# NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES FALL NEWSLETTER

Get caught up on new ways to connect with your Employees' Association!

## What is NACDE?

**FALL 2023** 

The Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees (NACDE) mission is to serve as a vehicle for employees to address regional and national concerns and to advance their standing as professionals. Each state has one voting member who is selected by the District employees of that state. The voting members from each state elect the officers from nominations made at the annual meeting (typically held in conjunction with the annual NACD Northeast Regional Meeting). Every part-time or full-time employee of any Conservation District office in the Northeast Region is automatically a member of the Association. The Association does not charge dues to be a member.

### **New Executive Board**

We held our annual elections during the NACD Northeast Regional Meeting in Maine. The new executive board (pictured below from left to right) is, President: Michael Kent (NJ), Vice President: Velynda Parker (NY), Treasurer: Tim Thomas (NJ), Secretary: Molly Allard (RI), and Past President: Jeff Parker (NY) (not pictured). The new Board will continue to serve the employees of the Northeast by sharing their successes and concerns on the regional and National levels.



# NACDE Virtual Employees Meeting

NACDE will be holding virtual meetings for employees!

Keep an eye on your email and the NACDE website for updates on when they will be held!

All District employees will be welcomed to participate!

NACDE Meetings will be a space for ideas, information sharing and getting to know the Executive Board and your fellow Northeast employees.

## Thank you Annica!

NACD announces Annica McGuirk as the Forestry Program Manager!

"McGuirk has been with NACD since 2021 as the Northeast Region Representative. In her new role as Forestry Program Manager, Annica will serve as staff lead on the recently approved Landscape Scale Restoration grant with the US which Forest Service is an multi-partner interagency, collaboration that will advance science-based restoration of priority forest landscapes and protects water in 13 states from West Virginia to Maine. She will <u>also continue to support other</u> forestry related activities such as NACD's Forestry Subcommittee and the Joint Forestry Team." -NACD eResource

We thank you Annica for all your work during your time as the Northeast Region Representative!



### **Thank You Past Board!**

The new executive board for the Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees expresses our appreciation to Jeff Parker, Sandy Thompson, Alisa Bentley and Ines Zimmerman for serving on the NACDE board as President. Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer respectively. The NACDE board knows that your commitment to conservation districts will continue via advocating for conservation district employees, promotion of professional development, and encouraging employees to become involved at the state, regional and national levels in delivering sound and effective conservation assistance.

All of you are what our vision statement states, "Together We Achieve the Extraordinary".

## See you in San Diego!

The 2024 NACD Annual Meeting will be held in San Diego, California from February 10-14, 2024. Early bird registration ends December 22, 2023, so now is the time to sign up.

The 2024 NACD Annual Meeting will feature great networking opportunities, speakers, and tours exploring the theme "Operation Conservation!"



The NACD Employees Association will be holding a reception and Board Meetings during this year's Conference, and we encourage employees to attend!







#### **State Spotlight: Delaware**

"The Delaware Department of Natural Environmental and Control Resources (DNREC) and Kent Conservation District for available are announce grants in the Chesapeake Bav homeowners Watershed in Kent County who wish to have their residential septic tanks pumped out for routine maintenance. Funding for the new grant initiative is made available by DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship through a Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant. More than \$68,000 in grant funding - or enough to pump out roughly 300 Kent County residential septic systems - is available." from the DNREC Press Release.

<u>Learn More</u>

#### State Spotlight: Pennsylvania

Earlier this year, Pennsylvania had their annual conference for the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts. This Conference recognized District employees, supervisors, and supporters for their efforts, excellence, and years of service in Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to the honorees of the 2023 Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts!





Pictured (middle) is the Legislator Leadership Award Winner, Senator Scott Martin

#### Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees Awards

Thanks to everyone who joined us for a fantastic NACD Northeast Regional Meeting in Maine. Our boat tour was a great success, showing us views and the history of Casco Bay! Thanks to everyone who made it to our morning meeting, we enjoyed meeting all of you. Congratulations to President's Award Winner: Sandy Thompson of PA, District Leader Award Winner: Cliff Lane of PA, and District Employee Award (Local Level) Winner: Chastity Miller of NY.

We are excited to see everyone again next year in, Massachusetts!





## **Event Spotlight: New York**

#### SAVE THE DATE

NYS Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.

#### Water Quality SymPosium

#### MARCH 12 - 15, 2024

This training event is an intense four-day training session for District Employees, USDA/NRCS Employees, WQCC Representatives, and all Conservation Partners.

#### **Contact Information**

President: Michael Kent (NJ) michaelkent@capeatlantic.org

Vice President: Velynda Parker (NY) vparker@steubenswcdny.com

Treasurer: Tim Thomas (NJ) <a href="https://thomas@freeholdscd.org">tthomas@freeholdscd.org</a>

Secretary: Molly Allard (RI) mallard.nricd@gmail.com

Does your District have an event, program, opportunity or story to share? Send to <u>Molly</u> for a Newsletter State Spotlight!

Visit the NACDE website at <u>www.nacde.org</u>.

Forwarded the Newsletter? Signup here!