

# **Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District**

## **2012 Annual Report**

*Our mission is to provide assistance in conservation  
of land and water resources for our community  
through proactive efforts, actions, and education*

**Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Report**  
is published annually to provide information to the landuser.  
If you have conservation questions or concerns, please contact us:

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Rockport, ME 04856  
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[www.knox-lincoln.org](http://www.knox-lincoln.org)

Board meetings are held at 6:30pm on the second Wednesday of most months at the District office and are open to the public.

All programs and services of Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual preference, or handicap.

Knox-Lincoln SWCD is a member of the non-profit Maine Association of Conservation Districts.

## **Chairman's Message**

*- Mark F. Hedrich, Board Chair – Knox-Lincoln SWCD*

As predicted in last year's report, significant changes continued to occur in our Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District. Staff and supervisors are settling into the new office at 893 West Street (located on Route 90, 1.4 miles south from Route 17), which resulted from the closure of our office space that was shared with USDA. The move occurred in early March 2012 and happened almost seamlessly thanks to the extraordinary efforts of supervisors and staff. Concurrent with this move came significantly increased operating costs for the office, some of which have been offset by the continued generous support of our Knox and Lincoln County Commissioners and Budget Committees, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and others, who have helped us meet this new challenge and improve and expand our programs through their financial support. Despite this departure from our traditional arrangement of co-location with USDA agencies, we have continued to maintain a productive and mutually beneficial relationship with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and technical assistance still is available to farmers and landowners in our counties. Although we have not abandoned the long-term goal of the District owning its own land and office space, we suspect that it may be a while before an appropriate opportunity comes along.

Our District's educational and technical assistance programs continue to expand under the skilled guidance of Rebecca Jacobs, our Education/Outreach Coordinator and Hildy Ellis, our Conservation District Coordinator. The educational programs include the Conservation Fair, the Common Ground School Garden project, Envirothon, the Annual Poster Contest, Read ME Agriculture, and others. For technical assistance, our Voluntary Contractor Certification Program has been very active, as your Knox-Lincoln District is a Midcoast Regional Evaluator for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. This mandatory program certifies individuals and contractors involved with soil disturbance activities. Please peruse this report to learn about the many other projects and activities that were undertaken during 2012.

Our abundant natural resources continue to be the basis for our existence, and all of us must continue to be acutely cognizant of this fact. Support for natural resource-based enterprises, particularly those directly involving livestock and crop production, must be a continuing focus of support through our education and technical assistance endeavors. Our diversified farms produce an array of value-added products, ranging from fresh locally grown, nutritious and safe food, and fiber products. The superior quality of these goods marketed from our farms, either directly to the consumer or through large, commercial outlets, will guarantee a continued increase in demand for these products. Farmers increasingly are under pressure to satisfy multiple, often competing demands, such as to produce more crops, protect the environment, fulfill consumer preferences, obtain appropriately skilled employees, and somehow make a living.

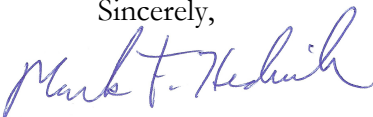
The human population of the Earth reached seven billion inhabitants in 2011, and the statisticians forecast that there will be nine billion mouths to feed by 2050. In fact, it is estimated that the world's farmers will need to produce as much food in the next 40 years as they have in the last 500 years to meet the predicted demand. Most of the increase in demand for food will be in the "less developed" countries that do not have the soil and water

resources, the production skills, or a political climate that are conducive to meeting those local needs. Therefore, the issue is broader than just production agriculture, and includes the complex food system that deals with economic and social relationships and linkages that tie food consumers to producers. It is estimated that a billion people in the world, even today, are either malnourished or do not have access to adequate food, primarily due to logistics, dietary habits or political reasons. Since we now live in a global economy in which food and other agricultural products can be transported across the globe efficiently and quickly, even Maine farmers are able to market their goods to customers located far away. In fact, United States farmers exported \$136 billion worth of goods in 2011/2012 (31% of total gross farm income), with Canada, Mexico and China being our largest trading partners, and this figure is predicted to increase to \$145 billion during the 2013 marketing year.

It is estimated that a 150% increase in food production will be required to meet this need, and I'm sure that Maine farmers and other farmers in the United States, as well the nation's Soil and Water Conservation Districts, will have a role in this. But to meet this need, there will have to be a renewed national and international commitment for supporting agricultural research that will enable more efficient food production. The development of crops that utilize fertilizers and water more efficiently, and crops that can respond favorably to wide variations in weather, insect and disease conditions, is critical. Innovations in new farm equipment for precision planting and enhanced fertilizer and crop protectant placement currently are in use, and these technologies are improving almost on a daily basis. And all of this has to be done in a manner that does not degrade land, water, biodiversity, or the climate on a global scale. Also needed, will be a network of professional educators from Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Cooperative Extension, Universities, USDA, state departments of agriculture and private industry for conducting this research and for disseminating this new information and these innovative techniques to farmers and to the public.

So, we all have a lot of work to do and, hopefully, Soil and Water Conservations Districts will continue to be key players in all of this in the future. Critical to our success will be a continued commitment to the development and implementation of innovative approaches to agricultural production and natural resource protection that will result in sustainable systems. One approach for assuring that your Soil and Water Conservation District will remain viable is to participate in District activities as a board member or volunteer. We continue to need individuals who can assist us with a number of educational programs and projects. We also always welcome targeted or unrestricted financial gifts that will help us to fund on-going programs and to develop new initiatives. Please contact us if we can help you with your natural resource conservation needs, or if you can help us with your expertise or resources!

Sincerely,



Mark F. Hedrich  
Board Chair

## *Meet the Board of Supervisors – Guiding the District into the Future*



**Mark F. Hedrich (Chair)** has been an elected Supervisor since 1986. Mark and his wife, Linda Rose, own Agricola Farms, a diversified 117 acre farm in Union, where they raise forage crops, flowers, bedding plants, and vegetables, in addition to operating Agricola Farms County Store and a Gallagher Power Fence dealership. Mark graduated from the University of Maine at Orono with a B.S. in Animal and Veterinary Sciences and received an M.S. from Cornell University, specializing in ruminant nutrition. He is a former planner and administrator at Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo, New York, a former dairy farmer, and has served on numerous regional and local committees. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Maine Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) for 8 years, serving as President for two years.

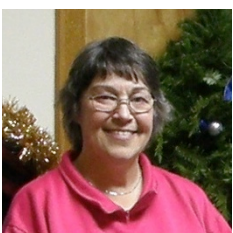
Subsequently, he was a member of the MACD Advisory Council and served as Councilman to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), traveling extensively throughout the U.S. representing Maine. Mark also was active with the Farm Service Agency County Committee for 21 years, serving as Chairman for 10 years. Currently, Mark is the State Nutrient Management Program Coordinator for the Maine Department of Agriculture.



**Tim Hathorne (Vice-Chair)** joined the District in May of 2008 and is a strong advocate of the District's many environmental, agricultural/forestry, and educational programs. Tim's background includes both formal study and experience in agriculture, technology, animal and veterinary science, and over 40 years in education as a teacher, principal, and director/superintendent. He enjoys working with people to develop and implement soil and water conservation projects that are environmentally, socially, and economically friendly and has a special interest in alternative energy initiatives. Tim has been actively involved with "Agriculture in the Classroom" projects and volunteers regularly at the Plant Sale and Conservation Fair.



**Rick Parent, Jr. (Secretary/Treasurer)** became a District Supervisor in the fall of 2007. He lives in Warren with his wife, Ann, and daughter Molly, where he has a small custom sawmill. Rick graduated from Rockland District High School and the University of Maine. He worked for the ME Dept. of Agriculture in various capacities for about 12 years before transferring to the ME Dept. of Transportation where, for 26 years, he was a real estate manager with the highway program. Rick retired in April 2008 and is busier than ever, serving as a Knox County Commissioner and on several boards and committees, including Time & Tide RC&D Council.



**Sharon G. Chadwick (Supervisor)** lives with her husband, Gerald, and daughter Shelby at BenEva Farm in Warren, which was started more than 65 years ago by her grandparents, Ben and Eva Barbour. Sharon and Jerry "came home" to run the farm with Sharon's grandparents in 1988 and still operate as a conservation farm, raising commercial Black Angus beef for the freezer and feedlots, and selling hay. They expanded nutrient and pasture management practices with a manure storage facility, a heavy use pad area, and, recently, a livestock barn. In addition, Sharon works in laboratory research at Lonza BioScience in Rockland and Jerry works for the Nobleboro Sanitation Department. Sharon looks forward to judging the Annual Poster Contest and helping out at the Conservation Fair and Plant Sale.



**Gary A. Balducci, Sr. (Supervisor)** lives with his wife, Donna, at Wishing Well Acres, a 40-acre diversified family farm in Edgecomb. He has been farming for 28 years and provides customers with fresh, local products, including chickens, meat goats, lamb, holiday turkeys, llamas, and emus. Gary is President of the Knox-Lincoln County Farm Bureau, of which he has been a member for 17 years. In 2001, he received the Friend of the Farm Bureau Award as well as recognition for outstanding leadership. Gary is President of the Maine Poultry Growers Association, a Chairman of the Sheep and Goat Committee, and has been an instructor of the Knox-Lincoln County Tractor Safety Course for 10 years.

## *Honorary Lifetime Member*



**Robert W. Spear** received Knox-Lincoln's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award in 2005. Bob served as an Associate Supervisor of Knox-Lincoln SWCD for 8 years and a Supervisor for 20 years, and was Maine's Commissioner of Agriculture from 1999-2005. His expertise and dedication are greatly appreciated by all who share his values of agriculture and conservation. Bob is generous of his time and talents, representing Maine across the US to ensure continuing accomplishments in resource conservation. Bob and his wife, Janet, reside in Nobleboro where they operate Spear's Vegetable Farm with their sons and grandchildren.

## *Associate Supervisors*

Barrie Brusila, Warren  
Donald Burke, Appleton

Jan Goranson, Dresden  
Dave Hayden, Whitefield

Terry Spear, Nobleboro  
Barry J. Tibbetts, Whitefield

## *Office Staff and Field Personnel – Providing technical and administrative assistance*

### *Rebecca Jacobs, Education and Outreach Coordinator*

Rebecca is a formally trained landscape designer with degrees from Springfield Technical Community College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Rebecca worked at Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary in Monson, MA – where she cultivated a strong interest in native and non-native invasive plants – and served on the Monson conservation and master plan committees, and the board of Opacum Land Trust, which serves 13 towns in south-central Massachusetts. Before joining the District in 2009, Rebecca was Education Coordinator at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay. She now divides her professional time between the District and Gabriella's Gardens, her own landscape design/build business. She is a member of the design committee for Rockland Main Street, Inc. and a member for the Go! Malawi running team, raising funds for educational and environmental efforts in one of the world's most impoverished nations. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and traveling with her husband and daughter, running, biking, gardening (of course!), and, generally, anything that involves being outdoors.

### *Hildy Ellis, District Coordinator*

Hildy has a degree in horticulture from the University of Maine where she also did graduate research on non-native invasive plants, which included studying an invasive population of *Euonymus alatus* at Oven's Mouth Preserve in Boothbay. In addition to working as a professional gardener in Knox County for many years, Hildy was Education Coordinator at Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve in New Hope, PA. She has long been interested in the effects of development on natural systems and is looking forward to putting her skills to work for Knox and Lincoln counties.

## *USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service*

**Autumn Birt** is the USDA/NRCS Zone District Conservationist assigned the supervisory responsibilities for the Midcoast Zone, which covers Knox, Lincoln, Waldo, and Kennebec counties. Autumn holds a Masters of Science in Ecology & Environmental Science from the University of ME in Orono. She also holds a Studio Arts degree and enjoys painting and writing - when she can find the time. In addition to her art, she enjoys riding her motorcycle, sailing, gardening, hiking, and kayaking - anything that involves the outdoors.

**Mary E. Thompson**, USDA/NRCS Resource Conservationist, provides technical assistance to District Cooperators, landowners, municipalities, and state and federal agencies. In 2011, KLSWCD honored Mary with an Outstanding Service Award, in recognition of more than 19 years of helping the District with numerous projects and helping landowners in Knox and Lincoln counties implement projects authorized by the Farm Bill. Mary currently serves producers in Knox County from the NRCS Waldo office and is the Blueberry Specialist for Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo counties. She graduated from Belfast Area High School and has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of Maine. In her spare time, she swims with the Maine Masters swim team, enjoys camp, and tends her vegetable garden.

# 2012 Accomplishments

## K-12 Education

### NACD Annual Poster Contest – *Soil to Spoon*

Students in grades K-6 participated in the National Association of Conservation District's annual poster contest.

### Read ME Agriculture – *Seed, Soil, Sun*

*Seed, Soil, Sun* was the name of the book for this year's Read ME Agriculture program that served over 500 students in grades K-4. Education Coordinator, Rebecca Jacobs and nine volunteer readers spent a week visiting classrooms reading this book and sharing their own agricultural backgrounds ranging from horticulture, to forestry, to beekeeping, community supported agriculture, and hobby farming.

### Envirothon

Midcoast Envirothon is a collaborative effort between Somerset SWCD, Kennebec SWCD, Waldo SWCD, and Knox-Lincoln SWCD. 17 teams participated on what turned out to be the nicest day of the year to date. The top three winning teams were as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Piscataquis High School; 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Mt Ararat High School; 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Belfast High School. This year, students from the Watershed School in Rockland competed for the first time:



Watershed School Envirothon team, l to r: Brett Willard (advisor), Reid Evans, Hannah Haendschke, and Hunter Schade. Not pictured: Daniel Goettel (advisor). Photo courtesy Knox-Lincoln SWCD.

On May 24, 2012, three students from The Watershed School in Rockland travelled to Eastern Maine Community College in Bangor to compete in the Downeast/Central Regional Envirothon, one of four regional events that are part of the annual Maine Envirothon. They had been preparing for two months to face 25 other teams, in a competition that would test their hands-on knowledge of forestry, soils, aquatics, wildlife, and this year's current environmental topic, "non-point source pollution." Neither the school, the students, nor their volunteer advisors had participated in the Envirothon before and all agreed that the learning curve was steep. Nonetheless, the team felt that it was worth the effort and enjoyed the chance to learn from and with each other. And, the team was proud that they placed in the middle of the pack of 26 teams - especially since preparation often begins in the fall and the midcoast students came together as a team only in early March. Two other local schools - Belfast High School and Waldo County Technical Center - participated in the Midcoast Regional Envirothon on April 26, where Belfast placed third and earned the opportunity to compete at the state level.

Hunter Schade, a sophomore and outdoorsman from Camden, found the competitive component of the event to be "more motivational than cut-throat," which made the daylong contest a good time. When asked what she had taken away from the experience, Hannah Haendschke, a junior and exchange student from Germany who will be heading to Moscow for her final year of high school, appreciated the opportunity to "see how everything is connected." Senior Reid Evans, who will attend Hampshire College in the fall, added that he was impressed by the soil pit at the competition – a hole in the ground big enough to hold several students at once! Although Hannah and Reid will be off on new adventures, Hunter hopes to find two or three interested students to form another Watershed School team for next year's competition.

Volunteer advisor Daniel Goettel, soil scientist and volunteer with Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District, coordinated the team's study sessions and met with students weekly to go over reference materials and study guides provided by the state Envirothon. He and other volunteers, including Rob Lovell of Rockport and Peter Lammert of Thomaston, took the students off-site to get real-world experience examining soil profiles and wetlands, and identifying trees in the woods. Brett Willard, AmeriCorps environmental educator at Merryspring Nature Center in Camden, guided the development of the team's project and presentation on how non-point source pollution (NPS) is affecting Lindsay Brook in Rockland. Using photos, the team defined and described areas along the brook affected by NPS and suggested low-impact development plans to curb the effects of that pollution.

The Maine Envirothon is a program of the Maine Association of Conservation Districts and is held every spring to promote environmental education both inside and outside the classroom. The program's goal is to increase students' outdoor skills and scientific knowledge about Maine's natural resources so that they can make informed decisions about the environment. Top teams at the regional level compete at the state finals and the winning state team goes on to a national competition. This year's state winner, Spruce Mountain High School/North Campus Team 1, will represent Maine at the International Canon Envirothon competition.

## Conservation Fair

Thirteen schools and more than 800 elementary school students joined us for this daylong educational event held at the Union Fairgrounds on Thursday, September 27. Twenty-eight presenters from federal, state, and regional non-profit agencies provided interactive and informative presentations for small groups of students throughout the day ranging from seed prints to fiber arts and aquaponics to solar power. New to the event this year was a scavenger hunt: Students searched for orange boxes scattered around the fairgrounds, each with a conservation riddle inside. Not only did the students have something to do while traveling between presenters, they had something new to learn along the way. Another big hit was Smokey Bear. Pete Zuck, Resource Conservationist with NRCS Belfast office, donned the hot and heavy outfit and gave bear hugs and high-fives, while Sue Maine Forest Service gave tips on preventing forest fires.



## Common Ground School Garden - Thomaston Grammar School

Rebecca Jacobs, KLSWCD Education Coordinator, continues to help out and deliver programs to the fifth grade classes of Lynn Snow and Ann Pavalkis, who are the cultivators of this garden. The garden is growing well and produce is donated to local food pantries. A hoop house and water system are in the works for this “growing” project.

## Adult Programs

### Conservation Landscaping

We have greatly expanded our Conservation Landscaping Series to include the following programs: *Lush Lawns Without Chemicals*, *Native Plants for Water Quality*, *Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat*, *Rain Gardens*, *Beef Up Your Buffer*, and *Non-Native Invasive Plants*. A variety of programs were delivered in Knox and Lincoln counties to a diverse audience. If your organization or group would like us to give a presentation, let us know!

### School Gardens 101 – University of ME Cooperative Extension and Maine School Garden Day

Education Coordinator Rebecca Jacobs, was invited back to teach the teachers! Jacobs talked about sustainable orchards as part of school gardens.

### Loon & Lead Program/Lead Tackle Exchange

Lead poisoning is the #1 killer of loons and other waterbirds in Maine. The District continues to support this program that was started by Somerset County SWCD. *Bring your lead tackle to the District office to exchange it for a non-toxic alternative.*

### *Other programs offered in 2012 in collaboration with local conservation organizations:*

- Woodlot Management workshop (with Pemaquid Watershed Association/ME Forest Service)
- Moonlight Nature Walk (with Coastal Mountains Land Trust)
- Bog Boardwalk Interpretive Program (with Hidden Valley Nature Center)

## Technical Assistance

### Voluntary Contractor Certification Program (VCCP)

Knox-Lincoln SWCD is the Midcoast Regional Evaluator for Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) VCCP, a program to certify individuals and companies involved in soil disturbance activities of greater than one cubic yard in a shoreland zone. This program, which becomes mandatory in January 2013, requires contractors to complete one 8-hour training session and successful evaluation of an active construction site to become certified.

In 2012, we performed more than 30 site evaluations and certified more than 80 individuals. In addition, we organized a DEP training session in cooperation with the Midcoast Code Enforcement Officers Association that drew 66 contractors and CEOs to Rockland City Hall. We expect to be very busy with site evaluations in 2013!



## Biscay Beach Buffer Planting



Rebecca Jacobs and LACAC member work together to prepare soil for planting native shrubs to protect the water quality of Biscay Pond.

Knox-Lincoln SWCD assisted Lincoln Academy Climate Action Club and Pemaquid Watershed Association (PWA) with the planting of a new vegetated buffer along the shore on both sides of Biscay Beach to reduce erosion and minimize polluted run-off into Biscay Pond. The Lincoln Academy Climate Action Club (LA CAC) under the guidance of Advisor Charlie Scimone was awarded a grant for the buffer plants from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. *Native plants used in the project were purchased from Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District Plant Sale. Rebecca Jacobs, District Education Coordinator, acted as the "plant expert" both in choosing appropriate species and supervising the planting onsite.*

On Saturday, May 12, fifteen LA CAC students showed up promptly at 8:00 a.m., despite it being the same day as prom. They enthusiastically moved soil and compost to create the beds, dug holes and planted plants, and the mulched and watered the new plantings, working alongside PWA Director, Jill Rice; Peter Panenaude, AmeriCorps member with the ME Dept. of Environmental Protection, who had previously talked to the club about why buffer plantings are important; along with PWA staff and volunteers, LA teachers, a few parents, and other members of the public. This project, which benefits the community and the health of the pond, is a perfect example of organizations working together for the good of all.





## Bog Boardwalk Interpretive Signs – Hidden Valley Nature Center

Hidden Valley Nature Center (HVNC), with Knox-Lincoln SWCD, received a \$5000 grant from Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund for education and outreach about the kettlehole bog at the Center on Egypt Rd in Jefferson. A previous grant had allowed HVNC to build a 250-foot boardwalk that allows the public access to the bog while preserving the fragile ecosystem. This grant covered design and construction of five interpretive signs to be placed along the boardwalk, educational tour programs, limited scientific research, and an open house to introduce the bog to the public.

Knox-Lincoln SWCD designed four signs – *What is a bog?*, *Bog Orchids*, *Carnivorous Plants*, and *Plant Survival Strategies* – which were installed in time for an interpretive program we lead on Earth Day.

### CARNIVOROUS PLANTS

#### How do carnivorous plants capture prey?

<p><b>Roundleaf sundew</b> (<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hairs on tiny leaves attract insects with "sun dew," a sweet, sticky secretion that glistens in the sun.</li><li>• Insects get stuck in dew.</li><li>• Enzymes digest insects and leaves absorb nutrients.</li></ul> 	 <p><b>Horned bladderwort</b> (<i>Utricularia cornuta</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small sacs or bladders are located on leaves hidden in wet muck below the surface.</li><li>• "Trap-doors" pop open when zooplankton or tiny, swimming insects touch trigger hairs.</li><li>• Water and prey are sucked into bladder and digested.</li></ul> 
 <p><b>Northern pitcher plant</b> (<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attracts insects to water-filled, hooded leaf cups lined with red veins and rimmed with nectar.</li><li>• Traps insects in leaf cups with downward-pointing hairs and numbing secretions.</li><li>• Bacteria digest prey and plant absorbs nutrients.</li></ul>	

Carnivorous plants capture and digest prey to supplement the low nutrients of the bog environment.

## Consultations

In addition to the above, we conducted gravel road evaluations in Waldoboro and Nobleboro, consulted on drainage issues, erosion control, and buffer plantings for landowners in St George, Southport, Camden, Jefferson, and Rockport; and assisted more than 150 landowners with aerial photos, pond maintenance information, plant ID, and soil survey information.

## Community Outreach

### Union Fair Display

The centerpiece of our volunteer-staffed booth at the Union Fair in 2012 was our tri-fold display and informative brochures, both of which highlight our programs and events.

### Website, Facebook, and E-Newsletter

One of our primary goals for 2012 was to continue to improve our outreach and communication via our website, Facebook page, and e-newsletter. Check out the new pages to our website and "like" our Facebook page. And don't

forget to sign up for the e-newsletter, which you can do on our home page or Facebook. Special thanks to everyone who “liked” our Facebook page!

## Local Working Group

Knox-Lincoln SWCD convened a USDA Local Working Group meeting on December 7, 2012 at the Knox-Lincoln Extension office in Waldoboro. An interesting mix of dairy farmers, blueberry managers, foresters, and other interested stakeholders met with District and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service staff to provide recommendations on the distribution of USDA funding in our counties.

## Special Events

### Spring Plant Sale and Fair – *NEW LOCATION!*

This year we moved our plant sale from Nobleboro to the Union Fairgrounds. By making this move we were able to expand our sale to two days - May 5 & 6 - and accommodate *Cash & Carry as well as pre-order customers.*

We also increased our terrific mix of native trees & shrubs, fruits, berries, and Maine-grown perennials to residents to use in home and garden landscapes, buffers, and wildlife plantings – and added lectures, demonstrations, and exhibits by local experts and organizations. We reached more than 200 families with information on the proper care & maintenance for their bare-root stock selections. Additional information highlighted conservation practices that landowners can use in their own yards to promote soil and water stewardship.

Revenue generated by this fundraiser is returned to the community in the form of conservation education programs and activities. As with all major fundraising events, many months of preparation and planning take place prior to the actual sale day and could not be accomplished without the dedication and support of our volunteers.

### Trout Sale – May 6, 2012

Since 1947, the District has held a trout-stocking sale every spring, to offer local pond owners the opportunity to stock their ponds with rainbow and brook trout. This year’s fish pick-up was at Union Fairgrounds in conjunction with our Spring Plant Sale.

## 2012 Awards Banquet at Nobleboro Community Building – November 1, 2012

On Nov. 1, Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District held its annual awards banquet at the North Nobleboro Community Building. More than 60 people attended to enjoy a homemade meal and celebrate the conservation achievements of friends and neighbors. Mark Hedrich, KLSWCD Board of Supervisors Chair, welcomed the crowd with a presentation of district efforts and accomplishments in bringing an increased awareness of conservation needs and practices to the two-county region. He reminded the audience that with climate change, population changes, and increased development, the need is greater than ever for conservation education and practices on a global scale.



After brief presentations by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and District staff, the following individuals and groups received awards:

- **Marge Kilkelly and Joe Murray of Dragonfly Cove Farm** in Dresden were recognized as the **2012 Cooperator of the Year** for nutrient management practices that protect water quality in the East and Kennebec Rivers;
- **Peter Lammert of Thomaston**, recently retired from the Maine Forest Service, received a **Professional Service** award for more than 35 years — and counting — of service, advice, and commitment to the citizens of Maine;
- **Dick and Jean Vose of Nobleboro** were honored for **Excellence in Conservation Education** for promoting beekeeping and pollinators through establishing the Knox Lincoln County Beekeepers and Bee School;
- **Lyle Cramer and Ron Hawes of Union** accepted the **Promoting Agriculture** award for the Union Fair Society, which was presented in recognition of more than 100 years of advancing agriculture in Midcoast Maine through the Union Fair and related activities;

- **Robert Spear of Nobleboro** was on-hand to receive a **Water Quality** award given to Spear Farm for conservation practices that contributed to Duckpuddle Pond being removed from the state list of impaired water bodies;
- **Lincoln Academy Climate Action Club and Pemaquid Watershed Association** were jointly honored with an award for **Habitat Restoration** for working together to install a vegetated buffer on the degraded shore of Biscay Beach in Damariscotta. Charlie Scimone, advisor, and club members Claire Dumont, Sammi Zaidi, and Mitch Boucher represented LACAC, which wrote the grant that funded the project; Jill Rice, project leader, represented PWA.
- **Lorna Fake (Great Salt Bay School) and Cindy Sabina (Nobleboro Central School)** were honored as the **2012 Conservation Teachers of the Year**. Fake runs an outdoor club for her second-graders to help them develop an appreciation for and understanding of the benefits of protecting the environment. Sabina was recognized for the school recycling program that she initiated with her sixth-grade class.
- **Daniel Goettel, South Thomaston and Vermont**, received the 2012 **District Volunteer of the Year** award for all the time and energy he devoted to the district including developing an online tutorial for the USDA Web Soil Survey, advising the Watershed School Envirothon team, and helping on any and all projects that needed a spare pair of hands.

The evening concluded with a presentation entitled “What’s going on with honeybees?” by guest speaker, Tony Jadcak, Maine State Apiarist. Jadcak talked guests through the fascinating ins and outs of native and honeybee anatomy, biology, and ecology and offered an in-depth look at the stresses placed on honeybees when they are used commercially to pollinate food crops. These stresses result in suppression of honeybee immune systems, leaving bees unable to fight off diseases carried by parasites like the varroa mite, one of the culprits named in the syndrome known as Colony Collapse Disorder.

*We would like to thank some of the many agencies and organizations that partner with us to bring you many services and programs -*

Maine Association of Conservation Districts  
 National Association of Conservation Districts  
 Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Farm Service Agency  
 Maine Department of Agriculture  
 Maine Department of Conservation  
 Maine Forest Service

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries  
 Knox-Lincoln Cooperative Extension  
 Maine Agriculture in the Classroom  
 Maine School Garden Network  
 Coastal Mountains Land Trust  
 Pemaquid Watershed Association  
 Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association

*Thanks to our state legislators*

Rep. Chuck Kruger (D-Thomaston)  
 Rep. Walter A. Kumiega III (D-Deer Isle)  
 Rep. Edward J. Mazurek (D-Rockland)  
 Rep. Andrew R. O’Brien (D- Lincolnville)  
 Rep. Deborah J. Sanderson (R-Chelsea)  
 Rep. Wesley E. Richardson (R-Warren)  
 Rep. W. Bruce MacDonald (D-Boothbay)  
 Rep. Dana L. Dow (R-Waldoboro)

Rep. Leslie T. Fossel (R-Alna)  
 Rep. Jonathan B. McKane (R-Newcastle)  
 Rep. Joan W. Welsh (D-Rockport)  
 Sen. Brian D. Langley (R-Hancock)  
 Sen. Christopher W. Rector (R-Knox)  
 Sen. Seth Goodall (D-Sagadahoc)  
 Sen. Christopher K. Johnson (D-Lincoln)

*Special thanks to our volunteers – we couldn't do it without you!*

*And, many thanks to the Commissioners of Knox and Lincoln counties for their continued and generous support.*

## 2012 Financial Report

### Income

#### Education/Outreach

Annual Meeting	\$526.92
Conservation Fair	\$100.00
Envirothon	\$933.86
Education Initiatives	\$4,436.21

#### Fundraising

Plant Sale	\$13,708.10
Trout Sale	\$3,214.50

#### Contributions

County (Knox/Lincoln)	\$40,634.00
State of Maine	\$17,500.00

Technical Assistance \$4,181.55

Interest \$91.52

#### Other

MEMIC Refund	\$63.24
Grant	\$5,700.00
CDs	\$15,465.56
<b>2012 Income Total</b>	<b>\$106,555.46</b>

### Expenses

#### Education/Outreach

Annual Meeting	\$1,108.74
Conservation Fair	\$1,900.53
Envirothon	\$978.47
Education Initiatives	\$1,948.00

#### Fundraising

Plant Sale	\$9,458.42
Trout Sale	\$2,319.00

#### Operations

Accounting	\$1,282.30
Ads/marketing	\$502.72
Dues	\$2,275.00
Equipment/Repair	\$250.00
Fees/Permits	\$147.00
Moving expense	\$1,294.72
Office supplies	\$1,545.86
Postage	\$533.00
Rent	\$9,000.00
Travel/Meetings	\$2,355.51
Web/Utilities	\$1,347.76
Other	\$64.92

Grant \$4,700.00

#### Payroll

Salaries	\$59,686.73
Payroll expenses	\$6,545.24
<b>2012 Expense Total</b>	<b>\$109,243.92</b>

## 2012 Calendar of Events

Please check our website ([www.knox-lincoln.org](http://www.knox-lincoln.org)) for more details or to register for these and other programs.  
 Or, get in touch by phone or email: 207 273 2005 x101 | [info@knox-lincoln.org](mailto:info@knox-lincoln.org)

### January

1	Office closed	
10-12	ME Agricultural Trade Show	all day
16	Office closed	
18	District Board Meeting	6:30p

### February

4	Native Plants for Water Quality, Wildlife, & WOW	1p
8	Poster Contest Judging	noon
8	District Board meeting	1p
20	Office closed	

### March

14	District Board meeting	6:30p
16-19	Read ME Ag Week	by appt.
28	Lush Lawns Without Chemicals (Five Towns Adult Ed)	noon
29	Conservation Landscaping Series: Lush Lawns Without Chemicals (RSU 13 Adult Ed)	6-8p

### April

5	Conservation Landscaping Series: Native Plants for Water Quality, Wildlife, & WOW (RSU 13 Adult Ed)	6-8p
11	District Board meeting	6:30p
12	Conservation Landscaping Series: Beef Up Your Buffer - Why More IS Better (RSU 13 Adult Ed)	6-8p
16	Office closed	
19	Project WET Educator Training (K-12)	9-3:30
26	Midcoast Regional Envirothon	all day

### May

5	Plant Sale (pre-order/cash& carry) & Education Fair	9-3
6	Plant Sale (pre-order/cash& carry), continued	10-2
6	Trout pick-up – pre-order only!	noon
9	District Board meeting	6:30p
17	Invasive Plants of Midcoast Maine (co-sponsored by Rockport Conservation Commission)	6:30-8p
28	Office closed	

### June

5	Planning a Successful Timber Harvest	9-noon
13	District Board meeting	6:30p
20	Pond Construction & Maintenance	5:30-7:30p

### July

4	Office closed	
11	District Board meeting	6:30p
18	Conservation Landscaping Series: Lush Lawns Without Chemicals (with Pemaquid, Muscongus, & Damariscotta Lake Watershed Assns.)	7-8:30p
25	Conservation Landscaping Series: Native Plants for Water Quality, Wildlife, & WOW (with Pemaquid, Muscongus, & Damariscotta Lake Watershed Assns.)	7-8:30p

### August

1	Conservation Landscaping Series: Beef Up Your Buffer - Why More IS Better (with Pemaquid, Muscongus & Damariscotta Lake Watershed Assns.)	7-8:30p
8	District Board meeting	6:30p
14	Invasive Plants of Ovens Mouth Preserve (co-sponsored by Boothbay Regional Land Trust)	10a
18-25	Union Fair	
28	Moonlight Nature Walk (co-sponsored by Coastal Mountains Land Trust)	7-8:30p

### September

3	Office closed	
12	District Board meeting	6:30p
27	Conservation Fair	9-1:30

### October

6	Conservation Bus Tour: Knox County	8-4
8	Office closed	
10	District Board meeting	6:30p

### November

1	Annual Meeting/Awards Banquet/Supervisor Election	6:30p
12	Office closed	
22	Office closed	

### December

12	District Board meeting	6:30p
25	Office closed	

