

LIZA LEMIEUX - CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN



ECO AmeriCorps member Liza is serving at the [Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District](#) as a Conservation Technician this year. The beginning of her service year has thus far been very heavy with field work which consists of soil sampling and water sampling. Liza has been going out to dairy farms to collect soil samples from fields and prepare farmers for the University of Vermont Extension class on nutrient management in the winter. She has especially enjoyed this task on sunny days as the fall colors are in full swing. The two water quality monitoring projects that Liza has been participating in are for a study on tile drains and the La Rosa water quality monitoring project. Water sampling at tile drains happens every other Monday, but the drains have not been running lately due to the drought that northern Vermont has experienced this summer. For most people field season ends at the onset of winter, however, Liza will be continuing to monitor and sample water from the tile drain outlets all year. The La Rosa water quality monitoring program she is involved in is a statewide volunteer water sampling program between lots of different organizations. With the help of a few local volunteers, Liza has been sampling along the Hungerford Brook and Black Creek in Franklin County. Although this water sampling program will end sometime in November, Liza will still be contributing to a report about how it may be improved next year, whether that means finding new sites or focusing in on more specific sites which experienced frequent high phosphorus levels. This water sampling program has the potential to lead to restoration projects within the District! Some winter time tasks that Liza has planned are using GIS methods to identify riparian buffers for potential restoration projects and looking into the accuracy of the District's current method of soil sampling.