

#### PISCATAQUIS COUTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

#### **2023 ANNUAL REPORTING**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION**

#### AND FORESTRY

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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Summary

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – FY24 BUDGET SUMMARY

Davanua	100 <u>TNC</u>	200 <u>NRCS</u>	300 Sales/Services	400 Workshops/Programs	500 <u>Fundraising</u>	Onion Fdn Grant	900 <u>Admin</u>	<u>Total</u>	2023 BUDGET Total
Revenue: Government Grants		8,872					51,000	59,872	48,411
Other Grants	78,392	0,072				13,382	31,000	91,774	84,014
Donations	. 0,00=				1,500	. 0,00=	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 Other Direct Expenses Administrative Allocation Total Expenses	76,309 200 2,126 78,635	8,039 2,843 302 11,184	2,818 10,928 382 14,129	2,056 482 71 2,608	0 896 25 921	5,044 7,045 672 12,761	42,023 28,075 (3,578) 66,520	136,288 50,469 0 186,757	131,410 32,936 0 164,346
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

#### **Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Checking Accounts	0.00
1005 BSB Operating	76,047.81
Total 1000 Checking Accounts	76,047.81
1100 Savings Account	
1110 Nature Conservancy	29,308.87
1112 Law Farm	0.00
1113 Line of Credit Collateral	5,008.08
1114 Land Management	30,585.56
1115 GRANTS	26,166.07
1116 Board Designated Funds	12,500.00
Total 1100 Savings Account	103,568.58
PayPal Bank	145.85
Total Bank Accounts	\$179,762.24
Accounts Receivable	
12000 Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	
12001 Undeposited Funds	55.44
1210 Prepaid Expenses	9.90
Total Other Current Assets	\$65.34
Total Current Assets	\$179,827.58
Fixed Assets	
1500 Farms & Forests	
1502 Law Farm	
1503 Law Farm Building	18,143.52
Total 1502 Law Farm	18,143.52
Total 1500 Farms & Forests	18,143.52
Total Fixed Assets	\$18,143.52
TOTAL ASSETS	\$197,971.10

#### **Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2023

	TOTAL
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 Accounts Payable	126.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$126.00
Other Current Liabilities	
2400 Payroll Liabilities	
Federal Taxes (941/943/944)	1,683.96
Federal Unemployment (940)	126.00
Health insurance Contribution	0.00
ME Employment Taxes	1,314.70
ME Income Tax	792.00
Total 2400 Payroll Liabilities	3,916.66
2420 Accrued Payroll & Taxes	4,408.63
2425 Accrued Expenses	0.00
2601 Restricted Revenue-Grants	51,734.93
2602 Restricted Revenue-Other	10,500.00
2604 Deferred Revenue - Other	12,500.00
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Maine Revenue Services - Sales Tax Payable	0.00
25500 Sales Tax Payable2	0.00
Total Maine Revenue Services - Sales Tax Payable	0.00
PCSWCD Payable	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$83,060.22
Total Current Liabilities	\$83,186.22
Total Liabilities	\$83,186.22
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity	-6.01
32000 Retained Earnings	98,281.04
Net Income	16,509.85
Total Equity	\$114,784.88
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$197,971.10

#### Profit and Loss

January - December 2023

	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Government Grants	11,719.32
4010 Grant-County	13,500.00
4020 Grant-State	50,985.05
Total 4000 Government Grants	76,204.37
4100 Private Grants	77,333.18
4150 AMC/PEEC Funds	2,396.79
Total 4100 Private Grants	79,729.97
4200 Contributions	
4202 Business Contributions	3,003.47
4204 Individual Contributions	4,648.02
Total 4200 Contributions	7,651.49
4300 Workshop & Program Revenue	800.00
4302 Fee - Workshop & Program	7,835.79
Total 4300 Workshop & Program Revenue	8,635.79
4500 Sales & Service Revenue	
4502 Sales Revenue	16,677.44
4504 Service Revenue	2,750.00
4510 Business Income	100.00
Total 4500 Sales & Service Revenue	19,527.44
4800 Other Income	
4802 Interest Income	56.01
4803 Miscellaneous Income	154.90
Total 4800 Other Income	210.91
PayPal Sales	121.00
Unapplied Cash Payment Income	100.00
Total Income	\$192,180.97
GROSS PROFIT	\$192,180.97
Expenses	
5000 Advertising	535.77
5010 Bank Fees & Service Charges	319.00
5020 Professional Services	
5024 Accounting Services	4,443.75
5026 Contract Labor	6,086.25
Total 5020 Professional Services	10,530.00
5030 Insurance	
5034 Property Insurance	14.32
5036 MEMIC	1,369.00
Total 5030 Insurance	1,383.32

#### Profit and Loss

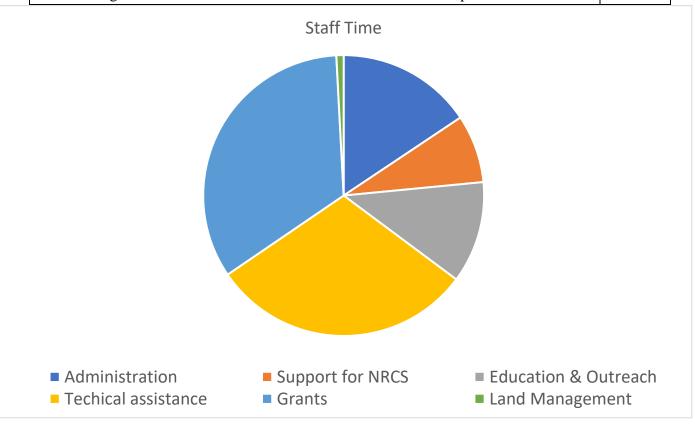
January - December 2023

	TOTAL
5040 Facilities and Equipment	3,349.99
5042 Equip Rental and Maintenance	297.98
Total 5040 Facilities and Equipment	3,647.97
5051 Products Sales & Service	1,166.98
5055 Workshops & Programs	966.99
5057 Educator of the Year	367.66
5060 Permits & licenses	52.00
5070 Plant Sale	5,549.50
5080 Dues	
5081 MACD Dues	2,000.00
5082 NACD Dues	5.00
Total 5080 Dues	2,005.00
5090 Trout Sale	3,371.00
5095 Teen Wilderness Expedition	1,211.25
5100 Postage, Mailing Service	66.00
5140 Outreach and Advertising	350.16
5200 Supplies	6,270.78
5210 Food	1,064.32
5250 Telephone, Telecommunications	720.00
5310 Website	400.40
5320 Software	1,647.10
5800 Payroll Expenses	
5802 Wages	105,328.74
5804 Payroll Taxes	9,655.87
5805 Health Insurance Stipend	13,526.46
5806 Payroll Fees	235.98
Taxes	0.00
Total 5800 Payroll Expenses	128,747.05
5850 District Staff Professional Dev	1,175.00
5900 Sales Tax	238.97
5905 Merchant Fees	2,179.88
6000 Travel and Meetings	1,384.17
6101 Miscellaneous Expense	320.85
9900 Admin Allocation	0.00
Reimbursements	0.00
Total Expenses	\$175,671.12
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$16,509.85
NET INCOME	\$16,509.85

#### 2023 ESTIMATED TIME DISTRIBUTION

Task and Description Hours

1	
District Administration: Includes accounting, board meetings and support,	934
budgeting, financial Management, meetings, trainings, quarterly and annual	
reporting, elections and all other unclassified administrative tasks.	
Support for NRCS: This includes, but is not limited to, office organization, filing,	468.5
phone and reception duties, upkeep of reception area, mail pickup and distribution, assis	
with outreach and walk-in office assistance.	
Education and Outreach: This includes direct education and outreach efforts through	700
District workshops, events and programs including Envirothon, Teen Wilderness	
Expedition program, project planning and Cooperator and Educator of the Year	
Awards. This includes fundraisers, tree and plant sale, trout sale, social media	
Outreach, website development, newsletters, press releases and District property	
maintenance.	
Technical Assistance: Services provided can include gravel road maintenance	1,809.50
guidance, LakeSmart program evaluations, GIS mapping services and stream restoration	
Grants/Agreements: Includes NRCS Contribution agreement (339.25), The Nature	2,012
Conservancy (TNC) grant (1,672.75). Does not include the Invasive	
Forest Pest Outreach grant under MACD.	
Land Management- Does not include contracted and volunteer help to maintain lands	50



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PISCATAQUIS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2023

#### 2023 was another successful year for the Piscataquis County Soil & Water Conservation District!

We are entering our 79th year of working with landowners, farmers and foresters, road and lake associations, municipalities, businesses, school children, teachers, families and more, teaching people that we all have the power within ourselves to promote conservation in all that we do, and to be stewards of our land and water. The Piscataquis County Soil & Water Conservation District was formed in 1944 to protect the soil and water in this region, and since that time we have grown to help protect and sustainably manage all our county's natural resources.

The Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) volunteer Board of Supervisors and dedicated staff deliver programs and services based on natural resource concerns identified by local citizens and natural resource agencies. These natural resource priority concerns are addressed through the combined efforts of the PCSWCD and our many conservation partners. Our mission, "is to build resilient, sustainable farms and forests through education, technical services, demonstration, and stewardship," and is met through education and outreach opportunities and by providing *free and low-cost* technical assistance directly to those in our county including landowners, farmers, municipalities, and partners. Our vision is of an ecologically stronger Maine, with healthy soils, pristine water, sustainable forests, and agriculture, and informed and involved conservation-minded citizens. PCSWCD continues to focus on the importance of supporting and educating informed and involved conservation-minded residents in Piscataquis County and meeting their needs for developing skills and understanding in land management best practices and land stewardship.

Your continued investment of \$37,500 in our organization is *crucial* to help shape and promote development in this region that is based upon a legacy that we are all so proud of – our prominent, clean and protected natural resources of Piscataquis County! This report covers how much our work and the demand for our programming has continued to expand. State funding will support personnel and staffing wages, helping us meet the requested increased educational and technical support services that specifically help the people and youth throughout the region. Additionally, the funds provided through the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry helps keep our workshops and programs free or low cost. Land maintenance and operations for our 3 public recreational properties will benefit from funding, allowing for road maintenance, specifically for maintaining access to both Williamsburg and Law Farm properties, as well as bushhogging, mowing and trail maintenance costs.

The 16 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the state of Maine are quasi-state agencies, not Non-Profit organizations, and we are established by state law to oversee all stormwater and soil resources in our

counties per legislation MRSA Title 12. Our District works with landowners and operators to help them manage and protect land and water resources on private and public lands. We do this by offering educational and technical services to promote conservation, and through maintaining and offering public land, which provide agricultural and forestry demonstration sites. PCSWCD staff teach people of all ages, demographics, and livelihoods - children, parents, landowners, waterfront property owners, farmers, foresters, contractors and more recently, homesteaders moving to the area - best management practices, ways to help conserve our natural resources and keep Maine's air, water and soil healthy.

It is imperative that we can continue to provide outreach and services for soil and water resource protection. By doing so, we will strengthen the message of the need to create and support local, sustainable agriculture, promote the wise use of our soil and water resources to protect the tax base, and protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this county. To assist in carrying out our mission, PCSWCD seeks funding from Piscataquis County and the state to support annual initiatives that serve hundreds of students, landowners, farmers, businesses and more.

Our goals are to enhance the promotion and awareness of conservation programs and the services the District offers to the citizens of Piscataquis County. PCSWCD provides educational outreach through public programs, events, projects, and presentations that are recognized at the State level and supported by Maine Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) and Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF). In 2023, our programs alone have reached up to 500 constituents, from our county and state. In the past year, we offered 20 different educational workshops and events, along with direct work with schools that focused on environmental topics such as wildlife, forestry, land management, and water quality. Additionally, these numbers do not capture the wide audience we reach through our website and social media outlets, (which provide a variety of educational resources) or visitors to our public lands.

PCSWCD continues to manage and offer recreation and education opportunities through our Community Forests in Williamsburg TWP and the Law Farm Nature Trails in Dover-Foxcroft, which combined offer approximately 400 acres of public land. Most of our events and workshops are held at these sites. With help from our dedicated staff and volunteers, the Conservation District has enhanced the trail systems at the Law Farm and Williamsburg Forest in 2023. These trails continue to be heavily used and maintenance of them has been done so creatively, with the help from community members and most recently a Maine Community Foundation Grant. The increase in funding will help reach our goals of keeping these recreational trail systems and forests well managed for the people of Piscataquis, along with visitors to the region, to enjoy, stimulating our economy and local businesses.

PCSWCD works to promote and conserve our natural resources – water, forests, soil and more. To complete this work, we fall back on education, as it is the backbone of our mission. The understanding of conservation issues and solutions is where great work can begin. PCSWCD has had success engaging with youth through fun, hands-on learning in multiple natural resource areas that include forestry, soils, wildlife, water quality and current ecological issues. Conservation education is a large part of our mission. In the past year, our

educational services have been supported financially by the Onion Foundation Grant, our 2023 annual appeal and private donations. This financial support helped us start to meet demand for programming and increase our outreach to schools, youth organizations and more. The funding from the state will help support the community in these efforts. In a region that does not have direct access to college opportunities, we help bring them into Piscataquis County. We have continued to work closely with University of Maine School of Forest Resources, bringing students opportunities to work at our three Community Forests. Additionally, this work has strengthened our partnership with the University and their faculty have willingly provided programming, training and research opportunities for our residents. In 2022, Piscataquis Environmental Education Collaborative (PEEC) was created where PCSWCD educational staff work in conjunction with Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), NREC Moosehead and Rural Aspirations to offer diverse educational opportunities in rural Maine. By banding our expertise together, we can expand educational opportunities and student aspirations within all Piscataquis County schools.

PCSWCD works with local farmers and agencies to promote food security and connect the public with local and healthy food systems. Our 2023 Tree & Plant Sale worked with 5 local farms to offer organic food products, plants, supplies and landscaping materials. Purchasing and promoting local agricultural goods helps our local economy. Additionally, this sale encourages planting native perennials and pollinator plants, benefitting native species and enhancing soil health. PCSWCD also sold over 1,047 trout supplied by MicMac Farms that stocked local residents' water bodies. Trout provide food for wildlife and migratory birds and ponds enhance our local ecosystems.

PCSWCD works with Maine Lakes to deliver the *LakeSmart Program* in Piscataquis County. We are a *LakeSmart HUB Support Center*. Through this role, the PCSWCD shares watershed knowledge and technical capacity to support lake association volunteer programs, educates homeowners about Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution and offers guidance on remediating NPS pollution in the HUB's shorelands. This program is invaluable to the residents of the county, as Piscataquis County is made up of 416 square miles of ponds and lakes, with Mooshead Lake being the largest in the state.

PCSWCD joined the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) of the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) in partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in 2020. Through a sub-award from TNC, the PCSWCD hired a full-time Stream Restoration Project Manager and is supporting the District's Executive Director to increase capacity for stream and river connectivity in watersheds within Piscataquis County. The project improves road safety and stability, while increasing opportunities for fish and other aquatic life to thrive. The project is supported by a collaboration of 26 tribal, state, federal, nonprofit, and private landowners, and covers 25,255 square miles of project area, including the last endangered Atlantic salmon watersheds in the U.S. and critical Eastern brook trout habitat. In the last 3 years, PCSWCD has worked with NRCS and TNC to help open 32 stream miles in our region, which allows for endangered Atlantic salmon and eastern brook trout to thrive in our state. The overall goal is to restore Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) to at least 50 miles of stream, brook, and river habitat in Piscataquis

County. Since this partnership was so successful, we have entered a new agreement with TNC under the WATRSS program for the next three years.

Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District has a strong partnership with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Our partnership was forged in 1944 and remains strong. Our organizations are co-located in the USDA Service Center and together, we provide well-rounded services to all landowners in Piscataquis County. If a landowner has a resource concern, PCSWCD are the boots on the ground connection to NRCS and Farm Service Agency (FSA) to offer cost-share programs, education, resources and much more. PCSWCD Educational Coordinator works directly with NRCS through a Contribution Agreement and provides administrative services, public outreach and client services. This partnership helps with workflow in the NRCS office and also to provide clients with a complete array of services.

The leadership and stewardship that are provided by the three PCSWCD staff and volunteer Board of Supervisors improves our county's natural resources and leaves a rich legacy for future generations. As we explore and see the pristine beauty of our county - all 2.54 million acres - we are reminded of the power of conservation that we have led for over 78 years and will continue to do so into the future.

Your continued support is essential to the continued success and growth of our organization and the people of Piscataquis County.

PCSWCD works to build resilient, sustainable farms and forests through education, technical services, demonstration, and stewardship.

**Board Members Staff / Positions Terms** 

Board Members Staff / Positions Terms	n District	1	1	T	
Piscataquis County Soil & Water Conservation	n District				
USDA Service Center, 42 Engdahl Drive					
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426					
207-564-2321 Extension 3					
E-mail: info@piscataquisswcd.org					
BOARD MEMBERS			3 year		
Name	Postion	Elected/Appointed	Term Expiration	Date Started	Years of Service
Molly London	Supervisor	Elected	12/31/2025	Associate Supervisor on 6/16/22	2
131 Hovey Rd. #61, Milo, ME 04463				Supervisor on 1/4/2024	
molly.e.london@gmail.com 207-944-4708					
Jensen Bissell	Supervisor	Elected	12/31/2024	Associate Supervisor on 7/18/21	3
23 Stoddard St., Milo, ME 04463	Chairman			Supervisor on 1/01/2022	
jensenbissell@gmail.com 207-943-5072				Chairman on 1/1/2023	
Jim Ferrante	Supervisor	Appointed	12/31/2024	Associate Supervisor on 2/25/21	3
470 North Rd., Sebec, ME 04481				Supervisor on 1/01/2022	
Jim.Ferrante@maine.gov					
207-441-4308					
Kent Black	Supervisor	Appointed	12/31/2026	Associate Supervisor on 6/16/22	2
92 Schoodic Point Rd., Medford, ME 04463				Supervisor on 2/2/2023	
blacksbeverly@gmail.com					
207-279-9661					
Carolyn Ziegra	Supervisor	Elected	12/31/2026	Associate Supervisor as of 7/23	1
119 North Street in Dover-Foxcroft				Supervisor as of 1/1/24	
cziegra@outdoors.org					
207-315-5327					
Steve Tatko	Associate			Associate Supervisor on 1/1/2024	4
814 Sebec Lake Rd., Willimantic, ME 04443				Supervisor on 1/1/2023	
statko@outdoors.org					
207-997-3555 (h), 207-717-0230 ©					
Sam Brown	Associate with voting ri	ghts		Associate Supervisor as of 8/8/2011	12
443 Smart Road, Parkman, ME 04443					
dexterareatransition@gmail.com					
277-4221/573-6316					
Toby Hall	Associate Supervisor			Supervisor on 01/01/2013	10

Updated 08/23/2023

**Board Members Staff / Positions Terms** 

816 Douty Hill Road, Sangerville, ME 04479		Vice Chair on 01/13/2014	
tmhall816@gmail.com		Supervisor on 11/19/2020	
564-7717/343-0699		Chairman on 2/7/2019	
Kim Merritt	Associate Supervisor	Associate Supervisor on 4/21/22	2
43 Main Rd., Abbot, ME 04406			
kmerr718@aol.com			
856-371-0168			
Mike Pounch	Associate Supervisor	Associate Supervisor as of 6/8/23	4
17 Williamsburg Road, Williamsburg TWP, Mair	ne 04473	Supervisor as of 11/19/2020	
Michael.a.pounch@maine.gov		Joined as Associate on 2/11/2020	
(207) 852-3209			
STAFF			
Sarah Robinson	Executive Director	3/22/2018	5
42 Engdahl Drive, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426			
sarah.robinson@piscataquisswcd.org			
564-2321 Ext. 101			
207-965-5186			
Katherine Weber	Education Coordinator	5/24/2013	10
42 Engdahl Drive, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426		Appointed Elected Superintendent 7/2023	
katherine.weber@me.nacdnet.net			
20-564-2321 Ext. 3			
207-310-3739			
Jonathan ''Marc'' Warren	Stream Restoration Project Manager	1/3/2023	1
42 Engdahl Drive, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426	Sa cam restoration rioject manager	11012020	
Jonathan.warren@usda.gov			