Piscataquis County Soil & Water Conservation District 2019 Annual Report

Our mission is to be a leader in agriculture and forestry, by providing education and technical assistance to promote conservation of the natural resources upon which we depend.

On June 21st, 2019, the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District teamed up with the Piscataquis Regional YMCA Camp Katahdin group and together, planted our Sunflower Pollinator Garden at the Law Farm. Perennial plants and soil amendments were donated by area businesses and local farmers. Plan a visit to the Law Farm to check out the garden space!



Table of Contents	
USDA Service Center Staff & PCSWCD Board	Page 2
Message from Board Chair	Page 3
PCSWCD Financials	Page 3
Conservation Conversation	Page 4
Spotlight on our Partners	Page 5
Conservation Champions	Page 6
Permaculture Series & 2020 Plans	Page 7
USDA Office Reports	Pages 8-10
PCSWCD Achievement Awards	Page 11
PCSWCD Events & Services	Pages 13-14

Additional Information

Thank you to our Donors & Sponsors!

PCSWCD Advertisers! Support these local businesses!

Tree & Plant Sale Order Deadline: April 15th! Flyer Included!

Participate in a technical or educational program this year!

Visit our website at www.piscataquisswcd.org

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DOVER-FOXCROFT
USDA SERVICE CENTER
42 Engdahl Drive
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
Phone (207) 564 - 2321

Email: <u>info@piscataquisswcd.org</u> Facebook:

www.facebook.com/www.piscataquisswcd.org
Instagram:

www.instagram.com/piscataquiscountyswcd Website: www.piscataquisswcd.org

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT:

SUPERVISORS:

Toby Hall, Chair Janet Sawyer, Treasurer Gordon Moore

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS:

Sam Brown Donna Coffin Sue Mackey-Andrews Emily Dickison

DISTRICT STAFF:

Sarah Robinson, Executive Director Lynn Lubas, Technical Coordinator Kacey Weber, Educational Coordinator

DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE:

Kylie Dow, Community Forestry Committee Representative

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE STAFF:

Jaime Sandoval, District Conservationist Carl Bickford, Soil Conservationist Nick Butler, MLRA 144B Project Leader Jamin Johanson, Ecological Site Inventory Specialist

FARM SERVICE AGENCY STAFF:

Scott Speck, Executive Director Janice Ramirez, FSA Loan Officer Trainee

FARM SERVICE AGENCY COUNTY COMMITTEE:

Lee Worcester, Chairperson Sean O'Donnell, Vice Chair Wendy Russell, Member

Our Board of Supervisors gained three new members in 2019!

Emily Dickison (below, top left) joined as an Associate Supervisor after 3 years serving as our Junior Representative. Welcome Emily!

Kylie Dow (below, top right) joined our Community Forestry Committee as our Junior Representative. Welcome Kylie!

Sue Mackey Andrews (below, bottom photo) joined as an Associate Supervisor and brings to us experience with nonprofit business management, education, community outreach and much more. Welcome Sue!







Our shared vision is of an environmentally stronger Maine with healthy soils, clean rivers, streams, brooks, and waterbodies, strong and productive forested areas, profitable and sustainable agriculture, informed and involved conservation minded residents, and for Maine to be a leader in individual conservation practices on private property.

MESSAGE FROM THE PCSWCD BOARD CHAIR, TOBY HALL

2019 was quite a year for PCSWCD! We made many new friendships and provided another successful year of conservation education and technical assistance through our workshops, programs and events.

To accomplish our mission, PCSWCD uses state and county funds combined with financial donations, grants, workshop fees and proceeds from our fundraisers to operate. We would like to thank the Piscataquis County Commissioners and Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry for their continued support.

Our Board of Supervisors, dedicated staff and growing group of volunteers continue to care and maintain our two parcels of land (over 400 acres) known as the Williamsburg Demonstration Forest and the Law Farm (Dover-Foxcroft) for the public to enjoy.

We have so much to look forward to in 2020! I am hoping you can join us, connect and learn with us in the new year. Let's continue to enjoy the beauty of our county's natural resources and learning ways to preserve and protect its soil, water, farms, and forests.

Toby Hall Board Chair



2019 PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BUDGET

Statement of Financial Income and Expense for 2019 Ordinary Income/Expense Income State of Maine DACF 25,000.00 Piscataquis County Commissioners 15,000.00 Government Grants 7,293.36 **Private Grants** 2,500.00 **Business Contributions** 2.517.49 Workshop & Program Revenue 7.046.00 Sales & Service Revenue 11,468.90 **Gross Profit** 70,883.74 Expense Professional Services 1,036.89 Insurance 243.00 Facilities and Equipment 814.00 Maine Association Conservation District Dues 2,176.00 Payroll Expenses 58,426.16 **Total Expense** 73.241.88 **Net Ordinary Income** -2,358.14

CONSERVATION CONVERSATION

2019 was a successful year for the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD). We produced over 30 events, programs and workshops, which addressed topics in forest management, agriculture, permaculture, watershed conservation and so much more. We completed our Pollinator Sunflower Circle Garden project and made progress on our work with the American Chestnut Foundation on our Chestnut Germplasm Orchard. We hope you enjoy reading more about what we have been involved in and accomplished!

In 2019, our programs served over 1,000 participants. Many of our participants are implementing the education received at our programs on their farms, homesteads, gardens and landscapes and have reported that they recognize the great value of our programs. Several of our programs offer CEUs, adding another level of value. Additionally, this district continues to offer family-friendly events and other low or no cost educational events that are of great public benefit.

Our Teen Wilderness Expedition program offered in partnership with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) has grown to accommodate 24 teens. This youth program offers fun, hands-on learning in multiple natural resource areas including forestry, wildlife, water quality and current ecological issues. After another year of success, PCSWCD has gained 3 new sponsors to send additional children to attend the 2020 Teen Wilderness Expedition. Thank you to our dedicated sponsors Three Rivers Kiwanis, Milo Garden Club and Friends of Wilson Ponds!

PCSWCD's Educational Coordinator, Kacey Weber, worked with the Maine Lakes Society to deliver the LakeSmart program. We have expanded this program to several areas in Piscataquis County, including Moosehead Lake, Lower Wilson Pond and Sebec Lake. In 2019 we operated as a LakeSmart HUB Support Center, furthering outreach and accessibility of the LakeSmart program to residents in Piscataquis County. We will continue to serve as a HUB and offer free LakeSmart evaluations for 2020.

Under a Contribution Agreement with NRCS, Lynn Lubas, our Technical Coordinator, works to provide technical assistance to this partnering agency. This close partnership increases opportunities for landowners to make impactful, affordable changes and updates on their land, furthering conservation in our county. When you come into our office with a concern, you are greeted by a team of professionals, ready to connect you with a multitude of resources.

2019 was a big year for our two public lands – the Law Farm and Demonstration Forest. Many projects were completed and we hosted successful volunteer work days on each of the lands. It was so wonderful to meet new people who have a vested interest in keeping these lands accessible, safe and maintained for all to enjoy. Additionally, at the Law Farm, we welcomed "Martha" - a large metal environmental art installation honoring the "benders" or the folks who harvest our food. "Martha" was previously on display at the Maine Farmland Trust Art Gallery, and was created in collaboration with Bruce Towle, Merrilee Schoen from Aeons by Design, Peter Crockett of Argyle Iron Works and Fred Patterson from Troy Industrials. The 7-foot tall sculpture is part of a multimedia exhibit, raising organic fruits and vegetables on a rural Maine farm. The exhibit's intent is to help those of us who may not, for many reasons, raise our own food to appreciate the work farmers and farm crews engage in by bending to raise food for many of us.

The leadership and stewardship that are provided by the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District staff and board of supervisors improves and conserves our county's natural resources and leaves a rich legacy for future generations. As we observe the pristine beauty of Piscataquis County, all 4,378 square miles of it, we are reminded of the power of conservation that we have led for 75 years and will continue to oversee into the future. We have strengthened our agency and are better prepared to deliver our programs and services. The accomplishments noted in this article are shared accomplishments of all of us at the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District!

SPOTLIGHT ON PARTNERS OF THE PISCATAQUIS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT! Our Rewarding Work with Somerset & Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District

Did you know that the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District is one of 16 Conservation Districts in Maine? According to the National Association of Conservation Districts, there are nearly 3,000 Districts nationwide, all working to address natural resource concerns locally across the country. Of course, the focus of the work done by our District happens in Piscataquis County. In an effort to expand our reach and connect Maine residents with a wealth of information and resources, we work very closely with our neighboring Districts, the Penobscot and Somerset County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Over the years, our Districts have collaborated and learned from each other, working together to address natural resource concerns, educate the public and reach and best serve residents in all corners of our counties. In 2019, we worked with Joe Dembeck, Executive Director of Somerset County SWCD, on a number of programs including Forestry for Maine Birds and our annual Trout Sales. In the past, we have tackled succession planning workshops, fruit tree care workshops and worked to promote the Loons & Lead Tackle Exchange program together. Most importantly, Joe provided us with a tour of SCSWCD's Yankee Woodlot, which served as an eye-opening and constructive view of how their District approaches maintaining a public land. Piscataquis County District staff was happy to support and attend Somerset County Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual dinner to celebrate the Woodland Owners and Farmer of the year awards for 2019. We will be partnering again in 2020 for a Carbon Sequestration workshop in October.

Our District partnered with Amy Polyot, District Manager of the Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District, on our Families in the Outdoors: Bugs! program and the state-wide Invasive Forest Pest Outreach grant. Penobscot and Piscataquis Soil and Water Conservation Districts work annually with Hancock and Washington county Districts to host the Downeast Central Regional Envirothon - an effort that is vital to the continued success of the program. Amy has also teamed up with us in the past on our Chainsaw Safety offerings and so much more. Piscataquis District staff attended Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual banquet dinner to support Pam Wells, their Conservation Award recipient.

The guidance and friendship we receive from our neighboring Districts strengthens our District and collaborations. We look forward to continuing our work with Somerset and Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and all Conservation Districts across this beautiful state. Together, we make conservation work for you!



the Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation
District at our Families in the Outdoors: Bugs! event.

Photo right: Joe Dembeck,
Executive Director of the
SCSWCD, Sarah Robinson,
Madeline Lubas and
Jennifer Brockway,
SCSWCD Outreach
Coordinator, all enjoying a snowshoe through
SCSWCD's Yankee
Woodlot.

Photo left: Amy Polyot of



SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL CONSERVATION DISTRICT: WHY AND HOW?

As you read this report, scan our website, attend one of our events or connect with us on social media, you get an idea of the things we do and are working on in our community. There are also things you don't see: the countless ways we help local people navigate ways to solve natural resource concerns, the work we do with local government to ensure municipalities are informed on best management practices when dealing with invasive threats or the impactful connections we make with groups all over the county and Maine.

We know how to accomplish this vital work efficiently and well. What can you do to be a part of these efforts? Announcing our Conservation Champions program! Below, you will see a number of ways you can help grow and enhance the awesome conservation work being done in Piscataquis County! Volunteer or donate and be a PCSWCD Conservation Champion today!

For more information about Conservation Champions, our current projects and to see information on how we utilize gifts, please visit our Support our Work page on our website—<u>www.piscataquisswcd.org/support</u>.

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONSERVATION CHAMPIONS

TARGETED GIVING FOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

You are helping to support healthy soil, water, air and communities in central Maine and further our mission to continue providing education and technical assistance to promote conservation of natural resources. Donations can be made in person at our office — PSWCD, 42 Engdahl Drive, Dover–Foxcroft, ME 04426 – or on our website — www.piscataquisswcd.org. Thank you for your support.

LEVELS OF GIVING:	Gift Amount:
AMERICAN CHESTNUT Examples of how these funds would be utilized include funding storage buildings at the Law Farm and purchasing needed equipment for public land maintenance.	\$5,000
HAZELNUT Examples of how these funds would be utilized include establishing water access at the Law Farm, including installing a dug well and hand pump.	\$2500
SUGAR MAPLE Examples of how these funds would be targeted include trail preservation and upkeep, parking lot upkeep, purchasing wildlife cameras for trails and a new privy.	\$1000
SUNFLOWER Examples of how these funds would be used include purchasing soil amendments and new plants for pollinator habitat at our public lands.	\$500
BUTTERNUT Examples of how these funds would be utilized include purchasing tools and maintenance costs associated with our fruit, nut and production trees at the Law Farm.	\$250
PROGRAM SPONSORSHIPS Plan to sponsor a PCSWCD event, program or workshop!	\$50+
GENERAL SUPPORT FOR DISTRICT PRIORITIES Support the District as we work to promote and conserve our natural resources.	\$1+
GIFTS IN MEMORY OF/IN HONOR OF Donate to the District in loving memory of or honor of someone dear to you.	\$1+
GIFTS OF TALENT & TIME - VOLUNTEER! Sign-up to volunteer with us!	



PERMACULTURE 3-PART SERIES COMPLETE! MORE TO COME IN 2020!

Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) completed our goal of providing a three-part Permaculture series in 2019 and we look forward to building on this foundation in 2020. Our Community Forestry Committee, which consists of the PCSWCD Board of Supervisors, Executive Director, Junior Representative and constituents committed to the maintenance and development of the Law Farm and Demonstration Forest, addressed the needs and goals for Permaculture practices at the Law Farm. The first goal identified by the committee was to raise awareness within the community about and establish an interest in Permaculture practices. To accomplish this goal, the committee recommended offering the 3-part permaculture series.

First of the series, PCSWCD hosted Permaculture 101 in March held at Thompson Free Library. This offering was an introduction and discussion of permaculture with presenters Steve DeGoosh and Brooke Isham from LOMAH (Land of Milk and Honey). Steve and Brooke shared their knowledge and how they implemented permaculture on their properties, both urban and rural. They presented basic information on what permaculture is and instruction on how to get started. The presentation left participants inspired by the permaculture concept of harmoniously interacting with the landscape around us, while producing food, energy and shelter in a more sustainable way.

Steve joined PCSWCD again in November and presented alongside Nancy Neal of Honey Brook Farm for a permaculture Walk 'n Talk at the Law Farm. This event provided follow up for folks who attended Permaculture 101 and new attendees to walk the land for more hands-on instruction to implementing permaculture methods and concepts within our natural ecosystems. Steve and Nancy led the discussion for different approaches at the Law Farm and ways for people to manage their own properties, gardens and farms. We walked through fields with slopes, discussed soil health, overland travel of water, how to work with fruit bearing trees and discussed the impacts of invasive plants.

PCSWCD's finale of the three-part series was at Thompson Free Library where interested participants joined together to watch the feature-length documentary Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective. The film explored different locations and scales of permaculture practices and demonstrated how to use the ecological design process to shift impacts from destructive to regenerative.

2020 will be the year PCSWCD will carry out Permaculture practices at the Law Farm! There will be an opportunity for folks to get their hands dirty and join a "Permablitz," which is a free public event to make a permaculture design a reality. More exciting news will be coming in 2020 on how PCSWCD will be executing Permaculture management applications, so continue to follow us on social media, reading our newsletters, join us for an event or Community Forestry Meeting to see the exciting happenings and be a part of the positive change for our land!







817 Douty Hill Road Sangerville, ME 04479 Phone: 207-717-7007, 207-717-7008

Email: chummyjackson@myfairpoint.net



Dover Dexter Area Towns in Transition (DDATT)

"To transition our local communities into higher levels of self-governance, greater knowledge of local resources, and more independence from external energy imports."

info@ddatt.org, (207) 277-4221

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST by Jaime Sandoval, Piscataquis County District Conservationist

2019 has been a year focused on improvement; improving quality, expanding partnerships, and laying the groundwork for the future.

Quality is everything. As the 2018 Farm Bill is being implemented, Piscataquis NRCS continues to adjust to its improvement from the previous Farm Bill. Soil health and cover crops, quantifying measurable outcomes, and streamlining business tools are a few of the Farm Bill's emphasis. Piscataquis farmers and foresters themselves continue to exemplify quality. Piscataquis producers are a statewide leader in implementing NRCS funded conservation practices, the county's implementation rate is one of the highest in the state, has been for the last three years.

Piscataquis NRCS has expanded partnerships. We teamed up with the University of Puerto Rico to host a summer intern, Monica Rivera Rosas, who delved into the agricultural and forestry systems in the county. She saw firsthand and was taught by our producers, how they meet production goals while ensuring the natural resources' integrity for the next generation. This past year we partnered with the Women, Food, and Agricultural Network to host a workshop for women in agriculture and forestry discussing various topics from soil health, timber stand improvement, and networking with natural resource professionals. The Piscataquis SWCD and NRCS relationship continues to grow stronger, together we identified another step in the stream restoration efforts for our county, through improving stream habitat complexity by adding large woody vegetation. A workshop was hosted with professionals from the NRCS and Maine Forest Service reviewing the habitat needs, practical application, case studies, and the permitting process.

Conservation planning in 2019 resulted in more than \$394,000 in Farm Bill obligations for Piscataquis County, covering more than 4,400 acres. Numerous landowners installed conservation practices to improve and enhance forest resiliency, pasture systems, soil health, water quality, and wildlife habitat. Practices were installed on cropland, forestland, and pastureland including: Aquatic Organism Passages to Improve Habitat Connectivity for Fish and other Aquatic Organisms; Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans; Forest Management Plans; Forest Stand Improvement Projects; High Tunnel Systems; Invasive Species Control; Irrigation Efficiency; Rotational Grazing Systems; Stream Crossing; Waste Storage Facility.

Lastly, I wanted to express my gratitude to the producers in the county, ever since I arrived in late 2016, I have continued to learn from you all. I have an immense respect for our producers' work ethic, ingenuity to make things work with limited resources, and breath-taking beauty the Piscataquis County landscape possesses. As I move on to a new set of responsibilities serving the State of Maine, Piscataquis producers are left in very capable hands, Seth Jones, will be the new District Conservationist starting March 2nd. Seth is very experienced, helping producers in Penobscot, Somerset, and Aroostook counties, and is a Maine native. I am confident in his ability to guide you, the Piscataquis producers, help the land that we depend upon.





FARM SERVICE AGENCY UPDATE By Scott Speck, County Executive Director

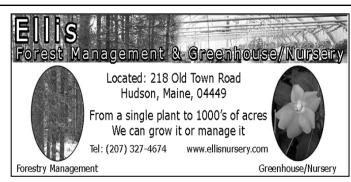
The Farm Service Agency (FSA), located in the USDA Service Center in Dover-Foxcroft, is a branch of the United States Department of Agriculture. The FSA supports American farmers through a variety of commodity and credit programs designed to stabilize and enhance our rural landscape. FSA is at the forefront of providing services farmers have come to trust.

The overall purpose of FSA is to compliment agricultural operations in times of plenty and brace their operations during times of economic insecurity. You can obtain further information online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

The FSA office is staffed intermittently but generally Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM and welcomes you to come pick up pamphlets and brochures, but if you'd like face to face contact it's best to set up an appointment by contacting Scott at 207-474-8323 x2, or by email at Scott.Speck@usda.gov..

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) probabilist discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of ras, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, see, marrial status, lamiliad status, parental status, gender information, gender identity, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all probibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, anabotape, etc.) should contact UNDA's TARGET Center at (20) 720-2000 (wine and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400d Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20230-9410 or call (800) 725-3272 (wine) or (20) 720-6382 (1902).





E.R. PALMER LUMBER CO., INC.

MANUFACTURER OF LUMBER PRODUCTS

HARDWOOD SPECIALTIES

P.O. BOX 128
SANGERVILLE, ME 04479
Call (207) 876-2725
or Email

<u>erpalmerlumber@myfairpoint.net</u> for more information!



American Hardwoods

Treasured for Generations™

Lumbra Hardwoods Inc. 122 River Road Milo, Maine 04463 207-943-7415

info@lumbrahardwoodsinc.com

MAINE SOIL SURVEY UPDATE By Nicholas Butler, USDA Soil Scientist, Soil Survey Office Leader

The soil survey office has reduced in staff since last years update. Former soil scientist Matthew Dorman has moved on to a new position in Tolland, CT and Carl Bickford is now a soil conservationist here in the Dover-Foxcroft office. The staff has been reduced to an ecologist (Jamin Johanson) and a lone soil scientist (myself). We are expecting these positions to be filled eventually, but they are not currently being advertised.

On the local scale the Soil Survey Office started a multi-year project in 2018 using rather new technology in the field of soil science that is still our primary objective. Historically, soil maps were hand drawn using tools such as stereoscopes and topographic maps. In more recent years, with the aid of very detailed imagery known as LiDAR, computers have played a larger role in the creation of soil maps. Over the next several years we are planning to use this modern Digital Soil Mapping (DSM) technology to make improvements to areas in central Maine. This past year we developed a detailed parent material layer within an area that compromises most of Southern Somerset County. The term parent material refers to the geologic medium the soil is derived from (i.e. glacial till, marine sediments, etc.). We use existing soil survey maps as a baseline for these parent material groupings and through the aid of LiDAR imagery we can refine the existing boundaries and make great improvements to current soil survey product. Now that we have a parent material layer, in 2020, we will begin modeling the various soil series within the parent material groupings. This is a very labor-intensive process but should result in much improved soils data. We are also engaged with the University of Maine on collaborative efforts to use these Digital Soil Mapping techniques in conjunction with forest productivity models using similar techniques.

On the national scale there is a large push to complete all the initial soil surveys left in the entire United States. Most of this unmapped land resides in very remote areas of Alaska and mountainous regions of the western U.S. Here in the Northeast the last remaining area that has yet to be mapped are the White Mountains in parts of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Soil staff throughout the region have been asked to assist in the ongoing efforts to complete the required work by 2026. I will be spending a minimum of 4 to 6 weeks helping the St. Johnsbury, VT Soil Survey Office on this remote working detail to remote portions of the White Mountains during the summer of 2020 and likely beyond.

With minimum staff and being asked to assist other states with initial efforts our staff availability will be very limited. Please be patient and know we will answer any and all questions as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding soils information throughout Maine please stop by or give us a call at USDA NRCS, 42 Engdahl Drive, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426, Phone: (207) 802-4007. You can also reach me via email at: Nicholas.Butler@usda.gov





PCSWCD 2019 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

2019 Educator of the Year Award Presented to Rob Weber of Foxcroft Academy

Each year, we honor an educator in Piscataquis County with our Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year award. This award showcases the exploratory work our recipients do with conservation education in their classrooms. In 2019, the award was given to Rob Weber, science teacher at Foxcroft Academy. Over his teaching career, Rob has had his students involved in several outdoor conservation projects, including planting and recording progress of the American Chestnut Germplasm Orchard at the Law Farm. Rob has also worked with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) in many areas of natural resource conservation study and for his annual lodge to lodge ski trip with his biology classes. Rob takes any opportunity to have his students learn in and about the outdoors, teaching practical applications of biology, chemistry and physics. Congratulations to Rob Weber, our 2019 Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year!

2019 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Presented to Joel & Wendy Huff of Huff Family Farms

Each year, we recognize and honor a Cooperator (land manager) in Piscataquis County who has implemented exceptional conservation practices on their land. This year, the PCSWCD honored Joel and Wendy Huff of Huff Family Farm as our 2019 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year. Their farm sits on 430 acres that consists of forests, wetland and grazing pastures. 130 of those acres are tillable with corn, oats and hay that are managed with a Nutrient Management Plan, crop rotation and with soil health in mind. The manure from their dairy herd goes back to the land after it is stored in a manure pit. This system provides environmentally-friendly storage for animal waste and an opportunity to use their own product for fertilization, resulting in grass establishment and ultimately erosion control on their land. Additionally, the Huff's maintain a healthy herd of cows and an absolutely beautiful farm. We were grateful to gather with friends, family, colleagues and neighbors at their farm on September 27th, 2019 to present them with this award. Congratulations to Wendy and Joel Huff of Huff Family Farm, our 2019 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year!





We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect. \sim Aldo Leopold

Thank you very much to ALL who assisted us in 2019

جائے کا بے کا

Our deepest appreciation goes out to all of our volunteers whose services are invaluable to the PCSWCD!

Alexandra Conover Bennett

Alivia Acosta

Amy Polyot of PCSWCD

Andrew Robinson

Appalachian Mountain Club

Bangor Daily News

Bob & Sandy Duchesne

Bob's Home Farm & Garden

Brian Roth of the Maine

Chapter American

Chestnut Foundation

Brooke Isham of LOMAH

Brownville Snowmobile Club

Bruce Talley

Bruce Towle

Carl Bickford of USDA NRCS

Center Coffee House

Charlene Donahue of Maine

Entomological Society

Checkerberry Farm

CJ Walke of MOFGA

Daniel Rosebush

David Rocque of Maine DACF

Davis Conservation Foundation

Demonstration Forest Volunteers

Donna Coffin of UMaine Coop Ext

Don't Move Firewood Initiative

Doug DiMento of ArgiMark

Dover Cove Farmers' Market

Dover-Dexter Area in Transition

Dover-Foxcroft Congregational

Church

Dover True Value Hardware Store

Dwain Allen

Eastern Gazette

East Sangerville Grange

Emily Dickison

Envirothon Volunteers—all of you!

E.R. Palmer Lumber Co., Inc.

FEDCO

Foxcroft Academy

Fred Krone of Northern Maine

Minerals

Friends of Wilson Pond

Genevieve Trafelet of AMC

Gordon Moore

Greg Beane Maine DEP

Haley Construction Company

Harvey Farm Equipment LLC

Heidi Reinhard

Helping Hands with Heart

Huff Family Farm

Jackson Regenerational Farm

Jamie Sandoval of USDA NRCS

Jamin Johanson of USDA Soil Survey

Janet Sawyer

Jason Brochu

Jennifer Lund of ME DACF

Jessica Leahy of UMaine School of

Forest Resources

Jim Lubas

Joseph Dembeck of SCSWCD

Kirby Ellis of Ellis Forest

Management

Kylie Dow

Law Farm Volunteers

Leslie Nelson of USDA NRCS

Lily Dalton of Edward

Faust & Smith

Maggie Shannon, LakeSmart

Maine Association of Conservation

Districts

Maine Audubon

Maine Chapter of the American

Chestnut Foundation

Maine Department of Agriculture,

Conservation & Forestry Maine

Department of Environmental

Protection

Maine Department of

Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Maine Farmland Trust

Maine Forest Service

Maine Highlands Senior

Center

Maine VLMP

Maine Woodland Owners

Marr Pond Farm

Matt Dorman of USDA Soil Survey

MicMac Farms

Moosehead Matters

Nancy Neal

Nick Butler of USDA Soil Survey

Pam Wells

Patti Call of Maine Signs

Penquis Rental

Penquis Valley Schools

Piscataquis County

Chamber of Commerce

Piscataquis County Commissioners Piscataquis County Economic

Development Council

Piscataquis Observer

Piscataquis Regional YMCA

Piscataquis Valley Fair

Pleasant River Lumber

Prouty Auto Body

D | | 0

Rainie Stutzman

Rick Kersbergen

Ripley Farm

Robert Weber

Rolling Thunder

Rod Hamel

Rowell's Garage Sam Brown

Sam Heffner, Maine Forest Ranger

Sarah Spencer of ME IF&W

Save-A-Lot Dover-Foxcroft

Scott Carter of USDA NRCS

Shaw's Supermarket of Dover-

Foxcroft

Spruce Mill Farm

Steve DeGoosh

Steve & Lindsay Tudor of Tudor

Orchard

Sue Mackey Andrews

Susan Gallo of Maine

Lakes

Thompson Free Library

Three River's Kiwanis

Toby & Cynthia Hall

Tom Seymour

Town of Corinna

Town of Dover-Foxcroft

Town of Dover-1

Trailside Gardens

Unity College Trail Crew

USDA Farm Service Agency USDA Natural Resources

Conservation Service

USDA Rural Development

University of Maine Cooperative

Extension
University of Maine School of

Forest Resources

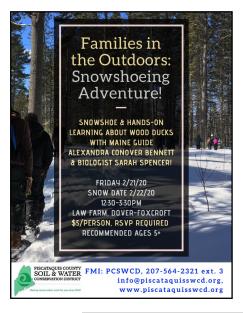
Whetstone Pond Association

WinterKids

THE DISTRICT IS OFFERING A FULL RANGE OF EDUCATIONAL EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS IN 2020!

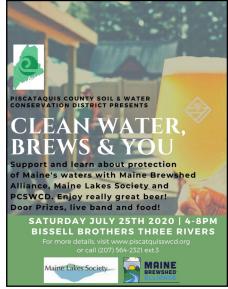
Below are just a sampling of what we have to offer!

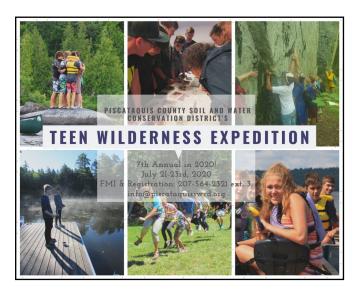
Visit our website www.piscataquisswcd.org to see all our offerings in 2020!













Earth Day at the Nature SeDoMoCha Nature Trail, Wednesday, April 22, 4-6PM: Join the PCSWCD, SeDoMoCha staff and administration and the University of

Maine Cooperative Extension Piscataquis County for this awesome community event. We will work together to restore the SeDoMoCha nature trail and ready it for the school and public to utilize! FMI—look out for event details on Facebook!

THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFERS SEVERAL TECHNICAL TRAININGS AND SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

CEUs are often available for participation in some of these workshops.

A Sampling of Featured Trainings and Services in 2020 Include:









LakeSmart Program: Our staff is trained to conduct LakeSmart evaluations for all waterfront property owners in Piscataquis County. LakeSmart is a free program aimed at addressing habitat-damaging soil erosion occurring on properties. Evaluations measure the amount of erosion occurring and offer helpful do-it-yourself suggestions for how owners can correct any issues found. This evaluation process also offers the chance for folks to be awarded with a LakeSmart Award! Additionally, our District serves as a LakeSmart Hub—a service center of this valuable program!



Mapping Services: PCSWCD offers landowners, foresters, municipalities and the public the service of creating aerial maps of their properties. The PCSWCD can use different overlays such as soils, federal and state wildlife, and topographic information to enhance the aerial photos and can generate soils data reports also. The service is provided at the cost of \$37.50 per hour with a minimum charge of half an hour. For more information or to request mapping services, contact us at info@piscataquisswcd.org.



Trout Sale for Stocking Ponds: We will be selling 8-10 inch brook trout to folks with current fish stocking permits from the Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. The trout are supplied by MicMac Farms. Orders must be received by May 18th, 2020 and the pick-up date will be May 20th at the Morton Ave. Gym (in the Town Municipal Office) in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine. FMI and to receive order information: info@piscataquisswcd.org It is strongly encouraged to place your orders early!



Why BECOME A CHAMBER MEMBER?

Clamber Benefils

- Promotion for your business: Membership to our Chamber means that your business will be promoted within our community, throughout the county, region, state, and even internationally. Each member has a different need it's our job to implement what types of promotion would bring in the most return for you.
- Networking: As a business owner, making connections and building relationships is imperative! As a chamber member, you will have wonderful opportunities to 'rub elbows' will the other business leaders in the county you wouldn't otherwise meet. These essential conversations are key to your growth as a business owner. Through them, you'll learn what's working and what's not; you'll build a more successful business, a stronger community and thriving economy for our region!
- Real, tailored support: Do you need a business plan? Need help creating a Facebook account? Perhaps you want to learn how to better market and promote your business; whatever the need, as a member you will have access to individualized support.
- Credibility & Revenue: The Chamber of Commerce receives multiple calls; daily, inquiring about our area. "What are the best restaurants?" "Where are the best salons?" "Can you recommend a chiropractor in the area?" "We're new residents, we need an electrician..", and on and on. A referral from the Chamber goes a long way. We have seen visitors choose to shop at a business simply because it was a chamber business. Credibility equals revenue.
- Advocacy: We are committed to being the 'voice of business' in the greater

 Piscataquis area, seeking to influence legislation and regulation by local, state, and federal governments in a proactive manner, by keeping our members well informed of upcoming bills that could have a major impact on your future as a business owner, and showing you how to easily get involved with live-links to local reps, state, and federal leaders. We take this portion of our mission to serve you VERY seriously!

Take your business to the next level. Call today! 207-564-7533



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENTS



2020

TREE & PLANT

PICK UP

May 9th 9-12PM

Piscataquis Regional Food Center

76 North St. Dover-Foxcroft

SALE Customer orders due by Wednesday April 15th

Customers will benefit from PCSWCD Staff, UMaine Extension, Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) and Jackson Regenerational Farm to answer your questions about soil health for your garden!









FMI please call 207-564-2321 ext. 3 www.piscataquisswcd.org 42 Engdahl Drive Dover-Foxcroft ME

Prouty Auto Body

COLLISION REPAIR SPECIALISTS Servicing our customers for over 30 years.

We Repair Any Make or Any Model All collision repairs guaranteed!

We work with **ALL** insurance companies. Enterprise rental cars available.

> Find us at 26 Summer Street Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426

> > Phone: 564-8353

1-800-464-8353

Fax: 564-3426

E-mail: proutyab@psouth.net

DENNIS BRAWN, JR., Proprietor

www.proutyautobody.com