

# COLUMBIA CONSERVATIONIST

COLUMBIA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
702 SAWMILL ROAD, SUITE 204, BLOOMSBURG, PA 17815  
Website [www.columbiaccd.org](http://www.columbiaccd.org)

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Volume 15, Issue 19

PHONE - 570-784-1310 (EXT. 102) FAX: 570-784-3247

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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HEATHER ALMER, *WATERSHED SPECIALIST*  
NANCY CORBIN, *DGLVR TECHNICIAN/WATERSHED SPECIALIST*  
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### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS:

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GREGORY HALADAY  
EDWIN LEASE  
RANDY YOUNG  
TONYA BOSTON-SAGAR

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS THAT HAVE A GENUINE INTEREST IN THE CCCD. IF INTERESTED, CALL MARY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**"NATIVE PLANTS" and  
SEEDLING SALE**  
**NEW VARIETIES AVAILABLE**  
USE ORDER FORM IN  
THIS NEWSLETTER OR  
GO TO OUR WEBSITE.



### New Directors Appointed

At the January 2017 Columbia County Conservation District board meeting, Joan McCarty and Mark Rohrbach were sworn in as public and farmer directors. Both have served as associate directors on the CCCD board since 2012 and 2008 respectively. Joan is retired from Bloomsburg Mills and is very active with Kocher Park serving as the chairperson of the Park Committee. Whenever something is going on at the park, Joan can be found helping and donating time and energy for the cause. Mark is a young active farmer in the Catawissa area. He and his wife, Ashley, have 4 children. They operate a swine operation along with having a seed company. Mark is very active in the soil health movement and has converted his operation to 100% no-till and cover cropping. He received the 2016 R.J. Campbell Farmer of the Year Award at our annual banquet. Both will bring visionary leadership to the Columbia County Conservation District Board of Directors.



Left to Right: Mark Rohrbach– Joan McCarty

# FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR BETTER ROADS AND CLEANER STREAMS!

By Nancy Corbin

## **Purpose: To improve the water quality of our streams**

Sediment is the largest pollutant by volume to the waters of Pennsylvania. Dirt and aggregate from rural roads have a large impact on our streams. The Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Roads Program (DGLVR) provides funding from the State Conservation Commission (SCC) to help reduce pollution in our streams through maintenance of municipal roads.

## **Funding: Available for Columbia County municipalities**

Through our Quality Assurance Board, the Conservation District administers SCC funds to improve the water quality of our streams. Each year, the District receives approximately \$69,000 for low volume road projects (paved or sealed roads with less than 500 cars per day) that negatively impact a stream, and \$305,000 for dirt and gravel road projects that negatively impact a stream.

**\$430,000 was awarded to eligible municipalities in 2016 for DGLVR projects**

### **2017 FUNDING ROUND APPLICATION DEADLINES:**

**April 15  
July 15  
September 15**

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

The road must negatively impact a stream, the project must reduce environmental impacts, Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Training (ESM) is required, and permits must be obtained.

## **Training: Training is required and available**

- **Required local ESM training**  
Upcoming regional ESM training sessions are posted on the Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads Center website at <http://www.dirtandgravel.psu.edu/>. Register through the Center for ESM training now to be eligible for funds.
- **Local grader demonstration training**  
The District is planning a grader demonstration training with the Center this spring. We will advertise the date by mail, email and on our website.
- **Local program training**  
The District hosted two local program trainings in November of 2016 to help municipalities understand the program, application and construction process. Check our website often for upcoming events.

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

Loan the District's rotating carbide-tipped grader blades to maintain roads with a refundable deposit of \$150. Thank you to Orange Township for storing the blades and assisting with the loan program.



# EXPLORE & LEARN THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

## SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ENVIROTHON

The 2016 Regional Competition was held on April 26, 2016 at Shikellamy Overlook. **Bloomsburg Christian School** took first place in this year's competition for Columbia County and were able to enjoy the experience of the State Envirothon. Members of Columbia County's winning team and those competing in the state's event were: Josiah Smith, Steven Campbell, Caleb Rowlands, Karissa Stouffer, and Madeline Lay. Mr. Joshua Greene was their advisor.

The State Envirothon was held at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA on May 24-25, 2016. Five member teams participate in a series of field-oriented tests that focus on five topic areas—Soils and Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and current environmental issues. The teams also prepare and deliver oral presentations to panels of judges who evaluate each team on its problem-solving capabilities, oral presentation skills and recommendations to help solve the specific environmental challenge, which relates to the current environmental issue. Congratulations on a job well done. The 2017 event will be held at University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, PA, May 23 & 24, 2017.

Our local competition, the **2017 Susquehanna Valley Regional Competition** will be held at Shikellamy Overlook State Park on **Tuesday, April 25, 2017**.

*THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS THAT SUPPORTED COLUMBIA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S 2016 ENVIROTHON*

CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
BCAWS  
ROARING CREEK VALLEY CONSERVATION Assoc.  
FISHING CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
STACKHOUSE & SON WELL DRILLING  
BLOOMSBURG VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 804  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 273  
BLOOMSBURG AMERICAN LEGION POST 273  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUAD 541  
CATAWISSA AMERICAN LEGION POST 541

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ENVIROTHON

A total of 34 teams from 4 counties participated in the 18th Annual 2016 Middle School competition. In **2016**, 1st Place went to **Bloomsburg Christian**. Other schools from Columbia County participating were Benton, Bloomsburg Christian, Central Columbia, Greenwood Friends and Millville. On **May 9, 2017**, Columbia County will participate in the 19th Middle School Envirothon, which will again be held at the PPL Montour Preserve. This competition has been created to provide a learning session along with the testing at each of 4 stations. The stations are the same as the High School Envirothon except for the Current Issue. There will be activities in the areas of Soils and Land Use, Aquatics, Wildlife, Forestry, and a non-testing "fun" station. Each station will provide an instructional period where the students will listen to a presentation. This event is opened to 7th and 8th grade students in the middle schools. Schools may now bring up 5 teams/school. We hope that this event will encourage students to participate in the high school Envirothon when they get to ninth grade.

### Manure Management Workshop

The revised DEP Manure Management Manual released in October 2011 **requires** everyone in Pennsylvania that produces or land applies animal manure to develop and implement a written Manure Management Plan (MMP). This also includes equine operations (large and small) as well as small animal operations. Any operations having pastures or Animal Concentration Areas are also required to comply. This workshop is intended to assist farmers in writing their manure management plan. Participants will also develop the knowledge and skills needed to implement environmentally sound best management practices. Your County Conservation District is your local resource to get these plans completed. Columbia County Conservation District is holding a free Manure Management Plan Workshop near you:

**March 22, 2017 at Columbia County Ag Center, Bloomsburg**  
5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

**April 5, 2017 at Columbia County Ag Center, Bloomsburg**  
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Attendees will receive **free** soil test kits as well as **free** refreshments!  
To register for the workshop call Tracey at **570.784.1310 x 102**.

## 2016 TILLAGE SURVEY

By: Tony Tarlecky

In June, 2016, I participated in the Columbia County Tillage Survey. I assisted Paul Yankovich-ACES and Susan Richards from the Capital RC&D for this two day survey. This was a data collection survey throughout Columbia County consisting of over 800 plotted points. These points were previously plotted back in 2013. This was a follow up to the Cover Crop survey that was completed in the fall of 2015. Every data point identified, was documented to see if the crop field was cover cropped after fall harvest, the termination method used, what type of crop was planted in the spring, and also if there was tillage when planting. We determined if tillage was used based on the amount of residue that was left over from the previous planting. The purpose of these data collections is to see how each county is doing in order to meet the regulations for the Chesapeake Bay.

## WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR WATERSHED?

By Heather Almer and Nancy Corbin

### Catawissa Creek Restoration Association (CCRA) –

Catawissa Creek Restoration Association continues their work to improve watershed 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. Currently the group is trying to support efforts to purchase the Butler property where the Audenreid facility is located, so that the system can get back to what it was designed to do--raise the pH to levels necessary to sustain aquatic life in the streams and support successful trout propagation. Recently the group has been working on installing a leaf guard cover for the Oneida 3 facility. The group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7pm on even months, at the Banquet Hotel in Ringtown. Check out their website at <http://www.thecattie.org> for meeting times and project descriptions.



### Roaring Creek Valley Conservation Association (RCVCA) –

Roaring Creek Valley Conservation Association is busy planning for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual 5K and Half-Marathon Hellbender Race to be held at Weiser State Forest on August 20, 2017. Last year's race netted over \$5,000 which the association has used to fund Water Education Day for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders in Columbia County, local scholarships for high school students, clean-ups, the annual Susquehanna Valley Envirothon, and new monitoring equipment for strategic regular monitoring throughout the watershed. They meet monthly at 7pm, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at Southern Columbia High School, except for special programs –listed on their website at: <http://rcvca.org>.

### Briar Creek Association for Watershed Solutions (BCAWS) -

BCAWS continues to work toward implementing recommendations from their 2013 Coldwater Conservation Plan to improve water quality in the Briar Creek Watershed. Stream bank fencing and a water access project was completed in the fall of 2016. BCAWS members will be working in the spring to plant a 35-foot wide riparian buffer to help reduce the pollutant load and water temperature on a Briar Creek tributary. BCAWS members volunteered again at the second annual Conservation District Water Education Day event held in their watershed at Briar Creek Lake. BCAWS is looking forward to continued watershed work in 2017 with a trail at Briar Creek Lake and data collection for a conservation management plan to control invasive plant species. Two new stream bank projects are also planned to begin in 2017 to continue improving the water quality of Briar Creek. Events and educational programs are updated on the BCAWS website so check it often: <http://www.columbiaccd.org/bcaws.html>.



### Fishing Creek Watershed Association (FCWA) –



FCWA had a busy year with educational events and projects such as Kocher Park cleanups, Fish n Fun, two parade entries, Water Education Day, and presentations including a vernal pool talk and walk to learn about frogs and salamanders in our watershed. FCWA continued their work to educate about the importance of pollinators to our ecosystem and crop production. They hosted a documentary screening about monarch habitat and passed out native milkweed seeds at the Lightstreet Fireman's parade to promote preserving and creating habitat. Plans to continue pollinator habitat restoration in the watershed will continue in 2017. FCWA is excited to host a variety of speakers on watershed issues this year. Presentations including grant and letter writing tips and crayfish in the Fishing Creek watershed are planned for the March and April meetings.

Visit FCWA's website for information and upcoming events at [www.fcwa.net](http://www.fcwa.net).



**JOIN US FOR THE  
8TH ANNUAL  
WOODCOCK WATCH  
March 29, 2017**

Local birders, wildlife naturalists, scouts, and other interested people will enjoy an evening hike to seek out the wonderful mysterious Woodcock.—mark your calendars for the 8th annual woodcock watch! Come join us at the home of Chris and Pam Young, 529 Zaners/Rohrsburg Road, Orangeville, PA on Wednesday, March 29, 2017. Presenters will include local representatives from Woodcock Limited of Pennsylvania— Joe Faux; PA Game Commission’s Lisa Williams, and Pheasants Forever, Inc./ Quail Forever—Kurt Bond. Call the CD office for more information. Feature guest will be Julia Marano, speaking on the “Monarch Red Carpet program”.

**POSTER CONTEST**

By Nancy Corbin

Thank you to Brian Campbell (Farmer Moofy) for his continued support of the CCCD Earth Day Poster Contest by sponsoring the event with cash prizes and corn certificates to winning students in each grade category. Hundreds of Columbia county students from kindergarten to twelfth grade participate in the Poster Contest. 2016 winning posters are located on our website at <http://www.columbiaccd.org/poster-contest.html>.



**Posters** for the **2017** Poster Contest will be accepted at the District office until **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.

Students will be learning about the importance of soil health. Contest rules and information are posted on our website. Winning posters will be forwarded onto PACD to be entered into the State and National Poster Contest.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT**

<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>INCOME</b>	
Salaries	\$170,154.18	County Commissioners	\$53,038.00
Staff Expenses	\$7,491.87	State & Bay Cost-Share	\$94,253.24
Payroll Taxes	\$21,669.05	Sales	\$12,167.93
Educational Expenses	\$5,802.10	Miscellaneous	\$1,728.79
Sales	\$7,361.36	Interest	\$18.20
Special Events	\$3,452.30	ACT 13 UGWF	\$7,773.50
Office Expenses	\$4,107.81	Special Projects	\$4,228.58
Insurance, Bonds	\$6,335.00	Kocher Park	\$0.00
Rent	\$7,514.64	E&S Fee Schedule	\$28,212.50
Equipment & Repair	\$3,076.56	NPDES	\$8,500.00
Directors' Expenses	\$1,487.93	Farmland Preservation Admin.	\$1,850.71
Dues	\$1,723.30	Transfer	\$79,550.36
Annual Report/Newsletters	\$1,484.85	Dirt & Gravel Road	\$24,986.08
Farmland Preservation	\$2,323.28	Watershed Specialist Grant	\$33,502.89
Staff Benefits	\$33,911.30	Environmental Education	\$3,187.72
SWAT/ACT	\$36,213.56	Grant	\$3,200.00
Watershed Specialist Salary/	\$37,003.66	Chapter 105 Fees	\$3,225.00
Expenses		SWAT	\$26,024.83
Miscellaneous	\$242.21	ACT	\$15,173.98
Transfers	\$35,401.13	Balance as of end of 2015	<u>\$69,638.63</u>
Field Days/Workshops	\$290.02	TOTAL INCOME	\$470,260.94
Dirt & Gravel Road Program	\$18,756.79		
Grant Expenses	\$4,338.48		
Audit	\$7,773.50		
Kocher Park	<u>\$103.06</u>		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$418,017.94</b>		

## Chesapeake Bay Program

By Jennifer Lauri, Resource Conservationist

In September 2015 the District received a Chesapeake Bay Special Projects grant in the amount of \$112,192.91 to address resource concerns on a beef operation in Locust Township, Columbia County.

The operation consists of an average of 30 beef cows, 30 calves, 30 feeder cattle, and 1 bull. The operation is situated at the headwaters of a direct tributary to Roaring Creek. Prior to the installment of the Best Management Practices (BMPs), the cows were overwintered in a pasture adjacent to the stream. The lot often became degraded and concentrated with nutrients.

The following best management practices were installed to remedy the resource concerns: 2016 sq. ft. Heavy Use Area Protection (HUAP), 122' Access Road, 254' of Roof Gutters, 177' of Underground Outlets, 1440 sq. ft. Waste Storage Facility, 120' of Subsurface Drain, 4032 sq. ft. of Roofs and Covers, and 107' of Animal Trails and Walkways. The operator has contributed \$13,161.22 towards the project in the form of cash and in-kind match.

The Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy also partnered with this project and installed 3500' of streambank fencing, 2 animal stream crossings, one animal access ramp and 33' of gutter on an existing barn.

The installation of this project provided the following benefits: protecting and enhancing water quality by installing the HUAP, significantly reducing the potential for nutrient pollution by installing the manure storage, keeping clean storm water clean by collecting it in gutters and downspouts and directing it to a proper location, reducing the amount of sediment and nutrients reaching waterways by stabilizing animal walkways and access roads, enhancing water quality within the stream by reducing the sediment and nutrients through streambank fencing and stabilized crossings and ramp.

The project was completed in November 2016.



### **STREAM STABILIZATION PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES**

By Nancy Corbin

Stream stabilization projects can help protect our streams from pollution and improve habitat both in and along the stream banks. Non-point source pollution such as siltation from eroding banks and increased nitrate levels from fertilizer runoff and livestock negatively impacts wildlife and increases costs to treat drinking water. Best management practices such as riparian buffers, stream bank fencing, and agricultural crossings are some solutions to help protect streams from non-point source pollution. Habitat structures for fish and other aquatic organisms also help to support stream ecosystems and wildlife populations. If you own land along a stream that could benefit from some of these projects, contact the District. Government funding is available for streams meeting required criteria.



#### **Briar Creek Township Property**

Owner: Richelle Reeder and Jane Weiss

Location: East Branch Briar Creek Tributary

Scope: Installed 500 linear feet of stream bank fence with a livestock water access to the creek. A 35-foot vegetation buffer will be planted this spring to stabilize heavily-eroding stream banks from horses along approximately 350 feet of the tributary to Briar Creek.

#### **Montour Township Property**

Owner: Joshua and Nichole Greene

Location: Montour Run Tributary

Scope: Constructed 4,500 linear feet of stream bank fence to limit livestock access to the stream. The fence was installed 35 feet from the banks to utilize and preserve an existing vegetated buffer. This buffer will help reduce erosion and sediment load to the headwaters of the tributary to Montour Run.



## CONNECTING SOILS & PROFITS

NO-TILL, COVER CROPS, SOIL HEALTH, & GRAZING

### Keith Berns,

#### *Green Cover Seeds, Nebraska*

Keith Berns combines 20 years of no-till-farming with 10 years of teaching Agriculture.

Keith & his brother farm 2500 acres and operate Green Cover Seeds, one of the major cover crop seed providers & Educators in the country.



### Russ Wilson,

#### *Forest Co. PA Grazier*

Russ Wilson operates a 220-acre farm in Forest Co., PA. where he employs adaptive grazing management techniques & cover crops to make the farm more profitable.



**March 9, 2017**

### Pine Barn Inn, Danville, PA

\$25/person by 3/3/17  
or \$30 after 3/3/17

For registration details  
please contact Tracey  
at the Columbia CD

Tracey.oman@columbiaccd.org  
or 570-784-1310 x102

These meetings are supported by Growing Greener with funds provided by the Department of Environmental Protection.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you require special accommodations, please note this at the time of registration.

**"Agriculture today is farming a degraded resource and we've accepted this as normal" - Gabe Brown**

**JOIN US AT THE PINE BARN INN -3/9/17  
TO REGISTER call 570-784-1310 x 102**

### COVER CROP ROLLER AVAILABLE

The District has a 6 ft. wide crop roller with wheels and a single acting hydraulic cylinder for easy transport available to local producers to use to roll tall mature cover crops as a means to improve soil health. We are also looking for producers willing to roll cover and plant row crops like corn or pumpkins directly into rolled cover. Call the district!

## Chesapeake Bay Reboot Strategy

By Jennifer Lauri, Resource Conservationist

In August 2016, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection provided notice to the agricultural community of DEP or the County Conservation District completing inspections within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The inspections are intended to ensure farms are in compliance with basic requirements to have and implement written plans to properly handle, store, and land apply manure and agricultural process wastewater on the farm consistent with the nutrient needs of growing crops (Manure Management Plans) and properly manage risks of erosion and runoff from agricultural plowing or tilling operations and animal heavy use areas (Ag Erosion & Sedimentation Plan). The inspections within Columbia County have begun. We urge operations, large and small to contact the Conservation District to discuss plans. We will be arbitrarily visiting operations to set up appointments. To schedule your appointment call 570-784-1310 x 124.

### 50th ANNUAL TRI-AG BANQUET



**JOIN US FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH AGRICULTURAL BANQUET. IT WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017 AT THE COLUMBIA/MONTOUR VOTEC HIGH SCHOOL. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS FUN NIGHT OF GREAT FOOD, GREAT FRIENDS, AND GREAT ENTERTAINMENT. COME SEE THE SUSQUEHANNA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS PERFORM NATURE'S HARVEST DANCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD.**

### DISTRICT OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS

**Due APRIL 14, 2017**

**LAVERE McCLURE SCHOLARSHIP**—\$300 scholarship available to high school seniors planning to pursue a degree in natural sciences/environmental education.

**EDGAR "TED" FENSTERMACHER SCHOLARSHIP**—\$300 scholarship available to high school seniors planning to pursue a degree in agriculture/agriculture related field.

**(Students must provide an acceptance letter from the college/university they will be attending.)**

**PENN STATE CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP SCHOOL**—Available to high school students (ages 14-18) that have completed 9th grade. Week long session focusing on natural resource issues, conservation, and wildlife. District will provide **two - \$300 scholarships** toward two tuitions. Sign up with a friend!!

**Visit our website for more details.**



## 50TH ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL BANQUET

This year's "Tri-Ag Banquet" as it was once called, will be the Conservation District's 50th event and will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2017, at the Columbia/Montour Vo-tech High School. The annual event is a celebration of the farming community and their accomplishments. The Columbia County Conservation District along with USDA/Farm Services Agency and Penn State Cooperative Extension will sponsor the entertaining evening with awards and accomplishments of our partners in the agricultural arena. We will be entertained by The Susquehanna International Folk Dancers featuring "Nature's Harvest Dances from Around the World." The Banquet will begin at 6:00 pm. Tickets can be obtained from the following agencies: CCCD, 784-1310 x102; FSA 784-4722 x106; and PSU Extension 784-6660. Cost is \$16.00/person.

Mark and Ashley Rohrbach were the recipients of the R.J. Campbell Award at the 2016 banquet. Their farm is located off of Rt.487, Franklin Township, Columbia County. The Cooperator of the Year award is given to a farmer who implements best management practices on their farm and participates in agricultural programs sponsored by the Columbia County Conservation District and USDA/NRCS. Mark has served as an associate director on the CCCD board since 2008 and just recently was appointed as a farmer director in January 2017.



2016 R.J. Campbell Award Recipient Mark Rohrbach, Ben Rohrbach, Claire Rohrbach, Ashley Rohrbach, and Donald Edwards, CCCD, Chairperson.



## PERMITS HAVE TIME RESTRICTIONS

By Barry Travelpiece, P.E.

Landowners and contractors are reminded that many of the permits issued by DEP for working in or near streams have time limits on when work can be done. Time frames to work in streams is restricted based on the need to avoid impacting the aquatic life. For example, streams that have been identified as supporting natural trout populations cannot be disturbed during the fall reproduction period which is from October 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Work in stocked trout streams is prohibited between March 1<sup>st</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>.

It is also important to note that many DEP permits require steps to preserve and protect endangered species. One such species that is often identified and needs to be protected is the native bats. The method often recommended to protect the bat is a restriction to cutting trees during the time when bats would be roosting in them. This means that often the cutting of trees is restricted to the time between November 15<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>.

It is important that landowners and contractors plan ahead for work to be done when DEP permits are required to assure that the permit conditions can be met.

## MISSION STATEMENT

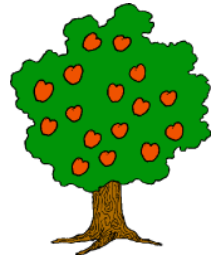
TO LEAD THE CITIZENS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY IN SUSTAINABLE USE OF OUR SHARED AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS, EDUCATION, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE BEST QUALITY OF LIFE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK OR CHECK OUR "NEW" WEBSITE AT

[www.columbiaccd.org](http://www.columbiaccd.org)



# ANNUAL TREE SALE NOW IN PROGRESS



Our 2017 SALE will include **NATIVE VARIETIES** :  
**NEW THIS YEAR—Apple Trees—Buckeye Gala, and Crimson Crisp.**  
Planting two varieties is highly recommended for a good fruit crop. The trees are bareroot.

- **Colorado Blue Spruce, Eastern White Pine (NATIVE), Concolor and Douglas Fir**, seedlings sold in bundles of 25 seedlings.
- Our deciduous seedlings will include **White Flowering Dogwoods, Wild Black Cherry, American Sweetgum, Eastern Redbud, and Sugar Maple**. Seedlings will be sold in bundles of 5 seedlings or you may buy individually.
- **Blue Rug Junipers, Stonecrop, Jacob’s Ladder, and Sundrops** Will be sold. These ground covers grow low to the ground and spread to cover areas of exposed soil preventing soil erosion.
- **Blueberry Bushes** will be offered again this year with two varieties offered, “**Sweetheart and Bluecrop**”. These bushes are container grown.
- **Native Perennials—NY Ironweed, Swamp Milkweed, Black Eyed Susan, Purple Coneflower, Tickseed, Sunflowers, and Lavender Bee Balm**. These will be available in 4-1/2” plugs.
- **Native Grasses— Indian Grass** will be sold in 4-1/2” plugs.
- **Native Bareroot Shrubs: Arrowwood, Witch-hazel, American Cranberry, and Winterberry** will be sold. Note: Winterberry will only be sold in bundles of 5 because they require multiple plants for pollination.
- We are bringing back **Northeast Annual & Perennial Wildflower Seed Mix**. This is a beautiful mix of native and naturalized wildflowers designed to attract birds and butterflies. This will be sold in 1 ounce packets and will cover a 200 sq. ft. area.  
**Vines: Coral Honeysuckle ‘Major Wheeler’.**  
**Ferns: ‘Lady’ Ferns** will be sold this year.
- **Bluebird Houses** are available again this year.

**HELPFUL HINT: Plant a Pollinator Garden to benefit bees, butterflies, beetles, hummingbirds and people!**

Visit our website @ [columbiaccd.org](http://columbiaccd.org) and check out our new catalog for a more in-depth description of plants and shrubs. If you should have difficulty opening the site call us and we will provide the needed information.

**PLEASE SEE ORDER FORM**

**Columbia County Conservation District 2017 Plant Sale**

Variety

**APPLE TREES - BARE ROOT**

Variety	Size	Single Tree @		# Sets	Amount Due
		Price Each	\$20.00		
Buckeye Gala	4-6'				\$
Crimson Crisp	4-6'				\$
One Buckeye Gala + One Crimson Crisp		\$35.00			\$

**NATIVE DECIDUOUS TREES**

Variety	Height	Price Each	# of Singles	5 per bundle	# Bundles	Amount Due
Redbud	9-18"	\$2.00		\$9.00		
Sugar Maple	7-14"	\$2.00		\$9.00		
Wild Black Cherry	6-12"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
American Sweetgum	2-4"		*Bundles only	\$9.00		\$

**NATIVE SHRUBS**

Variety	Height	Price Each	# of Singles	5 per bundle	# Bundles	Amount Due
Witchhazel	10-24"	\$2.00		\$9.00		
American Cranberry	20-36"	\$2.00		\$9.00		\$
Winterberry *	3-6"		*Bundles only	\$9.00		\$

**NATIVE EVERGREEN TREE SEEDLINGS**

Variety	Height	Price/Bundle	# Bundles	Amount Due
Colorado Blue Spruce	8-16" 25/bundle	\$15.00		\$
Douglas Fir	10-24" 25/bundle	\$15.00		\$
Eastern White Pine (Native to PA)	10-20" 25/bundle	\$15.00		\$
Concolor Fir	10-24" 25/bundle	\$15.00		\$

**NATIVE GROUND COVER**

Variety	Price/Order	# Orders	Amount Due
Stoncrop	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$
Jacob's Ladder	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	
Sundrops	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$
Blue Rug Juniper	10/order	\$28.00	\$

**NATIVE PERENNIALS**

Variety	Plugs	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
New York Ironweed	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	
Swamp Milkweed	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	
Lavender Bee Balm	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	
Black-eyed Susan 'Sundance'	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	
Tickseed 'Crème Brulee'	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	
Sunflower 'Lemon Queen'	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	
Purple Coneflower 'Wild Berry'	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$	

**NATIVE FERNS**

Variety	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
Lady Fern	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$

**NATIVE VINES**

Variety	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
Coral Honeysuckle 'Major Wheeler'	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$

**NATIVE GRASSES/SEDGES**

Variety	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
Indian Grass	4-1/2" plug	\$4.00	\$

**BLUEBERRY BUSHES ^**

Variety	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
Sweetheart	1 Gal. cont.	\$12.00	\$
Bluecrop	1 Gal. cont.	\$12.00	\$

**BLUEBIRD HOUSES**

Variety	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
Handmade with Access Door	\$10.00		\$

**Northeast Annual & Perennial Wildflower Mix**

Variety	Price	Quantity	Amount Due
1 Packet = 200 Sq. Ft. Coverage	\$5.00		\$

**\*\*\*DEADLINE FOR ORDERS\*\*\***

Friday, April 21  
for best selection

**ORDERS MUST BE PICKED UP ON**

Thursday, May 4, 2017  
11 am - 5 pm  
Friday, May 5, 2017  
9 am - 5 pm  
Saturday, May 6, 2017  
9 am - NOON

\* Winterberry requires multiple plants for pollination.

^ Apple trees & blueberry bushes do best if planted with both varieties.

The Conservation District cannot guarantee survival of plants and bareroot seedlings. We strive to provide the most viable seedlings for our sale but cannot control conditions of plants and seedlings after pick-up dates.

Sub-total	\$	
Add 6% Sales Tax	\$	
Grand Total	\$	

*Return This Form Along With*

*Your Check Payable To:*

Columbia County Conservation District

702 Sawmill Rd. Suite 204

Bloomsburg, Pa 17815

**CUSTOMER INFORMATION BOX**

Name:	_____
Address:	_____
Phone #'s	_____
Day:	_____
Evening:	_____
Email Address:	_____



## COLUMBIA-MONTOUR COALITION for SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

*“Working Together to Protect our Water Supplies”*

By: Heather Almer, Watershed Specialist

**JOIN US IN PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER!**

### “Good Water = Good Life” 2nd Water Education Day in Columbia County

On September 14, 2016, Columbia County Conservation District held its second annual Water Education Day for 8th grade students. Over 500 students rotated through six stations on groundwater, stream studies, conservation art, general water quality, fish ecology and an original musical and theatrical performance by area high school students on water quality and conservation. Throughout the day, students learned about the sources of our drinking water, how it gets polluted, and the connection between land and water. Approximately 50 volunteers were involved in the station instruction and logistics, including PA Department of Environmental Protection, Natural Resource Conservation Service, PA American Water, Bloomsburg University, PA Rural Water Association, Suez, Larson Design, and local watershed groups (BCAWS, FCWA and RCVCA), and of course, our entire Conservation District staff. Many thanks to these 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. There will be plenty of jobs in the future in keeping water clean!



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### Safe Medication Disposal Project

The CCCD received a grant from the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts to promote the safe disposal of unused medications at designated take-back centers in our area. We have distributed fliers and given talks at senior centers in Columbia and Montour counties, distributed small posters for pharmacies, and are currently working on large signs for Town Park and Kocher Park with visuals linking waste water plants to local waterways to our drinking water source—public water suppliers are not designed to remove pharmaceuticals so they end up in our water supply! You may have also heard Dr. Jen Whisner, the chairperson of the Columbia-Montour Coalition for Source Water Protection on WHLM radio, giving information about the project in the fall. We plan on making a video PSA this spring- to continue to spread the word to **BRING UNUSED MEDS TO LOCAL TAKE-BACK CENTERS! Bloomsburg PD, Berwick PD, Catawissa PD, Montour Court House, Geisinger=Bush Pavilion Pharmacy, Knapper Clinic.**

### Two School Gardens Coming 2017!

Benton Junior/ Senior High School and Salem Elementary School in Berwick will both be installing habitat gardens this spring as part of the Conservation District’s Environmental Education Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Teachers and administrators from both schools have worked with CCCD’s Heather Almer as well as Master Gardeners and their own student body to plan their gardens. We look forward to seeing these green spaces in the schools start buzzing with life soon!



Salem Elementary School  
Berwick, PA



Benton Junior/  
Senior High School  
Benton, PA

# COLUMBIA CONSERVATIONIST

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

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BLOOMSBURG, PA 17815  
PERMIT No. 147

HELP US UPDATE OUR MAILING ADDRESSES. CALL WITH ADDRESS CHANGES OR BETTER YET—HOW ABOUT AN EMAIL ADDRESS??

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:  
**2017**  
ANNUAL TREE SALE

## SIGN UP NOW!



## Women in Agriculture

Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 9am-2pm  
VFW Post 804, 1258 Millville Road, Bloomsburg

Come enjoy a day dedicated to the sustainability of our local businesses and farmland and of our own health and wellbeing. Also features valuable legal advice and a fascinating exploration of nature.

- 8:45-9:00: Registration (coffee & refreshments)
- 9:00- 9:45: "Why I Farm" Justin Naylor (Old Tioga Farm)
- 9:45- 10:30: "What We Do: Our Local Businesses" Teri Watson (Mad Dog Farm) & Rosie Zaginaylo (Four-Zag Hill Farm)
- 10:30-10:45: Coffee Break
- 10:45-11:30: "Legal Matters in Agriculture" Rob Davidson, J.D. RHP Law Group
- 11:30-1:00: Lunch (soups, sandwiches & dessert), wine tasting, massage
- 12:00-12:20 "Why You are Your Most Valuable Asset" Dr. Stu Hartman, Catawissa Chiropractic Center
- 12:30-2:00: "Exploration of Wild Edibles" \*wear outdoor shoes for short outside segment!  
Debbie Naha, Naturalist/Educator/Nutritionist

\$10/person. Registration due by March 17, 2017. Send check payable to CCCD, along with your name, address, email and phone number to: Tracey Oman, Columbia County Conservation District, 702 Sawmill Rd, Ste 204, Bloomsburg, PA 17815. Free Native Plant for first 30 registrants!

Breakfast kindly sponsored by:



www.columbiaccd.org



Free Native Plant for first 30 registrants!

Local wine tasting!

BONUS!!!!  
Make your own eco-friendly face mask to take home!

Chair Massage compliments of Catawissa Chiropractic!

Door Prizes!!!

