



Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD)
64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246

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November 19, 2025

Dear Friend of Conservation,

Please sign this petition to support funding the Belknap County Conservation District at \$60,000 in 2026.

Time Sensitive. The first public meeting of the Delegation is tentatively set for December 2nd.

Reaching out early is best since meeting dates are uncertain at this time.

- County taxes on a \$300,000 property contribute a 44 cent investment in Belknap's natural resources.
- BCCD brings an average of \$200,000 annually for natural resources projects in the County.
- For every \$1 in County funding, BCCD generates \$30 in projects and conservation-based technical support.

Working with landowners, land managers, and conservation partners, BCCD positive impacts include:

- Responding to over 220 requests annually for technical assistance and conservation advice
- Improving water quality, stream habitats, and reducing flood damage
- Assisting local farmers with fresh produce donations to food pantries and senior centers
- A farm equipment rental program for farmers and gardeners
- Conservation demonstration projects (Town forest plans, invasive plant removal, wetland protection)
- Providing volunteer opportunities

Why we need your support:

- In 2025, County funding to BCCD was cut in half, to \$25,000.
- In response, BCCD spent down existing grant funds and savings to continue services without disruption.
- Unless funding is restored in 2026, BCCD must drastically reduce services many depend upon.
- The Belknap County Commissioners will recommend to the County Delegation that BCCD be funded at the \$60,000 level. Your support of the Commissioners' recommendation to fund BCCD is vital.

County funding, which provides a critical foundation for BCCD program administration, has fallen 75% since 2015. We need funding levels reinstated to leverage grants and continue our services. We appreciate your support in keeping Belknap County a special place.

Our thanks for your support,

Belknap County Board of Supervisors and Associates:

Jamie Irving, Seth Keller, Richard Demark, Ken Kettenring, Jan Hooper, and Ann W. Sprague

Funding Petition for the Belknap County Conservation District

Mail to BCCD, 64 Court St., Laconia, NH 03246 OR Scan signed petition and email to belknapconservation@gmail.com

BCCD will share your signed petition with the County Delegation.

To: Belknap County Delegation

Please support the Belknap County Conservation District in year 2026 at the \$60,000 level.

Name _____ Home Address _____

Town _____ Email _____ Phone _____