



Conservation Education News



7th Graders at SeDoMoCha Middle School participating in a stream study program run by PCSWCD and AMC.

IN THE WOODS, ON THE WATER...YOU'LL FIND PCSWCD EVERYWHERE!

Read on to learn about what the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District has delivered for programming and what we have planned!

WHAT'S IN THIS YEAR'S ISSUE:

- 2023 Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year Announcement!
- Spotlight on our Partners
- Trout in the Classroom
- PCSWCD Ag Series
- PCSWCD Volunteer Opportunities for Students!
- LakeSmart Redux by LEA
- PCSWCD Events, Programs & Services!

ANNOUNCING PCSWCD'S 2023 OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR!

Think back on an experience you had with an educator who took the time to connect you to opportunities outside of the classroom and to your local community. At the college level, those experiences often cement career paths, encourage new interests or connect you with future employers. College professors that have passion for their subject area are always looking for that next opportunity for students and that passion is how the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) established a strong partnership with this year's Outstanding Conservation Educators of the Year. Every other year, the PCSWCD Board of Supervisors recognizes an educator or educators who have worked in our county to receive the Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year Award, and this year they have chosen to honor the University of Maine School of Forest Resources (SFR).

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Educator of the Year Article Continued...

The Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year Award is in place to recognize educators who work to connect students to conservation education, whether it be through learning in the classroom, work with conservation partners, through research efforts and beyond. When educators build conservation education into their curriculum offerings, students form a connection with their natural environment. That connection often provides the spark for future environmental stewards. University of Maine School of Forest Resources is under the UMaine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. Since 2018, faculty and students from SFR have worked on numerous projects in Piscataquis County, which resulted in improved forest management, efforts to better connect local youth to natural resource careers, exciting new partnerships, opportunities for college students to experience and work in Piscataquis County, expertise and information sharing with county residents, research projects and a noticeable presence in our communities. The knowledge, expertise and effort that SFR faculty have committed to Piscataquis County is so valuable and has been well-received by PCSWCD staff, local residents and community partners.

UMaine School of Forest Resource staff have worked extensively with the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District. In 2018, Dr. Sean Birkel and Dr. Jay Wason made their way to Piscataquis County to present on *Climate Change: Forest & Ecosystem Impacts*.



Photo Top Left: Dr. Jay Wason & PCSWCD ED Sarah Robinson; Photo Bottom Left: UMaine Graduate Student Elisa Schine and Dr. Nicole Rogers; Photo Right: Dr. Jessica Leahy

PCSWCD worked with Dr. Wason again through our 2022 Forestry Series when he presented on *Climate Change and Forest Ecology* with Dr. Sean Fraver. Currently, we are embarking on a Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC) Climate Change project at the Law Farm Nature Trails, property the District owns and maintains for the public, with Dr. Wason. Here we will be studying and examining the impacts of climate extremes on tree regeneration in the Northern Forests. This research project will involve District staff, UMaine students and faculty. Another research trial underway at the Law Farm is the American Chestnut Germplasm orchard, which is a project exploring the northernmost range of the American Chestnut tree. This project is a collaboration between PCSWCD, the American Chestnut Foundation and UMaine External Graduate Faculty, Dr. Brian Roth. The American Chestnut orchard at the Law Farm has increased the draw to the Law Farm. These research projects align with PCSWCD's mission to have the Law Farm serve as a land for education and demonstrations and we are energized by the opportunity to work with and learn from UMaine.

In addition to research projects, PCSWCD has worked with UMaine faculty to produce several interesting and unique educational offerings. We worked with Dr. Nicole Rogers on a well-attended Silviculture 101 workshop through our 2022 PCSWCD Forestry Series. Additionally, Dr. Jessica Leahy has worked with our District on a Forestry for Maine Birds program, held on her property, Wicopy Woods, in Sebec Maine. Jessica also worked alongside forester Terri Coolong to present Teas & Trees, an informative gathering of women landowners, offering them an open discussion on needs, challenges and resources available. Dr. Leahy has worked with our District to provide mutually beneficial opportunities for PCSWCD and UMaine students. PCSWCD worked with senior capstone students to update the forest management plan at the Law Farm Nature Trails. The students presented their plan to our Board and worked collaboratively with us throughout the entire process. We also had the pleasure of working

Article Continued on Page 3...

Educator of the Year Article Continued....

with UMaine students when updating the trail map at the Williamsburg Forest - another public land owned and maintained by PCSWCD. Students completed all the GIS work needed for the trail map, making it accessible through the Avenza app. This project added clarity and accessibility for the public and was a great first step for PCSWCD to begin work on bigger projects at the forest. PCSWCD is currently working with UMaine graduate student, Elisa Schine, on updating the forest management plan at the Williamsburg Forest. Elisa is actively working on a cruise of the forest alongside UMaine alumni, forester Molly London, and together they are incorporating practices into the plan that help make the forest an active example for women landowners. We are excited about their ideas to make the space a "Forest for Everyone, Managed by Women." Additionally, Elisa will be serving as the Wood Bank Outreach Coordinator, a new position through UMaine, managed by Dr. Leahy. Elisa will be based in Piscataquis County through the Extension office and the PCSWCD looks forward to this exciting new work happening in our county.



Photo Left to Right: Forester Molly London, Dr. Jessica Leahy; UMaine Graduate Student Elisa Schine; Sarah Robinson, ED PCSWCD; AMC Forester Carolyn Ziegler

Outside of working with the District, UMaine professors Dr. Mindy Crandall and Dr. Jessica Leahy spearheaded a research project in Piscataquis and Somerset County called the Rural Youth Futures Project. This project examined the shift in economic and demographic conditions in rural areas, the traditional natural resource-rich heritages of rural areas and how several factors relating to heritage economies and rural areas impact the next generation of workers and residents.

A survey was distributed to Piscataquis and Somerset youth and the results from this survey have been used by local industry leaders, schools and conservation organizations to frame how we are connecting youth to their communities and the opportunities that are there. Additionally, UMaine is working with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) on a resilience and restoration project involving the planting of 30,000 red spruce on AMC land. PCSWCD is looking forward to having UMaine School of Forest Resources represented at our Green Jobs Fair in May, introducing Piscataquis County youth to all the learning opportunities UMaine provides.

The future of UMaine School of Forest Resources in Piscataquis County looks to include continued educational opportunities for local students, UMaine students and residents of Piscataquis County. PCSWCD looks forward to continuing to work with UMaine School of Forest Resources faculty on exciting projects on our public lands, by having them be a part of our educational programming and more. SFR faculty are deserving of being recognized for their extensive efforts in Piscataquis County and we are pleased to be able to honor them with our Outstanding Conservation Educators of the Year award. Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District staff, Board Supervisors and local partners look forward to awarding and celebrating all the impressive accomplishments of SFR faculty and students at an award ceremony in the Fall of 2023.

Congratulations to the University of Maine School of Forest Resources on being honored as the 2023 Outstanding Conservation Educators of the Year!

congratulations!

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR PARTNERS: OUR INCREDIBLE TEEN WILDERNESS EXPEDITION VOLUNTEERS!

The Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) has finalized registration for our 9th annual Teen Wilderness Expedition! For those unfamiliar with this program, Teen Wilderness Expedition is a 3-day, 2-night trip for ages 12-16 to an Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) Wilderness Lodge. Kids that participate get to enjoy outdoor recreational activities, conservation educational learning, fun with friends, accommodations, food and much more.

As you can imagine, taking 24, 12-16 year olds into the woods on a trip like this takes a lot of people power. We are fortunate to work with the talented AMC education staff, AMC guides and the lodge staff. Even with all that stellar help, PCSWCD still needs responsible and caring adults to make sure all the kids are supported, looked after and have a good time. This is where PCSWCD Education Coordinator, Kacey Weber, leans on two amazing volunteers - Rod Hamel and Melanie Ruark- for assistance.

Rod has been volunteering his time, energy and humor for Teen Wilderness Expedition since 2018. The kids love his jokes and up-for-anything attitude. They also love hearing about all the neat places he has traveled to in his life. Rod is always willing to help out whether it be leading a hiking group, putting worms on fishing hooks, talking to the kids about future aspirations and much more. Melanie joined the team as a Teen Wilderness Expedition volunteer in 2021 and has been such a great addition! Melanie is very warm and welcoming to the kids and is always available to help and listen. Melanie comes to us from MSAD 41, with tons of experience in the outdoors and the kids benefit from her nature and expertise.

We are so fortunate Melanie connected with PCSWCD! New to join us this year is Sarah Curtis from Piscataquis Community Elementary School! We look forward to welcoming her to this group of wonderful people.

Unpaid volunteers are vital to the success of organizations like ours, making these programs better and brighter. Without the help we receive from Rod, Melanie and Sarah we would have to significantly decrease the number of kids who get to enjoy this amazing trip each year. They also help us safely enjoy some really exceptional activities! Rod and Melanie continue to go above and beyond and words can't express how grateful we are for their time and efforts! These individuals are creative, have infinite patience, are eager and willing to take on initiatives all while staying so humble with the service they provide to us year after year. Rod, Melanie and Sarah, thank you from everyone at PCSWCD for your continued time and help!



Photo Left to Right: Melanie Ruark; Steph Perkins, Piscataquis County Youth Education Coordinator; Kacey Weber, PCSWCD Education Coordinator; Roy, AMC Guide; Ali, AMC Guide; Rod Hamel.

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) was awarded a two-year contract with the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) that focuses on implementation of stream restoration and aquatic organism passage projects. This work will be administered through the Watershed-scale Approach to Restoring Stream Systems (WATRSS), a program developed to restore aquatic organism passage to road-stream crossings on private lands funded through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). Additionally, TNC awarded PCSWCD a private award, which provides capacity support to enable an increased focus on stream and river connectivity, restoration activities, and educational events and opportunities for youth and adults related to aquatic ecosystem health and stream restoration. WATRSS is supported by a collaboration of nine tribal, state, federal and nonprofit organizations (such as PCSWCD) and covers 25,255 square miles of project area, including the last endangered Atlantic Salmon spawning waters in the U.S. and critical Eastern brook trout habitat. Soon after the support from TNC was in place, District staff learned about Trout in the Classroom - a nation-wide program facilitated by Trout Unlimited, among other organizations, with a goal to introduce students to ecology, biology and conservation efforts through raising trout and releasing them. It was clear that the project allows students to connect deeply as they are able to watch the fish develop through their life stages and learn about the local habitat. Trout in the Classroom seemed to be a perfect fit for continued work with librarian Carolyn Clark and the 4th grade at SeDoMoCha and was funded through the partnership with The Nature Conservancy.



Starting in September, PCSWCD Education Coordinator, Kacey Weber, started lessons with the 4th grade classes, preparing the students for raising and releasing the trout, but also introducing them to topics in habitat restoration and conservation efforts. Specifically, the lessons taught throughout the school year related to trout life cycles, water conservation, the native range of brook trout, ecosystems and more. 300 trout eggs that came from the Maine Inland Fishery & Wildlife Enfield State Fish Hatchery were raised by the children in the library! Eight months later, the students are now looking forward to May 25th, when we will be gathering at Browns Mill Park in Dover-Foxcroft to release their trout into the Piscataquis River! This day will also include interactive learning stations led by partners Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, Trout Unlimited, Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District, Appalachian Mountain Club and the Nature Conservancy. The kids will get to see, find and identify what trout eat, learn about fly fishing, play some fun games and even try on some fishing gear! PCSWCD is grateful to all our wonderful partners for joining us for this event and assisting with a condensed effort at raising awareness of increased aquatic habitat including the Eastern Brook Trout to the Piscataquis watershed.

If you are an educator in Piscataquis County and want to participate in Trout in the Classroom, we encourage you to reach out to our Education Coordinator, Kacey, to see about this program coming to your school during the 2023-2024 school year! Kacey can be reached at katherine.weber@piscataquiswcd.org.

"This project was made possible through support provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), under the terms of the RCPP Agreement Supplemental- 2306-A-0437. The content and opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or the policy of such agency or The Nature Conservancy, and no official endorsement should be inferred. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In addition, any reference to specific brands or types of products or services does not constitute or imply an endorsement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for those products or services."

PCSWCD AGRICULTURE SERIES

This summer, Piscataquis County Soil & Water Conservation District will offer a 2 part Agriculture Series: Irrigation & High Tunnels followed by Cover Crops & Soil Health!

Are you interested in learning more about or installing a high tunnel, but don't know where to begin? Do you need to learn more about irrigation systems for your crops or when to water? Come join us on Sunday, June 25th from 10-12pm at Marr Pond Farm, located 477 Flanders Hill, Sangerville ME.

At this workshop hosted by PCSWCD, we will be joined by many resourceful professionals and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to learn how to qualify for a cost share programs for high tunnels through the USDA-NRCS EQIP program. Assistant Extension Professor & Extension Agricultural Engineer (Irrigation & Water Resources), Sumon Datta, PhD, EI from University of Maine Cooperative Extension will be with us to talk about irrigation scheduling. Matt Boucher, Maine State Soil Scientist from the Division of Agricultural Resource Development with Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, will provide some support about balancing irrigation with healthy soils practice, so that water is stored more efficiently. We will also talk about high tunnel basics, high tunnel crops choices and management right on the farm!



**Agriculture Series:
Irrigation & High Tunnels**
Marr Pond Farm
Sunday June 25th 10-12pm

Come learn about site and high tunnel selection, construction, soil health and management, irrigation, pest management, bed design, cropping systems and environmental control. Visit a high tunnel in person and get your questions answered directly from an experienced farmer!

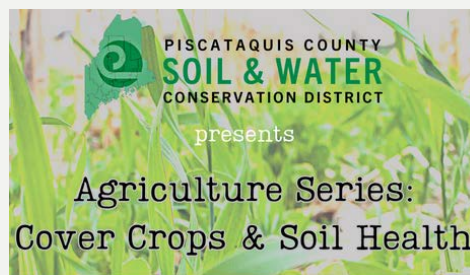
Get insider tips on the USDA-NRCS EQIP cost-share application process!

REGISTER OR FMI www.piscataquisswcd.org



Rebecca Long, Sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture Professional from University of Maine Cooperative Extension will be there to help answer questions along the way about moisture control while visiting a high tunnel in person. Come join us to learn about irrigation practices, climate resiliency and high tunnels at this two hour long, free workshop!

PCSWCD's second event in the Agriculture Series will be Cover Crops & Soil Health and will be held on Wednesday August 30th from 5-7PM at Stutzman's Farm in Sangerville. Are you curious to learn about how the use of cover crops and zone tilling can increase soil health? Come hear from and see how Sid and Rainie Stutzman drastically improved their soil, cut labor and fuel costs and increased production. Sid and Rainie Stutzman will lead the discussion and will be joined by State Soil Scientist Matt Boucher with the Maine Healthy Soils Program and Ellen Mallory from Cooperative Extension. NRCS will be there to talk about cost share programs relating to improved soil health. This program will include a walking tour, soil exploration, demonstrations and lots of information from resource professionals. This program is open to all and we encourage you to join in and learn more about irrigation & high tunnels and cover cropping with us!




**PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
presents
**Agriculture Series:
Cover Crops & Soil Health**

Stutzman's Farm, Sangerville, Maine
Wednesday August 30th 5-7pm

Come tour Stutzman's Farm and learn how the use of cover crops, zone tilling and utilizing local resources and expertise drastically improved their soil, cut labor and fuel costs and increased production. Sid and Rainie Stutzman will lead the discussion and will be joined by State Soil Scientist Matt Boucher and Cooperative Extension. NRCS will be there to talk about cost share programs relating to improved soil health.

REGISTER OR FMI:
www.piscataquisswcd.org



For more information and to register, please visit www.piscataquisswcd.org. You can also reach out to the PCSWCD by calling us at 207-564-2321 ext. 3 or by sending an email to info@piscataquisswcd.org. We look forward to learning with you!



PCSWCD OFFERS OUTDOOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

When it comes to maintaining our 400 acres of community public land without the assistance from the towns and decreased County funding, we have to get a bit creative! You can imagine the challenge of keeping our two community forests and one scientific demonstration woodlot, our



Foxcroft Academy students working with PCSWCD, the American Chestnut Foundation and Dr. Brian Roth to help plant American Chestnut trees at the Law Farm.

biggest assets, inviting places to visit and learn at. With only 3 full time staff, who are pulled in many directions, and a volunteer board of Supervisors, the upkeep of these trails and properties seems never ending. Always on the to-do list for all properties is scouting trails for downed trees that block trails (an ongoing effort with the increase of extreme weather patterns and storms), making sure kiosks are stocked with brochures, picking up litter, cleaning outhouses, and making sure trails through fields and picnic areas are mowed or weed whacked. At the Law Farm we have a pollinator garden that's been recognized by the Xerces Society and UMaine Extension that is always in need of being tended to and rose gardens that have been under restoration on the Law Homestead Trail (a new trail that will be open at the Law Farm the summer of 2023). Additionally, we have bluebird and wood duck nesting boxes that need to be cleaned out seasonally and hazelnuts that need to be weeded.

The Williamsburg Forest receives heavy day use from ATV traffic. Folks passing through use the pavilion at the overlook and there have been remnants of litter and fires started that are prohibited. Although these tasks consume a lot of time, the effort to complete them is worth it because we want the public to enjoy these spaces.

PCSWCD has created educational opportunities for students to have a hand in some of these tasks. Over the years, PCSWCD has utilized the help from many different school groups and organizations such as the Unity Trail Crew, Foxcroft Academy science classes, University of Maine School of Forest Resources undergraduates, students needing their high school graduation volunteer hours and positions such as PCSWCD's Junior Forestry Representative. PCSWCD's Education Coordinator has also done in-school projects that produced additions to the property such as soil health lessons and sunflower planting projects. Despite best efforts on everyone's part, it doesn't always work out like we hoped. The last few years have been a challenge to keep up with the properties because students and groups weren't doing extracurricular activities or feeling safe to be at public gatherings. Before the pandemic, our Volunteer Workdays hovered around 30 people per event, compared to last year when we only had 10 people participate.

Our Junior Forestry Representative position was vacant for a year until Jasmine Gregory, a University of Maine School of Forest Resource graduate accepted the position this past month. The Junior Forestry Representative is an opportunity for a high school or college student to assist with our public lands and Land Management Committee. They gain first-hand experience with foresters in the region and help develop and manage our Piscataquis County community forests.

Article Continued on Page 8...



Volunteering Article Continued...

Elisa Schine, another UMaine graduate student, has been in the position for over a year and works closely with our forester Molly London on PCSWCD's Williamsburg Forest's new Forest Management Plan. These positions have the potential to flourish into other conservation resource professional positions and are great resume builders. We've watched the last two previous Junior Reps have upward mobility to further their careers. PCSWCD has hopes of developing this position, possibly adding a stipend and education credits, in the future.

CALL for VOLUNTEERS

As the season changes and time moves on, things are looking promising once again! Chris Miller from Sedomocha Middle School has planned an advisory day for a group of 8th grade students to help work at the Law Farm and Rob Weber's Foxcroft Academy Science class will be visiting the American Chestnut Germplasm to help weed and take inventory. Boy Scout Troup 61 will be helping with the management of the hazelnuts. We have also contracted with a local landscaper to help with some of the mowing this coming season to lighten the load on our staff (and their families) and Board members that were previously doing the work.

There is always something to be done on the interpretive trail systems, demonstration areas and gardens on both properties in Dover-Foxcroft and Williamsburg. We have worked very hard to maintain these lands for the general public to use and create a learning environment that demonstrates best forestry practices and being good stewards of the land. PCSWCD also uses these spaces for our educational workshops and events throughout the year and encourages people to visit the land for conservation education. If you are a student, teacher or in a school community and would like to be involved with these projects, we welcome you to join us! We have tailored some of our tasks to be part of an environmental curriculum around soil health, forestry and agriculture and our amazing staff can help identify your classroom needs to work this into your lesson plans!

Reach out to our Education Coordinator, Kacey Weber at katherine.weber@piscataquisswcd.org.

The next Law Farm Volunteer Workday will be June 10th starting at 8AM. This is a great opportunity for boy or girl scout clubs, Key Club students, 4H clubs, trail clubs or the general public to come together and lend a hand. Please email sarah.robinson@piscataquisswcd.org if you plan to attend!



LAW FARM VOLUNTEER WORK DAY & POTLUCK!

Join PCSWCD
SATURDAY, JUNE 10th
Lee Cemetery Rd,
Dover-Foxcroft ME
8 AM - 12pm



All are welcome!
Rain Date June 17th



RSVP by registering online
www.piscataquisswcd.org



Can't lend a hand, but want to contribute?



SCAN ME



LAKESMART REDUX

Written by: Charlie Tarbell, LEA
treasurer

Who doesn't like to be recognized? It makes us feel good. Essentially, recognition is what LakeSmart Awards are: Recognition of a "job well done" in managing your lakefront property – benefitting your lake's water quality. Yes, I'm aware that the LakeSmart "evaluations" are primarily education, not inspection, but the award recognition certainly doesn't hurt.

I had a LakeSmart evaluation of my property on Keoka Lake a couple of years ago...in the "beforetimes". I didn't receive an award. Although I initially did not achieve recognition, I succeeded in getting an education in lakeside property management. Indeed, I found out that what I once thought was solid buffer-zone management could really use some improvement.

I learned about soil stabilization techniques, duff management, and native plantings. I took some incremental steps to bolster my buffer zone by allowing some additional growth of vegetation, adding to the duff layer, delineating key pathways to the lake, and planting something called blueberry sod that I obtained from Blue Meadow Nursery in Lovell, Maine. My improvements are proof-positive that you can teach an old dog new tricks.

Fast forward two years. The Keoka LakeSmart team (an epic volunteer threesome of well-trained lakefront property managers) re-evaluated my property. They found the changes I had made, together with the pre-existing solid management of my driveway, septic system, and roofline runoff, qualified me for a highly-coveted LakeSmart Award. Imagine my delight.

I want to urge any of you who have not yet taken advantage of the LakeSmart program to please do so. LakeSmart is about education. I thought I knew what I was doing in managing my buffer zone, but I found I could do better for the sake of my lake.



PCSWCD Education Coordinator, Kacey Weber, is a trained LakeSmart evaluator and offers this free, informative service to waterfront property owners in Piscataquis County.

FMI on LakeSmart in Piscataquis County (and beyond), please reach out to Kacey - katherine.weber@piscataquisswcd.org.

PROTECT THE LAKE WITH LAKESMART!

FREE!
VOLUNTARY
LOW-COST. EASY SOLUTIONS!

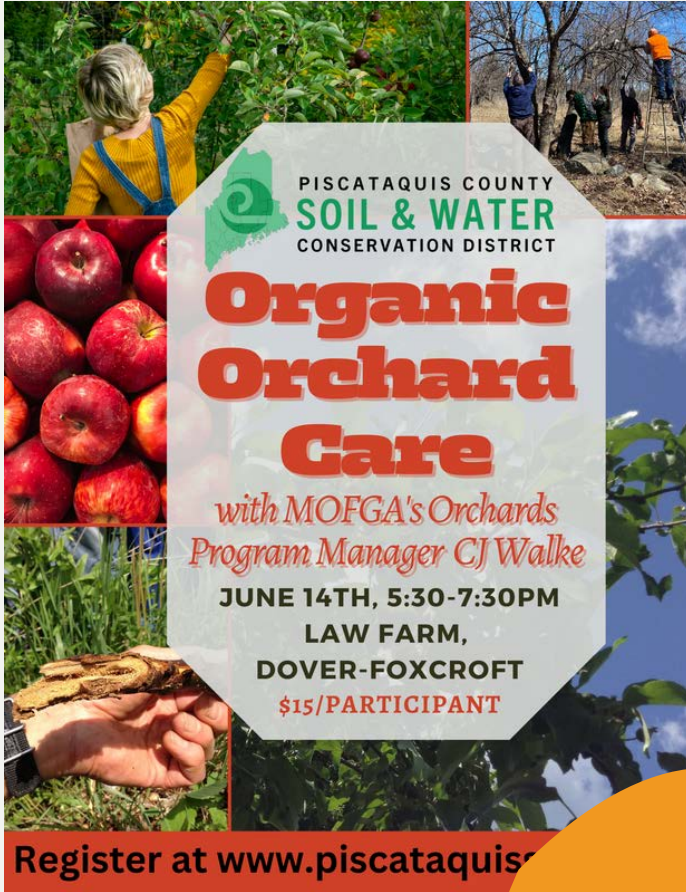
**PCSWCD Serves as a Resource Hub for
Maine Lake's program LakeSmart!**

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY CONTACT:

**PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Kacey Weber
katherine.weber@piscataquisswcd.org
207-564-2321 ext. 3

Featured Events



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Organic Orchard Care

with MOFGA's Orchards Program Manager CJ Walke

JUNE 14TH, 5:30-7:30PM
LAW FARM,
DOVER-FOXCROFT
\$15/PARTICIPANT

Register at www.piscataquis.org



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE OF MAINE

Gravel Roads Workshop

JUNE 22ND, 2023, 8-12:30PM
DOVER FOXCROFT, MAINE

This course will offer instruction and training for public works departments, road associations and folks looking for information on gravel road construction and maintenance.

✓ 4 Continuing Education Hours (CEH) available

\$40

REGISTRATION REQUIRED & SPACES ARE LIMITED
REGISTER AT: WWW.PISCATAQUISSWCD.ORG

See the full 2023
Calendar of Events
on page 11!



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Foraging

SUNDAY AUGUST 13TH
RAIN DATE AUGUST 20TH
LAW FARM NATURE TRAILS

9-11pm OR 1-3pm
with Sarah Robinson from PCSWCD
and Dustin Small from BB3R
\$20/person

To Register or FMI visit
www.piscataquisswcd.org



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CHAINSAW SAFETY WORKSHOP FOR ALL!

2 Days of Training, 9-3:30PM
Level 1 & 2
Sept. 30th & Oct. 1st, 2023
Williamsburg Forest, Williamsburg
\$115/participant (ages 18+)

FMI & To Register:
www.piscataquisswcd.org

2023 PCSWCD Events



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



2023 Events & Workshops Calendar

May

Bird Walk with Maine Audubon & Forest Society of Maine,
Williamsburg Forest, May 20th 8am

PCSWCD Annual Tree & Plant Sale Pick Up! May 18th at Law Farm,
4-6pm

Trout Sale Pick Up, Wednesday, May 3rd, USDA Service Center DF
12PM

June

Law Farm Volunteer Work Day, June 10th, 8AM-12PM RD June
17th

Organic Orchard Care with CJ Walke, June 14th 5:30-7:30pm

Gravel Roads Workshop, June 22nd, Dover-Foxcroft, 8-12:30pm

Agriculture Series: High Tunnels & Irrigation with Marr Pond Farm,
June 25th, 10-12PM

July

Teen Wilderness Expedition, AMC's Gorman Chairback Lodge, July
18th-20th

August

Foraging at Law Farm, August 13th RD August 20th

Plant Paddle & Potluck with Friends of Wilson Pond, August 1st,
RD 8/2

Agriculture Series: Cover Crops & Healthy Soil August 30th, 5-7PM

September

Cider Pressing with East Sangerville Grange, September 17th

October

Chainsaw Safety for All! Williamsburg Forest, Sept. 30th & Oct. 1

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: www.piscataquisswcd.org



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Educational Services



- Field Trips to our Law Farm and Williamsburg Forest Public Lands
- Hands-on Educational Programs Tailored to the Needs of Your School or Group
- Natural Resource Conservation Presentations to Any Group
- Merit Badge Opportunities for Scout Groups
- Bridging Connections to Local Resources and Help Addressing Natural Resource Concerns
- Year-Round Educational Programs and Events Geared Towards Multiple Audiences
- Envirothon Team Support
- Volunteering Opportunities - Ways to Earn Community Service Hours!

See Reverse Side for Program Options & Topics!



FMI: Reach out to our Educational Coordinator
katherine.weber@piscataquisswcd.org
207-564-2321 ext. 3

Youth Programming Options:

Forestry/Forest Ecology:

- Tree ID walk (all seasons)
- Invasive Forest Pests Activities (Build-a-Bug, Tree Tagging)

Pollinators:

- Pollinator Habitat (planting activities, native plants, bug hunts)
- Build Your Own Bee Waterers/Bee Hotels



Agriculture:

- Farm tours
- Maine Ag in the Classroom



Water:

- Watersheds & You (Exploration of watershed model, understanding watersheds)
- Water Quality Exploration - Aquatic Insect ID

Soil:

- "Soil is Life!" - Understanding the Benefits of Soils
- Soil painting
- Soil Pit Exploration (two pits at the Law Farm)
- Meet a Soil Scientist!



Wildlife:

- Winter Animal Track ID
- Nature Explorers Hikes
- Trout in the Classroom



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



**Don't see what you are
looking for?
Reach out and we will
build something unique for
your group!**

