

North Central Conservation District



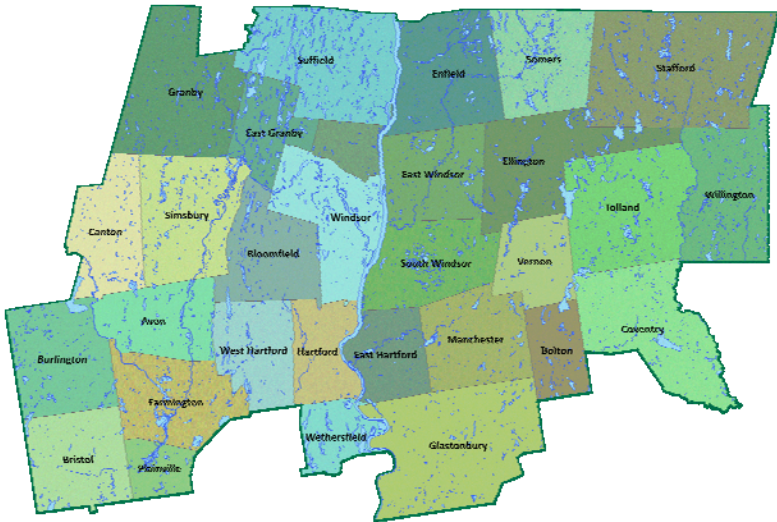
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2015–2016

www.conservect.org/northcentral

North Central Conservation District

Introduction

This Annual Report summarizes work performed by the North Central Conservation District (NCCD, or the District) during the 2015-2016 fiscal year. NCCD is a quasi-governmental agency, created by state statute to “assist the Commissioner of Environmental Protection in identifying and remedying the problems of soil and water erosion,” and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The District is financed through municipal contributions, US EPA Clean Water Act Section 319 non-point source grants, technical assistance contracts with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, an annual Plant and Seedling Sale fundraiser, and private grants and contributions.



NCCD's service area includes 30 municipalities within north central CT, essentially comprising the area within the northern Connecticut River watershed. NCCD's office is located in Vernon.

The District is governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of local landowners with expertise and interest in the management and protection of our natural resources. The District is also an active member of the CT Envirothon Steering Committee, the Council on Soil and Water Conservation, the CT Association of Conservation Districts, and the CT Resource Conservation and Development Council. Meetings are open to the public and are typically held at the Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue (Rt. 30) in Vernon, at 7:00pm on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please visit www.conservect.org/northcentral or call (860) 875-3881 to learn more.

Board of Supervisors

Jack Collins, <i>Chairman</i>	Enfield
Jeff Folger, <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Ellington
Lin Marino, <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Tolland
Dan Camerota	West Hartford
Pamm Cooper, <i>Resigned 2016</i>	Manchester
Bob DePietro	Bolton
Harold Eastwood	Somers
Michael Mocko	Stafford Springs
Jane Seymour	Tolland
John S. Weedon	Manchester

Staff

Joanna Shapiro	Executive Director
Barbara Kelly	Program Coordinator
Ruth Miller	Landscape Specialist
John Dudula	Natural Resource Specialist <i>since December 2015</i>
Tina Pelletier	Bookkeeper <i>since January 2016</i>

Year in Review

The District provided valuable technical services to municipalities by *reviewing development plans and wetland boundaries*, as well as serving as *wetland agent* to inland wetland and conservation agencies in Somers and Bolton. Our primary service has been assessing proposed *erosion control measures, storm water management, and wetland impacts of proposed developments*. The District also assisted landowners with natural resource issues, providing technical support regarding soil erosion solutions, invasive plant control, planting guidance, pond maintenance, and more.

The District provided *nutrient management* services to *local farmers*, collecting soil samples from cornfields in early summer. The UCONN soils lab provided the results and fertilizer recommendations. The program has helped local producers to reduce fertilizer usage.

The *Plant and Seedling Sale* and *Fish Fingerling Sale* promoted ecological landscaping and open space enjoyment, and also provided funds to support District programs. Volunteer Master Gardeners in both the current class and many previous classes assisted plant sale customers, answering many planting questions. An *educational workshop* was held during the plant sale, entitled "Landscaping for Birds, Bees, and Butterflies Using Native Plants." This year, online ordering was an option for the first time, a convenience that many customers appreciated.



Customers picking up plant orders and shopping for additional plant offerings



Members of the public attending the workshop

The District coordinated the *Connecticut Envirothon* program. Educational workshops were held throughout the year for high school students to learn about aquatics, forestry, soil, wildlife, and the vast 2016 current issue, Invasive Species, which was incorporated into each station and was the subject of the oral presentations, covering the relevant topics of prevention, introduction, spread, impact, and response. The field day competition was at the impressive Indian Rock Preserve educational facility in Bristol.



Winning team from Housatonic Valley Agriscience



Students presenting on the topic of invasive species

Tremendous environmental benefit resulted from *projects and grant work*, further described and depicted on the interior section of this document.

[Look inside for grants/project information](#)





FINANCIAL STATEMENT*

July 2015—June 2016

Income

DEEP 319 Grant Projects	82,150
State of CT	42,156
Fee for Service	37,435
Seedling/Fish Sales	56,089
Long Island Sound Grant	36,250
Town Donations	32,129
NRCS Technical Services Contract	27,757
CT DoAG Agviability Grant	12,343
CT DoAG Farmland Restoration	4,887
Interest/Investments	-1,284
Total	329,912

Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	124,376
DEEP Grant Projects	51,700
Seedling/Fish	38,454
Long Island Sound Grant	36,000
NRCS Technical Services Contract	25,214
Taxes and Insurance	10,915
Rent	7,296
Office Expenses/Postage/Equipment	5,516
Auto Expenses and Mileage	4,931
Audit	2,500
Dues	226
Total	307,128

*Detailed financial statement available upon request