



# SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION NEWS

United We Stand



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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[www.tcswcd.org](http://www.tcswcd.org)

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2012 FISH SALE ORDER FORM INSERT ENCLOSED!

## Soil & Water District Employee Receives Statewide Recognition

Jonathan Negley, Conservation Technician was awarded the Division IV Merit Award for his outstanding service to the Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) at the annual Soil & Water District Water Quality Symposium (WQS) held in Auburn on March 15<sup>th</sup>. The WQS is the one time throughout the year that employees from across the state meet to attend a variety of training sessions. It is also a time to recognize individuals and districts that have performed above and beyond everyday expectations.

Jon started out with the Tompkins County SWCD as an AmeriCorps volunteer seven years ago. After his term had ended, he was promoted to the Conservation Technician position in which he excelled. Some of Jon's accomplishments include becoming a certified wetlands delineator, writing numerous successful grants for stream restoration projects, and his knack for working with landowners, municipalities, highway departments, county departments, and many other agencies. In the summer of 2010 Jon wrote and managed a grant for a large stream restoration project and supervised the construction. It was so well designed it sustained no damage during the floods of September 2011. Other projects that Jon is involved with at the district include pond site evaluations, designing and installing rain gardens, agricultural assessments, Flood Hazard Mitigation Program, and was the leader in obtaining herbicide treatment permits from the DEC and Canal Corps to begin the eradication of hydrilla found in Cayuga Lake.

"I could not ask for a more dedicated Technician..." Says Craig Schutt, the District Manager of the Tompkins County SWCD. This award is only given to one individual in any division each year. Division IV is comprised of ten counties throughout the south central region of the state. Congratulations to Jon for this accomplishment.



## 2012 Fish Order Form is included inside this issue!

Grass Carp \* Channel Catfish \* Largemouth Bass \* Bluegill \*  
Fathead Minnows



The Tompkins County SWCD is offering:

**RPM Trees**

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## **Trumansburg High School Envirothon Team takes 1st for Tompkins County, and wins it all at Southern Tier Regional Envirothon!**



The Trumansburg High School Envirothon team known as the "Aquatards" took first place for Tompkins County, and first place overall at this year's Southern Tier Regional Envirothon. They beat out 38 other teams from Broome, Chemung, Schuyler, Tioga and Tompkins Counties.

The team consisted of Corina Miner, Josie Kinsie, Russell Limber, Marina Howarth and Julia Zuckerman with Team Advisors Carissa Mann Parlato and Sue Stein. The team will now represent Tompkins County at the 2012 New York State Envirothon on May 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> at Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY.

The Southern Tier Regional Envirothon was held at the Tioga County Sportsmen's Association, in Owego on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Other teams competing from Tompkins County were TST BOCES "New Visions Red" placing second, New Visions "Blue" placing third, New Visions "Gold", The George Junior Republic "GJR Aggies", and The George Junior Republic "Erno's Eager Egrets".

The Envirothon is an outdoor, hands-on, environmental/natural resources competition for high school students. They are tested in the subjects of Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and this year's current issue of "Low Impact Development". The NY State winners go on to the Canon® Envirothon, to be held this July at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA. The Envirothon is free to high school participants and is supported by County Soil and Water Conservation Districts nationwide. All funding is raised at the local and state levels.

## **Chesapeake Bay Report: 650,000 Ag and Forest Acres Conserved in 16 Months**

*Syracuse, New York, April 2, 2012* – A new report from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service shows that with NRCS assistance, Chesapeake Bay region farmers, forestland owners and other partners put conservation practices on 650,000 acres of working land between May 2010 and September 2011. That amount of acres nearly equals the land area of the state of Rhode Island.

"New York farmers and forest landowners in the bay watershed are voluntarily stepping up and implementing conservation practices needed to protect and sustain natural resources, agriculture and their communities," said NRCS Acting State Conservationist Carrie Mosley. "This past year, \$3.4 million dollars in financial assistance was allocated to 53 landowners along the Susquehanna River in ten New York counties. Projects funded and installed under the initiative include cover crops, riparian forest buffers, prescribed grazing, and waste storage facilities."

The Chesapeake Bay 2011 Activities Report also states that farmers and forestland owners put nearly 61,000 conservation practices on agricultural land in the Bay region during NRCS' 2011 fiscal year. Popular practices included manure management, planting grasses along streams as well as other methods of preventing sediments and nutrients from entering waterways that feed into the bay.

These efforts support actions underway through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative (CBWI). NRCS provides technical and financial assistance through CBWI to agricultural producers to help them apply conservation practices that benefit the bay and waterways in the bay watershed.



*The Tompkins County SWCD recently assisted the NYSDEC and other volunteers with trout stocking throughout Tompkins County.*





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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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**1771 Hanshaw Road**  
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Soil & Water Conservation Districts  
in New York State



*Providing Today, Protecting Tomorrow*



**SPRING NEWSLETTER 2012**

**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 TABLETS ..... .15/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](mailto: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
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**District Staff**

- Craig Schutt ..... Conservation District Manager
- 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)
- Josh Hornesky ..... Soil Conservationist

***Board meetings are held monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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](http://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.***

## NY State Budget Includes Money For Hydrilla

Ithaca area Senators announced on March 28th that the new state budget includes \$800,000 to help local efforts to stop the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla. Hydrilla was found just last year in Cayuga Inlet.

The Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District has estimated that it will cost between \$700,000 and \$1 million annually for an effective five to eight year eradication program. The state funding was announced in a joint press release from Senators Tom O'Mara (R-Big Flats), Mike Nozzolio (R-Seneca Falls), and James Seward (R-Oneonta).

The plant was discovered in the Inlet in August and has been known to be in the United States since the 1950s. The discovery last summer was the first time it has been identified in the Finger Lakes. The city of Ithaca, Tompkins county, NYSDEC among other partners have contributed to mount an initial attempt to control the infestation with the application of herbicides. Another application of Aquathol K is planned for sometime in May or June. Plant experts and local officials expect the eradication process to continue for several years. The plant can grow up to a foot a day and will completely fill the water column, from floor to water surface, up to a depth of about 20 feet. Because the waterway can become so clogged, it is more prone to flooding.

## Cayuga Inlet Hydrilla Eradication

TCSWCD has submitted all necessary permits to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) for a Spring application of the herbicide Aquathol K. This is the same herbicide that was used in the Fall of 2011. TCSWCD expects the application to occur between May 15<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is anticipated that treatment will occur mid June, however the actual date will depend on plant growth. This year's application will treat 166 acres of the Inlet, from the fish ladder in the southern portion to the entrance to Cayuga Lake. The treatment area includes portions of Six Mile Creek, Cascadilla Creek, and Linderman Creek. It is expected that the treatment will reduce plant biomass by 98%. If you would like to learn more about hydrilla and the work of the Hydrilla Task Force, please visit <http://csetompkins.org/hydrilla>.

## Upcoming Hydrilla Events

**Volunteers sought for Ithaca Farmers Market tabling this summer:** Seeking volunteers to sign up for 2 hour shifts at the hydrilla information table from May - October, on Saturdays and Sundays, 10 am - 3pm. Contact [steward@cayugalake.org](mailto:steward@cayugalake.org) (607) 319-0475

**Ithaca Festival Parade float: Your help wanted!** Anyone interested in prepping or marching can contact Suzanne (607-229-7882, [suzanne@cwbw.com](mailto:suzanne@cwbw.com)) or Bella (609-505-6099). All ages.

**Corks N More informal conversations on hydrilla in Cayuga Inlet:** 5-6 pm May 30. Corks N More, 708 West Buffalo Street, Ithaca (607)-319-4172. Free admission.

**Volunteer Hydrilla Monitoring Cruises Begin:** Volunteer teams will work with Floating Classroom instructors under the guidance of the Hydrilla Task Force to collect lake samples during June and early July. We hope that volunteer monitoring will become a proven, cost-saving technique for collecting information on the status of hydrilla in Cayuga Lake. If you are interested in receiving training and signing up for scheduled volunteer survey cruises (typically 3 hours), contact Bill Foster ([floatingclassroom@cayugawatershed.org](mailto:floatingclassroom@cayugawatershed.org) (607-272-7256))



*The Tompkins County SWCD recently made a trip to the Plant Materials Center in Big Flats to harvest stream-co willows. The willows were cut, and trimmed down into stakes and whips that will be used during the spring/summer for stream stabilization projects throughout Tompkins County.*

**TOMPKINS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**2012 Spring Pond Stocking Order Form**

	<b><u>Order By:</u></b>	<b><u>Delivery Date:</u></b>
<b><u>TRIPLOID GRASS CARP**</u></b>	<b>May 11</b>	<b>May 19 at 11:30 AM</b>
<b><u>CHANNEL CATFISH</u></b>	<b>May 11</b>	<b>May 19 at 11:30 AM</b>
<b><u>LARGEMOUTH BASS</u></b>	<b>June 8</b>	<b>June 16 at 11:30 AM</b>
<b><u>BLUEGILL</u></b>	<b>June 8</b>	<b>June 16 at 11:30 AM</b>
<b><u>FATHEAD MINNOWS</u></b>	<b>2 different delivery dates available. Follow order deadlines above for other fish delivered that day. Delivery dates: May 19, June 16</b>	

**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.

<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>STOCKING RATE</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>QUANTI- TY</b>	<b>COST</b>
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" May 19 <sup>th</sup> June 16 <sup>th</sup>	← <b>PLEASE CIRCLE DELIVERY DATE</b>	\$16.50/lb.		\$
Triploid Grass Carp 11-15"	Permit Specified	\$19.50 ea.		\$
10 lbs High Protein Food 1/8" Floating	Under 7" fish	\$11.00		\$
10 lbs High Protein Food 3/16"	7" and up fish	\$11.00		\$
Pond Colorant – Algae control	1 bag per 1/4 acre	\$24.00 4/\$81.00		\$
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

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.

**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.