
2011 Cooperator of the Year

Picadilly Farm of Winchester NH

Each year the Cheshire County Conservation District honors an individual, business, or organization with the “Cooperator of the Year” award. This is done to celebrate the efforts the recipient has undertaken to steward the natural resources on their land in cooperation with the Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). This year we are happy to announce that Picadilly Farm is the 2011 Cooperator of the Year.

Picadilly Farm is located in Winchester NH on 71 beautiful acres in the Connecticut River valley. In 2006 Jenny and Bruce Wooster purchased the farm which had been a dairy for 35 years. They now grow certified organic produce crops on 26 acres as well as raise laying hens, pigs, and sheep. The bulk of their produce is sold through the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model.

Picadilly Farm has demonstrated a great commitment to steward their farm with a focus on the long term sustainable use of the land and building the soil health while working for a high quality harvest each season. The following are conservation practices that Picadilly Farm has applied through the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program:

- Riparian forest buffer
- Seasonal high tunnel system for crops
- Conservation cover
- Lined waterway
- Heavy use area protection
- Grassed waterway
- Access road
- Nutrient management
- Pest management
- Cover crop
- Transition to organic production
- Roof runoff structure
- Underground outlet

“ Picadilly Farm has transformed an old Dairy Farm into a modern economically viable and ecologically sound local food production system while demonstrating exemplary land stewardship conservation of their natural resources. ”

**- Steve Pytlik,
NRCS District Conservationist**



Cooperator of the Year continued

Picadilly Farm of Winchester NH

Beyond their work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Picadilly Farm is deserving of this honor because of their strong commitment to community involvement. They have been very generous with food donations since the farm opened five years ago. They are also hosts to many organizations by opening their farm as an outdoor classroom. Students that participate in the school garden club in Winchester have the opportunity to come to the farm for hands on learning, the club is also supported by materials that are donated by the farm. Picadilly Farm host workshops for other farmers in conjunction with UNH Cooperative Extension, the Conservation District, and other organizations.

Since 2006 when they started building their business they have accomplished a great deal. Future goals include keeping the food they produce closer to home and expanding their market in a region where many folks are unfamiliar with the CSA model. They would also like to take on a renewable energy project to take the farm to the next level of sustainability.

The conservation district is so pleased to honor Picadilly Farm as the 2011 Cooperator of the Year and would like to offer Bruce, Jenny, and their crew many thanks for making Cheshire County their home, and for all they offer to the community and contribute to our strong and growing local food system. Please join us in congratulating them for all their hard work and wishing them great happiness and success into the future!



Learn more about Picadilly Farm by visiting them at their beautiful farmstead in Winchester or on the web at picadillyfarm.com

