

FY22
BUDGET REQUEST

EASTERN CT
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FY23

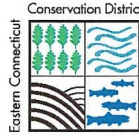
BUDGET REQUEST

EASTERN CT

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.

238 West Town Street
Norwich, CT 06360-2111
860-319-8806



139 Wolf Den Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234
860-774-9600

www.ConserveCT.org/eastern

BOARD of DIRECTORS

October 27, 2020

OFFICERS

William Jorsz
Chair
Sprague

Mr. Rob Brule, First Selectman
Town of Waterford
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Sherwood Raymond
Vice Chair
Norwich

Dear Mr. Brule:

Paul Shaffer
Treasurer
Norwich

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, I am writing to request Waterford's support in the 2020-21 fiscal year in the amount of \$1,500. The municipal contributory support that we receive from our towns provides much-needed funding that assists our efforts, as a non-profit organization, throughout our 36-town service area.

Leonora Szruba
Secretary
Lisbon

DIRECTORS

Gwen Haaland
Ashford

In addition to the rising costs of conservation projects we undertake, there are many unfunded activities that help to support those projects -- before, during and after completion. We reach out to you to support clean local waters and sound environmental stewardship for your town.

Charlie Hobbs
Ledyard

Cindy Wright-Jones
Pomfret Center

Of major focus in eastern Connecticut is keeping our waters clean and safe. The municipal donations that we receive help build the foundation we need to implement low-impact development and green infrastructure projects. Additionally, municipal contributions allow ECCD to respond to requests from town residents for environmental reviews, such as for erosion & sediment control. Funding from the towns also supports our educational efforts, keeping residents, farmers, business owners and town staff, as well as ECCD staff, current on best management practices that impact our natural resources including our local waterbodies - which flow into Long Island Sound.

Susan Manning
Griswold

Jimmy Moran
North Stonington

Cathy Osten
Sprague

Matt Peckham
Woodstock

ALTERNATES

Michelle Maitland
Town of Groton

Lydia Pan
Mystic

Warren Swanson
Waterford

In Waterford during the coming year, ECCD will continue to provide coordinator services to the Niantic River Watershed Committee (NRWC), a largely unfunded position that ECCD has been supporting without adequate reimbursement. Waterford's municipal contribution will offset a portion of the District's professional services to the NRWC. As the coordinating entity of the Niantic River Watershed Committee, ECCD provides support services to the Niantic River watershed including the submission and acquisition of grants. Over the past year, ECCD has been administering two grants, one from CT DEEP and the other from the Community Foundation of Eastern CT, to update the Niantic River Watershed Protection Plan. The Protection Plan has been completed and will guide the restoration and protection of the Niantic River well into the future. All of these efforts improve the water quality of the Niantic River for shellfishing and recreation, and reflect the District's commitment to the watershed and the Town of Waterford.

ECCD was awarded a grant from and executed a contract with CT DEEP to install in

C

C

C

Waterford 3 tree filters, 7 rain gardens, 8 stormdrain SmartSponges and 10 rain barrels. This project is underway.

The District received a third grant from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, to continue the stormwater collaborative it created two years ago. The *Eastern CT Stormwater Collaborative* is the first stormwater collaborative in Connecticut. Its purpose is to share knowledge, expertise and resources with other participants to comply with the CTDEEP MS4 General Stormwater Permit, municipal officials from Waterford have been regularly attending collaborative meetings.

ECCD employs five full time staff. Our projected salaries for 2020-21 total \$287,000, as noted in the attached budget. We do not receive any funding from the United Way. The District serves all residents in Waterford.

We have included a copy of our 2019-20 Annual Report to offer a glimpse of the range of activities that we provide, often in partnership with other conservation organizations. We have also included the District's most recent Annual Audit, our current operating budget and a list of municipalities that contributed to ECCD in the past year.

Your support is greatly appreciated! In advance, we thank you very much.

Sincerely,



William A. Jorsz
Chair

Enc.: 1 original packet
5 packet copies

C

C

C



TOWN OF WATERFORD
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385
860-442-0553

SOCIAL SERVICES GRANT FUNDING REQUEST

ORGANIZATION NAME: Eastern CT Conservation District

REQUEST DATE (FISCAL YEAR): 2021

REQUESTED AMOUNT: \$1,500

BENEFIT STATEMENT (Describe how these funds will be used)

Support the salary of the Niantic River Watershed Coordinator

Provide staff time to administer and coordinate installation in WTFD of 3 tree filters,

7 rain gardens, 8 stormdrain filters and distribute 10 rain barrels to WTFD residents

Per Town of Waterford Budget Guidelines: please attach a certified audit report of all funds appropriated during the last completed fiscal year to your funding request.

DECLARATION

I, the requester, understand that I am requesting public funds from the Town of Waterford.
I declare that this request does not pose any potential conflict with the Town of Waterford
and I will provide any documentation requested by the Town of Waterford to authorize
funding this request or review the appropriateness of the request.

Daniel Mullins
Signature

10/27/2020
Date

C

C

C

BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 2021

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.

Income

Contributory Income

State Funding	\$	100,000
Municipal Funding	\$	10,000
Private Contributions	\$	4,000
Contributory Income Total:		\$ 114,000

Programs and Services Income

Plant Sale	\$	26,000
Miscellaneous Programs and Services	\$	0
SW PCP Review for DEEP	\$	0
Programs and Services Income Total:		\$ 26,000

Grants and Projects Income

TLGV Coordinator - Yr 15 - Fed. FY '20	\$	10,000
TLGV Coordinator - yr 14 - Fed. FY '21	\$	10,000
19-01 FY 19 - Block Grant - Site Plan Reviews	\$	30,000
CTA funding via NACD	\$	15,600
15-03 FY - 15 Natchaug River Healthy Waters Initiative	\$	34,608
RCPP - State Program with TLGV - Thames River Basin	\$	20,000
RCPP - State Program w UConn - Path to Reduce Pathogens	\$	18,020
Dominion 2021	\$	10,000
Anguilla Brook Trackdown and WBP	\$	30,217
CFEC Stormwater Collaborative (2020)	\$	25,000
LISFF Shewville Fishway Design	\$	50,450
DEEP Mitigation Funding (LISFF Shewville Fishway Match)	\$	67,236
FY 17 Niantic River 4-town	\$	78,000
FY 17 - Lower Natchaug SW BMPs	\$	0
FY 17 - Block Grant Implementation	\$	30,000
FY 18 - Block Grant Implementation	\$	0
NRWC WPP MOU	\$	6,080
Little River Barn/Waste Structure Design & Field Equipment	\$	280,300
Little River Barn/Waste Structure Design	\$	390,000
CSWC Source Water Protection Little River WBP	\$	40,000
Other Grants/Projects	\$	0
Grants and Projects Income Total:		\$ 1,145,511

C

C

C

Other Income

Bank Interest Earned	\$	95	
Meeting Income	\$	480	
Miscellaneous	\$	50	
Other Income Total:		\$	625
Total Income:		\$	<u>1,286,136</u>

ExpensesAdministrative Expenses

Advertising	\$	2,000	
Dues, Memberships, Contributions	\$	1,000	
Insurance Premiums	\$	12,500	
Administrative Expenses Total:		\$	15,500

Personnel Expenses

Wages	\$	287,000	
Employer's Payroll Taxes	\$	23,000	
Employer's SIMPLE Contribution	\$	6,600	
Unemployment Tax and Bond	\$	2,000	
Payroll Processing Support Services	\$	250	
Mileage, Tolls, Parking, Vehicles	\$	10,000	
Education, Conferences	\$	2,000	
Additional Staffing Cost Contingency	\$	2,000	
Liability, and Errors & Omissions Insurance	\$	0	
Personnel Expenses Total:		\$	332,850

Programs and Services Expenses

Plant Sale	\$	18,500	
Miscellaneous Programs and Services	\$	100	
SW PCP Review for DEEP	\$	0	
Programs and Services Expenses Total:		\$	18,600

C

C

C

Grant and Project Expenses

	TLGV Coordinator - Yr 15 - Fed. FY '20	\$	0
	TLGV Coordinator - Yr 16 - Fed. FY '21	\$	0
19-01	FY 19 - Block Grant - Site Plan Reviews	\$	0
	CTA funding via NACD	\$	0
15-03	FY 15 - Natchaug River Healthy Waters Initiative	\$	5,000
	RCPP - State Program with TLGV - Thames River Basin	\$	0
	RCPP - State Program w UConn - Path to Reduce Pathogens	\$	0
	Dominion 2020	\$	1,000
	Anguilla Brook Trackdown and WBP	\$	600
	CFEC Stormwater Collaborative (2020)	\$	8,000
	LISFF Shewville Fishway Design	\$	47,898
	DEEP Mitigation Funding (LISFF Shewville Fishway Match)	\$	50,529
	FY 17 - Niantic River 4-town	\$	60,000
	FY 17 - Lower Natchaug SW BMPs	\$	0
	FY 17 - Block Grant Implementation	\$	20,000
	FY 18 - Block Grant Implementation	\$	20,000
	NRWC WPP MOU	\$	0
	Little River Barn/Waste Structure Design & Field Equipment	\$	268,669
	Little River Barn/Waste Structure Design	\$	391,990
	CSWC Source Water Protection Little River WBP	\$	0
	Other Grants/Projects	\$	0

Grant and Project Expenses Total:	\$	873,686
-----------------------------------	----	---------

Expenses, continuedOffice Expenses

Auditing	\$	5,500
Communication Services	\$	1,500
Office Machines	\$	2,500
Office Supplies, Printer Ink & Software	\$	4,000
Postage	\$	3,000
Printing	\$	5,200
Office rental (Brooklyn)	\$	3,200
Other Services	\$	500

Office Expenses Total:	\$	25,400
------------------------	----	--------

Miscellaneous Expenses

Contingency	\$	1,000
Meeting Expenses	\$	1,800
Legal expenses (ECCD land in Brooklyn)	\$	12,000
Executive Director Discretionary Spending	\$	400
Miscellaneous	\$	4,900

Miscellaneous Expenses Total:	\$	20,100
-------------------------------	----	--------

Total Expenses:	\$	1,286,136
------------------------	----	------------------

C

C

C

2020 Municipal Donor List

Ashford
Brooklyn
Columbia
Eastford
East Lyme
Franklin
Hampton
Ledyard
Lisbon
Mansfield
Norwich
Pomfret
Preston
Putnam
Scotland
Sprague
Sterling
Thompson
Voluntown
Waterford
Woodstock

C

C

C



District Goals

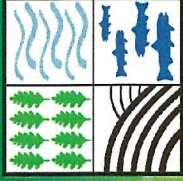
- Provide municipalities, farmers, residents and businesses of the District with technical assistance to promote responsible use of natural resources.
- Conduct projects and provide services to protect and improve natural resource and watershed health.
- Provide natural resource conservation information and education.
- Provide support services to CT DEEP for the Stormwater Construction General Permit.
- Collaborate with and provide support services to other conservation organizations.
- Provide efficient and effective District administration.

Statewide Vision:
Connecticut's five Conservation Districts shall serve as leading environmental organizations in Connecticut.

District Vision:
Provide technical assistance and environmental education to promote sound natural resource management utilizing a watershed approach.

Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

238 West Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360 860-319-8806
139 Wolf Den Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234 860-774-9600



2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Board of Directors

William Jorsz, Chair
Anne Roberts-Pierson, Vice-Chair
Warren Swanson, Treasurer
Leonora Szruba, Secretary

Susan Manning
Sherwood Raymond

Charlie Hobbs
Matt Peckham
Cathy Osten
Paul Shaffer
Jimmy Moran

Alternate Directors

Pete Merrill
Gwen Haaland

Staff

Dan Mullins, Executive Director
Judy Rondeau, Assistant Director
Francine Brodeur, Office Manager
Jean Pillo, Watershed Conservation
Project Manager
Maura Roble,
Conservation Technician

This past year has been a challenge for many non-profit organizations and society generally. Covid-19 burst upon the global scene with incredible speed reminding us just how interconnected we are and how distant disruptions to the natural world can pose unimaginable threats here at home. While the adjustments to living with Covid – 19 have placed stress upon the social and economic infrastructure through which society functions, like many others, Eastern Connecticut Conservation District has implemented actions to reduce the threat of infection to staff and the public with whom we interact, while continuing to perform the necessary functions to accomplish our mission.

One of ECCD's most important missions is to raise awareness about environmental issues by educating the public through workshops and engaging others in the work that we do. Although District staff has continued to implement projects, conducting live workshops and involving civic groups in conservation work has decreased tremendously. The District has transformed its live, more dynamic workshops to online forums that limit interaction and diminish the effectiveness of training. Our ability to organize projects around community volunteers has been severely impacted. We cannot ZOOM in to an eroded riverbank to plant a vegetated riparian buffer.

Nonetheless, District staff continues to spearhead multiple projects and watershed committees. ECCD installed a suite of best management practices at an apartment complex in Ashford and has assisted multiple dairy farmers acquire innovative field equipment to support soil health and protect water quality. The District installed multiple best management practices at a large dairy farm in Woodstock and managed the Baker Cove Non-migratory Canada Geese Outreach, Education and Control Project. Currently, three District staff are drafting watershed plans that will provide guidance to local communities to protect or improve surface waters. And, the District continues to conduct site reviews for residents in eastern Connecticut.

There are no substances more emblematic of our shared environment than air and water. And, there are no pathways more capable of transmitting harmful pathogens and pollutants between environments and people than air and water. This global pandemic reminds us that our actions have far-reaching impacts. We are all reminded that we are connected by the air we breathe, by the water we drink, by the biosphere we occupy. It is upon all of us to protect each other. Without individual actions, we cannot have clean air, clean water and a healthy environment. We cannot change behaviors of those living in far-off lands. We can, however, for healthier lives, change our actions here at home.

William A. Jorsz,
Chair

C

C

C



Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

www.ecccd.org

The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to all of our 2019-20 donors listed below. Your generosity and cooperative spirit greatly support our efforts in soil & water conservation throughout eastern Connecticut. Thank you.

ECCD Provides Technical Assistance to District Towns & Residents



ECCD conducted a site review of an overgrown property in Noank, and provided the property owner with guidance to restore and enhance the original landscaping for native wildlife and pollinators.



ECCD is partnering with the Univ. of CT and two Hampton high school students enrolled in the Natural Resources Conservation Academy to conduct a bird survey of the Milo Appleby Conservation Showcase, land owned by ECCD in Brooklyn. To present the results of the survey, the students will create a Story Map that will be featured on ECCD's website.

ECCD responded to a wide variety of inquiries from District municipalities and residents, providing technical assistance on topics such as:

Nonpoint source pollution, farmland restoration, soil health, MS4 permit support, coastal resiliency, stormwater management and retrofits, stormwater sampling, riparian buffers and buffer plants, GIS assistance, agricultural best management practices, low-impact development, green infrastructure, conservation planning, open space planning and management, native plants, pollinator plants, stormwater BMP monitoring & maintenance, erosion and sediment control, pond management, water quality monitoring, funding opportunities, grant writing support, legislative and policy updates, invasive species information, and local, state and federal permitting questions.

We would like to thank the following towns for their 2019-20 contributions to ECCD which help to support regional conservation throughout eastern Connecticut.

Ashford, Brooklyn, Columbia, Eastford, Franklin, Hampton, Ledyard, Lisbon, Mansfield, Norwich, Pomfret, Preston, Putnam, Scotland, Sprague, Sterling, Thompson, Voluntown, Waterford and Woodstock.

Mary Albro	Peter Dumaine	Susan Manning	Georgette Rohrig
David Amacher	Charles & Mary Dimmock	Robert Marsh	Sarah Rogovin
Joellen Anderson	Eileen Fritz	Bobbie Ann Maschka	Cynthia Rutigliano
Octavia Ashburn	Pamela Gray	Richard Matters	David Schulz
James Ashwell	Nuslie Halpine	Teresa Mead	Earl Semmelrock
James Beall	Sarah Heminway	Charles McLain	Ralph & Gerri Serrilli
Margaret W. Becker	Charles Hobbs	Ann Milner	Henry Sorel
Martin Bednar, MD, PhD	Jo Ann Holmes	Wendy Mis	Bruce Staehle
Frances & Wilfred Blanchette	Anthony Irving	Todd Morin	Josephine Stenback
Kathryn Bohara	Roman Jamieson	Judith Moulton	Ronald Sticht
Bill & Cecelia Bray	Pete Jensen	Susan Munger	Joseph Stoddard
Joyce Brewster	Douglas Kehl	John Navarro	Karen Stone
Lois Bruinooge	Thomas & Kerry Kudelchuk	Robert Naddo	Daniel Storms
Nancy Burnett	Tina LaBrash	Susan Neilan	Susan Surova
Susan Burns	Lawrence LaBonte	Anne Nelson	Jo Ann Szela
E. R. Butler	Mary Lachapelle	Leilani Nixon	Leonora Szruba
Alfred & Alike Caraganis	John Lamay	Judy O'Connor	Orville Terwilliger
Michael & Lynne Cassidy	Marc Lang	Jeffrey Otto	Christopher Thomson
Robert Chalecki	Leslie Lavallee	Steve Pack	Sue Theve
Benjamin & Bertha Chase	Ellen Lehtimaki	Cheryl Parsons	Janice Thurlon
Robin Chesmer	Jay Levin	Patricia Peck	Timothy & Lucas Young
Jane Christensen	Amanda Lindberg	Helen Peterle	Carl Vogt
Robert Clairwood	Robert & Robin Lofquist	Janice Porier	Susan Waldron
Lynn Davis	Emily Logee-Savoie	Joseph Polulech	Carolyn & Robert Werge
Mary Ducat	Lance & Pauline Magnuson	Harold & Deborah Raymond	

C

C

C



Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

www.eccdd.org

ECCD Provides Natural Resource Conservation Information & Education

Collaborations/Partnerships

Partnerships with government agencies and other non-profit organizations are important to ECCD to achieve our mission. ECCD is represented on the Board of the Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, the Thames River Basin Partnership, the Celebrating Agriculture! Steering Committee, The Last Green Valley, Connecticut Envirothon, the Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group, the Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Willimantic Watershed Partnership. We also partner with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, US Environmental Protection Agency, Council on Soil & Water Conservation, Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative, Department of Public Health and local health districts, UConn Extension System, CLEAR, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources (CANR), CT Sea Grant, Connecticut Audubon Society, and others. Partnering with other conservation organizations provides a positive synergy to meet our conservation goals.

In addition to our many partnerships, ECCD provides support services to other conservation organizations, including administrative and financial management services, and grant application submittal and management.

Watershed Committees

In order to move forward and implement recommendations in watershed plans, ECCD created and facilitates several watershed committees. These include the Niantic River Watershed Committee, Little River Healthy Watershed Collaborative and the Baker Cove Watershed Committee. These watershed committees are comprised of representatives from the local communities and other stakeholders who work together to improve and protect water quality, soil health, and natural resources.

We extend our thanks to the following supporters of conservation for their generous assistance & outreach!

- ✦ 2019-20 Water Quality Monitoring Volunteers
- ✦ Andrew Tate Memorial Fund
- ✦ The CT Audubon Society
- ✦ CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection
- ✦ Ocean State Job Lot
- ✦ Roseland Park Board of Trustees
- ✦ Johnny's Seeds
- ✦ The Last Green Valley, Inc.
- ✦ UConn Extension System
- ✦ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- ✦ Windham County Agricultural Society
- ✦ The Town of Lisbon
- ✦ Valleyside Farm

NACD Northeast Reg'1 Annual Meeting



ECCD staff participated in the planning of the meeting, presented at the meeting and led tours of urban and agricultural BMPs in priority watersheds. ECCD Chair Bill Jorsz opened the meeting and welcomed attendees to eastern CT.

ECCD Professional Development



ECCD staff periodically attend workshops like this erosion & sediment control workshop sponsored by the Southern New England Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society so that we may provide the most current information to District residents and towns.

DEEP Watershed Fair



ECCD staff presented a program on the Natchaug River Watershed project and tabled information on the Niantic River watershed at the DEEP Integrated Water Resource Management and Watershed Fair at Goodwin College in East Hartford.

Public Education Webinars



ECCD went online to present a variety of webinars in response to outreach challenges presented by Covid-19 guidelines, including septic system maintenance, cold water stream habitat and the importance of riparian buffers.

Rivers Alliance Watershed Conservation Conference



ECCD presented a program about the formation of the Eastern Connecticut Stormwater Collaborative for water quality professionals at the Rivers Alliance Annual Watershed Conservation Conference.

Celebrating Agriculture!



ECCD distributed free cover crop seeds for backyard gardeners at the annual Celebrating Agriculture Day at the Woodstock Fair Grounds.

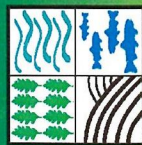
♥♥♥ ECCD wishes to express its respectful appreciation for donations ♥♥♥
fondly made on behalf of others in the name of conservation.

William Bakanowsky in Honor of Edwin A. Brown, Sr.	Clarence Pete Merrill in Honor of Pauline Swain Merrill
Jim & Kathy Belisle in Honor of Kate Johnson	Patricia Peck in Honor of Howard Peck
Patricia & David Gilbert in Honor of James Gilbert	Barry & Jane Rider in Honor of Myke Daly
Bill & Lynn Jorsz in Honor of Larry Coletti, MD	Michael Rizzo in Honor of Christina Rizzo
Chip Lamb in Honor of Susan Lamb	Gary & Cindy Sudol in Honor of Stanley & Jane Sudol

C

C

C



Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

Agricultural Projects

Fairvue Farm Agricultural Waste Management Practices Project¹ - To improve water quality in the Little River, which provides drinking water to Putnam, ECCD and Fairvue Farm have installed a suite of agricultural waste management practices. These practices include subsurface drainage, silage leachate collection, a waste transfer system with concrete receiving tanks and a liquid-solid separator to remove liquids from manure and produce bedding for Fairvue's herd of dairy cows.

NACD Technical Assistance Grant - With funding from the National Association of Conservation Districts, ECCD assisted the Natural Resources Conservation Service by providing technical assistance to producers. District staff guided farmers through NRCS programs, conducted resource assessments and drafted conservation plans. Among other outcomes, the technical assistance resulted in a seasonal high tunnel for a vegetable producer and invaluable support for urban community gardeners.

PATH to Reduce Pathogens in Agriculture Runoff² - Under the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, PATH to Reduce Pathogens in CT Agricultural Runoff, spearheaded by The University of CT, ECCD is assisting UConn by providing technical assistance to producers in Eastern CT to reduce the discharge into our waterways of harmful pathogens contained in agricultural runoff. ECCD has been conducting water quality monitoring for the project and assessing potential sites to implement conservation practices to reduce pathogens.

Thames River Basin Regional Conservation Partnership Program² - Under the RCPP, ECCD is assisting The Last Green Valley by providing technical assistance to engage agricultural producers in the Thames River Basin and to support them in implementing conservation practices that will improve soil health and water quality. ECCD is in the process of collecting samples at 2 edge-of-field stormwater runoff sites located in Baltic and Bozrah which will provide valuable data to the farmer on any losses of nitrate-nitrogen and soluble phosphorous.

Valleyside Farm Bioreactor Monitoring Project¹ - In 2017, ECCD installed a woodchip bioreactor to intercept tile drainage from an agricultural field as a nutrient reduction conservation practice. In 2018, ECCD was awarded funding to monitor the inflow and outflow of the reactor, to assess whether this is a viable practice in the Connecticut climate for nutrient and pathogen reduction. A year of water sampling at the inlet and outlet of the Woodchip Bioreactor was completed in mid-June. The results demonstrated a consistent and significant reduction in nitrogen from the tile drainage system under the farm field.



- ¹ Funded in part by CT DEEP through a CWA §319 NPS Program grant
- ² Funded in part by CT NRCS through USDA RCPP grant
- ³ Funded in part by a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Long Island Sound Futures Fund grant with additional funding provided by EPA.
- ⁴ Funded by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

Water Quality & Habitat Improvement Projects

Anguilla Brook Bacteria Traddown & Watershed Plan¹ - In 2019, with the assistance of the Town of Stonington and local volunteers, ECCD conducted the Anguilla Brook bacteria traddown. Volunteers collected stream bacteria data and conducted stream corridor assessments to identify potential sources of bacteria and nutrient loading to Wequetequock Cove. ECCD is in the process of developing a watershed-based plan for the Anguilla Brook watershed which will be completed by the end of 2020.

Baker Cove Non-migratory Canada Geese Outreach, Education & Control Project¹ - In 2019, ECCD and multiple partners completed a 2-year non-migratory Canada geese management project in Groton. Project partners conducted public education workshops, identified Canada goose use areas through surveys, and created a management matrix for local areas experiencing non-migratory Canada geese issues. An important outcome of the project was the creation of a Baker Cove watershed committee to spearhead implementation of the Baker Cove Abbreviated Watershed-Based Plan.

Eastern Connecticut Stormwater Collaborative⁴ - In 2019, ECCD received a second year of funding from the Community Foundation of Eastern CT. This funding made it possible for the Collaborative to expand into northeast CT and to purchase water quality testing equipment for stormwater outfall sampling. The Collaborative provides support, tools and resources for municipal DPWs and other stormwater managers to manage discharge from municipal stormdrain systems and comply with the requirements of the NPDES MS4 permit.

Mt Hope River Implementation Project - Perry Hill Estates¹ - ECCD implemented a suite of best management practices to protect water quality in Basset Brook, a headwater stream of the Natchaug River, which provides drinking water to the towns of Windham and Mansfield. The District installed dumpster pads, rain gardens and catch basin filters at Perry Hill Estates in Ashford. Additionally, 12 pet waste stations were installed at apartment complexes and two parks in the Mt. Hope River watershed. To complement these efforts, a broad outreach campaign was conducted to educate residents about pet waste management, dumpster etiquette and septic system maintenance.

Natchaug River Healthy Watershed Implementation Plan¹ - ECCD, DEEP and local stakeholders are collaborating on the development of a Healthy Watershed Protection Plan for the Natchaug watershed, which includes the Fenton, Mount Hope and Natchaug Rivers. This is the first project of its kind in Connecticut. The local communities were surveyed to learn what they value about the watershed. Educational workshops and a social marketing campaign were developed to expand local knowledge on healthy watershed features. The final Plan, focused on non-regulatory, cost effective measures, will be completed in late summer 2020.

Shewville Dam Fishway Design Project³ - ECCD has retained consultant Milone & MacBroom, Inc. to design a Denali steep-pass fishway to pass fish over the Shewville Dam in Ledyard, CT. Upon completion of the design, ECCD will seek funding to construct the fishway. Once the fishway is constructed, river herring will have access to spawning habitat all the way to Amos Lake. Previously, the District installed a steep-pass fishway over the Hallville Pond dam and breached the Straight Pond dam, allowing fish to migrate from Poquetanuck Cove, along the Thames River, to the Shewville dam.



Manure liquid-solid separator at Fairvue Farms in Woodstock.



ECCD participated in quarterly meetings of the PATH project led by Dr. Jack Clausen of University of Connecticut.



ECCD staff process water samples edge-of-field monitoring as part of the TLGV RCPP project.



Wequetequock Cove in Stonington, CT.



A rain garden infiltrates stormwater runoff from a newly installed dumpster pad at Perry Hill Estates.



ECCD, DEEP and Milone & MacBroom Staff review fishway designs.

C

C

C

**EASTERN CONNECTICUT
CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2019**

**TOGETHER WITH
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
TABLE OF CONTENTS
JUNE 30, 2019

Page

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

1

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Assets, Liabilities
and Net Assets (Income Tax Basis)

2

Statement of Revenues, Expenses,
and Other Changes in Net Assets (Income Tax Basis)

3

Notes to Financial Statements

4

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Lionel LaSalle II, CPA

Certified Public Accountant & Business Advisor

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc.
Norwich, Connecticut

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. (a nonprofit organization) which comprise of the statement of assets, liabilities and net assets -income tax basis, as of June 30, 2019, and the related statement of revenues, expenses and other changes in net assets - income tax basis, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. uses for income tax purposes; this includes determining that the income tax basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, I express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities, and net assets of Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. as of June 30, 2019, and its revenues, expenses, and other changes in net assets for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. uses for income tax purposes described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the basis of accounting Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. uses for income tax purposes, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. My opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.



Jewett City, Connecticut
December 27, 2019

141 Brown Avenue Jewett City, CT 06351

Phone: (860) 376-9537 Fax: (860) 376-5910, E-Mail: Office@LaSalleCPA.net

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS (INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	\$ 94,555
Prepaid Expenses	<u>1,221</u>
Total current assets	95,776

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net

<u>581</u>

Total assets

<u><u>\$ 96,357</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Payroll Liabilities	<u>272</u>
Total current liabilities	272

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted, undesignated	82,568
Temporarily restricted	<u>13,517</u>
Total net assets	96,085
Total liabilities and net assets	<u><u>\$ 96,357</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND
OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS (INCOME TAX BASIS)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
REVENUES			
Grants	\$ 261,790	\$ -	\$ 261,790
State funding	100,000	-	100,000
Programs	31,360	-	31,360
Towns funding	11,600	-	11,600
Other income	10,301	6,745	17,046
Interest income	94	-	94
Net assets released from restrictions			
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	11,139	(11,139)	-
Total support and revenue	<u>426,284</u>	<u>(4,394)</u>	<u>421,890</u>
EXPENSES			
Compensation	300,223	-	300,223
Grants & Projects	65,407	-	65,407
Programs	29,565	-	29,565
Payroll taxes	24,768	-	24,768
Office expense and supplies	17,922	-	17,922
Vehicle expense	8,714	-	8,714
Employee benefits	5,928	-	5,928
Professional fees	5,000	-	5,000
Insurance	10,133	-	10,133
Advertising	1,693	-	1,693
Depreciation	953	-	953
Conferences	855	-	855
Communications	1,570	-	1,570
Dues and subscriptions	887	-	887
Total expenses	<u>473,618</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>473,618</u>
Change in net assets	(47,334)	(4,394)	(51,728)
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>129,902</u>	<u>17,911</u>	<u>147,813</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	<u><u>\$ 82,568</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 13,517</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 96,085</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

NATURE OF ACTIVITIES

The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. (the Organization) operates as a natural resources conservation district for eastern Connecticut. The Organization's mission is as follows:

- a. Developing soil and water conservation, erosion, and sedimentary control programs, priorities and workplans;
- b. Promoting soil and water conservation on land and in waterbodies in eastern Connecticut, by evaluating land, establishing proper land use, promoting educational programs, cooperating in, and assisting with, the resolution of local land use problems, obtaining services of heavy equipment and obtaining planting materials;
- c. Presenting to landowners complete soil conservation programs based on proper land use, including offering to landowners technical services, material, and equipment to develop conservation practices upon their lands;
- d. Participating in surveys, investigations and research concerning the problems of soil erosion and its control;
- e. Assisting community conservation commissions;
- f. Providing maps and other resources to local planning and zoning boards; and
- g. Otherwise engaging in any lawful act and activity consistent with the forgoing for which corporations may be formed under the Connecticut Revised Nonstock Corporation Act (the "Act").

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Organization prepares its financial statements on the modified cash method of accounting used for Federal income tax reporting purposes, but includes liabilities for payroll taxes. Consequently, as indicated below, certain revenues and expenses are recognized in the determination of income in different reporting periods than they would be if the financial statements were prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(continued)

RECOGNITION OF REVENUE

Contributions

Contributions are defined as voluntary, non reciprocal transfers.

Unrestricted and unconditional contributions are recognized as revenue when received. Contributions are reported as temporarily restricted if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of such assets. When a restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or a purpose restricted is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets.

Contributed Services

Many individuals volunteer their time and perform a variety of tasks that assist the Organization with its educational programs. The Organization receives approximately 1,000 volunteer hours per year that have not been recorded in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and other Changes in Net Assets.

Contributed Facilities

The Organization uses facilities located in the USDA Service Center in Norwich, Connecticut and at CT Audubon in Pomfret Center that have not been recorded in the Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Other Changes in Net Assets.

ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements on the income tax basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as the date of the financial statements and the reports amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(continued)

INCOME TAXES

The Internal Revenue Service has determined that the Organization is exempt from federal income taxes on exempt function income as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Consequently, no provision for income taxes has been made in the accompanying financial statements.

The Organization did not recognize any liability for uncertain tax positions as defined by the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The federal income tax returns of the Organization for the year ended June 30, 2019 are subject to examination by the IRS, generally for three years after they have been filed.

NET ASSET CATEGORIES

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use or resources available to the Organization, the accounts of the Organization are maintained in the following net asset categories:

Unrestricted

Unrestricted net assets represent resources other than donor restricted contributions. Included in unrestricted net assets are grants and contracts which may be earmarked for specific purposes.

Temporarily Restricted

Temporarily restricted net assets represent contributions that are restricted by the donor either as to purpose or as to time of expenditure. This classification included income and appreciation subject to purpose restrictions. The Organization maintains the following temporarily restricted net assets:

Celebrating Agriculture is an annual, fun, free, educational day showcasing the benefits agriculture provides to the region, as well as the challenges farms face today. It is held at the Woodstock Fairgrounds on Route 169, Woodstock, CT. The Organization provides financial management of the funds for this event, serves on the Steering Committee, processes requests for payment, deposits earmarked funds into a pass-through line item account, and provides monthly financial statements.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(continued)

NET ASSET CATEGORIES *(continued)*

The Thames River Basin Partnership is a voluntary, cooperative effort to share resources and to develop a regional approach to resource protection. Priority areas of concern for the basin are to: protect the region's agricultural and natural areas being threatened by land use changes; protect ground surface water quantity and quality being threatened and degraded by contamination; provide informational and educational opportunities; and improve the coastal zone resource conditions. The Organization provides coordinator services for this organization, serves as a member of the Steering Committee, manages the funding by depositing the organizations income into a designated line item pass-through account, issues checks for payment as requested by the coordinator, tracks grant income, and provides financial reports as requested.

The Hallville Pond Dam grant requires that funds be held in a separate account. The amount of temporarily restricted cash is \$7,355. The Organization serves as general contractor and will provide future management of a fishway at the Hallville Dam site in Preston, CT. This project supports the restoration of anadromous fish from the Thames River upstream to Amos Lake in Preston through funding specifically earmarked for this project.

Niantic River Watershed Committee is an entity comprised of members within the Niantic River watershed, which spans the towns of East Lyme, Montville, Salem and Waterford. The Committee's purpose is to improve water quality and monitoring for the Niantic River and its tributaries. In addition to compiling water data, NRWC supports fish and wildlife habitat and provides natural resource management through technical, educational and outreach support. The organization provides financial management of the funds; organization leadership; processes requests for payment; deposits earmarked funds; and provides monthly financial statements.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include all monies in banks and highly liquid investments with maturity dates of less than three months. At June 30, 2019, the Organization had no cash equivalents.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(continued)

ADVERTISING

The Organization expenses advertising production costs as they are incurred and advertising communication costs the first time the advertising takes place.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment acquisitions and improvements thereon are capitalized at cost, if purchased or at market or assessed value on the date of gift or bequest. Depreciation and amortization is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the related asset. Depreciation expense was \$953 for the year ended June 30, 2019

Maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Organization has evaluated subsequent events through December 27 2019, which is the date of the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no subsequent events during this period.

NOTE 2 - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Organization maintains its cash balances (including certificates of deposit) in financial institutions located in Connecticut. Accounts at each institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. There were no uninsured amounts as of June 30, 2019.

NOTE 3 - REVENUE CONCENTRATION

A material amount of the Organizations revenues are received from a few agencies, the loss of which may have an adverse effect on the Organization.

The Organization received 100% of its state funding revenues and 86% of its grant revenues from the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 4 - DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION

Employees of the Organization may participate in a SIMPLE IRA plan, whereby the employees may elect to make contributions pursuant to a salary reduction agreement upon meeting age and length of service requirements. There are four employees covered by the plan. The Organization made a 3% matching contribution in the amount of \$5,928 for the year ended June 30, 2019.

NOTE 5 - RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets represent contributions, gifts, and income from investments that are restricted based on time or purpose specified by the donor. At June 30, 2019 temporarily restricted net assets are comprised as follows:

Purpose-restricted:	
Thames River Basin Partnership	\$ 662
Celebrating Agriculture	5,175
Niantic River Watershed	556
Hallville Pond Dam	7,124
	<u>\$ 13,517</u>

Temporarily restricted net assets were released from donor restrictions during the year ended June 30, 2019 by satisfying the following restrictions:

Purpose-restricted:	
Thames River Basin Partnership	\$ 2,671
Celebrating Agriculture	3,976
Niantic River Watershed	4,444
Hallville Pond Dam	228
	<u>\$ 11,319</u>

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INCOME TAX BASIS)
JUNE 30, 2019

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and Equipment at June 30, 2019 consisted of the following:

Land, at cost, 85.15 acres located in Brooklyn, CT	\$	1
Equipment & Vehicles		76,713
Accumulated Depreciation		(76,133)
Property and Equipment, Net	\$	<u>581</u>