

January 30, 2017

Mabel Darby-Morey  
Administrative Assistant  
Town of Windham  
8 School Road  
Windham, ME 04062

RE: 2016 Summary of Projects  
Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) Implementation

Dear Mabel:

CCSWCD is pleased to provide the attached summary of conservation projects that CCSWCD has conducted and/or implemented within the Town of Windham in 2016. Many of the projects included in the attached summary are implemented in partnership with the Town of Windham.

CCSWCD is pleased to report that our 2016 projects include the following projects; more detailed information is included in the attached summary report:

- Two residential technical assistance site visits conducted to assist lake protection efforts
- Two lake watershed protections projects, one on Little Sebago Lake and the other on Sebago Lake;
- Clean water education to school-aged children throughout the schools that serve Windham's population;
- Healthy lawn care recommendations to the general public at Windham area businesses (through CCSWCD's YardScaping Program);
- Assistance in obtaining grant funding to address undersized stream crossing of Baker Brook/Falmouth Rd;
- Assistance with reviewing ordinances pertaining to natural resource conservation in support of Windham's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Downtown plan and process; and
- Assistance in implementing and complying with municipal stormwater permit requirements.

As you know, CCSWCD and the Town of Windham have a long history of implementing successful projects and providing mutual assistance to one another. We are happy to report that this relationship continued in 2016 and continues to grow in 2017.

If there are any questions, or if additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at the office (207) 892-4700 or via email ([rsaunders@cumberlandswcd.org](mailto:rsaunders@cumberlandswcd.org)).

Very best regards,  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Robyn Saunders  
Program Director

Cc: Doug Fortier, Director DPW  
Tony Plante, Town Manager  
Enclosure



## Town of Windham | 2016 Project Summaries

### 2016 Grant for Baker Brook Crossing | Public Infrastructure Improvement Funds [POC: Robyn Saunders]

CCSWCD assisted the Town's Public Works Director, Doug Fortier, by submitting a grant application for state water bond funds to replace a poorly performing stream road crossing of Falmouth Road in Windham. The crossing of Baker Brook, consisting of twin corrugated metal culverts, has a history of flooding.

The 52" diameter twin culverts were severely undersized for the 11+' bank full width of the stream. By providing funding for the replacement of the existing twin culvert by a single, properly-sized pipe-arch culvert, the road stream crossing will:

- Ensure access to crucial public and commuter services;
- Improve aquatic life habitat by unblocking three miles of upstream habitat;
- Increase water quality by decreasing downstream scour; and
- Enhance resiliency by reducing the risk of culvert flooding.

As a result of CCSWCD's efforts, this Town project was awarded approximately \$95,000.

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Downtown Master Plan | Public Planning and Ordinance Review [POC: Damon Yakovleff]

CCSWCD supported the Town's efforts to develop a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Downtown Master Plan for North Windham by providing input to Town Planning Director, Ben Smith, in three areas for land use improvements:

1. **Stormwater management** – encouraging low impact development to align with anticipated national requirements.
2. **Parking Regulations** – reducing required parking minimums through expanded shared parking, collaborative winter maintenance and potentially an in-lieu-fee program.
3. **Bicycle / Pedestrian Alternative Routes** – utilizing scarce space available along the Route 302 corridor for additional pedestrian improvements and finding alternative parallel routes for bicycle infrastructure.

### General Water Quality Protection | Technical Assistance Requests [POC: Heather True]

- Two technical assistance site visits for residential landowners were conducted and recommendations provided to assist lake protection efforts: one site located on Sebago Lake and the other on Highland Lake
- Two additional residential technical assistance inquiries were received in 2016, which are slated for follow up in Spring 2017
- Funding provided in part by grants from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) and the Cumberland County Commissioners/County Managers Office (i.e., Cumberland County government)

### Little Sebago Lake Protection Project, Phase IV [Project Manager: Heather True]

- Project started in March 2014 and completed project in December 2016
- Conducted outreach including:
  - 12 out of 17 technical assistance visits completed in the Town of Windham, including 5 residential and 7 for private road associations
  - Two steering committee meetings held
  - One presentation to the Little Sebago Lake Association (LSLA) members
  - One article published in the LSLA winter newsletter
- Completed three improvement projects
- Offered erosion control mulch as the "BMP of the Year" to qualifying residents
- Established new lake association cost-sharing effort
- Completed 3 out of 15 private road operation and maintenance plans in the Town of Windham
- Funding provided, in part, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Section 319 grants are administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in partnership with EPA.



### **Sebago Lake Watershed Protection Project, Phase III**

[Project Manager: Heather True]

- Project started March 2016
  - Continues through December 2017
  - Includes sites in Windham, as well as Sebago, Naples, Casco, Raymond, Standish, and Frye Island
- Two project check-in meetings held
- List of agriculture sites within the watershed compiled
- 1 of the 24 LakeScaping site visits conducted by Portland Water District was located within the Town of Windham
- Funding provided, in part, by EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by DEP in partnership with EPA.

### **CONNECT Clean Water Education | School-aged Education Program**

[POC: Jami Fitch]

Through funding from both Portland Water District (PWD) and the Interlocal Stormwater Working Group (ISWG), CCSWCD provided clean water education lessons to 352 students at Windham High School, Windham Middle School, and Manchester Elementary School. The total number of student contact hours equaled 2,326 hours.

Lessons covered watersheds, watershed models, water movement, and branching patterns; transport of nonpoint source pollutants; stormwater, storm drains, and cumulative impact; impervious/pervious surfaces, runoff, and best management practices; water quality parameters and testing, bioassessment using macro-invertebrate sampling, and river characteristics.

In addition, in the fall of 2016, CCSWCD worked with Windham Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> graders to investigate how their school campus may be impacting local water resources as part of service learning project in coordination with PWD. The students presented their findings to their parents and the school community in December and will be implementing on-the-ground projects in the spring of 2017.

### **YardScaping Healthy Lawn Care | Best Management Practices**

[POC: Kat Munson]

CCSWCD worked with Blue Seal and Aubuchon Hardware to provide healthy lawn care information to their customers.

CCSWCD also continued working with the Home Depot. In 2016, CCSWCD trained Home Depot associates about healthy lawn care practices, identified recommended products on Home Depot shelves, and provided two educational tabling events to the public on May 7, 2016 and September 9, 2016.

Funding for healthy lawn care outreach is provided through funding from ISWG, a coalition of 14 municipalities (including Windham) that are subject to Clean Water Act permit requirements. More detail is provided below.

### **Stormwater Permit Compliance Assistance | ISWG Regional Collaboration**

[POC: Aubrey Strause]

For almost 15 years, CCSWCD has coordinated and facilitated the Interlocal Stormwater Working Group (ISWG), a coalition of 14 municipalities (including Windham) subject to Clean Water Act permit requirements. ISWG meets every other month to address permit requirements on a regional basis. By participating in ISWG, CCSWCD helps the Town by implementing 2 of the 6 permit requirements (public education, outreach, and participation efforts).

Outside of the ISWG relationship, CCSWCD also assists the Town of Windham by completing the required annual reports that must be submitted to DEP in September. In 2016, CCSWCD also worked with Windham to assist with permit compliance and to prepare for the DEP audit of Windham's stormwater program. This assistance includes staff trainings, site visits, documentation assistance, and interdepartmental coordination of permit responsibilities.

