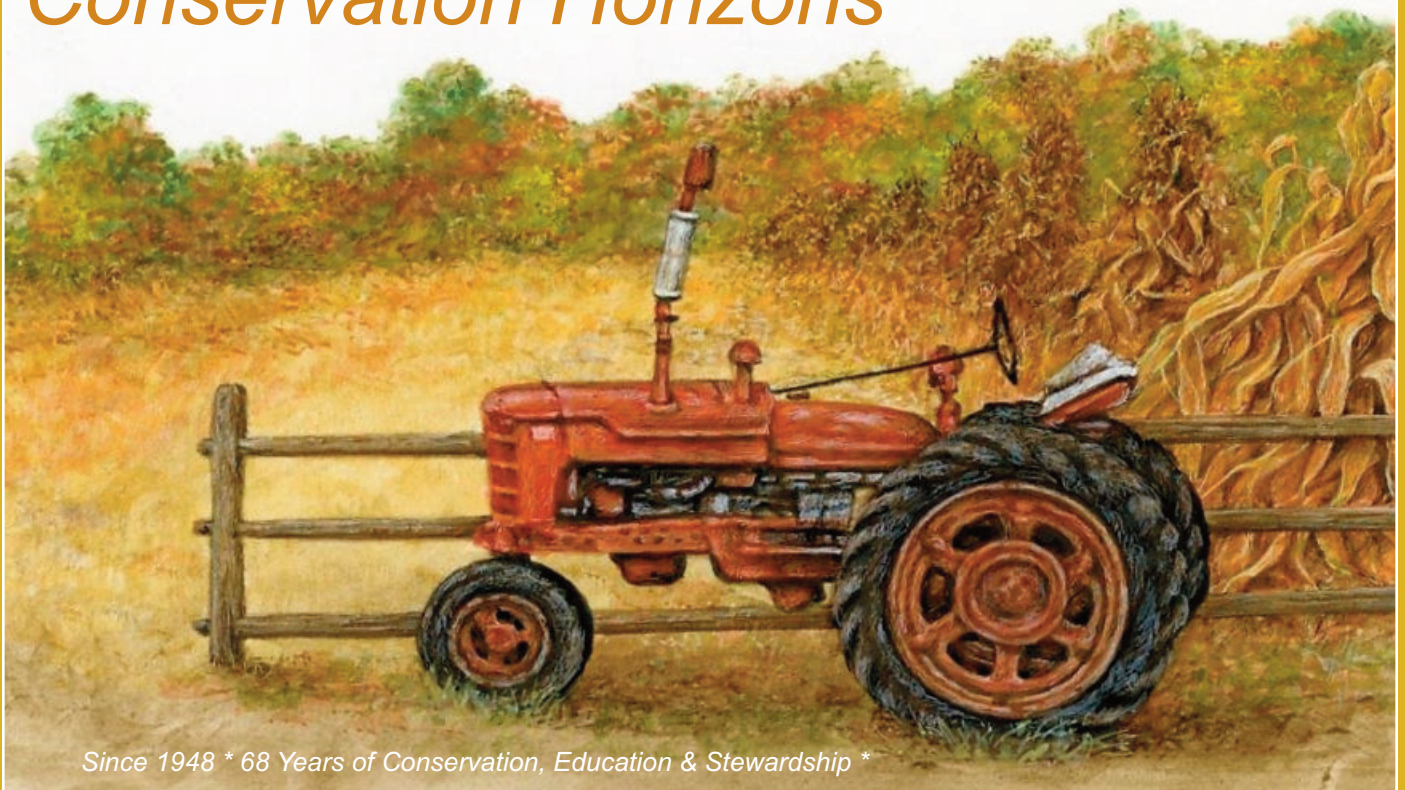


Conservation Horizons



*Since 1948 * 68 Years of Conservation, Education & Stewardship **

In This Issue

Around the District - 3, 4
Ag Resources - 6, 7
Bay Reboot Update - 8
E&S Control - 9
Education - 10 - 16
Envirothon - 10, 11
Annual Conservation Awards - 12 - 14
Annual Clay Shoot - 15, 16
Annual Seedling Sale - 17
Watersheds - 17, 18
Ag Land Preservation - 19



Kelsey Frey - Outstanding Environmental Educator

The District Gets Booted From Pennsylvania's DEP Chesapeake Bay Program

Read the important clarification on page 8

9th Annual Clay Shoot **see pages 15 & 16 for all the results.**



York Dispatch photo- Kennard Dale Senior High Envirothon team & coach

York County Conservation District

Our purpose is to promote wise use and management of soil, water, air, plants, wildlife and other natural resources through four program areas: Agricultural Resources, Education, Erosion & Sediment Control and Watersheds

We have served York County since 1938, when a group of 554 farmers from 18 townships signed a petition to form the York County Conservation District. This petition was approved by the state Soil Conservation Commission in 1948. Like all Conservation Districts, we are a legal subdivision of state government like townships or school districts. Our budget is supplied by county, state and federal programs, as well as foundation grants & fees for services. And we are managed by a board of environmentally aware York County citizen volunteers.



We have traditionally assisted agricultural producers and other landowners in protecting soils & reducing erosion in our waterways. Today, the District also works with non-agricultural landowners, developers and local government officials to protect our natural resources.

We do this by coupling technical & financial assistance with conservation planning and permitting requirements.

Education is a cornerstone of the District and we target a wide audience about effective pollution-prevention techniques to farmers, landowners, local officials, watershed associations, conservation organizations, civic groups, churches, schools, teachers and youth.

Our Vision - We are committed to the improvement & protection of our environment and the wise use of our County's diverse natural resources.

Our Mission - To achieve that vision we offer conservation education, technical services and financial assistance to the citizens of York County helping to enable them to become good stewards of our natural resources.

Conservation District Staff

Christina Dehoff	Office Manager
Robin Sharp	Program Assistant
Alexia Woodard	Administrative Assistant
Robert Fetter	E&S Resource Conservationist /Network Administrator
Eric Jordan	E&S Resource Conservationist /Program Manager
Tiffany Crum	Engineer Technician II
Emily Neideigh	Engineer Technician I
Megan Anderson	Engineer Technician I
Mark Flaharty	Sr. Ag Resource Conservationist
Grant Deller	Ag Resource Cons. Specialist II
Brita Runkle	Ag Resource Cons. Specialist
Joe Rebert	Ag Resource Cons. Specialist
Michele Grove	Ag Resource Cons. Specialist
Gary R Peacock	Watershed Specialist
Kim J Young	Education-Communications Coordinator
Jennifer Risser	Assistant Manager
Mark Kimmel	District Manager

Board of County Commissioners

Susan Byrnes, Christopher Reilly, Doug Hoke

Board of Directors

Directors:

Susan Byrnes - Commissioner

Jeff Gossert - Chair

Harry Bickel - Vice Chair

Michael Flinchbaugh - Treasurer

Gordon Brown - Vice Treasurer

Jack Dehoff, Patricia Sueck,

Jim Rexroth, Travis Sherman

Associate Directors:

Leroy R Bupp, Randy R Craley, Kevin Grim,
Jackie Kramer, John Riedel, Beth Lucabaugh,
Bruce Holbrook, Kenyon Miller, Rochelle Black
Dan Innerst, Dan Paulus

Directors Emeritus:

Rolla Lehman, Ellis Crawl, Keith Eisenhart

Sponsor contact information and the advertisement of services in this newsletter is provided without any implied endorsement from the Conservation District staff or management

Conservation Horizons is published 3 times each year & mailed to nearly 8,000 York County homes & businesses at no charge.

Editor/Publisher: Kim J Young Computer Technology: Robert Fetter Printer: Graphics Universal, Inc.

Please direct all inquiries to: York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres Rd, York, PA 17402

Phone: 717-840-7430 / Fax: 717-755-0301 / Email: yorkccd@yorkccd.org / Website: www.yorkccd.org



Around the District

Meghan Anderson (at right with husband Joe), recently joined our E&S staff as an Engineering Technician I after working in the private sector for local engineering firms. She worked to design Stormwater and Erosion & Sedimentation Controls as well as prepare plans, reports and permits for NPDES. And while she loved the design work of her previous jobs, Meghan says she was drawn to the Conservation District because she wanted to feel like she was making a difference.

Meghan grew up in Warren, Ohio and attended Kent State University to study architecture before she transferred to Youngstown State University for Civil and Construction Technology. She followed that transfer with a move to Louisiana to study Civil Engineering at McNeese State University before moving back to Youngstown State to finish her Bachelor of Science degree. She and Joe are now settled in Carlisle.

Meghan spends her free time dancing tap, jazz & lyrical - having danced competitively for 14 years. She also loves to read, bake and cook. She and Joe have three cats: Oreo, Kenzi and Nala.

Meghan's goal in her new position? Keep our streams and waterways clean for future generations, including her nieces and nephews. "I want the world to be a better place for them and I want to be a part of that."

Brita Runkle (pictured above) has recently joined the District too, filling the position in our Ag Department as an Ag Resource Conservation Specialist I. Prior to the District, Brita also worked for an engineering firm, gaining experience in erosion & sediment control and stormwater issues. And she has additional experience with stream restoration and other conservation work through her volunteer work with Trout Unlimited and the Watershed Alliance of York. *Continued below...*



Brita grew up in York County, graduating from Spring Grove High School before receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Geography-Land Use Planning, with a minor in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from Shippensburg University. She and her husband and son all reside in York County with their dog, Buddy, and in her free time Brita enjoys country line dancing, camping and fishing.

Drawn to the District because of the staff she had met, Brita hopes to use education and outreach as a means to protect the environment. When asked to sum up her thoughts on conservation she offered the following quote by John James Audubon. "A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers but borrowed from his children."



We are updating District events regularly on Facebook now. Please Like Us & Follow Us.



Around the District *continued*

Randy Craley (pictured at right with his family) has been an associate director for our District for the past 15 years and has worked professionally in the excavating business for nearly three and a half decades.

Randy received the Outstanding Conservation Contractor's Award from the District in 1994 in recognition of his efforts with both agricultural, residential and commercial projects. He has also served on the board's Erosion & Sediment Control committee for many years.



Randy originally decided to become an associate director in 2001 so he could bring his experience and knowledge as an excavator to the board. He explains below how his views on conservation and his professional experience can go hand-in-hand.

"The job of Conservation Districts should be to serve as the bridge between regulations and Best Management Practices (BMPs) for both our public and our agricultural sectors. One of my goals as a board member is to assist in the effort to ensure that any property that needs BMPs - whether one is being developed or one is being improved - is completed in a way that is both commercially and esthetically viable."

Randy grew up in the Felton area and attended Red Lion Area School District. A lifelong resident, Randy and his "wonderful wife," Linda (Smeltzer) have been married for 41 years and now live in the house his parents built in 1958. There is some cropland with the property that is rented out to a neighboring farm. Together, Randy and Linda, have raised three children and have five grandchildren. Randy enjoys hunting, in addition to spending time with his family. He is also a lifelong member of St. Luke Lutheran Church in New Bridgeville and a member of Brogue Lions Club.

Our Senior Ag Resource Conservationist, Mark Flaharty, has worked closely with Randy for many years to install agricultural conservation practices. "I can always count on Randy to provide quality construction in an efficient and timely manner."

From Our Farm to Your Family

ALL NEW!

MILLER PLANT FARM



717-741-2631

430 Indian Rock Dam Road, York, PA 17403

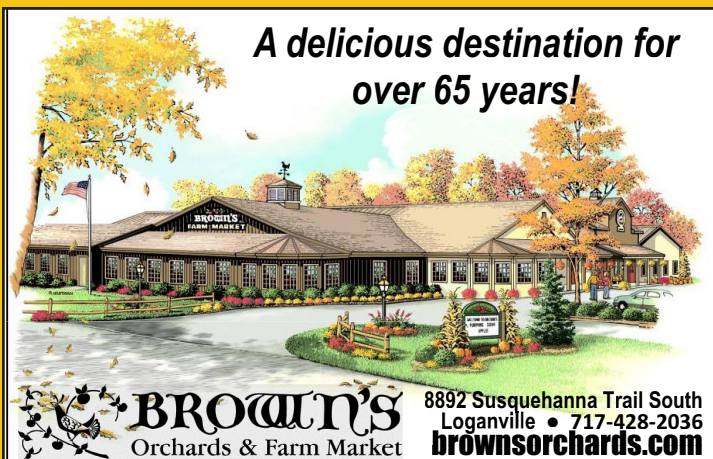
www.MillerPlantFarm.com



Support our partners in Conservation



The Horn Farm's Wild Lands Immersion - Primitive Skills Classes continue into November (*Horn Farm photo at right*). Gain hands-on experience with basic, pre-industrial, woodland-style survival skills/bushcraft. This includes gathering wild foods and medicine, building debris-huts, animal tracking, fire-making techniques such as hand-drill and bow drill, making basic hunting implements such as a survival bow and simple traps, and much more! These classes are being offered as stand-alone one-day workshops. 717-757-6441 or info@hornfarmcenter.org





Beat the winter blues!



Shop in the Winter too!

- Nov. thru Dec. 31 Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 9am-4pm
- Jan. 1 thru Mar. 25 Fri 9am-5pm Sat 9am-4pm
- March 30 Spring Hours begin!

www.flinchbaughsorchard.com

110 Ducktown Rd Hellam, PA - 717.252.2540

Gift Baskets - Fresh Fruit & Produce - Local Favorites





PLACE YOUR AD HERE!

Contact us for rates

Our newsletters are mailed to 8,000 homes & businesses 3X a year

717-840-7190 or kyoung@yorkccd.org



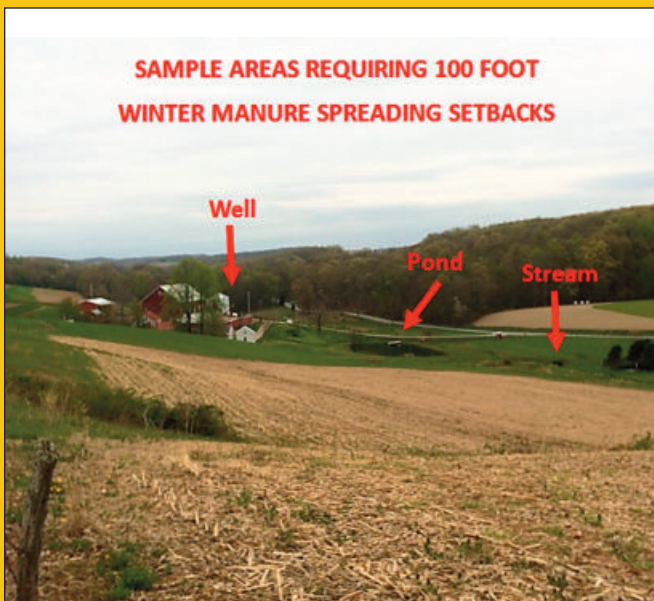
Ag Resources

What is Your Winter Strategy for Manure? by Brita Runkle

Believe it or not, these hot days are slowly coming to an end and it is time to start thinking about winter. No matter what type of animal operation you have, when dealing with manure, it is good to come up with a strategy for manure management during winter. Do you store, stack, or daily haul manure? This article covers the advantages of manure storage and types of storage, criteria for spreading manure during the winter, and the benefits of having cover crops and vegetative buffers.

Storing manure is a common practice throughout Pennsylvania. It allows the farmer to apply the manure when the soil conditions are right and at a time when nutrients can be available to crops. It eliminates the need for daily haul which could decrease handling costs, wear and tear on equipment, soil compaction, and the headache of spreading when field accessibility is not available due to snow or wet soils. It also saves time to do other things. All manure stored or stacked at the farmstead needs storage or an improved surface.

There are several ways of storing manure for your winter strategy depending on how the manure is handled (i.e. liquid, slurry, semisolid, or solid). Liquid manure storages are used for manure with up to 10% solids and can include storage types such as belowground tanks or aboveground steel or concrete tanks. This type of manure is handled with manure pumps or a gravity system to transport manure. Liquid manure storages are suitable for dairy, beef, and swine farms where manure is flushed or scraped with the addition of some liquid for pumping. The term slurry applies to manure with solids between 4% and 10%. Semisolid manure storage is for manure with 10%-20% solids and includes a variety of aboveground structures, with or without roofs like silos or rectangular tanks, concrete banks with concrete floors, or roofed vertical wall structures. This storage type is commonly found on dairy, swine, poultry, or horse operations. Solid manure storage is for manure with 20%-25% or more solids and typically includes bedding to absorb liquid for drying. This type of manure is commonly found on dairy, beef, sheep, goat, poultry, and horse operations.



Field stacking is temporary stockpile where manure stacks will remain in a field for only a short period of time. According to Chapter 91 of the Clean Streams Law for manure management, there are several requirements to take into consideration when stacking manure. Stacking in the field shall not be less than 100 feet from streams, lakes, ponds, any open sinkhole, drinking water well nor be placed on slopes greater than 8%. The location of the stack site must be identified on the farm map and rotated so that no site is used every year. The regulations also state that manure must be dry enough to maintain a stack height of at least 4 feet and must be applied to land no later than 120 days or by the next growing season, if this comes first. If a stack is covered with an impermeable cover within 3 weeks of placement, this will eliminate the requirement to apply the manure within 120 days or by the next growing season.

When storage of manure is not an option, and winter spreading is required in the fields, there are several facts to keep in mind. From Chapter 91 of the Clean Streams Law for manure management regulation, winter is defined as December 15 through February 28, or anytime the ground is frozen at least 4 inches, or anytime the ground is snow covered. **Manure application setbacks** (above photo) during winter are 100 feet from lakes, ponds, and top of stream banks. *Continued on next page*

Other setbacks include 100 feet from active private or public drinking wells and existing sinkholes. If a wetland exists that is on the National Wetlands Inventory and is located within a 100 year floodplain of an exceptional value stream with surface flow toward the wetland, a 100 foot setback shall apply. Avoid spreading high rates of manure in the winter at a maximum: 5,000 gallons per acre of liquid manure, 20 tons per acre of dry non-poultry manure, and 3 tons per acre of poultry manure. Manure being spread from an Act 38 farm must have the winter matrix completed and P-Index evaluated for the fields being spread on. Some other planning considerations for winter spreading are to apply manure in fields located the farthest from water and that have implemented conservation practices, cover crops and have a minimum of 25% crop residue to minimize the chances for runoff into water sources.

Cover crops are also important during winter as a strategy to protect the soil from erosion and act as a nutrient bank if not being harvested when a primary crop is not present. Plant residue and their root systems (*pictured below right*) help to stabilize the soil by holding it in place. Another benefit of cover crops is that they could allow for earlier field access by improving traction during wet springs. Vegetated buffers can also be an integral part of a winter spreading strategy by trapping sediment above ground while the root systems remove potential pollutants below. Buffer vegetation can be grasses, forbs, and/or trees and shrubs. *If you have any questions or would like additional information, contact the York County Conservation District Ag staff at 717-755-2966 or www.yorkccd.org*



Manure Management Manual Workshop

Tuesday, December 13, 2016
Annex Room #1

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Register online or call
Penn State Cooperative Office
717-840-7408



Ben Barshinger
Sales & Operation
717.668.5073

Kathy Elliot, Sales
717.891.2244

Heritage Tree Farm

Shade & Flowering Tree, Evergreens
5134 Bentz Road * Spring Grove PA 17362

Caleb Bashinger
Customer Svc. 717.668.2105

John Rockelman—Owner
717.309.1832

The York County Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall in no way discriminate against employees or applicants for employment on account of age, religion, color, national origin, sex, ancestry, disability, and/or any political or union affiliation.

The York County Conservation District is NOT involved with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay Reboot Compliance Inspection Initiative.

The York County Conservation District was founded in 1948 after a group of 554 farmers from 18 townships presented a petition to the County Commissioners seeking our agency's establishment. We are proud to have sustained this partnership with landowners and farmers for 68 years.



Earlier this year, in response to pressure from the U.S. EPA, the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced its plans to increase compliance inspections on farms across the State. As a result, DEP has asked Conservation Districts throughout Pennsylvania to fundamentally change our relationship with agriculture. DEP is requesting that we serve as environmental inspectors responsible for ensuring that livestock farmers are in compliance with laws meant to improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay.

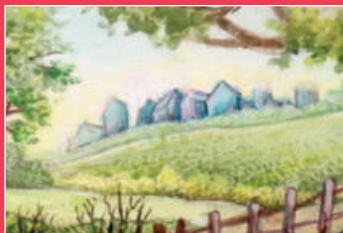
Conservation Districts across the Pennsylvania portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed were forced to make a decision to support the compliance inspection initiative or lose funding provided by DEP and EPA that provided staff who deliver farm conservation planning and technical assistance. York County has participated in this program since 1985. Working with our partners in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, we have assisted hundreds of landowners with conservation planning and technical and financial assistance to implement the plans. **This decision by the DEP to require the District to perform compliance inspections threatens to put our valued trust relationship with landowners in jeopardy.**

For this reason, the York County Conservation District decided to end our partnership in the Bay Program. The impact of this decision is significant, as funding from this program would have provided \$160,000 to the District for staff to implement the program. We requested DEP to reconsider their demand that we perform inspections and fund us at a reduced rate in order that we would continue to assist landowners with conservation efforts, in exchange for not performing the compliance inspections, but they refused this request.

It has come to our attention - in spite of our efforts to clarify our position - that letters being sent to York County Landowners are misleading and confusing about the District's role. Additionally, we understand that a recent issue of the York County Farm Bureau newsletter also provided inaccurate information. **So, to be clear, the York County Conservation District IS NOT involved** with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay Reboot Compliance Inspection Initiative.



It is our plan for our Ag Team to continue working with landowners and district cooperators, as we have done for nearly 70 years, by providing conservation planning, technical and financial assistance, to improve and protect our soil and water resources for generations yet to come. With your continued partnership and cooperation, we will continue to protect and steward the wealth of natural resources our beautiful county has been endowed.



Erosion & Sediment Control

Important NPDES Update!

Effective September 21, 2016, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are requiring all County Conservation Districts to electronically enter basic NPDES facility and permit data into the U.S. EPA's database system called the "Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS)". The final NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule went into effect on September 24, 2015.

The EPA states the benefits of the rule are:

- 1) "Expands EPA efforts to provide meaningful data to the public"
- 2) "Supports the EPA-wide effort to move from paper to electronic reporting"
- 3) "It will provide EPA and the states the ability to strategically address the most serious water pollution problems while using limited resources efficiently."
- 4) "States will realize a significant reduction in reporting burden and cost savings" due to shifting from manually entered paper reporting to electronic reporting.
- 5) "Saving money and time for the regulated community..."

This rule applies to all construction projects disturbing one acre or more that require a NPDES permit. EPA has stated **"The rule does not change who is required to submit NPDES information, it only changes the method by which information is provided."** *However, the District disagrees with the preceding statement(s), believing the new rule will do the following:*

1) Shift the reporting burden from DEP squarely onto the Districts' shoulders, slowing the permit/plan review process at the local District level - ultimately costing the regulated community both time and money. It is critical to note that prior to the rule there was no requirement for Conservation Districts to report NPDES permit and inspection information to EPA.

2) Effective December 21, 2016, require all Conservation Districts to electronically enter inspection and compliance data into ICIS. At this time, we do not specifically know what that information will entail or how much time it will involve. Any additional time entering information into the ICIS database will further erode our technicians' field time (i.e. boots on the ground addressing real water pollution problems across the county) as well as further limit technicians' time-reviewing plans.

During this time of increased focus by DEP and EPA on agricultural compliance we cannot afford to undermine our locally led conservation efforts on the urban side. We need the limited time of our E&S technicians focused on reviewing plans in a timely manner and providing an active field presence ensuring that erosion & sedimentation and post-construction stormwater management Best Management Practices (BMPs) are implemented on the ground for new land development activities, such as new roadways, residential subdivisions, warehouses, etc. The District believes one partial solution to this is to have DEP and/or EPA develop a process that allows the permit applicant and/or his/her consultant to complete the permit application on-line while automatically importing the information into the ICIS database - eliminating duplication of effort and still making the information available to the public.

Please see <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/final-national-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system-npdes-electronic-reporting-rule>) for more information on the new EPA reporting rule.

E&S Program Accomplishments for June - September 2016

Preconstruction meetings	20	General NPDES Issued	22
New Plan Reviews	59	Total site inspections	208
Revised Plan Reviews	46	Sites in compliance	48
Total Project Acres	1,197	Complaints Investigated	67
Total Disturbed Acres	446		



Education & Communication

Envirothon begins, Clay Shoot wraps-up, Conservation Awards winners

The 2017 Envirothon - our 32nd season - is now underway. Our Envirothon committee, staffed by 29 local cooperating agency staff & volunteers, has been busy putting together study resources since mid-summer in preparation for our November Coaches meetings. Coaches from 16 different school districts in York County will receive their Coaches Manuals and Study Resource CDs at these mid-autumn sessions. The coaches - some of whom have been recruiting students in their school building since September - will then begin studying with their prospective teams.

Our **Coaches Meetings** are scheduled for the following dates (New Open House Format):

Tuesday, November 15 - Senior High

Wednesday, November 16 - Grades 5th - 8th

Thursday, November 17 - Grades 3rd & 4th

Our **2017 Envirothon Competition dates** (at John Rudy County Park) are:

Senior High - Tuesday, April 25

Middle School - Tuesday, May 2

5th & 6th Grades - Wednesday, May 3

3rd & 4th Grades - Tuesday, May 9

The proceeds from our September 16th Clay Shoot helped kick-start our 2017 season. The actual Envirothon Sponsorship Drive begins in mid-October. Over 1,000 York County Envirothon students and over 100 coaches are able to participate in their school's Envirothon thanks to our generous sponsors. Hundreds of students who are not on their school's Envirothon team benefit from the use of the annual Envirothon resources given to their schools. Please consider being a part of this great program. See the form on page 12.



“Pheasant”

Egg tempera limited edition giclee print by Millicent Neill Decker
Our 2017 Envirothon print
All proceeds benefit the Envirothon

20% off Coupon

Take this coupon to the
Framers Workshop
off Queen Street
between now & February 2017
***Celebrate the Season
with Artwork!***



framers' workshop

Quality Custom Picture Framing

WE FRAME ANYTHING

Prints to Posters - Needlework to Nostalgia

259 B Pauline Drive
South York Plaza
York, PA 17402
(717) 741-9000
Fax (717) 741-0808

ED WISE, CPF
Manager

Business Hours
M, W, F 10-6
T, Th 10-8
Sat. 10-5

2017 ENVIROTHON DONATION FORM



For a full description of our sponsorship levels, please contact us or go to our website and click on education/envirothon.

I would like to be a **Bald Eagle Platinum Level Sponsor** for \$5,000.00 _____

I would like to be an **American Chestnut Gold Level Sponsor** for \$2,500.00 _____

I would like to be an **Elk Silver Level Sponsor** for \$1,000.00 _____

I would like to be a **Brook Trout Bronze Level Sponsor** for \$500.00 _____

I would like to be a **Mountain Laurel Patron** for \$250.00 _____

Sponsors donating at the \$250.00 level or above receive a gift of "Pheasant," by Millicent Neill Decker. All donations are tax deductible minus the \$60.00 market value of the gift, which will be noted on your statement.

Please check this box if you wish to forfeit the gift. ☐



I would like to be a **Ruffed Grouse Educational Resource Patron**
please accept my general donation of \$ _____

Name: _____

Contact Person (if company): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check enclosed: _____ Credit Card #: _____

Expiration date: ____/____/____ 3-digit V code: _____

Please make checks payable to the York County Conservation District & mail to:
Attn: Envirothon, YCCD, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402

The District held its **Annual Conservation Awards Picnic** on Tuesday, August 4th at Rocky Ridge County Park to present their 2016 Conservation Awards. Each year a committee selects individuals and businesses in York County to recognize for their stewardship and commitment to conservation efforts. Award recipients were presented with a signed, limited edition framed print by Millicent Neill Decker while guests enjoyed a catered picnic dinner. This year's recipients were:



(L-R) Board member, Travis Sherman, Jodi Sulpizio, Representative Keith Gillespie, John Popovich - for Representative Seth Grove and Commissioner Doug Hoke

Jodi Sulpizio (at left) was presented with our **2016 Outstanding Watershed Stewardship Award**. A graduate of Penn State and former naturalist at Nixon Park, Jodi has spent years teaching both adults and children about natural history, most specifically aquatics and wetland protection. After taking a break to be home with her three sons until they reached school age, she has been working part time as a naturalist for Manheim Township parks. Last year she took on an additional role as the first coordinator of the newly formed Penn State Master Watershed Stewards Program. In a short period of time Jodi has facilitated 12 weeks of classes and graduated 17 Master Watershed Stewards who have since been actively engaged in numerous public educational and outreach activities sponsored by various watershed partners in York County.

Kelsey Frey was named our **2016 Outstanding Environmental Educator**. (pictured on our front cover and at right with her father Charles) Since graduating from Penn State with a degree in biology, Kelsey has been working constantly and creatively in the field of environmental education.

Currently a fulltime naturalist at Nixon Park and member of the Conservation District's Envirothon Committee, Kelsey also finds time to serve as a board member of the Lancaster Herpetological Society and is their webmaster and the coordinator of many of their programs. Kelsey also chairs the volunteer group - Habitat Manheim Township - which helps educate residents about the importance of native landscaping. In addition, Kelsey runs the Annual Lancaster Native Plant & Wildlife Festival, works part-time as a naturalist for Lancaster County Parks, is coordinator for the Pennsylvania Amphibian & Reptile Survey and owns her own business - Creative Nature Works - offering nature-themed parties and programs.



Marvin and Shirley Shaw were presented with our **2016 York County Clean Water Farm Award** in recognition of their ongoing efforts to install Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent soil erosion and excess nutrient runoff into nearby waterways. They have addressed field erosion with grass waterways and subsurface drainage, installed a runoff collection system and manifold to spread barnyard runoff water over a vegetated grass treatment area and installed roof spouting and water control structures with underground outlets to collect - *cont.*



continued from previous page...

and divert clean water from both the barn and their road. They have also developed a watering system to provide water in the pasture for the cattle and developed a rotational grazing system.

The **Shaw's** operate this 132 acre farm in Springfield Township, where they raise black angus steers, some pigs and sheep. They also harvest hay and grain, in addition to growing produce that they sell at their roadside stand along Wolf Road. Marvin also helps raise rainbow trout through the Izaak Walton League.

The Shaws are pictured at left with Grant Deller, Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II (far left)

Once again a York County farm has received state-wide recognition by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts (PACD). **Randall and Sarah Patterson** became District Cooperators in 1987 when they began installing conservation plans on their Circled Patterson Farm in Chanceford Township. In 1991 they were named our Outstanding Conservation Farmers and in 2015 we recognized them again as our Clean Water Farm Award recipients. Their continued efforts at BMPs on their 300-acre beef and grain operation has established their property as a showcase for the Commonwealth and in July the Pattersons became one of four farms across the state to be honored with the **PACD's Clean Water Farm Award**.



Commissioner Doug Hoke, Randall & Sarah Patterson, Nadine Hubner for Senator Scott Wagner (L-R)

Our 2016 Outstanding Conservation Farmers, Jerry and Susan Strausbaugh, have been recognized for their efforts to improve their 40-acre Wrightsville farm. It is a project they have been devoted to since they purchased the property in a state of neglect and they have been working to renovate and improve the land and buildings ever since in an effort to establish a diversified family farm.

Both work off the farm and spend all their free time primarily raising beef and growing grain. But they also farm hay, keep chickens, a pet horse, tend to their fruit trees and grow produce to add to the diversity of their operation. In 2014 they began the process of starting up a home business to sell grass-fed beef. This venture became Red Rock Farm, LLC in 2015.

In an effort to manage their livestock more efficiently and profitably, the Strausbaugh's have installed a concrete lot for their beef cows and a manure storage area to hold the manure and reduce the runoff into their farm stream. They have also worked to provide their cows with more stable surface areas in the winter months by improving the steep slopes on their acreage in order to upgrade the condition of their creek. Vegetated treatment areas have been created below the barnyard to further impede the flow of manure from getting into the stream.

Streambank fencing, a new watering system, paddock fencing, a rotational grazing plan and a conversion of three acres of cropland into pasture have also been implemented. *Continued*



According to **Susan Strausbaugh** (pictured *with husband Jerry & Grant Deller - Ag Resource Conservation Specialist II*), neither she nor Jerry have any formal training in farming. It is “just our hobby.” Perhaps, but it is also clearly their passion. Susan says she loves to see the miracle of a seed sprouting, and share the bounty of her harvest with others.

“I don’t think you should leave a place like you found it, I think you should leave it better!. To benefit and work with, not hurt - the animals, people & resources - we share our land with. We need to conserve with knowledge and respect.”

Jerry agrees. He enjoys the challenge of working outdoors and is committed to making his operation more efficient and environmentally friendly - he is concerned about not wasting resources while continuing to protect his land for the future.

J.L. GOSSERT & CO FORESTRY
WOODLAND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
TIMBER MARKETING SERVICES

Jeffrey L Gossert, ACF, CF, RPF

717.870.0658

www.gossertforestry.com

Working for woodland owners in PA & MD since 1982

Timber is a Crop...Manage & Harvest Wisely!



Shane Dehoff Construction, LLC

Kitchens • Bath • Flooring

Additions • Remodeling • New

717-244-7534 • Windsor, PA

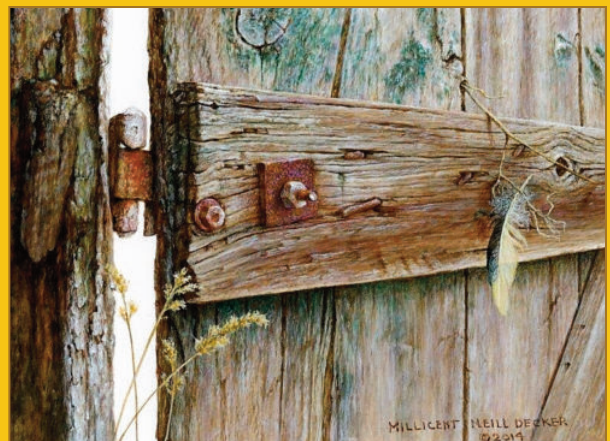
Weaber Lumber

Purchasers of Standing Timber Through Sustainable Forestry

Shawn M. McCanna
Forester

smccanna@weaberlumber.com

1231 Mt. Wilson Road, Lebanon, PA 17042
toll free: 800 745-9663 cell: 717 507-6903 fax: 717 867-4904





Team Bent Barrel Boys



Our **9th Annual Clay Shoot**, held on Friday, September 16, at Central Penn Sporting Clays in Wellsville, exceeded all expectations to raise a record \$8,680.00 to kick off our 2017 Envirothon Sponsorship Drive. A record number of shooters - 84 - also joined us for the afternoon.



Congratulations to the **North Mountain Senior Open Trap Team**, who returned from Sullivan County to once again take possession of the **High-Score Traveling Team Trophy**. Pictured at top left, team members are Dale (Chip) Wertz, Scott Wertz, Andrew Allbeck, Lynn Reese and Mick Wertz.

The **High Score Ladies Award** went to Becky Tressler of team Byrnes, while the **High Score Youth Award** was won by Mick Wertz from North Mountain Senior Open Trap Team.



The **top three Individual High Scorers** were Scott Wertz (3rd), Mick Wertz (2nd) and Dale Wertz (1st), all from Team North Mountain. Phil Rohrbaugh was our gun raffle winner and Lee Irwin won the silent auction with his bid.

Places 10th through 4th went to the following: Howie Carter (10th), Rick Myers (9th), Ryan Hostettler (8th), Lee Irwin (7th), Lynn Reese (6th), Matt Warner (5th) and George Snyder (4th). *Team ARRC's Lee Irwin - pictured at right - with Howard Carter (L-R)*

At last spring's **Senior High Envirothon** competition, one team was chosen through a random drawing to join us at this year's Clay Shoot. The lucky winners were from **Kennard-Dale High School (South Eastern School District)**.

Thank you to Resource Environmental Solutions (RES) for underwriting their tickets. Pictured at right are team members Madison Wolfe, Madison Warfield, Kristen Lane, Kayla Shaull, Addyson Creamer, Noah Temple, and coaches Paul Traeger & Gino Salvitti.



York Dispatch photo

Prior to the shoot the team spent their morning in practice lessons with the professional staff of Central Penn. All loved spending their school day afield, and Madison Wolfe even scored a fun fish trophy as Novice Shooter! It is one of the "hands-on" portions of the Envirothon we were happy to see realized.

Our gun raffle for a Mossberg Silver Reserve II was won by Phil Rohrbaugh. High bid for the silent auction of The Red Barn painting by Alfred Owles - courtesy of John Riedel - went to Lee Irwin.

Please mark your calendars for September 22, 2017!

We would also like to **acknowledge our many sponsors** who helped make this Clay Shoot such a success. In addition to the businesses below we thank Commissioner Susan Byrnes and husband Randy Byrnes, Commissioner Doug Hoke, Mark Flaharty, the Izaak Walton League, Chapter #67, and Carl Rohr.

Our gun raffle was made possible by the sponsorship of the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts and the **generous donations of our following State Representatives:** Kevin Schreiber, Kate Klunk, Michael Regan, Kristin Phillips-Hill, Stan Saylor, Keith Gillespie and Seth Grove.

Our native nursery is home to approximately 95,000 plants

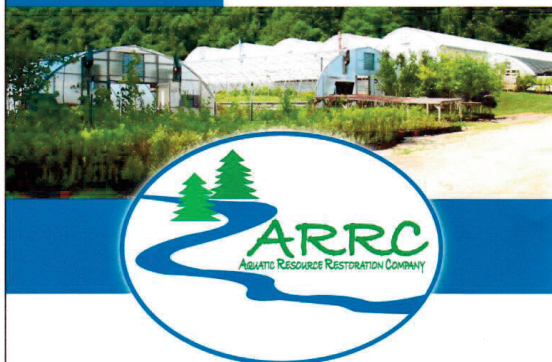
Native trees & shrubs
Perennial ground cover
Various wetland plants
Wildlife habitat plantings

Our well-established native plant nursery features greenhouse and outdoor production plus contract growing

We also collect and propagate seeds of various trees and shrubs

Specializing in the restoration of all types of aquatic resource projects

**Problem Assessment
Design • Permitting
Construction & Consulting
Management
Project Maintenance
Project Monitoring
Native Riparian
Nursery & Planting**



Office
2433 Seven Valleys Rd #202
Seven Valleys, PA
(717) 428-9368
leei@arrc1.com

Native Nursery
15073 Bonfair Rd
Glen Rock, PA
(717) 227-5436
arrcnursery@arrc1.com

www.arrc1.com



HRG
Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.
Engineering & Related Services
AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED COMPANY

TRUMBULL
PJ DICK • LINDY PAVING





OUR 2017 SEEDLING SALE

Sponsored by the York County Conservation District
& hosted by the York County Parks

*Newsletter subscribers will receive
their order form in the mail.*

- We offer a nice variety of two and three-year-old bare root evergreen & deciduous seedlings 7"-24" high
- Cherry Trees & Apple Trees 4'-5'tall
- Blueberry and Blackberry bushes
- Deciduous seedlings include sugar maple, redbud, dogwood, white oak and more.
- Pachysandra Ground Cover & much more

Please note we do not offer matures trees
like the apple tree pictured at right



Order Deadline: March 23, 2017

Pick-up Date: **Thursday, April 13, 2017**

10:00 am-6:00 pm

Rocky Ridge County Park (off Mt. Zion Road)



Watershed Specialist

Gary Peacock






Landowner Funding Opportunity for Water Quality and Habitat Improvement

York County landowners can benefit from private funding to install priority Best Management Practices (BMPs) on their farm and home with small, headwater streams running through their property. These conservation practices will also help improve water quality and in-stream habitats.

A copy of the new **Habitat Improvement Program guidelines and grant application** form may be found on our website at www.yorkccd.org, click on "Watersheds" then "Habitat Improvement" to download and print. Applications will be accepted starting October 1, 2016 until the funding is spent, annually.

For more information, call 717-8407430 to speak with Mark Flaharty, Ag Resource Conservationist, or Gary R. Peacock, Watershed Specialist. *Please see the guide on the following page for more details.*

Excellon Habitat Improvement Funding Guide to Water Quality & Habitat Improvement

RIPARIAN BUFFERS	Riparian Forest Buffers	Benefits		An area of trees at least 35 feet wide on each side of a stream, of trees, shrubs and other vegetation that maintains the integrity of stream channels, to reduce the impacts of upland sources of pollution by trapping, filtering, and converting sediments, nutrients, and other chemicals.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the stability of streambanks and channels Reduces the impacts of upland sources of pollution Provides temperature regulation of small streams Provides wildlife habitat, both in-stream and along the stream corridor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces sediment and nutrients in the water Vegetation traps, filters, and stores sediments, nutrients, and chemicals Keeps summer stream temperature below 70°F favoring cold water species Provides niches for food, shelter and nesting sites 		
STREAM PROTECTION	Stream Restoration	Benefits		An annual mass nutrient and sediment reduction credit for qualifying stream restoration practices that prevent channel or bank erosion that otherwise would be delivered downstream from an actively enlarging or incising urban stream.
	Streambank Fencing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps nutrients out of waterways Filters runoff Livestock Stream Crossings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces risk of injury Stabilizes stream banks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains livestock footing year round Provides a clean, safe drinking water supply year round Reduces the risk of diseases like Equine Encephalitis, West Nile Virus, and Salmonella 		
BARNYARD MANAGEMENT	Barnyard BMPs	Benefits:		One inch of rainfall produces 623 gallons of water per 1,000 ft ² of roof area. Uncontrolled runoff moves large amounts of soil, manure and other pollutants into our waterways.
	Heavy Use Pad: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevents mud/ice easier for manure removal Roof Runoff Control: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces wet areas/soil loss Protects building foundations Promotes water collection and reuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces hoof health issues Reduces bacterial and fungal leg infections Reduces fly and mosquito breeding areas 		
PASTURE MANAGEMENT	Pasture BMPs	Benefits:		Maintain pastures in permanent grass year-round to control sediment and nutrient loss, and to supply feed for grazing livestock. Install stream fencing with stabilized access for water to reduce stream corridor erosion and nutrient impacts to the stream
	Nutrient Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protects water quality Can save money Enhances grass vigor Pasture Planting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roots hold soil in place preventing erosion Provides quality nutritional source Reduces toxic weeds Rotational Grazing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends growing season Reduces feed and supplemental costs Helps maintain healthy, longer-lasting pasture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an improved, high quality and lower cost feed source Reduces digestive track issues Reduces livestock stress and behavioral issues Reduces dust that could cause respiratory concerns 		
FIELD MANAGEMENT	Field BMPs	Benefits:		Install grass waterways to control gully erosion and save sediment. Use a combination of cover crops, crop residue management, no-till and crop rotation to reduce soil erosion and improve soil health.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field management Agronomic practices Engineered practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase productivity Cost savings Prevent soil erosion and water pollution Maintain optimum soil moisture and health 		

The York County Ag Preservation Program

Patty McCandless, Program Director

118 Pleasant Acres Road, Suite F

York PA 17402

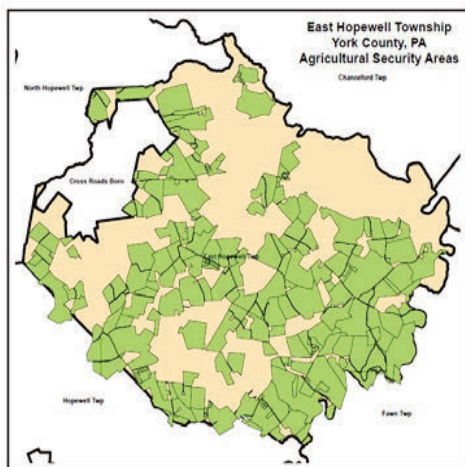
717-840-7400 / Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm



The mission of the York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board is, “to protect York County’s agricultural resources through the preservation of economically viable farms with the creation and maintenance of stable agricultural communities.” Since York County’s easement program funding in 1989, 276 farms covering over 41,000 acres have been preserved through the County’s Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program and the more recent Easement Donation Program. A volunteer seven member board meets monthly to review easement applications and address landowner and staff questions that arise. Three full time staff attend to the daily duties of working with prospective applications, and previously-preserved-farm owners. New owners of eased farms also require education to be fully aware of the deed restrictions placed on the farm deed by a prior owner.

The Agricultural Security Area program was established in 1981 as a tool for strengthening and protecting agriculture in Pennsylvania. There are many benefits to enrolling land in your township’s Agricultural Security Area (ASA). Participating owners are entitled to special consideration from local and state government agencies if a farm is proposed for condemnation. Participating owners are also protected from some “nuisance” challenges, which help to encourage the continued use of farmland for agricultural production. Another benefit to the owner of land enrolled in ASA is the ability to preserve their farm in perpetuity. The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board requires that an easement applicant be enrolled in their municipality’s Agricultural Security Area.

Staff has been working to review Agricultural Security Areas (ASA) within York County. Since we began reviewing each township’s ASA, much progress has been made to improve and ensure the accuracy of our maps and data. So far, 28 of the 40 municipalities with an ASA have been sent reviews from our office. Half of those municipalities (14) have returned our reviews with changes or signed off that our data appears correct and accurate. Our office has compiled 336 resolutions creating or modifying these Agricultural Security Areas. We’ve reviewed over 3,600 parcels thus far, with an estimated 1,000 parcels left to review. A special thank you to all the municipalities that have kept up with their seven year reviews.



Throughout 2016, our board and office has been kept busy with the qualification, ranking, and selection of 50 easement applications on 5,100 acres. Of these applicants, 35 farms have been qualified and ranked, deeming them eligible for preservation.

The Ag Preservation Board has selected four of these applications for easement purchase, totaling 483 acres. The four selected farms will build on to clusters of previously preserved farmland in Lower Chanceford, Dover, North Codorus, Manheim, and Codorus Townships.

At our most recent State Review Board meeting in August, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture allocated an extra \$216,112 to York County for the purchase of conservation easements. This additional funding will go to the purchase of additional conservation easements in 2016 and 2017.

With the additional funding, York County has now received \$1,556,007 from the PA Department of Agriculture and \$221,309 from the York County Board of Commissioners in 2016. This funding will preserve an estimated 650 acres in the county.

On behalf of the County of York and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a sincere thank you goes out to the farm families who have made this commitment. One of our nation’s greatest securities is the commitment that farmers have made to growing local food and feeding our citizens.



Conservation Horizons
York County
Conservation District
118 Pleasant Acres Road
York PA 17402

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 476
York, PA

*"You can't be suspicious of a tree,
or accuse a bird or a squirrel of
subversion or challenge the
ideology of a violet."*

- Hal Borland

Would you like to be on our mailing list?

Our newsletter *Conservation Horizons* is published **3 times each year free** to over 8,000 York County homes & businesses. To be put on our mailing list call or email: 717-840-7430 or yorkccd@yorkccd.org.

If you would rather "Go Green" and save paper, send us an email request and put "Electronic Newsletter" in subject line to receive your newsletter electronically.

Or contact us with address changes or to be dropped from our mailing list. Thank you.

YCCD District Calendar

November 2016

Nov. 8 Office Closed - Election Day
Nov. 10 YCCD Board Mtg – 7:00 pm Annex
Nov. 11 Office Closed - Veterans Day
Nov. 15-17 Envirothon Coaches Mtgs.
Nov. 24, 25 Office Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2016

Dec. 9 YCCD Board Mtg - 11:00 am Annex
Dec. 13 Manure Mngt Workshop 9:00 - 4:00
Dec. 26 Office Closed - Christmas Holiday

January 2017

January 2 Office Closed - New Year's Day
January 13 YCCD Board Mtg. 11:00 am Annex
January 16 Office Closed - MLKing Holiday
January 24 & 25
PACD Winter Meeting, State College
January 28 - February 3
NACD 2017 Annual Meeting,
Denver, CO

February 2017

Feb. 10 YCCD Board Mtg, 11:00 am Annex
Feb. 20 Office Closed - President's Day