

Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District

www.FranklinCountyNRCD.org

50 S. Main St., Ste. B-20, St. Albans, VT 05478

info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org

Dear friends,

This year saw a lot of change at the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District that we are excited to share with you. As announced in the 2020 newsletter, Lauren Weston took over as District Manager from Jeannie Bartlett in January, 2021. Over the summer, Brodie Haenke, Conservation Specialist, took a new position with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, & Markets as Agricultural Water Quality Program Coordinator. Similarly, Katherine Helmer, the District's 2020-2021 ECO AmeriCorps Member, ended her term in August 2021 after a great year of water quality sampling and aquatic organism passage and habitat analysis.

With the change in staff, the District took the opportunity to see what types of growth, innovation, and expanded services we could be working towards. Fortunately, that opportunity led to the addition of three amazing new team members who are bringing different ideas, backgrounds, interests, and skills to continue to shape the District's ability to meet the needs of our incredible Franklin County community. We hope to see you all out and about in 2022!

Meet the District Team



Lauren Weston
District Manager
Lauren.Weston@usda.gov
info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org
802-528-4176

Lauren joined the District in January 2021 as District Manager and has been loving the dynamic nature of the job and all of the people she gets to work with on farms and around the community. Her background includes a wide range of projects involving water resource engineering, agriculture, climate justice, and community building. She is looking forward to continuing to build the District with a great new team and lots of new energy and ideas for natural resources conservation in Franklin County.



Megan Walker
Project Technician
Megan.Walker2@usda.gov
802-528-4159

Megan grew up in Berks County, Pennsylvania. She attended Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia before transferring to Oregon State University. She is currently completing her BS in Botany with a concentration in Natural Resource Conservation and a minor in Chemistry. Her ecological understanding has been emphasized through her work in the agricultural sector. Some of her work includes that with the OSU Wheat Research Project, utilizing marker assisted selection to provide resilient seed to farmers. She has also worked with tissue culture biotechnology to help provide sterile orchard rootstock in fruit and stone crops for modern planting systems. She holds experience with over 20 varieties of fruits and vegetables. In her free time, she enjoys identifying plants, snowshoeing through the woods tapping maples, expanding her thornless blackberry patch, hunting turkeys and fishing for pike.



Katy Dynarski
Projects Coordinator
Katherine.Dynarski@usda.gov
802-528-4185

Originally from New Jersey, Katy spent many years in northern California before moving to Vermont in 2019. She has an undergraduate degree in biochemistry from Villanova University and a graduate degree in soil science from the University of California Davis. Katy has previously worked as a research scientist studying connections between soils and climate, and has also been involved in efforts focused on place-based education, science communication, and environmental justice. She is thrilled to combine these interests in support of Franklin County's food systems, landscapes, and people. When she's not thinking about soil, Katy loves mountain biking, trail running, gardening, and baking bread.



Kate Wettergreen
ECO AmeriCorps Member
Katherine.Wettergreen@usda.gov
802-528-4180

Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kate graduated from UVM with a degree in Environmental Science and now lives in Richmond, Vermont. After spending a year as an AmeriCorps member with the VT DEC Lakes and Ponds program, she is excited to explore agriculture, buffers, and water quality a little farther upstream. In her free time you can find her hiking, gardening, baking, and hanging out with her dog, Moose!



District 2021 Highlights

It's been a busy year here at the District! We hosted five events, and co-hosted an additional four:

- Soil Health and Payment for Ecosystems Services Webinar to bring ideas from farmers to the legislative working group
- Trout Habitat and Woody Debris Webinar to learn about the importance of wood in streams
- State House to Farmhouse Gathering at Choiniere Family Farm to discuss policies and legislation affecting farmers
- Vermont Agricultural Water Quality Partnership Northwest Zone Meeting with statewide partner staff
- Maple Run Unified School District Bioblitz with grade 3-12 students around St. Albans to observe nature
- Composting Association of Vermont Webinar – How does soil health protect our watersheds?
- Lake Carmi Watershed - Private Roads and Driveways: Best Management Practices Webinar
- Missisquoi Bay & Lamoille River Tactical Basin Plan Public Meetings

We also revamped our website to better share resources with our community. You can read about our work, order trees and trout, find recordings of some of our online events, and stay up to date with a blog & calendar on our new website: www.FranklinCountyNRCD.org



Dam removal in progress!

2021 By the Numbers:

- 8870** stems sold through the 2021 Tree Sale
- 2965** trees, shrubs, and willow stakes planted in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties
- 730** BioBlitz observations made documenting **165** different plant and animal species
- 307** water quality samples collected from streams, ditches, and tile drains
- 186** soil samples collected
- 64** farms assisted or reached out to for farmstead, field, or natural resources projects
- 60** referrals to other programs such as NRCS, State, and Local programs
- 46** culverts assessed in Franklin and Orleans Counties
- 24** grants applied for
- 4** new staff hired and trained
- 3** new Nutrient Management Plans completed
- 1** new Supervisor on District's Board

Big news! The Johnsons Mill Dam on the Bogue Branch in Bakersfield was removed in August 2021. The District led this project in partnership with agencies such as the Lake Champlain Basin Program, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and many others! Jeff Corey Excavating, Stone Environmental Inc., and UVM Consulting Archaeology Program were among the contractors who helped with documenting the historical and cultural importance of the dam and mill site, removing the concrete and stone dam (photo at left), reshaping the stream channel, and stabilizing the banks! Learn more on our website: www.franklincountynrkd.org/jmdremoval

Building Resilience on Farms: 2021 Reflections from the NRCS Northwest Zone

In addition to highlighting the work of the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District, we asked Meryl Braconnier from our shared St. Albans office to write about the experiences of the NRCS Northwest Zone staff from 2021. Here's what she shared with us:

Our 2021 conservation work has been characterized by resilience inside and outside of the office. NRCS and Partner staff and our customers demonstrated an ability to recover from unpredicted setbacks and continue working towards our conservation goals. We trudged through a pandemic, adjusting our service to rely more heavily on virtual communications. This summer, we also saw above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall, flares of distress for cropping systems and indicators of the intensifying impacts of global climate change.

Despite the challenges presented by COVID, such as finding available contractors, getting materials, and dealing with delays and increased prices, our office has proudly watched construction progress on nine farmstead projects this year. Sarah Larose, Soil Conservationist, reflected, "With all the obstacles already in place and then all these others... [farmers] managed to move forward and get these construction projects done." One of our Zone Engineers, Xavier Rivera, described, "It's common in construction to have setbacks and obstacles, so finalizing a project and seeing a farmstead improve is always a good feeling."

Along with farmstead projects, our office works on a wide range of topics, from cropland to grazing to forestry. Lauren Gibson, Soil Conservationist and Acting District Conservationist, spoke to the

importance of technical assistance, not only financial assistance on projects, in our efforts to improve resource conservation. Our financial assistance programs like the [Environmental Quality Incentives Programs \(EQIP\)](#) and the [Conservation Stewardship Program \(CSP\)](#) can be essential in helping farmers adopt new conservation practices or continue their land stewardship. However, technical assistance forms the foundation of our relationships with our customers, where we strive to provide knowledge on holistic land management practices that help both the farm operation and the environment.



The St. Albans office builds teamwork at Sam Mazza's Corn Maze. Photo credit: Jill Mullican



Getting soil health knowledge right from the horse's mouth. Photo credit: Aaron Thomas

"I'd like to see my job not needed, to see farmers get paid appropriately, and to see relationships with the ecological functions we depend on. I'd like to educate myself out of the job."

- Carissa Stein, Soil Conservationist in NRCS Northwest Zone

When providing guidance to two curious landowners, Jill Mullican, Soil Conservationist, told them about a wildlife brush hogging or mowing technique that starts in the middle of the field and works outward, allowing wildlife critters to escape the machinery. This simple management suggestion "turned a light on" in their minds about how they can maintain their preferred field conditions while also reducing harm to wildlife.

Fueled by hope from our successes and inspiration from our downfalls, the NRCS and FCNRCD enter the 2022 conservation planning season. We look forward to working with you and your neighbors in our collective community.

If you have a conservation story to share, we would love to feature your farm on the FCNRCD website! Also, if you would like to learn more about NRCS programs, let us know! Reach us at info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org

Tactical Basin Plans Get a Refresh

Ever wonder how the District decides what kinds of projects to pursue, and where to do them? One tool we use is a Tactical Basin Plan – a document from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources that acts as a road map for keeping Vermont’s waters clean and healthy.

Here in Franklin County, most towns are in the Missisquoi Bay basin (see the map at right), but some towns are also in the Northern Lake Champlain basin and the Lamoille River basin.

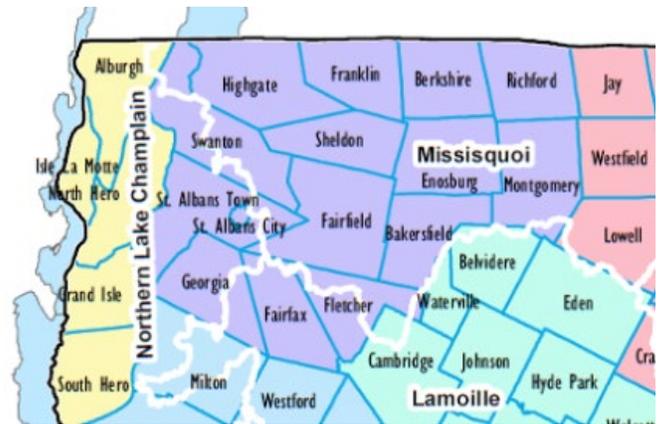
This year, new Tactical Basin Plans are being released for the Missisquoi Bay and Lamoille River basins (Northern Lake Champlain got a new plan last year). With a new plan comes updated strategies for protecting water quality, and exciting opportunities to get involved in protecting Franklin County’s rivers, lakes, and ponds.

What’s a basin plan?

Every five years, basin planners write a new basin plan. The process starts by analyzing water quality data from across the basin, which gives planners a picture of water health. Phosphorus pollution is a major concern, but planners are also interested in other pollutants like chlorides and aquatic invasive species like Eurasian watermilfoil. Next, basin planners work with partners in the watershed to create strategies to “protect the best and restore the rest.” The draft plan is shared with the public, and their input is used to further refine the plan. Then, the state and partners work to implement the strategies in the plan and check in regularly to see progress. The strategies direct how grants from the state and federal government are used to develop projects, pay for engineers and consultants, and implement designs – so most landowners who participate in projects do so with little or no expense!

Improving water quality is a collaborative effort. When landowners pitch in to identify and address water quality issues on their land, we can make a lot of progress!

Agricultural projects keep the nutrients from fertilizer and manure in fields, where they help crops grow, and out of nearby waters. Some of these strategies include planting buffers around crop fields and using management practices to reduce soil erosion. Projects on **developed lands** might focus on improving stormwater management, especially in areas with extensive paved surfaces, where runoff can become loaded with pollutants and drain into nearby streams. Improving **wastewater treatment** captures phosphorus from wastewater so it doesn’t reach Lake Champlain. Finally, basin planners look to Vermont’s **natural resources** – our rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands – to see what high-performing bodies of water need enhanced protections, and where we need to restore ecosystems along riverbanks and shorelines.



Map of planning basins. Franklin County is shown in purple and basin borders are shown in white lines. Map from VT DEC

Get Involved in Your Basin!

Basin planning is a collaborative process! Some of the organizations involved in the basin planning process in Franklin County include the Agency of Natural Resources, Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, Missisquoi River Basin Association, the Northwest Regional Planning Commission, the Franklin Watershed Committee, and the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District.

Basin planning also includes **you!** It’s up to all of us to participate and help the plans succeed. You can read about your basin’s new plan online, which will tell you what projects are most needed and where. If you are interested in getting involved with local clean water projects or have an idea for a future project on your land or in your town, please reach out to the District (info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org) or your local basin planner (Karen Bates, karen.bates@vermont.gov in Northern Lake Champlain and Missisquoi Bay basins; Danielle Owczarski, danielle.owczarski@vermont.gov in the Lamoille River basin).

You can learn more about the plan for your basin online: <https://www.franklincountynrcd.org/mpa>

How are we doing?

Each year since the last basin plans were released, all three of Franklin County’s watersheds have contributed less and less phosphorus to Lake Champlain. Our three basins have reduced their phosphorus pollution by a total 28,000 pounds of phosphorus – about the weight of 23 cows! – per year in 2020, mainly through improvements made by our farmers. This is a good indicator that the planning process is working!

Knocking Out Knotweed in Franklin County

If you've spent time near Franklin County's many rivers lately, you may have spotted Japanese knotweed, a fast-growing, invasive perennial plant that thrives on riverbanks and spreads easily via its underground stems. Knotweed infestations can smother native vegetation and destabilize riverbanks, destroying local habitat and degrading water quality.

This summer, the Missisquoi River Basin Association established experimental plots where they are studying the most effective non-chemical techniques to control knotweed infestations. Cutting back knotweed stems to the ground monthly or smothering knotweed plants with a thick rubber pond liner seem to be working the best. You can learn more about their findings on their website: <https://www.mrbavt.com/knockout-knotweed>

Unfortunately, knotweed is one tough plant. Once it's established, any technique to control it requires multiple years of effort. In addition to cutting or smothering, herbicides are also an option for controlling knotweed infestations. You can learn about treatment options on websites like Vermont Invasives (www.vtinvasives.org) or GotWeeds? (www.choosewiselyvt.wordpress.com).

Avoid transporting any removed knotweed offsite, as it can easily resprout from live stems. Cut knotweed can be dried and then burned, or put to some creative uses. Young, fresh knotweed stems can be used in recipes similar to how you would use rhubarb stems. Dead, dry stalks can be used for papermaking or to build bee hotels for native tunnel nesting bees. Researchers are even studying how to use knotweed to make concrete!



Young knotweed shoots.
Photo credit: Jeff Parsons

Have you spotted knotweed on your property? Acting early is the best way to keep it from taking over. The Upper Missisquoi And Trout River Wild and Scenic Committee is offering up to \$200 in financial assistance for landowners to purchase supplies to mechanically control knotweed on their land. For more information and to apply, visit www.vtwsr.org/knotweed



Knotweed in full bloom.
Photo credit: Jeff Parsons

How You Can Be a Community Scientist

This September, students from St. Albans City School, Bellows Free Academy – St. Albans, and the Northwest Career and Technical Center joined the Conservation District and many other volunteers at the Hard'ack Recreation Area and on the grounds of the City School for a three-day BioBlitz – an event where community members get out in nature and try to identify and document as many plant and animal species as possible. Read about the event and coverage by the St. Albans Messenger on our blog:

<https://www.franklincountynrcd.org/post/first-maple-run-unified-school-district-bioblitz-complete>

BioBlitz events are fun, and the observations are also useful for scientists who study Vermont's biodiversity! But you don't have to participate in a formal BioBlitz event to share your observations of the natural world. Many local projects rely on community observations, and you can contribute on your own schedule using the iNaturalist smartphone app. By making observations while you're out hiking, or just walking your dog, you can help answer questions like how many species of wild bumblebees live in Vermont, or how populations of iconic birds like Eastern Meadowlark and Common Loon are doing across the state. The Vermont Center for Ecostudies and the North Branch Nature Center are two great sources of information about these community-based science projects for all experience levels. To learn more, visit their websites at:

www.vtecostudies.org/volunteer and <https://northbranchnaturecenter.org/citizen-science/>



Students and volunteers identifying plants. Photo credit: Kate Barcellos of St. Albans Messenger.

Get Involved With the Conservation District!

Did you know that native shrub willow can be harvested as a live stake cutting from existing areas and used to improve bank stability and habitat on other streams? The District uses native shrub willow on our riparian planting projects all the time and we are looking for more local



District staff Megan Walker and Kate Wettergreen plant willow stakes for use in future plantings.

harvest sites to continue this work. If you have native shrub willow on your property, perhaps along a stream or wetland, and you would be willing to have the District come evaluate that willow stand for potential future sustainable harvest, please let us know! It's important for us to be sourcing plant material from our region so that it is locally-adapted, abundant, and sustainably harvested. The more willow sites we can source from, the more streambank stabilization projects we can work on to improve water quality!

Do you have a stream or ditch running through your property that you would like to protect? Do you have a wetland that could use some vegetation? The District's **Trees for Streams** program can help landowners plant trees and shrubs along waterbodies to stabilize banks, improve water quality, and increase wildlife habitat. Let us know if you have an area or project that would like us to take a look at!

Do you want to be more involved with conservation efforts in Franklin County? The District is looking for community members to join our Board as Associate Supervisors to help inform what types of projects we pursue, provide connections into the community, and support our staff. Additionally, keep your eyes open for upcoming opportunities to provide feedback on funding and programs through public meetings and surveys as part of our Local Working Group collaboration with NRCS.

For all of these items, please contact us at info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org or 802-528-4176

News From the State House:

Act 22: Raw Milk Act. Effective July 1st, 2021, milk producers selling between 87.5 and 350 gallons of milk per week can now sell their raw milk at other farms' farm stands and CSA programs anywhere within the state of Vermont (no longer just within 30 miles). Farmers no longer need to personally verbally inform customers that raw milk must be refrigerated, making it significantly easier to sell raw milk at multiple locations.

Act 41: The "Chicken Bill". Effective May 20th, 2021, composting food scraps for animal feed is considered a farming practice and doesn't require a solid waste permit. Farmers are now allowed to import up to 2,000 cubic feet of food scraps for animal feed and producing compost if the compost is either produced on a small poultry farm, or used on the farm where it's made.

If you are interested in hearing more about policy and getting to know your local legislators better, keep an eye out for the 2022 State House to Farmhouse event co-hosted by Franklin County NRCD on a host farm near you! To receive updates, email us at info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org

State Working Groups: The Payment for Ecosystem Services Working Group is developing recommendations for new financial incentives for farmers to adopt practices that contribute to soil health, water quality, and climate resilience. The **Vermont Climate Council** drafted the state's first Climate Action Plan, which outlines pathways for Vermont to reduce carbon emissions statewide and adapt to our changing climate. The initial action plan was released in December 2021, and there will be opportunities for public comment in early 2022. Finally, the **Governor's Commission on the Future of Vermont Agriculture** is creating an action plan to expand Vermont's agricultural economy and support the environmental stewardship efforts of farmers throughout the state.

To learn more about these reports as they are released, you can check out Rural Vermont's blog: <https://www.ruralvermont.org/from-the-statehouse-blog>

Contact: Lauren Weston
802-528-4176
info@franklincountynrcd.org

Franklin County NRC D
2022 Tree Sale Fundraiser
Order Form

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED
PAPER ORDERS DUE FEBRUARY 28th
Pick-up: May 6-7

We HIGHLY RECOMMEND ordering online at FranklinCountyNRC D.org for species descriptions, up-to-date inventory, & an extended ordering deadline

Availability is subject to change based on source nursery stock availability dependent on weather & other conditions. Thank you for understanding

CONTACT	Make checks payable to:
Name: _____ Phone: _____	Franklin County NRC D
Email: _____	Mail/deliver checks & orders to:
	Franklin County NRC D
	50 S. Main St. Suite B-20
	St. Albans, VT 05478
Mailing Street, Town, Zip: _____	

KEY AND ORDERING INFORMATION				PAYMENT INFORMATION			
N = Native to Vermont				Total from all categories on front & back of Order Form \$			
★ = Self Fertile: Will pollinate other plants. Can reproduce with 1 plant, but multiples are better				Additional Donation to Support Local Conservation \$			
Fruit Trees: Please order one ★ to pollinate up to 10 trees OR order varieties with similar bloom times. Berries: If >1 variety offered, get a mix for pollination. If 1 variety, get multiple. Nut Trees: get multiple of same variety for nut production. More pollen info at FranklinCountyNRC D.org				Total Enclosed \$			
SEED MIXES	PA	Name	Seeding Rate	Cover Crop Rec	Price per 2oz.	# 2oz. packets	Total
		Northeast Annual & Perennial Wildflower	7-10 lb/acre	No Cover Crop Rec	\$9		\$
		Wildlife Food & Shelter	20 lbs/acre	30 lbs/acre CC	\$12		\$
		Wetland Meadow	20 lbs/acre	30 lbs/acre CC	\$12		\$
		Cover Crop	40 lbs/acre if applied alone		\$2		\$
Total this category:							\$

TREES: EVERGREEN SOFTWOODS: SMALL ORDERS

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
NY	Arborvitae, American	Popular privacy hedge. Aka White Cedar	8-15 INCH	\$5		\$
NY	Fir, Balsam	Christmas tree and wreath making. N	10-18 INCH	\$5		\$
NY	Fir, Fraser	Popular Christmas tree. Grows slow	10-18 INCH	\$5		\$
NY	Pine, Eastern White	High value timber. N	10-16 INCH	\$5		\$
NY	Spruce, Colorado Blue	Blue/gray. Drought tolerant	15-24 INCH	\$5		\$
NY	Spruce, White	Up to 60 ft. Wildlife habitat. N	15-24 INCH	\$5		\$
Total this category:						\$

TREES: EVERGREEN SOFTWOODS: BULK ORDERS

#stems/price	Arborvitae, American	Fir, Balsam	Fir, Fraser	Pine, East. White	Spruce, CO Blue	Spruce, White	Total
10 @ \$40	#	#	#	#	#	#	\$
50 @ \$160	#	#	#	#	#	#	\$
100 @ \$240	#	#	#	#	#	#	\$
Total this category:							\$

TREES: DECIDUOUS HARDWOODS

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
NY	Birch, River	Plant singly or in groups of 3.	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Maple, Red	Choice ornamental. Fall: Red. N	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
MI	Maple, Sugar	Valuable syrup. Fall: Rusty Orange. N	2-3 FT	\$15		\$
MI	Maple, Sugar	Valuable syrup. Fall: Rusty Orange. N	4-5 FT	\$25		\$
NY	Poplar, Tulip	Up to 90 ft. 2" Blooms in Spring. N	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Sycamore, American	Great shade tree. Fall: Yellow. N	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Tupelo, Black	Prime wildlife forage. Fall: Red. N	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
Total this category:						\$

NUT TREES

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
VT	Chestnut, American	Nuts formed in burr. Timber valuable. N	3-4 FT	\$25		\$
NY	Hazelnut, American	Aka filbert. Can produce in shade. N	12-18 INCH	\$8		\$
NY	Hickory, Shagbark	Choice edible. Firewood dense, hot. N	12-18 INCH	\$8		\$
NY	Oak, Chinkapin	Can roast acorns. Likes wet sites. N	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Walnut, Black	VERY HIGH quality syrup, nuts, timber	18-24 INCH	\$10		\$
MI	Walnut, White	Aka Butternut. N	2-3 FT	\$18		\$
Total this category:						\$

Contact: Lauren Weston
802-528-4176
info@franklincountynrcd.org

Franklin County NRC D
2022 Tree Sale Fundraiser
Order Form

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED
PAPER ORDERS DUE FEBRUARY 28th
Pick-up: May 6-7

FRUIT TREES

Source	Name	Description	Stem Diameter	Price	#	Total
NY	Apple, Empire	<i>McIntosh x Red Delicious. Early bloom</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Apple, Golden Delicious ★	<i>Balanced Flavor. Yellow. Mid-season bloom</i>	3/8-5/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Apple, Honeycrisp	<i>Crisp & Sweet. Red + Yellow. Mid-season bloom</i>	1/2 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Apple, Northern Spy	<i>Tart, good in storage. Red + Pink. Late bloom</i>	3/8-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Cherry, Emperor Francis	<i>Sweet, Red/Yellow fruit</i>	3/8-1/2 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Cherry, Montmorency	<i>Sour, Yellow flesh, clear juice</i>	3/8-1/2 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Cherry, Stella ★	<i>Sweet. Red fruit</i>	3/8-1/2 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Peach, Champion	<i>Cold Hardy. White flesh. Pink/white blooms</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Peach, Contender	<i>Cold Hardy. Sweet and juicy. Pink blooms</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Peach, Reliance	<i>Cold Hardy. Sweet and tart. Pink blooms</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Pear, Anjou	<i>Light Green, grown since 1842. Dwarf</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Pear, Bartlett ★	<i>Yellow Fruit. Smooth, mild taste</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$30		\$
NY	Pear, Blake's Pride	<i>Yellow fruit. Fire blight resistance</i>	3/8-5/8 INCH	\$30		\$
MI	Pawpaw	<i>Up to 20 ft. Harvest ~5yrs. N</i>	2-3 FT (height)	\$20		\$
Total this category:						\$

BERRY PRODUCING

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
NY	Blackberry, Darrow	<i>Up to 5 ft. Harvest in 2 years. Ripe August</i>	1-2 FT	\$8		\$
NY	Blueberry, Blue Ray	<i>Up to 8 ft. Harvest 2-3 yrs. Ripe July</i>	15-24 INCH	\$12		\$
NY	Blueberry, Jersey	<i>Up to 8 ft. Harvest within 2 yrs. Ripe July</i>	15-24 INCH	\$12		\$
NY	Cranberry, American	<i>Up to 8 ft. Harvest 2-3 yrs. Ripe Sept. N</i>	18-24 INCH	\$8		\$
OR	Currant, Rovada Red	<i>Up to 5 ft. Harvest in 1-3 yrs. Ripe June</i>	6-12" ROOTED	\$15		\$
NY	Elderberry, American	<i>12 ft. Dark Berries. Harvest in 2-3 yrs. N</i>	12-24 INCH+	\$8		\$
OR	Gooseberry, Amish Red	<i>Deep red. Harvest in 1-3 yrs. Ripe July</i>	6-12" ROOTED	\$15		\$
NY	Grape, Concord Blue	<i>Blue. Traditional Jelly. Ripe Sept</i>	10-16 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Grape, Niagara White	<i>Green. Table or preserve. Ripe Sept</i>	10-16 INCH	\$10		\$
VT	Grape, Somerset Seedless	<i>Red. Table style. Bears in ~3yrs. Ripe August</i>	8-12 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Raspberry, Latham Red	<i>Summer-bearing. Bear on floricanes</i>	9-15 INCH	\$8		\$
NY	Serviceberry	<i>10-20 ft tall. Blooms April. Fall color. N</i>	18-24 INCH	\$8		\$
MA	Strawberry, Honeoye	<i>June Bearing. Produces following year</i>	BUNDLE OF 5	\$4		\$
Total this category:						\$

CONSERVATION SHRUBS

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
NY	Arrowwood Viburnum	<i>Up to 10-15 ft. Blooms May. N</i>	1.5-2 FT	\$8		\$
NY	Butterfly Bush	<i>Up to 8 ft. Blooms Early Summer</i>	2-3 ft	\$10		\$
NY	Buttonbush	<i>Up to 4 ft. Blooms Jun-Aug. N</i>	1.5-2 FT	\$8		\$
NY	Dogwood, Red Osier	<i>Up to 9 ft. Forms thicket. Winter color. Wildlife. N</i>	1.5-2 FT	\$8		\$
NY	Dogwood, Silky	<i>Like Red Osier but with gray bark. Wildlife. N</i>	2 FT+	\$8		\$
NY	Lilac, Common	<i>Up to 12 ft. Blooms Spring</i>	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Rose of Sharon	<i>Up to 12 ft. Blooms August. Big flowers</i>	1.5-2 FT	\$8		\$
NY	Witch Hazel	<i>Blooms winter, yellow flowers. Thicket. N</i>	1.5-2 FT	\$8		\$
Total this category:						\$

WILDLIFE SHELTERS AND TREE TUBES

Source	Name	Description	Size	Price	#	Total
OH	Bat House	<i>Audubon Shelter. Cedar. Unpainted</i>	12"x4.25"x16"	\$40		
OH	Bluebird House	<i>USA made. Cedar. Unpainted</i>	5.4"x5.5"x8.75"	\$20		
VT	Bird House - Other Species	<i>Handmade, Contact FCNRC D to Order</i>		CONTACT	-----	-----
OH	Insect House	<i>Multi-species insect habitat</i>	7.75"x3.5"x11.75"	\$30		
NY	Tree Tube	<i>Protect tree/shrub from wildlife and equipment</i>	5 FT (CUT TO SIZE)	\$6		
Total this category:						\$

Please complete Contact and Payment information areas on front page of Order Form

What is a bare root plant?

Just like last year, our annual Tree Sale offers only one style of plant this year: bare root. These plants are made by rooting cuttings or suckers from a plant, or from planting a seed. At the nursery, plants are dug up while they are dormant. It is normal to not see any leaves or buds on a bare root plant, unless it is an evergreen. Bare root plants carry less risk of spreading diseases and insects, since there is no soil and minimal leaf matter. Bare roots are also lightweight, economical, and easy to plant.

We will have your order ready and bagged with the roots covered in damp sawdust, shavings, newspaper, or sand. Keep the plants in the bag in a shady location until they are ready for planting- it does not take long for air and wind to dry out the roots. Since these plants are young, you can expect them to transplant well with minimal care compared to a large tree or shrub. It's best not to fertilize within their first year to prevent shock and encourage roots to seek out food and water. Variety-specific recommendations can be found at FranklinCountyNRCD.org.



Bundled bare root plants
Meadowview Tree Farm, Nursery, LLC

Pollination

In early spring before their leaves have unfurled, branches of fruit trees are generously decorated in showy, wonderfully aromatic flowers representative of the Rose family. They bloom from March to May. Flowers are typically open for 2 weeks. Times of bloom are generally classified as early, mid, or late.

Pick a full flush of bloom periods, or pick a few that all bloom together.

Early

Mid

Late



Bat House

About Fruit Trees



You can report bumble bee sightings and photographs in the Vermont Bumble Bee Atlas

Pollen Sources

Self-fertile: They can fertilize themselves. They can also fertilize most other varieties.

Self-sterile: Require another variety's pollen for any fruit.

Most varieties are in-between these two categories. You will get some fruit with only one tree, but having a mix of pollen sources from multiple trees and/or multiple species will give best results.

Wildlife Shelters

NEW for 2022

Bat Houses: Vermont has FIVE bat species that are threatened or endangered. Provide critical roosting and brooding habitat with a bat house. Information from VT Fish & Wildlife is included.

Bird Houses: Help provide bird habitat with a house! We're offering standard Bluebird Houses or contact the District about specialty bird houses for other bird species (limited quantity).

Insect Shelters: Provide habitat to multiple insect species like bees, lacewings, butterflies, ladybugs, and more! Support pollinators and even receive some natural pest control benefits!



Bluebird House

2022 Spring Trout Sale – Franklin County NRCD (you can also order online at franklincountynrcd.org)

We will be offering Rainbow and Brook Trout this Spring. 6-8” fish in lots of 25 can be picked up at the Park And Ride at 48 Fairfax Road in St. Albans. 10-12” Rainbow Trout require a minimum order of 50 and will be delivered to your pond, in which case please give detailed delivery directions. **Pick-up and delivery date: Tuesday May 3rd, 1:00 pm**; please check your email regularly for any changes or updates to this information. Please fill out this form and deliver it or mail it with payment (check preferred) **no later than April 22nd** to:

Franklin County NRCD
50 South Main St. Suite B-20
St. Albans, VT 05478

Size	Trout Species	Lot Size	Delivery Method	Cost / Lot	# Lots	Total Cost
6-8"	Rainbow	25 Fish	Pickup Required	\$ 80		\$
6-8"	Brook	25 Fish	Pickup Required	\$ 80		\$
10-12"	Rainbow	50 Fish	Delivered to Your Pond	\$ 295		\$
No 10-12" Brook Trout Available in 2022						
Fish Food				Cost	# Bags	
Whole Bag (40 lbs)				\$ 50		\$
Half Bag (20 lbs)				\$ 35		\$
TOTAL - Fish and Fish Food						\$

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address (Street, Town, State, Zip Code): _____

Pond Delivery Directions (if ordering 10-12” Rainbow Trout): _____

Frequently Asked Questions

Rainbow Trout can tolerate warmer water (55-65°F is optimal) and tend to be somewhat hardier. The rainbow trout is gamier than the brook trout, often leaping from the water to strike a fly and is also excellent eating. Rainbows can survive in stagnant water, have a longer life span and grow faster than brook trout, and can be handled for catch and release fishing.

Brook Trout are native to eastern North America and require a year-round supply of cold, oxygenated water (45-60°F is optimal). The brook trout is generally considered a favorite game fish with its beauty, easy catchability and unrivaled table appeal combining to make it the highly reputable fish that it is.

Generally, it is okay to **mix different species of trout or trout of different sizes**. In some situations, competition, limited feed, and cannibalism can destroy the weaker and/or smaller trout. Trout will eat other trout half their size or less. However, a healthy pond with plenty of insects and plant life will minimize any incompatibility.

How many trout would be suitable for a pond? Pond conditions dictate numbers and species of trout to stock. The average one-acre pond with a depth of eight feet that stays full all summer with fresh water can generally support 300 trout. Any of several variables may advocate stocking fewer trout, the most important being a dropping water level during the hot, summer months. The warmer the water, the lower the dissolved oxygen content, so it is important not to overstock a pond if the water level tends to drop during late summer.

Purchasing feed is generally only for fun. Trout will rise when you throw a handful of feed out and are fun to watch, but their best diet is native insects and plants.



Franklin County NRCD

50 S. Main St, Ste. B-20

St. Albans, VT 05478

Phone: 802-528-4176

Email: info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org

Web: www.FranklinCountyNRCD.org

Supervisors:

Richard Noel, *Chair*

Philip Parent, *Vice Chair*

Adrian Rainville

Molly Magnan

Staff:

Lauren Weston, *District Manager*

Katy Dynarski, *Projects Coordinator*

Megan Walker, *Project Technician*

Kate Wettergreen, *ECO AmeriCorps*

The mission of the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District is to promote land use that supports human livelihoods and sustains ecosystems in Franklin County, Vermont. We empower and convene landowners and land-users to prioritize and address natural resource concerns through USDA and locally-developed programs. We recognize water quality and the continuance of our land-based economy as key concerns for Franklin County today.

Thank you to our Silver Sponsors:



Thank you to our Bronze Sponsor:

The Abbey Pub & Restaurant

Interested in sponsoring our newsletter and reaching our 2,500 readers? You can reach us at

info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org or

802-528-4176

Tree Sale Information Inside!

Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District Annual Newsletter 2021-2022

IN THIS ISSUE:

Meet the District Team

Conservation District 2021 Highlights

Building Resilience on Farms

Tactical Basin Plans Get a Refresh

Knocking Out Knotweed

Community Science

Get Involved With the District!

News From the State House

Tree Sale 2022