PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



PCSWCD ran our first Trout in the Classroom Program in 2023! Read this report to see how we are expanding this program! In this picture Eileen Bader Hall, The Nature Conservancy assists Kacey Weber, PCSWCD Educational Coordinator

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Our mission is to build resilient, sustainable farms and forests through education, technical services, demonstration, and stewardship.

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Additional Information:

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Fruit Tree Pre-Sale Order Deadline Feb. 23rd! Trout Sale Order Deadline Mar 1et!

Trout Sale Order Deadline May 1st! Tree & Plant Sale Order Deadline: May 3rd, 2024

Join us for an event this year! <u>www.piscataquisswcd.org</u>



PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

USDA SERVICE CENTER 42 ENGDAHL DRIVE DOVER-FOXCROFT, ME 04426 PHONE (207) 564 - 2321

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ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS:

Kim Merritt Sam Brown Toby Hall Steve Tatko Mike Pounch

DISTRICT STAFF:

Sarah Robinson, Executive Director Kacey Weber, Educational Coordinator Marc warren, Stream Restoration Project Manager

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:

Elisa Schine, Community Forestry Representative

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE STAFF:

Seth Jones, District Conservationist Caley Rentz, Soil Conservationist Alaina Kresovic, Soil Scientist Joshua Dera, Soil Scientist Chris Mann, MLRA Soil Survey Leader, Ecologist

FARM SERVICE AGENCY STAFF:

Scott Speck, Executive Director Janice Ramirez, FSA Loan Officer Madison Thew, Program Technician

FARM SERVICE AGENCY COUNTY COMMITTEE:

Blake Smith Owen Brown Rebecca Treadwell

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



On behalf of the Board of Supervisors and Staff, I welcome you to review the PCSWCD 2023 Annual Report. This report is a paper summary of our efforts over the past year, but it's only a pale representation of the actual expertise, energy and community spirit of our staff as we worked to connect forest and farmland owners to resources to help them better manage their lands, provide natural resource education to schools and adults and to provide outdoor opportunities on our lands in Piscataquis County.

I'm proud to work with such a great group of people and I invite you to read our report - perhaps you will want to join in!



PCSWCD OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

TASKS COMPLETED BY PCSWCD IN 2023



READ OUR STATE FUNDING REPORT HERE:



PCSWCD State Funding Report

2023

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - FY24 BUDGET SUMMARY

									2025
	100	200	300	400	500		900		BUDGET
	TNC	NRCS	Sales/Services	Workshops/Programs	Fundraising	Onion Fdn Grant	Admin	<u>Total</u>	Total
Revenue:									
Government Grants		8,872					51,000	59,872	48,411
Other Grants	78,392					13,382		91,774	84,014
Donations					1,500		500	2,000	500
Sales & Services			18,280		1,471			19,751	22,300
Workshop & Program Fees	0			3,300				3,300	19,495
Miscellaneous	0						15,020	15,020	20
Total Revenue	78,392	8,872	18,280	3,300	2,971	13,382	66,520	191,717	174,740
Expenses:									
Salaries, Taxes & Benefits	76,309	8,039	2,818	2,056	0	5,044	42,023	136,288	131,410
Other Direct Expenses	200	2,843	10,928	482	896	7,045	28,075	50,469	32,936
Administrative Allocation	2,126	302	382	71	25	672	(3,578)	0	0
Total Expenses	78,635	11,184	14,129	2,608	921	12,761	66,520	186,757	164,346
Operating Surplus/(Loss)	(243)	(2,312)	4,151	692	2,051	621	0	4,961	10,394
Interest Income								0	0
Net Operating Surplus/(Loss)	(243)	(2,312)	4,151	692	2,051	621	0	4,961	10,394

CONSERVATION CONVERSATION

As we enter into our 80th year serving Piscataquis County, we want to take a moment to talk about growth. Growth can present challenges and rewards for organizations, especially ones as small (and mighty) as the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District. Our current core staff team. Sarah Robinson and Kacev Weber. have worked together for 6 years. Kacey has been with the District for 10 years. Marc Warren, our Stream Restoration Project Manager, celebrated his 1 year anniversary in January and his position was just extended to 2027. Year after year, we have increased our numbers across the board - the number of people who attend our programs and utilize our services, the number of youth we serve through educational programming, and the number of District supporters, volunteers and Board members. Our partnerships have grown and strengthened. The number of visitors to our public lands has increased and the feedback from the community about the work being done at the Law Farm Nature Trails, Williamsburg Forest and Bailey Hill Woodlot has been positive. We are feeling seen and supported by our surrounding communities. We are grateful for this growth and we certainly worked hard for it!

Now, we are shifting some of our focus to ways in which we can sustain our programming and support the hard-working people who provide all these high quality services to you. In 2023, you have seen some of the creative fundraisers we have organized - our Tree & Plant Sale, our Christmas Tree Mini Photo Sessions with Eric Ogden, the Clear Day Thunder movie screening and more. Additionally, we launched a refreshed Annual Appeal and had a lot of success securing support through that effort. Thank you to everyone who participated in one of our fundraisers and/or our Annual Appeal. Your support helps to sustain this tremendous growth we have generated from the demand for our services.

Please continue to support us! Also in 2023, we were awarded two grants - one from the Onion Foundation, which supports our youth education services, and one from the Maine Community Foundation to help with updates at the Williamsburg Forest. The Onion Foundation grant, coupled with private donations, allowed us to offer our Teen Wilderness Expedition program free all youth who participated. to We celebrated 9 years of Teen Wilderness Expedition in 2023 and through continued support we will celebrate our 10th year by allowing youth to participate free of charge once again! We have a goal to secure a program endowment to keep Teen Wilderness Expedition free for years to come! If you are interested in supporting this invaluable program, please reach out to us. With every grant and donation our District receives, we are able to do more for Piscataguis County. We produced a wide variety of programs including our annual offerings - Foraging, Chainsaw Safety, Bird Walk, Snowshoe Adventure and Cider Pressing - and some new ones including StreamSmart, Gravel Roads, Plant Paddles, Pollinators and the Forest, and an Invasive Plants webinar. We will go into more detail about all the amazing programs we offered to youth in our Education Overview, so be sure to give that a read! We consider ourselves lucky to go to work and provide accessible. affordable conservation opportunities to the residents and visitors of Piscataquis County.

Please take some time to read through our 2023 Annual Report. We hope it inspires you to come to one of our programs, have a conversation with us, establish a partnership, seek out technical assistance or take a walk at one of our public lands. Without all of you, there wouldn't be an us, so we are grateful for your support. See you in 2024!

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SPOTLIGHT ON OUR PARTNERS: 10 Years of Learning with CJ Walke!

Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District serves as a resource hub for the public to learn about ways they can conserve natural resources. The sustainable production of food has been a popular topic and folks always want to know how they can grow their own food. We are grateful for our partnership with the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) as they are a leader in educating the public how to organically produce your own food. Anytime we can bring their programming or resources up to Piscataquis County, it has been a positive thing for Piscataquis residents. Specifically, in this year's Spotlight on our Partners article, we want to highlight our partnership with CJ Walke, MOFGA's Orchard Program Manager.

10 years ago, we started getting requests from the public for information about fruit tree production. We knew we had to get our friend CJ Walke up to Piscataquis to share his knowledge of organic orchard care. CJ has been teaching orchard workshops since 2008. He started working for MOFGA in 2006 as their Landscape Coordinator. From 2012-2021, CJ worked guarter-time for MOFGA and full-time as the Farm Manager for College of the Atlantic's Peggy Farm. In May of 2023, CJ came back to MOFGA full-time as their Orchard Program Manager. Since 2013, CJ has come up to Piscataquis County and shared his expertise with all of us about pruning fruit trees, renovating fruit trees, organic orchard care, care for young fruit trees, grafting and much more. We have worked with numerous local landowners to serve as host farms for his workshops and they are always ready to welcome him back. CJ shared with us that "Piscataquis County is an excellent area to teach because there are so many great locations for orchard workshops, like the Law Farm, larger production orchards and home-scale planting that meet the educational needs of participants." When you take a workshop with CJ, you better

come prepared to work! CJ shared "what I love about partnering with PCSWCD is the enthusiasm and interest the community always brings to the programs. People show up with their tools and are ready to dig in and get their hands dirty!" We love his teaching style and the patience he has to answer participants' questions and troubleshoot with them to solve issues they are seeing with their trees.

We will be doing a <u>grafting workshop</u> with CJ in April and registration for this course is already open! If you haven't had a chance to work with him, we highly recommend taking one of his workshops. Just ask anyone who has worked with him, they will tell you that CJ is the best!

Thank you for 10 years of partnership, CJ!



CJ teaching pruning techniques at a PCSWCD event.

2023 EDUCATION OVERVIEW

As always, we have quite a bit to report on in our Education Overview. One of the biggest elements of our mission is education and PCSWCD provides education through newsletters, technical services, connecting people to resources, and providing year-round educational programming to a wide audience. Our District has been a leader in providing quality youth education programs (who remembers our summer camps?) for many years, yet recently, we have significantly grown our work with local schools. In 2023, we almost doubled our youth programming reach and launched several exciting new programs, two of which were Trout in the Classroom and Green Jobs Fair. On the heels of our District's work in stream restoration. we felt it would be fitting to bring the Trout in the Classroom program to Piscataguis County. Through this program, and with the help from a The Nature Conservancy private grant award, students raise brook trout from eggs and release the brook trout fry into the Piscataquis river. Students learn about the brook trout's native range, habitat, life cycle, and the conservation of the species as they watch them grow through their first life stages. We worked with SeDoMoCha Elementary 4th graders through a collaboration with the SeDoMoCha librarian Carolyn Clark. The tank was set up in the school's library, so all visitors to the library could watch the trout develop. We worked with numerous partners to provide the students with a fun release day event when it was time to return the trout to their natural habitat. Students and presenters gathered at Browns Mill Park in Dover-Foxcroft and after the students released their trout fry into the Piscataquis River, they enjoyed learning stations where they could explore fly casting, macroinvertebrates, fishing gear, and even worked with Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife to stock adult brook trout into the river. We are excited to announce that not only will this year's 4th graders at SeDoMoCha enjoy the program, so will the 5th and 6th grade at Piscataguis **Community Elementary School!**







Students and presenters at the Green Jobs Fair at the Law Farm Nature Trails.

In 2023, we launched the Maine Agriculture Classroom in the program ReadME Agriculture. We had the entire Piscataguis Community Elementary School participate, in addition to running programs at Little Linus (Now the CubHouse) davcare, Thompson Free Library, SeDoMoCha Elementary School and Guilford Memorial Library. This year, we are growing the program to include Brownville and Milo **Elementary schools!**

2023 also marked our first-ever Green Jobs Fair. We teamed up with Maine TREE, Rural Project, Aspirations and Appalachian Mountain Club to put on this event for 7th graders in the area. The event was held at the Law Farm Nature Trails and we hosted organizations who offered over 25 interactive displays, activities and hands-on learning opportunities that showcased their professions. The event was a great success and in 2024, we will be expanding to allow additional schools to participate. Green Jobs Fair received a lot of attention from the press and the presenters who participated were humbled by the students' enthusiasm to learn about their professions. Our Education Coordinator, Kacey Weber, works closely with Appalachian the Mountain Club, Rural Aspirations Program and the Natural Resources Education Center through а collaborative known as Piscataquis Environmental Education Collaborative (PEEC). Article continued on page 9...





Education Overview Continued from Page 7...

Through this collaboration, we share resources and work together to strengthen environmental education in Piscataquis County. 2023 was the first year of the PEEC collaborative and our group saw great success come from pooling our resources and working together. Most notable was our work with Superintendents area and school administrators. We held an informational meeting geared towards school administrators with the goal of introducing our services, talking about all the different ways teachers can work with us and discussing school needs and how our work can meet those needs. From this meeting, we saw a marked increase in the number of educators utilizing our services, which translates into more youth served and a significantly larger depth to our program reach. PEEC also works to promote our summer programs, which serve youth ages 7-16, and includes PCSWCD's Teen Wilderness Expedition. As we mentioned in the Conservation Conversation article, the youth educational services our District provides is now supported through an Onion Foundation grant. With this support, we were able to increase our services to provide 5-10 hours of educational programming per week for the entire school year.



Teen Wilderness Expedition crew 2023

Additionally, the Onion Foundation grant funds will cover all costs for youth who want to participate in Teen Wilderness Expedition in 2024. PCSWCD also received a Maine Community Foundation Conservation for All grant that will support the cost of transportation for local schools to visit our Community and demonstration forests for conservation education field trips. This support is so important and is a huge reason why we have had all these wonderful firsts in 2023.

Once again, PCSWCD offered a full year of programming to the public through our annual event offerings. We started the year strong with our beloved annual snowshoeing events, this time with District Forester and PCSWCD Vice Chair, Jim Ferrante leading the way! Jim shared information with participants on how to properly manage forests and an overview of some of the resources available to folks looking to improve their wooded acres. We put together an interesting program focusing on Pollinators and the Forest and held this event at Thompson Free Library. Participants learned about the many native species that depend on trees at certain points of their life cycle and programs available to people who want to establish pollinator habitat on their properties. We had a very successful Fruit Tree PreSale and Tree & Plant Sale fundraiser. New in 2023, we added vegetable seedlings to the offerings and it was a popular addition to the fruit trees, perennial flowers and herbs we typically offer. We continued offering our Trout Sale to folks who stock their private ponds with brook trout. Although our Trout Sale was not as large as in years past, we hope to see this service grow and will work in 2024 to promote pond stocking! We partnered with the Nature Conservancy and the Maine Audubon to offer two Stream Smart Workshops in Piscataguis and will continue to bring this vital information to our region in 2024. There is funding available to municipalities to replace road stream crossings through Stream Smart, so you represent a municipality if in Piscataquis County, we encourage you to attend a training and find out more about this opportunity. We took our annual, traveling Walk Bird event to the Williamsburg Forest and had a wonderful time learning from Nick Lund from Maine Audubon and folks from the Forest Society of Maine. We welcomed our friend CJ Walke of MOFGA back for two awesome

Education Overview Continued from Page 9...

fruit tree programs - one about organic orchard care and another about caring for young fruit trees. It was exciting to utilize PCSWCD's new educational orchard at the Law Farm for these events! Once again, Dustin Small and our Executive Director, Sarah Robinson, led crowds around the Law Farm for our popular Foraging event. This event is always so fun - be sure to join us in 2024 if you haven't had a chance to attend! PCSWCD was sponsored by Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's (DACF) Healthy Soils program and with that sponsorship we were able to offer an informative Cover Crops & Soil Health event at Stutzman's Farm. Participants enjoyed a tour of Stutzman's farm, heard from the Stutzman's about their soil health journey and enjoyed a delicious farm-sourced dinner. Cooperative Extension agent Ellen Mallory and Seth Jones from NRCS were also on hand to answer questions folks had about cover cropping and cost-share programming available through NRCS. We held another Chainsaw Safety workshop, this time opening it up to all, and once again held it at the Williamsburg Forest. We are looking forward to being able to offer Level 3 training in 2024 to folks who have attended our programs or a training from other organizations. We are always working to provide Piscataguis County residents and visitors with information on ways they can protect our water resources from invasive plants, erosion and other threats, so we teamed up with Friends of Wilson Ponds and Lake Stewards of Maine to offer a Plant Paddle on Sawyer Pond in Greenville. This event was so informative and a great way to arm residents with tools they can use to quickly identify invasive aquatic plants and get them under control before they take over. We are looking forward to hosting a Plant Paddle event on Sebec lake in 2024 in partnership with the Sebec Lake Association. Our annual Cider Pressing event with the East Sangerville Grange is always so much fun and we encourage folks to come out and join us for this fun community event! This shared event rotates between locations each year so both organizations have the chance to highlight their organizations "home."

We look forward to seeing folks join us at the Law Farm Nature Trails in 2024 to pick and press your own apples!

This past year we honored our 2023 Volunteer of the Year, Rod Hamel at the East Sangerville Grange. Rod is an East Sangerville Grange member and a longtime Teen Wilderness Expedition volunteer. He has been invaluable to our District and we were thrilled to recognize him through this award. In addition to our Volunteer of the Year award, we also presented our Educator of the Year award in 2023. This year's recipient was UMaine School of Forest Resources and we celebrated with them at the Law Farm. which included a tour of the property, highlighting some of the great work they have done with us and for Piscataquis County. The award was well deserved and we consider UMaine SFR to be invaluable partners.

We had a blast in 2023 and have our 2024 Calendar of Events ready to go! Registration is open for a few events already, so join us, mark your calendars for events that interest you and keep your eyes peeled for registration announcements!



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 farmers, ranchers, and landowners through a variety of commodity, credit, and disaster assistance programs designed to stabilize and enhance our rural landscape. FSA is at the forefront of providing services the farming community has 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 <u>www.fsa.usda.gov</u> and <u>www.farmers.gov</u>.

FSA 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.





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MAINE SOIL SURVEY UPDATE By Chris Mann, Ecological Site Specialist

Throughout 2023, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) MLRA (Major Land Resource Area) soil survey staff consisting of soil scientists and ecologists implemented and assisted on many projects throughout the state of Maine and New England. These projects investigated soil health, ecological site dynamics, and changing climate in the Northeast.

Soil survey staff continued work on a Dynamic Soil Properties project in collaboration with University of Maine and the University of Maine Fort Kent to develop and implement a long-term monitoring of forest health using a network of soil and climate monitoring stations associated with forest inventory plots. This project provides a better understanding of the current and potential limitations of successful forest regeneration, will improve education and recommendations for best management landowners, and engage University students in research related to climate change and forest science. Soil Survey staff completed lab analysis work on soil samples that were collected in 2022.

In collaboration with the Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP), MLRA soil survey staff continued assistance on the long-term ecological reserve monitoring (ERM) project. Support was provided through soil data collection and interpretation to provide complete soil profiles associated with each plot in the 2023 round of ERM sampling. This ongoing collaboration with MNAP provides valuable data to model and identify long-term changes to the health of Maine soils and forests while also providing an opportunity for NRCS to further advance ecological site descriptions within Maine. NRCS ecological site descriptions are a site-specific tool that links both historic and current information on soil and plant relationships, site productivity, and site health while also identifying resource concerns and the underlying drivers. This serves as an incredibly valuable tool for landowners and land managers to access spatial and temporal site information and an opportunity to explore data

driven approaches to sustainable land use decisions.

Additionally, MLRA soil survey staff worked alongside the Piscataquis Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) and provided educational support and outreach on the Green Jobs Fair and Soil Health Day. MLRA staff also assisted PCSWCD with plant identification, site assessments, soil mapping, and land use interpretation.

If you have any questions regarding soils or ecological information throughout Maine, please stop by the office or give us a call. 42 Engdahl Drive Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426, Phone: (207) 802-4016. You can also reach Christopher Mann (MLRA Soil Survey Leader) by email at: <u>Christopher.Mann@usda.gov</u>.



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE UPDATE By Seth Jones, District Conservationist

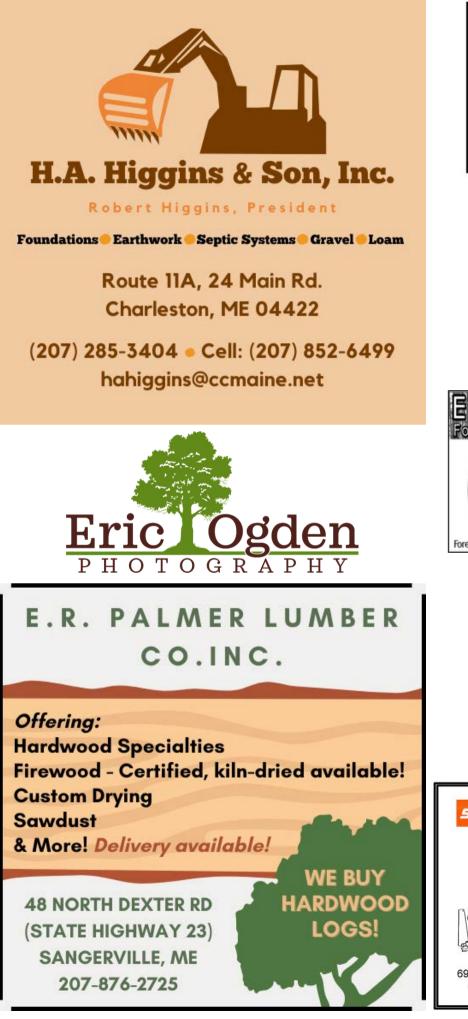
During December of 2023 the SWCD and NRCS conducted the annual Local Working Group meeting in Dover. The group gets together at least one time per year to discuss natural resource priorities throughout Piscataquis county and make recommendation to NRCS on where Farm Bill should be directed to meet the fundina environmental challenges in your county. These meetings are a chance for you to have a voice in directing the federal funds that come into your county from the Farm Bill through this office to help protect your natural resources. We had changes in the office in 2023 as Carl Bickford accepted a promotion as a forester with NRCS. Luckily, Piscataguis is still within the area he covers so I get to work with on a regular basis. We hired Caley Rentz as a new Soil Conservationist. Caley joined the Piscataguis Maine NRCS team in December 2023 as a Natural Resource Specialist for the Dover-Foxcroft Field office. Caley was born in Gainesville Fl and spent her childhood moving around the Midwest and Southeast. She grew up with a love for nature and the outdoors.

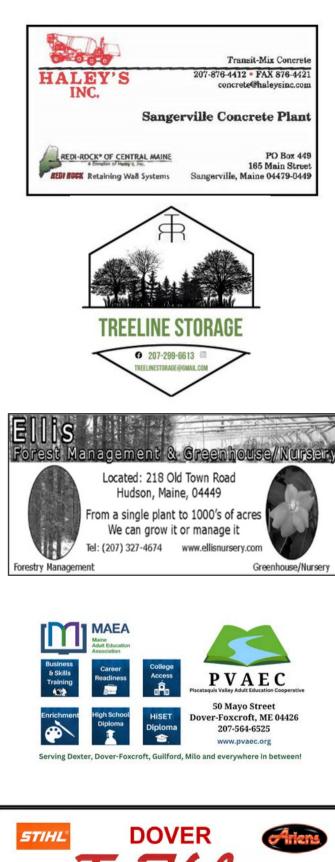
Caley attended Augusta University in Georgia to earn an undergraduate degree in Ecology, participating in research in estuaries, salt marshes and swamps. During the pandemic after graduation, she taught High School Science while working on a graduate degree in Medical Entomology online with UFl. Caley has spent summers at family camps in Houlton and Waltham and fell in love with the state. During May 2023, and her husband Calev moved to Winterport, and she worked for the summer with the state forest service for invasive plant outreach and mosquito monitoring in Augusta Maine. The next time you're in Dover please take a minute to stop in and welcome Caley to the county. During the spring of 2023, one year ago, we were working on processing just over \$1 million of conservation money into 26 contracts across 4 programs. We're working on the same process right now and with more money coming from the farm bill we are very hopeful that this year will allow us to do even more work with our participants to help protect and enhance this beautiful county.



Sebec Lake Association is engaged in the preservation and protection of the lake environment for current and future generations. Learn more at <u>www.sebeclakeassn.org</u>.

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NORTHEASTERN STATES RESEARCH COOPERATIVE (NSRC) UPDATE: IMPACTS OF EXTREME CLIMATE EVENTS ON TREE REGENERATION Reporting by Laura Pinover

PCSWCD has been a host site for a research <u>study</u> on the Impacts of Extreme Climate Events on Tree Regeneration being conducted by UMaine School of Forest Resources. Laura Pinover, the graduate student leading the project, has been hard at work! We've included a quick update from Laura:

"Last summer, we planted almost 1,500 trees across 6 locations. Some species and sites experienced a bit of mortality, and we spent some time replacing dead trees this past fall and will do a little more this coming spring. In the end, there will likely only be 12 out of the 16 containers at each site with a full set of 10 trees but that should be plenty to keep us busy! This summer we will be initiating our heat and drought experiment at the sites. The initial plan is to build structures around each container to exclude rainfall and/or passively warm some of the trees using the greenhouse effect. It's anticipated to start those treatments around the start of July and they will last for a few weeks. Before then, we will be initiating some midwinter warming events for trees here on campus too! That is part of a second experiment using about 300 individually potted trees (same species and sizes) that will be cycled into the greenhouse for varying lengths of time starting around the end of February."

Laura will be joined by two UMaine undergraduate students this year to help implement the heat wave and drought treatments, here in Dover-Foxcroft at the Law Farm Nature Trails. PCSWCD is one of 6 host sites across the state of Maine participating in this study! We look forward to keeping you updated as we learn more. Stay tuned!





Laura and Emily wrapping up measurements and tree replacements last fall at Law Farm Nature Trails in Dover-Foxcroft.

THANK YOU TO OUR GRANTORS IN 2023:





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Emery Family in Memory of

Korah Soll, Rural Aspirations Project Kris McCabe, IF&W **Kylie Dow** Lake Stewards of Maine Laurie Bowen, UMaine **Cooperative Extension** Logan Johnson, Maine TREE Lesley Fernow * Lumbra Hardwoods Inc. Lvnn & Jim Lubas Maddie Eberly, Forest Stewards Guild Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Maine Association of **Conservation Districts** Maine Audubon Maine Bound Maine Chapter of the American **Chestnut Foundation Maine Community Foundation *** Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry * Maine Department of **Environmental Protection** Maine Department of Inland **Fisheries & Wildlife** Maine Forest Service **Maine Forest Collaborative** Maine Healthy Soils Program * **Maine Highlands Senior Center** Maine Lakes Maine TREE **Maine Woodland Owners** Maple Lane Farm * Marcel Burch * Marr Pond Farm * Mary Smith Matt Boucher, State Soil Scientist Matt LaRoche Matt Walker, USDA NRCS Matthew Harvey * MAYB TMRW * Melanie Ruark **MicMac Farms**

Mike Pounch Milo Garden Club * Milo Tradewinds * Molly Ferrante * Molly London Monson Arts Moosehead Marine Museum **Moosehead Matters** NACD Forestry Notes Natural Resource Education Center (NREC) Nicole Rogers, UMaine School of Forest Resources Nick Butler, USDA Soil Survey North Branch Farm Northern Line Construction * **Onion Foundation *** Penobscot Indian Nation Penquis Valley Schools Piscataguis Community **Elementary School Piscataquis Community High** School **Piscataquis County Chamber** of Commerce Piscataquis County Commissioners **Piscataguis County Economic Development Council Piscataguis Observer Piscataguis Regional YMCA** Pleasant River Lumber * **Prouty Auto Body Ripley Farm * RJ Horwitz * Robert Weber Robin Raye** Rod Hamel **Rolling Thunder** Rowell's Garage * **Rural Aspirations** Sam Brown Sam Heffner, Maine Forest Ranger Sarah Curtis Sarah Haggerty, Maine Audubon Sarah Robinson Scott Speck, FSA

Sean Fraver, UMaine School of Forest Resources SeDoMoCha School Seeds LLC * Seth Jones, USDA NRCS Seth Ostrosky Shane Barker Shaw's Dover Foxcroft * Sheila Ashburn, Small **Business Consulting** Six Eight Photography * Steph Perkins, AMC Steve Tatko Stutzman's Farm Sue Mackey Andrews Susan Gallo, Maine Lakes Taylor Dow, T.Dow Photography * **Terri Coolong** Thompson Free Library * The Commons at Central Hall The Nature Conservancy * Three River's Kiwanis * Tim Obrey, Maine IF&W Toby & Cynthia Hall * Tom Klak, American Chestnut Foundation Tom Gilbert, DACF Town of Dover-Foxcroft Town of Greenville Thomas Schmeelk, DACF Trailside Gardens * Trisha Smith, UMaine **Cooperative Extension** USDA Farm Service Agency **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** University of Maine **Cooperative Extension** UMaine School of Forest Resources Victoria Flynn WABITV5 Whetstone Pond Association Widdershins Farm LLC William London & Son *





Apple & Pear Trees available!

This 2 week PRE SALE is online from February 5th-23rd

LIMITED QUANTITY! Pick up in the Spring!

Yes.

Reserve your trees now and pick up at the Tree & Plant Sale Pick-up Day day - May 16th 4-6pm, Law Farm Nature Trails, Dover-Foxcroft!

Place your orders online at <u>www.piscataquisswcd.org</u>



2024 Events & Workshops Calendar

Individuals, students, families and organizations are encouraged to get involved in conservation efforts by participating in our programs. We can tailor programs to the needs of your school, club or civic organization and we also offer CEUs for municipal workers, trades and businesses through several of our workshops. Mark your calendars!

February

Full Moon Snowshoe- Snow Moon at Law Farm Nature Trails, Feb.24th 7:30pm

Fruit Tree PRE-SALE online ordering open Feb. 5th- Feb.23rd Fire as a Forestry Management Tool February 28th 2-3:30pm

March

Trout Sale Ordering Open March 1st!

Tree & Plant Sale Ordering Open March 11th-May 3rd

Apple Grafting with MOFGA March 30th 10-2pm Monson gym

April

Eclipse Viewing Party at Law Farm Nature Trails, April 8th 2-4pm Drinking Water & PFAS, April 11th 1:30pm, Thompson Free Library Mushroom Inoculation Course, April 27th 12-2 & 3-5pm BB3R

May

Women Foresters and Climate Impact webinar with Maine TREE May 8th & Field Tour to Williamsburg Forest May 10th

> Bird Walk at Law Farm Nature Trails with Nick Lund from Maine Audubon Society, May 4th 8am

PCSWCD Annual Tree & Plant Sale Pick Up! May 16th at Law Farm, 4-6pm

Trout Sale Pick Up, May 6th USDA Service Center DF 12PM

June

Chainsaw Saftey 1 Course with Maine Woodland Owners Association, June 28th 8:30am- 3pm Williamsburg Forest

July

Teen Wilderness Expedition, AMC's Gorman Chairback Lodge, July 16th-

18th

August

Foraging at Law Farm, August 11th 10-12pm or 1-3pm Invasive Plant Paddle on Sebec Lake TBD

September

Cider Pressing with East Sangerville Grange, September 14th, Law Farm Chainsaw Safety Level 3, Williamsburg Forest September 28th

October

Pond Construction with Somerset SWCD, October 6th, RD October 20th PCSWCD Film at Center Theater, October 20th 2:30pm

November

PCSWCD 2024 Annual Appeal

December

Holiday Mini Photo Shoot with Eric Ogden, Law Farm Nature Trails TBD

Technical Services

LakeSmart: This free program is available to waterfront property owners looking to protect water bodies from damaging soil erosion. PCSWCD is a hub for LakeSmart, sharing watershed knowledge and technical capacity to support lake association volunteer programs and educate homeowners about Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution and remediate NPS pollution sources in the hub's lake shore lands. Call or email Kacey at the PCSWCD FMI.

Education & Outreach

Is your school, club or youth organization interested in learning more about natural resources? The PCSWCD has a fantastic hands-on presentations that we want to share with you! For more information or to learn with us in the outdoors contact Kacey at the PCSWCD.

USDA Service Center, 42 Engdahl Drive, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426 Visit our website! www.piscataquisswcd.org Follow us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/www.piscataquisswcd.org Phone: (207) 564-2321 ext. 3 Email: info@piscataquisswcd.org Check us out on instagram! #piscataquiscountyswcd

Visit our Public Lands! Law Farm Nature Trails located on Lee Cemetery Rd



Dover-Foxcroft, ME

Williamsburg Forest in Williamsburg Twshp

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Our mission is to build resilient, sustainable farms and forests through education, technical services,

demonstration and stewardship.

