

North Central Conservation District



Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2011-2012

North Central Conservation District

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	Vernon
Bob DePietro	Bolton
Harold Eastwood	Somers
Michael Mocko	Stafford Springs
Jane Seymour	Tolland
John Spencer	Glastonbury
John S. Weedon	Manchester

Staff

David Askew	Executive Director
Barbara Kelly	Program Coordinator
Ruth Miller	Program Coordinator
Joanna Winkler	Natural Resource Specialist
Salvatore DeCarli	Environmental Planner
Barbara Gridley	Secretary
Heidi Cerrigone	Bookkeeper

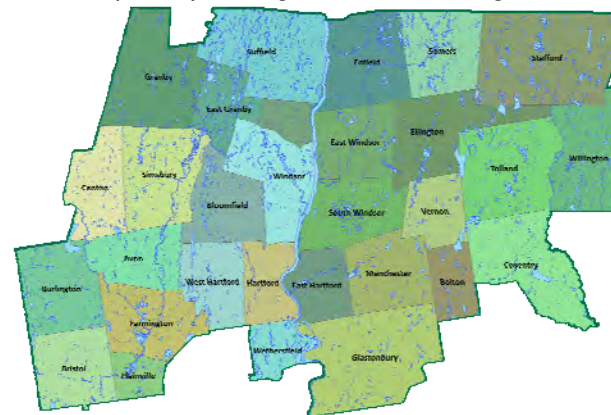
Introduction

This Annual Report summarizes work performed by the North Central Conservation District (NCCD, or the District) Board of Directors and staff during the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

This year, we welcomed a new board member, Bob DePietro, who has much to contribute from his extensive professional experience in the conservation world, and we are privileged to have him "on board". NCCD also added a staff member, Salvatore DeCarli, as an Environmental Planner, primarily working on technical service grants contracted through the Natural Resources

Conservation Service (NRCS). Sal has a diverse background, including a degree in Environmental Science and experience in agriculture and fisheries.

NCCD is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, primarily financed through municipal contributions, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) funding, US EPA Clean Water Act Section 319 non-point source grants through CT DEEP, an annual Plant and Seedling Sale fundraiser, and private grants and contributions.



NCCD's service area includes 30 municipalities within north central Connecticut, essentially comprising the area within the northern Connecticut River watershed. Offices are located in Vernon and in Windsor.

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

Chairman's Year in Review

The District maintained its services to municipalities by *reviewing wetland boundaries* and *servicing as wetland agent* for several towns, including Somers, Bolton, and Granby, and as acting wetland agent for the Town of Windsor.

In addition, the District accomplished the following:

Education

Connecticut Envirothon

A series of educational workshops were held throughout the year for high school students to learn about



aquatics, forestry, soil, wildlife, and this year's current issue, low impact development. The program culminated with a field day competition at Winding Trails in Farmington.

The District continued to support *education* in natural resources by awarding two \$1,000 college *scholarships*. This year's recipients were Matthew Messina of Avon High School & Juliette Granger of Rockville High School.

The District co-sponsored numerous *workshops* with a focus on plants, leading up to the plant and seedling sale. Topics including landscaping and enhancing habitat for wildlife, pruning storm damaged trees, landscaping using native plants, and general planting & pruning.

Substantial staff time was spent on the Spring *Plant and Seedling Sale* and *Fish Fingerling Sale*. Both were successful, and promoted personal enjoyment of open space. Master Gardeners provided invaluable assistance at the plant sale.

The District provided *nutrient management* services to *local farmers*, collecting soil samples from cornfields in early summer and corn stalks in late summer in order to provide recommendations for fertilizer. The UCONN soils lab provides the results and recommendations. The program has helped local producers to substantially reduce fertilizer applications.



**North Central Conservation District
FREE SPRING 2012 WORKSHOPS**

LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE: USING NATIVE PLANTS TO SUSTAIN WILDLIFE IN YOUR BACKYARD
 Jane Seymour, Wildlife Biologist
 CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
 Manager, Backlog Wildlife Management Area, Vernon
 Ginny Gingras, Board Chair, Tolland County Agricultural Center
 Founder, Wotton Garden Club
 Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon, CT
 Saturday, February 25th, 10:00 am - Noon

ENHANCING HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE USING NATIVE PLANTS
 Peter Picotte, Wildlife Biologist
 CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
 Author: *Wildlife is My Passion*
 Simsbury Public Library, 725 Hopewash Street, Simsbury, CT
 Thursday, March 15th, 6:30-8:00 pm

PRUNING STORM DAMAGED TREES & SHRUBS: EVALUATING, BASICS, SAFETY, HIRING PROFESSIONALS
 Robert Rocks, Service Forester,
 CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
 Simsbury Public Library, 725 Hopewash Street, Simsbury, CT
 Thursday, February 23rd, 6:30-8:00 pm
 and
 Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon, CT
 Thursday, March 15th, 6:30-8:00 pm

PLANTING & PRUNING BASICS, with OUTSIDE DEMONSTRATION
 Robert Rocks, see above
 Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon, CT
 Saturday, April 21st, 2012, 9:30-11:00 am (plant sale pick-up day)

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service presents:
CHOOSING NATIVE PLANTS: HOME LANDSCAPING, HABITAT RESTORATION, AND CELEBRATING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE
 Charlotte Pyle, Landscape Ecologist, NRCS
 Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon, CT
 Tuesday, March 20th, 6:30-8:30 pm

See inside for grant project information.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT*

July 2011—June 2012

Income

State of CT	50,000
319 Grant Projects	25,594
NRCS Grant	26,080
LIS Restoration Grant	72,500
HEAP Grant	3,500
Seedling/Fish Program	58,781
Municipal Fee for Service	42,802
Town Donations	32,650
Interest/Investments	6,583
Soil Testing Services	1,352
Misc.	8,702
Total	328,545

Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	202,551
Taxes and Insurance	16,199
All Grants	82,265
Seedling and Fish Sale	40,578
Rent	6,503
Office Expenses/Postage/Equipment	6,873
Auto Expenses and Mileage	3,971
Scholarships	2,000
Audit	3,700
Dues	895
Misc.	2,762
Total	368,297

*Detailed financial statement available upon request