

Annual Report

2022



CUMBERLAND COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



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Message from our Chair

The District Board and staff are excited to continue the changes and energy we had in 2022. This Annual Report summarizes the integral services we provide in the areas of water protection, soil health, and education throughout Cumberland County.

As we look forward to 2023 the District will continue to provide resources to address soil and water conservation issues. We hope you'll join us for one of the many upcoming District initiatives:

- Be a stormwater hero by participating in our annual Urban Runoff 5k youth education fundraiser! Participants can partake virtually during the month of April or on our timed course on April 22nd in South Portland.
- Learn more about yard conservation through our YardScaping workshops or by joining us as we install demonstration sites around our new parking lot.
- Contact us for a free one-hour conservation assessment to help address erosion and water drainage issues on your property.

As always, if you have any questions, need assistance, or are looking for information on soil and water conservation issues, please contact us.

Be well,

**Carol Ann Doucette,
Chair**

Year in Review

A photograph of a loon and its chick swimming in blue water. The loon is in the foreground, facing right, with its characteristic black and white checkered pattern. The chick is smaller and brown, swimming slightly behind and to the right of the loon. The background is a vast expanse of blue water with gentle ripples. There are decorative geometric shapes: a light blue triangle in the top right corner and a green triangle in the bottom left corner, both with dark blue lines extending from their vertices.

Water Protection

Our water protection projects continued to protect and improve water quality throughout the County's streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, and Casco Bay.

The District offers a variety of technical assistance services throughout Cumberland County including services to municipalities, partners, businesses, and landowners.

MUNICIPAL

2022 regional municipal services included coordination of the Interlocal Stormwater Working Group, a collaboration of 14 municipalities, University of Southern Maine, and Southern Maine Community College to efficiently meet stormwater permit requirements and other stormwater protection projects.

The District also partnered with the Southern Maine Planning Development Corporation on a Maine Coastal Program grant to develop a model low impact development ordinance.

The District also assists municipalities in achieving water protection goals. Highlighted municipal projects for 2022 included:

- Assisting the Town of Windham and Falmouth in fulfilling goals for the Highland Lake Watershed Management Plan
- Assisting the Town of Brunswick in implementing the Mare Brook Watershed Management Plan
- Assisting the Town of Windham with resident education on local waterbodies and water quality

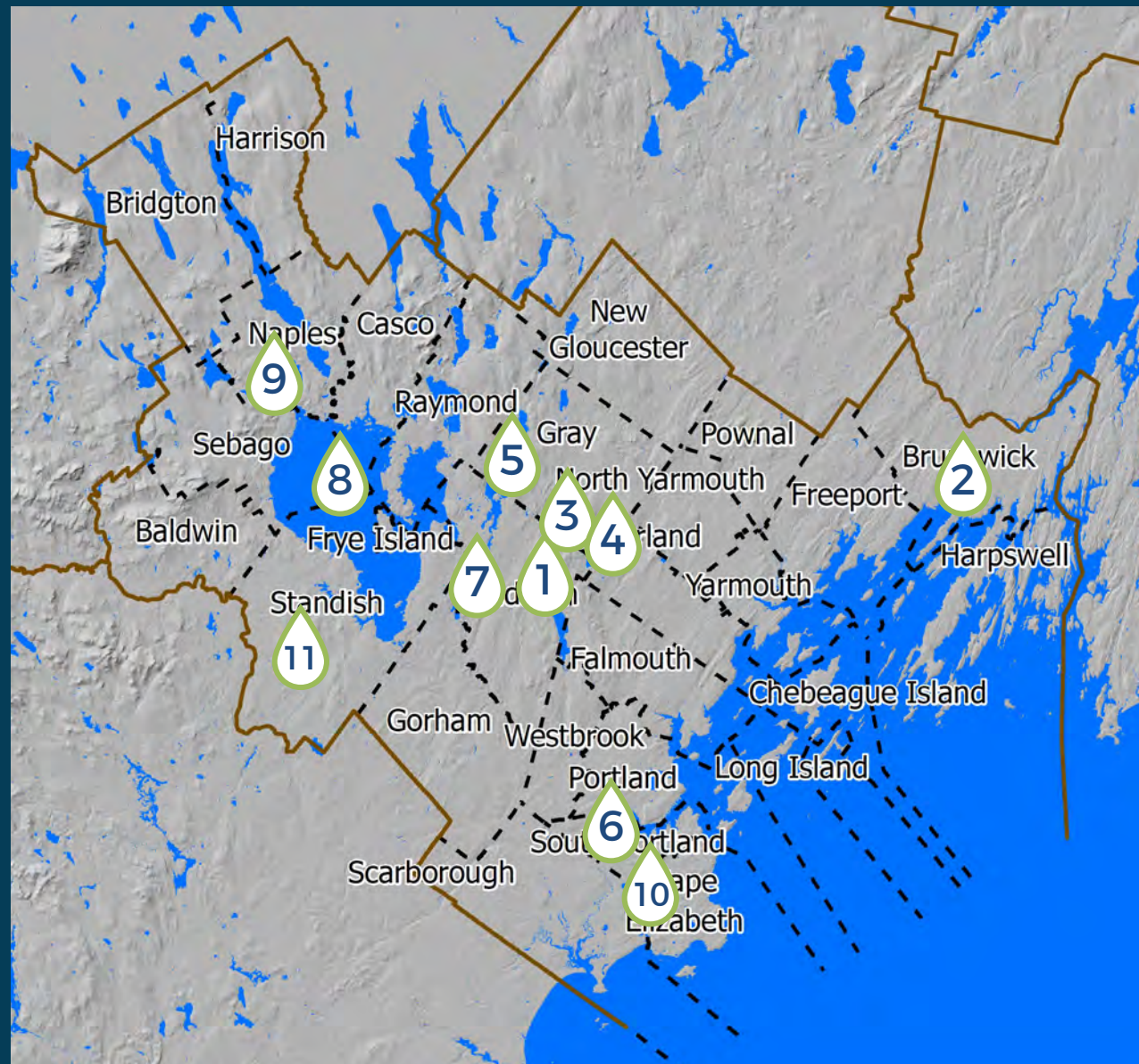
PARTNERS

The District collaborates with many partners in accomplishing shared goals that meet water and soil protection needs. In 2022, the District partnered with all 28 Cumberland County municipalities, over a dozen federal and state agencies and over a dozen local organizations.

50 LANDOWNERS

We helped over 50 landowners needing technical assistance. Many requests were regarding stormwater drainage and erosion concerns.

Watershed Protection and Restoration Projects

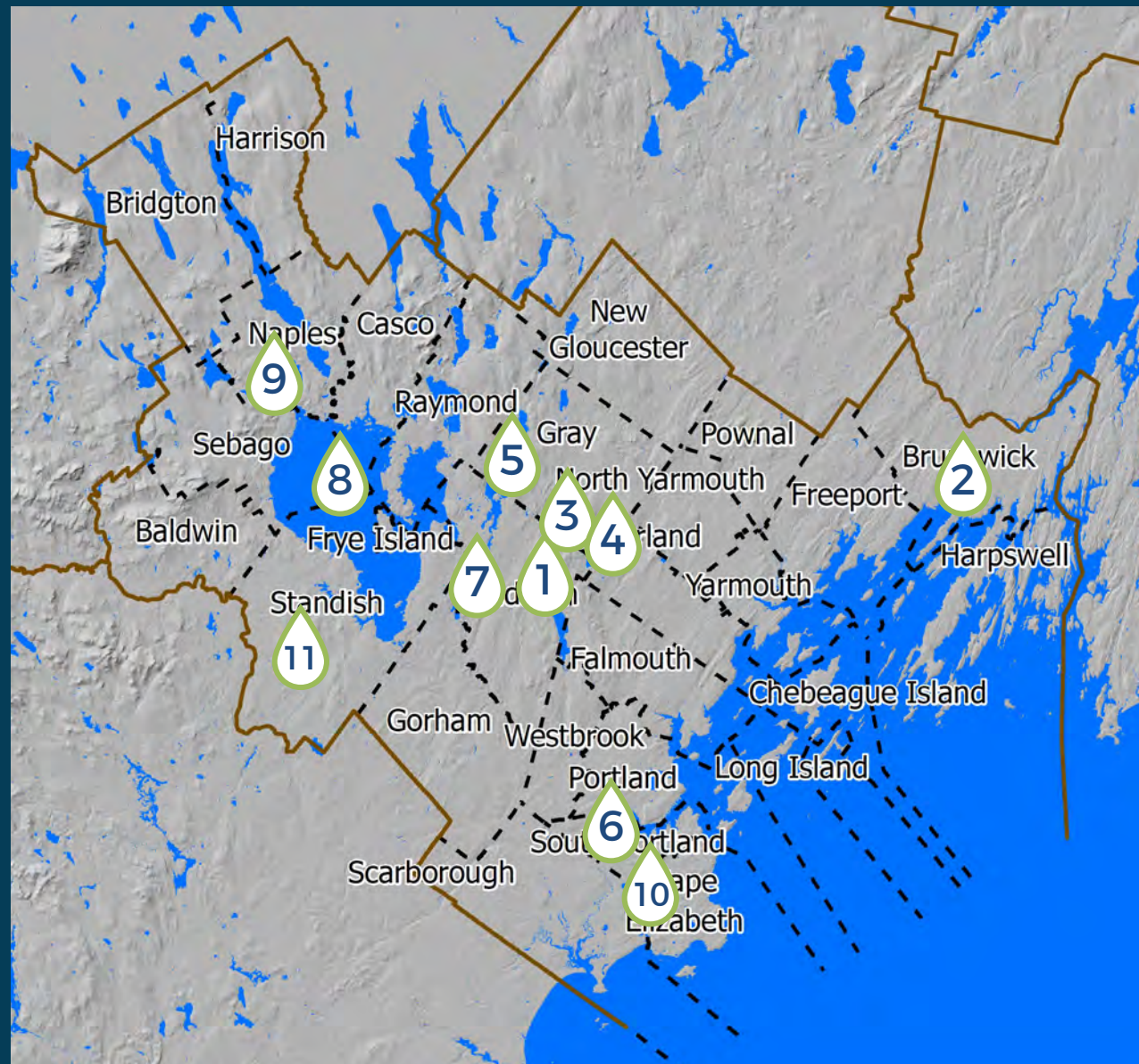


- 1. Black Brook, Windham-** Completed 10-year watershed management plan working with stakeholders and with partial support from EPA/Maine DEP grant funds
- 2. Mare Brook, Brunswick-** Assisted Town of Brunswick in starting the implementation of the Mare Brook Watershed Management Plan by applying for an EPA/Maine DEP grant
- 3. Forest Lake, Gray/Windham-** Worked with stakeholders to complete an EPA/Maine DEP grant providing recommendations for 17 significant water quality impact sites, addressing 7 high priority sites, and assisting the lake association with project outreach and awareness
- 4. Highland Lake, Falmouth/Windham-** Worked in partnership with the Towns, lake association, road association and landowners on fixing problem sites preventing over 56 tons of soil from entering the lake each year through an EPA/Maine DEP grant and provided targeted water quality protection through an established Highland Lake Leadership Team initiative
- 5. Little Sebago Lake, Windham/Gray-** Worked with the lake association to identify water quality improvement projects to be addressed using allocated Stormwater Compensation Fees
- 6. Long Creek, South Portland-** Continued to provide technical assistance to the Long Creek Watershed Management District in conducting annual inspections, assisting in improvement and restoration projects, and overseeing property stormwater management



*319 and 604b projects refer to grant projects funded in part by corresponding Sections of the US Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

Watershed Protection and Restoration Projects CONTINUED



- 7. Pleasant River, Gray/Windham-** Collaborated with stakeholders to secure funding to address a significantly undersized private road stream crossing on Baker Brook which is a main tributary of Pleasant River
- 8. Sebago Lake, Sebago/Standish/Naples/Casco (State Park Work)-** Partnered with Portland Water District to provide technical assistance and public outreach material for project work being conducted through an EPA/Maine DEP water protection grant
- 9. Trickey Pond, Naples-** Worked with a variety of stakeholders in providing property-specific water quality remediation recommendations to 14 sites, complete a right-of-way restoration project, and provide a road maintenance plan working under an EPA/Maine DEP water protection grant
- 10. Trout Brook, South Portland/Cape Elizabeth-** Assisted the City of South Portland in completing a shoreline stabilization project in Hinckley Park and preparing for three additional key project sites through an EPA/ Maine DEP grant
- 11. Watchic Lake, Standish-** Assisted the Town in providing engineering support, recommendations, and designs for private road sites



Development Review

Development in southern Maine continued at a rapid pace in 2022. The District's Development Review program assisted landowners and municipalities in the following projects:

Performed third party inspections for erosion and sediment control for the Maine DEP at five active construction sites located from South Portland to Bridgton.

Performed third party inspections for erosion and sediment control for the City of South Portland at 28 active construction sites.

Provided 23 desktop third party reviews of proposed stormwater management plans on urban development projects.

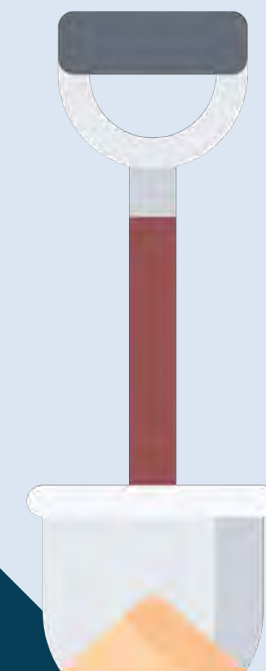
Worked with the Town of Brunswick planning office on several development reviews, ordinance revisions, and the development of the hydrologic and hydraulic model for the Mare Brook Watershed Management Plan.

Worked with Bustin Island residents on shoreline erosion concerns and inland stormwater runoff issues.

Designed Stream Smart culvert replacements for several road projects. Replacements included multi-arch plates, concrete boxes, and elliptical corrugated pipes with natural stream bottoms.

Provided erosion and sediment control inspections at a private residential development/soil extraction project for the Town of Cumberland.

Performed field inspections of existing stormwater infrastructure at 20 privately owned properties.



A person wearing white gloves is holding a soil sample in a field. The background is a blurred field with a cow visible in the distance. The image has a blue tint and geometric shapes (a light blue triangle in the top right and a green triangle in the bottom left) overlaid on it.

Soil Protection

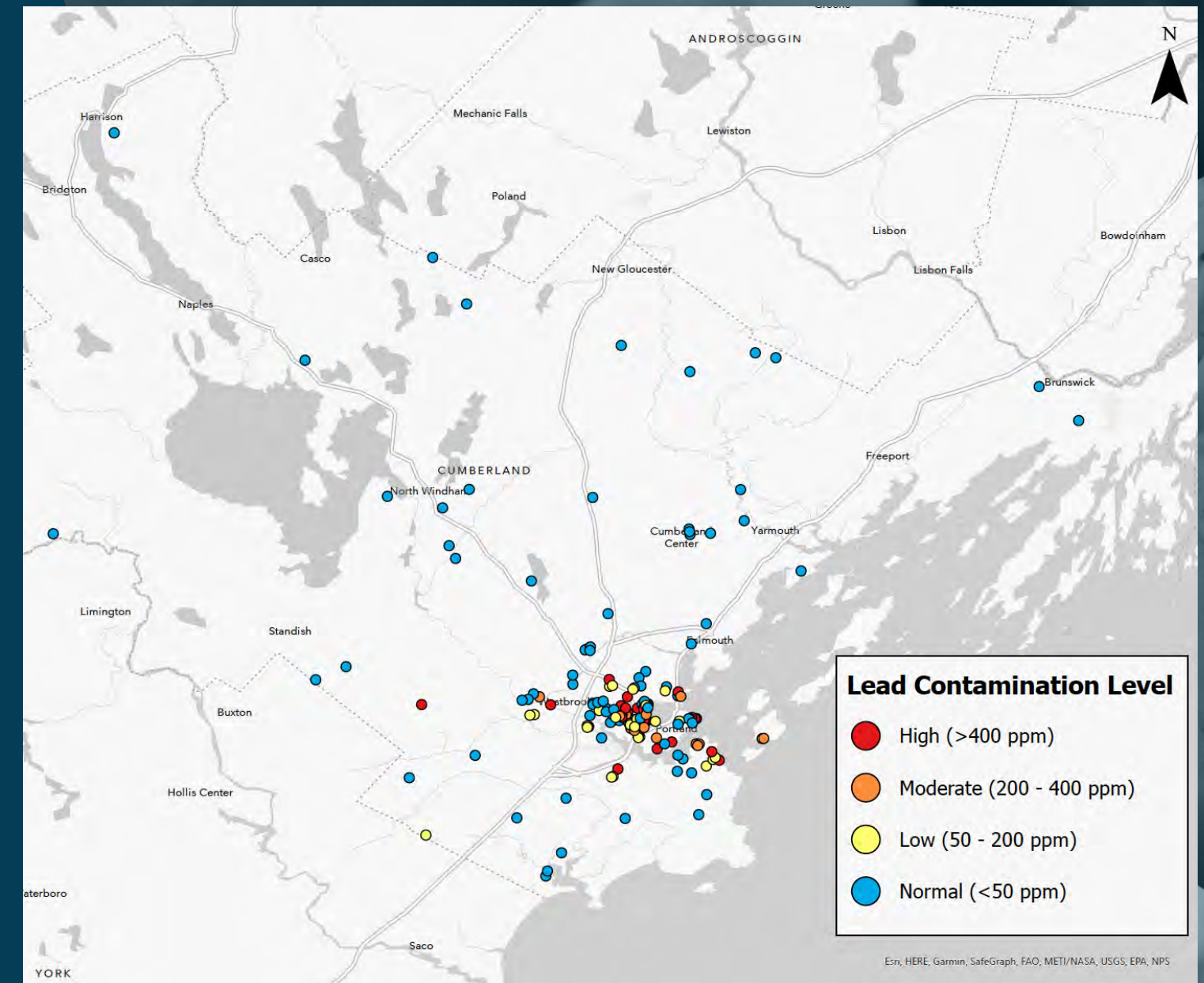
Maine's climate change goals aim to increase local food consumption to 30% by 2030. Our soil health programs provide resources and support for people growing their own food.

Greater Portland Soil Lead Awareness and Testing

Working under an awarded EPA Healthy Communities Grant Program, the District has been assisting Greater Portland gardeners in becoming aware of and identifying areas of soil lead contamination. In 2022, 132 sites were sampled. 54 sites indicated a presence of lead, with 12 sites over 400 ppm.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDED:

- ✓ 132 SOIL SAMPLES AND 22 PRODUCE SAMPLES PROCESSED; DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED BASED ON LEAD RESULTS
- ✓ EPA 'SOILSHOP' CONDUCTED TO ASSIST IN SAMPLE COLLECTION AND SOIL LEAD AWARENESS
- ✓ FACTSHEET ON SOIL LEAD AND PESTICIDES DEVELOPED AND DISTRIBUTED TO GREATER PORTLAND COMMUNITIES





Education

We provided classroom lessons, workshops, and outreach to our communities through in person, online, and hybrid presentations.

Community Education

13



WORKSHOPS

Workshop topics: Stormwater, Healthy Yard Care, Municipal Trainings



546

ATTENDEES

7

LOCAL NEWS STORIES



REGISTRATION IS NOW
OPEN FOR APRIL 2023!
www.urbanrunoff5k.org



URBAN RUNOFF

260

IN-PERSON AND
VIRTUAL
PARTICIPANTS

Classroom Education

District educators supported teachers and students by providing lessons on the water cycle, stormwater pollutants, watersheds, brook trout, soil health, pollinators, and invasive plants and pests. We also made our lesson kits easier for teachers to borrow and provided teacher trainings. Portland Water District also partnered with us to implement their classroom program.

1,918 STUDENTS



11 COMMUNITIES
16 SCHOOLS



5,075
CONTACT HOURS



Invasive Forest Pests

The District continued its coordination of the statewide invasive forest pest program through a USDA-APHIS grant. The social media campaign featuring information on invasive forest pests of concern, local information regarding invasive forest pests, Maine laws regarding wood products, and how to report invasive forest pest sightings to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry was implemented on all the 16 Soil & Water Conservation Districts' online platforms.

A "Don't Move Firewood" social media ad was developed and reached 98,870 people across the state of Maine. The District provided education and outreach to over 275 people at community events including the Vacationland RV & Camping Show and the Wicked Maine Outdoor Fest.

Together We can save
Maine's forests

**ALWAYS
USE LOCAL
FIREWOOD**

Help prevent the spread of insects and diseases that harm our forests.

**LEARN HOW YOU
CAN HELP SAVE
MAINE'S FORESTS:
www.maine.gov/firewood**

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
MAINE BUG WATCH
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY



District News

New Parking Lot Project

One of our favorite parts of 2022 was revitalizing our parking lot and incorporating some much-needed stormwater management features. Not only is our parking lot and driveway safer for the Windham fire station, businesses, and Mountain Division Trail users, we also reduced the amount of pavement, added two different kinds of permeable pavers, and included two stormwater focal points to help filter stormwater pollutants. Moving forward, we'll be installing various demonstration sites around the parking lot to be used as educational and training opportunities for municipal staff, contractors and landscaping companies, and residents.

We want to thank our project partners and funding sources for helping make our dream a reality. They include Gorrill Palmer who incorporated our stormwater and conservation practices into the design plans, Ferguson Waterworks who provided our awesome stormwater best management products, the Town of Windham for partnering with us and applying for the Community Development Block Grant and providing additional funding to make this dream a reality, the Cumberland County Government for awarding the Community Development Block Grant, and the project contractor, Aceto Earthworks.

TOWN PARKING LOT FUNDS

\$205,295 from the Cumberland County Community Block Grant

\$114,444 cash match from Windham

\$37,700 materials donation from Ferguson



DO YOU WANT TO ENSURE CLEAN WATER AND HEALTHY SOILS IN YOUR COMMUNITY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME?

The District Board guides on-the-ground soil and water conservation efforts. We are looking for candidates for future board members who are connected to their community and are looking for a satisfying opportunity to make a difference. **Could you be a good fit?**

Join Our Board

The image features a blue-tinted background of a business meeting with people working at a desk. Overlaid on this are several white hexagonal icons: a scatter plot, a line graph, a bar chart, a magnifying glass, a dollar sign, and a calendar. A large green triangle is in the bottom-left corner, and a light blue triangle is in the top-right corner. The text 'Financial Statement' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the lower right area.

Financial Statement

2023 Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Income & Expense

Operating Revenues	<u>\$920,723</u>
Operating Expenses	
Advertisements	3,689
Bank Fees and Service Charges	2,657
Construction Projects	81,318
Deprecation	16,016
Dues and Subscriptions	10,139
Equipment Purchases	31,539
Equipment Rental	2,293
Insurance	2,583
Maintenance and Repairs	3,803
Meetings	6,573
Other Expenses	2,321
Payroll, Benefits and Payroll Taxes	499,884
Printing and Postage	2,838
Professional Development	1,338
Professional Fees	83,514
Program Expense	22,807
Sponsorships	30,000
Supplies	21,982
Travel	2,795
Utilities	13,127
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$841,216</u>
Net Operating Income	<u>\$79,507</u>
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	
Interest and Dividends	1,244
Interest Expense	<u>(16,454)</u>
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>(15,210)</u>
Change In Net Position	<u>\$64,297</u>

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$649,793
Accounts Receivable	227,706
Total Current Assets	877,499
Property and Equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	435,355
Total Assets	\$1,312,854
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$3,596
Projects in progress (deferred revenue)	431,986
Other current liabilities	38,615
Total Current Liabilities	474,197
Long-Term Liabilities	
Mortgage	405,624
Total Long-Term Liabilities	405,624
Total Liabilities	879,821
Net Position	
Net Assets	368,736
Change In Net Position	64,297
Total Net Position	\$1,312,854

The District particularly thanks the Cumberland County Finance Committee and County Commissioners, as well as the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry for their continuing support, which has made much of our work possible.

Contact

Stay in the loop and sign up for our newsletter at www.cumberlandswcd.org



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