



SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION NEWS

TOMPKINS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1771 HANSHAW ROAD • ITHACA • NEW YORK • 14850
PHONE 607-257-2340 FAX 607-257-7896

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Agricultural Assessments

The Tompkins County SWCD is accepting requests for soil group worksheets in conjunction with the 2013 Agricultural Exemption application filed with the Tompkins County Assessment office. All landowners who meet the eligibility requirements set by the State Department of Ag and Markets are able to file for this exemption. Once it is determined that you qualify for an agricultural exemption, call the Tompkins County SWCD office and request a Soil Group Worksheet. We will then prepare a worksheet and associated map that will delineate your soil types, woodlands and any land that is not eligible (i.e. – residences and yards). This will be completed at a fee of \$35.00 for new worksheets or any changes to an existing worksheet. This will then be attached to your application form RP-305 or RP-305-r which is filed with the Tompkins County Assessment office.

The deadline for submission of this form is April 1, 2013 so please get your requests for Soil Group Worksheets in earlier than this date. For more information on this program and to determine whether you are eligible for this exemption please visit <http://www.orps.state.ny.us/pamphlet/exempt/agassess.htm> or call the Tompkins County assessment office at 607-274-5517.

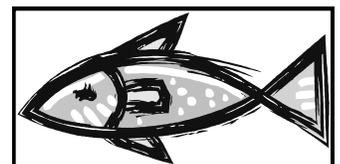
NYSDEC Endorsed 4-Hour Erosion and Sediment Control (E&SC) Training

Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District will be holding a NYSDEC Endorsed 4-hour Erosion and Sediment Control Training on March 5th at the Brooktondale Fire Department. Registration begins at 9:30 am with the class beginning at 10 am. Lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Angel Hinickle at (607) 257-2340 or angelybas@tcswwd.org. The cost is \$95 per person.

Who Needs to Take the Course?

Under the SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity, certain contractors (referred to as Trained Contractors) and certain Qualified Inspectors are required to complete 4 hours of Department endorsed training in the principles and practices of erosion and sediment control (E&SC) every 3 years. Per the permit, an owner or operator of construction activity must have each of the contractors and subcontractors identify at least one person from their company to be responsible for implementation of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and have at least one individual on site on a daily basis when soil disturbance activities are being performed. These persons are referred to as the "trained contractor(s)" and are required to complete 4 hours of NYSDEC endorsed erosion and sediment control (E&SC) training. Qualified Inspectors (i.e. individuals working under direct supervision of, and at the same company as, a licensed Professional Engineer or Registered Landscape Architect of NYS) are required to complete 4 hours of E&SC training under the General Permit.

2013 TREE SALE ORDER FORM
AND 2013 FISH STOCKING ORDER
FORM ARE INCLUDED INSIDE THIS
NEWSLETTER!



Thatsalotta Tires!

The Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District held a Tire Collection Day on Saturday October 13th with the cooperation of the Lansing Highway Department. 1,298 tires were collected from county residents. The tires were then trucked to Liberty Tire Recycling in Lockport, a state permitted tire recycling facility. They reuse or recycle over 25 million tires a year and 99% of what is recycled stays out of landfills. The material is used to make rubber mulch, rubber mats, rubberized asphalt roads, and portable speed bumps. For information about how the Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District continues to protect and conserve our natural resources, please visit our website at www.tcsxcd.org, or call our office at 607-257-2340.



2012 Hydrilla Treatment

Treatment of the hydrilla infestation in Cayuga Inlet ended on October 31st. This year three herbicides were utilized for treatment; Aquathol K (Endothall), Sonar Genesis (Fluridone – liquid), and Sonar One (Fluridone-pellets). The Aquathol K application occurred on June 26th and resulted in elimination of all hydrilla within a few days of treatment. There was no evidence of hydrilla plants one week after treatment. Treatment with Sonar Genesis and Sonar One began on July 12th and ended on October 31st. No live hydrilla was found during the treatment period, except for a hydrilla shoot near the Lighthouse in the fall. The concentration of herbicide appears to have prevented any new growth of hydrilla and prohibited production of turions or tubers. The pre and post-treatment data will be further analyzed this winter.

For more information, please visit stophydrilla.org.

Stream Restoration Projects Completed in Tompkins County

The Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District just completed three stream restoration projects all within the Sixmile Creek Watershed, near Brooktondale in Tompkins County. Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee caused about 300 ft. of Banks Road to be washed out, in where the stream migrated over 90 feet around a meander bend. The Town of Caroline received FEMA assistance and Tompkins County SWCD contracted with the NYSDEC through the WQIP program to complete the work. This impressive project included a realignment of the creek bed for construction, rebuilding of the road, installation of multiple cross vanes, root wads for fish habitat, 1000 live willows and hydroseeding to help with stability. The Boiceville Road area included the installation of a rock vane wall to provide streambank protection where erosion was occurring downstream of a bridge. The Central Chapel Road project involved realignment of the stream channel where cross vane structures and J-hooks were used to direct the stream flow and create riffle/pool habitat structure to the stream. Thank you Jon Negley, Conservation Technician for your hard work & expertise on these projects.



Banks Rd. before



Banks Rd. after



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DISTRICT SERVICES

- Hydro-seeder (fee) • No-till Drill (fee for rental) • Broadcast Seeder (loaned out for free) • Soil Sampling (fee) • Pond Site Evaluations (fee) • Streambank Erosion, Technical Assistance • Drainage Problems, Technical Assistance • Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans • Grazing Plans • Pasture Improvement • Educational Presentations and Resources • Ag-Plastics Baler



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Tompkins County SWCD
1771 Hanshaw Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

Soil & Water Conservation Districts
in New York State



Providing Today, Protecting Tomorrow



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2013

**ITEMS FOR SALE AT THE
SWCD OFFICE**

- BLUEBIRD BOXES \$ 15.12 *
- BAT ROOSTING BOXES 18.36 *
- WOOD DUCK BOXES - PINE 43.20 *
- KESTREL/SCREECH OWL BOXES 29.16 *
- RAIN BARRELS 59.40 *
- FERTILIZER TABLETS15/EACH
- MARKING FLAGS VARIES
- TREE PROTECTORS - AVAILABLE AT TREE ORDER TIME ONLY, CALL FOR PRICE
- RAIN GAUGES 14.04 *
- NYS STANDARDS & SPECIFICATIONS FOR EROSION &
SEDIMENT CONTROL. 70.00
- NY CONTRACTORS EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL FIELD NOTEBOOK
35.00
- SOIL GROUP WORKSHEETS - NEW 35.00
REVISED 35.00
- TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS 7.00*
- TREE & SHRUB PROGRAM VARIES
- FISH STOCKING PROGRAM VARIES
- BARLEY STRAW (PER BALE) VARIES
- GIFT CARDS ANY AMOUNT!

* 8 % SALES TAX INCLUDED



Save Paper! Save Postage! Would you like to receive our newsletter through your e-mail, instead of in your mailbox? Let us know that you would like to conserve! E-mail sethdennis@tcsxcd.org to sign up or call our office and ask for Seth, 257-2340.

Board of Directors

- Ron Updike Chair, Member at Large
- Dan Carey Vice-Chair, Farm Bureau
- Alan Teeter Grange
- Frank Proto County Legislator
- Pat Pryor County Legislator

District Staff

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- Teresa Burch District Secretary/Treasurer
- Angel Hinickle Resource Cons. Specialist
- Gene Aarnio Grazing Technician
- Seth Dennis Education Coordinator
- Jon Negley Conservation Technician
- Aaron Ristow Natural Resources Program Specialist/
Ag-Team Coordinator (USC)

USDA-NRCS

- Patrick Barry District Conservationist
(Schuyler & Tompkins Counties)
- Lori Beach Civil Engineer Technician (Area III)

***Board meetings are held monthly on the 2nd
Monday at 12:30 P.M. in the District office. The
public is always invited.***

Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District
1771 Hanshaw Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

Phone 607-257-2340 Fax 607-257-7896

www.tcsxcd.org

The Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.

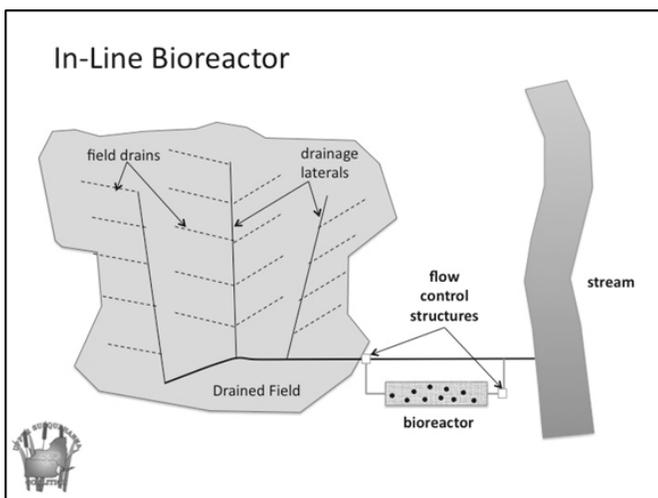
The Upper Susquehanna Coalition of Conservation Districts to Evaluate Ag Drainage Denitrifying Bioreactors

In NY, the agricultural community is under pressure to comply with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulation to reduce excess N and P delivery to the Chesapeake Bay. Therefore innovative, reliable and proven treatment technologies for N and P removal need to be identified to increase the potential for further nutrient loading reduction into sensitive waterways and meet TMDL target allocations for New York State by 2025.

The Upper Susquehanna Coalition of Conservation Districts encompassing the Chesapeake Bay Headwaters is partnering with Cornell University through the support of a NY NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant.

The primary objective of the project is to demonstrate the nitrogen and phosphorus removal effectiveness of 6 Denitrifying Bioreactors (DNBRs) located across the region. Simply put, DNBRs are relatively shallow trenches or pits filled with woodchips and biochar to treat effluent from agricultural tile drainage (see below). The woodchips support denitrifying bacteria that, under saturated conditions, produce an anoxic environment for the bacteria to flourish. Biochar is a processed solid carbon material that is an effective sorbent and used within the wood chips to immobilize Phosphorus.

The project will focus on identifying what and how factors influence removal efficiency and inform the NRCS denitrifying bioreactor interim standard (747). The project will also use the sites for demonstrations to educate local landowners and primary stakeholders about mitigating non-point source pollution. In addition, the demonstration sites and the data collected from them will be used to train conservation and regulatory personnel and private service providers. We expect the overall outcome will add another BMP to our tool belt that can effectively reduce non-point source pollution and provide levels of risk aversion to producers.



2012 Cover Crop Workshop Co-Sponsored by The Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Cover crops have received increasing interest from farmers in recent years. The reasons vary from erosion control and nutrient uptake to improved soil quality, increasing organic matter and field trafficability. As fertilizer prices continue to increase and producers aim to reduce N loss to the environment, producers are asking about the N benefits of cover crops for silage corn systems.

To meet the increasing interest and share expanding knowledge about cover crops in our region the Upper Susquehanna Coalition of Conservation Districts, encompassing the Chesapeake Bay Headwaters, partnered with the NRCS to sponsor the annual Cover Crop Workshop and Tour. The workshop was held on November 15th 2012 at the NRCS Plant Material Center in Big Flats, NY.

The annual event supports maximizing the number of sustainable farming systems in our region through the use of cover crop mixtures in farmer's rotations, the promotion of soil health improvement, and providing research and farmer experience to recommend management practices that will increase the likelihood of successful cover crop implementation. The increase utilization and improvement in cover crop management maximizes soil health, minimizes fertilizer inputs, and provides for an economical way to conserve water quality and protect the long-term sustainability of soil through erosion control.

The event brought together over 100 conservation professionals, extension agents, consultants and farmers. Attendees were able to see the field demonstrations and hear directly from researchers and farmers how they have experimented and successfully managed cover crops in their systems. It was emphasized that cover cropping pays off by reducing fertilizer and herbicide inputs while improving soil quality.

Spring Fish Stocking



Every year around late March to early April the Tompkins SWCD helps the NYS DEC stock local creeks with thousands of Brown Trout. This is a "put and take" fishery which means that most of the fish that are stocked each year get fished out by local and regional anglers. In order to keep this practice going, volunteers are needed to distribute hatchery raised fish up and down streams from various points that the stocking truck will stop at. If you are interested in helping with the effort please contact the office at 257-2340. We will give you some information about the events along with specific dates and locations as the time gets closer. This is a "kid friendly" event!

TOMPKINS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2013 Spring Pond Stocking Order Form

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <u>RAINBOW TROUT</u> | <u>Order By:</u> April 21 | <u>Delivery Date:</u> April 27 at 11:30 AM |
| <u>TRIPLOID GRASS CARP**</u> | May 10 | May 18 at 11:30 AM |
| <u>CHANNEL CATFISH</u> | May 10 | May 18 at 11:30 AM |
| <u>LARGEMOUTH BASS</u> | June 7 | June 15 at 11:30 AM |
| <u>BLUEGILL</u> | June 7 | June 15 at 11:30 AM |
| <u>FATHEAD MINNOWS</u> | 3 different delivery dates available. Follow order deadlines above for other fish delivered that day. Delivery dates: April 27, May 18, June 15 | |

Instructions for Fish Pick-Up

- A Pond Stocking License application should be obtained from NYS DEC or Tompkins County SWCD, and must be returned to DEC before placing fish into your pond.
 - Deliveries: will take place at Tompkins County SWCD located at 1771 Hanshaw Road, Ithaca. Please be prompt. The hatchery truck will not wait and we cannot hold your fish.
 - Containers: use clean milk cans or garbage cans with plastic liners and lids. Each container must be large enough to hold 15 to 20 gallons of water.
 - Water: BRING WATER FROM YOUR POND. Do not use chlorinated water to transport your fish.
- **Tripliod Grass Carp: You MUST obtain a Permit from NYS DEC (607-753-3095, ext. 213). You MUST bring your signed permit to receive Grass Carp on the delivery date.

PAYMENT DUE AT TIME OF ORDER

Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District is NOT responsible for the loss of fish during transport by owner, or once the fish are in the pond.

| SPECIES | STOCKING RATE | PRICE | QUANTITY | COST |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Rainbow Trout 5-7" (Kamloop) | 300 Per Acre | \$19.00/10 | | \$ |
| Largemouth Bass 4-6" | 100 Per Acre | \$29.75/10 | | \$ |
| Bluegill 2-4" | 300 Per Acre | \$13.75/10 | | \$ |
| Channel Catfish 6-8" | 200 Per Acre | \$19.00/10 | | \$ |
| Fathead Minnows 1-3" April 27th May 18 th June 15 th | PLEASE CIRCLE DELIVERY DATE | \$16.50/lb. | | \$ |
| Tripliod Grass Carp 11-15" | Permit Specified | \$20.00 ea. | | \$ |
| 10 lbs. High Protein Food 1/8" Floating | Under 7" fish | \$12.00 | | \$ |
| 10 lbs. High Protein Food 3/16" | 7" and up fish | \$12.00 | | \$ |
| Pond Colorant – Algae control | 1 bag per 1/4 acre | \$24.00 4/\$90.00 | | \$ |
| | | | TOTAL | \$ |

Name: _____ Home Telephone: _____
 Address: _____ Work Telephone: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____

Send Payment & Order Form To: Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District
 1771 Hanshaw Road Ithaca, NY 14850

Make checks payable to *Tompkins County SWCD*. There will be a \$25.00 charge for any returned check.
 Please call the office (607) 257-2340 for any questions or if you would like to pay by credit card. No refunds for fish not picked up on the delivery date.