**Press Release** 

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: January 9, 2018

## North Platte NRD Reminds Landowners About Cost-Share Opportunities

The Board of Directors and Staff of the North Platte Natural Resources District (NPNRD) would like to remind producers and landowners in the District that applications for the conservation cost-share program will be accepted at your local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices until February 16<sup>th</sup> and will be scored on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Landowners will be notified by mail as to the status of their application. Applications have been accepted since last February on a continuous basis. The Conservation Cost-Share Program reimburses cooperating landowners for a portion of the costs of installing conservation practices on their farm or ranch. The programs are available to landowners in Banner, Garden, Morrill, Scotts Bluff and southern Sioux counties for soil, water and range conservation improvements.

Applications will be scored, ranked, and ultimately awarded based on rankings established by the Board of Directors. The ranking system will allow the cost-share funds to be prioritized in a way that will help with the District's ground water management goals. Cost-share rates will change to a uniform 50 percent of actual cost or the cost share docket, whichever is less, with a maximum amount of \$5,000 per landowner per practice.

Applications received after February 16<sup>th</sup> will be considered for Fiscal Year 2018. These applications will be accepted on a continuous basis and will be reviewed in February 2018.

Landowners will have until June 1, 2018 to complete the project, and extensions will not be granted. Landowners will have to provide bills/cost verifications, pictures, and map of finished practice before the funds will be distributed.

For more information and a complete list of cost-share practices, visit <a href="www.npnrd.org">www.npnrd.org</a> or call (308) 632-2749.

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