

**Promoting the conservation and responsible  
use of natural resources for the people  
of Cheshire County by providing technical,  
financial, and educational resources.**

## **Annual Report 2015**

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11 Industrial Park Dr - Walpole NH 03608 - 603.756.2988 ext.116  
[www.cheshireconservation.org](http://www.cheshireconservation.org)

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## *Board of Supervisors and Staff*

### **Supervisors**

Amy Bodwell - Roxbury  
Bill Fosher, Chair - Westmoreland  
Richard Mellor - Rindge  
Andy Pressman, Vice Chair - Jaffrey  
John Treat, Treasurer - Keene

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Chris Bowen - Swanzey  
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Holly and Chris Gowdy - Walpole  
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Michael Nerrie - Walpole  
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### **CCCD Staff**

Sharlene Beaudry, Administrative Coordinator  
Amanda Littleton, District Manager

### **NRCS Staff, Walpole Field Office**

*The District works in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) staff who supply technical conservation assistance.*

Mary Ellen Cannon - Soil Conservationist  
Thomas Cappetta - Civil Engineering Technician  
Heidi Konesko - Soil Conservationist  
Steven Pytlik - District Conservationist  
Wendy Ward - Soil Conservationist

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The CCCD Board of Supervisors meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 9am at the CCCD Office. These meetings are open to the public, please call the District office if you would like to attend a meeting.

## 2015 Cooperator of the Year

### *Tracie's Community Farm of Fitzwilliam 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 Tracie's Community Farm, LLC in Fitzwilliam NH as our 2015 Cooperator of the Year.

Tracie Looch (Smith) started farming on her father's land in Sullivan, NH in 1999 while earning her Environmental Horticulture degree from the University of New Hampshire. In the beginning she marketed her farm's produce at the Hancock Farmer's Market. Upon graduating with a degree in Environmental Horticulture from UNH in 2001, Tracie began a CSA where she delivered baskets of produce to homes of members. The farm grew each year. Tracie acquired the present location in Fitzwilliam, NH due to the previous owner's desire to keep the land in agriculture, their willingness to work with the Monadnock Conservancy to acquire an easement and Tracie's desire to find land. In 2007, Tracie signed a purchase and sale agreement for the land and immediately began the moving and building of the present day Tracie's Community Farm, LLC with the help of friends and family.

Tracie's Community Farm is managed organically and grows a variety of vegetables in high tunnel greenhouses and open tilled land with shares sold to over 360 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) members. A combined effort of two farm managers, Sara and Kristen Wilson, keep the farm and office organized and running smoothly. It is this management, along with dedicated, experienced employees, like James White in his fifth year that Tracie accounts for the farm's present success. Tracie created a work environment that benefits not only the



## Cooperator of the Year continued

customer base but fosters the well-being of all the people involved. The farm presently has 6 full time employees, 3 part time employees, 9 work share positions and 9 delivery drivers. They work smoothly as a team and share a communal lunch together highlighting the bounty of harvest in a family style meal. Tracie has recently relinquished a large portion of her day to day responsibilities to raise a family of her own. The values of good planning, hard work and accommodating the customer are instilled in Tracie's Community Farm dynamic.

Tracie's Community Farm also leases blueberry fields and offers herbs, flowers and raspberries as well as an opportunity to add in local bread, eggs, jam, honey and maple syrup in their share offerings. They have done an incredible job accommodating the needs of their customer base by adding and changing different share options, including delivery. The farm has shares available with options that can meet anyone's

needs.

In addition to shares, the farm has a farm store in the barn where anyone can purchase vegetables, fruits, flowers, or herbs in abundance along with other local goods. They also grow vegetable, herb and flower plants and hanging baskets for those with their own gardens that they sell at their onsite farm stand through the spring and summer.

Tracie's Community Farm has worked with our partner, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, to acquire two high tunnel greenhouses for season extension, to address drainage and roof runoff issues, cover cropping and nutrient management planning. The Becket Fine Sandy Loam found on this farm is prime agricultural soil. The location requires little to no irrigation outside of the High Tunnels. Tracie's Community Farm is also exploring how to establish a pollinator planting in their wet soils through the District's Pollinator project. They are excellent stewards of the land and a great asset to their community.





The farm is protected by a conservation easement which helped with the initial purchase of the property and also protects it from future development.

*"I remember meeting Tracie at a CCCD event years ago and her saying, I just want to be a farmer and grow food for people. That simple heartfelt declaration is reflected today in every part of Tracie's farm operation that is clearly more than a job, it is her life philosophy." Wendy Ward, NRCS Soil Conservationist*

Tracie has created an atmosphere within the farm that we could all learn from. She has been gracious about donating her time to help answer difficult farm challenges on panels throughout the years and is an excellent resource when exploring different potential projects. The farm is a member of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA-NH).

*"It is really fun to see Tracie's Community Farm featured on national webinars that go out to help other growers. Great to see the operation expand and reach so many fami-*



*lies. Seeing Tracie flourish with her own family and the business too is the best! Cheshire County is fortunate to have Tracie's Community Farm." Maryellen Cannon, NRCS Soil Conservationist*

Tracie's Community Farm represents what is great about our local food system. They are incredible stewards of the land, great community partners and an amazing resource for local organic produce. The CCCD is honored to present Tracie's Community Farm, LLC as the 2015 Cooperator of the Year .

Please visit [www.traciesfarm.com](http://www.traciesfarm.com) to learn more about the farm, CSA share offerings, the crew and their story.

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## Educator of the Year

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### *Susan Meehan of Nelson NH*

Susan Meehan has been a teacher at Symonds Elementary School in Keene NH for twenty three years. During that time she has been instrumental in creating an inspiring outdoor classroom where students and community members can interact with native habitat, participate in growing abundant vegetable gardens, and learn about natural cycles. The effort she has put into connecting students with the natural world in the classroom, and schoolyard, is commendable and the Conservation District is honored to recognize Susan Meehan as the 2015 Educator of the Year.

Susan always wanted to be a teacher. When she was in sixth grade she started volunteering at a Head Start and this volunteer work laid a foundation and a love for teaching and working with youth. Before her time at Symonds School she received her bachelors in General Education from Keene State College and went on to receive her Master of Education from Keene State College in Special Education and Learning Disabilities. From there she worked at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School in Keene, as well as Jaffrey Grade School, as a Special Education teacher.

In 1992 Susan started at Symonds as a second grade teacher, then moving into first grade. This move from Special Education to a traditional classroom environment was a challenge because it is more structured. When she was at Franklin

teaching Special Education she had the freedom to organize field trips and be out in the community with the kids each week. Her focus was on Project Based Education. It was at Franklin School where Susan started to incorporate gardening into the classroom. She would work with children to start seeds and grow plants that would later be sold to community members for fundraisers.

At Symonds School she found ways to expand the regular curriculum to include gardening and project based education. As a second grade teacher the plants and soils unit allowed her to delve into this. She would start plants in the classroom and allow the kids to take them home. They would do experiments with changed variables to help the students embrace science. They would even start potatoes on St. Patrick's Day. Susan shared that one little girl brought her a picture in the fall of a whole bowl of potatoes she grew over the summer. Susan is the kind of teacher that inspires her



students to get their hands dirty, explore, and learn from their experiences. She also had a worm bin composting system in the classroom and would take students on field trips to Stonewall Farm.

In 2004 a group of parents approached Susan about their interest in seeing an outdoor classroom at Symonds School. With support from the principal, a committee of parents, teachers and staff at Symonds came together to integrate a garden into the playground area so children could spend their time interacting with nature. Susan took the lead on writing grants and raising funds. She worked with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to get numerous years of matching grants to create the garden space with fundraising done in coordination with the PTA.

Susan shares that her goal of the garden was *“to create a natural playground and increase students’ exposure to growing food and natural spaces.”* In the beginning the focus was on habitat restoration and creating a refuge for local wildlife. All of the plants selected for the natural schoolyard are native and were grown in the northeast. Phase two of the garden was to create raised beds to grow vegetables. Susan, one of her interns, and a parent built all the raised beds. The goal of adding annuals to the native perennial gardens was something Susan was passionate about. Her intent was to have a place for students to dig and play in each year. Creating an opportunity to engage with the soil and life cycle from Spring to Fall.

The third phase of the garden was to install a Rain garden adjacent to the



raised bed boxes. This grew out of a training Susan attended on incorporating rain garden curriculum into the classroom at Antioch University New England. She had recognized an erosion problem in the ball field adjacent to the black top in the children’s play area where the soil was compacted and there were problems with standing water. Susan worked with the Conservation District on a grant to have a rain garden designed and installed at the site. This was a way to fix the resource concern and expand the native habitat in the play area.

## Educator of the Year continued

Students were involved with the planting and Susan worked with her interns to install artistic posts around the garden that had the poem *Welcome Rain on a Spring Night* written by Du Fu, who lived from 712-770 AD.

Heather Schlerf, a master gardener who is the cafeteria manager at Symonds School was a lead partner with Susan in the creation of the gardens. Heather shares that *"Susan had a vision and did a lot in a short period of time."* Susan emphasizes how the work on the garden space at Symonds is a community effort. Partners such as UNH Cooperative Extension made recommendations on plants and siting. Landscaper, Steve Key created a patio area and infrastructure. Students were involved with the planning of the garden from the very beginning. Through an artist in residence program their artwork was incorporated into the design to create a unique and beautiful space for children and the community.

Susan was there from the beginning planning stages of the garden and has kept it going for ten years. As the staff contact

Principal Richard Cate shared that "Susan worked tirelessly over many years to build and constantly improve the garden. She is responsible for writing grants, building raised beds, and fundraising. Most importantly she worked with the children, teaching them to garden and to value the result of their work. Our garden has grown to be an important and valued part of our school because of her leadership, vision, and hard work."

she was available to answer questions and work with parents interested in learning more. She has been the site supervisor for four interns from Antioch University New England who ran an after school garden club from 2009-2012. She has also volunteered one day a week with Project Keep, an aftercare program at Symonds School that utilizes the garden for some lessons and has the students help with watering and harvesting. Susan would be there as a garden mentor, someone who the children could go to with questions about growing food, composting, and more.

Susan is an amazing educator who has gone above and beyond the job description to foster a conservation ethic in her students. We are so pleased to honor her as the 2015 Educator of the Year!



***"Thank you Mrs. Meehan  
for Planting the Seeds of  
Knowledge."***

This can be found carved into a granite garden bench that sits amidst the landscape at Symonds Elementary

## 2015 Highlights

The CCCD reached out to over 2,200 individuals in 2015 with programs regarding resource conservation & farm viability. If you are interested in learning more or have suggestions for future programming please don't hesitate to contact the CCCD office.



### *NRCS Farm Bill Program Workshops & Demonstration Projects*

Each year the conservation district works along side their partner the Natural Resources Conservation Service to assist landowners on the voluntary conservation of natural resources on their land. This is accomplished by providing administration of the technical and financial assistance that enables good stewardship of the soil, water, air, wildlife, and related natural resources. This year workshops were offered on how landowners can apply for financial and technical assistance from NRCS through the 2014 Farm Bill —workshops included— **Soil Health Management, Cover Crops, No Till Farming and Equipment Demonstrations, and Conservation Easements.** Educators from Cheshire County UNH Cooperative Extension are key partners in these workshops.

### *Services of CCCD*

Offered historical **aerial photography** of Cheshire County and provided soil information to Cheshire County landowners, particularly the **Soil Potential Index (SPI)** assessment for landowners in the Current Use program. Provided **talks as well as educational displays** at community events through out the year. Worked with landowners on an individual basis to assist them in better understanding the resources on their property and how to conserve them. The CCCD also offers **outreach on behalf of NRCS** to make landowners aware of the conservation programs available to them.



**All programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, disability or political beliefs.**

## 2015 Highlights Continued

### *Organizational Membership*

- Antioch Community Garden Connections - Advisory Committee
- Conservation District Employees Association of New Hampshire
- NH Food Alliance - NH Food System Strategy Team
- Monadnock Conservancy - Stewardship Committee
- Monadnock Farm and Community Coalition - Board of Directors
- Monadnock Sustainability Network - Board of Directors
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts
- Southwest Region Planning Commission - Natural Resources Advisory Committee

### *Fundraising*

The CCCD Board of Supervisors conducted an annual appeal and offered 3 fundraisers during 2015 to provide additional funds for CCCD programs.

- Bulk Seed Sale
- Conservation Plant Sale
- Flowering Bulb Sale

We would like to offer many thanks to the community members who participated!



The Cheshire County Conservation District was created in 1945. It is a political subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, [RSA 432:12](#), with a 170 C 1 non-profit status under the IRS tax code. As a subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, conservation districts foster partnerships between federal, state and local agencies interested in the wise use of natural resources.



SOIL



WATER



WILDLIFE



## Supporting Healthy Productive Soil through Equipment Rentals and Education

### SOIL



In 2015 the Conservation District further developed its Soil Health Equipment Rental program to help producers meet their soil health goals. The following implements are now available: no-till seeder, single shank subsoiler, penetrometer, roller crimper, aerator and wood ash/lime spreader.

The Conservation District also worked with UNH Cooperative Extension to offer workshops and demonstrations on establishing cover crops, no-till farming, managing weeds, and the use of a roller crimper. We also hosted our annual Equipment Field Day to see the implements in action and to discuss how to incorporate beneficial soil health practices into farm management plans.



## 2015 Highlights Continued



### WATER

## Improving Water Quality Through Skidder Bridge Rentals, River Clean ups, and Dam Removals

### *Boyce Pond Dam Removal*

The goal of this project is to improve water quality and restore wildlife habitat. Removing Boyce Pond Dam and restoring Kemp Brook, associated floodplains, and adjacent upland areas will enhance overall ecological resources, remove a barrier to aquatic species, and convert an impounded tributary to a free-flowing riverine system able to reconnect with historic floodplain habitat. Final project results will yield the elimination of existing water quality impairment, restoration of aquatic life, active floodplains providing a platform for mature, riparian buffers, improved flood storage and attenuation of flows, significant reduction in flood related impacts at Royalston Road, and the removal of liability associated with an aging dam structure.



## *Source to Sea River Clean Up*



On September 25th and 26th a large group of enthusiastic volunteers pitched in to help clean up the Ashuelot River in Keene and Swanzey and Beaver Brook and the Branch River in Keene as part of the Connecticut River Watershed Council's "Source to Sea Cleanup". 115 volunteers pulled over 2 tons of trash from the three water bodies!

There was a contingent of students and staff from the Keene High School, Making Community Connections Charter School, Vilas Middle School, and Keene State College. They were joined by other individuals from throughout the region. This event is made possible with the partnership of The City of Keene, The Ashuelot River Local Advisory Council, Moosewood Ecological, and Keene State College. We would also like to thank the Mountain Corporation of Keene for their generous donation of t-shirts for volunteers.

## *Cheshire County Skidder Bridge Initiative*



In 2015 the conservation district continues to rent three skidder bridges to land owners and managers that are interested in making stream crossings to preserve water quality during a timber harvest. This is made possible through funding from the NH State Conservation Committee. This service would not be possible without strong and committed partners including UNH Cooperative Extension and Andorra Forest.

## 2015 Highlights Continued



### WILDLIFE

## Improving Wildlife Habitat for the Health of Our Ecosystems

### *Cheshire County Pollinator Initiative*

In 2015 the CCCD expanded the Cheshire County Pollinator Initiative. Pollinators are vital to ecosystems and the agricultural economy, but unfortunately they are in decline as a result of habitat loss. The Cheshire County Pollinator Initiative will address this problem through the establishment of twenty pollinator habitat installations. As a secondary goal the CCCD will also take on a vigorous public education and outreach campaign to share the innovative methodology of



habitat creation undertaken in this project and the results of the pollinator abundance and diversity monitoring. A technical guide on establishment techniques will also be developed and made available to agricultural producers and technical service providers. The final project results will include an expansion of pollinator habitat in Cheshire County and increased landowner and technical service provider understanding on the variety of innovative and effective installation techniques including organic establishment. Funding for this project is provided by the USDA NRCS Conservation

Innovation Grant program and the NH State Conservation Committee.



## *Falls Brook Aquatic Organism Passage*

In partnership with the Town of Swanzey, Trout Unlimited, The Harris Center, USDA NRCS, and NH Fish & Game the CCCD has secured funding through NH Department of Environmental Services, NH State Conservation Committee, and NHFG for the replacement of the 2nd priority culvert in the Ashuelot River Watershed that will open up 10 miles of upstream habitat for aquatic organisms. The permit is pending approval from NHDES and construction is slated to occur in Summer 2016. Partners collaborated to offer an educational fish survey in 2015. We look to do more education on aquatic organisms and their habitat needs in 2016.



## **Initiatives to Increase Local Food Production and Expand Markets and Infrastructure.**

FARM VIABILITY

## *Conserved Farmland Access Project*

In partnership with the Monadnock Conservancy, Land For Good, UNH Cooperative Extension, regional farmers and conservation landowners the CCCD continued a project to explore challenges & opportunities with getting more conserved farmland in the region back into active production. Two forums were held in Keene and Jaffrey to explore this topic and a guide of case studies outlining success stories and resources is being developed. This work is funded through the USDA SARE.



## 2015 Highlights Continued

### Double Up Veggie bucks



In 2015 we strengthened our partnership with the Farmers' Market of Keene to double supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP/food stamps) benefits for up to \$10 every market day. The CCCD also started to offer this program through Picadilly Farm CSA and a Buying Club at Keene Housing. We joined a statewide network of incentive providers lead by the NH Food Bank to share resources and best practices. Funding is made available through the NH Dept. of Agriculture Markets and Food through a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant and the Wholesome Wave Foundation.

### *Monadnock Menus - Farm to Institution Initiative*

Monadnock Menus offers weekly aggregation and delivery of local farm fresh food to wholesale food buyers such as schools, institutions, and businesses. 2015 was our second full year of sales and we are on track to meet our sales goal of \$100,000. We have 30 farms and food producers participating as well as 31 registered buyers.

There is an easy to use web-based ordering platform that takes the barriers out of buying local. In 2016 we will continue with a development year for Monadnock Menus - strengthening relationships with existing participants and bringing on new buyers. Partners on this initiative include Harlow Farm and Food Connects. Funding is provided by the NH Charitable Foundation and Healthy Monadnock 2020.



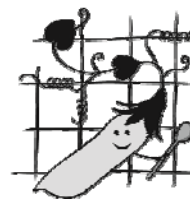
## *Cheshire County Complex—Maplewood Garden*



In 2015 the County of Cheshire continued their exciting partnership with Antioch University New England's Community Garden Connections (CGC) program. The CGC brought the Maplewood Garden back into production and donated most of the food harvested (over 4,000 lbs) to the Community Kitchen in Keene and some to Joan's Pantry in Chesterfield. This partnership will continue into 2016 along with educational opportunities at the site.

## *Monadnock Localvores*

In 2015 the Localvores offered scholarships to summer farm camp to 28 children through the Jeffrey P. Smith Farm Scholarship. This is a partnership with the Hannah Grimes Center, the CCCD, and committed volunteers.



## *Educational Events*

### *Farm Conservation Easement Workshop*

The CCCD worked with the Monadnock Conservancy to offer information and resources on farmland conservation to farmers in the County.

### *Conservation and Agricultural Commission*

Partnered with the NH Association of Conservation Commissions to offer this networking and information sharing event at Stonewall Farm.



### *Getting Started with Fruit Trees, Ecological Landscape Design, The Four Season Garden, Attracting Bees, Birds, & Butterflies to Your Garden, and a Bloom Tour at Distant Hill Gardens*

This diversity of topics on gardening and landscaping were presented in a series of workshops with partners such as Distant Hill Gardens, Moosewood Ecological, and UNH Cooperative Extension.

The Cheshire County Conservation District welcomes your input on future educational programming and services that we can make available to landowners.



## **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist Fiscal Year 2015 Report for Cheshire County**

The Cheshire County Conservation District (CCCD) continues to be the most instrumental partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) getting conservation on the ground at the grassroots level. The District provides assistance to NRCS on a daily basis including: conducting outreach, working with new Farm Bill program applicants, providing administrative support to existing Farm Bill program contracts, and providing technical assistance to participants during project implementation. Without the District's support and this amazing partnership NRCS would not be nearly as successful fulfilling our mission. Over the past 3 years together we have been able to implement more and more conservation projects than we have ever achieved in the previous years. Throughout 2015 NRCS and the District have completed 202 individual conservation projects, up from 124 projects in 2014. These 202 conservation practices were installed using \$582,666 in Farm Bill Conservation Program funding, up from \$481,395 in conservation program payments in 2014 in Cheshire County. This year NRCS was able to fund 22 new Farm Bill conservation program contracts totaling \$428,847 in financial assistance. The District was also successful in seeking out a new 22 acre conservation easement in Walpole under the Farm Bill Agricultural Land Easement program, by hosting an easement workshop with the Monadnock Conservancy and NRCS. NRCS will contribute \$100,000 to the easement purchase at the time of closing.

### **NRCS Key Performance Measures 2015**

- **Conservation Applied to Improve Environmental Quality** - 4,995 acres on private agricultural land including forests. **Goal = 4,000 acres, achieved 125%**
- **Land with Conservation Applied to Improve Water Quality** - 3,561 acres

*The Natural Resources Conservation Service is a core partner of the Cheshire County Conservation District. The partnership between the NRCS and Conservation Districts is one that was carefully designed to foster a unique and productive relationship to get conservation on the ground and provide federal resources at a local level.*

The Farm Bill funding and NRCS programs have complemented the CCCD's mission and objectives very well and together this allows us to get more conservation on the ground. The District continues to focus on the Cheshire County Pollinator Initiative and funding from the NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant program has been vital in accomplishing this goal. Countless workshops and outreach events have been hosted by the District this year to provide public education on the decline of pollinators due to habitat loss and how to manage for pollinators on agricultural lands throughout the County. Many successful pollinator habitat projects were planted throughout the year including sites prepared organically, direct seeded, and established with live plugs.

Soil Health and Quality is also a priority for the CCCD and NRCS. The equipment rental program that the District offers including the no-till seeder, aer-way aerator, roller crimper, wood ash spreader, sub-soiler, and skidder bridges gives producers the tools needed to implement soil erosion, soil health,



and water quality conservation projects funded by the Farm Bill while raising funds for the District. With this successful partnership Farm Bill conservation program participants utilized this equipment to plant over 600 acres of cover crops and 80 acres of pasture and hayland throughout Cheshire County.



The District and NRCS continue to partner on water quality and aquatic organism passage projects as well. The Boyce Pond Dam stream and wetland habitat restoration project was completed late last fall. The District was awarded the Moose Plate Grant which funded the vegetation restoration and sediment/erosion plan of the project. NRCS provided technical and financial assistance under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program to remove the dam and control invasive species around the shoreline of the project. This year the CCCD was awarded funding under the State of New Hampshire's Aquatic Resources Mitigation fund to restore fish passage on the Falls Brook in Swanzey. This project site was identified as the second highest priority fish migration barrier remaining in the Asheulot Watershed. The project was not eligible for Farm Bill funding since it is located on a Town Road; however the District was able to secure the needed funding to make the project happen. NRCS has provided technical assistance with other partners including Trout Unlimited, NH Fish and Game, NH Department of Environmental Services, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Town of Swanzey. This is perfect example of how the District and NRCS has worked together with other partners to address the resource concerns identified at the local level while meeting our core mission objectives.

**Together we are “Helping People Help the Land”.**

Sincerely,  
**Steven D. Pytlik**  
District Conservationist



## **NRCS 2015 Report continued**

Of the 202 NRCS funded conservation projects installed in Cheshire County over the past year the top ten conservation practices were:



1. **Aquatic Organism Passage** – Boyce Pond Dam Removal, 3.4 miles of passage restored, \$151,442
2. **Seasonal High Tunnels** – 8 High Tunnels constructed for season extension, \$66,930
3. **Forest Stand Improvement** – 211 acres treated, \$46,555
4. **Cover Crops** – 603 acres planted, \$38,752
5. **Early Successional Habitat Development** - 48 acres created, \$38,107
6. **Forage and Biomass Planting** – 81 acres planed to perennial sod for hay and forage production, \$29, 391
7. **Grade Stabilization Structures** – 2 Rock Chutes installed on gullies, \$20, 897
8. **Fence** – 10,850 feet installed to facilitate rotational grazing, \$16,550
9. **Access Road** – 923 feet improved, \$15,910
10. **Forest Management Plans** – 9 plans developed, \$11,238



## *Financials - 2015 Treasurer's Report*

The Board of Supervisors appreciates the continued support of the District's conservation programs by the Cheshire County Commissioners and the Cheshire County Delegation.

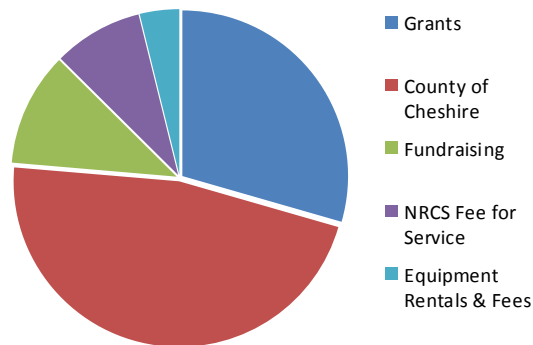
Also appreciated are the technical services offered by our "Partners in Conservation" the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, UNH Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency and other cooperating agencies.



**January – September 2015 Receipts** - The expenses include grant project work for awards made in 2014.

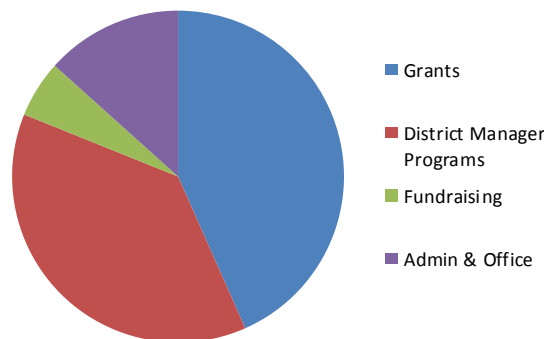
### **Income**

Grants	34,197	29%
County of Cheshire	54,438	47%
Fundraising	12,873	11%
NRCS Fee for Service	10,119	9%
Equipment Rentals & Fees	4,472	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>116,099</b>	<b>100%</b>



### **Expenses**

Grants	67,674	43%
District Manager & Programs	58,893	38%
Fundraising	8,662	6%
Admin & Office	20,825	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,053</b>	<b>100%</b>



## *Contributed Support*

A special thank you is offered to the many people that contribute to the success of the CCCD by volunteering their time and energy! We extend our gratitude to the following individuals, organizations and businesses who have made donations or grants during 2015:

Alyson's Orchard	New Hampshire Department of
Amy B. Bodwell & Carol D. Saunders	Agriculture Markets and Food
Captured Light Studio	New Hampshire Department of
Eloise Clark & John Treat	Environmental Services
Connecticut River Ag Services	New Hampshire Fish and Game
Connecticut River Watershed	Department
Council	New Hampshire Food Bank
County of Cheshire	New Hampshire State Conservation
Distant Hill Gardens	Committee
Marcia Esche	Valerie Piedmont & Pablo
Ron Farina	Fleischmann
Chris & Cindy Feiker	Resource Management Inc.
Anne Francisco	Lori Schreier and James Warren
Healthy Monadnock 2020	Ann Shedd
Frank Hunter & Kim Peavey	William Slanetz
George & Mary Iselin	Dottie Smith
Keene Lions Club	John Snowdon
Keene Rotary Club	Eric & Roshan Swope
Maplewood Nursery	Tracie's Community Farm
Markem-Imaje	USDA Natural Resources
Pierre Martinet	Conservation Service
Monadnock Berries	USDA Rural Development
Monadnock Food Coop	USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant
& Neighbor Made	USDA Sustainable Agriculture
New Hampshire Association of	Research and Education
Conservation Districts	Westmoreland Lions Club
New Hampshire Charitable	Wholesome Wave
Foundation	



**CHESHIRE COUNTY**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



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