

Seedling

Spring 2017

**Pollinator
Landscape
workshop
offered**

**SEE YOU AT
THE BEAR CREEK
FESTIVAL ON
SUNDAY, JUNE 4**

Seedling Sale order form enclosed. Your purchase helps Sweet Arrow Lake

**Give to help celebrate the 50th anniversary
of Schuylkill Area Community Foundation**

**Conservation Camp and
Youth Field Day information**



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES





Jenna Fehr, District Manager

MANAGER'S CORNER

As our "busy season" begins here at the District, I'd like to highlight our various online venues for sharing information. With so many interesting events being conducted by us and our partners, we strive to share as much information as possible through our website, Facebook, and Instagram accounts.

Many of you rely on the Conservation District website as a go-to resource. We've recently switched to www.schuylkillcd.com and no longer use the .org address. In addition to an address change, we are currently working on a complete website redesign. This will enable us to update and add information more quickly and easily in a new attractive format.

Facebook has become an excellent way for the Conservation District to share events and information on a regular basis. Just search for "Schuylkill Conservation District" and press "Like" to get updates in your NewsFeed. Porcupine Pat also has his own fan page if you want to keep up with his hikes, events, tours, and more. Instagram users can also "see Schuylkill County through the eyes of the Conservation District" by following the SchuylkillCD Instagram account.

Facebook will be the best place to keep up with all things for the 2017 Bear Creek Festival! The 16th Annual Bear Creek Festival will take place on Sunday, June 4, 2017, at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds in Summit Station from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. This family-oriented event offers visitors free and fun activities related to all things environmental, outdoors, natural, and agricultural in Schuylkill County. It is free and open to the public. The Bear Creek Festival offers a multitude of free activities for all ages, such as Schuylkill Trout Unlimited's annual fishing derby, Hover Ball Archery by Schuylkill Sportsmen's Association & Sportsmen's Advisory Board, build your own bird house with Home Depot, paint your own flower pot, animals from Red Creek Wildlife Center, music by KJ, and much more. This year we will also have live performances by Van Wagner and Jay Smar.

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

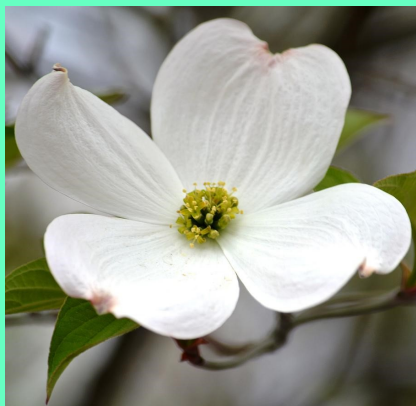


Follow us on Instagram
[@SchuylkillCD](https://www.instagram.com/SchuylkillCD)



View our photos: www.instagram.com/schuylkilled

Bark up the right tree this spring.



- Page 3—Bear Creek Festival information
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BEAR-CREEK FESTIVAL



Sunday, June 4th
12:00 to 4:00
Schuylkill County Fairgrounds



Celebrating all things

Environmental

OUTDOORS

NATURAL

Agricultural

in Schuylkill County

FREE ADMISSION—FREE ACTIVITIES—FREE PARKING



Like us on Facebook for #BearCreek2017 updates

Schuylkill Conservation District

570-622-3742

www.schuylkillcd.org





At the January 2017 conservation district board meeting, the Schuylkill County Commissioners awarded watershed groups and Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited checks in the amount of \$3,000 each. Funds are greatly appreciated to carry on the good work being done in our own backyards to improve our environment.

Conservation is a
state of harmony
between men and land.
- Aldo Leopold

The Schuylkill Conservation District has been the fortunate beneficiary of funding received from the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation (SACF). Funds have helped to procure program equipment and provide financial assistance to a number of programs for local children. In 2017, SACF marks its Golden Anniversary with a special emphasis on "Circles of Giving" to benefit our community in the area of Arts and Culture, Community, Education, Environment, Health and Wellness, and Human Services. For more information: www.sacfoundation.com



Help make our county shine by volunteering to clean up litter. All supplies will be provided and you can simply register by calling Darlene Dolzani at 570.449.4760. You can get more info at www.skiplitter.org



**Schuylkill, Keep it Pretty
Out With Litter
Spring 2017 Cleanup**
Thursday, April 6 to
Saturday, April 9
9 a.m. to noon



**Spring 2017
Page 4**



There are two themes:

Theme 1: "The Waters of Schuylkill County"

Theme 2: "Why Nature Matters to Me"



- **TIMELINE:** Contest runs from February 1 to April 6, 2017. Photos must have been taken between January 1, 2016 and April 6, 2017.
- **OPEN TO:** **All ages welcome!** Submissions must be the original work of the photographer.
- **AWARDS:** Three cash prize levels for each theme plus two Grand Prizes. First Place: \$50 Second Place: \$35 Third Place: \$25. The Grand Prize for Theme 1 includes the notoriety of the photo being enlarged, matted and framed. It will then serve as a door prize for a participant at the annual awards ceremony of the Schuylkill Conservation District. The Theme 2 Grand Prize winner will grace the cover of the annual report of the Conservation District and will be viewed by thousands.
- **JUDGING:** Judging is based on originality, technical quality, creativity and sheer natural beauty. All photos must be taken in Schuylkill County and will be judged with no differentiation in age.
- **MORE:** There is no entry fee. **Please only one entry per theme per person.** You do not have to submit to both themes but be sure to denote your theme choice. The first focuses on the beauty of creeks, streams, ponds and lakes found in our county. The second highlights the connections that people of any age can have with nature and why it is important. All submissions should be unframed and include your name, address, phone, email and the camera used on the back of the photo. Winners will be notified by Earth Day which is April 22. Only copies will be accepted as no photos will be returned. All photos, including the winners, will be displayed on the Facebook page of the district.
- **TO SUBMIT:** Email a JPEG file to: lreichert@co.schuylkill.pa.us OR mail an 8" X 10" print to Schuylkill Conservation District, 1206 Ag Center Drive, Pottsville, PA 17901

The Photo Contest is sponsored by



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES

www.schuylkillcd.org



www.schuylkillconservancy.org



More info: "Porcupine Pat" McKinney
porcupinepat@yahoo.com 570.622.4124 x 113

Get clickin'!

NORM THORNBURG YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP



June 15 - 17, 2017

For youth ages 13 - 15 Fee: \$100

Sponsored by the Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Association in cooperation with the Schuylkill Conservation District — Dr. James S. Shadle Nature Center

(Scholarships are available from area sportsmen's clubs. Call (570) 391-3326 or

www.porcupinepat@yahoo.com for information.)

Register today as the camp fills up fast! **REGISTER BY JUNE 1ST.**

*To be held at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds, Rt. 895,
Summit Station with some activities held offsite.*



Camp Philosophy

Norm Thornburg believed that an educated public would act to improve the quality of our environment through the conservation of our natural resources.

Camp Experiences

Canoeing....Field Sports.....Wildlife Management....Bonfire....Good Food.....Fishing....Awards.....Meet new friends....Have fun & more!



Camper name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Sponsored by: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Your email: _____

Is your child on medication: _____ If so, what medicine? _____

Allergies or disabilities? _____

Conservation Camp T-Shirt Size for your child (Circle One): **Adult Medium Adult Large Adult X-Large Adult XX-Large**

I hereby give permission for my son/daughter/teenager to participate in all camp activities and to receive emergency treatment if necessary.

Parent or guardian signature and date

Number of parent(s), guardian(s) and family members attending the Saturday night awards banquet @ \$11.00 per person. _____

Check
this
out →



Please make check or money order payable to:
Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Association

Mail your completed form to:

Schuylkill Conservation District, atn: Porcupine Pat

1206 AG Center Drive, Pottsville, PA 17901

Info: (570) 391-3326 or porcupinepat@yahoo.com



Authentic Plant Pollinator Landscape Research for Educators Summer Workshop July 24-28, 2017 Penn State University: UP Campus

A unique teacher professional development experience for middle and high school teachers.

Teachers will have the opportunity to participate and collaborate with leading researchers in the area of pollinator and plant-pollinator landscape research, CSATS science educators, and educators from across Pennsylvania. You will spend a week at Penn State learning about ongoing cutting-edge plant-pollinator research at the Penn State Center for Pollinator Research (CPR) and various research techniques used in this interdisciplinary field. With support from the APPL-RED team, you will develop a research project to implement with your students in the 2017-



2018 academic year. The classroom research project will incorporate learnings from the workshop, data collected by Dr. Christina Grozinger and others at the CPR as well as plant-pollinator interaction data collected by Master Gardeners of Pennsylvania. Preference will be given for collaborative teams of teachers from the same school or district. This workshop is limited to 16 participants, so register early!

For additional information and to apply, visit:

[CSATS Summer Workshops](#)



Teacher Benefits:

- Equipment and materials needed to carry out classroom research projects will be provided for all participants
- Travel and meal expenses are available for workshop participants depending on travel distance
- Teachers can apply to receive a stipend and additional classroom support by APPL-RED staff for implementing, revising and reporting on the classroom research project during the 2017-2018

**For more information, contact:
Center for Science and the Schools (CSATS)
Kathy Hill
kathyhill@psu.edu or 814-863-227**



PennState

CSATS
Center for Science
and the Schools



Seeds



A February 2017 issue of “Fishwrapper” has this interesting animal fact: *Birds do not sleep in their nests. They may occasionally nap in them, but they actually sleep in other places.*

The South Schuylkill Garden Club provides members with opportunities to be inspired, beautify their garden and community, and learn from educational programs. Dues are \$18 per year. For more information visit www.southschuylkillgardenclub.com



To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow!



Ten years ago the U.S. Senate’s unanimous approval and designation of a week in June as “National Pollinator Week” marked a necessary step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Pollinator Week has now grown into an international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles.

The Pollinator Partnership is proud to announce that June 19-25, 2017 has been designated National Pollinator Week by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of the Interior. For more information visit: www.pollinator.org

12,500



Number of steps per day needed to “cancel out” the ill effects of drinking two 20-ounce sodas.—
AARP Mag. 2017

The 47th Annual Earth Day takes place on **Saturday, April 22.** **Earth Day is Every Day** as we all need to be **stewards of our natural resources.**

www.earthday.org



“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

— Jane Goodall



**Spring 2017
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Spring Out 2017!

Date: Sunday, April 23 (Rain or Shine)

Time: 1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Location: Schuylkill Haven Island Park

FREE admission (some fees for food and demos may apply)

All ages welcome!

Demonstrations include Wildlife and Wee Ones Walk with Porcupine Pat, Kayaks, Bird Watching, Kickball, Trout Unlimited (Fishing), Red Creek Wildlife, and more...

SPRING OUT WITH US AND LEARN ABOUT OUTDOOR ADVENTURES!



For more information: www.havenrec.com/springout or 570-385-1313

Presented By:

Sch. Haven Recreation Dept., Healthy Haven, Schuylkill Conservation District, Schuylkill River Heritage, and Schuylkill County's VISION



2017 WALK SCHEDULE



Info for directions or cancellation: porcupinepat@yahoo.com Schuylkill On the Move promotes positive steps toward good health through walking and an appreciation of the natural beauty of our area.

- * **Sunday, January 22 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.:** "Landingville Launch" Start your hike year with John Domalakes as we walk the Bartram Trail in Landingville and enjoy the winter scenery. Meets in the parking lot of the trail on Tunnel Road. (2 miles-easy)
- * **Saturday, February 25 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.:** "Cabin Fever Walk" Porcupine leads you on a walk guaranteed to cure your fever! Meets at the Waterfall Road parking lot of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. (3 miles-moderate)
- * **Sunday, March 26 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.:** "Orwigsburg Odyssey" History, Victorian homes and natural beauty come together in Orwigsburg. "Porcupine Pat" leads you to enjoy the history and nature in this community. Meets at the parking lot for Albright's Woods on Grove Street up from Memorial Hall. (3 miles-moderate)
- * **Saturday, April 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.:** "Roaring Creek Tract" Robin Tracey takes you on a beautiful hike past two reservoirs. Meet at the Roaring Creek parking lot off Route 42 north of Aristes. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (8 miles-moderate)
- * **April ??? from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.:** "Spring Wildflower Walk" Naturalist Mike Centeleghe helps you to enjoy the many beautiful flowers of Frog Hollow which is managed by the South Schuylkill Garden Club. Meets in the parking lot of Frog Hollow on Stone Mountain Road in Friedensburg. (2 miles-easy)
- * **Sunday, May 14 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.:** "Orchid Adventure" Local outdoor enthusiast Tom Pesock takes you on a new path that features many lady slipper orchids and intriguing stones. Meets initially at the old Schoolhouse Auction on Rt. 924. (3 miles-easy)
- * **Saturday, May 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.:** "Cold Springs Hike—Rausch Gap" Explore the ruins of what once was a resort town during the height of coal mining. Meet state park education specialist Robin Tracey at the Appalachian Trail parking lot at the corner of Rts. 443 and 72 across from Swatara State Park to carpool at 10:20 a.m. Registration is required by calling Robin at 570.467.2506. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (5 miles-moderate)
- * **Saturday, May 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.:** "Silver Creek Reservoir Hike" Meet Robin Tracey at the Locust Lake State Park parking lot to carpool. We'll go to the reservoir then down to the fire tower for lunch. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (8.5 miles-challenging)
- * **Sunday, June 11 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.:** "Mud Run Ramble" Enjoy Mountain Laurel in bloom as John Domalakes leads us on a scenic hike on the Broad Mountain. Meets at the south end of the Schuylkill Mall parking lot. (3 miles-moderate)
- * **Saturday, June 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.:** "Swatara State Park" Meet Robin Tracey at Sand Siding Road parking lot of Rt. 443. We will be following Swatara Creek and viewing some very unique wildflowers. Bring lunch and dogs are welcome. (6.5 miles-moderate)
- * **Saturday, June 18 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.:** "Old Schuylkill Haven Water Dam Hike" Mike takes you to a site that is surrounded on three sides by the Second Mountain Tract of Weiser State Forest. Meets along Ketner's Road off Panther Valley Road west of Cressona. (4 miles-moderate)
- * **Sunday, July 9 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.:** "Magnificent Mysterious Meander" Where will "Porcupine Pat" take you? Find out by meeting him at the Schuylkill County AG Center in Pottsville for a carpool to the local start location. (three miles-moderate)



From Republican Herald

Schuylkill On the Move is a cooperative endeavor that includes the Schuylkill Conservation District. Each month a walk promotes health and wellness and community building all the while providing an educational experience. The focus is on nature and historical interpretation. These photos are from the Cabin Fever Hike held at Sweet Arrow Lake this past February. Check out the schedule on the previous page.



LandSCAPES



www.schuylkillconservancy.org

"A heritage worth saving is a legacy worth protecting"

Bill Reichert honored as first recipient of the "Roland Bergner Land & Nature Advocate Award"

Bill Reichert's demeanor and passion for clean water and making good things happen for our local environment is a major reason as to why he was awarded this inaugural award. The board of the Schuylkill County Conservancy surprised him with the award one evening and he accepted it with a smile and glint in his eye. Roland Bergner worked for the Pennsylvania Game Commission and did much to enhance wildlife habitat and serve as an advocate for it. *Congratulations Bill!*



notes

Date: _____

A few items of interest from the board retreat held in the clubhouse of Sweet Arrow Lake this past February:

1. The conservancy will pursue developing a Facebook page instead of a website.
2. Educational programs will continue this spring for elementary age children.
3. Things are moving ahead with the development of the Blackwood Trail.
4. A Heritage Corps work crew will work for five weeks this coming summer on developing the Schuylkill River Trail.
5. Our membership program will be updated and re-tooled.
6. The board is supporting Schuylkill Acts & Impacts which is a week-long endeavor for high school students in the watershed.

Be sure to like us on:



Also, type in 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!



42nd ANNUAL SEEDLING SALE 2017



Your seedlings will increase property value, enhance wildlife habitat, beautify the landscape, improve our environment, and can provide a source of income. The Sweet Arrow Lake Conservation Association (SALCA) and the Schuylkill Conservation District work together to make this sale possible. ***Your support for Sweet Arrow Lake is greatly appreciated!***

- **CONCOLOR FIR:** Very popular tree! Excellent ornamental or Christmas tree. Has flat, soft green to deep blue citrus-scented needles. Hardy tree as it withstands dry periods and high temperatures. 4 year old seedlings. Size: 12-20.+”
- **NORWAY SPRUCE:** Fastest growing of all spruces. Develops pyramidal shape and strong graceful branches that are covered with dark green needles. Ideal windbreaker that likes full sun and grows in various soils. Matures at 60 feet and has a beautiful 25 foot spread. 4 year old seedlings. Size: 10-24.”
- **COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE:** Handsome ornamental or Christmas tree with blue-green needles. Great for wildlife cover. Likes ordinary soil, average moisture, and full sun. 3 year old seedlings. Size: 5-10.”
- **AMERICAN ARBORVITAE:** This slow-growing tree prefers full sun to partial shade but adapts to a variety of soil conditions. Prefers moist soils but withstands drought. It grows to a mature height of 25-40 feet, and has a mature spread of 10-15 feet. Good wind-block and provides cover for all types of wildlife year round. 4 year old seedlings. Size: 10-24.”
- **PIN OAK:** Named for a characteristic where small, thin, dead branches stick out like pins from the main trunk. This is among the most widely planted and fastest-growing native oaks. It tolerates drought, poor soils and is easy to transplant. Popular because of an attractive shape and trunk. The green, glossy leaves show brilliant red to bronze fall color. 1 year old seedlings. Size: 4-12.”
- **KOUSA DOGWOOD:** A flowering dogwood originally native to Japan, Korea and China. A widely planted tree with distinctive creamy-white bracts (sometimes tinged with pink) that appear after native dogwoods. A wonderful addition to any home landscape, it has no serious disease or insect problems. Its blooms attract bees and butterflies while the fruit attracts birds and squirrels. The fruit is edible for people too! The bark is rich brown-red and flakes to fresh cream or fawn bark beneath, adding to its beauty. It is mildly sun tolerant. 2 year old seedlings. Size: 10-24.”
- **RED BUD:** Red Bud grows as a small tree with an abundance of purple blossoms in the spring. It has large heart shaped leaves during the summer, and long seed pods in the fall. Popular landscaping tree. 2 year old seedlings. Size: 9-18.”
- **AMERICAN CRANBERRY:** Excellent deciduous shrub for screening up to 10 to 12 feet high. It grows to a width of 8 feet with very dense growth of up to 3 feet per year in full sun or part shade. This bush has showy white flowers in spring followed by red berries in fall and winter. Berries hang through mid winter making excellent bird feed. This shrub has very few insect problems and prefers good, well-drained soil. For best growth, provide supplemental water during dry periods. For a solid screen, plant bushes 2 to 3 feet apart. 3 year old seedlings. Size: 20-36.”
- **BLACK CHERRY:** Pretty tree with green lustrous leaves, single white flowers in late May producing black cherries in August. Grows best in rich, deep moist soil. Good ornamental turning yellow to red in fall. Highly prized for furniture making, excellent firewood source and provides fruit for many small animals. 2 year old seedlings. Size: 15-30.”
- **WINTERBERRY:** Winterberry is a deciduous shrub growing to 6-15 feet tall and often as wide. It develops a rounded habit through suckering, eventually growing into a sizeable colony of upright stems. The stems tend to be dark brown and often develop a pleasing gray sheen. The 3 inch long, elliptic, toothed, and pointed leaves vary from light to dark green, taking a yellow hue in autumn. Offers bright red berries in late summer. The berries, for which the common name was derived, remain after leaf fall and persist into the winter months to provide food for wildlife. Winterberry prefers evenly moist, acid soils in full sun to partial shade. 3 year old seedlings. Size: 3-6.”

42nd Annual Seedling Sale Order Form—2017 To benefit Sweet Arrow Lake County Park



- **ORDER DEADLINE:** Wednesday, April 5, 2017 or while supplies last!
- **PICK UP INFO:** Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Clubhouse parking lot at Sweet Arrow Lake.
- **NOTE:** Seedlings are bare root and will be healthy at pick up. No guarantees after this date.
- **INFO:** "Porcupine Pat" at 570.622.4124 x 113 or porcupinepat@yahoo.com or Denise Donmoyer at 570.345.8952 or nightowl57@verizon.net

Date _____ Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (day) _____ (night) _____

Save postage and the environment by providing your email for us to send you a reminder:



ITEM	# PER BUNDLE	# DESIRED	COST/BUNDLE	TOTAL
Concolor Fir	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Norway Spruce	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Colorado Blue Spruce	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Am. Arborvitae	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Pin Oak	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Kousa Dogwood	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Red Bud	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Am. Cranberry	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Black Cherry	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Winterberry	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
			Total Sale =	
			Please be sure to pay 6% sales tax =	
			Grand Total =	

- Please make your check payable to SALCA. Mail check and this form to: SALCA, PO Box 143, Pine Grove, PA 17963.
- A reminder will be sent to you by mid-April. (Note: SALCA stands for Sweet Arrow Lake Conservation Association).
- We appreciate your support of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. For more information: www.sweetarrowlakepark.com



Schuylkill County Youth Field Day

Saturday, May 13, 2017

Friedensburg Fish and Game Association

Registration and Release of Liability Form

This form must be completed and given to registration staff upon arrival or mailed to: Dennis Scharadin, P.O. Box 174, Summit Station, PA 17979. You can also email this to schuylkillsportsmenreg2017@gmail.com



REPUBLICAN HERALD

**PLEASE PRINT AND COMPLETE ALL
OF THE INFORMATION REQUESTED**

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Address: _____

Age _____ Sex _____ Birth date _____ T-Shirt Size (Circle) M L XL XXL

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Emergency phone: _____ Email _____

Name of parent or guardian who will accompany youth _____

I/We _____ do hereby permit my/our child to participate in the various activities offered at his or her own risk.

I/We _____ do hereby release the Friedensburg Fish and Game Association, the sponsors and staff of the Schuylkill County Youth Field Day, from any liability due to any accident or injury incurred during the activities of the day.

Please list any physical limitations, health problems, etc.: _____



Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County

schuylkillmg@psu.edu

570.622.4225 ext. 23

Your lawn awakens after winter dormancy

by Tom Reed, Master Gardener

With the onset of warmer weather our lawns come out of their winter dormancy and begin growing very rapidly. If you like to cut grass, Spring is your time of the year. Our grasses are cool season grasses and with cool temperatures and spring rain they will grow fast. You could be mowing every week or even twice a week.

If you are not a fan of mowing lawn, spreading lawn weed and feed, reseeding bare spots, and not a perfect lawn person try this. Plant some Dutch white clover in your lawn at bare and thin spots. You will get green, slow growing (less mowing), mix with your grass.

A straight grass only lawn is a wildlife desert for pollinators and some animals. Clover will provide flowers with nectar for pollinators, rabbits will like it, and it will fix nitrogen from the air and enable other plants and the clover to utilize the nitrogen. By utilizing the fixed nitrogen you will be saving money on fertilizer by reducing the amount necessary to keep your "lawn" healthy. A soil test is the

only way to tell what nutrients your lawn will require and a Penn State soil test will also provide the correct amounts.

Don't get too anxious with the early warm ups during early spring and plant your annuals and veggies too early. Follow seed packets and weather conditions prior to planting. Early spring is a great time to check out the power equipment before it is needed. Ensure it is ready to go when the time is right.



570.622.4225
Ext. 23

HORTLINE

Talking about tulips? Caucasing about cucumbers? Rambling about root problems? Contact the experts at the Schuylkill County Master Gardeners who are trained to assist you in any way with gardening or landscaping issues. This is a free service available to anyone in our county.



Catch Tom, Tom, and Kim — our favorite "on-air" master gardeners — at AM 1360 WPPA Pottsville. They are ready to answer your questions and provide useful info. Hear them on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 am.



As you tip tap away; rise above the fray; and look this way; to a whole 'nother day.....check these sites out!

- **www.earthday.org** Earth Day 2017 is held on April 22 with a special focus on the importance of science to humanity.
- **www.smokeybear.com** For over 70 years, Smokey Bear has been bringing attention to forest fire prevention. Schuylkill County is renowned for arson fires in our forests. Let's work together to stop them.
- **www.arborday.org/celebrate** Arbor Day is held on the last Friday of April here in Pennsylvania. Celebrate the beauty, wonder and how trees help us to sustain our lifestyles.
- **www.findyourpark.com** Many parks, many stories as this site shares. National parks are treasures for now and future generations. Subaru is one sponsor of this endeavor. Make it a point to visit our national parks this spring, summer and fall.
- **www.cnn.com/TECH/science/archive** CNN has a host of interesting stories about science, technology and nature. Check this site out for the latest info!
- **www.enn.com** The Environmental News Network focuses on intriguing issues of the day and makes them real to the average layperson.
- **www.southschuylkillgardenclub.weebly.com** The South Schuylkill Garden Club offers much to the average gardener and gives back to local communities. The club is member supported and also manages Frog Hollow Environmental Education Center. The enclosed hike schedule lists a wildflower walk to be held there with a local naturalist.
- **<http://ento.psu.edu/extension/vegetables/home-garden-vegetable-information>** Home gardening has soared here in Schuylkill County for more than one reason. Besides the fact that fresh vegetables are a hit with your palate, you will save money and enjoy fresh air, sunshine and the exercise it provides.

Schuylkill Conservation District Board and Staff

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

- **Associate Directors:**
- Chris Bentz
- Wayne Bowen
- John Usalis
- Robert Carl, Jr.
- Frank Zukas
- "Boots" Hetherington
- Ron Aungst
- Russell Wagner
- Ben Vaupel
- Wayne Haas
- Diana Beausang

District Staff phone extensions for 570.622.3742:

- Jenna Fehr, District Manager, 3335
- Martie Hetherington, Chesapeake Bay Coord., 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
- Christy Zulli, Conservation Program Technician, 3327
- Bill Reichert, Upper Swatara Flood Recovery Manager, 3331
- Wayne Lehman, County Natural Resources Specialist, 3333
- Andrea Reiner, Agricultural Program Coordinator, 3325
- Tyler Heffner, Conservation Program Coordinator, 3330
- Lorie Reichert, Conservation Program Asst., 3316
- Drew Kline, Parks & Rec. Supervisor, 3334



See you at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds on Sunday, June 4 from noon to four. It's Bear Creek Festival time and you are invited to help us celebrate.



**Spring 2017
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