

Seedling

Winter 2017

3rd Annual Give Us Your Best Shot Photo Contest

Scholarships available for graduating
seniors from Schuylkill Area Community
Foundation

ORDER FORM INSIDE FOR ANNUAL TREE SEEDLING
SALE TO BENEFIT SWEET ARROW LAKE COUNTY PARK

West End
Wandering
bus tour photo
collage inside

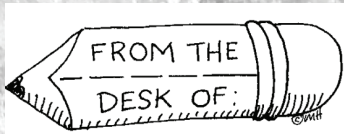
Schuylkill On the Move
2017 hike schedule inside

Winter in Schuylkill County insures many beautiful “postcard-like” scenes. Be sure to look closeup at the smaller things like icicles. Water is the only natural substance that can be a solid, liquid and a gas! And, be sure to watch the ice!



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES





Jenna Fehr, District Manager

MANAGER'S CORNER

Fall at the Conservation District is a season of project wrap-up, staff training and annual meetings. We take advantage of the colder weather to do the groundwork necessary to keep the District moving forward in its mission---grant writing and reporting, program and project evaluations, event planning and outreach.

We also start recruiting for our summer internship program. An internship provides students with experience in all aspects of the Schuylkill Conservation District. Interns collaborate with staff to plan and implement restoration projects, perform maintenance and monitoring of projects, provide overall project support, and raise community awareness on the importance of conservation.

An internship is a great way to network, meet professionals in natural resources conservation, and gain experience in a work environment. Year after year, the District has worked with talented college students that give us new perspective on our programs and bring new information and technology. Several current staff members are former District interns, as well as the previous District Manager Liz Hinkel, so our internship program has proven to be a valuable resource worth cultivating.

Internships are generally offered in the summer (May-August). Other time periods can be requested and arranged on a case-by-case basis. We also offer job shadowing experiences for students of all ages. Please contact me for more information or intern application.

I welcome your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and questions about the Schuylkill Conservation District and can be reached at (570)622-3742 x123 and jfehr@co.schuylkill.pa.us.



Jenna at the famous "purple pump" of Pitman during the bus tour in October.



Follow us on Instagram
@SchuylkillCD

View our photos: www.instagram.com/schuylkilled

Warm up after a chilly day in the snow with these stories inside this edition.....



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Rx for Better Health: Get Outdoors (from “resource DCNR”)

It's that time of the year again when our waistlines get a little tighter from the food and festivities of the holiday season. For some, stress levels increase which also can lead to weight gain and other health issues. A new year is upon us and we make New Year's resolutions to live healthier lives. Many purchase gym memberships and exercise equipment that goes on sale. But, what if we told you that you getting healthier and happier doesn't require gym memberships and tons of exercise equipment?

What if we said that you can get healthier and reduce stress by just getting out and enjoying the outdoors? In addition to getting fresh air and discovering the wonders of nature, outdoor recreation can help obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and mental health issues.

During the past few years, numerous studies and articles have been published connecting health and happiness to outdoor recreation. But did you need a study to tell you that? Haven't you ever noticed that you felt better after engaging in outdoor activities?

Studies have shown that spending time in a natural setting with trees, plants, or water can:

- Boost your immune system
- Lower your blood pressure
- Improve your mood
- Reduce stress
- Increase your ability to focus
- Increase your energy
- Improve your sleep



In addition, engaging in regular outdoor activity provides a number of physical health benefits as well, including lower blood pressure, reduced arthritis pain, weight loss, and lowered risk of diabetes, certain cancers, osteoporosis, and cardiovascular disease.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests that adults perform at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise, such as biking or walking; or 75 minutes of intense activity, such as hiking or cross country skiing every week.

Instead of the same scenery in a gym, try taking your workout outdoors with some of these popular year-round outdoor activities:

- **Walking**—A brisk 30 minute walk a day is all it takes to burn calories, tone your muscles, and improve your health. Someone who weighs 150 pounds and walks a normal pace for 60 minutes can burn as much as 250 calories, and more with brisk walking or walking uphill.
- **Biking**—Biking burns more calories than walking, is gentle on your joints, and is great for strengthening your leg muscles. The amount of calories you burn biking depends on how much you weigh and how fast you cycle. A 150-lb. person biking at less than 10 mph will burn 270 calories in 60 minutes.
- **Trail Hiking**—Hiking is a powerful cardio workout that exercises almost every part of your body. A 160-lb person can burn between 430 and 440 calories per hour of hiking. The more you weigh, the more calories you burn in an hour of hiking. In addition, when you hike at a high intensity for 45 minutes, you'll burn an additional 190 calories after you are done with hiking later in the day.

Don't let the winter season prevent you from enjoying the outdoors.



The Bear Creek Festival has a new date!
Be sure to mark Sunday, June 4 from 12—4 at the
Schuylkill County Fairgrounds on your calendar.



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'!

Funds for farm succession for preserved farm owners

With more farmers thinking about how to transition their operations to the next generation, including those who own farms preserved in perpetuity for agricultural production, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is making new funding available to ensure those operations have an up-to-date succession plan. According to state Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding, one in four of the more than 5,000 farms that have been preserved and protected from development has changed hands during the past 30 years. With the average age of the Pennsylvanian farmer at 58, it is expected that this proportion will increase significantly over the next decade.

As part of the 2016-17 budget package, \$165,000 in existing but uncommitted funds were made available to help preserved farm owners offset professional service costs associated with succession planning. Individuals can apply for grants up to \$3,000 that can be used as a one-to-one match to reimburse costs incurred by organizing and utilizing a succession planning team.

In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants must own land that is subject to an agricultural conservation easement and submit an application to the Department of Agriculture. Applicants must organize a farm succession planning team that consists of professionals in this particular field. Farm owners also must hold regular meetings with their succession team and keep accurate records for reimbursement purposes.

Pennsylvania has preserved more than 525,020 acres on 5,003 farms in 57 counties. It is the largest program of its type in the nation. The formal notice outlining the application process and eligibility requirements was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on Sept. 10, 2016 (Volume 46, Number 37), which is available at www.pabulletin.com.

The department began accepting applications on Oct. 1, 2016. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received; grant funding is limited. Application forms can be obtained from the Center for Farm Transitions, Department of Agriculture, 2301 N. Cameron Street, Room 310, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

The Preserved Farm Resource Center was created to assist preserved farm owners with succession planning. The center aims to facilitate business succession planning for Pennsylvania's growing number of preserved farms by focusing on building teams of facilitators, accountants, financial planners, and lenders who can provide expertise to farm owners.

Article courtesy of The Sentinel (Lewistown)



Graduating senior awards offered by Schuylkill Area Community Foundation

Graduating high school seniors from Pottsville and Minersville should check out these award opportunities from the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation. **Applications and more information can be found** on the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation's website at www.sacfoundation.com under the "Students" tab and then "High School Awards".

Paul Lohin Schuylkill River Watershed Conservation Award Fund

This fund provides an award to a graduating senior of Minersville Area High School who has demonstrated a commitment to the community by participating in environmental and conservation projects or programs outside the classroom and maintained a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or greater for five consecutive semesters over the last three years.

David Derbes Schuylkill River Watershed Conservation Award Fund

This fund provides an award to a graduating senior of Pottsville Area High School who has demonstrated a commitment to the community by participating in environmental and conservation projects or programs outside the classroom and maintained a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or greater for five consecutive marking periods over the last three years.



Seeds

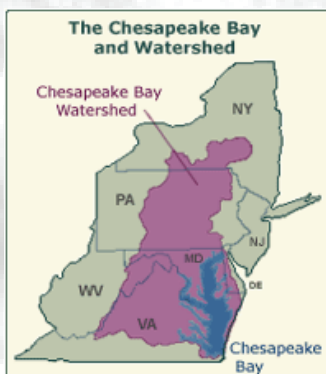


ENJOYING SNOWFLAKES!

Here's what to do:

- black velvet cloth or black construction paper
- magnifying glass
- Snow

Since snowflakes melt so quickly you need to freeze your cloth or paper. Have it frozen and ready to go for the next snowfall. Go outside and let some snowflakes land on the dark surface. Use your magnifying glass to enjoy the beauty! No two are alike!



Recycle your used cell-phone and CFL bulb

The Home Depot in Saint Clair recycles phones and bulbs. Look for this display inside the store by the store entrance.



How much for those trees?

Winter is a great time to think about the trees on your property and in your community. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) offers a free app called i-Tree that measures forest cover and quantifies the services that trees provide.

For example, an analysis of urban trees in Austin, Texas using i-Tree found that the city has a 31% forest canopy. It also calculated the value of services provided by those forests each year including reducing household energy costs (\$19 million), preventing air pollution (\$3 million) and storing and removing carbon (\$256 million). Overall, the analysis found that Austin's trees are worth \$16 billion!



USFS Chief Tom Tidwell said that ".....if we can show that we can reduce people's bills, if we can show they can increase the revenue off their land, it's pretty easy to get folks interested in conservation."

Download the app at: www.itreetools.org

Western and northern Schuylkill County are mostly in the Susquehanna River watershed. This also means the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Keep informed about Bay issues and solutions plus programs for children to adults by reading the *Bay Journal*. For more information, please visit: www.bayjournal.com

"We study the past history, with the conscience of the present environmental changes; we can only predict the future ecological changes, by emergence of the past into the present."

— Lailah Gifty Akita, "Think Great: Be Great!"



Photos from the West End Wandering Bus Tour held in mid-October 2016. Thanks to the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation and a grant from DEP for making the tour possible.



ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFITTED THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY CONSERVANCY AND THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY. STAY TUNED FOR FUTURE BUS TOURS TO SEARCH FOR MORE "SCHUYL—COOL" THINGS TO SEE!

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 outside of Landingville. (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 tough case of cabin 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 natural scenery 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)

* **Saturday, May 6 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 in Shepton for hike start in nearby Oneida. (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 9:20 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 am. 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)

* **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)

>>>>>>>see next page for remainder of 2017 schedule>>>>>>>



* **Saturday, July 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.:** “**Landingville Marsh and Auburn Dam Hike**” Join Robin Tracey in this return visit to the Landingville area. Let’s explore the wetlands that are usually full of wildlife at this time of year. Meet Robin at the Cressona Mall near Burger King to carpool to the site. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (4 miles-moderate)

* **Saturday, August 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.:** “**Lebanon Reservoir and Swatara Furnace Hike**” Robin Tracey leads you on this historic and scenic tour. Meets at the concrete pad at state game lands off Gold Mine Road. We will see a large reservoir and follow the old rail bed. We will then drive to the Swatara Furnace. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (6 miles-moderate)

* **Sunday, August 20 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.:** “**Historic Tow Path Trek**” John Domalakes leads you on a walk located along the Schuylkill River that meanders through a number of locks toward a nice example. Meets in the playground parking lot located on the west side of Port Clinton on Broad Street. (four miles-easy)

* **Saturday, September 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.:** “**The Pinnacle**” Gorgeous views from the top of Blue Mountain. Meet Robin Tracey in the state game lands parking lot near Port Clinton at 9:20 a.m. to carpool to the fire tower. For information and to register, call Robin at 570.467.2506. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (10 miles-difficult)

* **Sunday, September 24 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.:** “**Bake Oven Knob and Baer’s Rocks**” with Porcupine Pat. Follows the Appalachian Trail to awesome overlooks! Feel as though you are on top of the world. Meets just off Rt. 309 on top of Blue Mountain on the Lehigh and Schuylkill county line. (5 miles-moderate)

* **Saturday, October 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:** “**Wolf Creek Falls Hike**” Meet Robin Tracey at the west end of the Wal-Mart parking lot in Saint Clair. Registration is required by calling Robin at 570.467.2506. A hidden gem! Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome. (7 miles-difficult)

* **Sunday, October 29 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.:** “**Girard Manor Jaunt**” North of the mountain trails enthusiast Tom Pesock leads this beautiful walk in the forest of the north slope of Locust Mountain. Meet Tom at the Pumping Station parking lot for carpool to location. (4 miles-moderate)

* **Sunday, November 5 from 1:00-3:00 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 19 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.:** “**Crystal Waterfalls Cascade**” Meet “Porcupine Pat” at the Schuylkill County AG Center in Pottsville for a carpool to the start location. Wonderful water experience! (4 miles-moderate)

* **Saturday, December 2 from 10:00-11:30 a.m.:** “**Sweet Arrow Sojourn**” “Porcupine Pat” leads us on a different path from 2016 for a jaunt around the park that includes some nice scenes of the water. Meets at the Waterfall Road parking lot of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. (4 miles-easy)

* **Sunday, December 9 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.:** “**Senator Rhoades Nature Trail**” Meet “Porcupine Pat” on Bolich Road one mile off Dutchtown Road outside of Lavelle for this flat walk along Mahanoy Creek. (three miles-easy)

Thank you sponsors for your support!



PEOPLE CONSERVATION RESOURCES

www.schuylkillcd.org



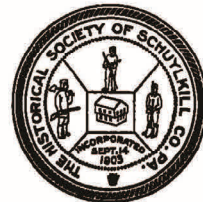
www.schuylkill.org



www.schuylkillvision.com



www.schuylkillconservancy.org



www.schuylkillhistory.org



"A heritage worth saving is a legacy worth protecting"

Voters approved billions for local parks and natural areas

Voters across the nation approved local and state ballot measures providing more than \$6 billion for land conservation, parks, and restoration, The Trust for Public Land announced after last November's election. Many of the ballot measures called for tax increases or bonds.

There were 86 local protection measures on the ballot and 68 passed, providing \$6.3 billion for conservation, said Will Rogers, President of The Trust for Public Land.

"We saw again that while American voters are divided on many issues, parks and natural areas are an issue that we can all agree on. Whether they were voting for 'red' or 'blue' candidates, voters are 'green' – they want local parks and close-to-home places for recreation and they're willing to pay for them."



**PennState**
College of Agricultural Sciences



3RD BIENNIAL FOREST
LANDOWNERS CONFERENCE

Enriching Woodland Values

MARCH 24–25, 2017

BLAIR COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER
ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

REGISTER NOW:
ecosystems.psu.edu/forest-conference

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!



**Winter 2017
Page 10**



42nd ANNUAL SEEDLING SALE 2017

All sale proceeds directly benefit Sweet Arrow Lake!



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



PA Department of Agriculture to provide Schuylkill County with safe pesticide disposal

Agricultural businesses and pesticide applicators in 15 counties can dispose of unwanted pesticides safely and easily in 2017 through the Pa Department of Agriculture's CHEMSWEEP Program. This year, the program is offered in these local counties: Berks, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Schuylkill counties.

"While pesticides are an important tool for many in production agriculture across Pennsylvania, they can be a problem when they outlive their usefulness, sitting in barns and sheds and becoming hazardous to the environment and to your safety," said Agriculture Secretary Russell Reading. "With CHEMSWEEP, our agriculture industry can more easily safeguard our land and waterways by properly disposing of pesticides."

More than 2.4 million pounds of unwanted or unusable pesticides have been properly destroyed through the program since it was established in 1993. Every year, many pesticide products are discontinued, phased out or become unusable, leaving growers, commercial establishments and professional applicators with potentially dangerous and toxic materials that cannot be placed in landfills. The unwanted pesticides often become a safety hazard and an environmental concern through long-term storage in garages, barns or other areas.



Licensed pesticide applicators, pesticide dealers and commercial pesticide application businesses from the designated counties are eligible to participate by completing the

CHEMSWEEP registration/inventory form that will be direct-mailed. The registration period ends on February 28, 2017.



An independent contractor hired by the state agriculture department collects and packages all waste pesticides at each participating location, primarily for incineration at facilities approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. CHEMSWEEP covers the disposal cost for the first 2,000 pounds per participant. Above that level, participants are billed at the Agriculture department's contracted price.

The program is funded through annual registration fees paid by pesticide manufacturers and applicators. For more information, visit: www.chemsweep.pa.gov

2017 PAEE conference
'Deepening Connections, Inspiring Innovation'
march 13-14
mckeeper environmental learning center

The PA Association of Environmental Educators conference is being held in Sandy Lake, Mercer County. It features a host of workshops, exhibits, keynote speakers and opportunities to connect with fellow professionals dedicated to environmental education. We hope that you will join us at the conference and help to keep alive the PAEE conference tradition of building community, deepening connections to nature and sharing innovative teaching practices. Teachers, scout leaders and church youth group leaders would be interested in this conference. Info: www.paee.net



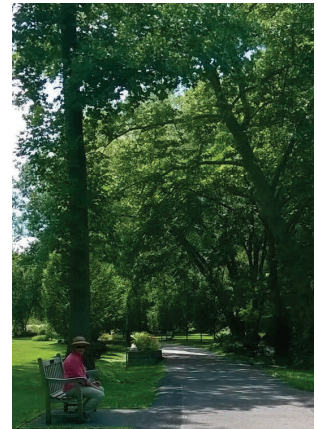
Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County

schuylkillmg@psu.edu

570.622.4225 ext. 13

Trees are Living Umbrellas that PROTECT us from the elements, CLEAN the air and water, and NURTURE a sense of wellbeing.

- Tree roots filter harmful substances.
- Trees are called the lungs of the planet and remove air contaminants like dust.
- Trees modify climate with shade reducing heat absorption and by releasing moisture that cools the air.
- Trees buffer wind speed against homes and buildings which reduces the loss of heat/cool.
- Three 25 foot tall trees can save \$100 in cooling costs.
- Trees add beauty and value to property of up to 2% of sale price.
- One tree can supply oxygen for two people.
- In one day a large tree can lift up to 100 gallons of water out of the ground
- Depending on the tree structure, a tree can intercept and store 50 to 100 gallons of rain. The water is then released slowly and reduces erosion.
- Trees are good for business: Science studies show that the presence of trees helps to reduce crime and slows the speed of traffic.
- The presence of trees has shown to enhance well-being, soothe anxious feelings and promote healing rates.
- For every 5% of tree cover added to a community, storm water runoff is reduced by 2%.
- Trees directly sequester (store) CO₂ preventing its addition to the greenhouse effect.
- Trees act as a buffer to dampen noise (This is why it is so quiet in the woods!)
- Trees in the urban landscape increase the number of shoppers, the time that is spent in the commercial district and the amount of money spent.



Master Gardener Spring Series "Start to Finish Vegetable Garden" will be held on Saturday, March 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Schuylkill County Ag Center Conference Room in Pottsville. Fee is \$14.00 and includes light refreshments in the morning and a sandwich lunch. Topics include: seed starting, soil testing and care, transplanting, good bug — bad bug, preserving your harvest.

Penn State Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County are here to help you with gardening questions year 'round. schuylkillmg@psu.edu Find us on Facebook 'Penn at State Extension - Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County.'



Take note outdoor enthusiasts!
Ticks are still active all year and they carry at least eleven diseases that can be transmitted to humans. Lyme disease accounts for over 90% of all reported human vector-borne disease, with an estimated 300,000 cases annually. Protect yourself; inspect yourself.

Get your questions answered on the 'net. Or, your answers questioned. See below!



- **www.epa.gov/students** - K-12 students and educators need access to quality homework resources, lesson plans and project ideas to learn and teach about the environment. Environmental education (EE) is a multi-disciplinary approach to learning about environmental issues that enhances knowledge, builds critical thinking skills and helps students make informed and responsible decisions.
- **www.bullfrogfilms.com** - Bullfrog Films is the oldest and largest publisher of videos and films about the environment in the United States. Founded in 1973, the company has been honored with a respective screening at MOMA in New York. Based in Oley, Berks County, the publisher's mission includes a focus on a sustainable world.
- **www.paparksandforests.org** - PPFF's mission is to inspire stewardship of Pennsylvania's state parks and forests through public engagement in volunteerism, education and recreation.
- **www.schuylkillfair.com** - Your link to more information about the fair. Be sure to mark your calendars early with the dates of the fair for 2017.
- **www.swcs.org** - The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization -- founded in 1943 -- that serves as an advocate for conservation professionals and for science-based conservation practice, programs, and policy. SWCS has over 3,000 members around the world. They include researchers, administrators, planners, policymakers, technical advisors, teachers, students, farmers, and ranchers. Their website features much information for layperson to researcher.

Schuylkill Conservation District Board and Staff

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- Martie Hetherington, Chesapeake Bay Coord., 115
- "Porcupine Pat" McKinney, Education Coordinator, 113
- Missy Seigfried, Conservation Fiscal Technician, 111
- Stephanie Lubinsky, Conservation Program Technician, 116
- Robert Evanchalk, Assistant Parks and Recreation Supervisor, 122
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- Andrea Reiner, Agricultural Program Coordinator, 112
- Tyler Heffner, Conservation Program Coordinator, 117
- Lorie Reichert, Conservation Program Asst., 102
- Drew Kline, Parks & Rec. Supervisor, 122



Fraser Fir

Support Sweet Arrow Lake County Park and SALCA with your purchase of tree seedlings from its annual sale. Look for our flyer inside this issue of Seedling.



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