

Grafton County Conservation District
19 Archertown Road, Suite 1
Orford, NH 03777



**Grafton County
Conservation
District**

***Celebrates
Good Friends
and Good Work***

***Join us for Hatchland Ice Cream
Annual Awards and Farm Tour!***

*With Steve and Lora Goss,
Jon Martin and Bill Fosher*

Thursday, August 15, 2019

4:00-6:00PM

At StoneFen Farm

***698 Daniels Road, Pike, NH
owned by Steve and Lora Goss***

RSVP to Pam (603) 353-4652, 103 required

Please bring your favorite lawn chair



Grafton County Conservation District is pleased to announce the 2018 Agriculture Steward of the Year, and the 2018 Forest Steward of the Year. Recipients are recognized for use of Best Management Practices (BMP's), being a sustainable operation involved in long-range planning, managing resources with concern for sensitive natural areas and wildlife, and a socially responsible neighbor. About our winners ~

Agriculture Steward of the Year 2018: Steve and Lora Goss, StoneFen Farm, LLC, Pike, NH Abundant water can be a blessing and a challenge at StoneFen Farm. With Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation planning assistance Steve and Lora have installed grassed waterways, riparian buffers, and a low water stream crossing protect water quality. Using a no-till seeder, Lora planted a cover crop mix to improve soil health along with applications of lime and wood ash.

StoneFen Farm has been practicing regenerative and sustainable rotational grazing on 30 acres for eighteen years. “We have realized tremendous growth with gains up to 3.2 pounds per day on both dairy and beef heifers,” says Lora. Currently StoneFen is developing a grassfed beef herd offering nutritionally dense beef to local consumers.

With the aid of a forest management plan StoneFen Farm completed a selective harvest in 2015 and is now working to strengthen existing, environmentally enhancing practices by developing a silvopasture program. GCCD recently offered a Silvopasture workshop at StoneFen Farm.

Forest Steward of the Year 2018: Jon Martin, Martin Forestry Consulting, LLC, Bridgewater, NH Jon began his own business to help landowners manage their land to its best potential. Jon believes sustainably managed forests can simultaneously maintain open space, enhance future timber quality and generate income for the landowner. He works with each client, including StoneFen Farm, to develop a customized plan based on their individual property and unique management needs and goals.

Jon assists landowners with forest stewardship planning, timber sale administration, wildlife habitat management, tree pruning, GIS mapping and NH DES Shoreline Assessments. He uses his property for demonstrating innovative silvicultural practices so that he can inform landowners about the benefits of long-term resource management. Jon shares his knowledge and experience serving on local boards and committees, and through workshops with NH Timberland Owners Association. Forestland owners working with Jon also learn about NRCS conservation programs and how they fit into natural resource stewardship.

Please join us as our guest—We'll cool down with delicious Hatchland ice cream and toppings starting at 4:00PM. Grafton County Conservation District Agriculture Steward of the Year 2018 and Forest Steward of the Year 2018 awards will be presented. We'll hear about Agriculture Land Easement funding through Upper Valley Land Trust. Then we'll stretch our legs with a tour of StoneFen Farm, LLC with Steve and Lora Goss, Jon Martin, Stone Fen Farm Forester, and Bill Fosher, Grazing Specialist. Remember to RSVP, and bring your favorite chair.

GRAFTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT		
Orford Ridge Business Park Mon Tues Thu Fri 19 Archertown Road, Suite 1 Orford, NH 03777 (603) 353-4652, ext. 103	Grafton County Complex Wed or by appointment 3855 Dartmouth College Highway North Haverhill, NH 03774 (603) 787-6973	
Board of Supervisors		
Gary Peters, Supervisor, Chair – Bath	Linda Brownson, Supervi- sor, Vice-Chair - Went- worth	Rick Walling, Supervisor, Secretary, Treasurer - Bath
Ray Lobdell, Supervisor - Landaff	Vacant, Supervisor	Dick Fabrizio, Associate Supervisor – North Haverhill
Lora Goss, Associate Supervisor - Pike	Bart Mann, Associate Supervisor - North Haverhill	Dick McDanolds, Associate Supervisor – North Haverhill
John O'Brien, Associate Supervisor - Orford	Dave Thompson, Associate Supervisor – Lincoln	Denis Ward, Associate Supervisor - Monroe
Grafton County Conservation District meets the third Wednesday of the month in the Basement Conference Room, Grafton County Complex. Please contact us for specific meeting time and location as schedule can adjust seasonally.		

A Special Thank You - Grafton County Conservation District (GCCD) relies on the help of volunteers and partners each year in many ways. Our Conservation Plant Sale provides several thousand plants for wind breaks, bank stabilization, wildlife and homeowners, as well as funding for District operations. The District has a display at the North Haverhill Fair every summer and conducts several workshops highlighting conservation practices in Grafton County. GCCD works with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency, and UNH Cooperative Extension to bring information and assistance to the County landowners. We would not be successful without partners, volunteers and landowners sharing their time and experience, the support of the Grafton County Commissioners and Delegation, and our partnership with NRCS. Thank you!