

WINTER NEWSLETTER

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>>> A CENTURY OF FAMILY FARMING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Morrill Farm Dairy, located in Penacook, NH, is a historic family farm currently operated by third and fourth generation farmers Rob and Sherri Morrill, along with their sons Ryan, Kevin, and Andy, who proudly keep the family tradition alive on this century old dairy farm.

The farm originated in 1925 when Rob's grandfather, John Morrill, moved his small farming operation which consisted of a pair of horses, a single cow, and few other assorted livestock to the village of Penacook where he set roots and began to grow the future family farm.

Both the farm and the dairy herd have grown significantly since the operation's humble beginnings. The Morrill's now oversee approximately 350 head of cattle, including 130 milking cows, and breed award-winning red and white Holsteins. Many of their cattle have been shown at both local and international dairy shows and have won the Morrill's such accolades as Premier Breeder in both 2023 and 2024 at the Eastern States Exposition and Reserve Grand Champion at the Northeast All Breeds Spring Show in 2025.

The milk produced by their herd is delivered to the H.P. Hood plant in Concord and has been supplying the plant with locally sourced milk since its start as the Concord Dairy Company.

The Morrill's attribute the farm's longevity and success to observing changing trends and readily diversifying their operation. In 2019, the farm expanded to include beef cattle and began selling the locally butchered meat in their farm store and at the Concord Farmer's Markets to reach new customers. A project spearheaded by their son Andy, the farm also began growing small grains to use on the farm and to sell to distilleries and local breweries like the Henniker Brewing Company, who even named one of their brews after the Morrill Dairy.

While they continue to diversify, including investing in new technology to reduce labor time and improve efficiency, the Morrill's wanted some aspects of the farm to stay the same. To make this a reality, Rob and Sherri worked with the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and placed much of their land into a conservation easement.

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2

CONT.

The farm, Rob shares, "Is an integral part of the town's history and it's going to stay that way. It's always going to be farmland and open space." This decision allowed the Morrill's to maintain ownership and for the property to continue to be used for agricultural and recreational uses like hunting and fishing while also preventing future subdivision and development.

Marking the culmination of many years of hard work and perseverance, Morrill Farm Dairy celebrated its 100th anniversary in July of 2025. Approximately 1000 visitors attended an on-farm celebration that included tours of the historic property, open-barns so that guests could interact with the dairy cows and lively little calves, a variety of vendors and educational activities, and the opportunity to peruse the robust selection of meats and local jams, jellies, and honey at the farm store.



RMI President Sheragh Connelly and long time friend Rob Morrill pose during the 100th Anniversary Celebration.



Dairy show awards adorn the inside of one of many barns at the farm.



To help celebrate the major milestone, RMI sponsored the on-farm anniversary event and donated this commemorative sign to our friends at Morrill Farm Dairy.

Rob shared that dairy farming in New Hampshire has changed immensely over the years and continues to shift and evolve. To be successful, farmers need to have a passion for industry and be very open to diversification. He and Sherri are thankful that their children are invested in the continuation of the farm and have brought fresh perspectives to the operation, as well as each having found their niche in the family business.

With varied avenues of business, the protection of the farmland through the conservation easement, and the fifth generation of Morrill's already engaged in the family business, this historic and resilient New Hampshire dairy farm continues to overcome industry challenges to remain a staple of locally produced farm products and tradition to be enjoyed by many generations yet to come.

>>> 2026 CLIMATE RESILIENCE GRANT - OPEN NOW!

Applications are currently being accepted for the fourth round of NH Conservation District Climate Resilience Grant designed to improve the resilience of NH farms in response to extreme weather events and the impacts of a changing climate. This grant is open to farmers throughout the state and will assist recipients with investing in on-farm infrastructure, equipment, and innovative practices that will support the long-term success and profitability of our New Hampshire farms.

In 2025, 44 farms from 37 NH towns, representing a wide variety of agricultural industries including dairy and equine farms, seafood farms, berry growers, vegetable producers, and cut flower farms were chosen for the funding of projects that would improve their adaptability. Projects this round included energy improvements, management strategies to increase carbon sequestration and improve soil health, pest management strategies, and riparian plantings. Recipients have also utilized this grant to help secure soil amendments to improve long term soil health and obtain equipment such as stone buriers, which create a perfect, stone and debris free seedbed, Interseeder machines used to plant cover crops more efficiently, and drought resistant irrigation systems.

Since 2022, the NH Conservation District Climate Resilience Grant has distributed \$1,052,000 to 135 on-farm projects across the state. To learn more or apply for the 2026 round of funding, contact your local conservation district or visit nhacd.net to find the contact information for your district. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2026.



The productivity of this NH field improved drastically after receiving annual applications of biosolids.

>>> CLASS A BIOSOLIDS REVITALIZE LOCAL FIELD

This 12.5 acre hay field in New Hampshire had been hayed for many years without receiving any fertilizer inputs and was producing approximately 350 square bales annually. In 2023 the field began receiving annual applications of RMI's Class A Biosolids at 12 tons to the acre to restore nutrients and organic matter within the soil. The first application of Class A Biosolids in 2023 resulted in a yield of 750 square bales during the following harvest. After the second application of Class A Biosolids, the total annual yield increased to 1,750 square bales. **A net increase of 1,400 bales is a very nice return on investment!**

>>> RMI AND VERMONT DEC JOIN FORCES AT BIOSOLIDS CONFERENCE

4

Held in Worcester, MA, the 2025 Northeast Residuals and Biosolids Association (NEBRA) Conference drew another record turnout of attendees who gathered for the two day event to connect with industry peers and catch up on the latest projects and news.

RMI Sales Representative Christina Adams and Josh Burns of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Residuals Management Program teamed up for a joint presentation on the progression and success of RMI's Manufactured Topsoil Program in Vermont, and the role DEC played in the approval process as well as ongoing recycling efforts. The duo presented during day two of the annual conference following presentations on thermal treatment technologies and enhancements in anaerobic digestion.

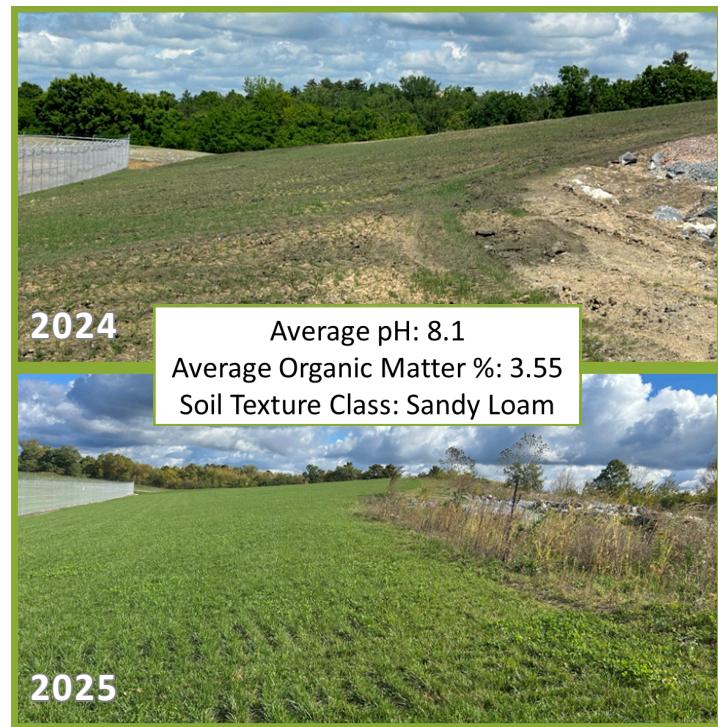


Josh Burns and Christina Adams co-presenting at the NEBRA Conference.

Christina introduced the audience to RMI's Manufactured Topsoil (MFT) Program which expanded in the state of Vermont when, through much hard work and perseverance, approval for the use of MFT for Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) construction projects was obtained in 2021.

This enabled companies to use MFT on a multitude of state projects including construction on bridges, park and rides, airports, roadsides, and more without having to strip native loam and further deplete this delicate resource.

Partnering with a Vermont based construction company, RMI supplied biosolids and paper fiber to their topsoil manufacturing operation and the resulting MFT was used with great success on a variety of VTrans projects.



Construction at the Burlington Airport was one of the many state projects to successfully utilize MFT.

Concurrently, Vermont was taking a proactive approach to PFAS by focusing on source reduction and risk mitigation. Josh shared the history of the Interim Strategy for Mitigating PFAS Risks Associated with Residuals Management in Vermont; a strategy that includes screening standards based on soil tests taken throughout the state.

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5

CONT.

These tests provided a baseline for the presence of various PFAS compounds and further emphasized the ubiquity of these compounds in the native environment. In addition to the PFAS testing frequencies required by the Interim Strategy, VTrans implemented their own required testing intervals which resulted in an abundance of data on MFT.

The four years of data proved to be incredibly valuable and demonstrated a consistent trend of PFAS levels in MFT testing well below the Vermont screening standards, with many compounds reading as non-detect. This was a big win for MFT and for land application during a period of heightened public scrutiny.

Josh and Christina illustrated the value of the Interim Strategy, especially at a time when many states are considering or have already implemented an outright ban on the land application of residuals. The Interim Strategy recognizes the necessity and ecological benefits of residuals recycling, and the framework of the strategy could be utilized in other states with

ongoing collaboration to ensure the standards remain positive yet practical for beneficial use programs.

The joint presentation highlighted the success of the MFT used in VTrans construction projects both completed and underway in Vermont and emphasized the importance of the MFT program's ability to continue within the state. Vermont's Interim Strategy, though stringent with its screening standards, was a successful alternative to a moratorium on land application and has permitted this environmentally beneficial and cost-effective program to persevere. The collective PFAS data has aided substantially in illustrating the safety of both MFT and residuals, and this valuable data may help to shape future policy on residuals recycling.

Christina enjoyed sharing this RMI success story with an audience of biosolids enthusiasts at the NEBRA Conference. She was also very appreciative of Josh's contributions and perspective, and for the ongoing collaboration between RMI and VT DEC. We look forward to future joint presentations!



Progression of the Champlain Parkway MFT project in South Burlington from summer to fall of 2025. PFAS testing completed on the MFT indicated concentrations well below Vermont's screening standards.

PFAS Analyte	Screening Value (ng/g)	MFT Result
PFHpA	0.84	0.17
PFHpA	0.38	0.12
PFHpA	0.44	0.28
PFHpA	3.4	1.4
PFHpA	1.6	0.46



>>> SEASONAL SURGE IN WOOD ASH

During the winter months, biomass energy facilities across New England ramp up production to meet higher electricity demand and take advantage of elevated power prices. As these facilities increase output, they also generate significantly more wood ash!

This seasonal surge, in addition to sustained cold temperatures that solidify field access, create an excellent opportunity for deliveries of wood ash to be stockpiled ahead of spring. Ordering and stockpiling wood ash during the winter ensures that a reliable supply is on hand when the spreading window opens up and helps farmers avoid any wood ash shortages when biomass facilities reduce production in the springtime.

Winter is a prime time to plan ahead and take advantage of the seasonal wood ash availability and solid delivery conditions!

>>> MAKING WAVES ON THE FAIRWAY

Last summer, RMI staff members Liam and Christina showcased their competitive spirits at local clean water association golf tournaments (the NHWPCA Golf Tournament and the GMWEA George Dow Golf Tournament, respectively.) RMI sponsored hole number two at both tournaments as “the number one in the number two business,” one of our favorite mottos!

As always, NHWPCA and GMWEA seamlessly organized another round of these annual tournaments to bring folks within the water industry together for a great day out!



>>> MAKING AN IMPACT: RMI IN ACTION

We are very lucky to have a team of dedicated individuals who not only excel in their positions, but who also make the time to participate and take on leadership roles in a number of water, wastewater, and recycling focused member associations and local committees. By volunteering their time, expertise, and perspectives, they help to shape industry standards, share best practices, and stay informed about emerging trends. Their involvement also helps to strengthen collaboration across the industry, and we are very appreciative of their commitment to community service! Learn about three of our team members who have contributed greatly this past year:



Christina

Current President of the Green Mountain Water Environment Association (GMWEA).

GMWEA provides both Vermont's water professionals and the public with information on everything water, including training opportunities, conferences, policy advisory updates, school programs, and other public education initiatives that aim to unite the current workforce and inspire future clean water advocates. As President, Christina helps to initiate and oversee these efforts and can be found at every GMWEA conference and legislative WWTF tour around the state.

603-536-8900



Christina is a member of the GMWEA Government Affairs Committee, PR Committee, and Residuals Committee. She also participates in several other member association committees including those facilitated through the New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA), Northeast Biosolids & Residuals Association (NEBRA), Water Environment Federation (WEF), and she is a member of the Vermont Recycled Materials Working Group.



Eryka

Current President of the Northeast Biosolids & Residuals Association.

NEBRA is a professional association advancing the environmentally sound and publicly supported recycling of biosolids and other organic residuals in New England and eastern Canada. NEBRA hosts conferences and educational webinars, publishes and shares newsletters, relevant research, and legislative updates, and hosts an impressive library of resources on soil health and residuals recycling. As the President of NEBRA, Eryka will be overseeing outreach initiatives that aim to attract and engage new members and expand the associations residuals database. She is also a member of NEBRA residuals committee!

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>>> MAKING AN IMPACT: RMI IN ACTION

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April

Current Chair of the New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) Government Affairs Committee and board member of the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association (NHWPCA).

Both NEWEA and the NHWPCA serve water industry professionals in the Northeast. These associations provide operator training opportunities, host conferences, implement educational initiatives for schools, monitor legislation relevant to the industry, and facilitate the exchange of information between members and the public.

Outside of her roles noted above, April is a dedicated and active member of many NEWEA, NEBRA, and NHWPCA committees, with a focus on government affairs and tracking regulatory and legislative updates. She is also a part of the NHWPCA Newsletter Committee and is the Chair for her local Conservation Commission in Holderness.



>>> DRIVER SPOTLIGHT

Mike Plummer has been a Driver with RMI for more than 8 years and is very skilled at servicing our material generators and navigating tricky end-user delivery sites. He is also very adept at fixing our equipment and is our go-to guy for on-boarding and training new drivers thanks to his aptitude as a mentor.

In his career with RMI, Mike has delivered a total of 4,883 loads of recycled fertilizer totaling 146,043 tons. He has driven a total of 671,881 miles, amassing 21,639 driving hours.

Keep up the stellar work, Mike!



Mike delivering our first load of reclaimed paper bedding!

Thanks for reading! See you in the next addition.

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