

Major Partners & Friends of Southern NH RC&D — Thank You!

Project and Program Partners

Natural Resources Conservation Service	North Country RC & D Council	Farm Service Agency
NH Dept. of Resources & Economic Development	Forest Service	Granite State Independent Living
Rural Development	NH Dept. of Environmental Services	UNH Cooperative Extension
NH Dept. of Health & Human Services	NH Developmental Disabilities Comm.	Strafford County Commissioners
Beaver Lake Improvement Association	Audubon Society of New Hampshire	Cochecho River Watershed Coalition
Pinkerton Academy	Town of Auburn	Town of Chester
City of Derry	Town of East Kingston	Nashua Continuum of Care
Nashua Regional Planning Commission	Alvirne High School	East Derry Village Improvement Society
Rockingham County Conservation Dist.	Hillsborough County Conservation District	NH Timberland Owners Association
NH Dept. of Agriculture, Markets, & Food	Beginner Farmers of NH	Sullivan County Conservation District
Cheshire County Conservation District	Merrimack County Conservation District	Strafford County Conservation District
Society for the Protection of NH Forests	NH Stories	Concord Conservation Commission
Upper Valley/Lake Sunapee RPC	Southern NH Planning Commission	Rochester Conservation Commission
Concord Conservation Trust	NH Association of Conservation Districts	NH Div. of Parks & Recreation
NH Div. of Forests & Lands	Derry Conservation Commission	Turkey River Basin Trust
Claremont Conservation Commission	NH Assoc. of Conservation Commissions	Harris Center for Conservation Education
Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Facility	NH Lakes Association	Swanzy Conservation Commission

Council Members & Administrative Staff

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Thank You to Our Contributors

Rockingham County Conservation District
 Don Ferren

Our 2005 IRS 990 Tax Return is available.

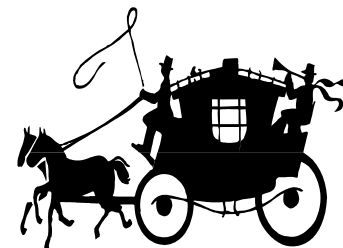
Please contact us to request a copy of this public document.

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SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Message From the Chair – What an exciting and active year this has been for the Resource Conservation and Development Program in Southern New Hampshire!

We started 2005 working on a number of projects identified and developed through the adoption of our Area Plan the previous year. The Granite State Workcamp, held in Hollis, NH in July of this year, and sponsored in part by the SNHRC&D Council, was a huge success. Over 400 teens and adults from church youth groups across the country donated more than 12,000 volunteer hours in providing home repair projects for the elderly, disabled, and low-income at 61 home sites in 10 towns in southern NH.

Toward the end of the year the Council published “Timber Bridges in New Hampshire”, a report designed to help towns obtain a better understanding of the economic, cultural, and resource utilization advantages of using modern timber bridge structures.

This year, two of our Council members received some very important and well-deserved awards. Win Robinson of Concord received the State of New Hampshire’s highest award for his volunteer work—the “Spirit of New Hampshire Award” from Volunteer NH!, a non-profit group which promotes community service. Terry Frost of Concord received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) “Lifetime Achievement Environmental Merit Award”, which honors individuals who have shown “particular ingenuity and commitment in their efforts to preserve the region’s environment.” The Southern NHRC&D Area Council is fortunate indeed to have such stellar super-volunteers in our midst.

Editor’s note:

We would be remiss if we didn’t mention the fact that our own Council Chairman also received an award this year. Webb Palmer received the Andrew E. Felker Award, named for the first Commissioner of the NH Dept. of Agriculture. Webb has been recognized for his “significant contributions to the health and vitality of New Hampshire’s agriculture.” As the driving force behind Alvirne High School’s vocational educational program, Webb’s name now graces the center he has worked so hard to develop.

Wilbur “Webb” Palmer



REACHING OUT AND REACHING UP

2005 Annual Report

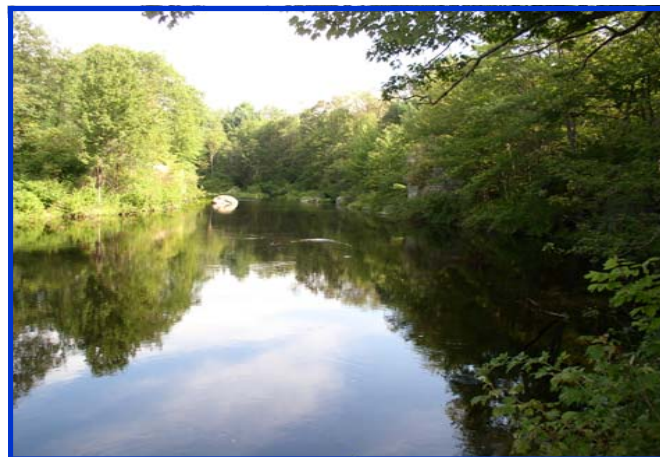
Timber Bridges

Published by the Council late this year, “Timber Bridges in New Hampshire” seeks to assist communities interested in exploring alternatives to traditional concrete and steel structures for reasons including cost, appearance, and life span. By helping to attain a better understanding of the economic, cultural, and resource utilization advantages of using modern timber bridge structures, the Council hopes to provide assistance to communities who need to repair their infrastructure.



Cocheco River Trail

This scenic and often used trail winds for approximately one mile along the river and through the woods behind the Strafford County Complex. The Council is working with a group of partners including UNH Cooperative Extension, the Cocheco River Watershed Association, and the Strafford County Commissioners to improve the accessibility of the trail, develop new and accessible education materials, and construct wildlife viewing platforms and other structures. A recently awarded LWCF grant will enable the Strafford County community to enjoy a fully accessible facility that celebrates the natural beauty of the Cocheco River.



Beginner Farmers

Utilizing funding awarded to North Country RC&D from USDA Rural Development and the NH “Moose Plate” program, a number of training and farm assistance programs benefited beginning farmers in Southern NH. Ten farms were selected to receive business planning assistance under the NH Agricultural Innovation Program. A series of training workshops were held in conjunction with county Conservation Districts. These included on farm slaughtering, manure management, composting and pasture improvement, value added product development and marketing, and diversified micro farm management. On November 11 & 12 the Southern NH RC&D Council helped to organize and host the 2nd Annual Northern New England Small and Beginning Farmer Conference, along with North Country RC&D, USDA FSA & NRCS, and NHDAM&F. Small farmer advocate Joel Salatin helped to inspire over 200 participants, as did 15 additional workshops over the two days.

Granite State Workcamp

In July of 2005, the Southern New Hampshire community of Hollis was the site of a workcamp attended by over 400 young adults from across the country. The campers worked on 61 renovation and home repair projects for elderly, low income and disabled residents in 10 towns. Southern NH RC&D Council co-sponsored the project, and utilized its social service agency network to identify recipients of the workcamp’s services. This workcamp, as well as others around the country, is an offshoot of efforts to restore and rebuild a Colorado community after a tragic and devastating flood in the mid-1970s.



Accessible Information and Education Materials

The Southern NH RC&D Council has received several grants to evaluate and rewrite printed materials for NRCS. Changes are being made to instructions and assessment tools for the Conservation Security Program. These changes will enable customers with visual impairments, learning disabilities, and limited education to have a better understanding of the program and its requirements for participation. As a result, these potential recipients will find it easier to provide the required information needed to qualify for the program and receive its benefits.

New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Initiative



Under the auspices of the New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Initiative, the Southern NH RC&D Council has provided assistance to a number of communities. This assistance has been in the form of water supply plans for the communities of Bedford, Candia, Hampstead, Loudon, Lyndeborough, Peterborough, Pittsfield, and Raymond. Also grant funds for Franconia, Kingston, Raymond, Salisbury and Washington enabled them to install dry hydrants. A grant from NH Emergency Management will enable the rural fire program to provide hazard management assistance in the form of water supply plans to towns and communities throughout NH.