

# Groundwater Transfer Permit Application

Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District

805 Dorsey St. P.O. Box 826 Beatrice, NE 68310

402-228-3402 www.lbbnrd.net

This form must be completed in full and be accompanied by a non-refundable \$50.00 filing fee (payable to the Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District). Please refer to number eight (8) below if this form is being submitted as a late permit.

Please take the time and review the rules of the permit below. All rules and regulations pertaining to Groundwater Transfers is located in the Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District Groundwater Quantity Rules and Regulations (LBBNRD). Ensure all information is filled out correctly. An incomplete or defective application will be returned by the District, with 60 days being allowed for resubmission. All permits are subject to Board approval. Applications will be tabled until the next board meeting if the Board feels additional information is needed or the application was received after 4:30PM one week prior to the scheduled monthly board meeting. The applicant should expect the permitting process to take up to thirty (30) business days.

## **PERMIT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**(Per Neb. Rev. Stat. 46 and LBBNRD Groundwater Rules & Regulations Rev. December 22, 2025)**

1. Groundwater Transfer or Transfer of Groundwater shall mean the conveyance of Groundwater from a Water Well or Water Wells located in one Government Survey Section to be used for a beneficial purpose in another Government Survey Section. *(LBBNRD Ch.3.24)*
2. Source Tract shall mean a Tract of Land from which Groundwater is being transferred. *(LBBNRD Ch.3.47.2)*
3. Destination Tract shall mean a Tract of Land to which Groundwater is being transferred. *(LBBNRD Ch.3.47.1)*
4. Source Well shall mean a Water Well located on a Source Tract that provides Groundwater for a Groundwater Transfer or provides Groundwater for conveyance into a Water Impoundment Structure or stream. *(LBBNRD Ch.3.52.17)*
5. District shall mean the Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District or the staff or others designated by the Board of Directors to carry out these Rules and Regulations. *(LBBNRD Ch.3.14)*
6. Any Person who intends to initiate a Groundwater Transfer to land which he or she owns or controls, or any Person who intends to increase the amount of Certified Groundwater Use Acres of a previously approved Permit or unpermitted Groundwater Transfer within the District shall, before commencing such activity, apply for a Permit from the District and receive approval from the District. *(LBBNRD Ch.10.1)*
7. If the Groundwater Transfer is not constructed and equipped within a one-year period from the date of approval under the terms of the approved permit, the District will cancel the permit, and a new permit application is required. *(LBBNRD Ch.10.19)*
8. A person who has failed to obtain a permit as required shall make application for a late permit. A late permit may be issued when a Groundwater Transfer was illegally constructed or modified without first receiving a permit. Late permits shall be accompanied by a non-refundable \$1,000.00 fee payable to the District and shall be subject to Board approval. *(LBBNRD Ch.10.2)*
9. An unpermitted Groundwater Transfer shall be subject to a cease-and-desist order and other such legal action. *(LBBNRD Ch. 10.3)*
10. A Municipal User or Other User shall only be allowed to initiate new Groundwater Transfers to a Government Survey Section that is directly adjacent or diagonal to the Source Tract(s). *(LBBNRD Ch. 10.14)*
11. Groundwater Transfers for Municipal or Other Users proposing to withdraw more than two hundred fifty (250) acre-feet annually will conduct a hydrogeologic evaluation. *(LBBNRD Ch. 10.14.1)*

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

This permit expires one (1) year from the approval date. NRD Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. APPLICANT:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. PURPOSE FOR PERMIT APPLICATION:** Groundwater Transfer  Late Permit Application (see #8 on front)**3. SOURCE WELL & SOURCE TRACT INFORMATION:**

Source Well Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this well used in series with another well?  Yes  No If yes enter registration number: \_\_\_\_\_

Source Well/Source Tract Legal: Subsection: \_\_\_\_\_, Section: \_\_\_\_\_, TWN/RNG: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Source Tract Certified Irrigated Acres: \_\_\_\_\_, Type of Irrigation:  Pivot  Gravity/Flood  Sub-Drip**4. DESTINATION TRACT INFORMATION:**

Destination Tract Legal: Subsection: \_\_\_\_\_, Section: \_\_\_\_\_, TWN/RNG: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Distance from the Source Well to the Destination Tract: \_\_\_\_\_ (feet)

Destination Tract Proposed Irrigated Acres: \_\_\_\_\_, Type of Irrigation Proposed:  Pivot  Gravity/Flood  Sub-Drip**5. Aerial Map/Site Plan:**

Submit an aerial map depicting the information from numbers 3 and 4 above.

**6. Groundwater Transfer Requirements:**

1. The Destination Tract must be directly adjacent or diagonal to the Source Tract and cannot be more than 3000 feet from the Source Well.
2. The Source Well must be 1000 feet from all other High-Capacity Wells of separate ownership and 500 feet from all wells that have a pumping capacity of 50gpm or less.
3. The certified irrigated acres in the Destination Tract(s) are limited to an amount less than or equal to the total number of certified irrigated acres in the Source Tract(s) and the number of certified irrigated acres in the Destination Tract(s) cannot exceed 160 acres from the Source Well.
4. Both the Source and Destination Tracts must be in the District.
5. The Source Well must have a Flowmeter installed.
6. The District will have access at reasonable times for inspection of the Groundwater Transfer.
7. The applicant has 1 year after approval to complete construction of the Groundwater Transfer or the permit will be cancelled.
8. An increase to the number of irrigated acres in the Destination Tract(s) after a Groundwater Transfer permit has been approved will require another Groundwater Transfer permit application to be submitted to the District.

**7. I certify that I am familiar with the information contained on page 1 and 2 of this application and all rules and regulations pertaining to water wells in the State of Nebraska and the Lower Big Blue NRD Groundwater Quantity Rules and Regulations and that such information provided on this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true, complete, and accurate.**

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_