

# **ONSERVATION**

# **OMMENTS**

VOLUME 25 , #1

A Publication of the Wyoming County Conservation District

SPRING, 2009

## **DOUG DEUTSCH NAMED DISTRICT MANAGER**



Long time District employee, Doug Deutsch, has been named District Manager. While attending Keystone College back in 1999, Doug worked as an Earth Team Volunteer and intern at the District. In 2002 he was hired as Resource Conservation Specialist. Since then he has work with every program administered by the District and most recently was Watershed Specialist. His experience will serve him well in carrying out the duties of District Manager. With Doug's promotion, Bernie Scalzo is now Watershed Specialist, and Paul Hovan was named Ag Conservation Programs Coordinator. We all wish Doug much success in his new position.

## **SPRING SEEDLING SALE ORDER FORM INSIDE**

Be sure to check out the items in this year's seedling sale on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter. There are new varieties of apples, cherries and pears as well as Wildlife Enhancement Species. The order deadline is March 23rd and pick up will be at the Triton Hose Company on Tioga St. on April 18th from 9:00 am to noon. For further information call 570-836-2589, ext 101.

## **15TH CONTRACTORS/ENGINEERS WORKSHOP — MARCH 11, 2009**

The 15th Annual Northeast Regional Contractors/Engineers Workshop will be held March 11, 2009 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at Keystone College, Route 6 east of Tunkhannock.

This year's workshop promises to be one of the best. Subjects covered will include DEP rules and regulations updates, insurance plans for small businesses by DGK Insurance, stormwater management and permit obligations for municipalities by Carl Engleman, Jr., Esq., and complying with PA Department of Transportation regulations presented by the Motor Carrier Enforcement Division of the PA State Police. The program changes every year because many people attend year after year and the program has to be tailored to the varied interests of contractors and excavators, designers and engineers, and township supervisors and roadmasters.

The registration fee is \$5.00 per person (the same as in 1994) and includes the costs of all materials and lunch in Keystone's cafeteria complete with ice cream sundaes for dessert. Exhibitor space is \$50.00 per six foot table and includes lunch for one. The deadline for registration is March 4th, early registration is encouraged as space is limited. Over \$1,000 worth of door prizes will be given away at the end of the day.

For further information or to receive a brochure and registration form call 570-836-2589, ext. 102 or e-mail [covens@wycopa.org](mailto:covens@wycopa.org)

## WOODLAND RESOURCES ADVENTURE CAMP 2009

The 2009 Woodland Resources Adventure Camp (WRAC) will be held from July 12th to July 16th at Camp Lackawanna near Tunkhannock for students aged 12 to 15. The camp cycles through four annual themes: forestry, wildlife, aquatics, and geology. This year's theme is wildlife. Topics will include wildlife habitat, threatened and endangered species, among many others. A wildlife rehabilitation presentation will be given by Shane Kleiner and Angie Colarusso of Second Chance Wildlife Rehab. There will be a field trip to the State Game Lands and other outdoor activities. Campers will learn from professional natural resource managers about environmental issues and careers.

The cost of the camp is \$250, however, \$100 is provided in the form of a scholarship, so the student is responsible for \$150. The fee includes, lodging, meals, insurance, tour transportation and program materials. A limited number of scholarships are available from WRAC, but students are encouraged to obtain a scholarship from a local organization or business.

In addition to the application, the student must compose a brief narrative explaining his or her interest in the camp and how it might be useful in the future. Because the camp is limited to 20 participants, the narrative is an important part of the selection process.

For an application contact the Endless Mountains Resource Conservation & Development Council at (570) 265-3409, ext.5, or the website: [www.endlessmountainsrcd.org](http://www.endlessmountainsrcd.org)



## EARTH TEAM VOLUNTEERS

Sierra Galloway, Earth Team Volunteer, assists Environmental Education Coordinator Laura Anderson with an "animal tracks" program for kindergarten kids at Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center. Other Earth Team Volunteers working with Laura are Joe Miller, Janine Anderson and Janet Geeza. They assist Laura and other District and NRCS staff in many ways.

Laura presents programs in all Wyoming County schools covering a wide variety of subjects to augment the school curriculum. Many of her programs are seasonal — studying bats at Halloween, for example, or preparing bird feeders in winter. She also works closely with the Tunkhannock Public Library reading animal stories and making t-shirts with animal track or fish prints. Once a month, Laura visits the seniors at the Tunkhannock Manor. She often takes one of the volunteers on these outings.

To become an Earth Team Volunteer, contact Laura at 570-836-2589, ext. 105 or e-mail: [landerson@wycopa.org](mailto:landerson@wycopa.org).

## SAVE THE DATE: FLOOD SUMMIT '09

The Conservation Districts of Wyoming and Susquehanna Counties will present Flood Summit '09 at Keystone College on May 8th. The discussion will center on interpreting flood plain maps then a field trip will visit the actual site to see how the maps relate to "what's on the ground." For more information, contact Laura Anderson or Bernie Scalzo in Wyoming County at 570-836-2589 or Kathy Blaisure in Susquehanna County at 570-278-4600 ext. 289.



2009 SPRING SEEDLING SALE  
WYOMING COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

<p align="center"><b>EVERGREENS</b></p> <p>Colorado Blue Spruce Norway Spruce Scotch Pine Douglas Fir Eastern White Pine</p>	<p align="center"><b>TUBEX</b></p> <p><b>Tree shelter tubes</b> - 4ft. No stakes. Protect your trees from animals and the elements <b>\$4.50 each</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>HARDWOODS</b></p> <p>Red Oak Sugar Maple Red Maple Black Cherry</p>
<p align="center"><b>SEMI-DWARF &amp; DWARF FRUIT TREES</b></p> <p>(Requires two trees for pollination) Honeycrisp Apple Cortland Apple</p> <p>(Requires two varieties for pollination) Ranier Cherry (Sweet) Montmorency (Tart) Cherry</p>	<p align="center"><b>BERRIES</b></p> <p>(Plant two or more for pollination)</p> <p>Blueberry Bushes (Patriot, Bluecrop) <b>\$7.00 each or 3/\$19.00</b> (mix or match)</p> <p>Red Heritage Raspberry Bushes</p>	<p align="center"><b>WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT SPE- CIES</b></p> <p>White Flowering Dogwood Shrubs Forsythia Common Lilac Prairiefire Crabapple</p>
	<p align="center"><b>SEEDLESS GRAPES</b></p> <p>Concord—Blue Catawba— Red</p>	<p align="center"><b>BARLEY STRAW</b></p> <p>Barley Straw available</p>

**PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THE ORDER (Quantities Limited-First Orders Received, First Filled)**

**ORDER DEADLINE: March 23, 2009      PICK UP: APRIL 18, 2009, 9:00 AM - NOON**

Pick up at the **TRITON HOSE COMPANY FIREHOUSE**— West Tioga Street, Tunkhannock. (Next to Curry Donuts).

<b>PLEASE PRINT NAME</b>			
<b>PHONE</b>			
<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>ZIP</b>
<b>PURCHASE ITEM</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>	<b>PRICE/EACH</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Please send this form with your check or money order to:</b> Wyoming County Conservation District 1 Hollowcrest Complex Tunkhannock, PA 18657 <b>No refunds on orders not picked up</b>	<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		
	6% PA SALES TAX		
	<b>AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>		

**Questions?? Call (570) 836-2589**

## 2009 SPRING SEEDLING SALE

Following is a brief description of the seedlings and items offered in our Spring Seedling Sale. We appreciate your patronage and support of this and other environmental programs. If you have any questions, please call 836-2589. Thank you!

### EVERGREENS

**Colorado Blue Spruce** - 8" to 16" seedlings can grow to 100' and should reach 6' in 8 or 9 years in ordinary soil with average moisture. Short silver-blue needles, a favorite for Christmas trees, ornamentals or windbreaks.

**Norway Spruce** - 10" to 20" fast growing seedlings reach 6' in 6 to 7 years in ordinary soil. Short, shiny, dark green needles. Appealing ornamental, windbreak, good for timber. Needs moisture to retain dark color.

**Scotch Pine** - 10" to 20" seedlings grow to 6' in 6 to 7 years in nearly all soils and full sun. Short blue-green needles, closely-spaced branches. Preferred for Christmas trees and windbreaks.

**Douglas Fir** - 10" to 20" seedlings grow fast in light, well-drained soil and full sun. Short, soft blue-green needles make a fine Christmas tree. America's largest timber producer.

**Eastern White Pine** - 6" to 12" seedlings. Very fast growth. Long, soft blue-green needles. Hardy in all soils, tolerates swampy areas. Can be pruned as hedge, good for windbreak, timber and re-forestation.

### HARDWOODS

**Red Oak** - 6" to 12" seedlings matures to 75' in all soil conditions. Fastest growing of all oaks. A "city tree" that tolerates salt, ozone, and sulphur dioxide.

**Sugar Maple** - 8" to 18" seedlings grow to 75' in well-drained soil. Our native, syrup producer, highly-valued furniture wood. Brilliant scarlet/orange foliage in autumn.

**Red Maple**—10" to 24" seedlings. Grow to 40'-60'. Highly prized because of red flowers in spring. Native to PA.

**Black Cherry** - 10" to 24" seedlings grow to 80' in all soils except very wet or very dry. Abundant small, white flowers produce small, dark, slightly bitter cherries. A very valuable timber tree, dark green foliage turns yellow or red in fall.

**Pin Oak** - 10"-20" seedlings grow quickly to 75', produces acorns for wildlife. Graceful pyramid shape, good for windbreaks. Holds red/russet leaves until spring. Native to PA.

### SEMI-DWARF FRUIT TREES

4' to 6' two-year un-pruned seedlings.

**Most require two different varieties for proper pollination.**

**Honeycrisp Apple** - Crisp and juicy texture, tender all-purpose quality fruit ripens late September early October and stores very well. Grows well on hillsides. Blooms early to midseason.

**Cortland Apple** - All purpose apple withy sweet flesh with a hint of tartness. Good for eating off the tree with bright white flesh or baking. Sliced pieces resist browning.

**Ranier (Sweet) Cherry** - Cream of the crop for large harvests. Large cherries with yellow flesh and red skins. Very high in sugar making them perfect for eating fresh. Ripens early Mid to late June.

**Montmorency (Tart) Cherry** - New variety with light red skin and fruit. Hardy, self-pollinator. Ripens in July, favorite for canning and cooking.

**Elberta Peach** - Very large fruits with a Golden Yellow flesh. Offers high quality eating and canning. Does well in wide range of soil conditions.

**Clapp's Favorite Pear** - Hardy and productive. Large yellow fruit with rosy cheeks, very juicy with sweet fine texture.

### SMALL FRUITS

#### BLUEBERRY BUSHES (12" to 18")

**Patriot** - Early Season, Very cold hardy and tolerant of wet soil. Very showy white blooms with flavorful fruit. Enjoy the bright orange foliage display in the fall.

**Bluecrop** - Midseason, considered the best all around blueberry. Very large and extremely flavorful berries with a light blue color. Outstanding fresh or in the kitchen.

#### STRAWBERRIES

**Tristar** - Everbearing, bears a large crop of aromatic, flavorful, large glossy red berries with plenty of flavor. Remove runners for best production.

#### RASPBERRIES

**Red Heritage Raspberry** - Winter hardy, sturdy bush bears bright red, firm fruit throughout the summer.

**Jewel Black Raspberry** - Excellent yield of large, glossy black, flavorful fruit.

#### SPECIAL WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT SPECIES

**White Flowering Dogwood** - 10-18" seedlings. An ornamental for all seasons. Small clusters of white flowers in spring, redish berries and red foliage in fall, bright red bark in winter. Grows well in wet conditions.

**Forsythia** - 1 Year seedlings. Fast, upright growth to 7 feet. Tolerates poor soil and city conditions. Good for screens and hedges and cover for birds and small wildlife.

**Common Lilac** - 1-2 ft seedlings. Produces extremely fragrant flowers in late spring. Good screen plant grows to 15' provides good cover for many birds

**Prairiefire Crabapple** - 2-3' seedlings. Shrub growing to 20' with bright red to purple flowers. Small, dark red fruit with maroon to dark green foliage turning reddish purple in the fall.

**Winterberry Holly** - 1-2' seedlings. Should plant several for pollination. Best plant for fall & winter yellow color. Female plant produces bright red berries. Height and spread 6-12'. Likes acid soil. Good wetland plant. Attracts winter song birds.

**Red Bud** - 10-20" Seedlings. Can grow to 20 or 30 ft tall with a profusion of purple blooms early in the spring before the leaves appear. Large heart shaped leaves turning bright yellow in the fall. Full sun to partial shade, tolerates wide range of soils.

#### TUBEX

Four foot tree shelters increase survival rate and growth. Protects young trees from deer, rabbits and weed wackers. No stakes. **Not** recommended for evergreens.

#### BARLEY STRAW

**Please check with us later for availability**

Helps control algae growth in ponds naturally. Best time to place in pond is early spring or late fall. Instructions for use available from the Conservation District.

**Questions????? Call the Wyoming County Conservation District at (570) 836-2589.**

## 2008 Farm Bill Funds Ag Environmental Programs

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is continuing to promote grazing systems through EQIP to improve overall farming operations. John and Rich Kobylski of Lemon Township have realized the benefits from switching to grazing and letting the cows work for them. The animals harvest their own forage, spread their own manure, and promote healthy plant communities. The health and longevity of the animals are improved by the environmentally friendly aspect of a well managed pasture. Lifelong farmers, the Kobylski's say, "Before grazing we worked long hours with little profit and farming was no longer enjoyable. Since becoming graziers, farming is fun again, our quality of life has improved, and we've seen more profit."

### Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Beef farmer Neil Tague, also in Lemon Township, enrolled two areas containing about half a mile of stream in CREP to create a buffer between his cropland and the stream.



Once established, the buffer will help protect water quality by filtering sediments and nutrients coming from the land and provide valuable habitat for fish and wildlife. The

Chesapeake Bay Foundation, in partnership with a Growing Greener Grant and the District, was able to further help Neil by providing funding for high tensile fencing and a watering system from an existing well to water his herd.

### Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative (CBWI)

Recently authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, this new initiative offers technical and financial assistance to farmers to install core

agricultural practices to help control erosion and minimize excess nutrients and sediments entering the Susquehanna and the Bay. Land treatment practices include crop residue management, crop nutrient management, manure management, cover crops, buffers, riparian forest buffers, and streamside fencing.

### Apply Now

Applications for all of these programs are accepted continuously throughout the year to be evaluated, ranked and prioritized based on their potential to meet the goals of the specific program. Naturally, those applications received early will be given preference and funding will be made on a regular basis as long as funds remain available. In the case of CBWI, some watersheds will be designated as high priority watersheds, and these will receive additional points in the ranking system due to their high potential for environmental benefit in reducing sediment and nutrient loads before they reach the Bay. Applications that cannot be funded because of a shortage of funds or lower priority can be retained for up to two years, after which time the producer will need to re-apply. For further information, contact NRCS District Conservationist Ed Patchcoski at 570-836-2490.

## 5th Annual Northeast Grazing Conference to be Held March 20

This year's Northeast Grazing Conference will be held Friday, March 20th at the Harford Hose Company in Harford, PA. Grazier Cliff Hawbaker, a Franklin County dairy farmer will tell of his experiences of grazing dairy cows on a large scale. Pamela Delinger, founder of Solair Energy, Inc., will discuss farm energy use. Ed Konkle of AgriCulver Seeds will explain the basics of seed mixes for grazing forages.

Registration before March 6th is \$20.00, \$25.00 afterward and includes lunch and all instructional materials. There will also be an exhibitor area. For further information, contact Sue Berkowitz, Pocono Northeast RC&D, 570-282-8732, ext 4, or [Sue@pnercd.org](mailto:Sue@pnercd.org)

Wyoming County Conservation District  
One Hollowcrest Complex  
Tunkhannock, PA 18657  
Phone: 570-836-2589  
Fax: 570-836-6063  
Email: wccd@ptd.net

Non-Profit Org. Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Tunkhannock, PA 18657  
Permit No. 20

**Seedling Sale Order  
Form Inside**

**RECYCLED AND RECYCLABLE**

**Board of Directors**

Bob Robinson, Chairman  
Dorne White, Vice Chairman  
Butch Sands, Secretary/Treasurer  
Stark Bartron, Commissioner  
Victor Cappucci  
Bob Herman  
Jim Luce

**Associate Directors**

Mike Kolman  
Ginny Miner  
Arden Robinson  
Harold Grow, Director Emeritus  
Meeting the second Monday of each month, 9:30 am, District Office

**District Staff**

Doug Deutsch, District Manager  
Jullee Chamberlain, Administrative Assistant  
Bernie Scalzo, Watershed Specialist  
Paul Hovan, Ag Conservation Programs Coordinator  
Dave Taylor, Resource Conservation Specialist  
Laura Anderson, Environmental Education Coordinator  
Don Overdorff, West Nile Virus Coordinator  
Carol Owens, Resource Planner/Information Specialist/Newsletter Editor

**NRCS Staff**

Edward A. Patchcoski  
District Conservationist

**Calendar of Events**

March 4 — Registration Deadline for Contractors/Engineers Workshop, see page 1  
March 11 — 15th Annual Northeast Regional Contractors/Engineers Workshop, see page 1  
March 20 — 5th Annual Northeast Grazing Conference, Harford Hose Company, Harford FFI call 282-8732, see page 5  
March 23 — Seedling Sale Order Deadline, see pages 3 and 4  
April 10 — Good Friday Holiday, Office Closed  
April 18 — Seedling Sale Pickup, see page 3

**Watershed Organization Meeting Dates**

**Bowmans Creek WA** — 2nd Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm, Noxen/Monroe Sportsmen's Club  
**Mehoopany Creek WA** — 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm, Mehoopany Township Building  
**Meshoppen Creek WA** — 1st Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm, Meshoppen Township Building  
**Lower Tunkhannock Creek WA** — 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm, Wyoming County Conservation District Office.