

Michelle Monroe, Executive Director, Vermont Association of Conservation Districts

Please support Vermont's 14 Natural Resources Conservation Districts with a total budget of \$948,200 for the Natural Resources Conservation Council in fiscal year 2027.

There is a conservation district serving every community in Vermont. They use the funding provided by the state to develop programs and projects, and then apply for additional funding to carry out those projects. Examples of work made possible by this funding include the upgrading of three culverts in the town of Lunenburg, something the town could not do on its own, and the recent removal of a dam owned by the Village of Enosburg Falls which was at risk of failure in a flood event.

Everything the districts do touches on disaster mitigation, including the technical assistance they provide to farms. Continuing this work is essential for the future of our communities and our state.

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Thank you for your consideration.