

# Conservation Horizons



*Since 1948 \* 67 Years of Conservation, Education & Stewardship \**

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**39<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree & Seedling Sale**  
please see pages 15 & 16 for details and  
**1 Free bare-root seedling coupon**



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Control Workshop at  
Wyndridge Farms pg. 9**



## 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 will be proactive providing conservation education, technical services and financial assistance, to enable the citizens of York County be good stewards of our natural resources.



### **Conservation District Staff**

Christina Dehoff	Administrative Assistant
Whitney Leland	Office Manager
Robin Sharp	Secretary/Receptionist
Robert Fetter	E&S Resource Conservationist /Network Administrator
Eric Jordan	E&S Resource Conservationist /Program Manager
Tiffany Crum	Engineer Technician II
Karen Ward	Engineer Technician II
Mark Flaharty	Sr. Ag Resource Conservationist
vacant	Ag Resource Conservationist
Wendy Kindig	Ag Resource Conservationist
Sally Barnes	Resource Conservation Spec. I
Gary R Peacock	Watershed Specialist
Kim J Young	Education-Communications Coordinator
Jennifer Risser	Assistant Manager
Mark Kimmel	District Manager

### **Board of County Commissioners**

Steve Chronister, Christopher Reilly, Doug Hoke

### **Board of Directors**

#### *Directors:*

Steve Chronister - Commissioner  
Harry Bickel - Chair  
Jeff Gossert - Vice Chair  
Michael Flinchbaugh - Treasurer

Jack Dehoff, Gordon Brown,  
Patricia Sueck, Jim Rexroth, Travis Sherman

#### *Associate Directors:*

Leroy R Bupp, Randy R Craley, Kevin Grim,  
Jackie Kramer, John Riedel, Beth Lucabaugh,  
Bruce Holbrook, Dr. Penny Grove,  
Kenyon Miller, Leroy Walker

#### *Directors Emeritus:*

Rolla Lehman, Ellis Crowl, 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*

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





# Around the District

## Profile: Travis Sherman, Director

Travis Sherman - *pictured at right* with Dru Peters from Sunny-side Farm - has been farming in York County alongside his wife, Christine, for 19 years. Charolais beef cattle and timothy hay and mixed hays are the focus of their TCFarm in Wellsville. Raising beef cattle is part of his family heritage, having grown up on a cattle farm in Adams County, where his mother still lives. He attended Conewago Valley High School and Delaware Valley College, where he majored in Agronomy and Environmental Science.

His interest in farming and agricultural education began with his parents who were very involved 4-H leaders in their community and both Travis and wife Christine were active members of the club growing up.

Travis' interest in conservation and natural resources started in his childhood. He says, "At first, I just wanted to be out and working the land, but as time went by it became more important to me to learn how to preserve it for future generations.

After talking to Keith Eisenhart, Director Emeritus for the York County Conservation District board and a family friend, Travis became interested in serving on the District board to continue his passion for preservation. He began as associate director in 2004 and was recently appointed director.



TCFarms



**Lowell Luft Jr**, District Ag Resource Conservationist, **has announced his retirement** effective Feb 28. A certified nutrient management planner, Lowell has led the District's nutrient management program for many years and gained conservation plan writing certification, assisting the district with our planning request backlog. He started with the District in 2002, after many years working with several national Ag seed companies. Following graduation from Penn State with a degree in Agronomy, Lowell operated his own diversified farm for the better part of a decade. He has brought a wealth of experience and a no-nonsense, common-sense attitude to work each day. Upon retirement, we know he will be busy in his garden as soon as the weather breaks. When not there, look for Lowell & his wife Barbara hiking up in Potter County. We wish Lowell and Barbara health and happiness as they enjoy a well-earned retirement. We will miss him!

**2015 also marks significant anniversary dates for several employees & Directors:** Manager Mark Kimmel, 30 years; Director Pat Sueck, 25 years; Vice Chair Jeff Gossert, 15 years Engineer Tech II Tiffany Crum & Administrative Asst. Christine Dehoff, 10 years and Associate Director Kevin Grim, five years.

## Around the District, con't

We have also recently had to say goodbye to **Director, Daniel Wolf** - pictured at right with his wife Connie (far left) and artist, Millicent Neill Decker. After serving on the District Board for parts of 4 decades, Dan Wolf decided to pass the torch of former director, ending his formal service effective Dec 31, 2014. Dan felt by stepping down it would allow an opportunity for a new member with fresh ideas to join in leadership of the Board. Dan has been involved with the Board off and on in various capacities since 1982, when he replaced one of our founding members, Howard Perry. A pioneer and innovator in conservation and no-till planting methods, Dan's soft spoken wisdom has been appreciated by both Board and staff alike. The Board took a few moments to celebrate Dan's years of dedicated service during our December 11th meeting. Dan will continue to serve on the District's Building Committee and promised that he'll be around, noting he will be serving on the USDA, Farm Service Agency County Committee. Dan joined us in welcoming his heir apparent, **Travis Sherman**, who began a 4 year term as Director Jan 1, 2015, after serving as associate director since 2004. Thank you Dan for your years of dedicated service to York County.



In January the board welcomed new associate director, **Leroy Walker**. Leroy and his wife, Brenda, operate Walk-Le Holsteins Farm near Thomasville.

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.

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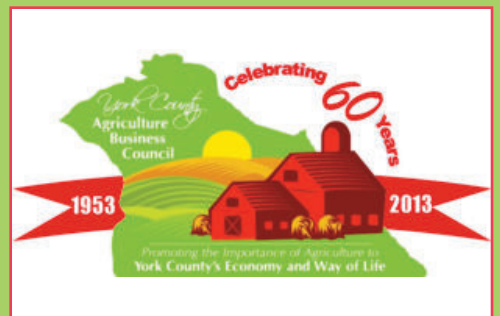
The **York County Buy Fresh Buy Local® Chapter** is a volunteer organization to connect the people of York County to locally produced food and farm products through education on where to find locally grown food and why it's a great idea to do so. They also promote our Partners who have made a commitment to support farms in York County. **Buy Fresh Buy Local®** is the premier trademark of the local foods movement in the United States, administered by our National Partner, FoodRoutes Network and coordinated in the state of Pennsylvania by the Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture.

For updated listings of local events, fresh, local foods & farms, and farm products: [www.buyfreshbuylocalyork.com](http://www.buyfreshbuylocalyork.com)

**The 29th Annual York County Agricultural Recognition Banquet** will be held on Thursday, March 26th at the York Expo Center Old Main Hall at 5:30 pm. Reservations required. Contact Michele Grove at [ycabc@comcast.net](mailto:ycabc@comcast.net) or 717-246-3578 or [www.facebook.com/ycabc1](http://www.facebook.com/ycabc1)

**Saturday, May 24th - Farm Night at York Revolution** vs Lancaster Barnstormers. Join the Revs for this Farm-Themed game.

**Meeting Dates – March 11 & May 13 - 8:30 a.m.** at Pleasant Acres Annex.





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## Penn State Extension

### MAEscapes Native Plant Sale Saturday, May 16, 9:00 - 2:00 Monarchs & More



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Free talks/Educational programs  
York County Annex Call 717-840-7408

[extension.psu.edu](http://extension.psu.edu)



## Ag Resources

### **Streambank Fencing** by Sally Barnes

Living in an ever changing world of agricultural and environmental regulation, **we are often asked by farmers whether their livestock have to be fenced out of stream channels.** The answer I give always starts with “Well, it depends...”

It depends on where the stream runs and it depends on your level of management. Streambank fencing and restricting animal access to the stream is required in a barnyard, exercise lot or any other similar type of animal confinement area, but it's not required in a true pasture.

However, if your pasture is overgrazed, it would then be considered an Animal Concentration Area (ACA) requiring additional protections, including animal exclusion from the stream. **If you are unsure whether the land you are enquiring about is a pasture or an ACA,** you can always contact us and ask a member of our District Ag staff.

**If you are trying to make this distinction yourself, here are some guidelines to follow:**

**Pastures should maintain dense vegetation throughout the growing season,** minimizing bare spots, with an average vegetation height of at least 3". ACA's are not pastures, they are barnyards, exercise lots or other similar types of animal confinement where the animal density is such that the area cannot maintain a growing crop.

**Manure accumulating where animals congregate,** such as walkways or areas where livestock feeds, drinks water or lounges in the shade can all become potential ACA's in your pastures or in part of the pasture system.

These areas are only listed as ACA's if runoff carrying manure discharges into streams, lakes, ponds or sinkholes. In addition, where animals enter the stream channel for water, they can damage the banks when their hooves rip out the streambank vegetation that holds the soil in place.

Stream bank fencing is a very noticeable commitment to clean water and a strong “good neighbor” policy. Controlled access at stabilized crossings is a great way to both protect and utilize the stream.



**If you have been “sitting on the fence” about installing fencing to keep your animals out of a stream the Conservation District has an allocation of funding to assist with the cost.** If you've ever considered protecting your streams to ensure we have clean streams, now is the time.

Design and permit application services are available through the Conservation District office and NRCS. Contact our Ag Staff at 717-755-2966.



## Save the Date! North American Manure Expo - Manure than you can Handle!

July 14, 2015 – Tour Day; July 15, 2015 – Expo Day

Chambersburg, PA

The North American Manure Expo combines several things to move the industry forward:

- Trade show specific to manure handling and nutrient management industries.
- Side-by-side equipment and technology demonstrations.
- Educational opportunities.
- Tour Day allows participants to experience highlights of local agriculture with highlights of manure treatment technologies.

**The North American Manure Expo is a non-profit organization.**

Learn more: <http://www.manureexpo.org>

**Manure Manager Magazine is the Show Manager.**

To register: <http://www.agannex.com/manure-manager/manure-expo>



### Foraging for Wild Edibles

#### *Class Schedule*

Saturday, March 14 – 10am-Noon

Saturday, April 18 – 10am-Noon

Monday, June 15 – 6pm-8pm

Saturday, July 18 – 10am-Noon

Monday, August 17 – 6pm-8pm

Saturday, September 19 – 10am-Noon

Monday, October 12 – 6pm-8pm

Saturday, November 7 – 10pm-Noon

call 717-757-6441 for these free classes!

Did you know you can **rent a 20' x 20' garden plot at the Horn Farm** for \$40.00 for the season? The seasonal gardens are open from mid-April through the end of October. A community garden committee will help ensure you get the help you need to create your own garden and grow your own food. Learn to raise your food from seed to harvest, foster a connection with the natural world and enjoy healthy local food in season. Contact [communitygardens@hornfarmcenter.org](mailto:communitygardens@hornfarmcenter.org)



### The Horn Farm Stands open on May 22nd

**Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm @ Horn Farm**

**and NEW THIS YEAR**

**Fridays: 4:00 - 8:00 pm**

**@ John Wright Restaurant**

Fresh, locally grown, healthy produce & foods

**Heirloom Plant Sale**

**Saturday, May 9th**

**9:00 am - 3:00 pm @ Horn Farm**



Access The Horn Farm's activities & upcoming schedule at: [www.hornfarmcenter.org](http://www.hornfarmcenter.org)



# Erosion & Sediment Control

## E&S Program Accomplishments for September 2013 - January 2015

Preconstruction meetings	31	General NPDES Issued	51
New Plan Reviews	88	Total site inspections	259
Revised Plan Reviews	44	Sites in compliance	113
Total Project Acres	3,340	Complaints Investigated	51
Total Disturbed Acres	576		

**The District staff investigate an average of 216 complaints that come through our office each year related to potential water pollution issues.** However in 2014 we were happy to report only 138 complaints were received, a 36% decrease from 2013. We attribute this decrease to an exceptionally cold and snowy winter for the first three months of the year and generally mild to moderate rain events throughout the spring, summer, and fall months. **Below is a summary of the types and number of complaints we received in 2014:**

1. Lack of erosion and sediment controls on small (< 1acre) construction projects (ex. single family home construction) - 41 complaints (30%)
2. Stormwater drainage concerns from existing impervious areas or other upslope areas (where no earth disturbance occurred) -16 complaints (12%)
3. Encroachments into streams, ponds, and wetlands -14 complaints (10%)
4. Lack of erosion & sediment controls on NPDES-permitted construction sites (> 1 acre) -12 complaints (9%)
5. Agricultural manure runoff (including equine operations) - 12 complaints (9%)
6. Farm field runoff and erosion - 8 complaints (6%)
7. Barn/house demolition and woodland clearing and grubbing to create new farm fields - seven complaints (5%)
8. Public highway construction and maintenance (municipal and state) - six complaints (4%)
9. Timber harvesting/logging - five complaints (3%)
10. Mud tracked onto public roadways/no other earth disturbance activity- four complaints (3%)
11. Runoff from auto salvage operations - four complaints (3%)
12. Runoff from ATV/motorbike tracks - three complaints (2%)
13. Pumping untreated/sediment-laden water into storm drains and streams - three complaints (2%)
14. Other miscellaneous water quality concerns - three complaints (2%)

### **Total Complaints Received -138**





Professional Plan Preparers and Developers are invited to join the District at a **NPDES Permitting Workshop** March 18th at Wyndridge Farms in Dallastown.

Registration fee of \$60.00 includes  
a continental breakfast  
& catered lunch.

This important professional workshop, held every few years, will cover PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Permit reviews & requirements. DEP staff & District staff will present the workshop & be available for questions. Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed on the requirements of NPDES Permits, while enjoying delicious local food in a fabulous setting.



You are invited to the  
**NPDES Permitting Workshop**  
Hosted by York County Conservation District

**Date:** March 18, 2015      **RSVP Deadline:** March 5, 2015  
**Time:** Registration & continental breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m.  
Expected end time 3:45-4:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Wyndridge Farms 885 South Pleasant Ave Dallastown PA 17313  
**Intended Audience:** Professional Plan Preparers and Developers  
**Registration:** \$60.00 per person. Includes continental breakfast, catered lunch, afternoon refreshments and hand-outs.  
Registration form on reverse side  
All attendees will receive a certificate of attendance & PDH credits  
Door Prizes!

**Topics of discussion will include:**

- PA DEP Permit Review Process/Permit Decision Guarantee
- When is a NPDES permit required?
- Submitting a Complete NOI Application
- PCSM Worksheets
- Completing the NOI Completeness Review Checklist
- Copermitee/Transferee Applications
- Notice of Termination for & Long Term PCSM Requirements

York County Conservation District 118 Pleasant Acres Rd. York PA 17402 (717)840-7430  
www.yorkccd.org

**Registration Deadline Early March**

Go to <http://www.yorkccd.org/> to register or call 717-840-7430

Continental breakfast begins at 7:30 am

All attendees receive certificate of attendance & PDH credits / Door prizes available

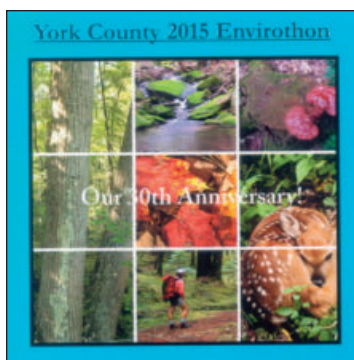


Wyndridge Farms photo



## Education & Communication

# york county **ENVIROTHON**



**2015 is the 30th Anniversary of the York County Senior High Envirothon.** Since then more than 10 million people have participated in Envirothon across North America. **Here in York County, tens of thousands of York County students have met the challenge of the Envirothon competitions** in their respective grade level events: Senior High, Middle School, 5th & 6th Grades and 3rd & 4th Grades.

The York County Envirothon, which is sponsored by the District, still has the highest level of student participation in North America. We are one of the few places that offers the event to the lower grade levels.

It is estimated that **on a national level, 55% of Envirothon participants have gone on to careers in the sciences**, including many who focus on natural resource conservation. The Envirothon works!

Part of the Envirothon's success in York County is the continued support of our many local businesses and residents. **There is still time to be a part of this wonderful environmental educational program** by becoming a sponsor. We value each and every donation.

**Donations of \$250.00 & up** receive "*Just Curious*," a limited edition egg tempera River Otter print by Millicent Neill Decker as our thank you gift. At right. **Donations of \$500.00 & up** enable you to have your name/logo on the back of the Envirothon T-Shirts. At right, below.

**For a full list of sponsor levels please go to our website** at <http://www.yorkccd.org/educational-programs/envirothon/> and click on "Sponsor Letter & Forms." Checks can be made payable to YCCD. Credit cards also accepted.



This year's **Senior High Current Issue is Urban Forestry**. In addition to studying Aquatics, Forestry, Soils & Wildlife, students will be learning about the benefits such as aesthetic appeal, reducing stormwater run-off, combating the effects of "Urban Heat Islands," removing air pollution and more.





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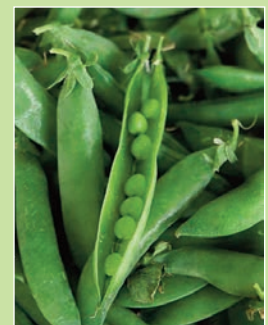


# Spring



## March

- As winter wanes, the average temps in York County hover between 28 & 47 degrees with average rainfall of 3.25 inches
- Skunk cabbage flowers begin to bloom in rich, wet woodland soil. Look for American woodcocks to display their aerobic mating displays at dawn & dusk. By mid-month red foxes are raising pups in their dens and yellow colts foot is pushing up through dead leaf litter along bare roadsides.
- Canada geese are nesting while white-tailed deer bucks are spurting new antler growth covered in velvety blood vessels.
- Daylight savings begins on the 8th and Spring Equinox arrives on the 20th.
- It is a good time for farmers to dust off their conservation and nutrient management plans and consider what Best Management Practices (BMPs) should be implemented, such as planting buffers, fencing in the stream, building a waterway or applying to the District for funding to help with costs.
- It's a good time to plant frost-seed legumes or grass-legume mixes into pastures.
- Farmers and homeowners should check their fields and yards for gullies in need of repair to reduce soil loss and prevent polluted runoff into nearby streams.
- Time to make garden plans and plant your cool season peas and onions
- Clean your roof gutters in preparation for spring rains
- Encourage your municipality to consider road project applications for the District's Dirt & Gravel and Low Volume Road programs
- Last chance to order your tree seedlings from the District



## April

- Remove large, woody debris from culverts, bridges and small streams
- As ticks become more active keep an eye on your pets & livestock and remove parasites as you find them
- Spring applications of manure should be done carefully to prevent manure washing away into local waterways during heavier spring rains
- Check your pasture for trees that may be toxic to livestock, such as red maple, black locust, sugar maple, black walnut, silver maple and cherry trees
- Allow your pasture to remain at least 3 inches high after horses have grazed it. This benefits both the horses and your surrounding natural environment
- Look for the small white blooms of the shad bush (serviceberry) as the American shad are migrating up the Susquehanna River to their spawning grounds
- Early wood warblers begin arriving in forested areas while bats shake off the bounds of hibernation
- Spring peepers begin to call as shallow pond edges slowly warm
- Temperature average between 38 and 60 degrees and by the end of the month we have almost 14 hours of daylight

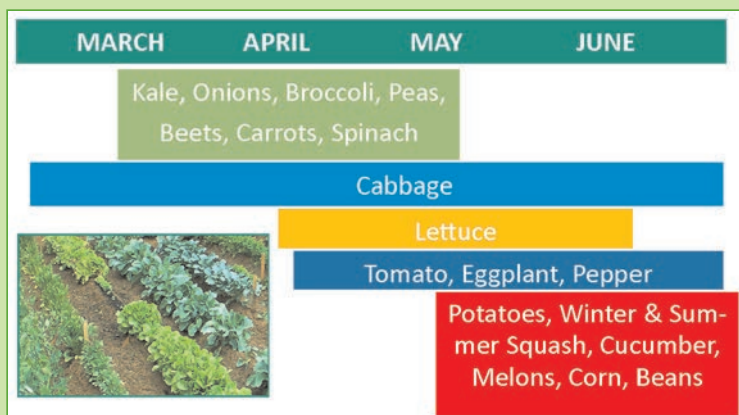
## May

- Adult mayflies are hatching, ruby-throated hummingbirds are returning to nest and wild dogwoods are blooming
- The first of the monarch butterflies are returning from Mexico while red-winged blackbirds are singing, "Oka-reeee" from cattail thickets
- Whitetail deer fawns are born - twins are the norm
- Baltimore orioles are weaving gourd-like nests that will dangle from the highest tree branches
- Farmers should check the walls and floors of manure storage areas for cracks and make any necessary repairs
- Farmers and homeowners can replant barren spots in pastures and yards to prevent sediment pollution from running into local streams



## June

- As the weather warms infectious disease can spread more easily through water troughs or community water sources in pastures and paddocks. Even outside pet dishes need to be kept clean
- Farmers who need a cover crop can plant summer annuals such as millet, sorghum Sudan grass or buckwheat
- June temperatures warm to between 57 to 79 degrees on average
- Days lengthen to 15 hours
- Snapping turtles are on the move - often crosses roads - slowly searching for warm sites to lay their eggs
- Yarrow plants - the wild cousin to carrots - are beginning to bloom, while blue chicory, milkweed, black eyed Susans and Queen Anne's lace start to colonize sun-bleached meadows.
- June 21st is summer solstice - our longest day of the year - and summer officially begins
- Fireflies begin to emerge in the evening pale. While the males flash their incandescent abdomens in flight, females respond in turn from among the ground vegetation



### The Study of Phenology

"Natural events recur year after year in a regular order. A year-to-year record of this order is a record of the rates at which solar energy flows to and through living things. They are the arteries of the land. By tracing their response to the sun, phenology may eventually shed some light on that ultimate enigma, the land's inner workings."

—Aldo Leopold



# College Scholarships



## **Congratulations to our 2014 \$1,000 College Scholarship Recipient, Matthew Hunter (at left)**

Matthew is a Red Lion graduate, currently attending West Virginia University. He is majoring in Forest Resource Management and is interested in pursuing a career in Urban Forestry and Arboriculture. He comes from a rural background and grew up outdoors.

In addition to forestry, Matthew loves agriculture and began his first job on the sheep farm of his aunt and uncle. In high school he was involved in Future Farmers of America (FFA), and especially enjoyed their Wildlife Career Development Events (CDE) competitions. It was through FFA that he became aware of forestry and the various career opportunities in that field.

While his plans are to work in Forestry, Matthew still loves agriculture and hopes to have a farm in his future. We wish him well in the future.

*Please check our website in late May for our **2015***

### **\$1,000 College Scholarship Application & support materials.**

Open to any York County resident pursuing a college degree in an environmental field.

## **Paul Wilson \$500.00 Conservation Scholarship - NEW!!!**

The District is offering a \$500.00 Award to a deserving student who is a registered **member of their school's 2015 York County Senior High Envirothon Team (Grades 9-12)**. The scholarship money may be used for college education, an internship, a summer conservation camp, training session or other educational opportunity that helps the student further their interest & involvement in conservation. Decisions will be based on educational merit, involvement in conservation activities and/or career goals. Team standing on the day of competition will have no bearing on the scholarship award. Interested students should pick up their Scholarship Application Packet from their Envirothon Coaches. **Application Deadline: March 31st.** The award will be announced during the Senior High Envirothon Awards Ceremony on April 28th.

## **20% off Coupon**

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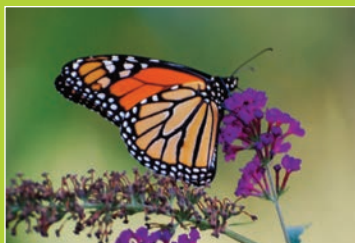


## THE IMPORTANCE OF POLLINATORS

### The 2015 Annual Soil & Water Stewardship Program for the NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts)

**“Not a single bee has ever sent you an invoice. And that is part of the problem - because most of what comes to us from nature is free. Because it is not invoiced, because it is not priced, because it is not traded in markets, we tend to ignore it.”**

Pavan Kukhdev, United Nations report,  
The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity



“Imagine living in a world without flowers or fruit or even coffee or chocolate for that matter. Thanks to the wonderful work of pollinators like bees, much of the food we eat and flowers and plants we enjoy are possible. And it’s not just bees that are doing all the work. Butterflies, birds, beetles, bats, wasps and even flies are important in the pollination process. But despite the importance of pollinators, they are taken for granted all too often.

Worldwide, there is an alarming decline in pollinator populations. Excessive use of pesticides and an ever-expanding conversion of landscapes to human use are the biggest culprits.

It is estimated that more than 1,300 types of plants are grown around the world for food, beverages, medicines, condiments, spices and even fabric. Of these, about 75% are pollinated by animals. More than one of every three bites of food we eat or beverages we drink are directly because of pollinators. Indirectly, pollinators ultimately play a role in the majority of what we eat and consume.

Pollinators are vital to creating and maintaining the habitats and ecosystems that many animals rely on for food and shelter. Worldwide, over half the diet of fats and oils comes from crops pollinated by animals. They facilitate the reproduction in 90% of the world’s flowering plants.

You can make a positive difference in your home environment. Provide a diverse assortment of flowering plants and encourage native species in your landscape. Use pesticides only when necessary and then only late in the day or evening. Look for alternative ways to deal with pest and disease issues before reaching for a quick fix. These often come at a price. Learn about and practice IPM (Integrated Pest Management). The actions you take in and around your garden can either help reduce or promote the population of pollinators in your landscape. Hopefully it’s the latter.

Joe Lamp’l, *Growing a Greener World*

**NACD has sponsored Stewardship Week since 1955. Celebrated annually between the last Sunday in April & the first Sunday in May, the NACD once again has put together a variety of activity booklets for Pre-K through Middle School. The booklets, CDs, posters and Educator Guide are designed to help any educator bring the importance of Pollinators to their students - in any setting. Check out their website or contact the Conservation District for more information. For educational materials on this year’s topic please go to: [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org) and click on education. Or contact the Conservation District office - 717-840-7430 and ask for Kim.**



## Our 2015 SEEDLING SALE

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



Blackberries

**SPRING IS COMING!** And the DEADLINE is fast approaching to place your order for bare-root seedlings, 10"-20" evergreens, 12"-30" deciduous hardwoods, fruit trees, blueberries and ground cover plants. The Deadline for Ordering is Wednesday, March 25th.

Please check out our website at [www.yorkccd.org](http://www.yorkccd.org) - if you did not receive your order form in the mail - or use the order form on page 16.

The date for your Order Pick-up is  
Thursday, April 16th at Rocky Ridge Park  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Please note pick-up day this year  
is a *Thursday*, not a Friday



Cranberry Viburnum

Anyone is welcome to stop by Rocky Ridge Park during the day on April 16th and use the coupon below to pick up one FREE bare-root seedling (while supplies last). Please bring your coupon with you. You may also purchase leftover plants from the District Sale as long as the supply lasts.

### **2015 York County Conservation District Annual Seedling Sale**

YCCD  
118 Pleasant Acres  
York PA 17402  
717.840.7430

Check out our  
website for com-  
plete listing of  
seedlings available  
for sale!  
[www.yorkccd.org](http://www.yorkccd.org)

Stop by Rocky Ridge County Park  
10 am-6 pm, Thursday April 16th, 2015  
to receive a free 10"- 20" White Pine or  
Colorado Blue Spruce bare root seedling.



**Coupon redeemable for one FREE bare root seedling**  
Limit one per customer while supplies last

# 2015 Seedling Sale Order Form

## 2015 Seedling Sale Order Form Make checks payable to YCCD

Send to: York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

(PICKUP REMINDER WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL)

Seedlings	Quantity (per packet)	# of Packets	Cost/Packet	Total
Colorado Blue Spruce	10		\$9	
Douglas Fir	10		\$9	
Canadian Hemlock	10		\$9	
White Pine	10		\$9	
Fraser Fir	5		\$9	
American Cranberry Viburnum	5		\$9	
Bayberry (Northern)	5		\$9	
Chinese Chestnut (VERY LIMITED QUANTITIES)	5		\$9	
Persimmon	5		\$9	
Serviceberry (Regent)	5		\$9	
Chestnut Oak	5		\$9	
Winterberry	5		\$9	
Cherry - Balaton	1		\$19	
Peach - Blazingstar	1		\$19	
Blueberry - 1 Each Bluecrop & Bluegold			\$15	
Blackberry - 1 Each Arapaho & Triple Crown			\$15	
Pachysandra (Terminals, 2 year)	100 per flat		\$24/flat	
Sedum, Dragon's Blood	50 per flat		\$23/flat	

SUB TOTAL

Please add 6% sales tax

6% sales tax

Orders without sales tax included will be returned

TOTAL

Please complete below for credit card orders

CHECK ENCLOSED ☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ Visa/MC/Discover

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ 3 digit VIN # located on back of card \_\_\_\_

## RETURN ORDER FORM TO:

YCCD  
118 Pleasant Acres Rd  
York PA 17402

ORDER DEADLINE:  
March 25

**NEW PICK-UP DAY**  
**THURSDAY**  
**April 16**

**PICK-UP TIMES:**  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
at Rocky Ridge  
County Park

For more information on  
specific species or for an-  
other order form,  
please go to our website  
at [www.yorkccd.org](http://www.yorkccd.org)

or call the District office at  
717-840-7430



Balaton Cherry





# Watershed Specialist

Gary Peacock

**NEW Funding Opportunity for Ag Conservation BMPs and Habitat Improvement** - York County farmers and non-farmers may be eligible to receive funding to install priority Best Management Practices (BMPs) listed below.

**The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has issued a water quality certification for the continued operation and maintenance of Exelon's Muddy Run hydroelectric project.** Exelon wishes to preserve this virtually emissions-free generating capacity and its electrical output while enhancing environmental integrity and local community relationships. One condition of the certification is that **nearly \$4 million will potentially be provided over 16 years by Exelon** to the York County Conservation District to fund projects to help Pennsylvania achieve some of its commitments to protect the Chesapeake Bay.

## Priority Farm BMPs:

- Forested stream buffers
- Wetlands creation
- Barnyard BMPs
- Pasture BMPs
- Field BMPs
- Stream restoration (at right)
- Other conservation practices

## Priority Habitat Improvements:

- Forested stream buffers
- Wetlands creation
- Riparian buffer maintenance
- Stream restoration and maintenance
- In-stream habitat improvement and maintenance
- Other



Paul Kuehn photo YDR

## General requirements for funding include:

- Payment will be an incentive payment based on the practice unit cost installed.
- \$75,000 is the maximum project funding.
- A project may include multiple practices on the same property.
- Applicant must be the landowner/operator with written permission from the landowner.
- Practice implementation should occur within 6-12 months of contract approval.
- All necessary local, state and federal permits must be obtained before installation may begin.
- The practices must be maintained for five years after their completion.
- Design/construction standards will be determined by the appropriate BMP technical standards.
- Federal W-9 form must be completed and filed with the signed agreement.


**A copy of the new Habitat Improvement Program guidelines and grant application form may be found on our website at [www.yorkccd.org](http://www.yorkccd.org).** Click on Watersheds" then "Habitat Improvement" to download and print. **The 2015 deadline for submitting applications is March 20th.** Applications for funding consideration in 2016 and beyond will be accepted October 1st, annually.

Before submitting an application, and for more information, call 717-8407430 to speak with Mark Flaharty, Ag Resource Conservationist or Gary R. Peacock, Watershed Specialist.

## Changes to Existing Use Stream Protections in York County -

The Bureau of Point and Non-Point Source Management has determined that the Existing Uses of the streams require greater protection than current designated uses or that the stream was omitted from Chapter 93. Please be advised that the following streams in your Region have been placed on the DEP Statewide Existing Use Classifications webpage:

[http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/existing\\_use/10557](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/existing_use/10557).

EXISTING USE CLASSIFICATION (LAST REVISED ON 7/14/2014)								
COUNTY	STREAM CODE	STREAM NAME	DESIGNATED USE	EXISTING USE	QUALIFIER	LOCATION	DATE OF EVAL	AFFECTED STREAM MILES
YORK	8165	CENTERVILLE CREEK	WWF	CWF	PRESENCE OF WILD TROUT	BASIN, SOURCE TO MOUTH	9/22/08	22.25
YORK	7266	FISHING CREEK	TSF	CWF	PRESENCE OF WILD TROUT	BASIN, SOURCE TO MOUTH	9/22/08	18.696
YORK	7439	MILL BRANCH	WWF, MF	CWF, MF	PRESENCE OF WILD TROUT	BASIN	7/1/14	4.53
YORK	7280	SCOTT CREEK	TSF	CWF	PRESENCE OF WILD TROUT	BASIN, SOURCE TO MOUTH	9/22/08	7.594
YORK	9339	UNT 09339 TO FISHING CREEK	TSF	CWF	PRESENCE OF WILD TROUT	BASIN, SOURCE TO MOUTH	9/22/08	8.697
YORK	8187	UNT SOUTH BRANCH CODORUS CREEK	WWF	EV	RBP SURVEY-ANTIDEGRADATION	BASIN, SOURCE TO MOUTH	11/14/08	5.004

**The Pennsylvania Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program** is an innovative program providing an annual \$28 million apportionment to reduce sediment pollution from the state's 20,000 miles of unpaved public roads. The program stresses **"Environmentally Sensitive Road Maintenance Practices" (ESM) that reduce sediment generation & delivery to nearby streams**. The program is administered by Pennsylvania's network of 66 County Conservation Districts. Public road-owning entities such as townships may apply to their local Conservation District to receive funding for individual road projects. Entities involved in the program receive project assistance from the Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads which is affiliated with Penn State University and located in State College, PA. The Center provides education, training, quality control, project tracking, and project technical assistance.

The Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads teaches ESM practices to reduce runoff and sediment pollution coming from low-volume transportation corridors such as rural roads and trails. In addition to reducing stream pollution, the ESM practices help reduce the long-term maintenance costs on the road or trail. The Center presents a two-day ESM training available to road maintenance professionals throughout Pennsylvania.

**The York County Conservation District will receive \$651,230.00 in 2015 for local Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Roads projects.** Eligible entities must apply to the Conservation District to receive funding for their projects.

**Grant Application Procedure** for local entities (township, etc.):

- 1) At least one employee from entity must Attend ESM Training
- 2) Locate worksite. Dirt & Gravel roads are roads that can be graded; the roads are unpaved. Low Volume Roads are 'tar and chip' roads or roads with fewer than 500 vehicles per day.
- 3) Complete grant application. The Conservation District will assist with the completion of the grant application, helping with cost estimates and hand-drawn project sketches.
- 4) Sign Contract & Complete work

**Contact the District Office for more information at 717-840-7430 and ask to speak with Gary Peacock, Watershed Specialist.**





# 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 York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board is pleased to announce that from 1990 through January 1, 2015, two-hundred and sixty-five farms covering 40,094 acres have been preserved!!! This includes farms preserved through easement purchase or easement donation. These farms represent working lands across the county which produce field crops, milk, fruits, berries, vegetables, Christmas trees, nursery stock, timber, and a variety of livestock. On behalf of the County of York and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we thank the farm families who have made this forever commitment.

On November 19th, 2014, the York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board (YCALPB) hosted a public meeting for landowners thinking of preserving their farm. The meeting, attended by about 40 landowners, focused on the County's easement purchase program, application requirements, farmland ranking process and deed restrictions, which landowner's must consider before preserving their farms.

The evening's speakers were: Matt Kern, Service Forester, Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) "Managing your woodlot"; Eric Samus, Supervisory District Conservationist (USDA & NRCS) - "The importance of conservation planning on your farm."; Mark Flaharty, Ag Resource Conservationist, York County Conservation District (YCCD) - "Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law and the requirements for farm operations today."; Sean Kenny, Director, Farm & Natural Lands Trust (FNLT), a private non-profit conservation organization - "Preserving farms and natural lands through a donated or bargain sales conservation easement."

Last year we received 59 applications totaling 5,042 acres. With continuous application sign-up today, landowners need not worry about application deadlines. Complete applications are considered on a year round basis. The YCALPB selected 12 farms for preservation through easement purchase in 2014.

The County of York, acting through the YCALPB, also received two conservation easement donations in December of 2014. Glenn and Donna Reed and Donald Snelbaker, donated their conservation easements to the citizens of County of York. Their farms are located in Warrington Township within close proximity to the Gifford Pinchot Park. We thank these two generous families for their kind gifts to the taxpayers of our County.

Funding for land preservation efforts comes from sources such as: Clean & Green penalties, York General Fund, Marcellus Shale funds, Growing Greener funds and state & federal sources. Preservation, through easement purchase, may only occur when easement funds have been allocated and certified by a County to the State. In December 2104, York County Commissioner's approved \$ 164,875 for the YCALPB preservation use. County officials anticipate an 8 to 1 match from the State. Matches will be announced in February 2015.

The York County Agricultural Land Preservation Board extends our deepest appreciation and thank you to Board Members Nelson Roth of York and Dennis Martin of Seven Valleys for their many years of volunteer service to the County of York serving on the Ag Land Preservation Board. The YCALPB welcomes Alan Taylor of Lower Chanceford Township for his agreement to serve on our board. Alan farms with his family and is a lifelong dairyman. Alan also serves Lower Chanceford as the Vice-Chairman of Township Supervisors.

Landowners interested in preserving their farmland may contact the agency at (717) 840-7400, or find our information at [www.YorkCountyPA.gov](http://www.YorkCountyPA.gov) . Useful Links and a Preservation Map now show all preserved farms within the county. See if any preserved farms are near you. The York County Ag Land Preservation Program continues to rank third in the state and ninth in the Nation for acres of farmland preserved. YCALPB Office Hours are 8 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. We are located in the County Annex Building at 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402.



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

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**“The true meaning of life is to  
plant trees, under whose  
shade you do not  
expect to sit.”**

Nelson Henderson

**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 [yccd@yorkccd.org](mailto:yccd@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**

**March 2015**

March 13 YCCD Board Mtg – 11:00 am Annex  
March 18 E&S Engineering WS - Wyndridge Farm  
March 20 Capital RC&D, County Annex room #1  
March 25 Seedling Sale Order DEADLINE  
March 26 Ag Recognition Banquet, York Expo

**April 2015**

April 3 Good Friday - Office Closed  
April 9 YCCD Board Mtg. - 7:00 pm Annex  
April 16 Seedling Sale Distribution  
at Rocky Ridge Park 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
April 28 Senior High Envirothon, Rudy Park

**May 2015**

May 5 Middle School Ethon, Rudy Park  
May 6 5th – 6th grade Ethon, Rudy Park  
May 9 Heirloom Plant Sale, Horn Farm  
May 12 3rd-4th grade Ethon, Rudy Park  
May 14 YCCD Board Mtg. 7:00 pm Annex  
May 15 Capital RC&D, Lebanon Ag Center  
May 16 Native Plant Sale, Ag Ext, Annex  
May 19-20 PA State Envirothon, Univ of Pitt,  
Johnstown  
May 26 Memorial Day – Office Closed

**June 2015**

June 11 YCCD Board Mtg, 7:00 pm Annex