



2016 Annual Report
CONNECTICUT RIVER COASTAL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.

*Providing Technical Assistance and Education
for Natural Resource Conservation
Since 1946*



The Mission of the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District is to promote the sound use and management of our natural resources through technical assistance and education. Our programs and services are provided to municipal staff, land use decision makers, environmental professionals, engineers, farmers, teachers, Realtors, civic groups, and the general public.

NON PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #210
Middletown, CT 06457

CONNECTICUT RIVER COASTAL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
deKoven House Community Center
27 Washington Street
Middletown, CT 06457



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Thomas ODell, Westbrook, *Chair*
- Alison Guinness, East Haddam, *Vice Chair*
- Timothy Myjak, East Haddam, *Treasurer*
- Cindy Gaudino, Middletown, *Secretary*
- Jim Costello, East Haddam
- Gary Crump, Colchester
- Eric Davison, Chester
- Lisa Eldridge, Amston
- Lorraine Jalbert, Middletown
- Mark Yuknat, Haddam

STAFF

- Jane Brawerman, *Executive Director*
- Kelly Starr, *Natural Resource Specialist*
- Barbara Davis, *Office Administrator*

PARTNERS

- CT Association of Conservation Districts
- CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation
- CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP)
- CT Resource Conservation and Development Council
- CT River Watershed Council
- CT Sea Grant
- Middlesex Community College
- Middletown Regional Agricultural Science and Technology Center
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials Program
- Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge
- The Rockfall Foundation
- UConn Cooperative Extension System
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Geological Survey
- Wesleyan University
- Working Lands Alliance
- The 26 District towns
- Many local organizations



A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FISHWAYS, FARMS AND FORESTS were major themes of our conservation efforts in the past year; assessment and water quality improvement continued to be a focus; and community outreach included new and ongoing initiatives.

We are excited to report that after several years of setting the stage, the construction phase of Chapman Mill Pond Fishway has begun. We also completed five on-the-ground projects to address water quality concerns in the Coginchaug River watershed begun in 2015, four of them with farms. And we made new forays into forest management as part of our work to support Natural Resources Conservation Service programs.

Following up on water testing results from 2015, we continued to spearhead efforts to track down possible sources of *E. coli* bacteria in the Coginchaug watershed through citizen and staff-based monitoring, and field investigation by town public health staff. Also in the Coginchaug, to help promote a watershed identity and reach more people about our water quality assessment and improvement work, we compiled several years of water quality data into an on-line interactive story map, a long-term goal of ours! The map provides a user-friendly way to access information about water quality, watershed resources, and what can be done to protect local rivers. Go to our website for a link to the map feature!

In our quest to expand environmental awareness we screened four well-received documentaries—about the importance of healthy soil, our melting glaciers, the devastating effects of overfishing, and the environmental and human impacts of the clothing industry—as part of our ongoing film series with local partners. Check our website for information about past and upcoming films.

We have much to look forward to in the coming year, from completing the fishway, to new on-the-ground restoration and management projects, an expanded version of our popular invasive plant guide, an urban farming initiative with a focus on food security...and more! Your generous support helps make it possible.

Jane L. Brawerman

Jane Brawerman
Executive Director



THE DISTRICT holds public meetings every fourth Tuesday, 6:00 pm at the deKoven House Community Center, 27 Washington Street in Middletown. All programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

The District serves the towns of Berlin, Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Hebron, Killingworth, Lyme, Madison, Marlborough, Middlefield, Middletown, New Britain, Newington, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, Rocky Hill, Salem and Westbrook.

CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS



CONSTRUCTION of the Chapman Mill Pond fishway progressed with selecting a construction firm, Schumack Engineered Construction Corp. in Clinton, through a competitive bid; acquiring components; and preparing the site for building the fishway. The District's role includes project management and technical oversight. Fishway construction is being funded by a CT DEEP Supplemental Environmental Project grant.



FORESTRY MANAGEMENT was a new focus of conservation planning and implementation work undertaken by the District in partnership with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as part of our conservation technical assistance grant. Objectives include improving habitat for wildlife, maintaining and improving forest health and productivity, and controlling invasive plants.



WORK WITH agricultural producers included projects to address water quality concerns in the Coginchaug River watershed, such as at this beef cattle operation in Guilford. In partnership with the farmer and NRCS, a covered heavy use area and waste storage facility was built to replace an overused area of bare soil and uncovered manure pile. Funds were provided by CT DEEP through a US EPA Clean Water Act §319 grant and NRCS.



TO BUILD AWARENESS about Coginchaug River health, a water quality story map was developed with a grant from The Rockfall Foundation. This interactive map features *E. coli* bacteria results; river facts; water quality improvement efforts; and actions that individuals, municipalities and farms can take to protect water quality. The map will be updated annually with new results.

CONNECTICUT RIVER COASTAL CONSERVATION DISTRICT DONORS

We are grateful to the many Conservation District donors who support our important work. The following list reflects all individuals, municipalities, organizations, businesses and granting agencies that have supported the District from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 with funding or in-kind donations. Our sincere apologies for any inadvertent omissions.

Sandra & David Abrahams
Charlene & David Amacher
Richard Amerling
Anonymous
Mary Augustiny
Melissa Behney
John Beierle
Sandra & Kenneth Belanic
Susan Bement
Linda & Stephen Boatti
Susan & Thomas Bransfield
Heidi Brierley
Marilyn & George Brierley
M. Caldera
Carolyn & Donald Capellaro
Jeanne & Paul Carroll
Janice & Ronald Catrone
Susan Cecchini
Jennifer & Robert Chaffiotte
Donna Clark
Kathy & Paul Connolly
Laura Copland
Alannah & George Coshow
Jim & Renee Costello
JoAnn Creighton
Denis Cunningham
Caroline Cutone
Lawrence Cyrulik
Jan Daigle
Joyce & Francis D'Angelo
Barbara David
Barbara Davis
Judyann & Warren Davis, Jr.
Raul deBrigard
Virginia deLima
Nancy D'Estang
Patricia & Wayne DeVoe
Daniel Digiulio
Mary Ellen Ellis
Robert Fales
Janet & Joseph Fay, Sr.
Paula Feder
Jonathan Field
Robyn Fortier
Carl Fortuna, Jr.
Dawn Fowler
MaryAnn Futia
Joanne Gamble
Patrick Gardiner
Nadine Genesis
Stephen Gephard
Laura & Dean Godown
Keith Goodell
Janet Greenwood
Megan Griffin
Alison Guinness
Karen Hagberg
Janet Hamilton
James Hansen, Jr.
Martha & Donald Hansen

Mary & Richard Harrall
Jane & Greg Harris
Crystal Henry
Susan Hessel
Elisabeth Holder
Alan Hurst
Sandra & Edward Ianello
Lorraine Jalbert
Diane James-Hart
Leah Anne & Chris Jensen
Nadean & Kevin Johnson
Dr. Ruth Johnson
Jennifer & Donald Josephson
Diane & Raymond Karpinski
Susan Kaufmann
Joanne Kelley
Susan & William Kenney
Lilian King
Lisa King
Gordon Laing
Debra & Charles Landrey
G.M. Laskowski
Doreen LeBel
Pierre Lemieux
Thomas Lentz
John L. LeShane
Patricia & Peter Lirot
Donna J. Lockwood
Robert A. Lorenz
Lynn & Mark MacDonald
Becky & Todd Machnik
Joe Marino
Tony Marino
Sally Marston
Emily S. Masters
Laurie & Scott Mathews
Linda & Joel Maynard
Francine McKiernan
Sheila McPharlin
Malcolm Meldahl
Robert & Elaine Melvin
Sheryl Milardo
Karen Miller
Martha & William Neale
Andrea & Donald O'Boyle
Thomas & Carol ODell
Cindy Otis
Constance Papanian
Tina Pascoe
Margaret Phillips
Mary Ann & Thaddeus Pianka
Anne B. Pierson, MD
Melia Pisano
Gail & Daniel Reynolds
Steven Rieth
Jeanne B. Roy
Justine B. Rutan
Michele Salonia & John Boccalatte
Starr & Philip Schroyes
Holly & John Schroeder

Ruth Schumacher
Douglas A. Shomo
Elizabeth Sprague
Sue & Arthur Staehly
Leslie Starr
Mark Stephens
Jane Brawerman & Brian Stewart
Ronna & Robert Stiller
Barbara Thompson
Lois Stahlbush Tolley
Erica Udoff
Suzanne & William R. Velez
Ann & Stanley Walonoski
Lorena & Peter Walsh
Anne Ward
Maryann & Andy Wargo
Susan & William Wasch
William Webb
Judy Westcott
Adela Wilmerding
William Witt
Mark Wysocki
Helene & Steven Yates

CORPORATIONS

Aetna Foundation, Inc.
Clinton Nurseries, Inc.
Collins Powder Hill Farm
Comer & Company, LLC
Connecticut River Expeditions
Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery
Judges Farm
IBM International Foundation
Little River Natives
Organic Vintages
Priam Vineyards
Rhode van Gessel Design
R2 Graphics, Inc.
Speaking of Landscapes
Sunny Border Nurseries, Inc.
Tanger Outlets, Westbrook, CT
The Rockfall Foundation
University of Connecticut
Westport Garden Club



University of Connecticut
Cooperative Extension System
Master Gardener Program
USDA -Natural Resources
Conservation Service

MUNICIPALITIES

Berlin
Chester
Clinton
Cromwell
Deep River
Durham
East Haddam
East Hampton
Essex
Hebron
Killingworth
Lyme
Madison
Marlborough
Middlefield
Old Lyme
Old Saybrook
Portland
Rocky Hill
Westbrook

GRANTS

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Clean Water Act §319
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, Supplemental Environmental Program
The Rockfall Foundation
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Technical Assistance

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

INCOME

Grants	\$250,545
Material Sales	43,293
Local Funds	42,840
State Funds	42,156
Contributions	7,232
Miscellaneous	362
Interest Income	243
Total Income	\$386,671

EXPENSES

Grant Expenses	\$161,416
Wages, Payroll Taxes, Retirement Benefits	160,193
Shrub Sale & Fundraising Expenses	32,794
Operating/Office Expenses	25,817
Professional Fees & Dues	975
Educational Outreach	514
Conferences, Meetings & Workshops	269
Total Expenses	\$381,978
Excess (Deficiency)	\$4,693

Compiled by Comer & Company, LLC, Certified Public Accountants

Congratulations 2015 Conservation Award Recipients!

ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL

Javier Cruz, Natural Resources Conservation Service

DISTRICT LONG TERM SERVICE

David Askew, North Central Conservation District (formerly)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

Preserve the 1,000 Acre Forest

SPECIAL MERIT

Lee Vito, Town of Middlefield
Middlesex Community College



David Askew (on left), with Tom ODell

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Clinton Nurseries, Inc., David Richards
Comer & Company, LLC, Thomas D. Comer, CPA
CT River Expeditions, Mark & Mindy Yuknat
Old Saybrook Shopping Center, Matthew Rubin
Organic Vintages, Mary Kay Brown
Priam Vineyards, Gloria Priam & Gary Crump
R2 Graphics, Inc., Rob Merritt
Sunny Border Nurseries, Pierre Bennerup & Marc Laviana

THE DISTRICT'S 68TH ANNUAL MEETING, held on October 24, 2015, celebrated protection of The Preserve, a 1,000 acre coastal forest in Old Saybrook, Essex and Westbrook. The program included a hike at The Preserve.