

Rhode Island Resource Conservation & Development Area



"Helping People Help the Land since 1973"

Background of the Resource Conservation & Development Program

The Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D) was developed based on the premise that local people, working together, can identify and solve problems and realize opportunities that will enhance the quality of life in their area. RC&D Area Plans are designed to direct Federal, State, and local resources toward accomplishing the purpose and intent of the RC&D Program consistent with opportunities and needs identified in the RC&D planning process.

RC&D operates at local, State, regional, and national levels to accomplish the program elements of land conservation, water management, community development, and land management. Responsible program implementation requires that all functional levels (Area, State and national) of the RC&D Program develop plans to direct resources so that program purposes will be accomplished in each of the designated RC&D Areas.

The Rhode Island RC&D Area

The Rhode Island Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 corporation that initiates, assists, and carries out long-range programs of resource conservation and development.

Formed in 1973, the Council is a structured partnership between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and local sponsors that serves the entire state of Rhode Island. The twelve (12) members of the Council are representatives of its sponsors: the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), the Rhode Island Department of Administration Statewide Planning Office, the Eastern Rhode Island

Conservation District, the Northern Rhode Island Conservation District, the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District, the Coastal Resources Management Council, the Narragansett Indian Tribe and one (1) Member-at-Large.

This partnership utilizes a locally led process that identifies and addresses natural resource and human concerns. The Council focuses on programs and projects that benefit the economic situation of Rhode Islanders by implementing programs and projects that stimulate the economy and enhance the wise use of renewable natural resources. The Council partners with other USDA Agencies such as: The USDA Farm Service Agency, Forest Service, and Rural Development.

Our Vision

Conservation partners working together to foster economic improvements that respect the natural and built environment within Rhode Island

Our Mission

Building partnerships to balance economic development and natural resource conservation.

Program Focus

Land Conservation

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Land Management

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Water Resources

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Community Development



