

**Upper Elkhorn NRD Education Activities:** The Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District staff works with students, teachers and the general public to encourage conservation of our natural resources. Our education program includes classroom presentations, public presentations, grants, scholarships, water festivals and the Nebraska Envirothon.

**The Wonderful World of Water:** The Wonderful World of Water program is the only water quality event in Nebraska designed especially for high school students. It is a "hands on" learning event emphasizing the protection of our natural resources. It also gives students a chance to work with natural resources professionals and learn about careers in natural resources.

**Natural Resources Festival:** The Upper Elkhorn NRD also sponsors the Natural Resources Festival which is designed for students in the 5th grade to promote their awareness of water quality, water supply, and other related issues concerning the environment. The Upper Elkhorn NRD strives to educate the public of our natural resources and how to preserve, protect and enhance them for future generations.

**Nebraska Envirothon:** The Nebraska Envirothon is a competition designed for high school students to test their knowledge regarding the environment. Five member teams compete on the regional and state level in six areas of environmental studies: soil, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, policy, range and a current environmental issue. The Nebraska Envirothon competition gives students the chance to take what they have learned in the classroom and apply it to life. Students are given an opportunity to interact with resource professionals who can discuss the practical applications of what they are learning in school and how it applies to real life.

**Land & Range Judging Contests:** The Upper Elkhorn NRD partners with other agencies to host Land and Range Judging Contests in the North Central Region of Nebraska. These contests provide students and adults with the opportunity to evaluate land and range conditions to better understand these resources. Participants in Land Judging evaluate soil profiles and the factors surrounding its make-up and land treatment practices. Range Judging participants identify plants, growth habits, forage value and other characteristics.

**Senior Scholarships:** The Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District has established a scholarship program for graduating high school seniors. There are three scholarships available amounting to \$500 each for three seniors who are planning to further their education in a field relating to natural resources or agriculture.

**Camp Scholarships:** The Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District has set aside funding for various scholarships and other related natural resources camps and educator conferences. A scholarship provided for the Nebraska Youth Range Camp centers around rangeland management, conservation, ecology, and wildlife. Another scholarship for ACE, "Adventure Camp about the Environment," helps youth learn more about aquatics, forestry, rangeland and grassland, wildlife and habitat, soils, and land.