### Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District

## Conservation Assistance Program



WCSWCD is now offering conservation assistance to all landowners, municipalities or organizations in Waldo County. Our services range from a basic "Walk and Talk" on your land, to further assistance with land management including written recommendations, referrals, land management plans, trainings, and basic mapping. The initial visit is free of charge. We visit properties as small as an urban yard or as large as hundreds of acres that support extensive forest, croplands, or mixed landscapes. Our Conservation Assistance Program (CAP) offers many services for a modest fee or at no cost (see rates on reverse).



## **Services Offered**

## **Conservation Property Assessments**

We can offer a basic assessment of your property during a Walk and Talk, during which we will visit your property with you, provide an overview of the condition of your lands, including natural features and assets, production areas, as well as potential issues and solutions. We will provide recommendations based on your goals for the property, including referrals to agencies offering services and programs related to your management goals.

As a follow up, you can request a written summary including detailed recommendations, or a full management plan. Written plans are provided for a fee (See reverse).

# We can also tailor your property assessment to the following Focus Areas:

**Invasive Plant Management** Our biologist will help you understand your invasive plant problems and provide specific instructions for controlling the invasives to improve the health and functionality of your land. Our services also can include full management plans at any scale, staff or volunteer training, and mapping of invasives.

## Conservation (Eco) Landscaping and Land

**Management** We can help you develop a plan to create a landscape that offers beauty as well as a healthy ecosystem including wildlife and bird habitat, pollinator support and natural control of pests and weeds. An eco-landscape also addresses challenges with erosion or water management. This service can be scaled up for larger parcels such as easement or conservation lands, and can include full management plans. Native plant planting plans are also available. WCSWCD offers a certification program. for lands managed for conservation values.

**Multiple Use and Production** For production lands, we will assist you in managing lands to enhance complimentary uses such as recreation, wildlife habitat or ecological health while reaching your goals for production. Water and soil management recommendations will be provided as well. Under this service we can help you begin the process of creating a forestry plan for woodlots, a grazing plan, or a crop production plan. We will provide you with information or referrals to any relevant state or federal programs or services that might assist you.

**Certification** Owners who have implemented conservation practices on their property are eligible to receive the Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District **Conservation Lands Certificate**, or for residential properties, the **Eco Landscape Certificate**. See our website for more information.

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#### **Services, Continued**

## **Soil Testing**

WCSW staff will extract soil for testing to your specifications. Sample (s) will be sent to the University of Maine lab. Results will be sent directly to the landowner. We can also review the soil test results with you and make recommendations. These services are provided for a small fee.

## Wetland and Waterway Management, Stream Crossings

Our district can assist you in assessing wetland and stream conditions on your property, and provide a starting point for planning any wetlands management. We can assist you with understanding and following related regulations and permitting.

District staff can also assist you with planning, replacement and/or maintenance of culvert or open bottom installations of stream crossings.

## **Erosion Control**

District staff will provide landowners, private road associations, and municipal officials with options for addressing problems that impact water including construction and land use activities. This service is fee based and includes written recommendations.

All service fees are based on ability to pay, and full services may be provided free of charge for schools or community benefit projects. Please discuss your project goals with us and we will find a way to help.

#### Rates

Conservation/Eco Land Certification - Free, must have completed one of the following CAP activities and have met checklist of criteria.

- Level 1- Initial walk and talk or other consultation, free or donation
- Level 2 Land visit and written recommendations, .5-20 acres= fee \$100.
- Level 3 Land visit and written recommendations, 21+acres = fee \$150
- Level 4 One to two site visits and basic written land management plan= fee \$250 for 1-40 acres,
- Level 5 One to two site visits and basic written land management plan for 41-100 acres= fee of \$350; more than 100 acres, estimate as in Level 6 below..
- Level 6 Detailed land management plan, site training, or area greater that 100 acres, \$40 per hour with time estimate based on deliverables.

Contact us for more information:

Find us on Facebook

Visit our website:www.waldocountysoilandwater.org Call 855 - 884 - 2284.

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