

Proposed P-MRNRD Groundwater Rules and Regulations

	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
	<i>0 - 5 ppm nitrate or < 50% of any MCL in 50% of the samples</i>	<i>>5 - 9 ppm or 50 - 90 % of any MCL in 50% of the samples</i>	<i>> 9 ppm or > 90% of any MCL in 50% of the samples</i>
Wellhead Protection Plans	Rule 6.7: Encourage voluntary Wellhead Protection Area Plans	Rule 7.5: Cost-share 75% on Wellhead Protection Area Plans up to \$22,500	Rule 8.1: NRD may develop and implement WHPA plans for communities as Phase III requirements
Fertilizer Applications/ Nitrogen Management	Rule 6.3: Encourage both rural and urban fertilizer and irrigation management training*	Rule 7.3: Require fertilizer and irrigation management certification*	
	Rule 6.2: No commercial fertilizer application before March 1 in areas that are considered hydrologically connected . Rule 6.1: All other commercial fertilizer applications between Nov 1 and March 1 and an appropriate inhibitor is encouraged.	Rule 7.2: No commercial fertilizer application until after March 1 in areas that are considered hydrologically connected. Rule 7.1: Require an 80/20 split application with the use of an inhibitor between Nov 1 and March 1 on all non-hydrologically connected areas.	Rule 8.2: No commercial fertilizer before March 1 and the use of an inhibitor and/or split application is required.
	(No rule) Encourage chemigation by minimizing permit fee	(No rule) Cost-share on chemigation equipment	
	Rule 6.4 and 6.6: Encourage groundwater nitrate testing, soil sample in root zone and fertilizer application report through cost-share on lab analysis (up to \$30 per registered irrigation well every 4 years). Rule 6.5: Require annual fertilizer report for organic fertilizer	Rule 7.4: Require nitrogen management plan and annual groundwater nitrate testing, soil sample in root zone and fertilizer application report (cost share up to \$30 pre registered irrigation well every 4 years)	
Water Testing	Rule 6.8: Voluntary well testing (test your well events) cost share on lab analysis (up to \$30 per registered domestic well every 5 years).	(No rule) NRD will collect and test additional well samples (and use results for district-wide assessments)	
Other	(No rule) Offer cost-share for well abandonment, cover crops, and/or selected BMPs		

* Certification required for agricultural producers and commercial lawn care companies

¹ All proposed rules require approval by the Papio-Missouri River NRD Board of Directors before adopted and enforced.

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	<i>All areas (Entire NRD)</i>	<i>Average 10% decline in saturated thickness of an unconfined aquifer in 50% of wells in a sub-area for 3 consecutive years*</i>	<i>Average 15% decline in saturated thickness of an unconfined aquifer in 50% of wells a sub-area for 3 consecutive years*</i>
Water Conservation	Rule 9.2: Offer water conservation education for rural and urban users	Rule 10.2: Require irrigation management certification	
	Rule 9.3: Encourage water meters and annual water use reporting. Rule 14.1: Cost-share on water meters in IMP area (NRCS EQUIP rates); after 5 years, water meters are required and no cost share is available.	Rule 10.1: Require water meters and annual water use report	Rule 11.1: Require acre-inch allocations
	Rule 14.2: Require irrigated acre certification in IMP area	(No rule) Evaluate effects of reducing irrigated acres outside IMP area	Rule 11.2: Require reduction of irrigated acres in selected additional areas (eliminate the use of end guns)
	Rule 14.3: Limit expansion of irrigated acres in IMP area		
Policies and Procedures	Rule 4.1: Require well permits for all new wells: Class 1 - encourage applications for domestic wells <50 gpm for review, Class 2 - all wells >50 gpm, but < 300 ac-ft per year, Class 3 - all wells >50 gpm and > 300 ac-ft per year require model and analysis (\$500 permit fee)		
	Rule 9.1: Require minimum well spacing (600 feet from registered domestic well)**		
	Rule 12.1: Permit groundwater transfers and enable water banking transactions via IMP and BWP		
	Rule 5.1: Enforce irrigation runoff rules		
Cost-Share Programs	Rule 9.4: Encourage water conservation through cost-share based on NRCS EQUIP program and cost-share rates		Rule 11.3: Require implementation of two water efficiency BMPs
	* Proposed triggers are currently under analysis.		
	** Current Nebraska state well spacing standards for wells under separate ownership are: 600 feet between irrigation wells,		
	*** For example, water meters, GPS control units for pivots, soil-moisture sensors and telemetry, weather stations and ET		
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