



## Grafton County Conservation District 2017 Conservation Plant Sale

### Improving Wildlife Habitat on Your Land Workshop

Starting to think about your spring planting? Why not consider enhancing the wildlife habitat around you, too? Not quite sure where to begin? Improving Wildlife Habitat on Your Land is a workshop that will answer many of your questions, and help get you started on providing food, cover and shelter for the wildlife in your neighborhood. **The Improving Wildlife Habitat on Your Land workshop will take place on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 from 1:00-3:30PM at the UNH Cooperative Extension Conference Room, Grafton County Complex, Route 10, North Haverhill, NH.** This workshop is presented by Grafton County Conservation District (GCCCD) in partnership with UNH Cooperative Extension (UNH CE) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). **This indoor workshop is free and open to the public.**

#### Presenters:

- Matt Tarr, Extension Associate Professor/Specialist Wildlife
- Jim Frohn, Extension Field Specialist, Natural Resources
- Kelly Boland, NRCS Biologist
- John Lanier, Wildlife Management Institute

#### Content:

- Broad look at wildlife habitat management
- Assessing existing habitat and future goals
- Wildlife habitat components, food plots and more
- Importance of early successional habitat
- Habitat types and associated wildlife species
- Conservation practices to enhance habitats

GCCCD is offering several shrubs and trees suitable for wildlife habitat in our spring Conservation Plant Sale. Conservation Plant Sale information will be available at the workshop.

**Please join us Tuesday, February 21, 2017 in the UNH Extension Conference Room at the Grafton County Complex at 1:00PM. Call Pam at (603) 353 4652** if you are planning to attend so that we will have handouts for everyone. This workshop is a great opportunity for discussion and questions about wildlife habitat management. There is no snow date for this workshop. Call Pam if the weather is uncertain.

### Planting and Pruning Workshop

**Friday, April 28th from 5:30-7:00PM:** The GCCCD Planting and Pruning Workshop will be held at Windy Ridge Orchard. Our host, Dick Fabrizio, will demonstrate planting and pruning methods for apple trees, and share his knowledge and expertise on apple tree care. Jim Frohn, Grafton County Extension Forester, will discuss planting techniques and site considerations. Dick and Jim are ready to answer your questions. This informal, but informational workshop is held outdoors, dress warmly. It is free and open to the public. Call Pam at 353-4652 to register.

## 2017 Conservation Plant Sale Reminders

- **Deadline for placing orders is Wednesday, March 8, 2017.** Make checks payable to: Grafton County Conservation District, 19 Archertown Road, Suite 1, Orford, NH 03777. Contact Pam with any questions or to request additional order forms: (603) 353-4652 or email: [pamela.gilbert@nh.nacdn.net](mailto:pamela.gilbert@nh.nacdn.net). A postcard will be sent to you 1-2 weeks before the pick-up date summarizing your order. Any changes we are aware of will be noted on your postcard. Please bring your postcard with you when picking up plants.
- **Improving Wildlife Habitat on Your Land Workshop, Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 1:00PM** at the UNH Cooperative Extension Conference Room, Grafton County Complex, Route 10, North Haverhill. Call Pam at (603) 353-4652, to register. Call Pam at GCCCD if weather is uncertain.
- **Planting and Pruning Workshop, Friday, April 28, 2017, 5:30PM to 7:00PM** at Windy Ridge Orchard, with owner Dick Fabrizio and UNH CE Forester, Jim Frohn. Call Pam at (603) 353-4652, to register.
- **Plant Pick Up Saturday April, 29, 2017 9:00AM to 11:00AM** at Windy Ridge Orchard, Route 116/Bentley Road, North Haverhill. From the intersection of NH Route 10 and NH Route 116 in North Haverhill, head east on Route 116 three miles.

### **Thanks making our Plant Sale a success!**

Our Conservation Plant Sale offers plants selected for environmental benefits such as reforestation, wind protection, shade, bank stabilization, wildlife food and cover. The plants are sold as bareroot stock. Healthy hardy plants adapted to our growing conditions are chosen for sale. Native plants are selected whenever possible. The money raised from this sale is used to support GCCCD activities throughout the year, including educational workshops, displays, tours and programs; and distribution of conservation stewardship materials. We couldn't do this without the help of dedicated volunteers. Windy Ridge Orchard generously hosts the Conservation Plant Sale each year.

## **Soil Health Equipment Rental Program**

Call Pam for more information (603) 353-4652



### **KASCO ECO DRILL KED-72**

Excellent for planting pastures, food plots, waterways, mine reclamation. The KED-72 is 6' wide and capable of planting 9 rows, with 8" spacing. KASCO recommends a 35hp+ tractor, with sufficient lift capacity to handle approximately 1600# on back.

### **SALWAY AERWAY AWMMP-075-AG-4**

Great for pasture renovation and relief from compaction on smaller acreages. GCCCD has attached a Herd broadcast seeder allowing seed to be applied in the same pass. Salford recommends 45-75HP tractor with hydraulics, Cultivation width 7.5', Weight 2150 lbs. This project is supported by funds from the sale of the Conservation License Plate (Moose Plate) through the NH State Conservation Committee Conservation Grant Program.



## Selecting the Right Plant

- When choosing a plant, consider the site conditions. Different plants have different requirements for soil type, drainage, available sunlight, growing space and soil pH.
- Consider the rate of growth, density and mature size when considering what to plant.
- Soil is composed of sand, silt and clay. Soil with too much sand drains easily and may cause moisture retention problems, while too much clay may cause drainage and aeration problems around the roots. Organic matter may be mixed into the soil dug from the hole in small amounts and at the greatest depth possible. Avoid adding amendments that alter the texture dramatically, as this change can affect the movement of moisture from the roots to surrounding soil.
- The bareroot stock will come as seedlings, transplants, or grafted fruit trees. A seedling has been grown entirely in its original seedbed. A transplant has been removed from its original seedbed and replanted in a new area to allow for more growth. Most of the evergreens GCCCD offers are transplants that have large root systems, branching foliage, and a solid main stem. The numbers listed next to the evergreens on the order form indicate that a (2-3) transplant is a 5 year old plant that was grown 2 years in a seedbed and 3 years in a transplant bed.
- Bareroot plants are economical. A large portion of roots are retained after harvesting and can be easily inspected at planting time. Any damaged roots can be removed before planting. Bareroot stock should be planted while dormant.

### Planting Information

Store seedlings in a moist, cool location, protected from wind until planting. Plan to plant your seedlings as soon as possible after picking them up. Keep roots moist by covering with moist burlap, peat moss or wet shredded paper, and remove only as needed when planting. The best days to plant are humid days with no wind. Water plants three hours before planting. Trim away any dead or damaged roots.

In compacted or poorly drained soil around your home, a planting site can be improved by digging deeply, amending the soil with a sandy-loam and loosening the soil to aerate. Prepare a planting hole that is two times wider and slightly deeper than the root system. Roots of containerized plants should be freed and spread so the roots do not grow in a circle. Hold the seedling vertically in the hole with the roots hanging down. Roots should not be allowed to curve around the wall of the hole, or up the sides of the hole. Backfill the hole while supporting the plant, working the soil in and around the roots, tamping lightly. Compacted soil will reduce fine air spaces needed for root development. The root collar, where the stem and roots meet, should be at or just below grade. For fruit trees, the graft should be 2 inches above the soil level. Stabilize the plant by filling in soil in layers and tamping lightly.

Immediately water plants to saturate the soil. Create a temporary dyke under the drip line of the plant, fill with water and allow it to settle slowly. Continue to water plants each week of the first growing season if local rainfall is inadequate. Loose mulch can be applied 2-4 inches deep over the planted area to reduce competition from weeds and conserve water. Do not mulch heavily around the trunk; this creates a favorable environment for insects and pests. Good mulches are aged wood chips or bark chunks. Plants can be fertilized one month after planting. A well-planted tree or shrub requires less maintenance and is more tolerant of adverse conditions.