LOWER NIOBRARA
NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Butte, Neb. —

Lower Niobrara NRD Featured on *Pure Nebraska* to Promote Private Well Testing

The Lower Niobrara NRD will be featured on *Pure Nebraska* on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., and they will be hosting Connie McCarthy, Programs Assistant at the LNNRD. She will be informing listeners about the importance of testing private domestic wells.

With around 88% of Nebraska's drinking water coming from groundwater — and that number increasing to 99% when the Omaha metro area is removed — nitrate testing is essential, as our state relies so heavily on groundwater to provide clean drinking water.

Community water systems, such as municipalities, villages, and rural water systems, are required to submit water tests monthly, closely monitoring contaminants including nitrates. Currently, 1.6 million Nebraskans are served by these community water supplies, leaving over 360,000 people who depend on private domestic wells for their drinking water.

According to the 2024 Nebraska Groundwater Quality Monitoring Report, there are over 35,500 active domestic wells registered in the state, accounting for roughly 23% of all domestic wells. Domestic wells installed prior to September 1993 were not required to be registered with the state, resulting in thousands of wells not being accounted for.

Private domestic well testing is critical to protecting public health.
Data reported in the 2024 Nebraska Groundwater Quality Monitoring Report shows in 2023 that between the NRDs, NDEE, and public water supply systems 15,400 domestic wells were tested across the state, with 15% exceeding the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act standard of 10 mg/L.

The Lower Niobrara NRD knows the importance of clean drinking water. We offer cost-share on reverse osmosis systems, provide in-office nitrate testing, on-site testing, attend health fairs, and provide other educational programs on the importance of testing your well.

If you have not tested your domestic well and would like to, please reach out to our office. We would love to help you. We are here to ensure that we are protecting not only our water quantity, but also our water quality.

Call and schedule an appointment today at 402-775-2343 or visit our website at LNNRD.org.

