

Who We Are

We are a group of technical service providers from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, NH Association of Conservation Districts, County Conservation Districts across the state, UNH Cooperative Extension, and private farmers and consultants. This group was formed out of a need for cohesion and coordination on soil health initiatives in NH. This group is excited to offer a variety of opportunities to assist with soil health on your farm.



“We’ve Got It Covered”



Already using cover crops? This campaign seeks to assist farmers in getting recognition for the good cover cropping already being done on farms. These signs are available in your local NRCS, Conservation District or Cooperative Extension Office. Contact them today!

For more information or to get involved...

Contact your local Conservation District:

- Belknap County: (603) 527-5880
- Carroll County: (603) 447-2771
- Cheshire County: (603) 756-2988 Ext. 116
- Coos County: (603) 788-4651 Ext. 102
- Grafton County: (603) 353-4652
- Hillsborough County: (603) 673.2409 Ext 100
- Merrimack County: (603) 223-6020
- Rockingham County: (603) 679-2790 Ext 61
- Strafford County: (603) 749-3037
- Sullivan County: (603) 542-4891

Or visit us on-line at

www.nhsoilhealth.org

Where you can learn more about all of the projects mentioned here as well as others, sign up for our mailing list, sign up for programs and services, learn about upcoming events, and contact us with questions or ideas.

New Hampshire Soil Health Partnership



Opportunities for Farmers

Soil health is the continued capacity of soil to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals, and humans.

Soil health programs for farmers

Cover Crop Seed Mix Trials

We are looking for farms that grow annual crops like corn and vegetables to try out different cover crop mixes all across NH. This will help us determine when, where, why and how some mixes work better than others. We are experimenting with complex mixes that have multiple benefits to soil fertility and health, crop health, and crop management. We have a limited quantity of free seed available to eligible farmers, and we can also assist with bulk buying seed mixes. Contact us to find out more details about the mixes available, planting instructions, etc. The sign up deadline for 2019 is March 1st, 2019. See the back of the brochure for contact information.

No-till Corn Planting: rentals and retrofits

Not sure what to do with those cover crops in the spring? Are you interested in saving time and tractor passes? NHACD has purchased 4 no-till roller crimper corn planters, for planting corn directly into a standing cover crop. The roller crimpers, usually with the help of herbicide, will terminate the cover crop to create a weed-blocking, moisture-retaining mat. This equipment was funded by the NH NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant. Contact your local Conservation District to learn more about trying this equipment next spring!

Additionally, the Conservation Districts are offering funding and technical assistance to farmers interested in adapting their existing corn planters to no-till planters. The deadline to sign up for this program for 2019 is February 1st, 2019.

No-till Management for Low/No Spray Vegetable Farmers

Cover crops and other soil health practices are not just for corn growers with lots of acres. If you have a fruit and/or vegetable farm of any size, and you are interested in reducing tillage while also limiting the use of pesticides, you may be interested in our statewide "No-till for low spray vegetable farmers" project. Contact us to find out if you would be a candidate for demonstrating new equipment and techniques on your farm, or just attend one of our workshops on the topic!

Soil Health Services

The NH Conservation Districts have specialty equipment available to rent, to help you improve soil health on your farm. These include no-till seed drills, soil aerators, and others.

The NH Soil Health Partnership brings together several groups and individuals that can help you with any soil questions or issues you have, like:

- How to alleviate soil compaction
- What to plant to improve soil fertility
- How to assess the health of your soil
- How to transition to a no-till management system on your farm
- Find funding opportunities for your soil health project ideas
- Locate workshops, equipment demonstrations, and other events near you
- And so much more!



A no-till corn planter with a roller crimper in action. This equipment is available to rent!



A lush and diverse cover crop that was planted as part of the 2018 cover crop mix trials.



Check out our website to find out about workshops, events, new projects and services all around NH: nhsoilhealth.org