



SERVICES TO CONWAY IN 2023

CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND LAND USE

- Identified South River as a priority watershed for the creation of a watershed-based plan and for outreach by the region's nonpoint source pollution agricultural coordinator. Work to begin in early 2024.
- Helped the Conway Town Administrator and Sustainability Committee to complete the FY23 MA Green Communities Annual Report and to analyze town energy use.
- Began work on Conway's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant, to identify projects to mitigate flooding in Conway Center. FRCOG staff assisted with public outreach and education by organizing two events that drew 130 residents.
- Continued work with the Conway Planning Board to draft a river corridor overlay district.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Conducted the annual student health survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Frontier Regional School District (FRSD) administrators on results from 223 students, representing 76% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant writing and program planning.
- Provided resources and direct technical assistance to student groups for advancing racial justice in schools to the FRSD.
- Worked with FRSD administration and staff to implement Restorative Practices school climate improvements.
- Supported town officials with information and technical assistance on spending opioid settlement funds.
- Provided funding and facilitation support to the Mary Lyon Foundation for the creation of the West County People Supporting People Network, which hosted a resource fair to bring the county's healthcare and human service agencies to West County.
- Supported Conway Mass in Motion Age-friendly workgroup on age- and dementia-friendly municipal planning initiative. With Mass in Motion funding, the workgroup purchased 28 meeting chairs for town hall, 2 Natural Roots farm shares for older adults, and a refrigerator for senior meals.

SHARED MUNICIPAL SERVICES

- Conway contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including rental equipment; and dog tags and licenses. Staff assisted Conway with a request for quotes on reclamation work and an IFB for Poland Road Bridge Repair.
- The FRCOG Cooperative Inspections program issued 113 building permits, 65 electrical permits, 44 plumbing/gas permits, and 5 Certificates of Inspection for Conway in 2023.
- The FRCOG Town Accounting program produced biweekly vendor warrants, and provided monthly budget reports to all officials and department heads. Accountants assisted in completing the tax-rate recap; completed free cash certification and schedule A submission at year-end; and customized, developed, and distributed reports for committees and departments. They assisted with the annual audit, if necessary. All accounting data was accessible over a secure internet connection to a server at the FRCOG office, and backed-up daily.
- FRCOG staff organized and facilitated educational meetings for members of town energy committees, including presenting information on various topics and conducting follow-up communication.
- Conway is a member of the Cooperative Public Health Service (CPHS), a regional health district based at the FRCOG, which accomplishes all of the town's public health work, except septic system oversight, carried out by the board of health. CPHS staff:
 - Facilitated COVID-19 and flu vaccine clinics between state mobile vendors, local schools, and senior centers. Clinics served over 385 individuals in West County, including many from Conway.
 - Hosted drop-in nursing hours at the town hall, serving 77 different people in 125 separate contacts.
 - Gave 259 Flu and 257 COVID vaccinations at drop-in nursing hours and home visits. Conway residents received 96 vaccines, including 37 during home visits.

- Completed state-mandated infectious disease surveillance and reporting for communicable disease cases in district member towns, checking state infectious disease system daily and following up as required, including for 87 Conway cases.
- Offered sharps collection and box exchange in collaboration with Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at all drop-in nursing hours: 69 boxes exchanged.
- Supported Franklin County Age- and Dementia- Friendly Communities initiative by working with the steering committee, subcommittees, and community partners to write and publish a five-year action plan in response to local priorities identified from the needs survey data.
- Trained to be Medicare insurance “SHINE” counselor and assisted 2 Conway resident this year.
- Offered tick-bite prevention outreach by collaborating with the board of health to provide prevention materials and 5 “shoe spraying” events in West County, including one at Conway Town Hall. Through a district program and MA Department of Public Health subsidy, Conway residents sought 9 low-cost tick tests, a savings value of \$315. Of the tested ticks, 45% were positive for the Lyme disease pathogen, and 12% for the Anaplasmosis disease pathogen.
- Collaborated with local libraries to present a West County community training on how to identify and respond to an opioid overdose.
- Provided guidance to the board of health members, and attended meetings as needed.
- Assisted businesses, organizations, and individuals with the CPHS on-line public health permitting system; evaluated and made determinations on a total of 18 applications for Conway, and on an additional 14 applications for regional permits; inspected 6 food establishments and 8 temporary food establishments.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops, roundtables and training sessions that Conway public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

Emergency Preparedness

- Response to Active Threat Trainer Certification – 1
- Assault and Battery Response – 1

Municipal Officials’ Continuing Education

- Selectboard 101 – 1

Planning, Conservation & Development

- Short Term Residential Rentals – 1

Public Health & Community Awareness

- Age & Dementia-Friendly Community Conversation – 2
- Beaver Trapping Permitting – 1
- Food Safety – 2
- Health Workforce Performance Standards/Credentials – 1
- NARCAN Trainer Certification – 2
- Opioid Overdose Response – 2
- Understanding Alzheimer’s & Dementia – 1

TRANSPORTATION

- Conducted a drainage and stormwater management assessment for the Upper Baptist Hill Road area to understand recent flooding issues. Created a summary report with recommendations.
- Administered a MassTrails grant for trail improvements and information kiosks on the Mohican-Mohawk Trail. Facilitated the design of kiosk panels at trailheads.
- Engaged in contract to install Franklin County Bikeway wayfinding signs in spring 2024.