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## **Massachusetts Cranberry Growers and Partners**

### **Organization overview**

Complex problems are often solved by a team of collaborators working together. Three organizations worked with the landowner and an irrigation contractor to solve this Challenge.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, or NRCS, was established by Congress in 1935 to protect the nation's farm land. Since that time, NRCS has expanded to become a conservation leader for all natural resources, ensuring private lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to environmental challenges. Experts from many science and technology disciplines work together with landowners to benefit the soil, water, air, plants, and animals.

The Plymouth County Conservation District in Plymouth, Massachusetts was established by state legislation over 50 years ago. Today, as then, it is a local environmental agency dedicated to wise land use and conservation of natural resources. The district provides leadership to set priorities for local conservation activities and it works hand-in-hand with NRCS to achieve them.

The third partner is the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association. Established in 1888, it is one of the oldest farmer organizations in the country. The goal of the Association is to "*Enhance the economic viability of the Massachusetts cranberry grower*" by supporting and promoting the cranberry growers of Massachusetts.