



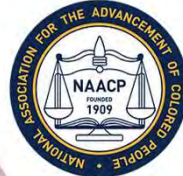
Connecticut
Resource Conservation
& Development

2024 Annual Meeting

- 12:30 Welcome
- 1:00 Awards and Scholarships
- 1:15 CT RC&D Programs
- 1:30 Lunch
- 2:15 Auerfarm and Samad Gardens Initiative
- 3:30 Event Ends

Thank
you!





Linda B. Krause Award

for Excellence in
Conservation Collaboration

Dr. Randolph Steinen

Professor Emeritus UCONN Department of
Geology, CT DEEP State Geological &
Natural History Survey



Norma O'Leary Award

for Excellence in
Agriculture Innovation

Jared McCool

Steadfast Farms and Poultry Processing &
Slaughter, Bethlehem, CT. President of the CT
Chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition.



Linda B. Krause Conservation Scholarship

Rhiannon Martin

CT State University at Three Rivers



Norma O'Leary Agriculture Scholarship

Jacqueline Tran

Waterford High School



Environmental Review Team



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**ENVIRONMENTAL
REVIEW
TEAM
PROGRAM**

CONNECTICUT

A group of people, including a man in a white shirt and a woman in a patterned dress, are gathered outdoors for a community meeting or presentation. They are looking at a document held by one of the men.

55

years of serving Connecticut municipalities and land trusts



1,012

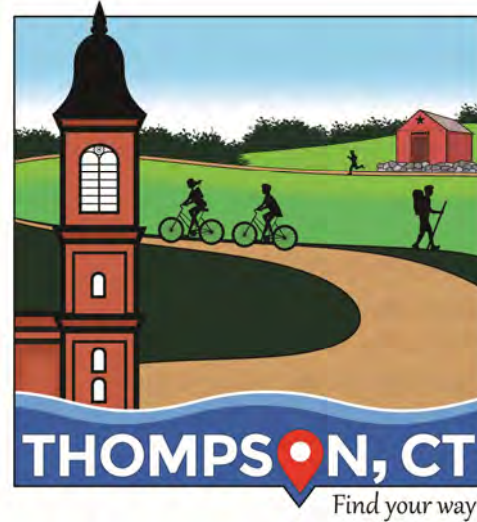
reviews completed since the inception of CTERT



96%

of Connecticut towns have received an ERT Review

65 Main Street – Thompson, CT



65 MAIN
small business center +
public food forest planning project
THOMPSON, CT



TEEG
Community • Policy • Research

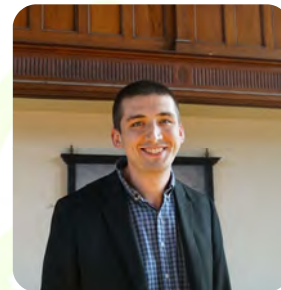


TYCHE
PLANNING & POLICY GROUP



This project is partially funded by the USDA's OUAIP Agreement #NR233A75800560336

Air Line State Park Trail Regional Organization

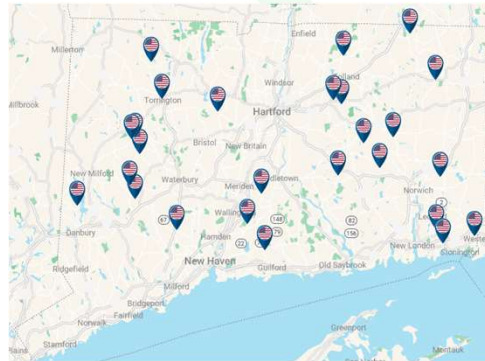




CT Farm Energy Program



CT Veteran Grown





COVER CROP
2023 *Challenge*

Sign up now! • Cover Crop Seed
bit.ly/2023covercrop • UConn Soil Test
• Technical Assistance
• Improved Soil Health!

**Participation on a first come, first served basis.*



Funding for this project proudly provided by Berkshire Agricultural Ventures.



CT Soil Health Initiative

Connecticut
Resource Conservation & Development Area

Climate Smart Agriculture Grant Round 1 Awardees

\$250,000 in funding administered to 8 Farms
4 Soil Health / 3 On-Farm Energy / 1 Combination Project
Enabling over \$867,000 in Total Project Costs

Funding for this project was paid for by the Climate Smart Farming: Agriculture and Forestry Grant. Funding awarded and administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.



Fort Hill Farm



Long Table Farm



Samad Gardens Initiative

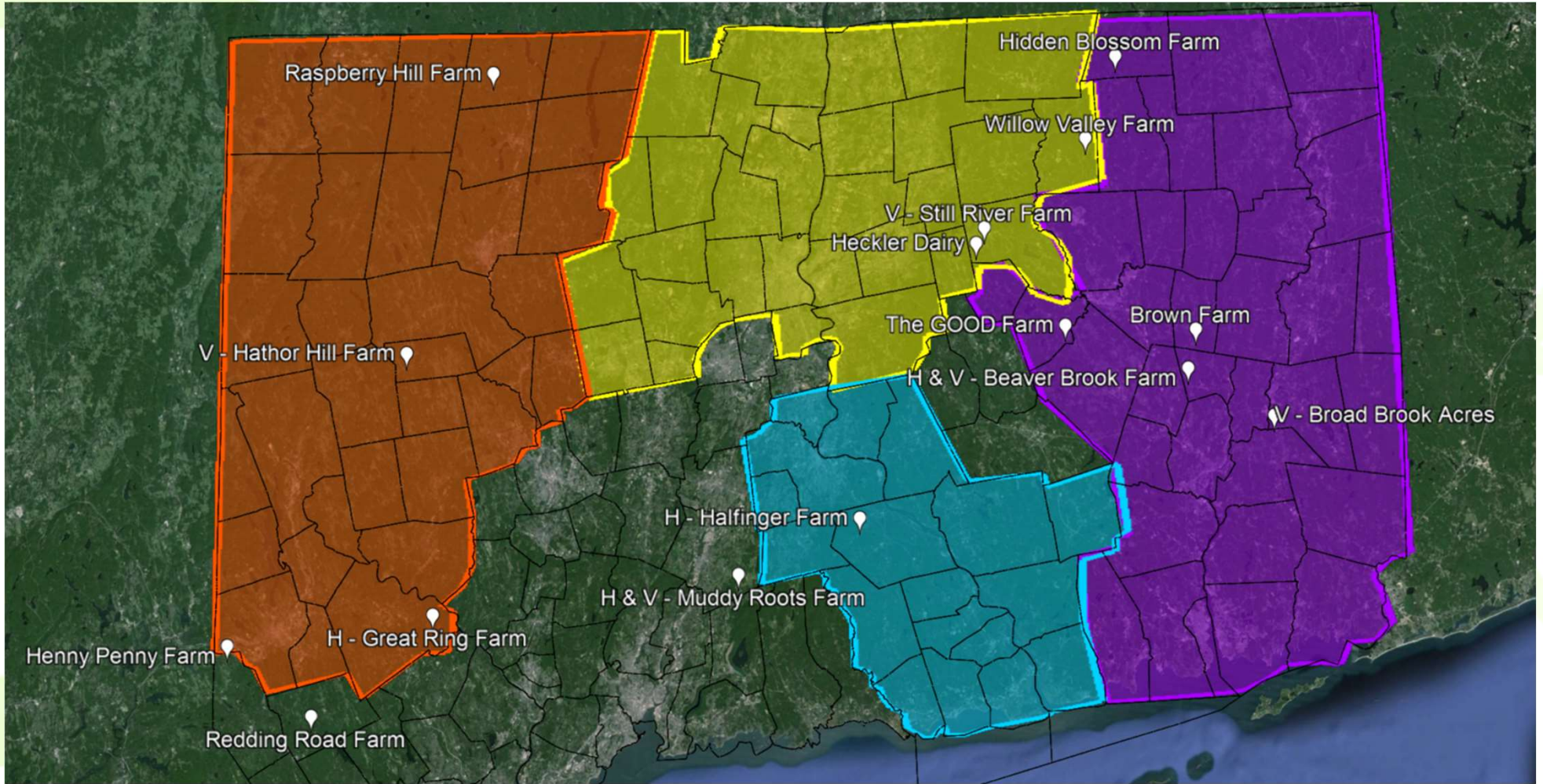
Climate Smart Agriculture Grant Program



Climate Smart Agriculture Equipment Hubs

Climate Smart Agriculture Equipment Hubs

- As part of the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry Grant program, CT RC & D was awarded a \$ 1 million grant to provide subgrants for climate smart practices and four equipment sharing hubs around the state.
- These hubs will provide an opportunity for farms throughout Connecticut to utilize conservation tillage equipment and other climate smart agricultural equipment that are otherwise cost prohibitive for many farms.
- In 2023, we received farm applications for these four equipment hubs which went before a review committee consisting of representatives from the Conservation Districts, UCONN Extension, the Veteran community, RiverCOG, NRCS, and CT RC&D.



Equipment Hubs

Examples of Equipment

Northeast: No Till Seed Drill, Roller Crimper, Subsoiler, No-till Corn Planter.

Northwest: Mobile Unit with walk behind tractor, attachments and hand tools. Roller crimper, flail mower, compost tea kit, Jang seeder.

CT River Valley: Mobile Unit with walk-behind tractor, attachments and hand tools. Roller Crimper, no till transplanter and seed drill with trailers for transportation.

CT Farmer Veteran: Mobile Unit with walk behind tractor, attachments and hand tools. Post hole auger, post driver, Compost extractor/application equipment.

Climate Smart Agriculture Equipment Hubs

Equipment Procurement

- **CT Farmer Input:** Open application process for farm to sign up to participate in the hubs.
- **Open Forum:** The discussion has been ongoing with the individual farms in each hub as the procurement process has advanced to be sure that the equipment being purchased was suitable and fitting the needs of the farms adequately. Meetings with each group of hub farms also was conducted.
- **Quotes:** Several quotes for each piece of equipment were obtained with an effort made to give preference to American made products where possible.
- **Purchase and Implement:** On May 24th 2024, the first piece of large equipment, a Great Plains Seed Drill was delivered to the Northwest Hub!

Climate Smart Agriculture Equipment Hubs

Mobile Units with BCS Walk-Behind Tractor, attachments and hand-tools



Climate Smart Agriculture Equipment Hubs



Job JumpStart (JJS) Program



Conservation Nutrient Management Planners:

- Carlie Ritchie – NRCS CT State Office
- Kyle Dolce – NRCS CT State Office

Conservation Planners:

- Alexandra Self – NRCS Torrington Office
- Alexis Coulumbe – NRCS Windsor Office
- Gere Johnson – NRCS Hamden Office
- Georgia Male – NRCS Hamden Office

Conservation Soil Technician:

- Kevin Butler – NRCS Torrington Office

Archaeology Field Technician:

- Samantha Tonan – NRCS CT State Office

