



Extension



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.

Meet Our New District Manager

Please welcome Whitney Lewis! Whitney is a Coös County native, she currently resides with her husband and five year old daughter in Milan. Whitney graduated from Berlin High School in 2009 and attended Unity College in Maine where she graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Wildlife Biology. In 2018 she graduated from Plymouth State University with a Master's in Science Education.

Whitney was a science teacher for the past three years at Berlin Middle School before coming to the District in July of 2020. She has previously worked for NH State Parks every summer for the past eight years, and worked for Barry Conservation Camp, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Youth Conservation Corporation. Her hobbies include spending time with her family, having a farm stand in the warmer months with her daughter, kayaking, camping, attending Sunday services, hunting, and visiting fairs.



Whitney is very excited to be in this position! She is dedicated to conservation and loves Coös County. She enjoys meeting new people and listening to what their needs are, and is looking forward to see how she can bring more opportunities to the residents of Coös County!

Sponsor Youth to Barry Conservation Camp 2021

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 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 January 10th, 2021.

The future BCC camper will be notified by February 5th, 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? Join us for this FREE online collaborative effort between Coos, Grafton and Carroll Counties starting on January 20th, 2021 at 6:00pm! 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!

Check out this brochure with more detailed information!

North Country High Tunnel
Series

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 will be meeting with Conservationists of Coos County at Phlume Media in Lancaster. Guest conservationist speakers include:

- 1-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

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

Please join us in our conversation discussion by emailing any questions you may have for Wayne, Andy or Dave to the District Manager at da.cccd@gmail.com by January 7th! Your questions could be featured in our podcast recording!

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!

Monthly Flashbacks



Each month, we will be providing Flashbacks of the great work that the Conservation District in Coos County has completed over the years. However for the January Newsletter we wanted to highlight a special event in history!

On February 27, 1937 Franklin D. Roosevelt sent a letter to all state governors urging the passage of state legislation to create a soil conservation district program. The reason for this program was due to the devastating soil erosion conditions from the great Dust Bowl of the 1930's. Roosevelt's actions provided land owners with the ability to organize conservation districts as local governmental subdivisions of the state. Forty-five states enacted such laws before the statewide New Hampshire soil conservation district was created in May of 1945. By 1946, and currently each county in NH had its own conservation district.

The above picture was taken as Governor Dale signed the bill. Persons in the picture left to right: Alfred L. French, Secretary of NH Farm Bureau Federation; George M. Putnam, President of NH Farm Bureau Federation; Representative Arthur W. McDaniel, Chairman of the legislative soil conservation committee; Governor Charles M. Dale; Representative Roscoe J. Oakes, who introduced the bill in the House; Andrew L. Felker, Commissioner of Agriculture; and Senator Scott Simpson, who sponsored a previous soil conservation bill.

For more information or to see the original document from 1945, check out the links below. This was a major event in history! Thank you President Roosevelt for

recognizing the need for conservation districts through out the United States!

NH Soil Conservation Districts
May 10th, 1945

RSA 432:12

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 UNH Ag Newsletter.

It was requested to bring back Steve and these entertaining and educational articles. The first article will be featured next month! Thank you Steve!

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.

UNH Extension

Hope everyone had a wonderful holidays! New to 2021, the UNH Extension Office in Lancaster will be promoting their own monthly Ag Newsletter. Due to technical issues, some of you may already be on the contact list for this newsletter, just have not received it since June of 2020. If you have received this newsletter in the past then you are all set for 2021, the technical kinks have been addressed and the newsletter will be ready to go this month! However if you are not on the contact list and would like to be added please click on the "Ag Newsletter" link below.

Also the Coos County Conservation District will be sending out their own monthly newsletter as well. If you are receiving this email, then you are already added to CCCD monthly Newsletter. We have lots of exciting things coming for 2021 so be sure to stay tuned for more information!

This may raise the question as to why now? Previously the former CCCD Manager worked for UNH and created the UNH Ag Newsletter years ago. When the Manager left UNH and joined the Conservation District she continued to create the UNH Ag Newsletter. Both organizations have always worked closely together and partnered in multiple projects. This was the best decision at the time. In the end of June 2020, the former CCCD Manager retired and then the software used to create and send out the UNH Ag Newsletter had some technological issues as stated above. Together CCCD and UNH Extension in the Lancaster Office have worked together since to try and still get the information out to all of you wonderful folks! In December of 2020, all the kinks have been sorted out and each organization has decided to promote their own newsletters! Both organizations will continue to support one another and add to each others newsletters to be sure that we create the best

information for the good people of Coos County!

Please click on the links below for more UNH Newsletters that are offered, more 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



Ashley Newell joined the NRCS team back in April as the new Soil Conservationist out of the Lancaster office. Ashley will be assisting landowners and producers out in the field with conservation planning and technical assistance. Though she is new to the agency she's lived in northern New Hampshire for nearly a decade, receiving her education in Environmental Science just over the border in Vermont and working the last six years on projects in Coos County – from high elevation wildlife research in the White Mountains to watershed planning down in the local rivers and streams. She looks forward to getting out on the land with clients and helping them accomplish their objectives while conserving the resources that make Coös County the special place it is. Welcome, Ashley!

Community Webinar: Soils

Want to learn more about the connections between soil health, agriculture, forests, human health, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, social justice, regenerative land stewardship, and land and food sovereignty?

If so, check out the Webinar series by the Vermont Healthy Soils Coalition and Littleton Food-Coop starting February 10th. The six part series will feature presenters and projects from the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and the North Country of New Hampshire.



Soil Health and Community Resilience: Stories from the North
Information

Ask a UNH Field Specialist

Question: Can You Tell Me More About High Tunnel Coverings?

There are a lot of choices when it comes to coverings (also called glazing, poly or film) for high tunnels. By far the most common type of material used is 6 mill polyethylene film (PE) due to its low cost, strength, good light transmission and UV light resistance. While this material is a good choice for your high tunnel, it does not last forever.

Most manufactures of greenhouse grade PE film guarantee the product for 4 years, after that it is recommended that the material be replaced. These films are degraded by things such as weathering, general wear and tear and UV radiation. Over time these things alter the chemical properties of these plastics and the material itself loses its desirable properties and integrity.

Even if the material still looks structurally sound after 4 years, it most likely has reduced light transmission. A loss in transmitted light means a loss in photosynthesis, i.e. a reduction in growth rate of your crop. This is especially important in the shoulder seasons where the high tunnel structure has arguably its greatest benefit to growers in northern regions, like the North Country.

How much transmission is lost is complicated. Photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) is not one wavelength, but a range of wavelengths and studies have shown that transmission of each individual wavelength degrades differently over time in PE film. I was taught as a “rule of thumb” you loose 10% of your light transmission with every year of use of the poly film, although this is probably not entirely true. Any decrease will depend on the product specification, the product construction and the environmental effect of your location. Either way, light transmission is reduced in older plastic and this reduces your ability to grow a crop. Replacing the film can be a good investment for a farm and a way to increase plant production and get those tomatoes to your market or your plate earlier.

If you have question about high tunnels please reach out to me at the Extension

office at 603-788-4961 ext. 207 or Nicholas.rowley@unh.edu until then!- 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](#)

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Today](#)