

Terrie Herr

Wallace Pond, Canaan, VT

Hello,

My name is Terrie Herr, and I reside in Canaan, Essex County. There is a chronic underfunding of Vermont's Natural Resources Conservation Districts. I am asking you to support Conservation Districts with a base appropriation of \$3 million to support our state's conservation delivery system. To keep Vermont's notoriety of beautiful and pristine land, water, and other natural resources, more money should be awarded to the Conservation Districts to be the stewards of this portion of what makes Vermont, Vermont, especially here in the most northern of the Northeast Kingdom.

My relationship to the Conservation District began in February of 2021 with a conversation with Heather Johnson, the former Essex County District Manager. At that time, she stated in an email "I have been wanting to work at Wallace Pond for a while because of the shoreline degradation. I can see several issues from the main road and the Jackson Lodge Road". Unfortunately, we never met up that spring as I was dealing with cancer treatments.

However, in June of 2023, contact was made with Sam Mayne who provided guidance on getting a meeting together along with shoreline assessments of interested parties. We had a great turnout for the meeting even though Sam had met with the proprietors during the assessments and had already garnered information and had answered questions. It was a very productive meeting, and Sam is helping us set up a Lay Water Quality Monitoring program on the lake through Vermont DEC. Much work is needed at Wallace Pond/Lake Wallace. We look forward to continuing working with him to save our shorelines.

In closing, please address the chronic underfunding of Vermont's Natural Resources Conservation Districts with a base appropriation of \$3 million to support our state's conservation delivery system.