



COLUMBIA



CONSERVATIONIST

COLUMBIA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
702 SAWMILL ROAD, SUITE 204, BLOOMSBURG, PA 17815
570-317-9456 www.columbiaccd.org Join us on Facebook

2019 ANNUAL REPORT *Issue 22*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Edwards, *Chairman, Farmer Director*
Doug Brown, *Vice-Chairman, Public Director*
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Dennis LeVan, *Farmer Director*
Joan McCarty, *Public Director*
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Kendra Craig, *DGLVR/Watershed Specialist*
Patrick McCarthy, *Resource Conservationist I*
Rain Escovedo, *Conservation Technician*
Brittney Hartzell, *Watershed/Education Specialist*
Ed Lease, *Farmland Preservation*

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Brian Campbell Ed Lease
Greg Haladay Randy Young
Tonya Boston-Sagar

Contact Nancy at 570-317-9477 if you are interested in serving as an associate director.

MISSION STATEMENT

To lead the citizens of Columbia County in sustainable use of our shared agricultural and natural resources through partnerships, education, and technical assistance, in order to assure the best quality of life for future generations.

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Thank you to our dedicated District Directors!
L to R: Debbie Jarrard, Brian Sokol, Doug Brown, Dennis LeVan, Don Edwards, Chris Young and Joan McCarty

DISTRICT NEWS

CONTACT: Nancy Corbin 570-317-9477 nancy.corbin@columbiaccd.org

The Pennsylvania Association of Agricultural Educators (PAAE) held its annual conference during the week of July 8, 2019. Columbia County Conservation District Public Director and Central Columbia High School Agricultural/Environmental Science Instructor Doug Brown was provided with the 2019 Outstanding Service Award. This award is provided to an educator that puts in the extra effort to provide services to not only PAAE members but also to the general public. Doug has served on the District board for 29 years. During his tenure, Doug has presented at District conferences, served on committees and coordinated Outdoor Adventure Camp for the last 20 years. Thank you and congratulations Doug!



L to R: Doug Brown, District Public Director and Ag Science Instructor, and PAAE President, Diana Jarema, pose for a photo

DISTRICT CHANGES AND ADDITIONS

Staff Changes - We said goodbye to Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road (DGLVR) Technician Corey Bower in 2019 and wish him well. Our Ag Resource Conservationist, Kendra Craig, was hired as our new DGLVR Technician. Patrick McCarthy joined the District in July of 2019 as our new Ag Resource Conservationist. Kendra and Patrick are doing great jobs in their new roles with the District!



*New Ag Resource Con
Patrick McCarthy*

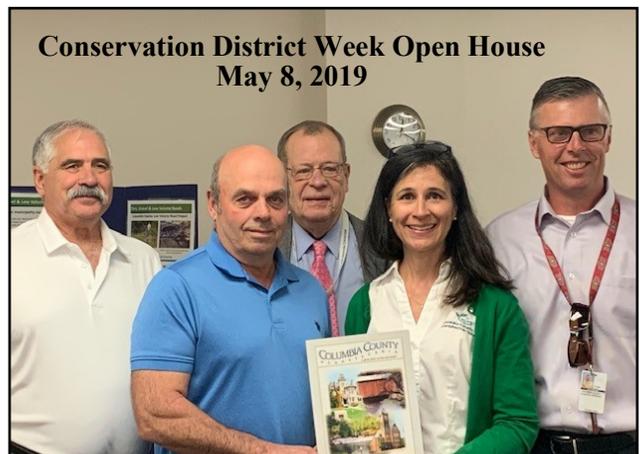
Meet Patrick McCarthy! Patrick was born and raised in Columbia County, graduating from Bloomsburg High School in 2015. After graduation, he went on to study at Delaware Valley University and majored in Environmental Science: Soils and Land Use. During

college, Patrick spent two summers as an intern with the Montour County Conservation District as well as an engineering consulting firm in Bucks County. "I'm looking forward to using my past experiences and learning from my new coworkers to work alongside our farmers to improve the environmental health of our county." See page 3 for more information on programs and opportunities that Patrick can assist with for your farming operation.

Photo at Right, L to R: Commissioner Kovach, Chair Don Edwards, Commissioner Ridgeway, Manager Nancy Corbin, and Commissioner Director Young

2019 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **\$741,500** of road improvements completed or contracted to reduce stream pollution
- **285 acres** of cover crops planted with grant fund assistance to reduce nutrients and sediment in streams and improve soil health
- **20+ farmers** assisted for REAP practices
- **51 stream permits** issued for responsible work in our streams; **11 NPDES permits** issued
- **270 acres** of disturbed acres for development inspected for required erosion protection measures
- **4 conferences** promoting sustainable agriculture
- **30+** environmental education events reaching thousands throughout our county
- **Multiple presentations** and talks at the various watershed group meetings
- The District served as an EWP federal grant sponsor. We received **\$525,000** to complete 13 stream projects damaged from the summer of 2018 flooding.
- **Many staff trainings** to administer and assist landowners with conservation projects
- **1 new farm** in the Farmland Preservation Program



**Conservation District Week Open House
May 8, 2019**

AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CONTACT: Patrick McCarthy 570-317-9468 patrick.mccarthy@columbiaccd.org

Changes Made to REAP Program

Farmers can use the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) to receive tax credits for the following items used or sold by the farm:

- Equipment purchases
- Install ag best management practices
- Plant cover crops

The REAP program is handled through the State Conservation Commission. Conservation Districts provide assistance to farmers throughout the application process and we are here to help you!

Several changes were made to the 2019 fiscal year REAP program guidelines:

- Farmers can now file taxes jointly with a spouse rather than as an individual.
- Credit cap increased from \$150,000 for the lifetime of an operation to \$250,000 in a seven year period.
- Program funding increased from \$10 million to \$13 million

These changes provide farmers with a greater opportunity to receive funding support for conservation practices implemented on their operations. These conservation practices include no-till and precision ag equipment, cover crops, and constructed practices like manure storage facilities and animal heavy use areas. These practices are eligible for reimbursement of either 50% or 75% of project costs in the form of PA state tax credits. Many of the REAP applications in the county have been for the purchase of no-till equipment as well as cover crops. **Now accepting applications on a first come, first serve basis.**

COVER CROP ROLLER AVAILABLE

Improve your soil health and reduce production costs! The District has a six-foot wide crop roller available for use. Roll tall mature cover crops for



erosion protection, enhanced weed control and better water infiltration to increase your crop yield.

CHESAPEAKE BAY VISITS CONTINUE IN COLUMBIA COUNTY

Chesapeake Bay visits have been focused in Fishing Creek, Pine, and Cleveland townships this year. The purpose of these visits is to ensure farmers and landowners have the necessary plans for their operations. Any operation that generates or applies manure must have a Manure Management Plan developed and kept on the operation. Those operations that have more than 5,000 square feet of cropland or animal heavy use areas must have an Agricultural Erosion and Sedimentation Plan. Not only have these visits led to the development of many manure management and ag e&s plans, it has provided an opportunity for farmers and landowners to learn about other programs and conservation opportunities offered by the district. The district can help you develop these plans and determine which plans are needed for your particular operation.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The District participates in the Nutrient Management Program (NMP) through the State Conservation Commission. The total weight of animals on a farming operation such as cows, horses or chickens determines the agriculture plan required by farmers or landowners to be in compliance with PA law.

Nutrient Management Plan: required for more than 2,000 pounds of live animal weight per acre

Manure Management Plan: required for less than 2,000 pounds of live animal weight per acre

A nutrient management plan helps farmers and landowners properly manage excess nutrients that are produced by more animals. The NMP can also offer good insight to assist farmers with everyday ag operations.

UPCOMING AG OPPORTUNITIES

Be on the lookout in 2020 for the following ag events and opportunities:

- Ag Conference
- Ag Plan Reimbursements
- CREP Workshop
- Farmland Preservation
- Grant Funding
- Field Day Workshop

FLOODING AND CONSERVATION

CONTACT: Rain Escovedo 570-317-9494 Rain.Escovedo@pa.usda.gov

NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Helped 13 Flood-Damaged Properties in Columbia County

Historic floods in the summer of 2018 left many homes and businesses in dire straights with creek waters lapping at their back doors. Due to the millions of dollars of damage that ensued in 16 effected counties and threat of further destruction, Governor Wolf declared a state of emergency and requested federal assistance for repairs.

In order to receive EWP funding, an eligible local sponsor must agree to coordinate the projects and payments. The Columbia County Conservation District voted to serve as sponsor for 13 projects in Columbia County that met the EWP criteria for funding. The criteria included flood erosion damage with a home or business located within 50 feet of a stream. The Columbia County Commissioners also provided title search support required before construction could begin.

Almost 2,400 linear feet of rip-rap stone has been successfully installed to project 14 homes and two businesses including a farm operation. Funding support of \$525,000 was received to complete 13 projects to help safeguard the properties from flooding and erosion. 75% of project funds were from NRCS and 25% of project funds were from DEP.

While we can't stop the rain from falling, we can all do small things to make a collective difference to control where some of it goes. Contact the District for information and support for implementing conservation practices such as: **buffer plantings, stabilize stormwater outlets, rain barrels, rain gardens, no-mow zones, plant cover crops, use no-till equipment on crops**



DEP ISSUES NEW NPDES PERMIT

CONTACT: Barry Travepiece 570-317-9469 barry.travepiece@columbiaccd.org

In December, DEP issued an updated general NPDES permit for those operations that will disturb over one acre during an earthmoving operation. This permit has several changes from the previous permit and all existing permits will need to comply with the changes, obtain an individual NPDES Permit, or cease earth-moving operations. As in the past, agricultural operations are not included in this requirement as they have their own regulations to follow.

A letter was sent out to all current active permits advising them of the changes that include the requirement to utilize only the most effective onsite controls for any area draining to a stream that is classified as impaired for sediment or similar impairments. All of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed has been identified as being impaired and requiring these more effective controls.

Another new requirement in this updated permit is that the permittee is responsible to assure that onsite personnel are aware of their permit responsibilities. Included in those responsibilities is a requirement to conduct a visual inspection of the project site weekly and after each runoff event and to document the findings in a written report. Any deficiencies noted in the report must be corrected immediately and a follow-up report prepared to document the repairs.

The application forms have been modified to match the new requirements. The new application includes required "modules" that are intended to clearly show how the permit requirements have been met. Once everyone becomes familiar with the new forms the approval process should proceed faster.

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR ROAD PROJECTS FOR CLEANER STREAMS!

CONTACT: Kendra Craig 570-317-9478 kendra.craig@columbiaccd.org

Purpose: To eliminate stream pollution caused by runoff and sediment

Did you know the number one pollutant to Pennsylvania's streams is sediment? Dirt and aggregate from rural roads have a large impact on our streams. The Columbia County Conservation District receives funding annually for municipalities to take advantage of through the State Conservation Commission's (SCC) Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program (DGLVR). Municipalities can apply for funding to help fix roads that are affecting our local streams by reducing impacts through road projects.

Funding: Approximately \$390,000 available annually for Columbia County municipalities

Through the recommendation of our Quality Assurance Board, the District administers SCC funds to improve the water quality of our streams. The District receives approximately \$70,000 for low volume road projects (paved or sealed roads with less than 500 cars per day) and \$320,000 for dirt and gravel road projects that negatively impact a stream. In 2019, \$741,532.41 was paid to eligible municipalities for DGLVR projects.

2020 FUNDING ROUND APPLICATION DEADLINES:

April 15, July 15, September 15

Call the District to schedule a site visit and begin the application process

Eligibility: Projects must meet environmental requirements to be considered for funding

Projects considered must negatively impact a stream and reduce environmental impacts. Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance (ESM) training is required, and permits, if needed, must be obtained.

Training: Training is required and available

Upcoming regional ESM training sessions are posted on the Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads Center website at www.dirtandgravel.psu.edu. Register with the Center for free ESM training to be eligible for funds. ESM training must be renewed every five years.

Grader Blade Loan Program: Save time and money, protect water resources

Borrow the District's rotating carbide-tipped grader blades to maintain roads with a refundable \$150 deposit.

Project Highlights: Pine Township Butternut Lane Stream Crossing Replacement

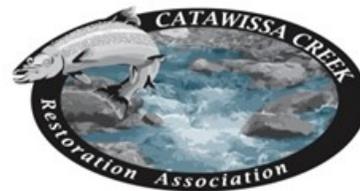
A 5' diameter pipe was replaced with a 10'-wide bottomless arch to meet bank-full width and aquatic passage.



WATERSHED GROUP HAPPENINGS

CONTACT: Brittney Hartzell 570-317-9491 brittney.hartzell@columbiaccd.org

Catawissa Creek Restoration Association (CCRA) CCRA continues their work to improve water quality impacted by acid mine drainage and concentrates their efforts on the upkeep and maintenance of three passive water treatment facilities that feed into Catawissa Creek. Recent work on the Onieda 1 and 3 facilities was successful. Efforts continue to get the Audenreid facility working to treat acidic water and sustain aquatic life and successful trout propagation. CCRA meets the 3rd Wednesdays of even months.



<http://www.thecatty.org>



Roaring Creek Valley Conservation Association (RCVCA) RCVCA has continued stream monitoring at designated locations throughout the Roaring Creek watershed. They've also worked with Boy Scout Troop #67 to install duck boxes in the Roaring Creek Tract of Weiser State Forest and Numidia Community Park and initiated the fabrication and installation of benches in Roaring Creek Tract of Weiser State Forest. This project is ongoing into 2020 as an Eagle Scout project. Additionally, RCVCA has continued to perform trail steward activities on the Miners' Trails in the Roaring Creek Tract of Weiser State Forest, awarded their annual scholarship to Emma Steely who is attending Penn State studying Environmental Research Management, provided financial support for the Susquehanna Valley Envirothon, provided financial support for 8th Grade Water Education Day, and cooperated with the new Hellbender Half Marathon & 5K Race managers (Falcon Race Timing) to continue the popular event in the Weiser State Forest's Roaring Creek Tract. RCVCA meetings are on the 3rd Thursday each month. Check out their website at www.rcvca.org or follow them on Facebook.

Briar Creek Association for Watershed Solutions (BCAWS) BCAWS continues to work toward improving water quality in the Briar Creek Watershed. Members volunteered again at the 5th annual Water Education Day event held in their watershed at Briar Creek Lake. BCAWS also hosted several presentations regarding stormwater runoff and riparian buffers, rain barrels and raingardens, and establishing "no mow zones". BCAWS meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month. For more information go to www.columbiaccd.org/bcaws.



Fishing Creek Watershed Association (FCWA) FCWA has been hard at work in 2019! Members attended several cleanups at Kocher Park in Orangeville, PA after the damages from the 2018 floods. The group hosted several presentations/events including their annual Knotweed Cookoff, a nature journaling workshop, container garden contest at ArtFest, a wild edibles walk at Kocher Park, and a presentation on endocrine disruptors in the Susquehanna River basin. Likewise, FCWA participated in other community events including CCCD's Good Water=Good Fishing, Fish 'n Fun at Kocher Park, and Water Education Day at Briar Creek Lake Park in Berwick. FCWA meets on the 2nd Monday of each month. For more information, check out www.fcwa.net.



Keystone
10 MILLION TREES
PARTNERSHIP

The District is officially a Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership partner! The Partnership aims to facilitate the planting of **10 million** new trees in priority landscapes in Pennsylvania by **the end of 2025**.

Contact Brittney Hartzell to inquire about receiving FREE trees for planting within Columbia County's watersheds to improve water quality, streambank stability, and reduce storm water runoff. (minimum 100 trees/site).

PLANTING TREES = CLEAN WATER!

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION - ENVIROTHON

CONTACT: Nancy Corbin 570-317-9477 nancy.corbin@columbiaccd.org



The Envirothon is a hands-on environmental problem-solving competition that provides team building and leadership experiences for students. Each year, high school and middle school students from Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties compete at our Susquehanna Valley Regional Envirothon competitions. The winning high school team from each county goes on to compete at the PA State Envirothon competition. The Envirothon is comprised of five subject areas including aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife and a current environmental issue.

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ENVIROTHON

The 2019 High School Envirothon was held on April 30, 2019 at Shikellamy Marina State Park in Sunbury. 38 teams from 5 counties competed. Congratulations to Central Columbia High School for placing first overall and for our county! The team traveled to Johnstown to represent Columbia County at the State Envirothon held at University of Pittsburgh Johnstown May 21 and 22. The current issue was “Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World”. Participating schools included Benton and Bloomsburg Christian. The 2020 HS Susquehanna Valley Envirothon will be at Shikellamy Marina State Park on April 28. The current issue is “Water Resource Management: Local Control and Local Solutions” The 2020 State Envirothon will be held at Susquehanna University May 19 and 20.

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL ENVIROTHON

A total of 30 teams from 4 counties participated in the Susquehanna Valley Middle School competition May 14th at the Montour Preserve. Teams consist of 3 to 5 members in the 7th and 8th grade. Congratulations to Bloomsburg Christian School for placing first overall and for Columbia County! Other Columbia County schools participating were Benton, Central Columbia, and Millville. Middle school students are tested on the same subjects as the high school students except there is not a current issue. Instead, the students go to a non-testing discovery station for an interactive demonstration on an environmental issue. Each station has an instructional presentation before the test. This year’s discovery station was about making maple sugar. The 2020 MS Susquehanna Valley Envirothon will be held at Montour Preserve on May 12.



L to R, 2019 CCHS Team: Cody Lehman, Codi Young, Mackenzie Fish, Owen Yorty, and Isaac Gensemer



L to R : 2019 BCMS Team: Brooke Rhoads, Mr. Joshua Greene (advisor), Amber Heath, Evan Fluke, Emma Hess and Kathryn Polstra

Thank you to the following sponsors for supporting the CCCD’s 2019 Envirothons:

Sons of the American Legion Post 273, Catawissa American Legion Post 541, Central Susquehanna Woodland Owners Association, First Columbia Bank, Roaring Creek Valley Conservation Association, Bloomsburg Elks #436, Fishing Creek Sportsmen’s Association

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & OUTREACH

CONTACT: Brittney Hartzell 570-317-9491 brittney.hartzell@columbiaccd.org

Water Education Day 2019 Another successful year! The District held its 5th annual Water Education Day for 8th grade students on Sept 11th at Briar Creek Lake. This year's highlights included the return of 5 Columbia County schools, 250+ students, 50+ volunteers, and 6 water quality and conservation-themed stations. Many thanks to the dedicated individuals and organizations who gave their time to remind our youth of the vital importance of keeping our water supplies clean, as well as providing information about their organizations that are in the business of water protection and distribution.

Columbia-Montour Coalition for Source Water Protection (CMCSWP)

CMCSWP is hard at work planning more events in 2020! In 2019, CCCD and CMCSWP hosted 2 "Good Water=Good Life" events in addition to their annual Water Education Day; "Good Water=Good Wine" on February 27th at Freas Farm Winery in Berwick and "Good Water=Good Fish" on April 6th at Kocher Park in Orangeville. Over 200 people came out to learn about the importance of clean water for our water supply and aquatic life. The event was held on PA Fish and Boat Commission's (PFBC) Youth Mentor Day to help promote healthy streams and outdoor recreation. The partnership with PFBC and Mike's Food Truck made it a great success! WNEP news featured the event on "Outdoor Life". The news story link is available on WNEP's website.

Stay tuned for similar events throughout the Columbia-Montour area and be on the lookout for our upcoming rain barrel workshop this Spring!



2020 NATIVE PLANT & TREE SEEDLING SALE NOW IN PROGRESS!

We have new varieties that are sure to please!
Use the order form on the next page or download from our website. 



Pre-Order Deadline: March 13th
Pre-Order Pick Up: May 7th—9th
Pre-Order Pick Up + Public Sales: May 9th only

Sale proceeds support environmental education in Columbia County!

Why NATIVES:

- Native plants require less maintenance like fertilizers, pesticides or watering.
- Native plants are critical to pollinators and crop production.
- We offer native varieties not typically available at retail stores and nurseries.
- Non-native evergreen and fruit trees are also available.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Fruit** varieties this year include apple, peach, blueberry and elderberry.
- Red Buckeye** is a deciduous shrub that can be pruned to a small tree with showy red to orange-red flowers attractive to hummingbirds and bees.
- Mountain Laurel** is a beautiful evergreen shrub and Pennsylvania's state flower.
- Erosion Control Seed Mix** can help achieve that quick, green color and fast erosion control with strong, fibrous roots.
- Mason Bee Houses** support native pollinators and are maintenance-free, handmade by Central Columbia's Ag Science students.
- Color and bloom guide** to help you enjoy a variety of colors and blooming April-September! Check out our catalog for in-depth descriptions and pictures.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION BOX

Name: _____

Day Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Evening Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

NATIVE EVERGREEN PLANTS

	Height		Price Each	Qty	Amount Due
Eastern White Pine	6-12"	Bundles of 25	\$15.00		\$
Norway Spruce (non-native)	6-12"	Bundles of 25	\$15.00		\$
Juniper "Blue Rug"	Potted 2-4'	Bundles of 10	\$28.00		\$
Mountain Laurel	1 Gal. cont.		\$10.00		\$

PEACH & APPLE TREES

	Height	Single Tree \$20.00	Two or more trees \$17.50 EA	Amount Due
"Contender" Yellow Peach	4-5'			\$
"CrimsonCrisp" Apple (mid-season)	5-6'			\$
"GoldRush" Apple (late-season)	5-6'			\$
One CrimsonCrisp + GoldRush		Price/pair	\$35.00 # Pairs	\$

NATIVE DECIDUOUS TREES

	Height	Price EA	# Singles	5 per bundle	# Bundles	Amount Due
Red Buckeye	6-8"	\$3.00		\$13.00		\$
Shagbark Hickory	16-24"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
Red Maple	12-24"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
Yellow Tulip Poplar	12-18"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
Pin Oak	18-24"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$

NATIVE SHRUBS

	Height	Price EA	# Singles	5 per bundle	# Bundles	Amount Due
Gray Dogwood	12-18"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
Buttonbush	12-18"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
Elderberry	12-15"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$

NATIVE GROUND COVER

	Plug	Price per 4-pack	# 4-packs	Amount Due
"Purple Knockout" Sage	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Fire Pink	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$

NATIVE PERENNIALS

	Plug	Price per 4-pack	# 4-packs	Amount Due
"Blue Ice" Bluestar	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Golden Alexanders	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Butterfly Milkweed	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
New Jersey Tea	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Wild Bergamot	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Threadleaf Tickseed	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
"Helena Red" Sneezeweed	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Cardinal Flower	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
Meadow Phlox	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
"New England" Aster	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$
"Autumn Joy" Stonecrop	4-1/2"	\$12.00		\$

NATIVE BLUEBERRY BUSHES

		Price Each	Quantity	Amount Due
Bluecrop (late July harvest)	1 Gal. cont.	\$12.00		\$
Liberty (late August harvest)	1 Gal. cont.	\$12.00		\$

NATIVE WILDLIFE HOUSES

			Quantity	Amount Due
Handmade Bluebird House		\$10.00		\$
Handmade Mason Bee House		\$10.00		\$

SEED MIXES

			Quantity	Amount Due
Annual/Perennial Wildflower Mix	1 (1 oz.) Packet = 200 sq. ft.	\$5.00		\$
Erosion Control Mix	1 (.5 lb) bag = 500 sq. ft.	\$5.00		\$

For Credit Card Purchases:

Please download order form online at columbiaccd.org
A \$3.00 convenience fee will be applied to your order

Return This Form Along With Your Check Payable To:
Columbia County Conservation District
702 Sawmill Rd, Ste 204, Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Sub-Total	\$
6% sales tax	\$
TOTAL	\$



UPCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & OUTREACH

CONTACT: Tracey Oman 570-317-9456 tracey.oman@columbiaccd.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!



Bryndil Kemler
Central Columbia High School
Edgar “Ted” Fenstermacher
Scholarship



Emma Steely
Southern Columbia
High School
Maryruth Wagner Scholarship



Nicolette Cusate
Columbia-Montour VoTech
High School
Lavere McClure Scholarship

2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE APRIL 13, 2020

<u>Edgar Fenstermacher Scholarship - \$500</u>	Senior pursuing a degree in agriculture
<u>Lavere McClure Scholarship - \$500</u>	Senior pursuing a degree in education focused on ag or science
<u>Maryruth Wagner Scholarship - \$500</u>	Senior pursuing a degree in environmental/natural sciences
<u>Conservation Leadership School - 2 \$300</u>	Students that completed 9th grade. One week session on natural resource issues, conservation, and wildlife. Two \$300 scholarships toward tuition - sign up with a friend!!

DIY Rain Barrel Workshops

Funded through a DEP Environmental Education Grant

WHY RAIN BARRELS?

Studies have shown that up to 70% of the pollution in our streams, rivers and lakes is carried there by stormwater runoff from our own yards and gardens! Rain barrels can catch stormwater from your roof and gutters before it can enter a stormdrain.



Sat April 18, 2020
Workshop 1: 10am—12pm
Workshop 2: 1pm—3pm
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Columbia-Montour VoTech
5050 Sweppenheiser Drive
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

\$10 Registration to go home with a rain barrel!

EARTH DAY POSTER CONTEST

Deadline April 24, 2020

Thank you to Brian (Farmer Moofy) and Erika Campbell for their continued sponsorship of the CCCD Poster Contest with cash prizes and corn certificates for participating students. 540 Columbia County students K-12th grade participated in the 2019 contest. See the winning posters at <http://www.columbiaccd.org/poster-contest.html>.

2020 contest posters will be accepted at the District office until April 24th. Students will incorporate art and science as they learn about the importance of bees and the critical work they do pollinating our crops and food supply.

Contest rules are on our website. Winning posters will be entered into the State and National Poster Contests.



LOCAL 2020 EVENTS SCHEDULED

CONTACT: Tracey Oman 570-317-9456 tracey.oman@columbiaccd.org

CONNECTING SOILS & PROFITS Soil Health Conference

No-Till Cover Crops Soil Health Grazing

March 19, 2020
Ask about credits
available!



8:30am - 4:00pm
Pine Barn Inn
1 Pine Barn Place
Danville

PRESENTATIONS BY NATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER
AND AGRICULTURE EXPERTS

- Farming Green and Rolling Covers
- Regenerative Soil Health & Economic Benefits
- Organic Grain Farming
- Adding Value & Expanding Your Markets
- Delicious Hot Lunch—RSVP Mar 11th \$26 each
- Use Healthy Soils to Weatherproof Your Farm

*Sponsors: CCCD, MCCD, NCCD, NRCS, USDA
Supported by a PA DEP Growing Greener Grant*

Women in Agriculture March 24, 2020

9:00am – 2:30pm
Registration/Breakfast at 8:30am

St. Luke Lutheran Church
9 St. Luke's Way
Bloomsburg



Door Prizes * Interactive Activities * Take Home Gift * Networking

- Raising Reindeer for Profit
- History of the Bloomsburg Silk Mill
- Lavender Farm Production and Products
- Women's Nutrition
- Delicious Hot Lunch—RSVP Mar 13th \$10 each
- Running a Farm to Table Restaurant
- Farming and Time Management



Sponsors: AgChoice Credit & First Columbia Bank



11TH ANNUAL WOODCOCK WATCH

March 25, 2020 6pm Orangeville

*Attention local birders, wildlife naturalists, scouts,
and other interested people:*

Come and enjoy an evening hike to seek out the
wonderful mysterious woodcock at the home of
Chris and Pam Young in Orangeville!

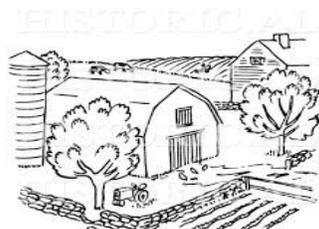
Learn all about woodcock habitat and benefits, their
unusual behaviors, and observe woodcocks in their
natural habitat.

ANNUAL AG BANQUET April 7, 2020

Join us to celebrate the farming community at
the Columbia-Montour Vo-tech High School

Congratulations!

- * 2019 Cooperator of the Year
John and Todd Hopkins and
- * 2019 Educator of the Year
Tara Varner



—For tickets—
call CCCD, FSA or
Penn State Extension
RSVP Mar 27, \$16 ea

**It is a fun night of great food, friends,
door prizes and entertainment!**

COLUMBIA CONSERVATIONIST
Columbia County
Conservation District
702 Sawmill Road, Suite 204
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

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COLUMBIA COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Frank W. Kocher Memorial Park

Enjoy Kocher Park & Johnson Flats - your local creek side nature experience!
1519 State Route 487 Orangeville, PA

Kocher Park is one of the few places in the area that offers public access to the creek for recreation. It is a great place to bird, canoe, fish, kayak, picnic, walk or just relax and observe nature. The park is maintained by volunteers, private donations and public grant funds. Thank you to our dedicated park volunteers who work to enhance wildlife habitat and maintain park grounds.

Great things are happening at Kocher Park! Check our website or Facebook for upcoming events.

March 28	Spring Cleanup
April 25	Salamander Safari
May 30	Fish n Fun
June-July	Summer Day Camps
Fall	Community Hike

Be a Friend of Kocher Park!