

The Worcester County Conservation District (WCCD) is seeking volunteers to serve on the Board of Supervisors as full Supervisors, Associate Supervisors, and Junior Supervisors.

The Worcester County Conservation District was formed in 1997 through the consolidation of three original districts; N.E. Worcester, N. W. Worcester (both organized in1945), and So. Worcester (organized in 1946). WCCD is a county level not for profit agency dedicated to developing locally driven solutions to natural resource challenges. WCCD works in cooperation with federal, state and local organizations to help landowners and municipalities remediate and protect water, air, soils and ecosystems. WCCD is one of more than three thousand conservation districts established throughout the United States in the belief that local volunteers are best positioned to understand local conditions, assess and prioritize needs, facilitate education, and channel resources to priority projects in their counties. The Natural Resource Conservation Service, a division of the United States Department of Agriculture, partners with WCCD to provide technical assistance and support. Similarly, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs provides grant support for WCCD operations and projects.

The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Supervisors serving three-year terms. This volunteer role provides an excellent opportunity to initiate and support the many changes that are becoming increasingly important in providing sustainable and healthy civilization and receives inherent benefit in being within Massachusetts, one of the most environmentally progressive States. It is likely that changes in sustainable plans and actions that you will be helping to implement will set the stage for our fundamental quality of life for many generations to come. The role of Conservation Districts is highly flexible, providing ample opportunity for diligent and creative individuals to effect change as the times and tasks demand.

<u>Supervisors</u> serve for three years, are voting board members, serve as officers, and provide inspiration, assistance and direction to the District. In order to be elected to a Supervisor position, candidates must live in Worcester County, have a deep interest in the field of conservation and a dedication to their responsibilities as a Supervisor of WCCD. Training is provided.

The WCCD Board would like to recruit a Board that truly represents the diversity of people, lands, and land uses present in the 60 municipalities in Worcester County.

Desirable Capabilities include:

- Availability to participate in meetings and projects
- Genuine passion for conservation, soil, water, atmosphere and recycling combined with positive creative energy and ability to apply their enthusiasm thoughtfully and practically.
- Openminded, Informed, perseverant, personable, honest and strong contributor
- Ability to think and act long and short term
- Life learner who will read, attend events, and generally be aware of the information required to understand the evolving requirements of sustainability.
- Good communication skills, ability to motivate and be effective at community outreach.
- Willingness to promote the District.



Additional Beneficial Skills:

- Knowledge of social media and uses as community outreach
- Technical Skills in Soil Science including soil mechanics and soil biology
- Expertise in Office Tools hardware, software and data security

<u>Associate Supervisors</u> serve for two-year terms as non-voting members. This is often a training position for people interested in becoming a Supervisor. It can also be a good balance for people who are interested in participating but feel they have less time to dedicate to the Board. Associate Supervisors have a voice in the running of the District and can serve on subcommittees, and as secretary or treasurer and, with the permission of the Chair, represent the District at meetings.

<u>Junior Supervisors</u> are high school or college students with a demonstrated interest in soil and water conservation. They are also non-voting members of the Board and usually help with education and demonstration projects. The term is one year, with the ability to be re-appointed for multiple years.

For further information: Interested parties are encouraged to contact Lisa Trotto, District Administrator, at lisa.trotto@usda.gov or (978)502-7396 for informal discussion and more information regarding current initiatives. Alternatively, the public is always invited to the Board of Supervisor meetings, currently being held virtually. Please see https://worcesterconservation.org/ for details on meeting times and instructions on how to participate.

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