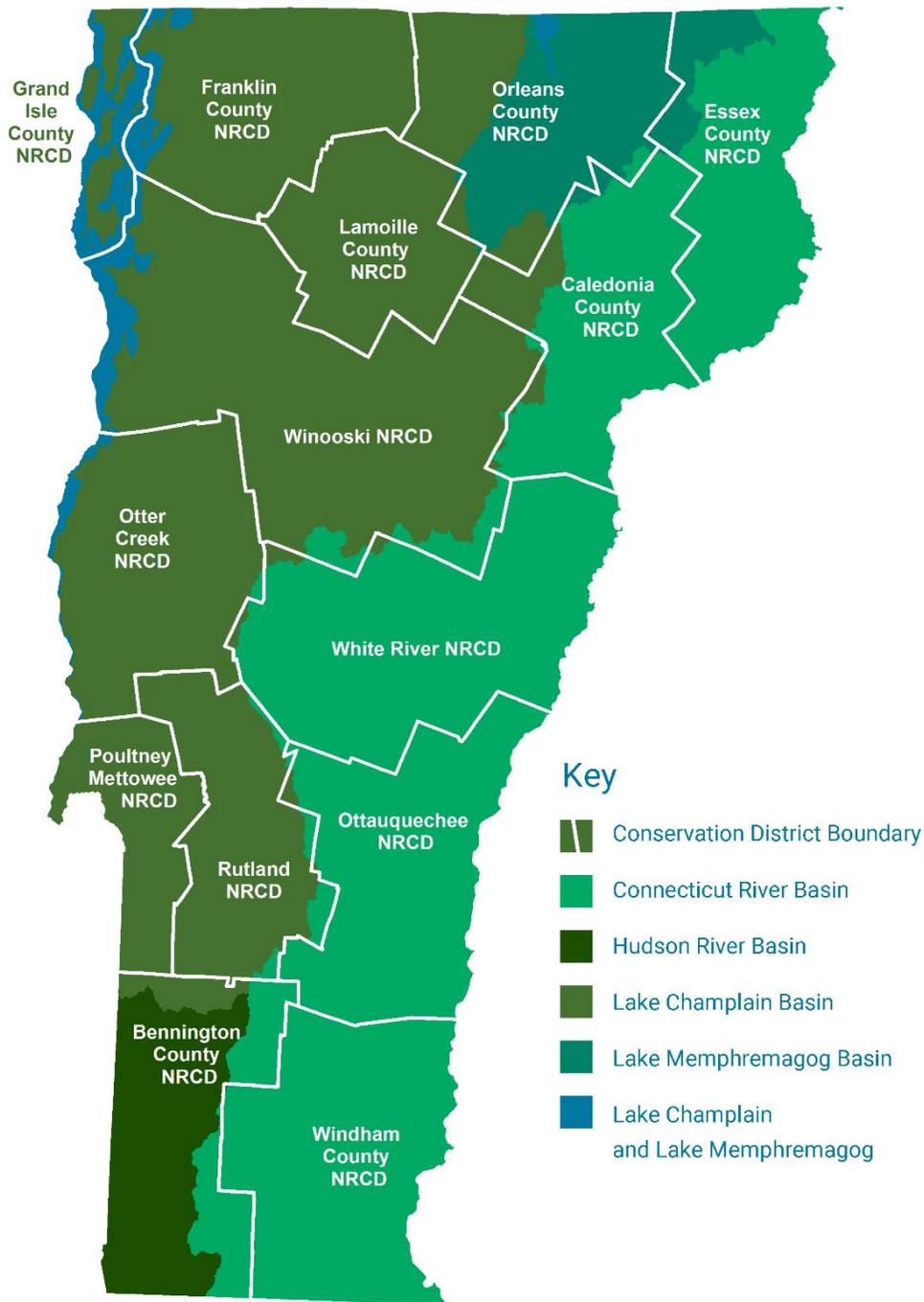


VERMONT NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



February 2026



Vermont's 14 Natural Resources Conservation Districts (NRCs)

- County-scale units of government
- Established by the Soil Conservation Act in 1939
- Supported by the State Natural Resources Conservation Council ([NRCC](#))

We are rooted in communities, and those roots help to strengthen and support the environment.

Conservation Districts Address



Flood Mitigation



Drought Mitigation



Farm Viability & Food Security



Clean Water

NRCDS & VACD Results in FY2025

- ✓ **452** farms assisted
- ✓ **767** on-site farm assistance visits
- ✓ **12,087** stems planted in buffers on farms
- ✓ **3,239** participants in public workshops
- ✓ **1,046** soil, manure, & water quality samples collected at farms
- ✓ **15,037** acres assessed for Land Treatment Plans or Water Quality Concerns



Conservation Districts are working with NRCS to preserve critical services as federal actions reduce NRCS capacity in Vermont.



NRCS staff in Vermont is being reduced by roughly one-third. **The Natural Resources Conservation Districts can be a solution to this problem.**

- VACD has hired an engineer to work in the Rutland NRCS office and filled a critical technical support vacancy at NRCS
- Conservation Districts & VACD employ 17 Conservation Planners across the state who have been assisting with NRCS applications and contracts
- NRCDs are working on ways to continue to fill critical vacancies, including additional engineering support and Conservation Planners in the most heavily impacted areas of the state.

Locally Led Conservation



For the 2026 federal fiscal year, Districts directed \$4.4M in federal funds to farmers and other landowners for work on conservation needs identified by local residents through the locally led process.

Conservation Districts have made an impact in our favorite places in Vermont, please support our request for **\$948,200** in the FY27 budget.





For every \$1 Conservation Districts receive in direct operational funding, they bring in \$9 for implementing conservation work!

Orleans County NRCD





Caledonia County NRC

Bennington Veterans Incubator Farm



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?



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