



# WINTER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

## PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



## NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT MANAGER

Hello readers,

With your help, 2018 was one of the most productive years we have had in a decade. We hosted over 150 guests at our workshops! We helped more than twenty homeowners address erosion issues with our technical assistance program. We connected with many new organizations to improve and diversify the programs we offer. We have even grown enough to be able to have another staff person. As the District Manager, I want you to know that everything Andy Valley SWCD does is with you in mind. It is our goal to provide you with the education, technical assistance, and resources you need to address conservation issues in our community. We are only a call away and have a great network of information that we will excitedly share with you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jocelyn Lahey

## THE REAL COST OF DEVELOPMENT

Low-density development results in a loss of sensitive environmental resources, including wetlands, flood plains, and aquifer recharge areas, as well as critical wildlife habitat like deer wintering areas and quality streams which support fish and other aquatic organisms. Unbroken land provides habitat for key species in the State of Maine like wild brook trout, alewives, and inland waterfowl and wading birds. Development of these areas not only disturbs, but pollutes and destroys these habitats. Increased rural housing means increased insecticides and fertilizers which threatens pollinators and water quality. Increased road access means a greater opportunity for wildlife collisions with drivers, greater barriers for species movement, and water pollution due to increased salt application and contaminants found in impervious surface runoff. Habitat fragmentation due to lot and road development increases the number of edges on previously unbroken forestland and provides invasive plants with ideal growing conditions.

Protected areas are a resource with profound value. People of Maine pride themselves on their respect of the outdoors and engage in many forms of recreation, including fishing and hunting. This land provides recreational opportunities to citizens of all economic levels. This land is not only important to conserve because of its natural resources, but because of the public health benefits that they provide, such as food, educational and wellness opportunities, and clean air for our community. Low-density development not only removes critical natural resources but decreases access for all members of our community.

Considering these factors is absolutely paramount when planning for our future. The quality and quantity of resources we have are finite. Decisions we make now will undoubtedly affect our future.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Septic System Installers Training

Site evaluators will receive 7 CEUs towards relicensing, LPIs will receive 7 CEUs towards relicensing, contractors and site evaluators will receive re-certification in erosion and sediment control practices.

**Date:** March 8, 2019

**Time:** 8:00am-4:00pm

**Location:** West Bath Seaside Grange 75 New Meadows Rd. Bath, ME 04530

**Cost:** \$75 per person. Registration is due by February 26th. After deadline cost increased to \$90 per person. No refunds.

## Maine DEP Erosion and Sediment Control Training for Contractor Certification.

By attending this session, you qualify to become Maine DEP certified in erosion and sediment control practices after the completion of a site evaluation.

**Date:** March 13, 2019

**Time:** 8:00am-4:00pm

**Location:** Maine Maritime Museum 243 Washington St. Bath, ME 04530

**Cost:** \$75 per person. Registration is due by March 1st. No refunds.

## Annual District Social Event

Open to the public, join us for a night of entertainment. Dinner will be provided and a cash bar will be available. This event is meant to bring our community together for a casual, relaxed evening.

**Date:** March 22, 2019

**Time:** 5:00pm-9:00pm

**Location:** VFW of Auburn 588 Minot Ave. Auburn, ME 04210

**Cost:** \$25 per person, which includes dinner. Registration is due by March 18, 2019.

## Applied Erosion and Sediment Control Practices and Regulatory Guidance Training

This training will count for re-certification of Maine DEP Contractor Certification. The training will focus on DEP permitting and regulations, US Army Corps of Engineers permitting, and a practical look at erosion and sediment control practices. We will have a panel of experienced professionals there to guide you through situational examples and answer your questions.

**Date:** April 25, 2019

**Time:** 8:00am-12:00pm

**Location:** Lewiston Public Works Building 103 Adams Ave. Lewiston, ME 04240

**Cost:** \$30 per person, which includes a light breakfast and refreshments. Registration is due by April 15th.

## Annual Spring Plant Sale

Back again is our annual spring plant sale. This year will be a full day of fun and activities for those of all ages. Thanks to our gracious host, Whiting Farm, you will have access to many resource professionals while you pick up your plants! Whiting Farm, owned by John F. Murphy Homes, is a working four season farm dedicated to community enrichment, education and the support of adults with developmental disabilities. Whiting farm is a landmark in the Auburn/Lewiston community and we are so happy to announce that our plants will be sourced locally.

**Date:** Orders are due by April 26th, 2019. Pickup date will be May 18th, 2019 with a rain date of May 19, 2019.

**Time:** 9:00am-1:00pm

**Location:** Whiting Farm Greenhouses 876 Summer St. Auburn, ME 04210

**Cost:** The day of the event will be free and open to the public. Plant sale order forms are available by contacting Andy Valley SWCD.

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**Contact us for more information or to register for any event!**

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