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www.nricd.org

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TOWN OF SCITUATE
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

December 15, 2022

Karen Beatie
Deputy Treasurer Town of Scituate
PO Box 328
Scituate, RI 02857

Dear Ms. Beatie,

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request of support for the Northern Rhode Island Conservation District (NRICD). For the past 60-plus years your Conservation District has been serving the residents of Providence County by offering technical assistance, education and funding to municipalities, farmers, teachers, students and residents through our own programs and those of our federal partners at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The Mission of the Conservation District is simply stated:

"To promote a healthy environment and sustainable use of natural resources in coordination with partners to provide technical, educational and financial resources."

We accomplish this Mission by pursuing these core values:

- *Clean and plentiful water*
- *Encouraging conservation measures on farms and forestland*
- *Well-managed open spaces and wildlife habitat*

We continue to move forward with the NRICD-initiated "Healthy Farm, Healthy Watershed" program which is focused on giving small scale livestock owners in the Scituate Reservoir Watershed tools to manage and utilize their manure. This program will help reduce pollution in drinking water sources, including private wells and the Scituate Reservoir. This year, a Scituate farmer installed a model manure management system with funding from NRICD, and welcomed fellow farmers to his property to visit and learn from it.

NRICD has been educating the residents of the Scituate Reservoir Watershed for over 30 years in an effort to protect the primary source of drinking water in Rhode Island through Scituate Reservoir Watershed Education Program, which is funded by Providence Water. This includes yearly work with all Scituate public schools, elementary through high school, as well as educational workshops for adult residents. In 2022 we piloted a new forestry education unit and field trip for Scituate Middle School students in partnership with the Scituate Land Trust.

NRICD has several staff members who actively work with local farm and forest landowners to engage them in USDA NRCS voluntary conservation programs. In FY 2022, Scituate residents received \$190,961.00 from these programs. Scituate residents also received low-cost assistance with having a farm conservation plan written to ensure compliance with the Farm, Forest, and Open Space current use tax law.

We hope the Town of Scituate will once again support our programs through a \$1,000 contribution to NRICD, as it has for the past several years.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or would like to have our District Manager, Molly Allard, stop in for a meeting with you to help explain more of what we can do to assist you, please contact her at your earliest convenience at (401) 934-0840 ext. 2.

Sincerely,

Richard Went, Chair
Northern RI Conservation District
CC: Cynthia Gianfrancesco, Scituate Conservation Commission



Northern Rhode Island Conservation District

NRICD Mission: The Northern Rhode Island Conservation District fosters a community-based approach to the stewardship of northern Rhode Island’s natural resources through education and outreach into the communities, technical assistance and partnerships with other agencies.

The Northern RI Conservation District (NRICD) continues outreach through technical assistance and education programs throughout Providence County. The district is governed by a volunteer board of five voting directors: Richard Went, Chair; Matt Tracy, Vice Chair; Deana Tempest Thomas, Marc Tremblay, and George Gettinger. There are two associate directors: Paul Dolan and Norman Hammond. Seven full time staff conduct the programmatic work that supports the District’s mission.

Highlights of the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

- As part of the Scituate Reservoir Watershed Education Program, a partnership with Providence Water, over 200 elementary school students took part in a Travelling Water Festival field day at their school.
- 40 participants in the Urban Growers Leadership Program received urban growing and gardening instruction tailored to their needs in both English and Spanish.
- Work began on the planning phase of a watershed restoration project that will help to remediate flood conditions along the Pocasset River, a project funded by USDA NRCS.
- Landowners across Providence County received no-cost assistance with applying for assistance from, and working with, USDA NRCS to implement conservation program.
- Farmers across Providence County received no-cost conservation plans to allow them to participate in the Farm, Forest, and Open Space current use tax program.
- A Scituate, RI livestock farmer constructed a demonstration manure management facility that will minimize pollution to the Scituate Reservoir.

Many other activities are taking place at the Northern RI Conservation District. Please see our website www.nricd.org to learn more.

2021-2022 Financial Statement

Income	
Contribution/State/Municipal Income	11516
Fee for Service	1100
Grant Income	548999.92
Other Types of Income	5288.26
Snake Den Farm Income	83068.95
Total Income	649973.13
Expenses	
Business Expenses	12997.09
Depreciation Expense	2918.4
Employee Expenses	426607.29
Grant Expenses	46243.7
Facilities and Equipment	9028.34
Snake Den Farm Expenses	66314.86
Other Expenses	36879.19
Total Expenses	600988.87
Net Income	49184.68



Scituate Middle School students take part in an educational field trip at Esek Hopkins, managed by the Scituate Land Trust.