



Grafton County Conservation District 2019 Conservation Plant Sale

Join us for Two Great Workshops!

Caring for Wild Apple Trees and Crop Trees for Wildlife and Timber is a Grafton County Conservation District (GCCD) workshop geared toward landowners who want to learn more about managing wild apple trees, identifying and managing crop trees, and how to help them grow better for wildlife, timber production, and other purposes.

Join Tom Ebert, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist, and Jim Frohn, Grafton County Forester with UNH Cooperative Extension, on Friday, February 22, 2019 and learn about forest practices that benefit your trees. The workshop starts at 1:00PM at the UNH Cooperative Extension Conference Room at the Grafton County Complex, Route 10, North Haverhill, NH.

Are you wondering how to improve your woodlot for wildlife, increase the growth and value of your timber, or just want healthy, vigorous trees growing in your forest? Do you have apple trees growing in your woods or a crowded stand of trees? Our workshop will introduce the concepts of caring for wild apple trees to benefit wildlife, as well as the concepts of crop tree management for a variety of benefits including, wildlife, timber, and other forest stewardship goals.

Landowners are often encouraged to contact NRCS or UNH Cooperative Extension for a woodlot visit to learn about conservation practices that can enhance wildlife habitat, forest vigor, quality, and value. NRCS offers technical and cost-share assistance to eligible landowners for several conservation practices that improve forest and wildlife habitat.

The 2019 GCCD Plant Sale offers a variety of shrubs great for wildlife food and cover, pollinators and buffers. We have balsam and Fraser fir, wildlife shrubs, apples, strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, and hardwood trees. Plant Sale information will be available at the workshop, or can be requested by calling Pam at (603) 353-4652.

Please join us **Friday, April 26, 2019** from **5:30-7:00pm** for our **Planting and Pruning Workshop** at Windy Ridge Orchard for our Planting and Pruning Workshop. 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, UNH Cooperative Extension Forest Resources Educator, will demonstrate planting techniques and discuss site considerations. Dick and Jim are ready to answer your questions. Feel free to join us at this informal, but informational workshop.

The workshops are free and open to all. Please join us for these informative workshops. Call Pam at: (603) 353-4652, or email: pamela.gilbert@nh.nacdnet.net. If you plan to attend the **Caring for Wild Apple Trees and Crop Trees for Wildlife and Timber** and/or Planting and Pruning workshop so that we have handouts for everyone.

The Grafton County Conservation District (GCCD) holds a Conservation Plant Sale every spring offering plants selected for environmental benefits such as, reforestation, wind protection, shade, bank stabilization, wildlife food and cover. The plants are sold as bare-root stock. This year we have made an effort to increase the plant size at purchase, improving your success rate. With the increase in size comes slightly higher prices. We think it will be worth it to our customers. Healthy, hardy plants adapted to our growing conditions are chosen for sale. When available, we select native species. The Plant Sale is our biggest fund raising activity each year. The money raised from this sale is used to support District programs and educational activities.

Each year, GCCD relies on volunteers to help get the plant orders sorted and ready for our Saturday pick-up. This is a fun and exciting time for us, preparing for the spring planting season. We could not provide this service without the generous help of our volunteers each year. **Thank you!!**

2019 Conservation Plant Sale Reminders

- **Caring for Wild Apple Trees and Crop Trees for Wildlife and Timber: 1:00-3:00PM** at the UNH Cooperative Extension Conference Room, Grafton County Complex, Route 10, North Haverhill. Call Pam at (603) 353-4652, to register. There is no snowdate for this workshop. Call to request handouts if you are unable to attend.
- **Deadline for placing orders is Friday, March 8, 2019** 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. 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.
- **Planting and Pruning Workshop, Friday, April 26, 2019 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, 27, 2019 9:00AM to 11:00AM** at Windy Ridge Orchard, Route 116/Benton Road, North Haverhill. From the intersection

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 lbs on back.

SALWAY AERWAY AWMP-075-AG-4

Great for pasture renovation and relief from compaction on smaller acreages. An aerator improves soil health by breaking up compaction, reducing run-off, and increasing soil moisture retention. An aerator can be used throughout the growing season. 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 GCCD 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.