or by contacting the NRD.

We hope you enjoy using the trails as much as we enjoy providing them.



Trail rules and regulations are posted at trail heads and at LPSNRD.org. The Lower Platte South NRD is committed to doing all we can to assure your trail experience is a safe and pleasant one. Please follow our Rules and Regulations as a courtesy to fellow trail users and report any misuse of trails to the Lower Platte South NRD.

Enjoy the Homestead Trail and be safe!



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.



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

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

Contact: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator
The Lower Platte South NRD is an
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

HOMESTEAD RECREATIONAL TRAIL



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district



www.lpsnrd.org

TRAIL HISTORY

The Homestead Trail portion owned by LPSNRD follows a former Union Pacific Railroad line from one-half mile south of 25th and Saltillo Road, in Lincoln, to Cortland; a distance of 13-miles. The trail continues through Beatrice to Marysville, Kansas. It is attached at the north end to the City of Lincoln's Jamaica North Trail and Wilderness Park. Trail parking is available at Saltillo Road



The trail corridor was purchased through the federal rail-banking system in 2002 by the City of Beatrice, Lancaster County and the Nebraska Trails Foundation. A connector trail is planned to the Homestead National monument in Beatrice. Several entities hold title to different sections of the trail and are responsible for trail maintenance. The LPSNRD-titled portion opened in November of 2007 and features some of southern Lancaster County's best rural scenery.

HOMESTEAD TRAIL

Users are sure to frequent the Homestead Trail for fitness and pleasure outings. Hikers will find opportunities for birding and other wildlife viewing. The trail is open year-round, inviting activities like cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Bike riders will appreciate Homestead's mostly-flat terrain.

Homestead is a shared equestrian trail, meaning there is no natural-surfaced equestrian trail within the corridor, but equestrian users are permitted on the crushed limestone surface. Other trail users should always be cautious around horses to avoid accidents. Equestrian users should utilize Homestead Trail parking at Roca, where there is ample room to maneuver trailers.

There's a lot more to trail development than laying down a bed of crushed stone and on this project LPSNRD saved an estimated \$100,000 through the efforts of more than 30 volunteers who spent the summer of 2007 installing decking and railings to 12 bridges along the trail corridor. Lynn Lightner, organizer of the volunteer effort, received LPSNRD's Tributary Award that fall.

