



Developing Locally Driven Solutions To Our Natural Resource Concerns

The Coös County Conservation District (CCCD) was created in 1946 as a governmental subdivision of the state to provide local leadership and decision making for the protection of the land and water resources of the county.

Our mission is to coordinate from all available sources public and private, local, state and federal in an effort to develop locally driven solutions to natural resource concerns.

Coos County Conservation District

2021 Spring Plant Sale is Here!!!

This year we are bringing you bulbs, flowers, veggies, fruits, and shrubs! There is something here for everyone! Check out the color and description sheets of all the good stuff we have to offer this year below. We even have Coos County Conservation District Coffee Mugs!!



Want to place an order but do not have a printer? No problem, email the District Manager and she can mail a copy of the information to you!

Orders will be **due no later than Friday March 12th, 2021**. Please mail your order form and cash/check to:

Coos County Conservation District
4 Mayberry Lane
Lancaster, NH 03584

If you have any questions please email the District Manager at: da.cccd@gmail.com or call the office at 603-788-4651 Ext 5.

Pick up is to be determined at this time, pending shipping estimates on the plants. We are planning for beginning to mid May.

Thank you for the support!

Flower Colors & Descriptions

Plant Descriptions 1

Order Form

Plant Descriptions 2



More Information



Would you like to make a difference in a child's life? If so, talk to them about the amazing outdoor opportunities at Barry Conservation Camp!

BCC is located in the White Mountain National Forest and operated by UNH 4-H in conjunction with the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department.

We are happy to announce that the Coös County Conservation District will be offering a scholarship to sponsor half of the payment for a child to attend camp!

The child can choose from one of three sessions. These awesome sessions include:

- 1- "4-H On the Wild Side" for Ages 10-16 years old
- 2- "North Country Adventure" for Ages 12-16 years old
- 3- "Mini-Camp" for Ages 8-12 years old

Campfires, hikes, fishing, shooting sports, survival skills and navigation with GPS are some of the activities that the child will experience at camp. For more information on dates, costs, and session descriptions check out the brochure.

Scholarship applications are due to the Coös County Conservation District by Sunday February 4th, 2021.

The future BCC camper will be notified by February 12th, 2021.

Please see the attached Scholarship Application and Instructions for submission.



[BCC Brochure](#)

[CCCD
Scholarship
Application](#)

[BCC Information](#)

New! North Country High-Tunnel Series

Want to learn more about high-tunnels? It is not too late to sign up! Join us for this FREE online collaborative effort between Coos, Grafton and Carroll County!

Speakers include the Conservation District Managers, UNH Food & Agriculture Field Specialists, NHACD Conservation Planner, a NRCS District Conservationist and

local high-tunnel growers!

Sessions topics include:

Session #1- High Tunnels 101

January 20, 2021 6:00-7:30pm

Session #2- Site Selection & Construction

February 3, 2021 6:00-7:30pm

Session #3- NRCS High Tunnel Program & CCCD Tool Rental Program

February 17, 2021 6:00-7:30pm

Session #4- High Tunnel Management

March 3, 2021 6:00-7:30pm

Session #5- Winter Growing & Challenges

March 17, 2021 6:00-7:30pm

If you would like to attend a session or all sessions please email the CCCD Manager, Whitney Lewis at: da.cccd@gmail.com for the zoom link!

Missed Session #1, no worries! All sessions will be recorded and posted online for viewing! Check out the first session below!

Want to learn more about what is being offered in each session? Check out this brochure with more detailed information!

[Session #1 Video](#)

[North Country High Tunnel Series Information](#)

No Till Drill

On January 14th, 2021 the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund Large Grants Program closed their portal to accept grant project applications. The District Manager applied to this grant program in the hopes for approval of funds to purchase a Great Plains No Till Drill that was demoed in November. The District was delighted with the support from local farmers coming to this event and requesting to rent this drill for use on their farms.

The granters reassured the District Manager that it can take up to three months for the processing of all grant applications. Please be patient and we will communicate with you as soon as we find out any news!

Thank you all for your continued support!

NH Conservation Districts Celebrate 75 Years of Conservation



In honor of the 75th anniversary for Conservation Districts in the State of NH the Coos County Conservation District seeks nominations for the **Conservation Legacy Award**. This award seeks to honor the nominees sustained commitment to the stewardship of natural resources in Coos County.

For more information such as qualifications and nomination due

dates, see the link below! Your voice matters, please help us award a deserving business, organization, individual, or family!

2021 Legacy Awards
Information

January 2021 Podcast

On January 8th, 2021 the District Manager met with Conservationists of Coos County at Phlume Media in Lancaster. Guest conservationist speakers include:

- 1-Lt. Wayne Saunders, retired NH Fish & Game Conservation Officer & Operation Game Thief & Wardens Watch Podcast
- 2-Andrew Schafermeyer, NH Fish & Game Fisheries Biologist
- 3-Dave Falkenham, Forester for LandVest

The main topics of interest include an Introduction, Conservation Job Specific Questions, Reflection on Coos County History and Questions Asked from the Community.

Question, what is a podcast? A podcast is a digital audio file of a recording that took place in a studio. Just like listening to the radio in your car, a podcast can be downloaded on the internet via a computer or smartphone to be listened to in your home, in your car, or anywhere!

Be on the look out for the exciting new podcast series! The link to listen will be provided in the newsletter, on Facebook and on our website.

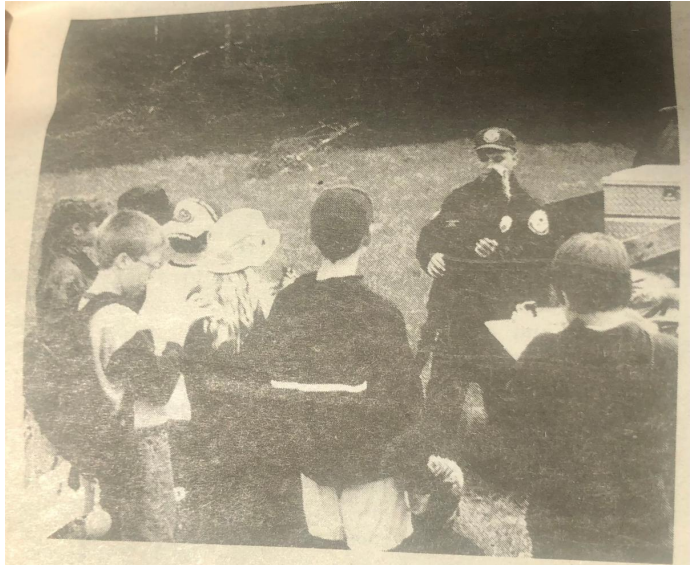
Monthly Flashbacks

Each year the District holds a Conservation Field Day for the 5th graders from the local valley schools. This Field Day has been occurring for multiple decades with the help from local professionals in NH Fish & Game, UNH Extension, USDA/NRCS, local foresters and farmers, and volunteers. Students are able to learn about crops and agriculture, safety on the farm, what animals can be raised, the soil horizons, timber harvesting, and what fish/macro invertebrates are found in our streams and rivers. The field day is a true hands on experience for the students!

Below are pictures of the Conservation Field Day in May of 2001 that were featured in the Colebrook Chronicle.



Haven Neal of Haven Neal Forestry Services explained forest management to students from St. Albert School.



NH Fish and Game Officer Wayne Saunders is showing Pittsburg students an otter skin.



Mrs. Biron's students learned how to protect themselves and to prevent a forest fire from NH Forests and Lands Officer, Scott Owen, District Seven Ranger John Accardi and Magalloway Mt. Towerman, Steve Sherman.



Stratford students answer questions on agriculture for Steve Turaj of the UNH Cooperative Extension Lancaster office.



Stewartstown 5th graders ran a wildlife relay which involved placing animals in their correct habitat. Tanya Tellman of NH Fish and Game discussed many different animals.



Emily Lemieux and Brad Woodard, of Colebrook, listen carefully to Soil Scientist, MaryEllen Cannon, as she reviews information on soils.

More in the News

New Quarterly Articles

New to the 2021 Coos County Conservation District Newsletter is Quarterly featured articles by CCCD Associate Board Member Steve Turaj. Steve previously wrote wonderful articles in the years past that were featured in the District newsletter along with local and state-wide publications. It was requested to bring back Steve and these entertaining and educational articles. Thank you Steve!

Our Coos Conservation District has asked me to put together an occasional article for their new newsletter. Since I've taken a break from writing for awhile, maybe it's time to get back to it.

Readers of those past years of newspaper columns, later on-line stuff and such will be familiar with my particular style. Nothing too technical, more conversational, and perhaps helpful to others who like the land as much as I do. I'm a bit rusty, so bear with me, let me know what interests you, here goes:

On Popcorn

Maybe its the craving for Carbs this time of year. Still, the aroma of freshly popped corn...along with plenty of melted butter seems the remedy for a cold winter night. Add a good dash of granular maple sugar and it surely beats any store bought 'kettle corn' package. Yep, it can become somewhat of an obsession. For instance, when Mike and I organized our statewide February Forage Crop Seminars each year, the local theater was a favored location. That's because -Free popcorn-all you can eat for those attending was always part of the deal.

To me there is something elemental about corn, or maize if you prefer the true American term, for a truly significant native crop. Watching a barren piece of ground awaken to a field of green each Spring a simple pleasure. Corn has been around for a long time in many forms and uses: Sweet, Dent, Flint, even an ancient looking Pod corn. All are terrific nutrient re-cyclers and providers.

Back to Pop Corn which, thanks to its tough moisture trapping husk, popping is possible. I'm of course convinced it tastes better if you grow it yourself. Its not that difficult to do. Most grower guides will provide you with the info you need regarding soil preparation, pH, fertilizer, and the like. However a key to success, for any crop in fact, is variety selection. Fitting it to your particular circumstances. Here's one I've come across and like to think -re-discovered- in a sense. Burro Mountain White Rice Popcorn.

First, how I got there. One of my enjoyable winter-time activities besides farmer workshops, 'lunch n learn' sessions, amongst other stuff, was "plant-hunting". What could we grow well... up here?" A short question yet one with many components, cold soils, short growing season, marketability, pest (insects, weeds, disease) pressures just some considerations.

One invaluable investigational (not sure that's a real word) source I happened across, and passed along to others is The USDA's Germplasm System. Its the national seed-bank for just about any plant you can name. Stations are located throughout the US, specializing in regional crops, corn for instance in Iowa. These

'accessions' as they call them are available to scientists, educators and producers. It was my principal source of those many trial plantings we did about the North Country over the years. Everything from rhubarb to garlic, even native grasses, lots in between. Some I know have been adopted by farmers, there are also a few at the District's nursery.

Most popcorn I'd seen in seed catalogs usually seemed to have a pretty long growing season citation, 100 days or so. Kind of discouraging for us up here. This one from the New Mexico mountains, seemed to have possibilities. Harsh growing conditions and probably pretty short season was my guess. After reading the narrative about it I just had to try it. "Originally found in a pottery container estimated to be 600 to 1000 years old", Wow!

I've grown it to maturity for several years (off and on) in Lancaster. It seems to be fairly tolerant to cold soils, I plant it fairly early. Not surprisingly, it tests quite high in protein compared with other corn types. I'm supposing a factor they selected it for perhaps? 2020 was my year to regrow it for fresh seed, maybe we can find a way to give some samples out again in the Districts spring plant sale...



Want to Learn more about CCCD Efforts and Initiatives?

[CCCD Update Video](#)

Check out this video! Also featured is the new District Manager and the Board Members.

National Association of Conservation Districts

NACD is part of the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCP), a collaboration of five key national conservation partners working to make conservation planning better for our customers. The NCP is currently relying on input from producers across the country as it continues its effort to reinvigorate conservation planning.

NACD is asking that we distribute **this survey** to farmers, ranchers and foresters

within our conservation district's region. The survey will obtain feedback on additional ways to strengthen the value of a conservation plan and to improve the delivery of conservation planning assistance to farmers, ranchers and forest landowners. Please feel free to review **this NCPP letter** from the NCPP Leadership Team Co-Chair Mike Brown, which describes the goal of the survey and a bit of NCPP's background.

The survey was developed to expand on the feedback NCPP received in previous employee and client listening sessions in 2018 and 2019. As a result of those sessions, hundreds of suggestions were received and recorded and have been moved forward to improve the conservation planning experience for our valued clients.

The survey will close on Monday, Feb. 15, 2021. All responses will be confidential, and any background information provided will be used for statistical purposes only. Results of this survey will be available in May 2021 **on the NCPP website**.

As the voice of conservation districts nationwide, NACD is proud to be part of NCPP's work in supporting and strengthening our nation's landowners in protecting our natural resources. Conservation planning is a core of NACD's mission, and they look forward to the work that we all will accomplish together in increasing productivity and sustainability across our land.

UNH Extension

Please click on the links below for UNH Newsletters that are offered, UNH events offered, and to be added on the UNH Agriculture Newsletter from the Lancaster Office.

If anyone has any questions please email the CCCD Manager at da.cccd@gmail.com or the UNH Extension Administrator morgan.Oakes@unh.edu.

[UNH Newsletters](#)

[More Events](#)

[Ag Newsletter](#)

Natural Resources Conservation Service

If you have not already signed up for the online North Country High Tunnel Series, it is not too late! Come listen to the District Conservationist in Session #3 speak about the NRCS High Tunnel Program on February 17, 2021 at 6:00-7:30pm.

Community Webinar: Soils

Public Event Series Focuses on Soil Health and Community Resilience in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and the North Country of New Hampshire

Events Free and Open to All

January 6th, 2020 – Barnet, VT + Littleton, NH– Connecting healthy soil, people, projects, skills, and ideas to increase community resilience in the North. That's the theory behind a six-event webinar series, Soil Health and Community Resilience: Stories from the North hosted by the Vermont Healthy Soils Coalition, the Littleton Food Co-op, and over 20 local community organizations and businesses. The events will be held on six alternating Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 pm from February through April 2021. Details are available at

<https://www.vermonthhealthysoilcoalition.org/stories-from-the-north>

The series will reflect the priorities of the communities of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and the North Country of New Hampshire as determined by a community survey that found a strong interest in regenerative practices skill sharing. The series will cover topics such as the connections between soils, climate, food, and human health; Abenaki land, stewardship, and current projects; building soil and community composting; social justice issues related to land, agriculture and food; and how to partner with a diversity of plants, animals, and others for healthy and resilient ecosystems. Participants and speakers will have opportunities to share skills, ideas, and resources and collaborate to implement projects in their own community.

Speakers and facilitators at each event will be based in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and the North Country of New Hampshire and will be discussing local projects, sharing climate-appropriate skills and tips, and highlighting resources and ideas available in these regions and beyond!

“In the spirit of cooperation, this series will help to build the bridges across the mighty Connecticut River bordering the NEK and North Country that are needed to increase collaboration, share stories, and cultivate practical skills from the talents of local folks. Co-ops like us are driven to build these bridges, which have the power to create a stronger, more resilient, sustainable region for all as we step into our future together.” - Becky Colpitts, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Littleton Food Co-op and Series Co-Organizer

“The people and land of the NEK, my home for nearly 50 years, have inspired my work to teach about the importance of healthy soil for our ability to thrive in a climate changed future. Participants in this webinar series will find inspiration to build soil health and community resilience wherever they may live. I am excited to be partnering with many local organizations to bring this series to my home region ” - Grace Gershuny, Board Member of the Vermont Healthy Soils Coalition and Series Co-Organizer

Events to be held on alternating Wednesday nights: 6:30 - 8:00 pm: Feb. 10, Feb. 24, Mar. 10, Mar. 24, Apr. 7, Apr. 21

This series is a proud grant recipient of the Cooperative Education Fund - a project of CDF. More information is available at

<https://www.vermonthhealthysoilcoalition.org/stories-from-the-north>.



Conservation Reserve Program

Conservation Reserve Program General Signup Begins Today

CONCORD, NH, Jan. 4, 2021 – Agricultural producers and private landowners interested in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) can sign up for the popular program beginning today, Jan. 4, 2021, until Feb. 12, 2021. The competitive program, administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides annual rental payments for land devoted to conservation purposes.

For More
Information:

Northeast Organic Farming Association of NH



NOFA-NH's is excited to also announce that they have scholarships to attend their **Organic Gardening Series** for free this spring. The workshop series offers tips for new and experienced gardeners seeking to feed themselves and their families and, over the course of 15 classes, will cover topics ranging from garden planning to healthy soils to managing pests and diseases, and more.

To get the scholarship ticket link, or to sign up for the **Winter Conference** please contact Laura at info@nofanh.org. They currently have 8 scholarships remaining and the series begins on February 23.

More Information on the
Series

Ask a UNH Field Specialist

Question: Can I plant seeds from an apple and get the same type of apple?

Apples require cross pollination in order to set fruit. Pollen from one variety of apple must pollinate the flower of a different variety. This means that the genetic makeup of the seeds has variability and when planted won't have the same traits as the tree/fruit where the seeds came from.

For example, you go to the grocery store and buy a 'Honey Crisp' apple and take a seed out and plant it. You then grow an apple tree from this seed. Years later that tree fruits but the fruit won't be identical to the original apple because that seed is a genetic mix of both parents (from the cross pollination). You could get any combination of both parent's lineage. Furthermore, the tree itself could have different characteristics.

To have multiple trees that produce the same fruit, orchardists and others use a process called grafting. Grafting is a method of propagation that allows us to maintain the same fruiting characteristics of apples (and other important traits other than fruiting). It's a practice that has been done for thousands of years.

Grafting involves taking scion wood (wood cut from the apple you want) and attaching that to a compatible root stock (the roots). With grafting we are duplicating the same genetic make-up. It's asexual reproduction.

There are various techniques for grafting but the process is the same. The two plant parts are attached together by precisely aligning the living plant tissue of the scion and root stock. The spot where this occurs is called the graft union. If the graft takes, the living tissue in each plant "grows together" joining the scion with the rootstock. When you buy specific apple varieties from a nursery this has already been done.

There are many other reasons to graft trees, and apples aren't the only tree or plant that can be grafted. Grafting does take some skill to be most successful but can be perfected on the farm or at home.

If you would like to know more about grafting fruit trees, contact me at the Extension office at nicholas.rowley@unh.edu or 603-788-4961 – Nick

Want to start a farm with goats, but not sure where to start? Have questions about site selection and construction of high tunnels? Need soil tested but not sure what to test for? Fear not, Ask the local UNH Agriculture Field Specialist Nicholas Rowley!

Simply email questions to the CCCD District Manager at: da.cccd@gmail.com, and your question could be featured in next months newsletter!

Coös County Conservation District

4 Mayberry Lane
Lancaster, NH 03584
Phone: 603-788-4651 Ext. 5



See Helpful
Links

See Upcoming Events

Contact Us
Today