



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

August 3, 2011

NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION MANAGEMENT PROJECT PROPOSALS INVITATION AND PROCEDURES

INVITATION

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) is inviting proposals for funding under the Nebraska Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program authorized through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act as administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Funding eligibility, criteria for prioritization, application format, and special conditions are outlined in these procedures. **Proposals must be on the attached form and be received in the Lincoln office of the NDEQ no later than 4:00 p.m., Central time, Tuesday, September 6, 2011, to be considered for funding.**

Please direct any questions you may have to:

Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922
Telephone: (402) 471-2186
E-mail: ndeq.nonpointsource@nebraska.gov

Questions must be received by 4:00 p.m., Central time, August 24, 2011. Responses to those questions will be posted on NDEQ's website, <http://deq.ne.gov/>, by August 30, 2011.

Proposals are to be submitted via e-mail in Word (.doc) or Adobe PDF (.pdf) format, with a subject of: *NPS Proposal_to: ndeq.nonpointsource@nebraska.gov*

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PROCEDURES

for

**NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION MANAGEMENT PROJECT PROPOSAL
FUNDING UNDER SECTION 319 OF THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT**

August 3, 2011

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. Procedures for Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Project Proposals.

This document constitutes the procedures for eligible organizations to submit proposals for nonpoint source (NPS) management pollution projects to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) for funding under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act.

All proposals MUST be submitted electronically in the prescribed format.

B. Background.

Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act, as administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), provides funds to the NDEQ for the prevention and abatement of NPS water pollution and the rehabilitation of watershed resources.

These funds are a potential source of support for surface and groundwater quality NPS management projects in Nebraska. Utilization of these funds for implementing NPS management projects requires a 40 percent non-federal funding match on the total costs of funded projects. Units and subunits of government, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations are eligible recipients of sub-agreements from the NDEQ.

Project eligibility and special conditions of these funds are described in this Invitation.

C. Grant Process.

Responsive project proposals will be reviewed by staff of the NDEQ and the EPA.

Projects will be selected for full or partial funding and included in the NDEQ's Section 319 workplan and grant application submitted to EPA Region VII for funding.

Projects are subject to final approval by the EPA. Project funding will be included in the EPA's Section 319 grant award to the NDEQ. Funds will be provided by the NDEQ by means of a sub-agreement with the project's sponsor.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), Public Law 109-282 as amended, and associated Office of Management and Budget (OMB) directives, now require registration by EPA assistance agreements in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database and a current Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. Compliance with providing a CCR/DUNS number as part of the grant application will be verified as part of the administrative review process. The DUNS number will supplement other identifiers required by statute or regulation, such as tax identification numbers. Free registration and DUNS numbers may be requested at: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. The D-U-N-S

Number may be requested via the web and/or the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at (866) 705-5711. Please do not delay requesting a DUNS number; requests for expedited numbers require payment of a fee. Funds cannot be awarded until a DUNS number is submitted.

D. Tentative Timetable:

- September 6, 2011 Project proposals—*including a DUNS number*--received by the NDEQ.
- September 20, 2011 NDEQ staff review proposals.
- October 11, 2011 Proposals are selected for development as Project Implementation Plans (PIPs).
- November 14, 2011 Project Implementation Plans are submitted to EPA for approval.
- January 17, 2012 Agreements developed for approved projects. Funding is made available to begin approved Project Implementation Plans
- pending EPA award of Section 319 funds to NDEQ and EPA approval of the Project Implementation Plan.

II. PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

The state NPS Management Program seeks to protect public health and existing water uses, prevent water quality degradation caused by NPS pollution, and improve water quality degraded by NPS pollution to the extent feasible. Proposed projects should direct funding toward pollution prevention and watershed or aquifer resource rehabilitation through installation of best management practices, education, demonstration, monitoring, technical assistance, and aquatic habitat improvement. Funding also may be available for planning and assessments that are critical for identifying and evaluating nonpoint source problems in priority watersheds or aquifers. Research projects are not eligible for funding. Section 319 funds must be used for NPS management activities based on the state priorities identified under the purview of NDEQ’s Strategic Plan and Operating Guidance for Implementation of the Nebraska Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program: 2000-2015 (<http://deq.ne.gov/>).

A. General Project Requirements.

1. Projects must address an identified state NPS priority watershed, waterbody, or groundwater area, or an identified NPS priority issue or concern.
2. Surface water or groundwater projects must address a hydrologic unit, watershed or surficial area of manageable size: generally 50-square miles (32,000 acres) or less. Information and education projects must address enhancement of statewide capacity to deliver NPS information and education.
3. Projects must have good potential for success (i.e., tasks must yield measurable improvement in water quality, resource integrity, citizen attitudes and behaviors, etc.).
4. Public support and involvement in project planning and implementation must be demonstrated.
5. Project funding must include, at minimum, a 40 percent nonfederal match of total project costs. Nonfederal funding may include in-kind goods and services.

B. Priority Watersheds, Waterbodies and Groundwater Areas for Section 319 Projects.

1. Priority watersheds identified for the development and implementation of surface water quality NPS management actions and aquatic habitat improvement (Attachment A*).
2. Priority waterbodies identified for aquatic habitat rehabilitation only (Attachment B).
3. Priority areas identified for the development and implementation of groundwater quality NPS management actions (Attachment C).

Note: The above priority listings are not meant to be inclusive of all watersheds of the state. A non-priority watershed/area not appearing on these lists may be considered for surface or groundwater management actions (including Section 319 funding) if information for the watershed/area is provided that identifies a significant NPS surface or groundwater quality impairment or threat.

C. Priority NPS Issues and Concerns for Section 319 Projects.

Priority NPS issues and concerns are identified in Attachment D. Projects that address these issues or concerns are eligible for funding.

** Attachments are revised (7/11) from corresponding tables and figures in the "Strategic Plan and Operating Guidance for Implementation of the Nebraska Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program: 2000-2015."*

III. PROJECT RESTRICTIONS

1. **Funding.** Requests for Section 319 funds generally may not exceed \$300,000 except for projects implementing a watershed/groundwater area management plan approved by NDEQ. Indirect costs, if authorized, may not exceed 10 percent. If income is anticipated from the project or products of the project, estimate the amount expected to be generated and describe how those funds will be used to support project activities.
2. **Management Actions.** Management actions must be related to specific project objectives and the identified pollutants or NPS issues of concern. Section 319 cost sharing for installation or implementation of best management practices (BMPs) is subject to the requirements noted below.

Note 1: The total federal contribution from all federal sources of cost sharing to any individual may not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of the practice or activity; all cost-share rates are subject to approval by EPA. Recipients of Section 319 cost-sharing to install BMPs must agree to comply with the operation and maintenance requirements for such practices as identified in the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guides or other appropriate federal/state/local standards. Landowners and operators receiving Section 319-funded cost-share must practice nutrient and pesticide management consistent

with the NRCS's Field Office Technical Guide or other appropriate federal/state/local standards. Section 319 grant funds may not be used to install BMPs on areas where pollutant loadings or severity have not been quantified. Landowners and operators must agree to make the BMP installation site available for demonstration activities and evaluation.

Note 2: Installation of BMPs must be consistent with a written management plan for the watershed or area to be addressed by the project. Applicants should submit, as appropriate, one (1) copy of the watershed or wellhead protection plan with the proposal. Where a watershed/area management plan does not exist, the proposal must accommodate development of a management plan that is consistent with the Community-based Approach to the Watershed Management Planning Process or Wellhead Protection Area Management Planning Manual as appropriate (available from NDEQ and on the website <http://deq.ne.gov/>).

IV. SPECIAL PROCEDURES

A. Procuring and "Contracting" Agency.

The NDEQ is the sole point of contact for all aspects of the Invitation. **Please address questions concerning this Invitation to:**

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922
Phone: (402) 471-2585
E-mail: ndeq.nonpointsource@nebraska.gov

This Invitation is issued by the NDEQ.

Proposals are to be submitted via e-mail in Word (.doc) or Adobe PDF (.pdf) format, with a subject of *NPS Proposal* to ndeq.nonpointsource@nebraska.gov

A DUNS number must be included on the proposal application form.

B. Submission of Proposals

1. In order to facilitate the proposal evaluation process, project proposals must be developed in the attached file format and submitted *electronically* to the NDEQ. The following information should be included in the subject heading of the e-mailed proposal: ***NPS Proposal***

All proposals must be received by the NDEQ no later than 4:00 p.m., Central time, September 6, 2011. An electronic version of the proposal in Word or Adobe PDF format is required.

Applicants lacking the means or experiencing transmittal difficulties when submitting a proposal application via e-mail should contact Linda Rohn, (402) 471-3098, no later than August 26, 2011, to arrange an alternative method of submittal.

2. All proposals become the property of the State of Nebraska upon receipt and will not be returned.

C. Required Submittal.

In order to be eligible for consideration, the proposal must include the following document:

•**Project Description** formatted as described in Section 11 of the Guidelines and Instructions for Completing the NPS Proposal Application and item #11 on the 2011 Proposal Application Forms.

D. Late Submittal.

It is the responsibility of the potential project sponsor to ensure that proposals arrive in the Lincoln office of the NDEQ prior to the time indicated herein. Late proposals will not be considered

E. Selection Process.

All responsive proposals submitted as a result of this Invitation will be reviewed by the NDEQ and EPA staff. Additional external technical reviewers may be asked to review some proposals. The NDEQ will consider the recommendations of the reviewers in selecting projects for potential funding. Sponsors of selected projects will be invited to develop a detailed Project Implementation Plan (PIP) for final review and approval by the NDEQ and EPA. Approved projects may be fully or partially funded at the discretion of NDEQ or EPA. The decision of the NDEQ regarding selection of projects shall be final.

F. Cost of Preparing Proposal.

The State of Nebraska is not liable for any cost incurred by respondents in replying to this Invitation.

G. Rejection of Proposal.

The NDEQ reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received as a result of this Invitation.

H. State to be Held Harmless.

Respondents agree to hold and save the State of Nebraska, the NDEQ, its officers, agents, and employees free and harmless from any and all claims, demands, damages, losses, costs, expenses, or liability due to or incidental to, either in whole or in part and whether directly or indirectly, the performance of this Invitation or subsequent Cooperative and/or Intergovernmental Agreement.

I. Standard Conditions and Terms of Award Agreements.

Subsequent agreements and procurement will be in accordance with the appropriate State of Nebraska procedures and EPA's Region VII Section 319 grant conditions.

V. STATE CRITERIA FOR PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

A. Evaluation overview.

The NDEQ will initially review all proposals accepted for responsiveness. If a proposal is determined to be responsive, NDEQ will review the proposal for technical merit and importance in meeting objectives of the state Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program. Projects must meet the eligibility requirements as specified in Section II. The NDEQ staff will conduct a comprehensive, fair and impartial evaluation of all responsive proposals received in reply to this Invitation based on the projects' importance in implementing the State NPS Management Program and addressing NPS pollution in the state. The NDEQ administration will consider this evaluation when selecting and recommending projects for full or partial funding. The approved projects will be included by the NDEQ in its Section 319 grant application to the Region VII office of EPA. The Region VII office of EPA must approve all projects for funding.

B. Responsiveness of Proposal.

A responsive proposal is one that agrees or complies with the mandatory requirements of the Invitation documents. A proposal does not necessarily need to describe or acknowledge each and every individual requirement of the Invitation. Generally, a proposal is considered responsive unless the proposal: 1) expresses disagreement with a requirement; 2) takes exception to a requirement; 3) proposes an action contradictory to a requirement; or, 4) fails to include mandatory submittal information. A non-responsive proposal will be eliminated from further consideration and cannot be recommended for project funding.

Potential project sponsors must meet the following standards as they relate to the proposals under consideration:

1. Adequate financial resources for performance or the ability to obtain such resources as required during performance;
2. Necessary experience, organization, technical qualifications, skills and facilities to manage a project or the ability to obtain them;
3. Ability to comply with the proposed or required time of delivery or performance schedule;
4. Satisfactory record of integrity, judgment, and performance. A potential project sponsor shall present acceptable evidence of financial resources, experience, organization, technical qualification skills, and facilities to perform the service called for by the completed project.

C. Threshold Qualifications.

Failures to address items one through three below will disqualify a project proposal from further consideration.

1. Project is covered by the state NPS Management Program;

2. Proposal identifies how it relates to priority watersheds, areas, waterbodies, or issues/concerns;
3. The proposal addresses an actual or threatened water quality problem from nonpoint source pollution.

D. Disqualification.

A proposal will be automatically excluded from consideration if the potential project sponsor's name appears on the GSA Office of Acquisition Policy's most recent "Master List of Debarred, Suspended, and Voluntarily Excluded Persons". In addition, proposals may be disqualified on the basis of the sponsor's failure to make and/or report substantive progress on existing or previous Section 319 projects.

Attachment A.

Priority watersheds identified for the development and implementation of surface water quality NPS management actions and aquatic habitat improvement. The watersheds are grouped by basin and waterbody type. The ratings refer to the relative importance of initiating and completing the identified activity.

Watershed Name	Waterbody Type and Priority Ratings for Targeted Action ¹		
	Section 303(d) Listed Waterbody	Coldwater Class A Waterbody	New Lake
Big Blue Basin: Bear Creek Reservoir Beaver Creek Big Indian Creek Big Indian Lake ³ Clatonia Lake Cub Creek Lake Lincoln Creek Oxbow Trails Lake Rockford Lake Smith Creek Lake Swan Creek Lake 2A Swan Creek Lake 5A Turkey Creek West Fork Big Blue River	L-WP L-WP M-WP H-PI, M-EM L-WP H-AM, H-WP L-WP L-WP H-AM, H-WP, L-PI L-WP L-WP H-EM L-WP M-AM, H-WP		
Middle Platte Basin: Lake Hastings	H-WP, L-PI		
Elkhorn Basin: Pebble Creek Willow Creek Reservoir ^{3, 4, 5}	L-WP H-WP, L-PI		
Little Blue Basin: Big Sandy Creek Liberty Cove Lake Lone Star Reservoir (Little Sandy)	M-WP H-WP, L-PI H-EM		
Loup Basin: Cedar River Mud Creek Turkey Creek	L-PI, L-EM L-WP L-WP		
Lower Platte Basin: Bluestem Lake Branched Oak Lake ³ Conestoga Lake East Twin Lake	H-AM, L-WP H-AM, H-WP H-AM, H-WP, H-PI H-WP, M-PI		

Watershed Name	Waterbody Type and Priority Ratings for Targeted Action¹		
	Section 303(d) Listed Waterbody	Coldwater Class A Waterbody	New Lake
Fremont Lake #5 Fremont Lake #20 Holmes Lake ^{2, 3, 5} Middle Creek Olive Creek Lake ² Pawnee Lake ² Prairie Owl Lake/Wilson 4A Shell Creek Stagecoach Lake Wagon Train Lake Wahoo Creek Wanahoo Lake (Sand and Duck Creeks) West Twin Lake Yankee Hill Lake ⁵	H-WP H-EM L-PI, H-EM L-WP L-NA H-AM, M-WP L-WP H-PI, M-EM H-AM, H-WP H-EM H-AM, L-PI H-PI, M-EM H-WP, M-PI L-WP, L-PI		
Missouri Tributaries Basin: Carter Lake Ed Zorinsky Lake ^{2, 3, 5} Glenn Cunningham Lake ³ Standing Bear Lake ^{2, 3} Walnut Creek Lake	L-WP, H-PI, M-EM M-PI H-EM M-PI L-WP, M-PI		
Nemaha Basin: Buck and Duck Creek Burchard Lake Iron Horse Trail Lake ³ Long Branch Creek	H-WP, M-PI L-PI, H-EM H-AM, M-WP, L-PI		H-AM, L-WP, H-PI
Niobrara Basin: Grove Lake (East Branch Verdigris Creek) Plum Creek	L-WP, L-PI	L-PI	
North Platte Basin:			

Birdwood Creek		L-WP, L-PI, H-EM	
Cochran Lake	L-WP		
Kilpatrick Lake	L-WP		
Nine Mile Creek		L-PI, H-EM	

Watershed Name	Waterbody Type and Priority Ratings for Targeted Action ¹		
	Section 303(d) Listed Waterbody	Coldwater Class A Waterbody	New Lake
Republican Basin: Champion Mill Pond	L-WP		
Medicine Creek Reservoir	H-WP, M-PI		
Wellfleet Lake	L-WP		
South Platte Basin: Oliver Reservoir (Lodgepole Creek)	L-AM, M-WP, L-PI		
White-Hat Basin: Ming Lake	M-WP, M-PI		

* This priority listing is not meant to be inclusive of all watersheds in the state. A watershed not appearing on this list may be considered for surface water management actions (including Section 319 funding) if information for the watershed is provided that identifies a significant nonpoint source surface water quality impairment or threat.

¹ H = High, M = Medium, L = Low, AM = Ambient Monitoring, WP = Watershed Management Planning, PI = Watershed Project Implementation, EM = Post-Project Effectiveness Monitoring, NA = No Activity Planned

² Section 319 nonpoint source management project implemented within the watershed.

³ Section 314 Phase 1 “Clean Lakes” diagnostic/feasibility study implemented within the watershed.

⁴ Section 314 Phase 2 “Clean Lakes” remediation project implemented within the watershed.

⁵ Level 2 nonpoint source assessment completed or ongoing in the watershed.

⁶ WQIP water quality project implemented within the watershed.

⁷ HUA water quality project implemented within the watershed.

Attachment B.

Priority waterbodies identified for aquatic habitat restoration only. The region and county where the waterbody occurs is given.

Waterbody Name	Region¹	County
Class I and II Rainwater Basin Wetlands	SE	Butler ² , Filmore ² , Polk ² , Saline ² , Seward ² , Thayer ² , York ²
Eastern Saline Wetlands	SE	Lancaster ³ , Saunders ³
Redtail Lake	SE	Butler
Louisville Lakes	SE	Cass
Class I and II Rainwater Basin Wetlands	SC	Adams ² , Clay ² , Franklin ² , Gosper ² , Hall ² , Hamilton ² , Harlan ² , Kearney ² , Nuckolls ² , Phelps ²
Helen Lake	SC	Dawson
Cottonwood Lake ⁴	NC	Cherry
Gracie Pond Lake ⁴	NC	Loup
Lake Ogallala ⁴	NC	Keith
Enders Reservoir ⁴	SW	Chase
Crescent Lake ⁴	PA	Garden
Chadron State Park Lake	PA	Dawes

* This priority listing is not meant to be inclusive of all waterbodies in the state. A waterbody not appearing on this list may be considered for aquatic habitat restoration (including Section 319 funding) if information for the waterbody is provided that identifies a significant aquatic habitat degradation concern.

¹ SE = Southeast, NE = Northeast, SC = South Central, NC = North Central, SW = Southwest, and PA = Panhandle.

² Class I and II Rainwater Basin Wetlands are located in this county. For exact locations, see “Rainwater Basin, Nebraska Advanced Identification Project Map Atlas”, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VII, Kansas City, Kansas, December 16, 1992.

³ Eastern Saline Wetlands are located in this county. For exact locations, see “Resource Categorization of Nebraska’s Eastern Saline Wetlands”, Gilbert, M.C. and R.G. Stutheit, eds. 1994. Prepared for the Eastern Saline Wetlands Interagency Study Project, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

⁴ Waterbody identified for rehabilitation in the Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Plan prepared by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Attachment C.

Priority ground water areas identified for the development and implementation of groundwater quality NPS management actions.

Area Options: A ground water priority area under Nebraska's NPS Management Program must be either of the following:

1. A designated Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA);

OR

2. A discrete aquifer area—a specific aquifer(s), portions of an aquifer(s), or zone of influence delineated by at least some actual geological data (e.g., test holes, published maps/reports, etc.), modeling, or other identifiable and justifiable boundaries.

Priority Categories: To be classified as a priority area, an area must meet at least one of the criteria in these categories:

High Priority

- An administrative order issued by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for a Public Water Supply System with a designated WHPA.
- Groundwater quality data indicating a statistically significant trend such that it is likely that an applicable standard for a nonpoint source groundwater contaminant is being or will be exceeded.

Medium Priority

- Accelerated monitoring ordered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for a Public Water Supply System with a designated WHPA.
- Little or no ground water quality data as above, but surrogate information (e.g., shallow depth to water, sandy soils, intensive farming, etc.) indicating that nonpoint source groundwater contamination is imminent or likely.

Low Priority

- Routine monitoring for a Public Water Supply System with a designated WHPA.
- Little or no ground water quality data or surrogate information as above.

Conditions: All groundwater nonpoint source management projects must meet the following conditions:

1. Develop a community-based management plan with nine key elements for the area that addresses reduction of applicable nonpoint source contaminants in groundwater;
2. Develop, receive NDEQ approval for, and implement a wellhead protection plan (if within/involving WHPA(s));
3. Develop and implement applicable Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) regulations (if within/involving GWMA(s)).

Attachment D.

Listing of statewide nonpoint source issues of priority concern.

Nonpoint Source Issue	Concern
<p>Herbicide concentrations (especially atrazine) in streams and rivers during spring and early summer runoff events.</p>	<p>Past water quality monitoring has revealed elevated concentrations of herbicides (especially atrazine) in Nebraska's streams and rivers during spring and early summer runoff events. The streams most affected are those draining areas of row crop production, especially corn. Atrazine levels greatly exceeding the U.S. EPA's recommended Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 3.0 ug/l for drinking have been measured. The areas of greatest concern are those where surface water quality may impact a drinking water source. Two areas in Nebraska are of priority concern: 1) the Big and Little Blue River Basins because of downstream usage of these waters for drinking water purposes by the state of Kansas; and, 2) streams or rivers in close hydrologic connection with alluvial aquifers that are used for drinking water purposes (e.g., middle and lower portions of the Platte River).</p>
<p>Streambank erosion and stream-channel degradation.</p>	<p>Streambank erosion and degraded riparian conditions are a statewide occurrence. This has contributed to widespread degradation of aquatic habitat of streams, wetlands, and lakes. The resulting sedimentation of downstream reservoirs is of special concern.</p>
<p>Watersheds of new lakes to be constructed.</p>	<p>The water quality of a lake is a reflection of its watershed. If new lakes are to be constructed that claim recreational benefits, it is of paramount importance that the watershed be adequately treated and managed for water quality protection. As much of this work as possible should be completed during or prior to lake construction. This will allow protective measures to be in place prior to the lake filling. Also, near-lake structural measures (e.g., sediment basins, wetlands, in-lake</p>

	diking, etc.) may be more cost effective to install during lake construction when equipment is on site and no water is impounded.
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Nonpoint Source Issue	Concern
Nonpoint source information and education.	<p>Nonpoint source pollution management in Nebraska is largely a voluntary effort; few regulations exist regarding its management. If nonpoint source management is going to be successful in Nebraska, it is important that the public and communities get involved and implement nonpoint source management measures at the local level. Development of state-level capacity to deliver NPS I&E materials and programs to facilitate local NPS management efforts is a statewide priority.</p>
Septic tanks.	<p>Recent development patterns have resulted in construction of many residences in non-urban areas such as acreages and recreational areas which may be outside traditional zoning jurisdictions. In most cases, public water supplies and sanitation are not available; so, these developments typically depend upon private wells and septic tanks to provide these services. It is not unusual for development to be relatively intense in these areas; and, therefore, septic systems and water supply wells are often in close proximity to each other. The primary concern in these areas is the potential human health impact of having sewage sources near drinking water sources. A secondary concern involves the overall impact of many closely spaced septic systems on local ground and surface water quality.</p>
Animal waste from livestock operations.	<p>Nebraska is a nationwide leader in the production of livestock; i.e., cattle, hogs, and, to a lesser extent, poultry. The widespread development of large confinement operations, as well as smaller, more</p>

	<p>traditional livestock operations, has led to a concern over the storage and disposal of animal waste. Location and construction of waste lagoons and land application of manure as a fertilizer source are primary concerns. Depending on the location, these concerns may involve either ground or surface water quality.</p>
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Nonpoint Source Issue	Concern
<p>Source water protection/wellhead protection.</p>	<p>The 1996 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act require states to address the issue of source water protection. The vast majority of Nebraskans depend upon ground water as their source of drinking water; however, a few systems do utilize surface water. Nebraska's efforts in implementing source water protection will be twofold: 1) source water assessment consisting of Wellhead Protection Area delineations, contaminant source inventories, vulnerability assessments, and public information; and, 2) prevention programs consisting of contaminant source management and contingency planning.</p>