

LAMOILLE COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Wednesday, January 25th, 2022, 5:30pm-6:30PM

USDA Service Center

Morrisville, VT

MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance:

District Staff: Peter Danforth, Emily Porter-Goff, Emma Sandman

Supervisors: Linda Martin, Charlie Davis, Fran Sladyk, Sarah

Guest: Sarah LaRose (NRCS)

Charlie called the meeting to order at 5:30pm, Sarah and Fran seconded

Agenda Items:

A. Approve LCNRC D Minutes: *Fran approved; Linda seconded*

B. Education Program Report: *(see Education Program Coordinator report for January 2022).*

C. Agriculture Program Report: *(see Ag-Outreach Specialist Report for January 2022)*

D. Director's Report: *(see Director report for January 2022).*

E. Supervisor's Report:

Linda: Total 2, 2 district meeting

Charlie: Total 3, 2 district meeting, 1 Contract signatures and Pavilion Quote

Fran: Total 2, 2 district meeting

Sarah: Total 2, 2 district meeting

Other Business:

- a. Peter updated the board about the Vermont NRCDs appropriations ask for fiscal year 2023-24. Peter will do a couple 1:1 meeting in March to help get advocates in Legislative Ag committees. (The ask and the brochure being distributed attached)
- b. Peter updated board on pavilion. LCCD has approximal \$16k raised and will need to raise approximately \$10k more. He plans to hold a spring fundraiser to help achieve this goal.
- c. Sarah LaRose relayed these NRCS updates to the board list here:
- d. NRCS updates:
 - e. -401 position interviews completed, going to pull in two people off of this job announcement to backfill positions, waiting on HR to move process along.
 - f. -Engineering position, position was offered person declined, will have to re-advertise again.
 - g. -Civil Eng Tech position was re-advertised and open from 1/5 to 1/11. There were no applicants.
 - h. -Soil Con position was offered to Sean Pease in Morrisville, this now means the Soil Con Tech position will have to re-advertised. This position will be located in St. Albans this time around.
 - i. -Program Assistant position will be advertised soon. Current VACD PA likely to apply, which could lead to having to re-advertise that position if she were to be selected for the NRCS PA position.
 - j. -Josh Nappi CET from Central Zone, his detail will be extended to July and re-evaluated at that time and could be extended again or might possibly be re-located permanently to the zone.
 - k. -FSA program ECP was opened up for storm Elliot, lots of people reported damage in Franklin County, a few from Grand Isle County and Lamoille County, damage reported was mostly sugarbushes, some structural damage reported. Please encourage folks to report to FSA if they

have or do experience damage from natural events. NRCS provides technical assistance for this program.

- l. -Chris Evans new NWZ Forester started, he will be handling most of the ECP visits in Franklin, Lamoille, and Orleans county. His duties will spread across zones, NWZ and NEZ.
- m. -Discussed what is involved in creating a FY24 Local Funding Pool with the 3 DM's (Franklin, Grand Isle, and Lamoille).

F. Financial Report Overview (see attached docs)

December Report: Peter provided the current update of Profit and Loss Sheet. Steady increase in Profit continues.

G. Review Cash Flow/Bills:

Peter asked to have Fitzgerald Environmental Contractor get paid \$1,751 for design work *Fran approved; Linda seconded*

H. Timesheets

- a. Sarah has approved timesheets
- b. Sarah will reconcile bills and receipts for September to January next week

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm. *Fran approved; Sarah seconded*

Next LCCD Meeting is scheduled for February 22nd, 2023 at 5:30 on Zoom and in person

LCCD Educator's Report for January 25th, 2023

Outreach (Junior Naturalist Program)

2022/23 School Year

- 55 Programs
- 10 Host locations
- 19 different programs
- 818 Attendees (200 at open house, 458 not counting open house)
- Ages 2- adult

Contracted Grants

Lake Champlain Basin Program (2022)-

Reaching out to Teachers for spring. Need 6 classes to participate.

I have 2 classes signed up and a couple of leads. Need 4 more sign ups. PLEASE HELP RECRUIT TEACHERS IN YOUR LIFE!

SPARK Grant- VT community Foundation.

Monthly Nature center self-guided activity and funding for our seasonal family program! Planning a Tracking trek soon. Need to make one more monthly activity and post to website, then Complete. Spring flower program?

Upcoming Programs- Forest School starts again March 14th.

Submitted grant proposals- LCBP grants are submitted. Just applied for ECO Americorps member. Found a grant (Lindsey Trust) that offers camperships, so will be applying for that.

Upcoming Grants

Spark grant- VCF,

Mud City Forrest School

Enrolling for spring. First week mid March

Summer Camps

Offering 6 weeks. 20 kids enrolled already. All listed, posted and registration is open. Jr counselor for some of them.

Current tasks

Getting teachers for spring field trips

Apply Lindsey Trust

Plan Trek

Prep forest school

Lamoille County Conservation District

FY2022-2023 Work Plan

Organization Mission Statement: Lamoille County Natural Resources Conservation District (aka Lamoille County Conservation District or LCCD) works in conjunction with other agencies, public and private, to maintain and improve our natural resources; to aid and educate our fellow citizens to appreciate and adjust to the changes taking place in our natural resource system; and to be a local voice for conservation, preservation and stewardship of all natural resources.

I. Natural Resource Concern Projects (Rivers, AOP, Wetlands, Soils, NMPs, etc....)

2021 USFWS Cooperative Agreement Lamoille River Habitat Restoration Project \$200,000
Total. This cooperative agreement provides \$20,000 for the limited interchange of services, personnel, and funds between the Service and the LCNRCD to restore fish and wildlife habitat in the Lamoille Basin.

Task 1. Restore 25 miles of brook trout habitat by removing four barriers to fish passage. This includes removal of dams and culverts. Two culverts shall be replaced with FY21 funding, reestablishing 8.1 miles of connectivity for aquatic organism passage. Estimated total cost: \$450,000. Fiscal year 2021 Service contribution: \$180,000. 1. Culvert identified as 73-05 in Cambridge is in que to be replaced on Clif Reynolds rd. FEMA has accepted the design that was funded by this agreement last year and will pay any balance left if not completed by FEMA who will pay 75% and the state will split the remaining 25% evenly with the town, so the town ends up paying 12.5% of total project costs. Updates: One culvert replacement Full Design is completed on Foote Brook Rd in Johnson and one culvert replacement full design is set for implementation on Clif Reynolds Rd for FY23. One culvert retrofit is being designed Clif Reynolds Rd as well and may be implanted by the end of September FY23. Numerous Dam removal projects have been identified on Brewster River as well.

Task 2. Restore 50 acres of upland habitat and 20 acres of wetland habitat in the Lamoille River Watershed. Three sites and 15 acres of habitat will be addressed with FY21 funds. Estimated total cost: \$50,000. Fiscal Year 2021 Service contribution: \$20,000. Updates: LCCD met with three landowners, one in Waterville, one in Cambridge and one in Johnson VT (Arboretum) where buffer zones will be implemented is FY23 and knotweed removal will begin in the fall of FY22 The Waterville project is small and perhaps can be handled by the VYCC in October.

AgCWIP22 (Clean Water Initiative Program) \$81,000

Contract to be completed, proposals were submitted in January 2022. This is the primary funding arm for farmer outreach and technical assistance from the VT Agency of Agriculture. It also provides funding for capacity building opportunities for LCCD through trainings and funding to support ag related workshops. Other requirements of LCCD staff is to update the Partner

Database and complete Conservation Practice Surveys (CPS). New contract has been signed. Workplan being solidified and two invoices to be submitted this week for a total of \$18k

RCPP22 (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) Nutrient Management Plan

Proposals for FY23 due October 31, 2022. This partnership program with NRCS-USDA provides funding for soil/manure testing on certified small, medium and large farms and training farmers in nutrient management plans using the GoCrop software. UVM extension provides training classes for farms every winter.

RCPP22 (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) Rivers

Proposal dates to be decided. This partnership program with NRCS-USDA provides funding for the identification of stream restoration, culvert replacement and AOP work. Still awaiting more definition.

LCCD-VACD- NRCD WNROE (Wetlands Outreach and Education Program)

Award to Be Announced. Two-year contract. The goal of this project is to increase knowledge among the Conservation Districts, VACD staff, farmers, landowners and possibly other partners of the various state, federal and NGO programs that are available to support the protection and restoration of the State's natural resources. By implementing this program, Conservation District Managers and Agricultural Staff will have increased knowledge of and ability to discuss these programs. These staff will proactively work with farmers and other landowners, identifying protection and restoration opportunities, coordinating with state and federal agency partners, and where possible, moving projects towards completion. Deliverables Outreach to at least 6 farms within Lake Champlain Basin at least 2 referrals to Wetlands Programs or River Management Program. Grant extended into new year. Will train Emily and Emma on this in case they want hours.

NRCC DEC Tactical Basin Planning Funding 2022: New Contracts Pending. Funding to pay for outreach in Basin 7 and 8. LCCD will do outreach with landowners, municipalities and partners to identify natural resource concerns based on each basins Tactical Basin Plan. This process of identification will help LCCD and the state to seek funding and support for program development, design, implementation and monitoring of sites. Submitted Basin 8 Report Card 2022.

NRCC DEC Program Development 2022: Proposals due 11/14/22. Funding to support project development of identified natural resource concerns. LCCD plans to identify at least 3 new projects for FY22-23.

VT Fish and Wildlife Access (TFS) Project: \$70,000 LCCD. Approximately 10 acres at boat access to be planted in 2022-2025 at the Fish and Wildlife Access in Wolcott. There will also be a berm removal and knotweed removal. First knotweed removal needs to occur.

Total area is about 10-12 acres over 2 fields (about 5-6 acres each). Till & herbicide reed canary grass on two fields (by VFWD). Hydroseed with tree seed mix (by VFWD/Northwoods).

LCCD would plant fields at 400 stems / acre using purchased trees. Additional planting in 100' riparian zone using trees pulled by VFWD to achieve final density of 800 stems/acre (tree collection by VFWD/Northwoods, planting by TBD). Post planting watering, and maybe herbicide and hand pulling bindweed (by VFWD).

Stagger till & herbicide and planting over 2-3 years. (1/3 of each field per year or downstream field first then upstream field)

2022 – summer/fall - till & herbicide part 1

2023 – spring - planting part 1, summer/fall - till & herbicide Part 2

2024 – spring - planting part 2, summer/fall - till & herbicide Part 3

2025 – spring - planting part 3

Update: Only funding for one year. Will have to resubmit for each year of project.

WUV-LCCD-DEC Block Grant: 10 Bends 1st Bend floodplain restoration Project \$15,000: LCCD submitted a preliminary design proposal to address the severe erosion at 1st bend on the main stem of the Lamoille River. Design would consider shaving the banks and stabilizing with large wood addition and live stakes. Bear Creek Environmental to do engineering with Ripple. The hope is to bring to full design and implementation in FY23.

10 Bends Preliminary Design for floodplain and stormwater fixes \$19,000: The Town of Hyde Park has invested in stormwater management planning and improvements along Main Street in the Village of Hyde Park (Lake Champlain Basin Program Grant for the "Net Zero" project & the VTrans Municipal Mitigation Grant "Sink Hole" Project"). The westerly flow of stormwater continues out of the Village and into the Lamoille River via a natural ravine, culverts under the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, a town highway (Railroad Street) and a private road (Ten Bends Drive), before entering an agricultural canal connected to the Lamoille River. The connection to the river is not operating effectively and stormwater backs up into an agricultural field that is no longer useable (was producing crops until 4 years ago).

The stream in question, which bridges 3 properties before daylighting into the Lamoille River, is heavily incised and has numerous undersized and damaged culverts. Stream and floodplain restoration along the route of the canal would not only address the stormwater runoff but stabilize the stream (canal) geomorphology, improve wildlife habitat, protect floodplain and wetland conditions, improve road conditions and mitigate sediment and Phosphorus runoff in the Lamoille River basin.

A preliminary design would help determine what best management practices should be used moving forward and resolve the natural resource concerns noted above for all landowners involved. Drone Lidar imagery has been produced by watershed Consulting to study drainage patterns to help inform design. Met with DEC, USFWS and NRCS reps on site in Dec to go over final analysis. Based on this meeting Watershed Consulting will offer a few concepts to bring to the table for landowners.

NFWF-Wetlands and VAWQP Regional Coordination: Awaiting definition and RFPs

VM-led proposal for Soil Health Monitoring, TA, and Cohort Hosting for Lake Champlain Basin: Awaiting definition and RFPs

Payment For Ecosystem Services: Awaiting definition and RFPs

Two Trees for Stream in addition to Wolcott would include private land in Cambridge and Arboretum Buffer in Johnson. Block Grant Submitted 10/31/22. Contract was awarded for Johnson Arboretum project. Need to modify Cambridge project to find additional funding for wetland buffers.

A total of 6 new Lake Champlain Basin Programs have been or will be submitted for between November 22 and January 23

- **Mt Norris Stormwater and Lakeshore BMP Installation Awarded. Need to start bidding process for contractors and workplan due February 7th, 2023**
- **Joe Brook AOP Culvert Replacement. Tabled until other matches are confirmed. Most likely 2024 Implementation**
- **Small Education Outreach Grant for Lamoille River Watershed Fieldtrips**
- **Capacity Building grant to hire AmeriCorps person and upgrade web and social media.**
- **Rocky Woods (Elmore) Stream Restoration -Strategic Wood Addition**
- **Streamwise Assessments- 4-5 river bank landowners to be assessed and provided assistance.**

II. Stormwater and Lake Watershed Projects

**Stormwater and Lakeshore BMP Implementation for Mt Norris Scout Reservation:
LCBP Grant to be submitted in October 22.**

The proposed implementation project for Mt Norris Boy Scout Camp in Eden VT is one of 5 top ranked projects identified in Lake Eden Watershed Action Plan (attached). It was ranked as a high priority due to the estimated nutrient and sediment loading from the site into Lake Eden and, subsequently the Lake Champlain Basin. A design mostly involved work in around the main parking lot and was brought to 100% design in the Spring of FY22. Project outcomes include reduced phosphorus loading to the Lake Champlain Basin estimated to be at least 2.34lbs/year.

Lamoille Union High School Green Stormwater Infrastructure Retrofit

LCBP Grant **\$104,595**. Drainage from the western portion of LUHS is collected via roof drains and surface flow in a series of catch basins and discharged over the bank to an unnamed tributary of the Lamoille Rivernorthwest of the paved access drive without any water quality management. The proposed retrofit for this site involves rerouting the existing storm line to a subsurface storage and infiltration system under the paved parking lot located northwest of the School (see pictures below). The resulting water quality treatment of 2.62 acres would result in an estimated phosphorus removal of .56 lbs. and 564 lbs. of suspended solids per year. Additionally, educational signage will be included on site as well as an academic curriculum and educational outreach materials based upon BMP.

Update: The projected budget is inadequate to cover costs. This project will need to be pushed forward to 2023 to bridge the funding gap. LCCD will pursue funding gap in next grant cycle offered by DEC 3-acre permit funding. A group called Green Print Partners has been awarded the funding by the state for the Vermont Green Schools Initiative. This programing should help bridge the funding gap and hopefully get this project completed on time! Unfortunately, Watershed Consulting (our engineer on this project) was not awarded this but Otter Creek Engineering. Peter has begun a conversation with them to see how much of this ongoing grant can be salvaged and if LCCD can partner with them to finish this. It appears this may be moving forward dependent. 3 acre permit needs need to be determined by new engineer. Other features may need to be added.

USFWS-LCCD Cooperative Grant to disperse Vermont Asbestos Group Award: \$112,000

Through an Ecosystem Restoration Program grant provided by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in 2018, the Lamoille County Conservation District (LCCD) conducted a full watershed assessment of the Lake Eden watershed. This is now referred to as the Lake Eden Watershed Action Plan. Lake Eden is a pristine lake but has been showing nutrient (i.e. Phosphorus) and sediment loading stresses due to development patterns surrounding the lake. The study assessed at what locations these stressors were most impactful by conducting road erosion inventories, stream walks and shoreline assessments. LCCD worked closely with the town and lake association to identify known issues as well. Twenty possible projects were identified and 5 of these that ranked highest were brought to 30% design. LCCD intends to implement best management strategies to mitigate sediment and nutrient loading at these 5 sites over the next year combined with continued monitoring of water quality. One project is already being designed and implemented through a grant awarded by the Lake Champlain Basin Program. The remaining four 30% designs projects and an additional project that was cited in the Lake Eden Watershed Action Plan will be addressed in this agreement.

Update: The town will work with LCCD on installing a bioretention feature on beach if LCCD will help in construction of new boat rack which would have to be moved. USFWS agrees as it is required to install bioretention feature.

WUV-LCCD-DEC Block Grant: Elmore Town Hall Stormwater and Lakeshore BMP project: \$23,000.

Through an Ecosystem Restoration Program grant provided by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in 2019, the Lamoille County Conservation District (LCCD) conducted a full watershed assessment of the Lake Elmore watershed. Lake Elmore is a pristine lake but has been showing nutrient (i.e., Phosphorus) and sediment loading stresses due to development patterns surrounding the lake. The study assessed what locations these stressors were most important by conducting road erosion inventories, stream walks and shoreline assessments. LCCD worked closely with the town and lake association to identify known issues as well. 20 possible projects were identified and 5 of these that ranked highest were brought to 30% design.

The Town Hall has mowed lawn along the lake shore. Runoff from Route 12 concentrates to one eroded turnout, contributing stormwater runoff to the lake and eroding the shoreline. Also, gravel parking area between the Town Offices and Store slopes toward the lake. The proposed scope of work would provide 502 cubic feet of storage and treat potentially .67 lbs. of Phosphorus a year (see attached problem area sheet).

There would be an opportunity for native plantings along the lakeshore to not only limit sediment runoff but provide aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat and pollination potential. Shade trees would also provide cooling not only for residents but aquatic species. LCCD, the town, the lake Elmore Lake Association will also partner to create signage explaining stormwater and lakeshore BMP treatments and advertising the states Lake Wise program. Many homes on lake Elmore are already participating in this process and LCCD along with the help of the Vermont Youth Conservation corps (VYCC) have installed shoreline BMPs based upon this for the past 3 years. To be designed Fall of FY22 and Implemented FY23

**Block Grant for Stormwater and Lakeshore BMP Work at Elmore VT F&W Access
\$21,421**

Through an Ecosystem Restoration Program grant provided by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in 2019, the Lamoille County Conservation District (LCCD) conducted a full watershed assessment of the Lake Elmore watershed. Lake Elmore is a pristine lake but has been showing nutrient (i.e. Phosphorus) and sediment loading stresses due to development patterns surrounding the lake. The study assessed what locations these stressors were most important by conducting road erosion inventories, stream walks and shoreline assessments. LCCD worked closely with the town and lake association to identify known issues as well. 20 possible projects were identified and 5 of these that ranked highest were brought to 30% design.

One of the highest ranked projects is a proposed stormwater project at the VT Fish and Wildlife Boat Access. This project site has water from the parking lot draining to low spots on either side of the boat launch. Water pools in mowed areas along the edge of the gravel surface. Also wave action is eroding the lakeshore in a mowed grass area at the boat launch. The proposed design

would be concepts to stabilize lake shore with native plantings and implement “no mow” areas along the lake shore and add small, naturalized basins on either side of the boat ramp to provide some stormwater treatment (see attached 30% Designs). Awaiting contract.

**Block Grant for Stormwater work at Johnson library (subsurface infiltration chambers)
\$113,464**

Through an Ecosystem Restoration Program grant provided by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in 2019, the Lamoille County Conservation District (LCCD) produced a Stormwater Master Plan for the town and village of Johnson VT. One of the top three sites that was brought to 30% design is railroad st. in the vicinity of the Public Library. Stormwater is currently collected in catch-basins via surface flow along Lamoille View Dr and Railroad St (Figure 7) and sheet flow to and along Railroad St prior to being discharged to the Gihon River to the west. The concept for this site is to reroute stormwater pipes to a subsurface sand filtration practice behind the Town Library. The Library would also assist in the creation of signage to inform the public on the benefits of a subsurface sand infiltration system.

It is important to note that this project as well as all other stormwater, watershed or natural resource conservation projects are also focused on reducing the overall Total Maximum Daily Loads of Phosphorus in the Lake Champlain Basin as spelled out in the State’s Clean Water Initiative and the new goals of the Clean Water Act 76. Awaiting Contract.

VACD-LCCD-DEC Block Grant: Sylvan/Johnson St Extension Stormwater Project: \$63,000. This paved private road serves four single-family homes and has experienced erosion along the first 250 feet from the town highway (Johnson St Extension). The north side of the road is a very steep embankment to a small stream. The south side of the road is also very steep, consisting of sandy material with a cemetery at the top of slope (headstones are visible at the top of slope). Watershed Consulting previously proposed a swale on the south side of the 250-foot section with stormwater treated via a new structure on the east side of Johnson St Extension. However, that project was denied by the Agency of Transportation because part of the proposed structure was in the Route 15 right-of-way.

The alternate plan is for a narrow swale on the north side of the 250-foot section that would lead to subsurface infiltration system and outfall to rip rap area at the bottom / northwest corner of the intersection of Johnson St Extension and Sylvan Road, before the water enters an unnamed tributary of the Lamoille River. Also included along stormwater conveyance would be the installation of two dry wells, one halfway down and one at bottom of drive to act as checks. This project is a continuation of Hyde Park Net Zero efforts as it pertains to Phosphorus and sediment into the Lamoille River and Lake Champlain Basins.

Stowe (SWMP) Stormwater Master Plan: \$5,200_LCCD has subcontracted by Watershed Consulting to assist with the Stowe SWMP. LCCD is assisting with landowner and municipal outreach and helping to identify and rank projects.

Update: Preliminary ranking of top 3 and top 10 projects is complete. Watershed Consulting hopes to complete the SWMP in FY23.

New Projects.

LCCD plans to submit at least 4-5 new DEC Block Grants for stormwater and lake watershed projects over the FY22-FY23 timespan.

Other:

Forward Philanthropy: \$12,000 grant from anonymous donor to the Nature center to bring monies wo help match the capital funds to erect Pavilion \$6,000, provide scholarship funds for campers \$2,000, New Front Signage \$2,000 and \$2,000 to pay personnel.

III. On-Going Technical Programs (funded by fee or rental based income)

LCCD Hydroseeder Program

Continue administrating and owned. Stored in Morristown.

LCCD Vector Collaborative Program

Continue administrating for Town of Hardwick and Morristown; Morristown officially owns the equipment. Other townships may enter the collaborative. LCCD will see in Johnson, Hyde Park, Wolcott and Stowe would be interested to join.

Other

- **Conservation Pond Visits for Private Landowners**
- **Service-Learning Programs on Conservation Practices**
- **Community Assistance on Conservation Projects**

IV. Education Projects, Nature Center and Education Grants

Outreach (Junior Naturalist Program)

2021/22 School Year

-137 programs to date

-22 different schools/libraries

-46 different Programs

-1903 attendees

- 1 field trip to the nature center (theme conservation and reciprocity)
- We are reaching very rural districts with Eden, Wolcott schools, as well as very tiny libraries
- Ages 2-adults
- All programming is conducted outside in nature

Proposed additions for 2022/23 School Year

- 3 Programs
- 3 Host locations
- 2 different programs
- 32 Attendees
- Ages 2- adult

Contracted Grants

Green Mountain fund- Watershed Education COMPLETE!

Lake Champlain Basin Program (2019)- Complete!

Lake Champlain Basin Program (2022)- Watershed Education- We had one scheduled for 9/13 but the

teacher has COVID. Rescheduling. Still trying to set dates with other teachers. Looks like most will be in the spring.

SPARK Grant- VT community Foundation.

Monthly Nature center self-guided activity and funding for our seasonal family program! In process.

Upcoming Programs

Fall cider party at Nature Center?

Mud City Forrest School

5 currently enrolled, Need 8 to run. Over a week left to enroll

Submitted grant proposals-

-LCBP- \$40k, partner with MRBA and VINS for watershed teachers' trainings, 12 over 2 years, edit and print manual- Denied but will resubmit.

Upcoming Grants

Keeping an eye out for grants for a picnic shelter: \$20,000 dollars for equipment and supplies was granted through a capital improvement appropriation. This will go to this structure, educational supplies, solar generator, trailer, water quality monitoring equipment and water pump.

Current tasks

Get Jr Naturalist going

Trying to get enough Forest School Enrollment

Need to look for grants for structure at Nature Center

Planning For Basin Program grant applications for next round

V. Administrative (funded by fee or donations-based income)

1. NRCS Local Working Group Meetings partnering with Franklin and Lamoille. Setting up a Local Meeting for November 2022
2. Spring and Fall Trout Sale
3. Annual Native Tree Sale
4. Technological Marketing (Website and Facebook)
5. Community Assistance on Conservation Education Projects
6. Fundraising events!

Emma Sandman

LCCD Agricultural Outreach Specialist Progress Report 1/25/23

- NMP status:

In the 3rd class out of 6 of the NMP class, I have been working on getting all the information for the LTP prepared. I am also attending the class in Newport every Wednesday and helping/learning how to operate gocrop.

-No Till Workshops:

Work on getting a no-till workshop set up, this means emailing Silene and following up about when and where to have it. I have a meeting with Heather Derby and am working on scheduling a meeting with Silene. I am reading through resources about previous workshops and how NRCS staff implemented them.

-USDA trainings:

Have had to work through getting on Conservation Desktop and have caught up on all USDA training that was overdue. I am also signed up for the conservation planning tools workshop at the end of February in order to start getting a planner certificate.

-Trainings in regards to NMP:

Have been attending multiple trainings for RUSLE 2, gocrop, and map making. Additional classes in RUSLE 2 are still ongoing as well as refreshers for gocrop as well, and lastly conservation desktop trainings.

-AgCWIP grant:

This requires me reading through and familiarizing myself with the grant and how we are supposed to report on our projects. In addition to working on the no till workshop I am also helping Peter fill out a work plan template.

- Planner Certification:

Starting the process of taking courses and the required qualifications to get a level 3 planner certification.

-Meetings, etc..

I have recently been attending the ag meetings, planner meetings, and helping Kate from the St.Albans office with soil sampling. In addition, shadowing Meryl on several site visits to farms who are also enrolled in the NMP class to see how the process goes.

-VHCB grant outreach:

Started helping Nancy with Bryce farm applying for the VHCB grant.

of \$3,000,000 starting in FY24 to help cover ongoing operational and training costs.

As critical members of the state's conservation and environmental delivery system, Conservation Districts have been asked to take on a wide range of new initiatives in recent years, and state appropriations are needed for Districts to effectively meet their existing and increasing demand.

We hope you will support this request in the Legislature.
Thank you!



Executive Director, Vermont Association of Conservation Districts
jill.arace@vacd.org | (802) 496-5162 | www.vacd.org

Highlights from FY23 State Appropriations

New Office Building in Downtown Poultney



The Poultney Mettowee Conservation District spent \$100,000 in one-time funding from the state in fiscal year 2023 to purchase a new office building in downtown Poultney. Poultney Mettowee lost their office space in 2019 when Green Mountain College closed. One-time funding from the state made it possible for the District to purchase a small, previously vacant office building on Main Street in Poultney, increasing their visibility and accessibility of programming to the community while contributing to Poultney's economic revitalization. The District secured the new office building and relocated there in April 2022 and held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in November with legislators and constituents.

Tree Planting Equipment for Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District

The Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District used one time funding from the state to purchase new tree planting equipment, which was used in Fall 2022 to plant around 900 trees and shrubs along riparian corridors in Shelburne, Orange, and Westford. Riparian corridors are critical habitats for preventing soil erosion and protecting against flooding. The trees and shrubs planted will make these riverbeds



more resilient to adverse climate impacts. The new equipment included a fleet of shovels and gloves as well as a new portable water pump, which can water tree stock in less than half the time it took to water manually, significantly reducing the staff time commitment to this aspect of the District's work.

Water Quality and Planting Equipment at Lamoille County Nature Center

The Lamoille Natural Resources Conservation District owns a 40-acre nature preserve with a Nature Center in Morristown, VT and used one-time funding from the state to purchase water quality testing and monitoring equipment, a stream table for demonstrations with youth and others, as well as a trailer and pump for tree planting operations. This equipment will help the Lamoille Natural Resources Conservation District implement water quality and conservation projects on the ground as members of the Vermont Agricultural Water Quality Partnership and increase visibility of programming among the community and visitors to the Nature Preserve.



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1/24/23, 12:04 PM

Gmail - [VACD] Fwd: State appropriations for Vermont's Natural Resources Conservation Districts

To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/vt-conservation/CAMv%2Bbm9nCSH3z%3DDrvUw_z4yxDnVB9KOunSEEAQj8E1P-zObONw%40mail.gmail.com.

10:46 AM

01/23/23

Accrual Basis

Lamoille County NRC & Nature Center
Profit & Loss YTD Comparison
December 2022

	Dec 22	Jul - Dec 22
Income		
4000 . Income		
4101 . State Funds	75,807.13	176,413.53
4200 . USFWS Income	0.00	34,270.18
4600 . Sales/Fundraising Income	0.00	319.70
4650 . Appropriations	0.00	500.00
4700 . Education Program Funds	589.78	19,030.67
4750 . Ag Program Revenue	205.00	205.00
4800 . Contributions		
4801 . Donations	200.00	1,214.99
4802 . Membership	1,265.00	4,550.00
Total 4800 . Contributions	1,465.00	5,764.99
Total 4000 . Income	78,066.91	236,504.07
Total Income	78,066.91	236,504.07
Expense		
6000 . Expenses		
6100 . Labor		
6101 . Program Manager Wages	8,056.50	46,055.00
6102 . Ed Coordinator Wages	0.00	576.00
6103 . Payroll Taxes Expense	657.32	3,911.61
6105 . Medical Reimbursement	230.76	3,282.28
Total 6100 . Labor	8,944.58	53,824.89
6200 . Program/Project Expenses		
6201 . Program Travel	319.23	1,926.42
6202 . Program Contract Labor	62,274.00	137,848.29
6203 . Program Supplies	-495.00	16,074.95
6200 . Program/Project Expenses - Other	0.00	3,060.37
Total 6200 . Program/Project Expenses	62,098.23	158,910.03
6300 . Education Expense		
6302 . Ed Supplies	7.42	1,048.86
6304 . Space Rental	0.00	160.68
Total 6300 . Education Expense	7.42	1,209.54
6500 . General & Administrative		
6501 . Accounting Fees	455.00	1,557.50
6502 . Advertising	445.99	1,692.18
6504 . Dues & Subscriptions	75.00	1,172.50
6505 . Employee Exp.	350.00	550.00
6506 . Insurance	664.25	2,218.25
6507 . Office Supplies	0.00	922.63
6508 . Outside Labor	0.00	1,104.50
6509 . Postage, Mailing Service	13.44	58.38
6512 . Telephone & Internet	120.03	280.09
6513 . Bank Fees	0.00	118.57
Total 6500 . General & Administrative	2,123.71	9,674.60
Total 6000 . Expenses	73,173.94	223,619.06
Total Expense	73,173.94	223,619.06
Net Income	4,892.97	12,885.01

