



# Franklin County Conservation District



## **Message from the Conservation District Board:**

The Franklin County NRCDC said goodbye to our District Manager of 18 years this summer, Renae Masse. Renae was a champion of the annual Tree Sale, holding the largest District tree sale in the state, and she assisted many farmers in writing Nutrient Management Plans. We wish her well in her next adventures.

In September we were happy to bring on Jeannie Bartlett as our new District Manager. Jeannie hails from western Massachusetts, a similarly farmed and forested landscape. She began as a Land Treatment Planner in St. Albans this past March, working to help Franklin County farmers improve soil and water conservation on their farms and access USDA cost funds. Please help us welcome her to Franklin County by dropping her a note!

- Daton Fleury, Board Chair

## **Help us build a website!**

Today a website is a basic cornerstone of any effective organization. The website will be a platform to communicate our mission, programs, and events to potential partners, funders, and to you! A website will also allow us to accept tree and trout sale orders, mailing list subscriptions, general feedback, and donations online. Building and maintaining a website requires staff time and web hosting fees that are currently unfunded. Please consider a donation of \$15 or more to make this important development possible. Mail or hand-deliver your check to FCNRCDC, 27 Fisher Pond Rd, St. Albans, VT 05478, or include it in your tree sale order. Thank you for your support!

## **Follow us on Facebook:**

[facebook.com/FranklinCountyNRCDC](https://www.facebook.com/FranklinCountyNRCDC)



Follow us for photos, events, tree and trout sale information, discussion, and more. Looking forward to connecting with you!

## **Uncovering our history:**

With the support of the Lake Champlain Basin Program, the Conservation District is rediscovering the history of conservation in Franklin County. We're scanning old photos, slides, and newspaper articles, and will be sharing them on our Facebook page. Also stay tuned for a photo party—a chance to get together and enjoy old pictures of your friends, family, neighbors, and landscapes on a big screen. A great time to reminisce and share stories. Contact Jeannie if you'd like to be notified of the picture party, or follow us on Facebook!



Picture from VACD Farm Tour, circa 1990s.

## **Time to place your orders for trees and trout**

It's still winter, but spring is just around the corner! As always, you can support the Franklin NRCDC by buying your trees, berries, wildflower seeds and trout through us. This year we're excited to expand our offerings of native trees that are great for wildlife and beautiful in your yard. We're also now offering hazelnuts and two new varieties of apples. This year our price list also marks which state each variety is sourced from. Buying more locally-sourced trees makes it more likely that they will thrive in our climate and conditions here, and it supports the local economy of sustainable land-use. For a catalog with full descriptions, call the office or find it on our Facebook page.



## **Mission:**

The mission of the Franklin County Conservation District is to assist farmers, landowners, and the community of Franklin County, Vermont with resource conservation projects and public education. We believe that our efforts to conserve and protect our soil and water resources will enhance our community and our county.

## **Meet our new District Manager**

I was thrilled to accept management of the Franklin NRCD this fall because the District unites my interests in conservation and agriculture. Working in the NRCS office already had me in that area, but I'm excited that this position has room to get creative and develop programs that you bring to me.

With that in mind, I hope that you will reach out to me or the District Supervisors with your ideas. What is important to you? What ideas do you have for more effective conservation of our natural resources and working landscapes? Would you be willing to host a brainstorming session on these topics with your friends and neighbors? The Franklin NRCD will provide snacks, drinks and facilitation if you provide space and a group of friends and neighbors!

While I hope to meet many of you in person soon, in the meantime I would love just a sentence or two telling me who you are. Do you own land? What's something you do for fun in Franklin County? Jot me a note on your tree sale order form, email me, or send me a picture of your land!

Looking forward, my strongest interest is in developing improved revenue streams for land owners that support healthy ecosystems, their sustainable use, and a fair livelihood for our people. My dream is that people who eat food value farmers not just for the food they produce, but also for the land they steward. Farmers and other landowners are stewards of the natural systems that underlie every human system, and I want to better value and support them for that most important work.

My thanks for the warm welcome and support I have already received as I transition into this new role. I look forward to getting to know each of you and the land that supports this county.

- Jeannie



## **Want to volunteer?**

- uncover the history of Franklin County conservation
- develop and maintain our website
- serve on the Board
- host a natural resources brainstorming session with your neighbors and friends
- monitor water quality in a nearby stream
- assist with the tree sale
- plant trees and help with similar projects
- assist with bookkeeping and taxes

## **Call or email:**

**802-528-4176**

**[franklincountynrcd@gmail.com](mailto:franklincountynrcd@gmail.com)**

## **Have email?**

### **Switch to our paperless e-newsletter!**

Our newsletter costs approximately \$2,000 to print and mail each issue, and uses more than 1 ½ trees worth of paper. To switch your subscription to paperless, simply email "e-newsletter" to [franklincountynrcd@gmail.com](mailto:franklincountynrcd@gmail.com) and include the name and address you would like removed from the paper mailing.

If you would like to keep your paper subscription *and* receive the electronic version, please specify in your email.

## **Conservation District & USDA Offices Likely to Move:**

Late this summer our office will likely be moving downtown to 50 South Main St. in St. Albans. The move comes about because we are given office space by a federal agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and federal law requires that agencies use any available federally-owned space. Space on the bottom floor has become available, so that is where we will be! The USDA-NRCS and USDA-Farm Services Agency (FSA) will also be moving there. In the mean time visit us in our current location at 27 Fisher Pond Road

## **New Phone Numbers at the St. Albans USDA Offices:**

NRCS Programs: 528-4159

FSA Programs: 528-4158

NRCS Zone Conservationist:

Corey Brink: 528-4174

Soil Conservationists:

Sarah LaRose: 528-4183

Carissa Stein: 528-4173

Phil Wilson: 528-4182

Engineers:

Ann Lansberry: 528-4172

Phil Logan: 528-4184

Land Treatment Planners:

Lauren Gibson: 528-4170

Jeannie Bartlett: 528-4176

50 South Main St., St. Albans



Entrance will be here, around back.  
Upstairs is the passport office.



## Commentary: The Raindrop

Carissa Stein

It has always fallen from the sky, but its journey to Lake Champlain has changed drastically. The raindrop now contacts a roof, a road, a lawn, a parking lot, a dam, or a crop field. As the raindrop collects and flows from the land, the water is channeled into rivers and then the lake. The land that it flows off of is a defined watershed. From the perspective of the watershed it has undergone many changes and always will - that is natural, but the magnitude of change we bring can be overwhelming for the watershed.

As a landowner, you have the ability to change your runoff potential and ultimately your watershed. Watch your property when we get rain. Where does the rain go that your roof deflects? Where does the runoff go from your driveway? When it rains hard does your lawn capture the rain or does it seem to collect and run like a river off your property? This is what we have changed; the ground should absorb that rain, filter it and allow it to slowly seep into the groundwater.

If your land is not capturing the rainwater, it is contributing to the woes of the watershed. Even if the rain is not picking up residue oil from parked cars, sediment, or lawn fertilizers – the increased amount of water that the watershed is collecting can be amplified downstream. So you watched it rain, you noticed that quite a bit of water is leaving your property; what can you do? Slow the water down so it can be absorbed.


Increase your organic matter – it will increase your absorption ability; organic matter can hold 18-20 times its weight in water. Leaves could be adding organic matter and nutrients, if you have a lot of leaves mulch them, but leave them where they fall. Set your mower blade at 3 inches or higher, this will slow the surface water, increase the rooting depth of your grass - roots increase infiltration and add organic matter. If you have a garden, you could plant a cover crop or reduce your tillage it will decrease your runoff and increase your organic matter.

Would you contemplate reducing your mowing? The benefits would be better than raising your blade and it would reduce the compaction of your land. Compaction turns the soil from a sponge to a brick; this can cause pooling of water, since it cannot filter through to the groundwater. There are additional benefits besides water infiltration and absorbency when you reduce mowing, you can increase pollinator's food and wildlife habitat. Specifically, some bird species nest on the ground, if you mow in May and allow the grass to grow continuously for the next 65 days you could give birds the habitat they need to raise their young. For high concentrations of runoff, think about rain gardens and/or rain barrels.

Consider making a change, however small. Small changes collectively can have big changes downstream.

**Carissa Stein** is a Soil Conservationist in St. Albans Field Office and can be reached at 802-528-4173.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



### Scholarships

Are you a college student, or will you be this fall? The District awards \$500 college scholarships for students from Franklin County studying a conservation-related field.

Please contact our office for an application! All applications must be received by July 1st.

### Events

*Check Facebook or call the office for details.*

- Feb 24 - FNLC & UVM Winter Farmers' Meeting, Champlain Valley Equipment, 10am - 2:30pm
- March 2 - VAAFM Listening Tour, St. Albans City Hall, 10am-noon
- March 20 - Wetlands Workshop: What to know before you ditch, tile or stump. Champlain Valley Equipment, 9am-noon. RSVP to 528-4176 appreciated.
- April - Tree Planting Workshop, details TBA

### Franklin County Conservation District

Supervisors:  
 Daton Fleury, Chair  
 Richard Noel, Treasurer  
 Philip Parent  
 Jerry Yates  
 Eileen Trudell

Staff:  
 Jeannie Bartlett, Manager

## Spring Trout Sale

We will be offering Rainbow and Brook Trout this Spring. 6-8" fish in lots of 25 can be picked up at the NRCS office. 10-12" fish require a minimum order of 50 and will be delivered to your pond, in which case please give detailed directions to it. **Pick up and delivery date: Wednesday May 24th, 1:00 pm.** Please fill out this form and deliver it with payment to 27 Fisher Pond Road Suite I no later than May 17th.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions (orders of 10-12" fish only): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### FISH

Rainbow 6-8"	} \$70 per lot of 25 fish	{ \$ _____
Brook 6-8"		\$ _____
Rainbow 10-12"	} \$260 for 50, +\$5.20 per each additional fish	\$ _____
Brook 10-12"		\$ _____

### FISH FOOD

Whole bag (40 lbs)	\$45.00	\$ _____
Half bag (20 lbs)	\$30.00	\$ _____

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Franklin County NRCD**

27 Fisher Pond Road Suite 1  
St. Albans, VT 05478

Phone: 802-528-4176  
E-mail: franklincountynrcd@gmail.com

**Winter Newsletter**

**Tree Sale  
Information Inside!**

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**Trout Sale, too!**

The Franklin County NRCD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

To unsubscribe or to change your subscription to email, please call 802-528-4176 or email franklincountynrcd@gmail.com



**Franklin County Conservation District**

**Winter Newsletter 2017**

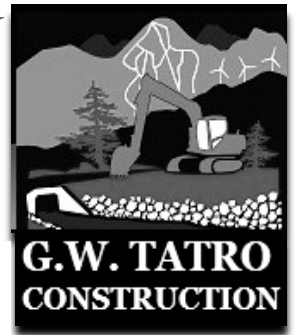
*with Tree and Trout Sale ordering information*

**Thank you to our sponsors:**

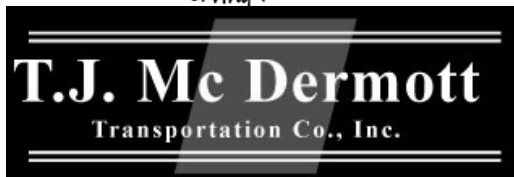
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**R.L. Vallee**



Want to sponsor our newsletter? Write to franklincountynrcd@gmail.com or call 802-528-4176 to support the Conservation District's work and get your company's name to our 2,500 readers.

## Franklin County Conservation District 2017 Tree Sale Order Form

Botanical name	Name	Source	Size	Unit Price	Number	Total Price
<b>Habitat-quality deciduous:</b>						
* <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	VT	3-4 ft	\$10.00		\$
* <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	VT	6-8 ft	\$25.00		\$
* <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	VT	8-10 ft	\$30.00		\$
* <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	VT	1.5" diam	\$80.00		\$
* <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	VT	2" diam	\$100.00		\$
* <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	VT	1-2 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	VT	6-8 ft	\$25.00		\$
* <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	VT	8-10 ft	\$30.00		\$
* <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	VT	1.5" diam	\$80.00		\$
* <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	VT	2" diam	\$100.00		\$
* <i>Alnus rugosa</i>	Speckled Alder	VT	1-2 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Serviceberry	VT	3-4 ft	\$10.00		\$
* <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	Yellow Birch	VT	4-5 ft	\$12.00		\$
* <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	White Birch	VT	6-8 ft	\$25.00		\$
* <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	White Birch	VT	8-10 ft	\$30.00		\$
* <i>Cornus amomum</i>	Silky Dogwood	VT	3-4 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Cornus sericea</i>	Red Osier Dogwood	VT	3-4 ft	\$10.00		\$
* <i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut	VT	2-3 ft	\$15.00		\$
* <i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	VT	3-4 ft	\$10.00		\$
* <i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry	NY	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Choke cherry	VT	4-5 ft	\$12.00		\$
* <i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak	VT	3-4 ft	\$10.00		\$
<i>Salix spp.</i>	Shrub, 5 spp Willow	VT	3-4 ft	\$10.00		\$
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	American Elderberry	VT	crown, 1-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Sorbus americana</i>	White Ash	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
* <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Smooth Arrowwood	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
<b>Domesticated fruits, nuts and flowers:</b>						
<i>Malus domestica</i>	Cortland Apple	NY	1/2" diam	\$25.00		\$
<i>Malus domestica</i>	Crimson Topaz Apple	VT	3-4 ft	\$25.00		\$
<i>Malus domestica</i>	Liberty Apple	NY	1/2" diam	\$25.00		\$
<i>Malus domestica</i>	Macintosh Apple	NY	1/2" diam	\$25.00		\$
<i>Malus domestica</i>	Summer Rambo Apple	VT	3-4 ft	\$25.00		\$
<i>Vaccinium cyanococcus</i>	Bluecrop Blueberries	NJ	3 yr 18/24"	\$10.00		\$
<i>Vaccinium cyanococcus</i>	Patriot Blueberries	NJ	3 yr 18/24"	\$10.00		\$
<i>Forsythia intermedia</i>	Forsythia	NY	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
<i>Vitis labrusca</i>	Concord Grapes	NY	1 ft	\$4.00		\$
<i>Corylus</i>	hybrid Hazelnut	VT	3 ft	\$12.00		\$
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	Lilac	NY	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
<i>Pyrus</i>	Harrow Crisp Pear	NY	7/16" diam	\$25.00		\$
<i>Pyrus</i>	Harrow Sweet Pear	NY	1/4" diam, 3-4 ft	\$25.00		\$
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Encore Raspberries	MA	rooted cutting	\$8.00		\$
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Heritage Raspberries	MA	rooted cutting	\$8.00		\$
<i>Fragaria x ananassa</i>	Allstar Strawberries	MA	rooted cutting	\$2.00		\$
<i>Fragaria x ananassa</i>	Jewel Strawberries	MA	rooted cutting	\$2.00		\$

For full descriptions of each offering, visit [facebook.com/FranklinCountyNRCD](https://www.facebook.com/FranklinCountyNRCD), call 802-528-4176, or drop by the office.

Bulk prices may be available for orders of over 25 trees.

\* indicates species is native to Vermont

~ updated 2/13/2017 ~

Call 802-528-4176 to inquire.

Contact: Jeannie Bartlett  
 802-528-4176  
 franklincountynrcd@gmail.com

## Franklin County Conservation District 2017 Tree Sale Order Form

**Pick-up:** Saturday May 6th  
 Franklin County Field Days  
 294 Airport Road, Highgate

Botanical name	Name	Source	Size	Unit Price	Number	Total Price
<b>Evergreens:</b>						
* <i>Abies balsamea</i>	Canaan Fir	NY	1 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir	NY	1 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir	VT	4-5 ft	\$26.00		\$
* <i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir	VT	5-6 ft	\$35.00		\$
* <i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir	VT	6-8 ft	\$50.00		\$
<i>Abies fraseri</i>	Fraser Fir	NY	1 ft	\$4.00		\$
<i>Abies fraseri</i>	Fraser Fir	VT	2-3 ft	\$7.00		\$
<i>Abies fraseri</i>	Fraser Fir	VT	4-5 ft	\$12.00		\$
* <i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	NY	1-2 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	VT	2-4 ft	\$8.00		\$
* <i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	VT	4-5 ft	\$26.00		\$
* <i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	VT	5-6 ft	\$35.00		\$
* <i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	VT	6-8 ft	\$50.00		\$
<i>Picea pungens</i>	Colorado Blue Spruce	NY	1-2 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Pinus strobus</i>	Eastern White Pine	NY	1 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar (Arborvitae)	NY	1 ft	\$4.00		\$
* <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar (Arborvitae)	VT	4-5 ft	\$22.00		\$
* <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar (Arborvitae)	VT	5-6 ft	\$32.00		\$
* <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar (Arborvitae)	VT	6-8 ft	\$40.00		\$

**Wildflower seed mixes (predominantly native, some naturalized):**

Northeast Annual & Perennial Wildflower Mix	PA	per oz. 3oz/1000 sq ft	\$5.00		
Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden Wildflower Mix	PA	per oz. 3oz/1000 sq ft	\$10.00		
Riparian Buffer Wildflower Mix	PA	per oz. 7-10oz/1000 sf	\$5.00		
Wetland Wildflower Mix	PA	per oz. 7oz/1000 sq ft	\$10.00		

<b>Subtotal:</b>	
<b>Donation:</b>	
<b>Total Enclosed:</b>	

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street, Town, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred method of contact: (circle one) Phone / Email / Mail**  
*If "mail," please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for us to mail your order confirmation.*

Please make checks payable to Franklin County NRCDC

Deliver checks and order forms to  
 27 Fisher Pond Rd. Suite 1  
 St. Albans, VT 05478

**(Optional) Tell me about why or where you're planting trees!**

Place your order as soon as possible for the best selection. Supplies are limited and orders are first-come first-served.  
 Payment must be received with orders to reserve your trees.  
 There is no warranty on any tree, shrub, or vine. To minimize losses, please follow planting and care instructions.  
 Please verify your order is correct on pickup day. If there is an error we will do our best to rectify the situation.

Missing something you'd like? We'd be happy to try to source additional native species for you. Call 802-528-4176.

Building large-scale wildlife habitat, restoring a stream, or planting a tree farm? Call 802-528-4176 to ask about bulk pricing.

All orders must be picked up between 8:30am and 1:30 pm on Saturday, May 6th at Franklin County Field Days, 294 Airport Rd, Highgate, VT, or the order will be forfeited. If you cannot make it on May 6th please call to request other arrangements.

*Bulk prices may be available for orders of over 25 trees.*

\* indicates species is native to Vermont