



## Our Maryland Adventure at Solomon's Island

A number of District Employees were able to attend the 2009 NACD Northeast Regional Meeting in Solomon's Island, Maryland this past July. NACDE again played an integral role in the success of the meeting. The sightseeing tour on Sunday to the Smithsonian Museum, the State of the State session, the supervisor training session, and our annual meeting all were successful parts of the overall conference. Thanks to everyone on the Board who assisted with the annual meeting.



Enjoying the soils exhibit.



Volunteer Ross Braun with soils activity.



Volunteer soil scientist Henry Ferguson demonstrated several activities to the group. We thank Margie Gordon, Education Specialist and Docent Coordinator for providing Henry and Ross for our tour.



Rich Kirschner from Delaware moderated the State of the State session.



Dolly Parton sang 9 to 5 to a retiring Mary Currier.

## Welcome Your New Officer Team



Your new officer team for 2009-2011 is from left to right: Rick Mickowski—Immediate Past-President from DE, Ines Grimm—Treasurer from NJ, Doug Kierst—Secretary from NY, Ed Hoxsie—President from NY, and Tim Thomas—Vice President from NJ. We thank them for their willingness to represent District employees in the Northeast region.

### Inside this issue:

Awards and Recognition	2
Agreement with Consulting Firm	2
Employee Association News	2
American Resource and Recovery Act	3
American Resource and Recovery Act Continued	4
Meet Your Board of Directors	4
Regional Partnership Agreement Signed	4

### Special points of interest:

- "Conservation means the wise use of the earth and its resources for the lasting good of man." (Gifford Pinchot)
- "Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land." (Aldo Leopold)
- "To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival." (Wendell Berry)

## Awards and Recognition



Mary Currier and Rick Mickowski

NACDE was pleased to honor two outstanding District employees during the annual meeting this past July. Mary Currier was given a Special Award of Merit for her 20 plus year of leadership with NACDE in every role imaginable. She most recently served for many years as our Treasurer. Mary retired from District work in September 2009 but is still keeping close through the new consulting firm she started with two other former NACDE officers. More about that later.



Rich Kirschner and Rick Mickowski

Rich Kirschner was honored as the District Employee of the Year for his commitment to NACDE. He helped

to organize and host the NACDE sponsored State of the State session for the past three years, consistently represented the state of Delaware on the NACDE Board and represents the National Conservation District Employees Association on the Natural Resource Policy Committee. Congratulations to both of these deserving winners!

## NACDE Inks Agreement with New Consulting Firm

In the summer of 2009, NACDE signed an agreement with the consulting firm of Currier, Dobbs and Griswold, LLC (or shortened to CD&G, LLC). Mary Currier is our recently retired former Treasurer. Phil Griswold is a former President of NACDE from New York and Robert Dobbs is a former NACDE and NCDEA President from New Jersey. Together, they have formed a consulting firm to assist clients with event planning and other projects. The NACDE agreement with CD&G, LLC is for assistance in organizing and holding the HydroCAD workshops being offered by NACDE. CD&G, LLC will be exhibiting at the NACD conference in Orlando, FL in February 2010.

## District Employee Association News from Across the Region

**New Hampshire**—The CDEA-NH recently became a 501-c-3 non-profit organization in order to build capacity and opportunities for New Hampshire's Districts and employees. The Association hosted three successful HydroCAD workshops in late October.

**Delaware**—Delaware held its annual meeting in October 2009. Twenty-three employees toured the Phillis Wheatley Elementary School. Teacher Pam Vanderwende and her students hosted the tour to show the results of the various outdoor gardens and habitat areas completed by the school's Conservation Club. Pam was a presenter at the Northeast regional meeting in Solomon's Island, MD and a recipient of the 2009 Governor's Urban Conservation Award. The tour also included Woodbridge High School's animal science facility. District cost-share funds and NRCS funds had been utilized to implement various conservation practices. The final stop was at a golf course community where various sediment and stormwater practices were reviewed.



**New York**—The 12th annual Conservation Skills Workshop took place in October with 134 participants in 16 classes. Classes included basic surveying, mortality composting, invasives, and soils. Some advanced classes included applied surveying, streams, and 3a planning. The annual Water Quality Symposium will be held in March 2010 in Binghamton, NY.

**New Jersey**—District Employees are represented on the state training committee and the employee association has facilitated several training workshops.

## Districts and the American Resource and Recovery Act of 2009

The **Cayuga County SWCD, located in Central New York State**, is currently in the construction phase of a Regional Methane Digester Project. The construction of the facility aims to address the needs of local farms by providing a regional facility where manure and other organics can be brought and used to produce renewable energy, Water quality will improve and a fertilizer product will still be available for farms to use on their cropland. The energy to be produced is planned to supply the Natural Resources Center (housing two County Agencies, three Federal Agencies and one State Agency), the Cayuga County Public Safety Building and the Cayuga County Nursing Home. The funding amounts to \$3.2 million dollars.

There are numerous stages of the digester that still need to be completed before it becomes operational. Due to the multi-component nature of the project, critical components cannot be implemented until other components are completed first.

The anaerobic digester will kill the pathogens in the manure and remove the odor. The digested effluent will be separated into a liquid and solid fraction. The liquid will be returned to farms to be applied to the land. This will reduce the amount of manure application, thus reducing the potential for nutrient loading into ground and surface waters. The solids will be composted and used in various conservation practices, sold to nurseries and landscapers, sold to farms for bedding for cows or land applied where the soil needs organic matter.

Project Planning is currently on-going between Cayuga SWCD Staff, project consultants and engineers. Construction is scheduled to continue in early 2010 with anticipated completion by the end of 2010. Once the project construction is complete, the final phase to occur will include the energy generation and distribution.

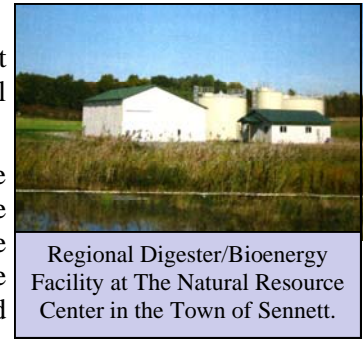
If you have any questions about this project, contact the Cayuga County SWCD at [cayugaswcd@cayugaswcd.org](mailto:cayugaswcd@cayugaswcd.org).

Out of **16 Districts in Maine**, one received stimulus funds for conservation projects. The **Cumberland County SWCD** is currently working on the following stimulus fund projects:

- The Red Brook Watershed Management Plan will develop a locally supported watershed management plan for the Red Brook Watershed. This is an impaired urban stream watershed in Scarborough, South Portland, Maine.
- Long Creek: Property Evaluations and Program Development will include the assessment of watershed properties to provide the basis for financing implementation of the plan; development of financial controls; outreach to designated property owners; securing landowner commitments for plan implementation; and the establishment of a water quality monitoring program for assessment.
- Long Creek State Revolving Loan Fund Project will mitigate the impacts of stormwater run-off on Long Creek, which is on the State of Maine's 303(d) list of impaired waters. This is due to the high density of impervious surfaces. Implementation of the highest priority components of the management plan will help restore the water quality of Long Creek and its watershed.

If you have any questions about these projects, contact Tamara Lee Pinard at [Tamara@cumberlandswcd.org](mailto:Tamara@cumberlandswcd.org).

The **Chester County Conservation District in Pennsylvania** received almost \$2.2 million dollars for forty agricultural and urban stormwater green infrastructure projects using best management practices. In the Brandywine watershed, four townships joined to implement 34 projects to create or sustain 126 jobs. The projects include the construction of two dirt and gravel roads; agricultural BMP's on two dairy farms and eight mushroom operations; construction of nine rain gardens; three constructed wetlands; 2200' of restored streambank and re-created floodplain; over 10,000' of reforested riparian buffer, and two stormwater basin retrofits. For these and other projects located in the Octoraro watershed, contact Christian Strohmaier at [cstrohmaier@chesco.org](mailto:cstrohmaier@chesco.org). This funding saved five positions.



Regional Digester/Bioenergy Facility at The Natural Resource Center in the Town of Sennett.



Improvements to Philbrook Avenue in South Portland, Maine using ARRA-funds included this water quality unit #6—drainage manholes and Stormtech storage chambers.

[www.ne.ncdea.org](http://www.ne.ncdea.org)

**NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION OF  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES**

2430 Old County Road  
Newark, DE 19702

Phone: 302-832-3100 ext. 3

Fax: 302-834-0783

E-mail: [rick.mickowski@state.de.us](mailto:rick.mickowski@state.de.us)



NACDE facilitated the signing of a new Conservation Partnership Agreement. Pictured from left to right are Carolyn Hefner for NASCA, Rick Mickowski for NACDE, Pat Sueck for NACD, and Leonard Jordan for NRCS. Signatures are also being obtained from the two regional RC&D Association Presidents.

**Meet Your NACDE Board of Directors**

Ed Hoxsie—President ([Ed.Hoxsie@ny.nacdnet.net](mailto:Ed.Hoxsie@ny.nacdnet.net))

Tim Thomas—Vice President ([Thomas@freeholdscd.org](mailto:Thomas@freeholdscd.org))

Ines Grimm—Treasurer ([igrimm@freeholdscd.org](mailto:igrimm@freeholdscd.org))

Doug Kierst—Secretary ([dkierst@cayugaswcd.org](mailto:dkierst@cayugaswcd.org))

Rick Mickowski—Immediate Past President ([rick.mickowski@state.de.us](mailto:rick.mickowski@state.de.us))

Jane Brawerman—Connecticut Rep. ([jbrawerman@conservect.org](mailto:jbrawerman@conservect.org))

Dale Churchey—Delaware Rep. ([Dale.Churchey@de.nacdnet.net](mailto:Dale.Churchey@de.nacdnet.net))

Gilda Allen—District of Columbia Rep. ([gallen@dchealth.org](mailto:gallen@dchealth.org))

Megan Facciolo—Maine Rep. ([megan.facciolo@me.nacdnet.net](mailto:megan.facciolo@me.nacdnet.net))

Elmer Weibley—Maryland contact ([wcsd1@verizon.net](mailto:wcsd1@verizon.net))

Stacy Luke—New Hampshire Rep. ([Stacy.Luke@nh.nacdnet.net](mailto:Stacy.Luke@nh.nacdnet.net))

Alan Masters—New York Rep. ([amasters@ocswcd.org](mailto:amasters@ocswcd.org))

Sandy Thompson—Pennsylvania Rep. ([sdthompson@mckeancountypa.org](mailto:sdthompson@mckeancountypa.org))

Gina DeMarco—Rhode Island Rep. ([Gina-demarco@nricd.necoxmail.com](mailto:Gina-demarco@nricd.necoxmail.com))

Dayna Cole—Vermont Rep. ([Dayna.cole@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:Dayna.cole@vt.nacdnet.net))

Carolyn Hefner—West Virginia contact ([chefner@wvca.us](mailto:chefner@wvca.us))

Massachusetts and New Jersey and are in the process of selecting a person to be their representative to the NACDE Board.

## ARRA Stimulus Funds and Districts Continued

In **Delaware**, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control was the recipient of ARRA funding and some of that funding was passed to the **New Castle Conservation District** to manage and implement several drainage and stormwater management projects. The District had worked hard to ensure that the District would be in the mix when it came to the stimulus funded projects. The ARRA funds are being used for eight stormwater pond retrofit and repairs in the city of New Castle and New Castle County. An additional five projects will include stream channel/ditch mitigation, a channeled wetland mitigation project and a new tidegate for the Buttonwood Marsh. The new tidegate will replace the current structure to allow for tidal flush in the wetland. Stimulus funds are also being used for storm sewer improvements and a new storm sewer interceptor in the city of Wilmington. The total value of the projects exceeds \$2.5 million dollars. The District is responsible for project coordination which includes such things as plan review, public advertisements, reviewing bids and inspection. For more information, contact Chuck Lightfoot at [Chuck.Lightfoot@state.de.us](mailto:Chuck.Lightfoot@state.de.us).



Buttonwood Marsh tidegate slated for replacement.



In the **state of New York**, two other Districts received stimulus funds for green infrastructure projects. The Tioga County SWCD will use \$736,100 for restoration of over 200 acres of wetlands within the Susquehanna River Basin by treating stormwater runoff. The Dutchess County SWCD received \$330,000 to retrofit two municipal building facilities with rain gardens, bio-retention ponds and other green technologies to eliminate the existing direct stormwater runoff into the adjacent watercourse. Contact Tioga SWCD at [Tscwcd@co.tioga.ny.us](mailto:Tscwcd@co.tioga.ny.us). For Dutchess SWCD contact Ed Hoxsie at [Ed.Hoxsie@ny.nacdnet.net](mailto:Ed.Hoxsie@ny.nacdnet.net).