



Central
Nebraska
Economic
Development
District



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JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year everyone! We have already had a busy start to 2021, and are really excited by all the opportunities coming your way!

To start, we want to say **CONGRADULATIONS** to the towns of **Chambers**

and **Lynch**, who have both received the funding they needed to build their new **Splash Pads!** Through the Nebraska Land and Water Conservation Program, both communities received a grant that **doubled** their hard earned matching funds. You both have done amazing work in preparing

for this! We are so excited for your groundbreaking and all the fun you will have in the future! Way to go!



The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot. - Michael Altshuler

CARES Act Funded Programs Happening Within Our District

Broadband Mapping Initiative –

We will be asking for **YOUR HELP** very soon on a new Broadband Mapping Initiative.

In today's world, the need for **fast, reliable internet** is at an all time high, and we know our district is greatly lacking in that regard. To help solve this issue, we have partnered with the other development districts across the state to establish a program to **gather real-time broadband speed information**. This will help our region identify the **underserved and unserved areas** of broadband.

With this information, we can develop plans for broadband expansion, including funding resources, to **improve OUR REGION's broadband**.

Small Business Training –

CNEDD has partnered with GrowNE to deliver a **one-on-one marketing training** to businesses in our region.

This is a fantastic opportunity! You will gain resources and knowledge to help **build a marketing strategy and on-line sales**. With that, your business will **increase revenue, stability, and longevity**, especially in these difficult times. There are many other available services included in this one-year training program.

Applications are being **accepted until February 5th** to help businesses recover from the pandemic and expand business opportunities for the future. Hurry and apply! Time is limited!

Livestock Demand Analysis –

CNEDD and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are working together over the next few months to identify opportunities to include **more local meat products into school lunch programs** throughout our region.

We know how hard the last few years have been on our farmers and ranchers. This is only the first step CNEDD is taking to **identify opportunities** for more locally sold meat products for our livestock producers. Utilizing the information gleaned from this analysis, we hope to **highlight areas of future business and workforce development**.

We will keep you informed as the demand analysis progresses.