



Friends Of  
**Boulder  
—Knoll**

Friends of Boulder Knoll  
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SWEP-CT

Dear Friends:

Under the terms of your Environmental Grant Program, which the Friends of Boulder Knoll was a beneficiary of in 2016, we are submitting this final progress report for your records.

The purpose of the grant was to install underground irrigation on the CSA farm operated by The Friends on Cheshire town property on Boulder Road. The ground work was done on the last weekend of April, 2016. Using rented equipment a network of trenches for water lines and post-holes for hydrant risers were dug according to plan. By the following weekend all the taps were installed and the system was operational. By strategically locating taps throughout cultivation zones we achieved our objective of eliminating tangles of hoses patched together across two acres of cropland. This reduced hose connections, the source of much waste, from 40 or 50 to just twelve.

The new system also allowed us to substantially increase the amount of targeted drip irrigation employed, which is where most of our water savings have come from. In addition to the water savings the system has saved us a great deal of labor, by not constantly rerouting hoses.

Once we had your approval in hand we consulted with engineers from the NRCS (USDA) on site to make sure our assumptions were sound before beginning. They agreed with our plans but after measuring water pressure at our source they recommended larger diameter lines for burial, to improve delivery pressure throughout the farm. We had originally estimated total costs for this project to be \$1,575 which was the amount of your grant. The material change recommended by NRCS pushed our total outlay to \$1,760. We were able to cover the additional costs through other fundraising activities.

We hope this report is satisfactory. This project has been one of the most beneficial improvements we have made to date, and we were blessed to have your support which made it possible.

Sincerely,

Hap Jordan

Treasurer