

The Conservation Partnership

In 1929, as a result of devastating soil erosion, US Congress appropriated \$160,000 for soil erosion control experiments. From that early research, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS, formerly Soil Conservation Service) was formed. Nationally, over 3,000 county conservation districts work in partnership with NRCS to provide technical assistance for federally funded programs. County conservation districts were established by NH RSA 432 to set local priorities, deliver information, and assistance to land owners and users. Grafton County Conservation District (GCCD) was formed April 24, 1946. GCCD meets with other related agencies and members of the public several times each year to form a Local Work Group which determines local natural resource needs and concerns, and carries those concerns forward to the State Technical Committee. GCCD also works with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), Grafton County UNH Cooperative Extension and other local partners to benefit the natural resources of Grafton County.



Grafton County Conservation District

is a member of the

New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts (NHACD)

and the

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)



Grafton County Conservation District

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Grafton County Conservation District

Supervisors

Calvin Perkins, Chair—Rumney
Gary Peters, Vice-Chair—Bath
Ben Hudson, Treasurer—Lyme
Ray Lobdell—Landaff
Dave Thompson—Lincoln

Associate Supervisors

Mike Dannehy—Woodsville
Dick Fabrizio—North Haverhill
Dick McDanolds—North Haverhill
John O'Brien—Orford

Pam Gilbert, GCCD Office Administrator

District Supervisors meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month. Call the office for details.

Woodsville Field Office

NRCS Staff

Dean Bascom, District Conservationist
Tom Ebert, Soil Conservationist
Donna Doel, Soil Conservationist
Ed Hansalik, Civil Engineer
Jack Highland, Civil Engineer Technician

GRAFTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT



The Grafton County Conservation District

assists interested land users with technical, educational and financial conservation services to protect, improve and sustain our natural resources.

About Conservation Districts ~ Grafton County Conservation District (GCCD) was created in 1946. It is a political subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, RSA 432:12, with a 170 C 1 non-profit status under the IRS tax code. As a subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, conservation districts are a partnership of federal, state and local agencies interested in the wise use of natural resources. GCCD is co-located with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), providing technical assistance to County landowners. GCCD elects a Board of Supervisors annually, and Associate Supervisors are appointed by the Board. The District Supervisors and Associate Supervisors bring local contacts to the conservation process, representing local needs, and bringing technical expertise from the community to the District. Grafton County Conservation District is fortunate to have the support of the Grafton County Commissioners and County Delegates who generously provide funding for the Office Administrator.

Grafton County is the second largest of the ten New Hampshire counties. It is a rural county, bordering the Connecticut River on the western side of the State. Ninety percent of the County is timberland, and over half the White Mountain National Forest is within the County. Grafton County is also home to Franconia Notch State Park and Cardigan State Park. Dartmouth College and Plymouth State University are located in the County, along with Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and several local hospitals. Recreational sports, breathtaking vistas and abundant wildlife attract many visitors to Grafton County. Inland waterways and rich farmland have supported agriculture and sawmills, and provided power and transportation for its inhabitants. Grafton County communities face the challenge of balancing a growing economy with maintaining a historically strong agricultural presence.



District Services

- Conservation Plant Sale, offering plants for landscaping, conservation buffers, wildlife food source
- Soil Potential Index calculations for NH Current Use program
- Soils information, Area Soil Survey of Grafton County (available formats: published book or CD)
- Soil Compaction Probes available on loan
- Trout Program, rainbow and brook trout for pond stocking



- Educational workshops, Annual Tour of Conservation Practices
- Annual Meeting, presentation of awards, speaker on conservation topic of local interest
- Historical aerial photos 1930's - 1970's
- Wetland inventory maps, FEMA Flood Hazard maps

Conservation Education

- Planting and Pruning workshop
- Fall Tour of Conservation Practices
- GCCD Cooperator of the Year award
- GCCD Forest Steward of the Year award
- Poster Contest for grade 5 students
- Jim Page Conservation Scholarship for area youth attending conservation summer camp
- North Haverhill Fair display

Conservation Projects

The State Conservation Committee awarded a Conservation License Plate (Moose Plate) grant to GCCD to install a roof over a heavy use area at Briar Stone Farm, owned by David and Linda Keith, in North Haverhill. This conservation project protects the water in the Clark Brook watershed. By constructing a roofed structure over the feeding and loafing area, the clean rain water and snow will be prevented from mixing with the manure and the waste feed that collects on the heavy use area. The drier agricultural waste can then be applied on cropland.

