

Seedling

Fall 2019

Annual Awards Ceremony Held

SMOKEY BEAR CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

**FALL RECYCLING
EVENT SCHEDULE
INSIDE**

**GAME, FISH & BOAT
COMMISSIONS
ANNOUNCE WEB
GUIDE FOR WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION**



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES



Autumn is amazing in Schuylkill County with our rolling landscape and mostly forested acreage. Enjoy the season as a “leaf peeper” as you drive along our back roads.



Jenna St. Clair, District Manager

There's a chill in the air, which gives me a chance to reflect on another wonderful summer. We kicked off the summer season with our annual Bear Creek Festival at Schuylkill County Fairgrounds. We were fortunate to again have beautiful weather for all of the activities offered: wagon rides, tomahawk throwing, pony petting, live music, building wood crafts, potato digging, pH testing, cow milking... just to name a FEW! Mark your calendar for next year's festival on June 7, 2020.

July brought the Schuylkill County Fair where "Porcupine Pat" hosted a full line-up of education programs at the Weston Pavilion by the Dr. James S. Shadle Nature Center. Visitors had the chance to learn about wildlife, insects, and plants while enjoying all of the wonderful fair food and attractions.

In August, we partnered with the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce's Agribusiness Committee for the first annual Schuylkill County Pour Tour. Participants were taken "from farm to glass" on private tours of Yuengling Brewery and Stone Mountain Winery. We got an intimate look at the ingredients and processes that go into the production of our favorite beverages.

I welcome your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and questions about the Schuylkill Conservation District and can be reached at (570) 622-3742 x3335 and jstclair@co.schuylkill.pa.us.



Conservation District welcomes Cherise Yost

Cherise Yost has joined the Schuylkill Conservation District as a Conservation Program Technician. She grew up in Schuylkill County and attended school at Shippensburg University where she earned a B.S in Geo-environmental Studies. She also earned a certificate in Geographic Information Systems.

Cherise interned with the conservation district in 2015. After graduating from college, she moved to North Dakota and worked as a park ranger at Lewis and Clark State Park for several months.

She returned home and was a park ranger with DCNR for two years and worked at Neshaminy State Park Complex and Hickory Run State Park Complex. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking at several state parks.



Fall 2019
Page 2



Our annual awards ceremony was held in August at the Clubhouse in Sweet Arrow Lake County Park

- **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** Dave Williams
- **EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR:** Dave “Big Owl” McSurdy
- **PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR:** Nancy Dusko
- **MEDIA CONSERVATION AWARD:** Amy Marchiano
- **FOREST STEWARDSHIP AWARD:** Mark Hoover
- **ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR:** Schuylkill Keep It Pretty
- **CONSERVATION SERVICE AWARD-BUSINESS:** Tredegar Corporation
- **CONSERVATION SERVICE AWARD-PUBLIC:** Schuylkill County Municipal Authority
- **YOUTH CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR:** Ben Angelo
- **DR. JAMES S. SHADLE CONSERVATION FARM OF THE YEAR:** Herring Farms



So much good is happening right in our own backyard to help our environment. The district acknowledges this hard work through an awards banquet and public recognition.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary dedicates historical marker

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Berks County will dedicate an official Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission roadside marker on September 14 at 11:00 a.m. in the Visitor Center Gallery. Following remarks by Stephen Edge, the grandson of Sanctuary Founder Rosalie Edge, and others, guests will be invited to walk the short distance for the unveiling.

The dedication honors the 1934 founding of Hawk Mountain as the world's first refuge for birds of prey and coincides with the Sanctuary's 85th anniversary as a landmark in the American Conservation Movement. The event is free and open to the public.

The historical marker will be placed along Hawk Mountain Road near the trailhead entrance.

Other events that day include live raptor programs at 10:00 a.m., noon, and 2:00 p.m., a sale of native plants, and an exhibit of artwork from long-time Sanctuary volunteer and artist Fred Wetzel.

The event also coincides with the Sanctuary's annual hawk migration count, which takes place daily from August 15 to December 15 at the famed North Lookout. Depending on wind and weather, mid-September migrants may include broad-winged hawks, ospreys, eagles, American kestrels, and more.

Once a popular gathering place to shoot migrating hawks, it was in 1934 that Rosalie Edge leased the land, installed a warden named Maurice Broun, and created the first safe haven for passing hawks, eagles and falcons. In addition to turning away gunners, Mrs. Edge directed Broun to record a daily tally of the number and type of hawks that passed overhead, which effectively established the first systematic count of raptor populations globally and launched the study of raptor migration science.

Today the 2,500-acre nature preserve offers one of the best and certainly the most famous places in northeastern North America to watch and enjoy 16 species of migrating raptors that pass by each autumn. The Sanctuary trails and scenic overlooks are open to the public year round, and the forests also function as a learning center and field station used by educators and Hawk Mountain personnel and research associates for education and scientific study.

Operated as a nonprofit organization, trail fees, membership dues, and other gifts and grants support the Sanctuary and its ongoing local-to-global research, professional training, and public education programs.



Game, Fish & Boat Commissions Announce New Web-Based Guide

This past August, the Pennsylvania Game and Fish and Boat Commissions announced publication of the new Conservation Opportunity Area Tool. This free, innovative and interactive web-based map puts features of the 2015-2025 Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan at your fingertips. The Wildlife Action Plan is the Commonwealth's proactive, non-regulatory blueprint for addressing the needs of imperiled and declining species, referred to as Species of Greatest Conservation Need.

This tool was designed to support conservation planning and guide implementation of conservation actions to support these at-risk species. The Conservation Opportunity Area Tool is free, though users must first register and accept the terms and conditions.

The Conservation Opportunity Area Tool will be helpful for a variety of users wanting to know more about what to do for Species of Greatest Conservation Need on their property, or those just curious about what is in an area.

"Wildlife needs help now more than ever," noted Game Commission Executive Director Bryan Burhans. "With 664 Species of Greatest Conservation Need across the state, 109 of which are birds and mammals, everyone can do something to support these species. We are excited to deliver this Wildlife Action Plan information in a user-friendly way."

From rural to urban areas, forests to streams, this tool has information that may be helpful to users with either a specific purpose such as conservation planning, or those interested in learning more about a species, habitat or conservation actions. The tool has several features including a Map function with which users can draw an area on a map and, with a few simple steps, produce a report with a list of the species and related conservation actions. Users can also produce a list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need in a county or major watershed, or develop a list of counties or watersheds where a species occurs.

For more information: www.media.pa.gov



**Fall 2019
Page 4**



The Schuylkill Stampede 4 - H Livestock Club performed community service at the Frog Hollow Environmental Education Center near Friedensburg. Their efforts spruced up the site which is managed by the South Schuylkill Garden Club.

Photos from the Pour Tour that was held this past August and sponsored by the Schuylkill Chamber Agri-business Committee





6th Annual “Give Us Your Best Shot” Photo Contest

Grab your camera and start snapping photos, because March 8, 2020 marks the final day for local photographers to submit entries for the Sixth Annual “Give Us Your Best Shot” Photo Contest. This is the perfect chance to practice nature photography and capture the beauty of Schuylkill County. Photographers of any age and skill level can enter their best photo using the following theme:

Theme: “Landscapes of Schuylkill County” focuses on the beauty of our rolling landscape. Your picture should include local scenery with a preference for the mountains that surround us. There are many locations to focus on that can include scenes of Second Mountain, Blue Mountain, Broad Mountain and more!

Contest Rules

- Photos must have been taken in Schuylkill County between January 1, 2019 and March 1, 2020.
- Submission must be the original work of each photographer.
- There is no entry fee but please enter only one photo.
- All submissions should be via email or unframed prints via US mail and include the name, address, phone number and email address of the photographer as well as the type of camera used to take the photo. Email a JPEG file to lreichert@co.schuylkill.pa.us or mail an 8” x 10” print to the Schuylkill Conservation District, 1206 Ag Center Drive, Pottsville, PA 17901. Your photo will not be returned.
- Judging is based on originality, technical quality, creativity and natural beauty.
- Winners will be notified near the end of March 2020. All photos will be posted on the District’s Facebook page.

Prizes

There will be a Grand Champion and Runner-up. Three cash prizes will also be awarded.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| * Grand Champion - The winning photo will be enlarged, matted, framed and presented to the winner at the Conservation District’s Annual Awards Ceremony in August. | * Second Prize - \$75 |
| | * Third Prize - \$50 |
| | * Fourth Prize - \$35 |
| * Runner-up (wins Second Prize) - The winning photo will be printed on the cover of the Annual Report of the Schuylkill Conservation District. | |



Good luck clickin’!

Give Us Your Best Shot Photo Contest is sponsored by



**For more info contact: “Porcupine Pat” McKinney at:
porcupinepat@yahoo.com or 570.391.3326**



2019 SCHUYLKILL COUNTY FALL CLEANUP & RECYCLING EVENT HOST SITE SCHEDULE



SCRAP TIRES – APPLIANCES – SCRAP METAL– BULKY ITEMS

THE COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL, IN COOPERATION WITH THE MUNICIPALITIES & BUSINESSES LISTED BELOW, IS SPONSORING A SCRAP TIRE, APPLIANCE, & BULKY ITEM DROP-OFF PROGRAM FOR ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS. THE PROGRAM WILL ALSO SERVE AS AN OUTLET FOR MUNICIPALITIES THAT DO NOT HAVE TIRE & APPLIANCE COLLECTION PROGRAMS.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9:

- ☐ **SCHUYLKILL HAVEN BOROUGH** – ST CHARLES STREET, COMPOST SITE, (570) 385-2841; MONDAY SEPT 9TH TO FRIDAY SEPT 13TH FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 14TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **C.E.S. LANDFILL** - ¼ MILE EAST OF I-81 AND RT. 25 INTERSECTION, PHONE (570) 695-3590; MONDAY SEPT. 9TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 13TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
- ☐ **CITY OF POTTSVILLE** - CITY GARAGE, E. RAILROAD ST., PHONE (570) 622-7690; MONDAY SEPT. 9TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 13TH FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 14TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **RINGTOWN BOROUGH** – W. APPLE ST., NEAR DROP-OFF RECYCLING SITE, PHONE (570) 889-3095; THURSDAY SEPT. 12TH & FRIDAY SEPT 13TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT 14TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
- ☐ **NORTH MANHEIM TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 303 MANHEIM RD., PHONE (570) 385-2778; THURSDAY SEPT. 12TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 13TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 14TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **MAHANAY BOROUGH** –NEXT TO THE ELKS LODGE, 135 EAST CENTER STREET, PHONE (570) 773-2150; THURSDAY SEPT 12TH 8:00 A.M. -3:00 P.M. & FRIDAY SEPT 13TH 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
- ☐ **PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PHONE (570) 345-4202; THURSDAY SEPT. 12TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M. & FRIDAY SEPT 13TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
- ☐ **BRANCH TOWNSHIP** – ½ MILE PAST GOOD INTENT HOSE COMPANY, 12 SILVERTON RD, PHONE (570) 544-4283; THURSDAY SEPT. 12TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M., FRIDAY SEPT 13TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 14TH 8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16:

- ☐ **MINERSVILLE BOROUGH** - N. DELAWARE AVE. COMPOST SITE, PHONE (570) 544-2149; THURSDAY SEPT. 19TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 20TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **TAMAQUA TRANSFER STATION** - SEWAGE PLANT ROAD, PHONE (570) 668-4515; MONDAY SEPT. 16TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 20TH FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.
- ☐ **GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH** – BEHIND THE "A" ST. SCHOOL, PHONE (570) 276-1635; THURSDAY SEPT. 19TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 20TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
- ☐ **PORTER TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 309 W. WICONISCO ST., MUIR, PHONE (717) 647-4656; THURSDAY SEPT. 19TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 20TH FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.
- ☐ **HEGINS TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 421 S GAP STREET, VALLEY VIEW, PHONE (570) 682-9133; THURSDAY SEPT 19TH AND FRIDAY SEPT 20TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 21ST FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **WAYNE TOWNSHIP** – SCHUYLKILL COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, 2270 FAIR ROAD, SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PHONE (570) 739-2629; THURSDAY SEPT. 19TH FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **TREMONT BOROUGH** – BOROUGH BUILDING, 139 CLAY STREET, TREMONT, PHONE (570) 695-2199; FRIDAY SEPT 20TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 21ST FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ☐ **NEW RINGGOLD BOROUGH:** COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY, 25 N RAILROAD ST, PHONE (570) 640-5455; SATURDAY SEPT 21ST 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

ITEMS ACCEPTED & FEE SCHEDULE:

- ☐ **ELECTRONICS** – **NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE COLLECTED THIS YEAR.**
- ☐ **TIRES** – ONLY AUTOMOBILE, LIGHT TRUCK, & MOTORCYCLE/RV TIRES ARE ACCEPTED. \$2 PER TIRE WITHOUT RIMS – \$3 PER TIRE WITH RIMS. LIMIT 10 TIRES PER LOAD AND NO MORE THAN 2 LOADS PER CUSTOMER. *MUNICIPALITIES WILL ALSO BE CHARGED THE PER TIRE FEE AND ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE HOST COLLECTION SITE FOR LARGE LOADS.
- ☐ **APPLIANCES – FREON BEARING** – AIR CONDITIONERS, REFRIGERATORS, DEHUMIDIFIERS – \$10 EACH – **NON-FREON BEARING & SCRAP METAL** – STOVES, WASHERS, DRYERS, WATER HEATERS, BICYCLES, BAR-BECUE GRILLS, METAL FURNITURE – NO CHARGE
- ☐ **BULKY ITEMS** – MATTRESSES, BOX SPRINGS, ROLLS OF CARPET, DOORS AND WINDOWS – \$10 EACH.
- ☐ **SOFAS, OVERSTUFFED CHAIRS** – \$5 PER CUSHION (EXAMPLE: LOVE SEAT – 2 CUSHIONS – \$10)

PROOF OF COUNTY RESIDENCY MUST BE PROVIDED

NOTE: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (I.E. PAINTS, SOLVENTS, CLEANERS, POISONS) WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. QUESTIONS CONCERNING DISPOSAL OF SUCH ITEMS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AT (570) 628-1220
THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE PA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



The Clubhouse at Sweet Arrow Lake in fall

- Music
- Food
- Art
- Dance
- Theater
- Artist Demos
- Arts & Crafts
- Chainsaw Carving
- Kids' Activities
- Painting on Foxy Lady
- Raffles
- Petting Zoo
- & MORE!



ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL
Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019
Held at The Arts Barn
Noon to Five
Free Admission

www.theartsbarn.com
 3 Berry Road
 Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
 570-366-8736

WASTEWATER ON TAP

El Paso, Texas will launch a system that treats sewage water and channels it directly to residential drinking water taps. The city has already cut individual water use by over 40% since 1985 through initiatives like paying residents to abandon green lawns.



HALF THE WORLD WILL BE WATER STRESSED

The United Nation's 2018 World Water Development Report estimates that 3.6 billion people (almost half the global population) live in areas that are potentially water scarce at least one month of the year. New technology and conservation measures matter!



NOT ALL VEGETABLES ARE THE SAME...SOME ARE REALLY FRUITS

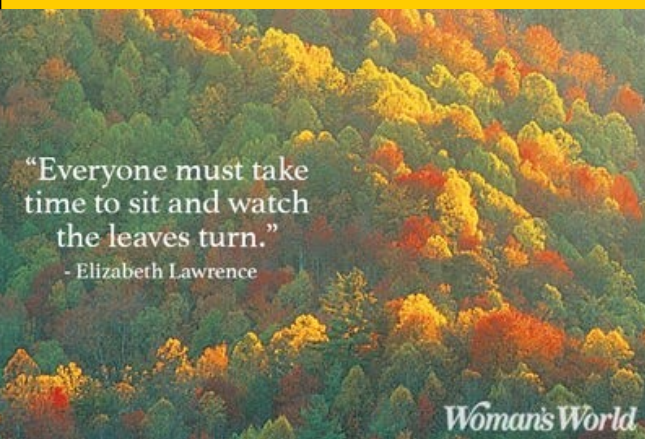
- Cantaloupes
- Cucumbers
- Eggplant
- Peppers
- Pumpkins
- Tomatoes
- Watermelons



Poison Ivy? Try this old-time remedy:



All you need is a brown paper bag (like the brown lunch sacks, 1000 for \$1.00 anywhere) and apple cider vinegar. Just cut the bag in strips as big as the spots you'll be covering and soak those strips in the vinegar. Simply apply to the areas and allow to air dry (about 15 min). You will physically see the oil being pulled from the ivy spots!



Fall 2019
Page 8



2019 WALK SCHEDULE

* **Wednesday, September 25 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.:** “Wednesday Wander” Join Mandy Fitzpatrick to learn more about the expansion of the Schuylkill River Trail. Meets at the state game lands parking lot by the Mall Road sign of Rt. 61 north. (1.5 miles—easy)

* **Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.** “Wee Ones Walk” Join “Porcupine Pat” for this kids “knee high to a bread box” tour at Sweet Arrow Lake. We use our senses to explore and enjoy the early days of fall. Meets at Waterfall Road Parking Lot. (1 mile—easy)

* **Sunday, October 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon:** “Kalmia Tunnel Hike” This is a new walk with “Sojourner Steve” where you hike the Sharp Mountain railroad to the old Kalmia Tunnel/works. The end is on top of Gold Mine Mountain. Meets at Nelson’s Beer Distributor, Rt. 209 in Tower City — bottom of Keefers on the right. (5 miles—moderate)

* **Saturday, October 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.:** “AT to SRT” From the Appalachian Trail to the Schuylkill River Trail hike. Meet Mandy Fitzpatrick to learn more about the history of the Schuylkill River Trail and its role in communities. Meet at the Port Clinton ballfield at 944 South Street in Port Clinton. (8 miles—moderate)

* **Sunday, October 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:** “County View” You will visit the old Airport Road and go to the “88” with “Hiker Jim” Murphy. Then, hike to High Point on Buck Ridge for views of Schuylkill County. Meet at the Mount Pleasant Hose Company in Buck Run. (8-1/2 miles—easy)

* **Saturday, November 2 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.** “Wee Ones Walk” Join “Porcupine Pat” for this kids “knee high to a bread box” tour at Sweet Arrow Lake. We use our senses to explore and enjoy the early days of fall. We take a different route than the October program. Meets at Waterfall Road Parking Lot. (1 mile—easy)

* **Sunday, November 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.:** “Bear Valley Hike” “Sojourner Steve” leads you on the Bear Valley Loop to see Adams Rock, Bear Valley Swamp, various old mines and the north entrance to Williamstown Tunnel. Meets at the entrance to Bear Valley Road and entrance to Rausch Creek ATV Park near Valley View at Gap Street. (10 miles—moderate)

* **Sunday, November 10 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** “Journey to Boxcar Rocks” Mike Centeleghe will thrill us with a trip to these massive boulders. Meets in the state game lands parking lot off Gold Mine Road south of Tower City. (3 miles-moderate)

* **Sunday, November 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.:** “Buck Ridge Hike” “Hiker Jim” offers a bit of a rocky hill, West Creek, the “88,” old Airport Road and you’ll see Lake Buck Run. Meets at the Mount Pleasant Hose Company in Buck Run. (5 miles—easy)

* **Sunday, December 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:** “Broad Mountain Bench Trail” Hike the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad bed to a reservoir with “Hiker Jim.” Check out a recent clear cut project. Meets at Clover Fire Company in Heckschersville. (10.5 miles—easy)

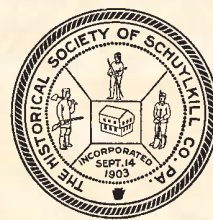
Many thanks to our sponsors. Visit our sponsors or like them on Facebook.



www.schuylkillvision.com



www.schuylkill.org



www.schuylkillhistory.org



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES

www.schuylkillcd.org



**Fall 2019
Page 9**

"Only in Schuylkill County"

Bus Bash

Saturday, October 19, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\$23.00 per person



OUR TOUR ITINERARY



Curious? This tour answers your questions about:

- Where did Doris Day visit?
- There's a real geyser located here?
- Check out a steam engine.
- View an overlook with windmills.
- Where was the world's largest steam engine?
- What is "Fighter's Heaven?"
- See a real mine tunnel.
- How does a cogeneration plant work?more!

- Begins and ends at the Schuylkill County Ag Center in Pottsville with free all day parking.
- Travel in a comfortable motor coach with AC and restroom.
- Lunch is on your own at a local restaurant.
- "Porcupine Pat" will be your tour guide with help from friends.
- Info or to register: Lorie Reichert at 570.391.3316 or lreichert@co.schuylkill.pa.us

**Sponsored by the
Schuylkill Area Community Foundation
Schuylkill County Historical Society
Schuylkill County Conservancy
Schuylkill Conservation District**



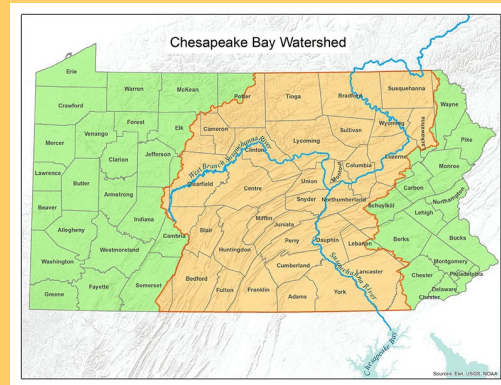
“A heritage worth saving is a legacy worth protecting”

Pennsylvania DEP Announces State Plan to Improve Water Quality in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced the final state plan to promote the long-term viability of farming, outdoor recreation, and other economic sectors; protect public health and water supplies; and help communities reduce flooding by improving local water quality in 43 counties in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Called “[Healthy Waters, Healthy Communities](#),” the plan is Pennsylvania’s Phase 3 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in local streams and rivers mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

“We’re addressing an enormous area, spanning over 15,000 miles of impaired streams, 33,000 farms, and 350 municipalities. But success lies at the community level, with projects put in place at backyards, farms, towns, and businesses to reduce pollutants in local streams and rivers,” said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell.



Enjoy a Walk in Penn’s Woods on Sunday, October 6

Walk in Penn’s Woods is a day for people across Pennsylvania to visit and learn about the forests that enhance our well-being. Forests are always working for us, providing recreation, wildlife habitat, beauty, improved water quality, clean air, wood products, carbon storage, and more.

Walk in Penn’s Woods, a statewide coordinated event on the first Sunday in October, encourages people to learn how their local woods work, see forests in new ways, and appreciate and love the forests so that we can all care well for them.



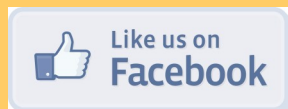
Schuylkill County’s Walk in Penn’s Woods features the Leymeister Private Land Tour Walk is from 12 noon until 1:00 p.m.

Walk Address: 151 Second Mountain Road, Orwigsburg

Walk Description: Join a local landowner on a walk through easy terrain with some uphill trails, wetlands, and woods. This walk is not wheelchair and stroller friendly. Please leave pets at home.

schuylkillcountyconservancy@gmail.com

[@SchuylkillCountyConservancy](https://www.facebook.com/SchuylkillCountyConservancy)



**Fall 2019
Page 11**



**Master
Gardeners**
PennState Extension

NEWS LEAF



Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County

schuylkillmg@psu.edu

570.622.4225 ext. 23

Putting the garden to bed by Tom Reed, Master Gardener

The growing season is coming to an end. Now is the time to record, photo, and chart how things went this year. This will also help with crop rotation which is a must if you do veggies. If you are adding manure, compost or any other type of amendment for your soil do a soil test first. That will tell you what you need and recommend the correct amounts of lime or sulfur depending on your crop. Don't guess, soil test!

Another item is to cover your garden soil, don't leave it bare. Cover crops like oats, annual rye grass, and buckwheat will grow and then winter kill and lay on your soil. Tiller radishes will go deep onto your soil and then winter kill and all provide organic matter for the garden.

If you can't plant something then at least cover your garden with straw, cardboard, leaves, and even a tarp—don't leave it to the elements. You can get a start on a new garden year by planting garlic around the middle of October. Once the ground freezes in November or December mulch with straw or pine boughs and your first crop for 2020 is in the soil.

The Master Gardeners can be reached at 570-622-4225 throughout the year.



How to Plant Mums from [countryliving.com/gardening](https://www.countryliving.com/gardening)

Dig a hole twice as wide as the pot, and place the plant in the hole so that the crown (where the roots meet the stems) are at ground level. Backfill the soil, water and add mulch to retain moisture and keep down weeds.

How to Care for Fall Mums

Chrysanthemums, called "hardy mums," are not super-heavy feeders, so add a little compost when you plant them, then feed with a general-purpose fertilizer in early summer. Water regularly. In order to encourage a plant that's less likely to flop over, trim off (called "pinching") the tips of your plants anytime from late spring to early July, taking off no more than half the total height. You can do this a few times a season, if you like, but not any later than mid-July or you'll cut off the flower buds.



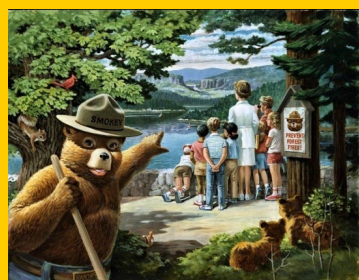
Regardless, don't expect all that pinching to produce the nicely-mounded plant you first brought home from the nursery; those are treated with growth regulators to produce a low, dense shape. If remembering to trim new growth seems like way too much work, leave your mums alone and let them sprawl. Click on the link below for more info:

<https://www.countryliving.com/gardening/a19663900/chrysanthemum-flower/>

Listen to Master Gardeners on WPPA AM 1360 or 105.9 at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month year round.



**Fall 2019
Page 12**



Created in 1944, the Smokey Bear Wildfire Prevention campaign is the longest-running public service advertising campaign in U.S. history, educating generations of Americans about their role in preventing wildfires. As one of the world's most recognizable characters, Smokey's image is protected by U.S. federal law and is administered by the USDA Forest Service, the National Association of State Foresters and the Ad Council. Despite the campaign's success over the years, wildfire prevention remains one of the most critical issues affecting our country. Smokey's message is as relevant and urgent today as it was in 1944.

Smokey's original catchphrase was "Smokey Says – Care Will Prevent 9 out of 10 Forest Fires." In 1947, it became "Remember... Only YOU Can Prevent Forest Fires." In 2001, it was again updated to its current version of "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires" in response to a massive outbreak of wildfires in natural areas other than forests and to clarify that Smokey is promoting the prevention of unwanted and unplanned outdoor fires versus prescribed fires.

<https://www.smokeybear75th.org/>

Schuylkill Conservation District Board and Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District Chair:
Glenn Luckenbill
- Vice Chair:
Scott Graver
- Directors:
- Commissioner Gary Hess
- Stanley Fidler
- Dottie Sterner
- F. Diane Wolfgang
- Eric Leiby
- Glenn Hetherington
- Dennis Daubert

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

- Chris Bentz
- Robert Carl, Jr.
- Frank Zukas
- Russell Wagner

In 2018,
89% of
wildfires
were
caused by
humans.



STAFF PHONE EXTENSIONS FOR 570.622.3742

- Jenna St. Clair, District Manager, 3335
- Martie Hetherington, Chesapeake Bay Coordinator, 3328
- "Porcupine Pat" McKinney, Education Coordinator, 3326
- Missy Seigfried, Conservation Fiscal Technician, 3324
- Stephanie Lubinsky, Conservation Program Technician, 3329
- Robert Evanchalk, Assistant Parks and Recreation Supervisor, 3334
- Cherise Yost, Conservation Program Technician, 3327
- Bill Reichert, Upper Swatara Flood Recovery Manager, 3331
- Wayne Lehman, County Natural Resources Specialist, 3333
- Brittany Moore, Agricultural Program Coordinator, 3325
- Ryan Michlovsky, Conservation Program Coordinator, 3330
- Lorie Reichert, Conservation Program Asst., 3316
- Drew Kline, Parks & Rec. Supervisor, 3334
- Alexa Kramer, Natural Resources Conservationist, 3336
- Kyle Schutt, Insect Management Technician, Cell: 484.331.4499



**Fall 2019
Page 13**