



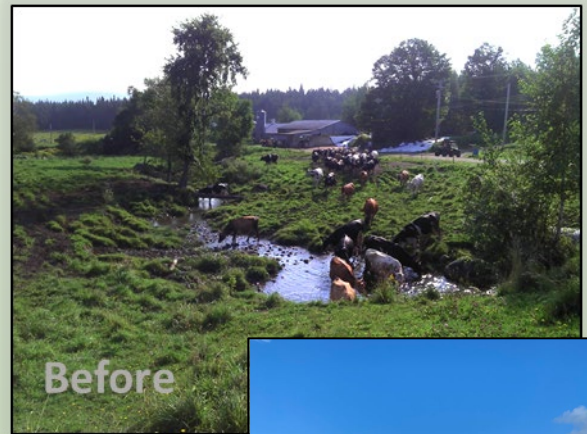
Conservation Report: The Farm at Wheeler Mountain

The Farm Adam and Joanna have always loved farming. They are first-generation farmers who have been farming since 2009 and have been working with OCNRCD since 2017 to meet the RAPs. Joanna has been on the OCNRCD board since 2019 and currently works as chief financial officer for Adirondack Farms, LLC. Adam and Joanna have three small children and milk a mixed breed herd of 70 milking cows, crop about 200 acres of hay and pasture 50 acres.



Accomplishments

- ✓ Completed Land Treatment and Nutrient Management planning.
 - Recollected calf hutches from stream terrace edge.
 - Discontinued heavy use area supplemental feeding next to the stream.
 - Signed up for Memph RCPP, EQIP and VTAAFM
 - Participated in RAP Quiz videos.
 - Completed annual updates of their NMP
- ✓ Completed a new laneway, heavy use protection area, alternative watering and 2800ft of livestock exclusion fencing.
- ✓ Discontinued feed mixing and the use of feed bunks in the farmstead area adjacent to the road which had caused runoff into the town road drainage system.
- ✓ Worked with the town to disconnect and upgrade farmstead/roadway drainage culverts that were out letting with in 25ft of the stream and installed a sediment retention basin.
- ✓ Improved heifer manure storage that is located uphill within 50ft of a drainage ditch including improved waste utilization with a new spreader.



Before



After

Water Quality Monitoring

The Lidbacks are Memph RCPP Ag BMP water quality monitoring program cooperators. We have six sampling sites including above and below sites.

Funding Sources

\$23,173 Federal-USDA/NRCS: Orleans County NRCD Memph RCPP funded Nutrient Management Plan, Laneway, livestock exclusion fence and water system. Plus technical assistance funds for OCNRCD staff time to coordinate projects and assistance with land treatment and nutrient management plans.

\$3,519 Federal- USDA/NRCS: Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) funded Forest Management Plan

\$90,000 State-VT Agency of Agriculture: Capital Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP) funded purchasing a baler for discounting chopping and storing in the feed bunk. Best Management Practices (BMP) funded replacing the transfer pipe to the manure pit, roof gutters and improvement on the heifer barn yard.

\$22,000 State- VT Housing and Conservation Broad: Water Quality Grant funded the purchase of a solid manure spreader for improved manure management of heifer manure storage and nutrient utilization.

\$18,000 State- VT Better Roads: Category B water quality improvement construction grant to install new road drainage system and sediment retention basin.

Local- Farmer Funds: many hours of labor and \$11,200 of matching funds for the state agriculture grants.

Farm Map and Water Sampling Sites

