

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,

The team at the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District has been busy in 2022 working with many community members on various projects! Partnership has been the theme of 2022, and we are excited to continue to grow our relationships in 2023 to support land and water stewardship. Some of our activities this year include:

- (1) reaching out to and providing direct assistance on agricultural and natural resources projects to 64 landowners,
- (2) hosting workshops and events such as
 - State House to Farmhouse where legislators and local officials got to hear directly from farmers and farm families;
 - Ferment on the Farm where we experimented with the Land Care Cooperative using on-farm ferments to increase field fertility; and
 - Local-Led Conservation Meeting in Cambridge with the Lamoille County and Grand Isle Natural Resources Conservation Districts where the public, farmers, and organizations met over a potato bar dinner to talk about natural resources' strengths and opportunities in Northwest Vermont,

(3) meeting and going on site visits with staff at other agencies like the NRCS, UVM Extension, US Fish and Wildlife, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, VT Department of Environmental Conservation, Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Missisquoi River Basin Association, Franklin Watershed Committee, Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, and various town Libraries and Conservation Commissions.

We've been building our skills to help dairy and other livestock farmers and value-added producers, maple producers, hemp growers, veggie and diversified farmers, and towns. As you'll see on page 2, we also put together the first annual Guide to Assistance for Agricultural Producers of Vermont that we partnered with countless organizations on to provide a comprehensive financial and technical assistance guide for producers – reach out to us at the Conservation District for help accessing any of those resources! We've been working with 11 producers through the Vermont Pay for Phosphorus Program, which brings clean water funds directly to producers who are stewarding their land to reduce the phosphorus loading to our rivers and lakes. We've also helped farmers target nutrient use on their farms to best meet crop growth needs by updating their Nutrient Management Plans!

We started working with lake communities, specifically around Lake Carmi and Arrowhead Mountain Lake, but you also might have seen us at the Shoreline Socials around Lake Champlain with the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain. If you were at Franklin County Field Days in August, you may have spotted us demonstrating flooding, erosion, and natural river processes with our sandbox stream table.

With our full time staff settled into their roles and skilled-up, we are so excited to see what this next year brings to Franklin County. We are ready and eager to assist on farms, along stream, lakes and forests, in town, at your house, or anywhere there might be natural resources we can help you steward! We are excited to keep **learning** from our community members, neighbors, farmers, and peers – we know you all are truly our greatest resource! Thank you for all you do!



Left to right: FCNRCD staff Katy Dynarski, Megan Walker (former staff), Kate Wettergreen, and Lauren Weston at Lake Carmi.

2022 By the Numbers:

9000 Tree stems sold to **280** customers,
5061 Plants planted along waterbodies and streams with help from **60+** volunteers at **5** sites,
42 Farms assisted,
253 Soil samples collected,
183 Water quality samples collected,
51 Posts about events, grants, opportunities, and surveys on our "Stay Up to Date" webpage,
26 grant proposals written with 80% success rate,
 Staff spent **40%** of their time working on Agriculture Programs, **29%** on Natural Resources Conservation and Restoration Projects, and **31%** on Education Programs, the Tree Sale, Administration, Stormwater Remediation, and Water Quality Monitoring.

Introducing the Ag Guide

If you are a farmer wondering if there is a program or grant available for your next farm project, or if you would like to quickly locate information about agricultural resources and programs, the Guide to Assistance for Agricultural Producers is for you. We have worked hard to compile local, state, and federal resources for farmers. Included in this guide are directories for equipment rentals, foresters, technical experts, local resources, as well as annual state and national programs. We organized these resources by need area, such as grazing, construction, energy, maple, forestry, organic farming, and business development, among other categories.

The Guide is available as an interactive virtual document on our website, FranklinCountyNRCD.org/AgProducersGuide. We have had over 200 visitors to this Guide since we published it this spring. We also have a printed version, which we have distributed at Franklin County Field Days, UVM Borderview Farm Field Day, and other agricultural events throughout the county. We are grateful to know we are making a positive impact in supporting farmers.

We are available year-round to help answer questions about these resources and work through program applications with producers. We are continually working to help producers become more familiar with resources available to them. In October, we held a workshop about Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets Capital Equipment Assistance Program, one of the few programs available to support the purchase of conservation equipment, and in November, we hosted one about the Vermont Pay for Phosphorus Program. We are working to put together more events in 2023 that provide helpful information to farmers. We are always looking to find ways to support the agricultural community and welcome suggestions for workshops.

As this is a new resource, we are very appreciative of feedback you might have about how this Guide has helped you or how we can improve. We will update this resource every autumn to capture any big changes in programs.

Questions about the Guide or our farm services? Reach out to us at Info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org!

2023

Guide to Assistance



For Agricultural Producers of Vermont

A Comprehensive Guide to Assistance Opportunities
for Agricultural Producers of Vermont

Farm Services

We are a non-regulatory organization available to assist producers with questions and concerns year-round. Our core services include:

Soil and Manure Sampling: We cannot pay for the lab testing fees for soil and manure samples, but we are able to collect and deliver samples at no cost to the producer. We are here to answer questions about how often samples must be taken and send out reminders when it's time to take new samples.

Nutrient Management Planning: We help small producers develop and maintain nutrient management plans at no cost. This can include enrollment in UVM Extension's Nutrient Management Course, help with interpreting soil test results, planning nutrient applications, analyzing yields, and record management.

Program Applications: We assist producers in filling out and managing the paperwork involved in program and grant applications, answering questions along the way, and ensuring producers are able to submit complete applications with confidence.

Pay for Phosphorus Program Assistance: We help farms enrolled in the VAAFM Pay for Phosphorus Program with data entry, data upkeep, and verifying practices to help report back for potential payments on improved water quality performance.

Local-Led Conservation

We want to hear from you about your natural resource priorities and what we can do to help! We hope to incorporate the goals and needs of residents into developing priorities for program direction and funding. We need your help to decide which natural resource concerns, along with their appropriate solutions, are most important to you.

Please take a few minutes to fill out our Local-Led Conservation Survey, which is open to all residents, farmers, farm workers, forest owners, loggers, recreators, and resource professionals, on our website: FranklinCountyNRCD.org/Local

Be a Stream Steward

Rivers and streams connect all of us in Franklin County, from the hills of Montgomery to St. Albans Bay, and provide countless recreation opportunities as well as clean water and wildlife habitat. If you're lucky enough to have a babbling brook in your backyard or farm field, there are a few steps that you can take to responsibly steward your stream while enjoying its natural beauty.

One of the most important steps you can take to keep your stream healthy is to plant a woody buffer – a zone of native trees and shrubs extending outward from the riverbank. Forest buffers provide numerous benefits for both water quality and wildlife. Plant roots hold soil together, stabilizing riverbanks against erosion and protecting your property. Roots also absorb and filter water so that the only thing reaching the stream is clean water. Shade from trees keeps streams cool so fish can thrive. Trees also offer homes for wildlife like birds, frogs, and turtles, and branches and tree trunks that fall into the stream provide valuable fish habitat.

Forest buffers along streams should extend at least 35 feet from the riverbank to provide clean water benefits, but consider maintaining a wider buffer of 100 ft to provide wildlife habitat. If you don't have that much space to give to woody plants, do what you can – every little bit helps! If you've already got a flourishing forest surrounding your stream, avoid removing vegetation (except for invasive species like knotweed and Japanese honeysuckle) and let your river buffer grow wild. If your buffer could use some help, plant native trees and shrubs to encourage the growth of diverse ecosystems. Don't mow, weed whack, or rake inside the buffer zone – when it comes to buffers, messy is beautiful!

2023 District Events

We are hard at work planning events and workshops for 2023! Look out for these events (and more):

- Sustainable fishing workshop
- Bioengineering with willows workshop
- Agricultural water quality events and workshops
- Tree planting days
- BioBlitzes at several schools across Franklin County

Event details will be shared when available online at

FranklinCountyNRCD.org/StayUpToDate

Have an idea for an event that you'd like us to host? Let us know by emailing us at info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org or calling us at 802-528-4176.

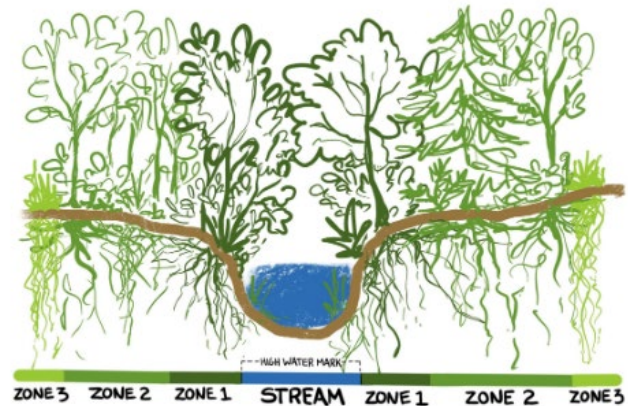


Illustration of a riparian buffer by Holly Greenleaf for Stream Wise Champlain.

To minimize stormwater reaching the stream, which can carry pollutants and cause riverbanks to erode, install green stormwater infrastructure like rain gardens, infiltration trenches, and vegetated swales to capture, slow down, sink, and spread runoff from your house, lawn, deck, or farmstead. If you build a pathway to access your stream, it should wind across the slope, be built from permeable materials like mulch or pine needles, and include drainage structures like water bars to prevent erosion.

If you own land along a stream or river, the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District offers free tree-planting consultations. We may be able to provide free trees, planting labor, and other financial incentives at eligible sites with landowner maintenance agreements. To schedule your consultation, call us at 802-428-4176 or email us at info@FranklinCountyNRCD.org.

Learn more about how you can steward your stream at StreamWiseChamplain.org

Manure is Worth the Stink!

If you've spent much time in Franklin County, you have probably become acquainted with the smell of cow manure. Throughout the growing season, its distinct odor tells us that manure spreaders are back in action on farms across the county, returning valuable organic fertilizer to the soil it originally came from.

Everybody's got to eat, including cows! To feed their herds, dairy farmers across the county grow acres of corn and hay, among other crops. The manure that the cows produce contains the nutrients that originally came from the soil where the hay and corn grew. Applying manure back on the fields "closes the loop," keeping nutrients balanced on the landscape so that farmers can continue to sustainably produce food. By "closing the loop," farmers can import less fertilizer from other watersheds or states, meaning that phosphorus imports to Franklin County can be reduced by using "recycled" phosphorus instead of "new" phosphorus, helping to keep our lakes and streams clean.

2022 Weather and the Land-Based Economy

Winter: Northwest Vermont received slightly less snowfall than usual this year, and winter temperatures lingered well into April. Cold temperatures allowed maple producers across the state to collect sap for about ten days longer than last year (2021). Vermont led the country in maple syrup production, producing 2.5 million gallons of the sweet treat – with most of that maple coming from right here in Franklin County!

Spring: With less winter snow to insulate the ground, frost penetrated deep into the earth and created a mucky, muddy mess during the spring thaw. The long mud season combined with a rainier-than-usual April and May made it difficult for many farmers to get out on their fields, delaying the start of cropping season.

Summer: Luckily for farmers, for most of the summer Franklin and Grand Isle Counties escaped the drought affecting the rest of Vermont. However, the warm, dry conditions that hit the region in August created prime conditions for cyanobacteria blooms in Lake Champlain and Lake Carmi.

Learn more about how our current weather stacks up to historical data at: weather.gov/btv/climate

Manure also contributes organic matter to soil. Organic matter is important for soil health and can improve properties like aeration and water storage, which support crop growth and can help farms be more resilient against drought and floods. Organic matter also releases nutrients more slowly than synthetic fertilizers, which can reduce the amount of nutrients that leave the field and enter waterways.



Dairy cow manure is an important source of soil organic matter.

The Vermont State of Soil Health project led by UVM Extension found that Vermont farms have higher soil organic matter content compared to both the national average and neighboring states. Alissa White, a researcher involved in the study now at American Farmland Trust, says that in addition to Vermont's climate and soils being ideal for maintaining high levels of organic matter, manure likely plays a role. "To improve organic matter levels in soils, one of the primary recommendations is to add compost or other organic amendments," White explains. "In some farming systems, these need to be purchased, but Vermont dairy farms have an abundance of manure to use."

To protect local waterways from the nutrients found in manure, farmers use a variety of conservation tools, called best management practices. These practices include not spreading manure near streams and other water supplies, planting cover crops on annual crop fields, using new technologies like manure injection, and planting grass or forested buffer zones between water bodies and fields where manure is applied. Through these and other practices, Vermont farmers have played a major role in reducing the amount of nutrients that enter streams and eventually reach Lake Champlain.

Read more about UVM Extension's State of Soil Health initiative at: uvm.edu/extension/nwcrops/state-soil-health-vermont

Learn about the ways the District supports agricultural water quality at our website:

FranklinCountyNRCD.org/AgriculturalPrograms

Water Quality in the Woods: Resources for Forest Owners

Use Value Appraisal

If you own 25 acres or more of working forest or farmland, Vermont's Use Value Appraisal (UVA) program may be a good fit for you. This program, also referred to as Current Use, allows working lands to be taxed at a lower value, substantially lowering property tax burdens. Eligible forest parcels must have a forest management plan approved by the county forester and be managed according to that plan.

Maple sugaring operations are also eligible for UVA and can be enrolled either as agricultural land or forestland. Enrolling in the forestland category save more in taxes and provides valuable information in the forest management plan.



Enrolling in UVA can help forest owners save big on taxes!

To get started, first reach out to your county forester, who can provide advice on management goals for your land and recommend a consulting forester to write your forest management plan. Next, you'll work with a private consulting forester to put the forest management plan together. Once completed, this plan will need to be approved by your county forester.

Applications must be submitted by September 1st, with a final, signed forest management plan due by October 1st. Beginning the process early is strongly recommended, as forest management plans can take a few months to put together.

For more information about the UVA program, visit:

fpr.vermont.gov/forest/UseValueAppraisal

Nancy Patch is the county forester for Franklin and Grand Isle Counties, and can be reached at nancy.patch@vermont.gov

Acceptable Management Practices

Participation in the UVA program requires following the Acceptable Management Practices (AMPs) for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont – a set of rules that protect water quality during logging operations. Some key AMPs include designing truck roads and skid trails at appropriate grades with sufficient drainage structures; constructing adequately sized stream crossings; leaving a forested buffer around streams, wetlands, and surface waters; and properly storing petroleum products and hazardous materials.

You'll work with your consulting forester and logger to make a plan to implement the AMPs. Ultimately, following the AMPs is the landowner's responsibility, so it's good to be familiar with the guidelines!

Detailed information about the AMPs can be found in the AMP manual, which is available in Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation offices or online at the FPR website:

fpr.vermont.gov/forest/managing-your-woodlands/acceptable-management-practices. You can also access the manual from the AMP App, which is available for free in the Apple App Store and on Google Play. The AMP App includes a searchable version of the printed manual, as well as several handy tools such as a clinometer (used to determine the percent grade of a slope), a soils map, and a cost calculator for implementing different AMPs.

Temporary skidder bridges may be available from your local Conservation District or from the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. To find out what bridges are available, contact your local Conservation District, or the FPR's Watershed Forester, Dave Wilcox at david.wilcox@vermont.gov.

Learning with neighbors

If you own at least 50 acres of forest land in Enosburgh, Richford, Montgomery, Fletcher, or Bakersfield, and you want to learn more about managing your woodland for water quality, wildlife habitat, and forest health alongside neighbors, the Woodlots Program offered by Cold Hollow to Canada may be a good fit for you. This program engages landowners with nearby forested properties in collaborative groups to learn about forest management and share their experiences. Learn more: ColdHollowToCanada.org/Programs/Woodlots

When There's a Willow, There's a Way!

Did you know that FCNRCD uses willow cuttings in many of our riparian planting projects? Sometimes in three different ways!

Live stakes are one of the simplest ways to plant a willow! Cuttings are taken from established willows and then trimmed down to 1–2-foot stakes, usually with a diameter of ½–2 inches. They are planted so that 2/3 of the stake is underground. In softer soils they can be planted by pressing the stake down into the ground with your hand. At some sites, a mallet is required to hammer the stakes into the soil. We use this method most frequently, especially in along the stream banks and buffer areas to stabilize the bank and increase the amount of vegetation.



Close-up of a planted willow live stake.

Woven willow fences are created by placing a tightly spaced row of live stakes in the ground and then weaving long slender willow cuttings between the stakes. They can be created in a range of sizes. If placed in a stream, sometimes these are called Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) or Post Assisted Willow Structures (PAWS).



Close-up of a woven willow fence.

Fascines (pronounced fa-SHEENS) are a continuous length of overlapping willow stems. They are constructed by digging a shallow trench and laying bundles of willows, secured with twine, into the trench. Some loose soil is placed over the fascine and tamped down for maximum soil to stem contact, but be sure to still let some sunshine reach your willows to grow! Live stakes are hammered in every 5 feet to anchor the fascine in place.



Katy Dynarski, Megan Walker, and Kate Wettergreen stand beside a newly built willow fascine.

Want to get involved?

If you have native shrub willow on your property, perhaps along a stream or wetland, and you would be willing to have FCNRCD staff come evaluate and potentially take cuttings from, please let us know! Note that we only harvest a few branches off each willow, leaving your plant healthy and happy while also allowing us to source 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!

Additional Links & Resources

Have a question about a natural resources topic that the District doesn't focus on? Check out these other organizations :

Northwest Vermont Solid Waste District: nswd.org
 Northwest Regional Planning Commission: nrpcvt.com
 Healthy Roots Collaborative: healthyrootsvt.org
 Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi: abenakination.com
 Franklin & Grand Isle Community Action: cvoeo.org/community-action
 Vermont Invasives (Plants and Insects): vtinvasives.org

NorthWest Family Foods: cvoeo.org/get-help/northwest-family-foods
 Composting Association of Vermont: compostingvermont.org
 Franklin County Mountain Bike Club: fcmtbc.com
 Northern Forest Canoe Trail: northernforestcanoetrail.org

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

Franklin County NRCD
2023 Tree Sale Fundraiser

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED
PAPER ORDERS DUE FEBRUARY 28th
Pick-up: May 5-6

Order Form

We **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** ordering online at FranklinCountyNRCD.org for descriptions, up-to-date inventory & extended ordering deadline

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

CONTACT

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Pick-up location (circle one)

Email: _____ Highgate / Montgomery / N. Hero

Make checks payable to:

Franklin County NRCD

Mail/deliver checks & orders to:

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

Mailing Street, Town, Zip: _____

KEY AND ORDERING INFORMATION

N = Native to Vermont

★ = Self Fertile: Can reproduce w/ 1 plant but 2 or + preferred. Will pollinate others.

Fruit Trees and Berries: If "Pollinator Required (Poll.Reg.)" in description, please order at least two different varieties with similar bloom time.

Nut Trees: Please order multiple of same variety for nut production.

More descriptions and pollen info at FranklinCountyNRCD.org

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total from all categories on front &
back of Order Form \$

Additional Donation to Support
Local Conservation \$

Total Enclosed \$

SEED MIXES PA	Name	Seeding Rate	Cover Crop Rec	Price	# Packets	Total
	NE Annual & Perennial Wildflower	7-10 lb/acre	No CC Rec	\$10 / 2 oz		\$
	Riparian Buffer Mix	20 lbs/acre	30 lb/acre	\$10 / 2 oz		\$
	Honey Bee Forage Mix (Clover)	10 lbs/acre	No CC Rec	\$10 / 1 lb		\$
	Quick Erosion Control Cover/Cover Crop	40 lbs/acre if applied alone		\$5 / 1 lb		\$
Total this category:						\$

TREES: EVERGREEN SOFTWOODS: SMALL ORDERS

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
NY	Cedar, White	Aka Arborvitae. Popular privacy hedge N	10-18 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, CO Blue	Blue/gray. Drought tolerant	10-20 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	Cedar, White	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, White/Paper	50-75 ft. White, peeling bark. N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Maple, Red	Choice ornamental. Fall: Red. N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Maple, Sugar	Valuable syrup. Fall: Rusty Orange. N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Poplar, Tulip	Up to 90 ft. 2" Blooms in Spring. N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Redbud, Eastern	30' tall, 30' spread. Spring: Pink flower	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Sycamore, American	Great shade tree. Fall: Yellow. N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Tupelo, Black	Prime wildlife forage. Fall: Red. N	2-3 FT	\$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		\$
VT	Hazelnut	Oil-rich nuts in 3-5 years. Cross.	1-2 FT	\$18		\$
NY	Hazelnut, American	Aka filbert. Can produce in shade. N	18-24 INCH	\$8		\$
NY	Hickory, Shagbark	Choice edible. Firewood dense, hot. N	6-18 INCH	\$6		\$
NY	Oak, Northern Red	Can roast acorns. Offers great shade. N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Oak, White	Can live for centuries, strong branches N	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
Total this category:						\$

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Order Form

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FRUIT TREES

Source	Name	Description	Stem Diameter	Price	#	Total
NY	Apple, Cortland	<i>Ruby red apples. Early-Mid bloom. Pollinator Req.</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Apple, Empire	<i>McIntosh x Red Delicious. Early bloom. Poll. Req.</i>	3/8-7/8 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Apple, Gala	<i>Sweet, Tart, Crisp. Mid-season bloom. Poll. Req.</i>	1/2 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Apple, Honeycrisp	<i>Crisp & Sweet. Mid-Late bloom. Pollinator Req.</i>	1/2 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Cherry, Montmorency Tart	<i>Sour, Yellow flesh, clear juice. Mid-Late bloom ★</i>	3/8-1/2 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Cherry, Stella Sweet	<i>Sweet. Large red fruit. Mid-season bloom ★</i>	3/8-1/2 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Peach, Contender	<i>Cold Hardy. Sweet and juicy. Late bloom ★</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Peach, Reliance	<i>Cold Hardy. Mild and sweet. Late bloom ★</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Pear, Anjou	<i>Cold Hardy. Green fruit. Early-Mid bloom. Poll. Req.</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$32		\$
NY	Pear, Bartlett	<i>Large yellow Fruit. Early-Mid bloom. Poll. Req.</i>	1/2-7/8 INCH	\$32		\$
VT	Plum, Mount Royal	<i>Ripe August. Blue, sweet, juicy fruit. Limited amt ★</i>	1/2" / 4FT	\$40		\$
VT	Plum, Green Gage	<i>Ripe August. Green, sweet, firm fruit. ★</i>	1/2" / 3FT	\$40		\$
MI	Plum, American Wild	<i>Wild, thicket forming. Eat fresh, jellies, jam. N ★</i>	2-3 FT (height)	\$20		\$
Total this category:						\$

BERRY PRODUCING

Source	Name	Description	Size (Height)	Price	#	Total
MA	Asparagus, Millenium	<i>High yielding. Harvest 2-3 yrs. Good flavor</i>	BUNDLE OF 25	\$20		\$
NY	Blueberry, Blue Ray	<i>XL fruit. Ripe July. Mid bloom ★</i>	18-24 INCH	\$13		\$
NY	Blueberry, Jersey	<i>Med-Large fruit. Ripe August. Late bloom ★</i>	18-24 INCH	\$13		\$
NY	Cranberry, American	<i>Large red tart fruit. Ripe Sept - Oct. N ★</i>	24-36 INCH	\$8		\$
VT	Currant, Pink Champ.	<i>Tasty, pink fruit. Mildew Resistant ★</i>	PLUG	\$15		\$
MA	Currant, Titania Black	<i>Large black fruit. Mildew and rust resistant ★</i>	8-12 INCH	\$15		\$
NY	Elderberry, American	<i>Common. Dark berry clusters. Multiple Req. N</i>	12-24 INCH	\$8		\$
MA	Gooseberry, Tixia TM	<i>Semi-thornless. Red fruit. Mildew resistant ★</i>	PLUG	\$22		\$
VT	Grape, Mars	<i>Large blue seedless. Hardy. Similar to Concord ★</i>	8-12 INCH	\$12		\$
VT	Grape, Somerset	<i>Small-med pink seedless. Hardy. Fresh eating ★</i>	8-12 INCH	\$12		\$
VT	Grape, Vanessa	<i>Red seedless. Hardy. Strawberry flavor ★</i>	8-12 INCH	\$12		\$
MA	Raspberry, Anne	<i>Large yellow, sweet fruit. Hardy. Fall bearing ★</i>	4-12 INCH	\$10		\$
NY	Raspberry, Latham	<i>Med-large red fruit. Late June bearing ★</i>	9-15 INCH	\$10		\$
MA	Raspberry, Nova	<i>Med-large red fruit. Ripen over long season ★</i>	4-12 INCH	\$10		\$
MI	Serviceberry	<i>Dark purple fruit. Blooms April. Fall color. N ★</i>	1-2 FT	\$8		\$
MA	Strawberry, Cavendish	<i>Large fruit. Hardy. Ripen over long season.</i>	BUNDLE OF 10	\$5		\$
MA	Strawberry, Sparkle	<i>Med fruit. Heirloom quality. Rec. for beginners.</i>	BUNDLE OF 10	\$5		\$
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>	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Butterfly Bush	<i>Blooms Early Summer. Can become invasive.</i>	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Buttonbush	<i>Up to 4 ft. Spherical blossoms Jun-Sept. N</i>	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Dogwood, Red Osier	<i>Forms thicket. Red winter color. Wildlife. N</i>	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
NY	Dogwood, Silky	<i>Like Red Osier but with gray bark. Wildlife. N</i>	2 FT +	\$10		\$
NY	Ninebark	<i>White/Pink blooms May-June. Pollinator friendly N</i>	2-3 FT	\$10		\$
MI	Winterberry	<i>Northern Holly. Green leaf. No berry guaranteed N</i>	1-2 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

Name	Description	Size	Price	#	Total
Bat House	<i>Woodlink Shelter. Cedar. Unpainted. Fits 20 bats</i>	15"x14.25"x3.5"	\$38		\$
Bluebird House	<i>Audubon Shelter. USA made. Cedar. Unpainted</i>	12"x6.4"x6.4"	\$25		\$
Tree Tube	<i>Protect tree/shrub from wildlife and equipment</i>	5 FT (CUT TO SIZE)	\$6		\$
Total this category:					\$

What is a bare root plant?

Our annual Tree Sale offers only one main style of plant: 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, and are also lightweight, economical, and easy to plant. A few fruit plants are being sold as plugs or in bundles this year as well.

We will have your order ready and bagged with the roots covered in damp sawdust or newspaper. Keep the plants in the bag in a cool, 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/TreeSale



Orders from 2022 sale ready to be picked up by customers.

New Items in the 2023 Tree Sale!

Based on requests from 2022, we worked hard to secure more evergreen trees this year, hoping to be able to match the demand from our community. We also added Hazelburt trees which produce oil-rich, tasty nuts and ninebark and winterberry conservation shrubs for food for our pollinator friends! We were able to source

Vermont-grown cultivated plum trees and wild plum trees from Michigan. We've got asparagus, and multiple varieties of blueberries, currants / gooseberries, seedless grapes, raspberries, and strawberries to provide lots of options for growing your own food. And returning again from last year, don't forget a bat house, bluebird house, or tree tube to encourage wildlife to interact with all of your plants in beneficial ways.



*Bundled bare root plants
Meadowview Tree Farm, Nursery, LLC*

Are You New to the Tree Sale?

Our annual pre-order tree sale is the largest in the State of Vermont! Through the sale, we distribute 9000+ trees and shrubs to the local community. The primary goal is to make native trees and shrubs and backyard fruit trees and plants affordable and accessible in our community, and it is also a fundraiser for our conservation programs and education. The Tree Sale operates with a pre-order model, and we have two main ways to order: online (recommended) or by paper form. You'll pick your order up in-person during the first weekend in May.

For 2023, all paper order forms are due by **February 28th** and online orders are due by **April 14th**. If additional inventory remains, day-of-pick up sales may be possible at the **Highgate** pick-up location. Pick up will be in THREE locations this year – Highgate (primary location), Montgomery (thanks to the Montgomery Conservation Commission), and North Hero (new in 2023 thanks to the Grand Isle County Natural Resources Conservation District).

All orders are first come, first served. Inventory can change based on the conditions at the nurseries we order from – i.e. weather, damage, or crop loss are all possible – thank you, as always, for your patience and understanding. Unfortunately, there is no warranty on any plant we sell. We try to purchase high quality, resilient plants that will be successful in our cold climate with long, snowy winters, which is why we source our plants from places like VT, NY, MI, and MA. We hope the Tree Sale encourages more carbon sequestration, food sovereignty, improved water quality, and wildlife habitat in all communities.

2023 Spring Trout Sale – Franklin County NRCD**(you can also order online at franklincountynrkd.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: TBD - but likely on the first or second Tuesday in May. You will be notified this spring with the actual pickup date and time.** 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 14th** 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 2023						
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. **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.

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.

More information about ponds can be found on websites for the **VT Fish and Wildlife Department**: Wildlife Habitat Management - A Landowner's Guide and **VTDEC Lakes and Ponds Program**: Private Ponds.



50 South Main St, Suite B-20

St. Albans, VT 05478

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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:



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!



Annual Newsletter 2022-2023

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