

Seedling

Fall 2018

Annual awards ceremony held at Sweet Arrow Lake

PA wildfire information

Noted local author featured at Penn State campus

Fall recycling program offered

**Fall hiking schedule
inside**

Schuylkill Acts & Impacts
highlighted



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES

Fall is a big deal here in our corner of PA. With a variety of landscapes to scope out colorful leaves, the "leaf peeper" will certainly enjoy the oranges, reds, yellows and more! Scenic vistas including the Ringtown Valley overlook, Rt. 61 south from the (former) Schuylkill Mall, Rts. 25, 895 and 443 plus Rt. 209 from Pottsville to Tamaqua. Take time this season to explore the beauty of our region. Info: www.schuylkill.org





Jenna St. Clair, District Manager

It has been a wet and difficult summer for most of us in Schuylkill County and beyond. Record rainfall has impacted almost every aspect of our lives. Many streams came over their banks and directly into our homes, businesses, infrastructure, and more.

In our line of work at the Conservation District, we focus on streams every day. We monitor streams for water quality. We work diligently to prevent pollution and sediment from entering them. We educate about their importance, inhabitants, and impacts.

Since 2011, we have also gotten involved in flood mitigation, recovery, and resiliency efforts. We are very excited to have floodplain restoration projects underway or upcoming in the Swatara Creek watershed. These projects are designed to give the stream a place to enter its floodplain, spreading water out and slowing it down before entering our communities.

But these are just pieces in the large, complex puzzle that is flood mitigation. In the coming months, we plan to offer stream maintenance and flood intervention training to teach ways to work with the natural behavior of streams. Ignoring this behavior has been proven to worsen damage and create new problems in future flooding events. We are also involved in a countywide conversation to help all of our communities in long-term flood recovery efforts.

We continue to work with streams every day and encourage you to get involved in any way you are able. If you're not sure where to begin, please contact us!

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.



Follow us on Instagram



Fall for this issue of Seedling



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Fall 2018
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The awards ceremony was held in August at the Clubhouse in Sweet Arrow Lake County Park

- **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** Darlene Carl
- **EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR:** Rachel Iola Spagnola
- **PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR:** Donna Wagner
- **MEDIA CONSERVATION AWARD:** Tyler Frantz
- **FOREST STEWARDSHIP AWARD:** Jerry Bowman
- **ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR:** Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area
- **CONSERVATION SERVICE AWARD-BUSINESS:** Highwood USA LLC
- **CONSERVATION SERVICE AWARD-PUBLIC:** Helen Moyer
- **YOUTH CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR:** Schuylkill Acts & Impacts
- **DR. JAMES S. SHADLE CONSERVATION FARM OF THE YEAR:** Dale Stoltzfus of Tree Line Farm



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.



Are you Ready^{PA}?

ACTION SHEET

WILDFIRE Prevention Tips



Check your forest district's wildfire alert system and for high winds before creating an outdoor fire



Never leave any fire unattended



Completely extinguish any outdoor fire you create with water and dirt



Don't throw cigarettes, other smoking materials or matches on the ground or out of vehicle windows



Be mindful when operating equipment outdoors that can create heat or sparks



Speak up and alert authorities if you suspect someone is in danger of starting a wildfire



**ONLY
YOU
CAN PREVENT
WILDFIRES.**



pennsylvania
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

www.Ready.PA.gov



WHO BOUGHT THE FIRST? Journey Into Our Center Bus Bash

Robert Allison, of Port Carbon, Pa., Aged 88, Claims to Be Pioneer Buyer, Selecting 1898 Winton

WHO bought the first American-made gasoline-propelled automobile? It is a question that has interested many of us in the states and territories in which we live. Robert Allison, aged 88, a mechanical engineer and a resident of Port Carbon, Pa., believes that to him belongs this honor, an honor, by the way, which any motorist might covet.

On April 1, 1898, Mr. Allison made his purchase, paying \$1,000 for a single-cylinder Winton, the first of the Winton company's 1898 product, which consisted of twenty-one cars. This, Mr. Allison believes, is the first bona fide American-made automobile. Since that time, Mr. Allison has been an ardent motorist, driving two-cylinder cars, fours and sixes, and

Saturday, October 20, 2018

9:00 am to 3:30 pm — \$23.00 per person



OUR TOUR ITINERARY

- Enjoy the largest plantation of Japanese Maples in Pennsylvania.
- Visit the grave of the first casualty of the Civil War.
- See where the first automobile crashed. First auto theft and DUI!
- Learn about AMD at Silver Creek in New Philly.
- Note where the world's largest rail-yard was located.
- Visit St. Kieran's traditional Irish cemetery and see the church..

- 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

JAPANESE MAPLE
.....more!!
Acer Palmatum

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

The background of the poster features silhouettes of a zombie on the left and three runners on the right, all in a light gray color against a white background. The zombie is in a lunging pose, while the runners are in various stages of a running stride.

HALLOWEEN HUSTLE: 5K ZOMBIE RUN

Sponsored by
Schuylkill County's **VISION**

Saturday, October 27, 2018

Faith Reformed UCC, Landingville, PA

Registration: 8:30a.m.

Start time: 9:30 a.m.

Optional 5K Online Registration available at
<https://www.pretzelcitysports.com>

(Nominal service fee applies, closes at midnight, the Wednesday before race day- 10/24/18)

For Information Call: (570) 622- 6097

Free T-shirt for First 200 Registered!

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!

**More information:
www.schuylkillvision.com**

An Evening with Cindy Ross

Noted local author, speaker, and adventurer

**Thursday,
September 13**

7:00 p.m.

Penn State -

Schuylkill Haven

**Conference Room - Health &
Wellness Building**



Cindy Ross began her adventuring life as a Triple Crown Hiker, accomplishing the Appalachian Trail, Pacific Crest, and Continental Divide Trails. Along with her husband Todd Gladfelter, they led their young children, Sierra and Bryce, 3,100 miles across the Rocky Mountain wilderness on the backs of llamas. Cindy discovered how experiences can generate extraordinary learning. She created a whole new way of nurturing and supplementing her children's education, focusing on two major arenas for learning: The Natural World and Travel.

The result is Cindy's 7th published book: *The World is Our Classroom- How one family used nature & travel to shape an extraordinary education*- Skyhorse Publishing, NYC. Cindy orchestrated learning opportunities as the family traveled the world, moving about on foot and bicycle, living simply and intimately. But just as important, and more accessible for many parents, were the opportunities for learning closer to home.

In this special presentation, Cindy will share how the Blue Mountain, the Schuylkill River, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and the many programs and opportunities found here in her "back yard" of Schuylkill County inspired and educated her children. These adventures brought intangible gifts: values such as compassion, self-reliance and appreciation that are crucially important to anyone but especially when raising children.

Cindy will share an inspiring multi-media show followed by a lively Q&A. Autographed books will be available. This program is co-sponsored by Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Schuylkill County Conservancy, and the Schuylkill Conservation District with help from Penn State University. There is no charge but a donation at the door is appreciated.



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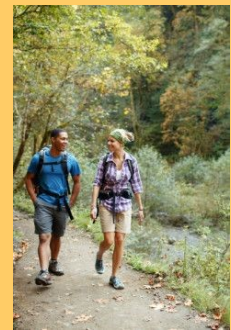




SEEDS

DID YOU KNOW . . . *Pennsylvania Rail Trails*

- 133 rail trails in Pennsylvania.
- 1,662 miles of rail trails in Pennsylvania.
- 2 Pennsylvania rail trails that are more than 140 miles long — the Great Allegheny Passage and D&L Trail.
- 8.45 million Pennsylvanians living within five miles of a rail trail.
- 300 estimated bicycle shops and bike tour operators in Pennsylvania.
- 73 estimated bike shops/bike tour operators located in rural Pennsylvania.



Data sources: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 2018, and Infogroup, Reference USAGov

Tuscarora State Park – Sunday, October 7 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Sponsored by Schuylkill County Conservancy

Description of Walk – An easy and casual walk through the forest around Tuscarora Lake will enlighten the participants on the charms of the forest landscape. Folks of all ages are invited to get a first hand look at a working forest. Some of the highlights include: identifying trees and shrubs, learning about forest benefits to us and wildlife, and experiencing the solace and peacefulness in the forest.



www.honeyforheroes.org
and also on Facebook.
Helps vets in need through an innovative donation program. Check this out to help our vets!

Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering from the autumn tree. — Emily Bronte





2018 WALK SCHEDULE



Schuylkill On the Move is a project of Schuylkill County's VISION and promotes positive steps toward good health through walking and an appreciation of the natural beauty and fascinating history of our area. For more information on each walk: porcupinepat@yahoo.com

- **Saturday, September 22nd, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., "The Pinnacle"**. Gorgeous views from the top of Blue Mountain. Meet Robin Tracey in the State Game Lands parking lot off Rte. 61 south near Port Clinton to carpool. **You must register for this walk by calling Robin at 570-467-2506.** Bring a lunch. **No dogs please.** (11 miles, difficult)
- **Saturday, October 6th, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., "Lebanon Reservoir and Swatara Furnace"**. Robin Tracey leads you on this historic and scenic tour. Meet at the concrete pad at State Game Lands off Gold Mine Road. See a large reservoir and follow the old railbed and then drive to the Swatara Furnace. Bring lunch and dogs are welcome. (7 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, October 7th, 1:00-4:00 p.m., "Walk in Penn's Woods—Tuscarora State Park"**. Walk in Penn's Woods aims to get people out to enjoy the woods and to learn about how these woods work for us – from recreation and wildlife habitat to seeing the outcomes of timber harvests. Last year every county in PA hosted this kind of walk and this year is no exception. Meet at the office of Tuscarora State Park. Open to all ages. (2 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, October 14th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "County View"**. "Hiker Jim" offers plenty to see including the "88" and diversion canal plus "The Old Jerk" and a spectacular view of County Schuylkill. Meet behind Mt. Pleasant Hose Company in Buck Run on Rte. 901. (8.4 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, October 21st, 1:00-4:00 p.m., "Peddler's Grave"**. Visit the site of the first murder in our area along a turnpike from the late 1700's. Meet in the parking lot for the Coal Miner's Memorial on the north side of Shenandoah for carpool to the trailhead. (5 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, November 4th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "Dyer Run Gorge"**. "Hiker Jim" leads you on this Gorge Trail that was re-opened in 2014. Walk in a wilderness area then downhill on "Stephen's Road." Meet at 806 Valley Road in Pine Knot. (7 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, November 4th, 1:00-3:00 p.m., "Bartram Trail North Stretch"**. Some nature, some history on this trail section. Meet at the Auburn Trailhead on Rte. 895 just before the river to travel to hike start location. (4 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, December 1st, 10:00-11:00 a.m., "Sweet Arrow Sojourn"**. "Porcupine Pat" leads us on a different path for a jaunt around the park that includes some nice scenes of the water. Meet at the Waterfall Road parking lot of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. (3 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, December 9th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "Stump Dam"**. "Hiker Jim" Murphy takes you to the Gumboot then Black Diamond Road to Blackwood and then Stump Dam. You'll follow the old Lehigh Railroad to Silverton. Meet at Llewellyn Hose parking lot. (9 miles, easy)

Many thanks to our sponsors. Learn more about our sponsors by visiting their websites.



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES

www.schuylkillcd.org



www.schuylkill.org



www.schuylkillvision.com



www.schuylkillhistory.org



www.schuylkillconservancy.org

Keep an eye out for the **SPOTTED LANTERNFLY**



ADULT

**1 INCH LONG AND
1/2 INCH WIDE**



**NYMPH
STAGES**



**HATCHED &
UNHATCHED
EGG MASSES**

Report sightings of the
Spotted Lanternfly to:

**1-866-253-7189
Badbug@pa.gov**

**For more information:
www.spottedlanternfly.com**

Mosquito Control:

What state and local mosquito control programs do



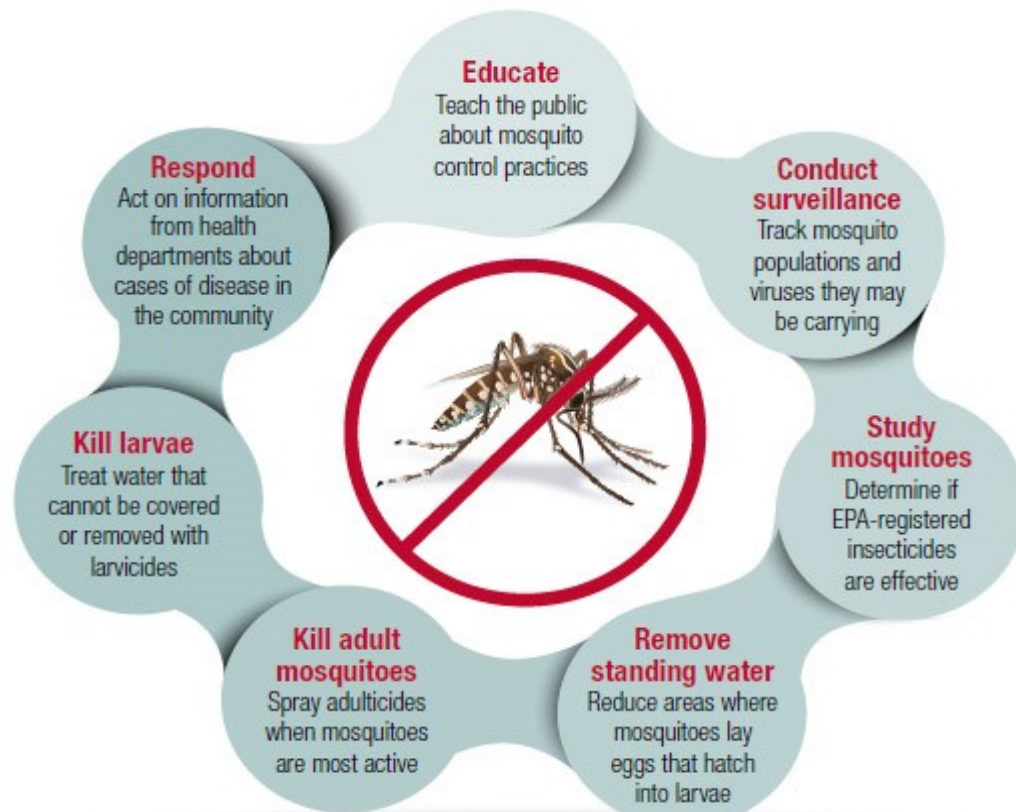
Why is local mosquito control important?

Some mosquitoes can spread viruses like Zika, West Nile, and dengue. Other mosquitoes bother people, but don't spread viruses. Mosquito control activities reduce all types of mosquitoes.

Who conducts mosquito control?

Mosquito control districts or state and local government departments work to control mosquitoes.

What do local mosquito control programs do?



Mosquito Control: You Have Options.

Learn more: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/controlling-mosquitoes-at-home.html>



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

CS006800-B December 15, 2016



Worldwide, there are over 3,000 species of mosquitoes. The United States has approximately 200 documented species and Pennsylvania has about 60 species. Each year diseases transmitted by mosquitoes (such as malaria, yellow fever, dengue and filarial worms) kill or debilitate millions of people, mostly in developing countries located in tropical areas.



LandSCAPES



"A heritage worth saving is a legacy worth protecting"

Check out YouTube for two amazing channels.....



The Wandering Woodsman channel has numerous fantastic outdoor stories that feature Schuylkill County. From exploring the Abandoned Ruins of Mahanoy Plane to fossil hunting for trilobites, you'll travel with the Woodsman as he sheds light on the curiously interesting locales in our backyard.



You've got to see the drone flights offered on the Ground Pilot Images channel. Be it Saint Clair, Schuylkill Haven or other communities, you'll enjoy a ride and the view from a drone. Check it out!

SUBSCRIBE TO DCNR'S EMAIL NEWSLETTER

DCNR's email newsletter, *Resource*, provides information about current news and happenings throughout the agency. Sent out via email twice a month, *resource* also features related news, highlights, upcoming Get Outdoors PA events, and has a "conservation tip" for those looking for news they can use. Click on the link below to subscribe!

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/SubscribeToResource/Pages/default.aspx>



The conservancy is a co-sponsor of author Cindy Ross's presentation at Penn State—Schuylkill. Mark your calendar now for Thursday, September 13 at 7 p.m. in the conference room of the Health & Wellness Building. You have to be there!



Like us on:



Search *Schuylkill County Conservancy* and check out our stories project. You will be interested to see the variety of stories listed and you are cordially invited to leave one too!



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2018 SCHUYLKILL COUNTY FALL CLEANUP & RECYCLING EVENT



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.

THERE WILL BE NO ELECTRONICS COLLECTED THIS YEAR

THE OPERATION SCHEDULES FOR THE HOST SITES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10TH:

- ⇒ **SCHUYLKILL HAVEN BOROUGH** – ST CHARLES STREET, COMPOST SITE, (570) 385-2841; MONDAY SEPT 10TH TO FRIDAY SEPT 14TH FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 15TH 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. 10TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 14TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **CITY OF POTTSVILLE** - CITY GARAGE, E. RAILROAD ST., PHONE (570) 622-7690; MONDAY SEPT. 10TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 14TH FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 15TH 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. 13TH & FRIDAY SEPT 14TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT 15TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **NORTH MANHEIM TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 303 MANHEIM RD., PHONE (570) 385-2778; THURSDAY SEPT. 13TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 14TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 15TH FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **MAHANOEY TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 1010 W CENTRE ST, PHONE (570) 773-1553; THURSDAY SEPT 13TH 8:00 A.M. -3:00 P.M. & FRIDAY SEPT 14TH 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP** – TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PHONE (570) 345-4202; THURSDAY SEPT. 13TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M. & FRIDAY SEPT 14TH 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. 13TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M., FRIDAY SEPT 14TH 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 15TH 8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17TH:

- ⇒ **MINERSVILLE BOROUGH** - N. DELAWARE AVE. COMPOST SITE, PHONE (570) 544-2149; MONDAY SEPT. 17TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 22ND FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **TAMAQUA TRANSFER STATION** - SEWAGE PLANT ROAD, PHONE (570) 668-4515; MONDAY SEPT. 17TH THROUGH FRIDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 22ND FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.
- ⇒ **GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH** – BEHIND THE "A" ST. SCHOOL, PHONE (570) 276-1635; THURSDAY SEPT. 20TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., & SATURDAY SEPT. 22ND 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. 20TH & FRIDAY SEPT. 21ST FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT. 22ND 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 20TH AND FRIDAY SEPT 21ST FROM 8:00 AM TO 2:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 22ND FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **WAYNE TOWNSHIP** - TOWNSHIP BUILDING, RT. 183 AND MUNICIPAL ROAD, PHONE (570) 739-2629; THURSDAY SEPT. 20TH FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT. 22ND FROM 7:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **TREMONT BOROUGH** – BOROUGH BUILDING, 139 CLAY STREET, TREMONT, PHONE (570) 695-2199; FRIDAY SEPT 21ST FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. & SATURDAY SEPT 22ND 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 22ND 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, BARBECUE 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**



SCHUYLKILL

ACTS & IMPACTS

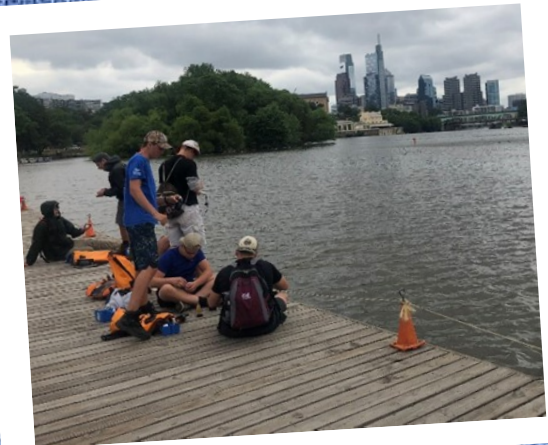
An Expedition to Inspire Watershed Action

Schuykill Acts & Impacts is an experiential environmental education journey for high school students along the 120-mile Schuylkill River from its headwaters in the coal lands of Schuylkill County to its confluence with the Delaware River in Philadelphia. Team leaders from Schuylkill Headwaters Association, Fairmount Water Works, and Take It Outdoors Adventures guided students down the river, and presenters offered guided tours and programming designed to highlight issues in the Schuylkill River Watershed and explore hands-on solutions to these problems. Stroud Water Research Center educators assisted throughout the week with water quality sampling and analysis, adding a very valuable component to the program.

A total of 10 students participated in Schuykill Acts & Impacts 2018 the week of June 16-23, representing all of the counties along the Schuylkill River. Additionally, two students from previous years accompanied the group to assist staff with activities and share their experiences and insights with the new students.

After traveling the length of the river, students became aware of how easy it is to impact the quality of the river and how much communities and cities like Philadelphia depend on people upstream to keep the water safe and clean.

One student said, "It has been so fun to be on this trip. I hope I have the amazing opportunity to do this again. It made me realize how much of an impact we (humans) make on the watershed. I want to help with this any way I can. It is so amazing!!!"





NEWS LEAF

Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County

schuylkillmg@psu.edu

570.622.4225 ext. 23

Fall is here...now what for your garden? By Tom Reed

Several things are still required to put the garden to bed before the snow flies. These are common practices whether you are growing flowers, vegetables, perennials, or fruit.

1. If you have not soil tested in the last 3 to 5 years, test your soil. Soil Test Kits are available at the Extension Office. The results will tell you if and how much lime or sulfur and other amendments to apply to the soil to maintain your garden.
2. Prior to putting in a new planting, such as blueberries, soil test. Blueberries require a soil pH of 4.5 to 5.5. Our soils are usually 6.0 and above, so amendment must be made to get the proper pH.
3. Remove and destroy diseased or insect infested annuals to prevent spreading into next year's plants.
4. Plant cover crops or mulch bare soil to prevent soil erosion during winter.
5. If you are putting manure on the garden beds, do so before the ground freezes.
6. Plant your garlic around Columbus Day for harvest next summer.
7. Did I mention "don't guess soil test" before you make amendments with your soil!!



Master Gardener Basic Training—Schuylkill County

Penn State Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County recruit and train new volunteers every other year. Next enrollment begins March 2019 with training for selected applicants starting in September 2019. The mission of Master Gardeners is to educate the people of our communities utilizing unbiased, science-based information to encourage best practices in sustainable horticulture and environmental stewardship. The fee is \$200 with training held at the Schuylkill County Ag Center. For more information, contact schuylkillmg@psu.edu or 570-622-4225.

Have a garden issue? Call Master Gardeners at the Hort Hotline for helpful answers!

Questions on trees, shrubs, flowers, lawn, and so much more can be answered by calling the **Hort Hotline at 570.622.4225 ext. 23** between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the season until October. Leave a message and your question will be answered asap.



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Come Join Us In Celebrating The Dedication Of The New Auburn Playground

Over
\$500 In
Door
Prizes



Baked
Goods
For Sale

Sunday,
October 7th 2018 1pm-4pm

Address: Memorial Park 5th Street Auburn Pa

Bounce
House

Games &
Music

Food Available
For Purchase

Pig Roast

Explore A
Fire Truck &
Police Car



**Jack O'Lantern says that
"you're gonna find lots of
good fall information while
visiting these sites."**

- <https://visitpa.com/pa-road-trips/leaf-peepers> Yes, it's that time of the year already and soon the leaves will change color. This site offers much for the leaf peeper enthusiast.
- <http://schuylkill.org/> The Schuylkill County Visitors Bureau hosts a large variety of videos featuring Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, the Appalachian Trail, local festivals and much more!
- <https://www.weather.gov/> It could be a wild ride this fall weatherwise. Visit this site to get up-to-the-minute forecasts.
- <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/WildPlants/InvasivePlants/InvasivePlantFactSheets/Pages/default.aspx> For help in identification of invasive plants, treatment, and protection suggestions for your property, explore the DCNR fact sheets listed here. DCNR has deemed these trees, shrubs, vines, herbs, and aquatic plants to be invasive on state lands. The species listed are managed by DCNR staff.
- <https://www.traillink.com/> A service of the Rails to Trails Conservancy that provides specific information pertaining to any trail anywhere in the United States. The site offers trail type and degree of difficulty plus detailed directions and parking lots locations.

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