



# Rhode Island Resource Conservation & Development Area Council, Inc.

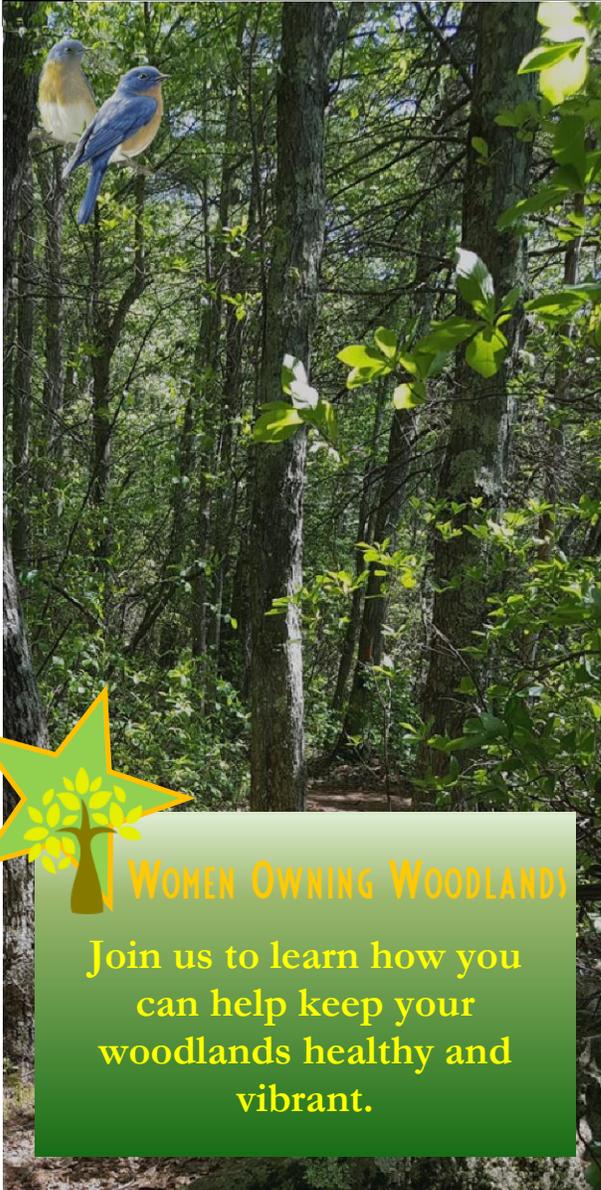
*Helping People Help the Land Since 1973*

## Newsletter of November 2022

*When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound  
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,  
I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.  
I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief.  
I come into the presence of still water.  
And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light.  
For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.*

*Wendell Berry, The Peace of Wild Things*

*Wishing the world and everyone in it a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving Day.*



### WOMEN OWNING WOODLANDS

Join us to learn how you  
can help keep your  
woodlands healthy and  
vibrant.

## ZOOM WEBINAR

### Forest Pests and Diseases

Tuesday, 17 January 2023

from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The health and vitality of our lands and waters support our way of life and economy in Rhode Island. All woodland owners are encouraged to attend this workshop to ask questions and to get more in-depth information about how to managing the pests and diseases that threaten our woodlands, and wildlife.

The Rhode Island Division of Agriculture and Forest Environment works to sustain, promote, and enhance Rhode Island's agricultural viability and preserve, manage, and promote healthy forests for today and for generations to come.

### Speakers

Alana Russell

[URI Department of Plant Sciences and Entomology](#)

Cynthia Kwolek

RI DEM, [Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey](#)

**To register and get your Zoom Link**

**please contact Paul Dolan**

email: [rircd2283@gmail.com](mailto:rircd2283@gmail.com)

phone: 401-500-0399

**Please plan to join us!**

## Plant Sciences and Entomology

College of the Environment and Life Sciences

### Danger! Spotted Lantern Fly



Adult / Nymph  
July - September



Adult  
July- December



Egg Masses  
October - June

Rhode Islanders have a unique relationship to the environment—and for our communities, ornamental plants, turf, agritourism, and conservation lands are as important as food crops. Our programs in ornamental horticulture, turfgrass management, food crop production, and control of invasive species, and insect-vectored diseases support all these aspects of the local economy. You'll be fully prepared for a job in agricultural industries, or to conduct your own research.



**Emerald ash borer biocontrol project in the Northern RI now news**— When exotic beetles that have the potential to destroy all of the native ash trees were discovered in four Rhode Island counties, local conservationists reached out to experts with the University of Rhode Island Biocontrol Lab.



**Tick Tactics**— Thomas Mather, a nationally renowned tick expert works with his team members to examine photos and provide an identification confirmation, a personalized risk assessment and case-appropriate prevention educational information to the public.



**Our roots are showing**— Our faculty, students, and alumni are rediscovering our agricultural roots, taking a new, interdisciplinary approach to practical agriculture, and leading the way for a new generation of farmers and food producers.



**Hunger Hits Home**— We distribute thousands of pounds of fresh produce harvested on campus farms each year to feed those in need.

## About Agriculture & Forest Environment

The health and vitality of our lands, waters, and communities support our way of life and economy in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Division of Agriculture and Forest Environment works to sustain, promote, and enhance Rhode Island's agricultural viability and preserve, manage, and promote healthy forests and community trees for today and for generations to come.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Department of Environmental  
Management

[Animal Health Program](#)  
[RI Grown: Eat Fresh, Buy Local](#)  
[Produce Safety Program](#)  
[Agriculture Grant Opportunities](#)  
[LASA Grant Program](#)  
[Pesticides Program](#)

[Urban Forestry Program](#)  
[Forest Health Program](#)  
[Wild Fire Program](#)  
[Pest Alerts](#)  
[Spotted Lanternfly](#)  
[Forest Stewardship](#)

## RESOURCES FOR WOODLOT OWNERS—



Rhode Island Forest Conservators Organization  
*Helping to Safeguard Rhode Island's Woodlands*



Rhode Island Forest Conservators Organization (RIFCO) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and wise use of Rhode Island's woodland resources.

To receive the [RIFCO](#) monthly e-newsletter

"[The Forest Conservationist](#)," visit our [Contact](#) page and submit a request online. Or [Join RIFCO](#) and automatically receive a subscription as a [RIFCO](#) member.

## [RIWP: Your Online Resource for RI Forest Information](#)



The Rhode Island Woodland Partnership (RIWP) advances the stewardship and long-term protection of Rhode Island's woodlands to benefit the local economy, ecological values, and community enjoyment and health. The RIWP strives to increase the impact of forest conservation measures through education and information sharing.

## [RI DEM Forest Stewardship Program](#)

This program was developed for woodland owners who want to know more about their woodland and how to manage it. The Rhode Island FSP, in cooperation with the [USDA Forest Service](#), supports private forest landowners' efforts to manage, enjoy, and care for their land long-term. This program is designed to both recognize the public benefits of privately-owned working lands and good land management, and to help private landowners protect the ecosystem benefits and value of their forest.



## [USDA New England New York Forestry Initiative](#)

### [EQIP Forestry Initiative Information](#)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat primarily on private land. Applicants with forestland or in fields with 25 percent more woody cover (aerial canopy cover) of tree species and who wish to install practices that will protect or enhance fish and wildlife habitat should apply to this initiative.

## [American Forest Foundation Newsletter](#)

Sign up and receive updates from the [AFF](#) and/or its signature programs: the [American Tree Farm System](#) (ATFS) and [My Land Plan](#)



## CLIMATE CHANGE — COP 27

**"Every year is a race between unprecedented global efforts to decarbonize and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and the unrelenting accumulation of emissions that are causing ever more pain for people around the world."**

**— Pete Ogden**

*Vice President for Climate and the Environment, UN Foundation*

*"... it's abundantly clear that the world is not on course right now to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. The onus is therefore on countries to demonstrate that they're taking additional actions to get us back on track. We are going to be looking for clear signs that countries are going further, faster. We're looking for signs of credible political commitment, even at a time of so much geopolitical turmoil. Countries have to remain laser focused and understand that the clean energy transition is their way through to the other side.*

*"In the next phase of climate action, I think we'll see several things. One is the ripple effect from the passage of historic climate legislation in the U.S., which is injecting \$369 billion into the effort to decarbonize the U.S. economy. The second is a growing — and overdue — recognition of the need to finance and scale up investment in adaptation measures in countries around the world. We're on a path of increased suffering due to our failure to get on top of climate change sufficiently over the past two decades. So I think we are going to see more attention to what we need to do to cope with the impacts of climate change that are growing in severity..."*

**News and Reports** [COP 27 Media Advisories and Press Releases November 2022](#)

[COP 27 News](#)



### [Does the world need a non-proliferation treaty for fossil fuels?](#)

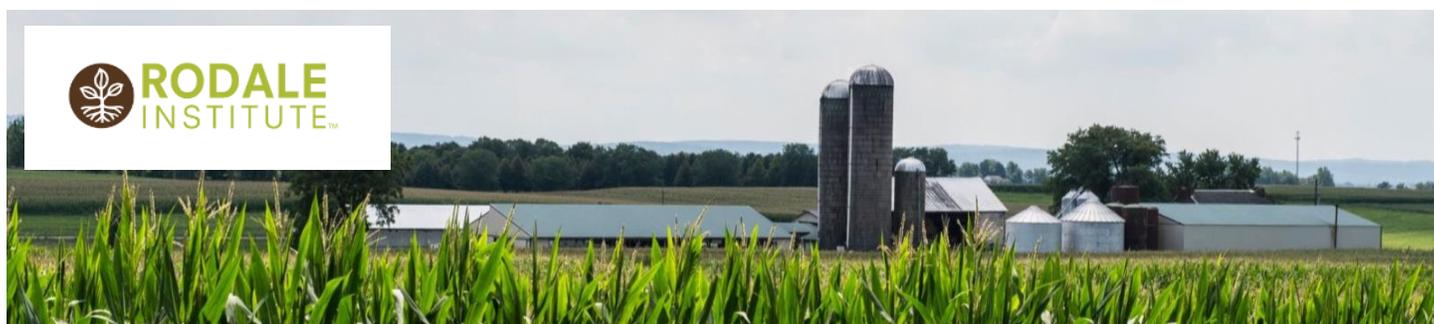
At COP27, the EU is pushing a vote to make oil and gas as repugnant as nuclear weapons. The EU wants nation states to commit to ending expansion of fossil fuel extraction, phasing out existing production, and enabling a global just transition to renewable and sustainable fuels. It's a bold move that references the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, a 20th-century agreement dedicated to restricting the spread of nuclear weapons worldwide. But, does it now make sense to treat systems that billions rely on for food, heating, and transportation, the same as we treat apocalyptic weapons of mass destruction?

[READ about the PROS and CONS HERE](#)



## American Farmland Trust Announces Nationwide Network of Service Providers to Help Transitioning Land to the Next Generation

The successful transfer of land to the next generation of farmers and ranchers will also require a transfer of knowledge and skills. More than 40 percent of American farmland is owned by seniors aged 65 and older, who are likely to retire in the next decade or so. Given the demographics, American Farmland Trust estimates that 371 million acres, or one-third of U.S. farmland, will likely transition to new ownership in the next 15 years.



## ORGANIC FARM FUNDING RESOURCES

Get Help Expanding, Improving, or Starting Your Organic Farm.

Are you a beginning farmer? Are you an established farmer? Do you need assistance with certification costs or creating value-added products on your farm? Are you looking to transition your farm from conventional to organic practices? The following resources provide funding and other assistance. One of the biggest hurdles to transitioning land to organic or enhancing conservation on the farm is securing the funds to make it possible. Rodale's resources can help



## Conserving natural resources FOR OUR FUTURE



NACD's Guide to [Energy Conservation Opportunities in Agriculture \(PDF\)](#)

[NACD](#)'s mission is to promote responsible management and conservation of natural resources on all lands by representing locally-led conservation districts and their associations through grassroots advocacy, education and partnerships.



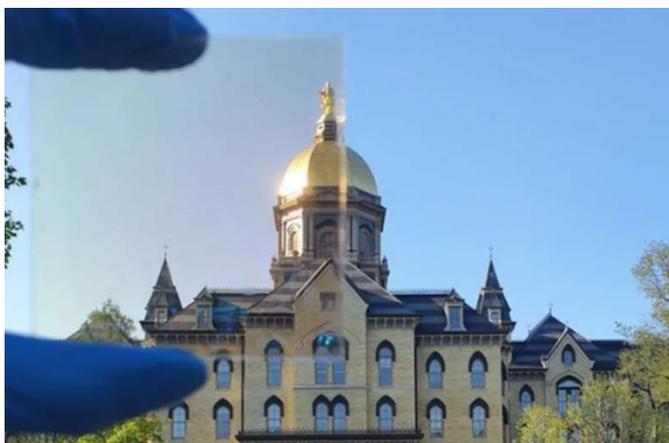
**[Growing Rooftop Spinach in CO2 Recycled from Building Ventilation Quadruples Growth](#)** Boston — 4 November 2022

In buildings with lots of people, CO2 emissions from human respiration is surprisingly high. A research team wondered if HVAC could be unlikely companion to food production. Between 2018 and 2019, Buckley and colleagues started their experiment on a Boston University campus rooftop farm. Results were that growth of vegetables grown in the building's HVAC exhaust had been boosted by an incredible 400%... [READ MORE](#)



**[What's the monetary value of urban farming—at a global scale?](#)**

We usually think of urban farming as something with limited local benefit. But now a group of researchers have examined this practice through a global lens, showing that urban farming could in fact contribute billions of dollars in ecosystem services to the world.... Writing *in Earth's Future*, the researchers argue that urban farming has significant and overlooked potential to improve global food security, reduce energy use in built-up environments, and to generally make cities more resilient against climate change. .. [READ MORE](#)



**[Quantum computing gives rise to a clear window coating that cools buildings without using energy](#)** — 10 November 2022

Cooling homes and buildings consumes 15 percent of the energy that the world produces. And the warming climate is pushing people to use more energy-intensive air-conditioning. In fact, the number of air-conditioners is expected to go up from 1.6 billion today to 5.6 billion by 2050, doubling carbon emissions from powering these units. However, engineers used artificial intelligence and advanced computing to design a transparent coating that blocks the sun's heat and sends it from the window straight into outer space...[READ MORE](#)



**[Discovery of a new beaver benefit is a happy accident](#)** — 9 November 2022

Once cursed by ranchers and farmers for their tireless penchant for damming creeks and flooding low-lying areas, in recent years, the beaver has enjoyed a reversal in its reputation... Today, however, beavers are increasingly hailed as ecological saviors, engineering ecosystems in ways that create more bird habitat, counter wildfire damage and build green oases in a drying world, among other things. And their presence can help counter stream pollution worsened by climate change... [READ MORE](#)

**Stressed out? Need some help resolving **Agricultural Issues?****



## Farm Ranch Stress Assistance Network RI **FRSAN RI**

### Help Is On the Way!

RI DEM- Division of Agriculture and the Center for Mediation and Collaboration are partnering to launch a mental health and wellness program for farmers, commercial fishers, and workers in forestry-related industries.

Workers in the farm, fisheries, and forestry (FFF) communities work in isolating, dangerous, and economically uncertain occupations where depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts are not uncommon.

We are bringing together stakeholders across the state to address the root causes of stress, and provide foundational supports to our farm, fishery and forestry communities.

#### What Support Could Look Like

- Financial Planning
- Succession Planning
- Tax Assistance
- Employee Training and Retention Programs
- Land Access
- Child Care
- Substance Use Disorder Support
- Counseling

#### Steering Committee Members

RI-DEM Division of Agriculture, Center for Mediation and Collaboration RI, Commerce RI, Commercial Fisheries Center of RI, Farm Fresh RI, East Coast Shellfish Growers Association, Hope & Main, Northeast Organic Farmers Association-RI, RI Conservation Districts, RI Farm Bureau, RI Food Policy Council, RI Land Trust Council, RI Nursery and Landscape Association, Southside Community Land Trust, Tomaquag Museum, URI Cooperative Extension, Young Farmer Network of Southeastern New England

#### Need Help Now?

401.414.LINK(5465) BH Link  
800-273-8255 National Suicide Prevention Hotline  
1-800-327-6243 Farm Aid Hotline

For information/support please reach contact Laurel Witri [laurel@cmcri.org](mailto:laurel@cmcri.org).

For information/support **1-800-327-6243** or email Laurel Witri [laurel@cmcri.org](mailto:laurel@cmcri.org)



# Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts

Helping Rhode Island Conservation Districts Help Rhode Island

conserving  
natural resources  
*for our future*

2283 Hartford Avenue  
Johnston, RI 02919  
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Northern Rhode Island  
Conservation District

SERVING  
PROVIDENCE  
COUNTY



Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District

— Serving Bristol & Newport Counties —

Barrington : Bristol : Jamestown : Little Compton : Middletown : Newport : Portsmouth : Tiverton : Warren



Southern Rhode Island Conservation District

The [Northern Rhode Island Conservation District \(NRICD\)](#) serves Providence County. The [Southern RI Conservation District \(SRICD\)](#) serves Kent and Washington Counties, and the [Eastern RI Conservation District \(ERICD\)](#) serves Newport and Bristol Counties.

## The Newsletter of RIRC&D, The Rhode Island Resource & Development Area Council, Inc.

### Disclaimer: Please Note

This newsletter's purpose is threefold. Our primary purpose is to keep our readers informed about opportunities and resources which may be available to our readership. Our second purpose is to keep our readership informed about news, events, products, opinions, and information which may directly affect our readership, either adversely or beneficially. Our third purpose is to present our readers with information that they may find enlightening or entertaining.

The opinions and political positions represented in the newsletter do not reflect the opinions or political positions of either the Rhode Island Resource and Development Area Council, Inc., or the Rhode Island Farm Energy Program; nor does either RIRC&D or RIFEP advocate or endorse any of the opinions, positions, or products mentioned in the newsletter *except where specifically stated*.

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RI RC&D is an

