

Why are there so many people to vote for?

There are elected offices at the Federal, State, County, and City levels. In addition, there are elected offices to oversee the public schools and administrate their resources (School Boards, Educational Service Units [ESU], and the Learning Community), and to oversee community colleges (Board of Governors), and state universities (Regents).

Nebraska is unique in having natural resources districts, and it also has public utilities. These are administered by elected officials. We like to call these the “alphabet” races—NRD, OPPD, NPPD, MUD, etc. The public power districts vary in size across the state. NPPD services many counties, even as far west as Scotts Bluff County. OPPD covers a major portion of the Eastern side of the state, and there are others. MUD provides water and natural gas for the more populated areas of the state.

Nebraska’s Natural Resources Districts (NRD) cover the state, 23 in all. They are named after rivers and each district, with its sub-districts, has many candidates running for the opportunity “to solve flood control, soil erosion, irrigation run-off, and groundwater quantity and quality issues.” As they say at their website, “Natural Resources Districts are unique to Nebraska because they are governed by locally elected boards and Nebraska is the only state in the union to have this system.”