

Lamoille County Conservation District

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Fall 2020 Newsletter



Lamoille County Conservation District

Conserving Our Natural Resources since 1945



DISTRICT NEWS

FALL 2020

COVID 19 UPDATE

Currently our K-12 education outreach programs to schools and public places are on hold for the remainder of the 2020 season. We hope to resume these activities in 2021. Access by the public to the Lamoille County Nature Center is still permitted. We just ask that people follow the recommendations set by the State of Vermont and maintain social distancing habits. There is signage at the center that spells out details for appropriate public use. Office visits are still by appointment only. An further questions can be directed to Peter Danforth, District Manager at 631-495-9093 or lccddirector@gmail.com

Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP)

For the last year LCCD has been part of the Lamoille AOP Partnership Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is comprised of Lamoille Watershed representatives and technical assistance providers including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Lamoille County Conservation District, and the Lamoille County Planning Commission. The objective of this Lamoille AOP Partnership Project is to identify potential AOP culvert replacement projects



that will yield benefits to aquatic communities and water quality, while aiming to align these benefits with municipal infrastructure priorities.



The key indicator species in question is the eastern Brook Trout. The group is specifically looking for culverts and bridges that could be retrofitted or replaced to enable easier Brook trout passage in order to expand their habitat. Currently the group has identified approximately 12 sites in Lamoille County and have begun a design on one.

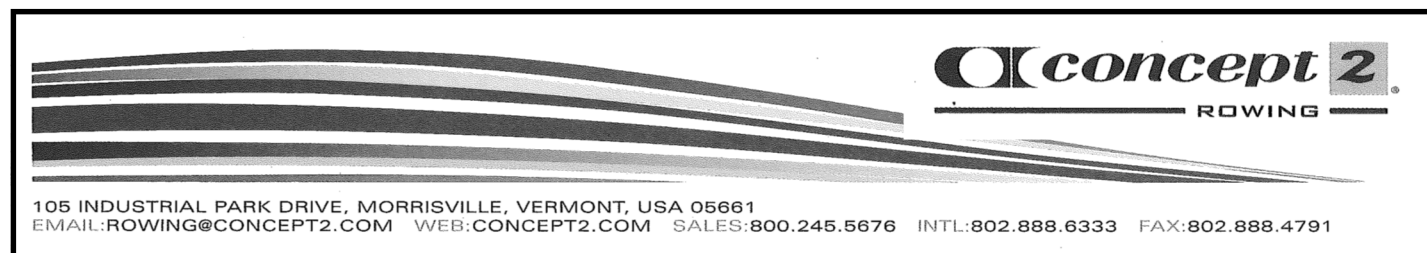
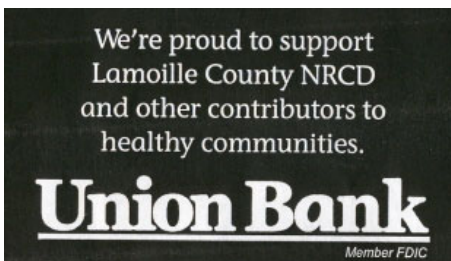
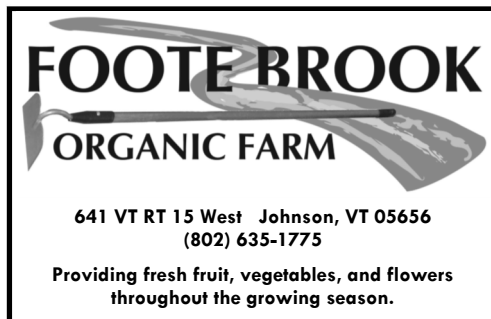
No-Till Drill

Big news: through the CEAP program, we got grant to purchase a No-Till Grain Drill for the county and it arrived in mid-September. Four farms have already used the drill for cover cropping and small grain planting in Lamoille and surrounding counties. The drill was chosen with pasture and hay land in mind, as these are our primary crops in Lamoille County. The Aitchison Seedmatic it is a New Zealand made drill that works especially well in sod. Reach out to Silene for any drill inquiries, this can be used to plant anything from carrots to dry beans!



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.



LCCD FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

LAMOILLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FALL PROJECT UPDATES

10 Bends Tree Planting

In May of 2020 LCCD was given a grant through the Trees For Steams program to plant 3 acres of trees along the 10 Bends section of the Lamoille River in Morrisville. LCCD entered into an agreement with The Lamoille Valley Property Owners Association (LVPOA) (aka 10 Bends Housing Association) to take some of its leased agricultural land out of production and replace it with a riparian buffer zone.



Riparian buffer zones are plantings of native trees suitable for those environments. The buffer zone slows erosion and stabilizes river banks. They also act as a filter; nutrients are taken up by the trees root systems, the root systems hold in the soil and the end product is clean water entering the river corridor. Over 50% of Phosphorus that ends up in Lake Champlain comes from agricultural practices. A buffer zone along an agricultural practice significantly reduces sediment and Phosphorus runoff into tributaries and rivers leading to Lake Champlain.

This project was funded by an agreement LC00A00394 awarded by the Environmental Protection Agency to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program. NEIWPC manages LCBP's personnel, contract, grant, and budget tasks and provides input on the program's activities through a partnership with the LCBP Steering Committee. Although the information in this document has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under agreement LC00A00394 to NEIWPC, it has not undergone the Agency's publications review process and therefore, may not necessarily reflect the views of the Agency and no official endorsement should be inferred. The viewpoints expressed here do not necessarily represent those of NEIWPC, the LCBP Steering Committee, or EPA, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or causes constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

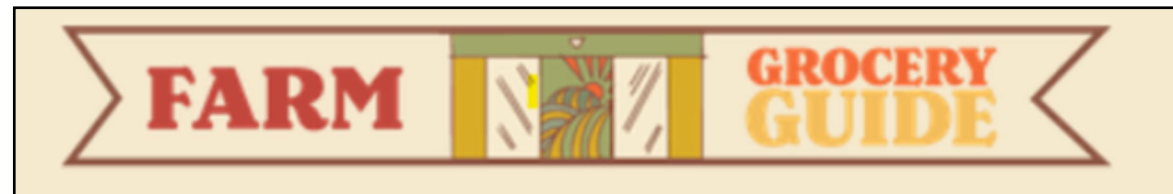
Copley Park Subsurface Stormwater Project

Through a block grant with the VT DEC and the Natural Resource Conservation Council, LCCD installed a large subsurface stormwater filtration system. The Stormtech™ system being installed will service of 10 acres of drainage area and will prevent an estimated 2,710 lbs. of polluted sediment and 16 lbs. of Phosphorus annually from entering the Lamoille River corridor.



Thank to Morrystown for doing their part to 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!

Thank you Watershed Consulting Associates LLC for the engineering and design and Gravel Construction Co., Inc. for the great installation work!



Lamoille County Farm Grocery Guide

The Grocery Guide website is live! Check out <https://lamoillecountyfgg.com/> to find farms in your town or specific products in the area. Over 300 printed maps were dropped at various businesses and farm stores around the county, so poke around if you are interested in putting one on your fridge!

Other news

Silene has been working Lamoille farms on Covid Assistance programs through the state, government, and through her other job at CAE in Hardwick as a farm business planner. She is also starting a dairy cost of production study with 8 dairies in the county starting this winter. Please reach out to Silene for any ag-related inquiries: lccd.agoutreach@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS

Gratitude and appreciation to LCCD's Generous Members:

Conservationist: Debbie & David Schoop

Steward: Judy Geer and Dick Dreissigacker; Concept 2, Inc.

Sponsor: Elizabeth & Nicholas Deane; Janet Lanphear in memory of Pete Lanphear; James & Joanne Schoff; Gravel Construction

Supporters: Susan and Bob Titterton; Butternut Farm, The Tugley Wood Foundation



**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.**

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