

## NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

### DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S MONTHLY REPORT

11/13/2024

#### PERSONNEL/OFFICE

- The Lancaster and Cass County Service Centers are under normal operations.
- Weeping Water Secretary, Jan Kush, has accepted a position outside of the NRD. A job announcement was posted, closed, interviews have been conducted, a selection has been made and is pending with the federal onboarding process for partner employees. Anticipated start date is December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.
- Lincoln Resource Conservationist, Trevor Hinn, has accepted a position outside of the NRCS. A job announcement has not yet been posted to fill the vacancy.
- Lincoln Soil Conservation Technician - VACANT. A job announcement has not yet been posted to fill the vacancy.
- Weeping Water Soil Conservationist - VACANT. A job announcement has not yet been posted to fill the vacancy.

#### LPSNRD LAND TREATMENT

- Current soil moisture conditions are variable across the district; staff are conducting soil moisture evaluations on all projects prior to construction. Projects are being released on a site-by-site basis; some may be withheld due to inadequate soil moisture conditions.
- LPSNRD currently has the following land treatment cost-share program applications:
  - Lancaster County
    - 10 Fall 2024 Structural Applications
    - 19 Fall 2024 Cover Crop Applications
  - Cass County
    - 19 Fall 2024 Structural Applications
    - 2 Fall 2024 Cover Crop Applications

#### USDA PROGRAMS

- Technicians are checking completed projects, preparing for fall projects, and doing frequent soil moisture monitoring for fall planned construction.
- Planning staff are conducting field work/planning for general conservation plans and FY25 EQIP/CSP applications and certifying completed practices.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/15/24 – Application Deadline for EQIP, CSP, RCPP
- 11/28/24 – Federal Offices closed for Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Tom Cowan – District Conservationist