

Grafton County Conservation District
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Grafton County Conservation District 2021 Conservation Plant Sale

RESOURCES TO ENJOY AT HOME

Grafton County Conservation District has not planned any in-person workshops yet in 2021, so we are sharing resources you might enjoy checking out on your own schedule.

North Country High Tunnel Series: Getting Started With increased awareness of local food sources and interest in growing food for your family, the Coös, Carroll and Grafton County Conservation Districts, NRCS and UNH Cooperative Extension are partnering to bring you the information needed to grow like a pro in a season-extension high tunnel. The workshops will feature resource specialists and farmers working with high tunnels in northern NH. The workshops will take place every other Wednesday from 6:00-7:30PM, starting January 20, 2021. Join us for an informative presentation for the hour, followed by discussion and answers to your questions.

All workshops will be offered on Zoom. Please register for one workshop, or the whole series by sending an email to the Coös County Conservation District Manager at:

da.cccd@gmail.com. Our workshop series starts with **High Tunnels 101** on January 20, 2021 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Additional topics include: **Site Selection and Construction**

on February 3, 2021, **NRCS High Tunnel Program and Coös CCCD Tool Rental Program** on February 17, 2021, **High Tunnel Management** on March 3, 2021 and **Winter Growing and Challenges** on March 17, 2021.

Recorded workshops will be available on the NH Association of Conservation Districts website: www.nhacd.net.



A Walk In the Woods: <https://extension.unh.edu/tags/walk-woods>

This series by UNH Extension Forestry Field Specialist Jim Frohn from Grafton County is an insightful look at science and beauty of New Hampshire's forested landscape.

Forestry webinar series: <https://extension.unh.edu/blog/forestry-webinar-series>

UNH Extension webinar series on Forest Health, Forest Carbon, Rehabilitative Silviculture.

Need your soil tested? Extension can help. <https://extension.unh.edu/programs/soil-testing-services>

Extension's Fruit and Vegetable Page hosts information on growing tree fruit, berries, and asparagus. Browse or simply use the search feature to look for factsheets on specific crops: <https://extension.unh.edu/programs/fruit-vegetable-crops>

Maine Extension Pruning videos: Apple trees: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JvJreVLjvc&feature=emb_title; Blueberries: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fm6ZfpGy5oQ>



Grafton County Conservation District, and all NH County Conservation Districts will be celebrating our 75th Anniversary in 2021, along with the NH State Conservation Committee and the NH Association of Conservation Districts. Check our website: graftonccd.org for upcoming events.

2021 Conservation Plant Sale Reminders

- **Deadline for placing orders is Friday, March 5, 2021** 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, 103 or email: pamela.gilbert@nh.nacdnet.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 to plant pick-up.
- **Plant Pick Up Saturday May 1, 2021 9:00AM to 11:00AM** at Windy Ridge Orchard, Route 116/Benton Road, North Haverhill. From the intersection of NH Route 10 and NH Route 116 in North Haverhill, head east on Route 116 three miles.

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. 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!!

Soil Health Equipment Rental Program

Call Pam for more information (603) 353-4652, 103



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, think about the site conditions. Different plants have different requirements for soil type, drainage, available sunlight, growing space and soil pH.
- Rate of growth, density and mature size all matter 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, away from sunlight, and 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 small amounts of 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 in layers and tamping lightly to stabilize the plant. 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.

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 (aged wood chips or bark chunks) 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. Plants can be fertilized one month after planting. A well-planted tree or shrub requires less maintenance and is more tolerant of adverse conditions.

