



Lamoille County Conservation District

Conserving Our Natural Resources since 1945

DISTRICT NEWS

FALL 2023

New Pavilion Complete!

LCCD now has a pavilion thanks to an anonymous donation, capital funding through the state, and numerous donations from local businesses and individuals. The pavilion will provide shelter for the camps and also provide a staging ground for public meetings and workshops. New front signage has been completed as well!

Come to our Pavilion ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct 13th From 4PM to 7PM at the Lamoille County Nature Center on 1600 Cole Hill Rd. There will be light refreshments, speakers as well as art activities and music!



Lamoille County Conservation District Mission:

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.

To be a local voice for conservation, preservation and stewardship of all natural resources and work in conjunction with other agencies, private and public.

LAMOILLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2023 PROJECT UPDATES

Lake Eden Projects

In 2019 the Lamoille County Conservation District completed the Lake Eden watershed Action Plan (LEWAP). Lake Eden is a pristine lake but has been showing nutrient (i.e. Phosphorus) and sediment loading stressors 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. Twenty possible projects were identified and designs were created for five of these. Through funds derived from the Vermont Asbestos Group settlement and a cooperative agreement with the USFWS, LCCD set out to design and implement four out of the five projects identified. Many of the projects will be Backshore Drive in Eden, Vermont. In addition to the design and implementation of these projects LCCD will provide educational signage on two or three of the more publicly viewed projects.



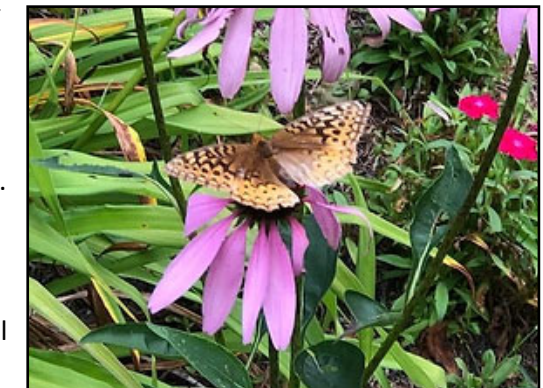
Three of the four intended implementation projects have been brought to existence.

A extensive raingarden was built at the Town Beach which captures the bulk of stormwater from the parking area. The VT Fish and Wildlife Boat Access has also had stormwater features to capture runoff from the parking lot and Rt 100. A private residence on Griggs Rd had a highly eroded stream channel that bisected their property stabilized by widening the channel, adding a footer, check dams and tree plantings.

For this project preliminary design for the replacement of culverts along Backshore Drive were also completed and will eventually address the flooding and water quality issues that have plagued this neighborhood.

Pollinator Pathways Has Come To Lamoille County!

Many, if not all of you, are aware that the world's pollinating insect population is in decline, due in part to pesticide use, habitat loss, and disease. There are many organizations whose mission is to educate consumers and to promote local and national initiatives to save pollinators. POLLINATOR-PATHWAY.org is one such organization that brings volunteers from town conservation organizations to collaborate on establishing pollinator-friendly habitats and food sources for pollinating insects and wildlife along a series of continuous corridors. These corridors will avoid pesticides and chemical fertilizers. Most native bees have a range of about 750 meters, so the goal is to connect properties that are no farther apart than that. Each town will identify a pathway that they will connect by reaching out to home and business owners. All are welcome to join the pathway project by simply providing safe habitat way-stations for pollinators. Pathway member towns share resources and ideas through the website. The first of the Pollinator Pathway projects began in 2017 in Wilton, CT. Since then, Pathways have been established in over 300 towns in eleven states, and the list keeps growing. In January 2023 Pollinator Pathway of Lamoille County (PPLC) joined Addison County, Burlington, Charlotte, and Wilmington in becoming Vermont's sixth chapter. This move was a grassroots response by local residents to rapid population growth and development in the county, with approximately twenty residents and organizations supporting the initial meeting. PPLC is run by a steering committee and collaborates with schools, municipalities, homeowners, renters, nonprofits, and business owners on planting projects.



LCCD is working to bring attention to Pollinator Pathways of Vermont. Put yourself on the pollinator map by becoming involved! The next Pollinator Pathway meeting will be on **October 16th at 5:30PM** at our office at 109 Professional Dr., Suite #2, Morrisville, VT 05661. Please reach out to Peter at lccddirector@gmail.com for more information. Also please visit their website at <https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/towns/lamoille>

LAMOILLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2023 PROJECT UPDATES

Agricultural Updates



Workshops

This summer the Lamoille County Conservation District hosted a no-till workshop at Lamoille County Field days. There we had a no-till planter on display with posters and handouts about practices and how to rent out the no-till equipment. Following the no-till workshops the LCCD is gearing up to host an agroforestry workshop in November. The dates are still to be decided, however be on the lookout around the middle of November.

Conservation Practice Surveys

The Lamoille County Conservation District is embarking on filling out "Conservation Practice Surveys" for the district. These surveys are used to gather data on conservation practices undertaken by producers at cost. Some of the practices entail no-till, cover cropping, planting buffers, and manure injection. These practices are voluntarily implemented and help gauge how much phosphorous reduction is being implemented throughout the county. Please contact Emma Sandman, emma.sandman32@gmail.com if you qualify and would be willing to take the survey.

Outreach

This past summer the LCCD has worked on providing outreach to the county through workshops and on farm visit. This effort has been ongoing to connect farmers to the conservation district and will continue as the fall progresses. Through these efforts we have updated contact information, hosted a no-till workshop, and visited farms. However, this process is ongoing and we would very much appreciate if anyone interested in updating their contact information would connect with Emma Sandman at the District. The contact information is emma.sandman32@gmail.com.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program is geared towards implementing agricultural and forestry best management practices. This program goes to fund issues such as grazing, forestry practices that address water quality issues. In addition, the program can be used for projects to reduce tillage, feed management, land rental programs, and easements for wetlands and agriculture. LCCD is putting forth efforts via outreach in order to address some of these concerns within the county.

Tactical Basin Plan

LCCD is working to address the recommendations set forth by the Lamoille County Tactical Basin Plan. The Tactical Basin Plan has assessed the agricultural needs of the surrounding watershed and has made recommendations based off of those results. Some of the goals have been to increase outreach and farmer participation that culminates in more landowner willingness, increase rates of repayment for services, building strong partnerships and increasing trust within the farming community, and increasing no-till in areas with continuous corn and annual flooding. Overall the Tactical Basin Plan aims to protect and restore Vermont's surface waters.



THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HELPED LCCD TO WORK WITH 3,626 LAMOILLE RESIDENTS!!!

Gratitude and Appreciation to LCCD's Generous Members:

Conservationist: Debbie & David Schoop; Judy Geer and Dick Dreissigacker
Sponsor: Elizabeth & Nicholas Deane; Janet Lanphear in memory of Pete Lanphear; Susan & Bob Titterton
Supporters: Erin M Carroll & Richard J Fitzhenry; Bebe & Fred Dudley; Howard Manosh; Butternut Mountain Farm; Susan Ludington in memory of Chris Ludington, John & Faith Parker; Ron & Judy Stancliff; Edward & Mary Ann Wilson

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION	2023
Education Programs	3482
Volunteers	28
Trainings	7
Sales Customers	57
Farms	7
Conservation Programs	45
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	3,626

Thank You to our Current Members! We appreciate your help!!!
If you're not listed on this page and are receiving this newsletter,
please renew your membership.
Please let us know if your name is missing from the list.

Gary & Nancy Banks; Martha Battle; Sunjay & Sonya Berdia; Jane Brittain; Butternut Mountain Farm; Thomas & Tatjana Cady; Erin M Carroll & Richard J Fitzhenry; Anne & Mike Cassidy; Dennis & Deborah Chevalier; John & Judy Clark; Nick Crandall; Charlie Davis; Daniel L Dauth; Elizabeth & Nicholas Deane; Jonas Dorcas; Judy Geer and Dick Dreissigacker; Bebe & Fred Dudley; Erik Fiske; Laura Fried; Barbara Gameroff; Judy Geer; Cara & Steve Hancy; Kathleen & Andrew Knittle; Lindsay E. Ingalls; Liz & Tom Lackey; Arthur & Jane M Litke; Pixie Loomis; Joni Lanphear & Michael Paritz; Janet Lanphear in memory of Pete Lanphear; Elizabeth T. & Adam C Lebow; Susan Ludington; Howard Manosh; Kate & Michael McCarthy; Linda Martin; Penny Miller; Emily Hall Neilsen & Chad Beisswanger; Ricjard Norman; Eric Nuse; Peter & Shirley Opstrup; John & Faith Parker; William & Donna Putnam; Sheila Rysz; William & Stacey Schaaf; David & Debbie Schoop; Janet and MJ Shaw; Bruce Shields; CJ & Gail Seitz; Sandy & Don Simonds; Fran Sladyk; Michael Snyder & Kristen Sharpless; Janet & MJ Shaw; Kermit & Hazel Spaulding; Ron and Judy Stancliff; S. David & Jenny Stoner; Steacy Suddaby; Alan Thompson; Ann Thursby; Susan and Bob Titterton; Robert & Jane Whitley; Edward & Mary Ann Wilson; Cynthia Yerrick

Lamoille County NRCD Supervisors

Charles Davis, Chair
 Fran Sladyk, Vice Chair
 Linda Martin, Supervisor
 Sarah Ford, Treasurer
 Jim Pease, Supervisor
 Jo-Anne Ring, Associate
 Silene DeCiuces, Associate

Go to our "Put A Tree On It!" T-shirt sale at [Sales | Lamoille Conservation District \(lcnrcd.com\)](https://www.lamoilleconservationdistrict.com)

Lamoille County NRCD Staff

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USDA NRCS
 Nancy Allen, Soil Conservationist ext. 3005
USDA FSA
 Heather Mateja, CED ext. 3002



LAMOILLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Education Updates

Are you STREAMWISE?

The LCCD is proud to be officially certified Stream Wise evaluators! Whether you rent or own, all Lamoille County residents are eligible for a free stream evaluation. We want to award those who are exemplary stream stewards and educate those who would like to be. No cost, no commitment. We will come to the stream on your property and offer technical support for how to reduce your streamside footprint, and to protect and improve water quality for all Vermonters. Contact emilylccdedu@gmail.com to schedule your free evaluation.



Library Hop- "A River Runs Through Us"

Join us this winter to celebrate and explore the importance of the Lamoille River and what it means to our communities on this seven stop library hop! People of all ages can join us at one or all of our stops at the libraries in: Jeffersonville, Johnson, Hyde Park, Morrisville, Wolcott, Waterville and Stowe. There will be hands-on fun and learning, as well as a chance to explore libraries throughout the county! Dates are TBA- Follow our Facebook page and website for announcements.

Junior Naturalist Program Grows!

We are delighted to welcome the town of Cambridge into our Jr Naturalist program. Students of all grades at Cambridge are sharing in the joy of learning about the amazing natural world of Vermont. Students have engineered dispersal mechanisms for seeds and learned to identify real world dispersal mechanisms in the plants we find around their schools. Everyone benefits from getting away from their desk and outside. Your support helps us provide whole-body and whole-child learning for all kids in Lamoille County.



New this fall! 1/2 day program for Mud City Forest School ages 4-7 added

The popular Mud City Forest School programming has expanded to offer a half-day option for our younger forest enthusiasts. Now students 4-7 can spend one morning a week exploring the Lamoille County Nature Center and all the natural world it has to offer. We gather heritage apples to make fresh cider, explore the wetland and pond, learn about a nature topic, or experiment with science. Kids also learn outdoor skills like fire safety, preparing food over a fire, navigating the forest and building with natural materials. It's not too late to join! There are just a couple of spots remaining in both the 1/2 day and full day programs. Visit our website for more information.



Another successful summer camp season!

This past summer, we offered 6 weeks of camp programming! Gnomes were found roaming the forests, forts were built in great numbers, beautiful nature art was created, and the creatures of the forest were studied. Due to the flooding, one week was regrettably canceled, but we still were able to provide programming for over 200 kids this summer. We are looking forward to seeing our summer friends again next year.

MUD CITY Conservation Learning

Hands on student learning with a sense of purpose and place

Jr Naturalist

We travel to your school monthly to deliver a 1 hour active outdoor nature program, on a class by class basis. Students will learn about the animals, plants and ecology around their home and school.

Field Trips

Our 40 Acre Nature Center in Morrisville boasts a pond, vernal pools, wetlands, hiking trails, forests, meadows and orchards. Immerse your students in a nature experience.

Custom Curriculum

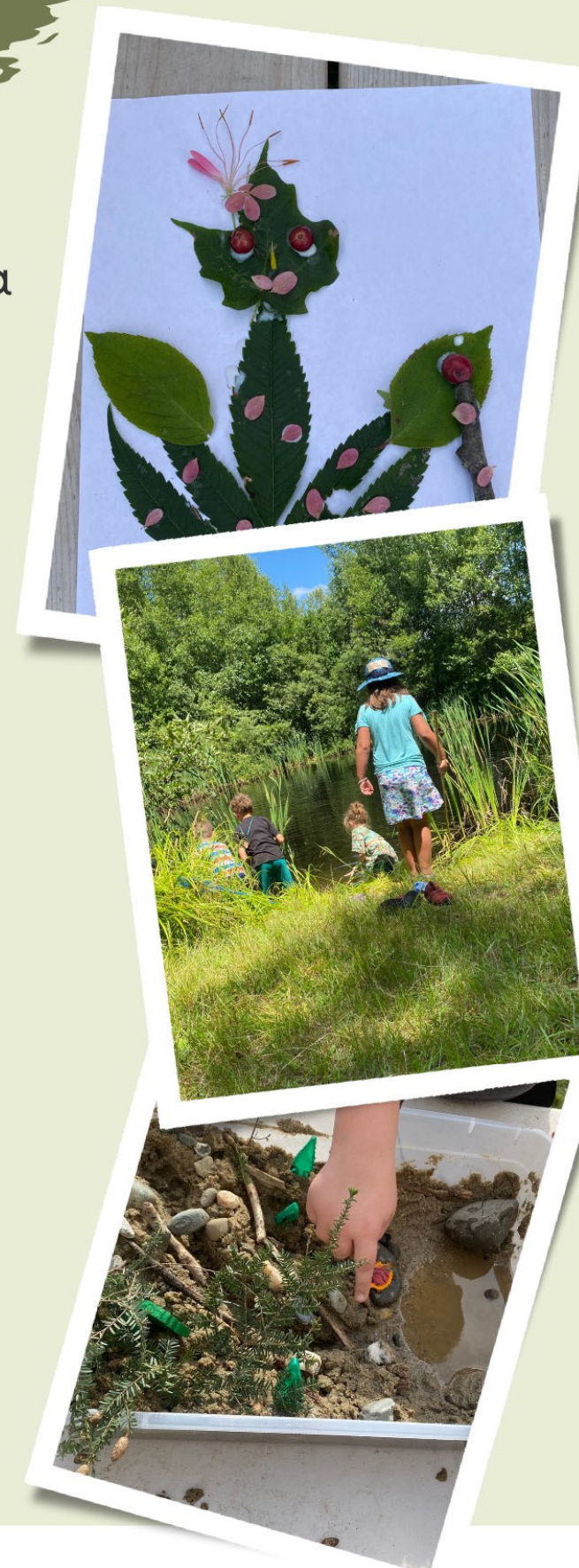
Have something else in mind? We will create a custom curriculum to accommodate your program, for you to teach or us.

Forest School

Now offering both 1/2 day and whole day outdoor learning programs for kids from 4 to 14. This complementary learning program is a wonderful addition for homeschoolers and school kids alike.

MORE INFO

Emily Porter-Goff, PhD
Education and Water Quality Specialist
emilylccdedu@gmail.com
www.LCNRCD.com



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

EMAIL PETER AT
LCCDDIRECTOR@GMAIL.COM FOR DETAILS



2024 LOCAL CONSERVATION FUNDING POOL FOR FRANKLIN, GRAND ISLE, AND LAMOILLE COUNTIES



WHAT IS LOCALLY-LED CONSERVATION?

Locally led conservation is a collaborative approach where communities, organizations, and individuals at the local level take an active role in planning, implementing, and managing conservation efforts. It empowers local stakeholders to be the decision-makers and drivers of conservation initiatives.

Over the past year and a half, your Northwest Conservation Districts and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) held three community meetings, surveyed their communities, and developed a conservation action plan to identify solution-based approaches to resource concerns.

THE OUTCOME A LOCAL FUNDING POOL

Although each county has its unique needs, a common theme emerged – supporting enhanced habitats through native plantings that encourage greater biodiversity, specifically for Vermont’s pollinators, and field- and forest-based practices to support plant and water quality.

These efforts will benefit our local wildlife while also ensuring essential resource protections for our working lands such as erosion control, water quality improvement, wetland restoration, and more. Funding for supporting practices is now available for eligible Franklin, Grand Isle, and Lamoille County landowners.



FUNDING

Funding will be available for the 2024 fiscal year to eligible Franklin, Grand Isle, and Lamoille County landowners through their local EQIP fund pool. NRCS will provide a total of \$50,000 in financial assistance for approved conservation practices that address the resource concerns. Land and producer eligibility must be met to participate.



RESOURCE CONCERNS

Resource concerns addressed:

- Aquatic habitat
- Terrestrial habitat
- Wind and water erosion
- Concentrated erosion
- Field, sediment, nutrient, and pathogen loss



ELIGIBILITY

Producers, ranchers, and forest landowners who own, lease, or have an interest in operating agricultural land are eligible. Contact your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office to register.

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following NRCS practices are approved for the local funding pool. These practices must address one of the resource concerns listed on the first page.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Waste facility closure | Herbaceous wind barriers |
| Windbreak / shelterbelt establishment and renovation | Tree or shrub establishment |
| Silvopasture | Wetland wildlife habitat management |
| Riparian herbaceous cover | Upland wildlife habitat management |
| Riparian forest buffer | Early successional habitat development-management |
| Wildlife habitat planting | Forest trails and landings |
| Tree or shrub site preparation | Wetland restoration |
| Nutrient management | Wetland establishment |
| Vegetative buffer | Amending soil properties with lime |
| Stream habitat improvement and management | Soil carbon amendment |

Detailed information about each practice can be found here: nrcs.usda.gov/resources/guides-and-instructions/conservation-practice-standards

Lamoille County Conservation District

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www.lcnrcd.com

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Fall 2023 Newsletter



HOW TO APPLY

Contact your local Natural Resources Conservation District or your local NRCS office.

For additional NRCS program information, application instructions, loan information, and more, visit: farmers.gov

Sign up for Fiscal Year 2024 funding by October 20, 2023.

Help us identify resource priorities for 2025 funding by taking a quick survey at: franklincountynrcd.org/local



CONTACT US:



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802-521-3004



Grand Isle County NRCD
Molly.gicnrcd@gmail.com
845-323-2153



Winters Chiropractic
65 Portland St., Morrisville, VT



RIVERBEND MARKET
18 Bridge St
Morrisville, VT 05661



Morrisville Alliance for Culture and Commerce - MACC

Dr. Betsy Perez Urology



51 Brigham Street, Morrisville
802-888-8823

girl scouts

FOOTE BROOK
ORGANIC FARM

641 VT RT 15 West Johnson,
VT 05656

We're proud to support Lamoille County NRCD and other contributors to healthy communities.

Union Bank
Member FDIC



LCCD FALL 2023
NEWSLETTER