

THE BELKNAP COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BUDGET HAS BEEN CUT BY 50%.

***Please contact your County Delegate by Tuesday, May 13th
to show your support for Belknap County's soil, water, farms and wildlife.***

HOW THIS IMPACTS BELKNAP COUNTY:

Loss of potentially \$357,160 in anticipated grant dollars (Federal, State, and private/non-taxpayer sourced). Grant dollars benefit natural resource businesses, contractors, farmers, and food donation programs.

- grants fund projects for reducing stream flood damage
- maintain or improve water quality
- improve stream habitat for native trout and other game fish
- work with farmers to reduce soil erosion and increase on-farm energy efficiency
- offer farmers option to rent an array farm equipment that would otherwise be too costly to buy
- work with local farms with surplus produce and volunteers to get donated food to local senior facilities and charitable organizations
- reduces Conservation District staff time to network on behalf of landowners, businesses, and communities requesting Federal, State, and local assistance on natural resource projects.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Contact your County Delegate (State Representative) by May 13th. Tell them you support the mission and work of the Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD)! For your delegate's contact information, visit: <https://www.belknapcounty.gov/county-delegation>. Phone calls are best. If you send an email, use the 'read receipt' option to know you've made contact.

Attend the public input session on May 14th. The County Delegation will be taking public input in person on May 14th at 6 PM in the public meeting room of the Belknap County Complex, 32 County Drive, Laconia, NH. Please come!

BCCD's budget request was \$51,700 for 2025. This included an increase of \$1,700 after several years of level funding at \$50,000. The 50% reduction brings the County Budget for BCCD down to \$25,000. **This reduction will force BCCD to reduce its only employee to part-time, severely impacting our capacity to raise funds and implement projects.**

The BCCD budget request equates to a taxpayer contribution of approximately 40¢ a year on a property valued at \$300,000.

Through our grants, programs, projects, partnerships, and volunteer-based contribution of time the Conservation District generated an approximate **value of \$1,676,140 in 2024** in services, funding, and technical assistance to Belknap County. This figure is similar every year.

Thank You, Belknap County Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

This ad was paid for by a private donation to the Belknap County Conservation District.