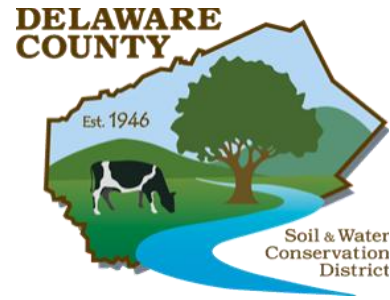


SOIL & WATER ADVOCATE



Winter 2024-2025

December 31, 2024

1946—2025
79 YEARS OF
CONTINUOUS
CONSERVATION
PROGRESS

In This Issue:

- NYC & Susquehanna Watershed works continues 3-4
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- Getting kids involved (Our future is our youth) 9-11
- 2025 Tree and Shrub Sale 12-15

*** Check out 2025 poster contest info on last page!

DCSWCD
44 West Street, Suite 1
Walton, NY 13856
607-865-7161

A Message from Larry Underwood, Executive Director



Dear Readers,

It amazes me how the years seem to go by faster and faster. And this year was no exception! I would like to think that Spring will be here sooner than usual, but we all know that is highly unlikely. Nonetheless, we were able to accomplish an impressive number of very effective and beneficial conservation projects in 2024. The dry Summer and unusually mild Fall helped by extending our construction season. Early corn harvests led to early cover crop plantings throughout Delaware County. You will see plenty of green fields this Spring!

We still have a steadily increasing workload in our three main watersheds. The New York City and Susquehanna watersheds as well as the Tailwaters region of Delaware County lying below the Cannonsville and Pepacton reservoirs all rely on us more than ever to assist farmers, landowners and our communities with water quality resource concerns, flood resiliency and many other soil or water related challenges that our ever-changing climate patterns continue to challenge us with. Pages 3-4 highlight several recently completed projects that address these challenges.

Great working relationships are the keys to success in most aspects of our lives and careers. This is well illustrated on page 5 where you can read about our recent opportunity to assist the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation with a state-wide stream training presented by our Delaware County Soil & Water Stream Program staff.

The Delaware County Soil & Water Conservation District has had their office in Walton, NY for many, many years. We were once located in the basement of the Walton Post Office, further relocated to the Castle on the Delaware, then to the location of the Walton Town Hall on North Street. In 1995 we made yet another move to our current location in the old Sheffield/Borden Creamery and Del-met Corporation Wheel Cover factory at 44 West Street, Walton, NY. We have been co-located with our local and federal partners throughout our history. Recently, our Watershed Agricultural Council Partners asked us to help name our offices as a "one-stop" shop for all our customers. See Page 8 for our new name as well as a list of events taking place throughout 2025. As always, we welcome all of you to stop by our offices if only to just say hello and see firsthand what we do here.

As we often say, our kids are our future and so with that, our staff have been actively engaging our local schools and communities to help build upon a growing awareness of environmental conservation among our youth. You will see on pages 9-11 some fun opportunities and activities that we are offering with more to come. Our youth will someday be the next generations of stewards of our precious natural resources.

Lastly, I want to draw your attention to our annual Tree and Shrub sales program on pages 12-15. Every year we vary our offerings and varieties so customers can plant something new or unique while keeping our usual and most popular trees and shrubs available.

In closing, I want to thank all of our conservation program participants, our loyal customers and our many conservation partners. It's these relationships that always lead to success!

I want to wish all of you a happy, healthy and safe New Year in 2025. We are here to serve you so please call or stop by any time.

Warmest regards, Larry

From all of us at Delaware County Soil & Water Conservation District

"Each day is a new beginning, the chance to do with it what should be done and not to be seen as simply another day to put in time." —Catherine Pulsifer
Happy New Year to you and your family.





Delaware County SWCD

Directors

Bruce Dolph, Chair
Grange Representative, Town of Walton
Andy Kiraly, Vice-Chair
Farm Bureau Representative, Town of Franklin
George Haynes, Supervisor Representative
Town of Kortright
Jim Ellis, Supervisor Representative
Town of Meredith
Jeff Taggart, Practical Farmer
Town of Franklin
Jerry Fraine, Member-at-Large Representative
Town of Meredith
Frank Bachler, Lifetime Honorary Member
Town of Meredith

Staff

Larry Underwood —Executive Director
Mike Burud —Secretary/Treasurer
Danielle Morrell —Data and Budget Specialist
Donna Wood —Administrative Aide, Editor
Rick Weidenbach —Ass't to the Executive Director
Larry Day —Soil and Groundwater Specialist

Susquehanna Watershed Program

Kyle Buel —Technician
Jay Czerniak —Technician
Jessica Davis —Technician
Ian Gedicks —Technician
Brian Danforth —Civil Engineering Technician

NYC Watershed Agricultural Program

Gideon Frisbee —Technical Coordinator
Chris Savage —Civil Engineering Technician
Solvei Blue —Technician
David Adams —Technician/P.E.
Silus Weckel —Technician
Nora Mosher —Technician
Justine McNeilly —Technician
Brian Caruso —Systems Manager

Stream Corridor Management Program

Graydon Dutcher —Program Coordinator
Vacant —Project Engineer
Gale Neale —Engineer
Jessica Patterson —Technician
Jeff Russell —Technician
Mike Coryat —Technician
Jay Dinga —Data and Budget Specialist
Julie Merwin —Data and Budget Specialist
Catherine Skalda —CSBI Coordinator

PARTNERING AGENCIES



Dale Dewing —CCE Team Leader
Paul Cerosaletti —CIG Project Manager
Rich Toebe —WAP Dairy/Livestock Educator
Kim Holden —Administrative Assistant
April Wright-Lucas —Feed Management Planner
Jim Romack —Feed Management Planner

PARTNERING AGENCIES CONT.



Tony Capraro —ASTC - FO
Dennis DeWeese —Acting Watershed Coordinator
Elizabeth Fish —District Conservationist
Quentin Gahan —Area Resource Conservationist
Vacant —Natural Resource Specialist
Claudette Conigliaro —Area Biologist
Brandon Dennis —Resource Conservationist
Dan Flaherty —Resource Conservationist
Rachel Buchner —Resource Conservationist
Kiana Bacon —Soil Conservationist
Hannah Wood —Soil Conservation Technician
Jessica Kilmurray —Program Assistant
Sheila Grossmann —Program Assistant
Sam Ly —Project Engineer
Paula Bagley —State Conservation Engineer
Leanne Nabinger —Civil/Agricultural Engineer
Benjamin Gery —Administrative Assistant
Bonnie Pannebaker —Admin. & Program Support Specialist



Brian Sheridan —County Executive Director
Burkley Boest —Program Technician
Suzanne Ly —Program Technician



Connor Young —Agricultural Program Manager
Brian LaTourette —Program Operations Coordinator
Nate Townsend —Whole Farm Planning Coordinator
John Jackson —Database Manager
Kristan Morley —Economic Viability Manager
Heather Magnan —Communications Director
Ben Hendee —GIS Coordinator
Sara Bolton —Pure Catskills Specialist
Jimmy Sietsma —Database/GIS Specialist
Elaine Poulin —WAP Procurement/Contract Officer
Lorinda Pierce —Executive Assistant
Jackie VanLoan —Executive Assistant
Kaitlin Haynes —Administrative Assistant
Nate Whittaker —Engineering Specialist
Zachary Wildenstein —Engineering Specialist
Rick Hochuli —Engineering Specialist
Rob Orleski —Engineering Specialist
Ben Green —Engineering Specialist
Steve Steenland —Engineering Specialist
Pete Steenland —Technician/Engineering Coordinator
Tim Hebbard —WIRC Specialist
Cindy McCarthy —Nutrient Mgmt./PFM Coordinator
Nate Nero —Nutrient Management Specialist
Garrett Olsen —Nutrient Management Specialist
Kari Sheridan —Nutrient Management Specialist
Ben Hepler —Conservation Planner
Troy Bookhout —Conservation Planner
Dan Deysenroth —Conservation Planner
Dan Vredenburg —Conservation Planner
Dan Gehl —Conservation Planner
Tristan Tait —Conservation Planner
Camberly VanValkenburg —Conservation Planner Assistant
Shylabeth Taylor —Precision Feed Mgmt. Specialist
Vera Neroni —CREP/CSBI Planner
Vacant —CREP Technician

Manure Management Improvements at Golden Gait

DCSWCD technical and planning staff working within the Watershed Agricultural Program (WAP) had a busy year in 2024 completing designs for Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address environmental resource concerns on many New York City West-of-Hudson Watershed farms. Numerous construction projects were implemented across the landscape, including the establishment of new riparian forest buffers, repair work to existing BMPs that support existing long-term riparian forest buffers, and several new BMPs to address manure management. One notable manure management projects was the implementation of a covered barnyard and manure storage for equine at Golden Gait Farm in Sidney Center, NY.

Golden Gait Farm is a horse farm operated by Craig and Karleen DuMond, on property owned by Carole Finch. They have been an active participant in the Watershed Agricultural Program since 2013. Historically, the horses were fed in the barn and outside in various paddocks throughout the year. Manure deposited in the outside paddocks was not able to be efficiently collected and spread on pastures and fields. Paddocks often had inadequate areas for proper treatment of nutrient runoff on the landscape. Additionally, the farm did not have an acceptable area to store manure that was collected in the barn stalls. All of these environmental resource concerns were addressed with the new structure that provides a covered feed pad and manure storage area.

Round bales are fed in a stabilized area that contains any nutrients from manure being deposited. Manure is now scraped from the feed area into the manure storage and later spread according to the farm's Nutrient Management Plan to minimize the risk of nutrient runoff. Manure collected in the barn stalls is transferred to the manure storage as well. The former outside paddocks were seeded down to re-establish permanent vegetation. These BMPs have resulted in great improvements to the farm operation for management of their manure nutrients. This project is a great success story of the partnerships of landowners, farmers, and agencies working together to address environmental resource concerns in our communities.



Photo 1: Previous outdoor feeding area



Photo 2: New covered feed pad and manure storage

Cleaner Streams, Greener Pastures: New Projects Enhance CoMar Farm

CoMar Farm is a small family-owned beef farm located in the Town of Meredith in Delaware County, NY. Mark and Colleen DeGraw raise Wagyu cattle and supply local restaurants and customers with their beef. Like many small beef operations, the producers also work full-time jobs in addition to running their farm. Because of this, there were several environmental resource concerns on the farm that they did not have the time nor finances to address. Cattle were being housed in an old barn and had access to a denuded barnyard during the winter months which is directly adjacent to a stream. The farm had no waste storage facility to hold their manure. In addition, waste could not efficiently be collected from the barnyard causing manure to accumulate.



Photo 1: Denuded barnyard and manure stock pile. Storm-water runoff flowed through this area directly to a tributary.

CoMar article
continued on
page 4.



Photo 2: Lack of a waste storage made collecting and storing manure a challenge.

Cleaner Streams, Greener Pastures: New Projects Enhance CoMar Farm cont'd

During inclement weather, precipitation and upslope runoff would then flow through this barnyard mixing with the manure. This nutrient-laden runoff would then flow into the nearby tributary which is a tributary to the Susquehanna River the primary drainage basin to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

The Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District (DCSWCD) was awarded a New York State Agriculture and Markets Non-Point Source Abatement and Control (AGNPS) Round 27 Grant to implement several conservation Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address these environmental resource concerns. Additional funding was also received through the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) as well as the Upper Susquehanna Coalition's Water Quality Program.

A new 42' by 100' concrete covered barnyard was constructed in 2024 for the herd of approximately 65 Wagyu cattle to feed on during the winter months. This covered barnyard prevents precipitation from mixing with manure and running off into a watercourse. In addition, the concrete floor greatly improved the landowner's ability to operate and maintain the covered barnyard. A new concrete waste storage facility was also built directly adjacent to the barnyard. This design allows manure to be easily be collected and transferred from the barnyard to the storage. This storage is sized to hold 6 months of waste so that it can be held until the appropriate time to spread on the farm's agricultural fields in accordance with the farm's nutrient management plan. New access roads and animal trails and walkways were also constructed to allow for the efficient management of the covered barnyard and waste storage facility.

In addition, an extensive livestock grazing system was developed. This system includes a prescribed rotational grazing management plan with 2 miles of fencing, 1 stream crossing, a new drilled water well, and 7 watering facilities for 70 acres of pasture. An innovative multi-paddock watering system was installed between pastures so the farm can easily rotate their cattle between pastures. This system dramatically improved management of the farm for the DeGraws. With their busy schedule and lack of time to properly manage and rotate their cattle, this system has proven to be a big timesaver.

Lastly, several other conservation BMPs were implemented on the farm. An old, earthen manure storage pit was decommissioned, keeping nearly 450,000 gallons of manure from running off or leaching into adjacent water sources. An old diversion ditch was cleaned out so that it properly conveys clean water runoff. Cattle were also excluded from all hydrologically sensitive areas on the farm. A 2.3-acre riparian forest buffer was planted on the farm along a tributary of Treadwell Creek. This buffer connects to an existing 4.8 riparian buffer area which increases habitat connectivity for wildlife and amplifies water quality benefits. All in all, these conservation BMPs will help protect and improve the water quality of Delaware County, the Upper Susquehanna Watershed, and ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay.



Photo 3: The new covered barnyard and waste storage facility. The left side of the structure is the covered barnyard and the right side is the waste storage facility



Photo 4: Riparian buffer planting and livestock exclusion fence along a tributary at CoMar farm.



Photo 5: Innovative multi-paddock watering system which allows the farm to easily and more efficiently rotationally graze their cattle.

DCSWCD Staff conducts NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Stream Training



Figure 1 Graydon Dutcher, Stream Program Coordinator and Mike Coryat, Stream Program Technician train NYS DEC staff at the SUNY Oneonta College while other NYS DEC listen in the training online.

The NYSDEC Central Office approached the DCSWCD Stream Management Program to conduct a series of stream trainings for their staff across the whole State of New York. Streams Mechanics was the first 2-day training in the series completed in September. Approximately 80 NYS DEC staff attended in-person classroom at SUNY Oneonta as well as online. This hybrid training was necessary in order to fit the busy schedules and workload of the NYS DEC staff after Hurricane Debby impacted several communities in August. The second day of training entailed several sites within the Village of Walton where NYSDEC staff were shown how to measure stream channel width as well as visited past construction projects. "First of all, a huge thank you to you and the entire staff of the Delaware County SWCD! All the feedback I've heard thus far has been extremely positive and you all were the perfect hosts. We are currently planning to follow up with attendees to see what more targeted trainings folks would be interested in. Needless to say, we look forward to working with you all further." Emily Thiel from the NYS DEC Central Office.



Figure 2 Gale Neale, Stream Program Engineer and Mike Coryat measure the stream channel width at a riffle in Third Brook.

DCSWCD welcomes new faces



Figure 3 Hanging out along the West Branch Delaware River as Gale Neale shows how the rock vane deflect the stream flow

In January, DCSWCD welcomed two new employees. Danielle Morrell, Data & Budget Specialist, who is a Franklin Central School Graduate and earned her AAS in Accounting from SUNY Delhi. Danielle really enjoys learning

about the different agencies and how they work together to get the job done. She also enjoys working with grants. In her spare time, Danielle enjoys spending time with her family, 5k's with her friends, bowling and helping anyone in need. Julie Merwin, Data & Budget Specialist for the Stream Program, graduated from Walton Central School District. "As I embark on my journey at Soil & Water, I am excited to dive into the various projects, duties and rewards that await me in this fascinating field. As a proud mom of three active daughters, my life is a whirlwind of school events, sports games, and the thrill of watching them grow. I look forward to my future at Delaware County Soil and Water."



Planning on buying fish next fall? Now's the time to be sure your pond permit is up to date! Contact NYSDEC to find out!



DCSWCD Awarded Two Water Quality Grants

The DCSWCD offered to provide technical assistance and to administer the NYS DEC WQIP grant to the Municipal Highway Departments who were interested in submitting projects. The Town of Harpersfield and the Village of Hobart expressed interest in the grant opportunity and offered to provide the 25% cost share match in the form of cash and/or in-kind services. DCSWCD is excited to announce that we were successful to receive both grants!

Town of Harpersfield received \$500,000 to replaced culverts on Reed Road and Gun House Hill Road. The two culverts are located 180 feet apart and are undersized and deteriorated. In 2023, survey staff noted that the road shoulder on Reed Road had large holes near the culvert outlet abutment indicating potential for failure. The Gun House Hill Rd is a double-barreled culvert that have been catching woody debris and sediment. Due to the close proximity of the Reed Road and Gun House Hill Road culverts, it is imperative to design and construct both culverts together to prevent and minimize damage from future flooding. By installing larger structures at both locations, it would allow for increased water flow during storm events; proper culvert alignment with the stream; and riparian buffer enhancement to create shade to protect the aquatic habitat.

Village of Hobart received \$529,744 to replace culvert on Maple Avenue that conveys Grant Brook. The existing culvert is 5-foot diameter smooth metal pipe with hand-stacked field stone headwall/wingwalls. There is a large scour pool at the outlet with visible evidence that the pipe seams are sagging and deteriorated. Water main/sanitary sewer lines for the Village are contained within the roadway embankment above the culvert. The proposed project will install a larger structure to allow for increased water flow during storm events and will also remove 4-residences from the FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area. The project is warranted to reduce flood risk, increase public safety, protect water quality, and to connect fish passage through the project reach.

Deteriorated culverts should be prioritized based on the multi-benefits to the municipalities such as water quality/aquatic habitat protection, sustaining agricultural/forest economy, and shovel ready designs due to the small amount of funding available. Replacing the culvert with a larger structure will stabilize the stream channel to protect public highway and ensure access to the Town residents and emergency services.

With the increasing precipitation trends, the communities are driven to find solutions that provide long-term water quality benefits as well as economic sustainability. Replacing deteriorated and undersized culverts is one of many initiatives that have been identified in the Stream Management Plans and Local Flood Analysis Plans throughout Delaware County. The long-term goals of the larger structures will protect the municipal infrastructure and will ensure the safety for the local businesses, delivery services, agricultural, local residents and emergency services.

Delaware County SWCD is very excited to collaborate with the Town of Harpersfield, Village of Hobart, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to realize the many benefits of these projects to both the environment and local infrastructure.



Figure 1 View of Reed Road culvert inlet. Note the boiler plate structure is misshapen and the bottom is rusted through.



Figure 2 View of Gun House Hill Road double culvert inlets. Note the woody debris caught by the undersized culverts.



Figure 3 View of Maple Avenue culvert inlet with the constricted opening. The Grant Brook stream channel narrows down to the metal boiler plate culvert inlet.

Innovative Manure Management About to Happen in Delaware County!

The Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) awarded to the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District (DCSWCD) to implement innovative management technologies is actively advancing through a leadership partnership of the DCSWCD, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County (CCEDC) and the Watershed Agricultural Council.



Variable rate disc-coulter liquid manure injection tanker tool bar

This multi-year project will help farms in Delaware County and the West of Hudson NYC Watershed implement these technologies to improve water quality protection and farm productivity through a custom manure handling and spreading service being built through the project in a public-private partnership. This custom manure service, in addition to providing much-needed manure spreading capacity in Delaware County, will implement disc-coulter manure injection, GPS-based precision manure application rate control and precision manure application mapping, and enhanced manure transport capacity. Due to limitations of the size of the farms in the region, their ability to invest in this technology and manure infrastructure, the geography of our region (small fields, hilly terrain), and lack of full-service custom manure services in the area, these technologies are not currently being used here.

A series of farmer interest meetings throughout 2024 garnered the interest of 25 farmers who signed up to participate in the project, representing annual manure commitments to the project of nearly 15 million gallons of liquid manure, 7,500 tons of semi-solid manure, and over 1600 acres of coulter-disk injected liquid manure. The project team also implemented an extensive request for custom manure services proposals solicitation and selection process throughout the fall of 2024, resulting in the selection of Albanos Precision Application, a local custom services business owned by Frank and Marc Albano. The Albanos have a long partnership with local conservation programs, are familiar with our farms, and custom field operations. We are excited to partner with them.



As-applied GPS precision ag manure map

The project is made possible by a \$3 million federal United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) CIG for On-Farm Trials awarded to the DCSWCD. Through a shared services agreement between the DCSWCD and CCEDC, Paul Cerosaletti is serving as Project Coordinator. The local project team is also collaborating with Cornell University and Virginia Tech University to evaluate the project impacts.



Albanos Precision Application Variable-rate semi-solid manure spreader

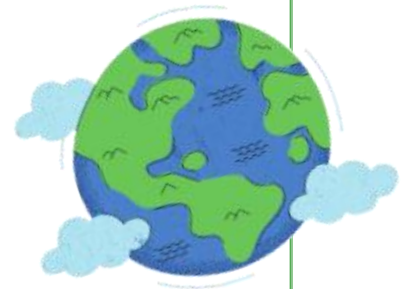
The project is gearing up rapidly to begin manure applications in spring and summer of 2025. The future of manure management is coming to Delaware County now!

Welcome to the Walton Agriculture Resource Center

The new name for our businesses at 44 West St.

2025 Events

- ◆ January 2025– Catskill Regional Agricultural Conference
- ◆ January 2025-DCSWCD Tree and Shrub sale begins
- ◆ February/March 2025-CCE Winter Beef Workshop
- ◆ February/March 2025-CCE Winter Sheep and Goat Workshop
- ◆ March 1, 2025-Agricultural Assessment Paperwork due
- ◆ March 3, 2025-DCSWCD Tree and Shrub Sales end
- ◆ March 2025-CCE Winter Crop School
- ◆ April 12, 2025-DCSWCD Tree and Shrub Sale pick up
- ◆ April 2025-SUNY Delhi Earth Day Planting
- ◆ May 2025-SUNY Cortland NYS Envirothon Competition
- ◆ May 2025-New Pure Catskills Guides issued
- ◆ May 2025-National Association of Conservation Districts Stewardship Week
- ◆ May 2025-Walton Central School District Career Day
- ◆ May 2025-Macroinvertebrate Activity with Stamford School
- ◆ June 2025-Meredith Dairy Fest
- ◆ July 2025-CCE 95th Annual Delaware County Farm Tour
- ◆ July 2025-Crop Reporting due
- ◆ August 2025-Delaware County Fair
- ◆ August 2025-DCSWCD Fish sale begins
- ◆ September 2025-Clean Sweep
- ◆ September 2025-NACD Poster Contest Starts! See us for poster boards!
- ◆ September 2025-Cauliflower Festival
- ◆ September 2025-Delhi Harvest Festival
- ◆ September 2025-Bovina Farm Day
- ◆ October 2025-DCSWCD Fish Program Sale Pick up
- ◆ October 2025-Hootenanny-Maple Shade Farm
- ◆ October 2025-Belleayre Fall Fest
- ◆ October 2025-Ag Program Farm Tour
- ◆ October 2025-Posters Handed into DCSWCD
- ◆ Economic Viability Micro-Grants/contact office for specific information



DCSWCD staff 2024 Riparian Buffer Stewards assisted the Upper Susquehanna Coalition planting and taking care of thousand's of baby trees again this season! Thank you to all of our hardworking Delaware County Stewards for all of your efforts in maintaining and monitoring reforestation efforts!





Hey kids! NACD's new 2025 Conservation theme isssss....yup you guessed it!

Home is Where The Habitat is

Please have fun working on this cool activity sheet and dream about what you will create for next years NACD Poster Contest! Keep your eyes and ears peeled for more information about when this will start! In the mean time keep thinking conservation and how you can help! Any questions call us!

Habitats

Name: _____

Date: _____

Color, cut out, and paste each animal or plant into the habitat where it thrives

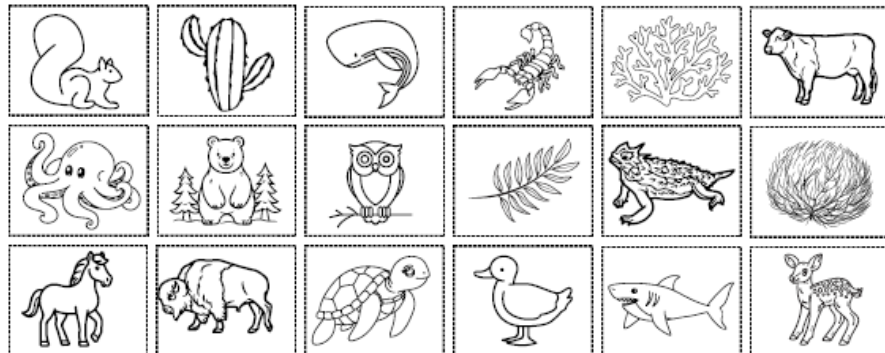
DESERT	GRASSLANDS	WETLANDS

Squirrel
Cactus
Whale
Scorpion
Coral
Cattle
Octopus
Bear

FOREST

OCEAN

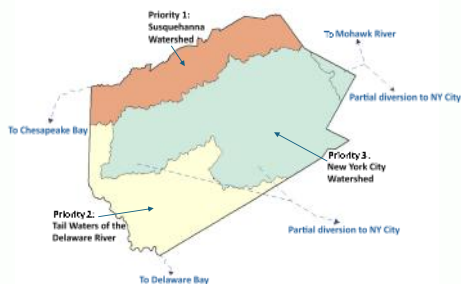
Owl
Fern
Horned Lizard
Tumbleweed
Horse
Buffalo
Duck
Shark
Deer



National Association of Conservation Districts Stewardship Week 2025 Primary Worksheet



Get to know your DelCo watersheds!



Answers on Page 11-no cheating

Abiotic	Animal	Aquatic
Biome	Biotic	Canopy
Climate	Conservation	Districts
Ecosystems	Enviroments	Floor
Forest	Habitat	Home
Life	NACD	Riverbanks
Stewardship	Terrestrial	



E W H Q P U A E T W T C F L N D V Q A Y
N I A K S I M B C O O H L A A S I W H M
N Q B O W O H A I N S T O M C T N I I P
N U I J I O N S S O E U O I D N U X T H
O R T B X O B E D F T E R N V E V F C R
N P A S P A R I I R J I T A C M H T B Y
K K T Y E V A L T P A M C A O O O F V Y
R S K N A B R E V I R W F F M R B D Q V
J L Q T C E C O S Y S T E M S I J W X D
J B I O T I C B G W W P G T J V L J L L
X O N S A Y S U Y D B Q Y L S N M C Z Z
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X H O Y T N F B P Q G M F E W N P Y I A
W K O R F S R K U J P Q D S Z N K Y R Y
K W Z M E S L A I R T S E R R E T M B R
B Q O E E S T H A P S T C I R T S I D U
O D J R Q I T D T B X Q F W K H U X I D
X G D P C R Z U D F M F S G Z R V O B Q
Z C P L U E P F W B T G M V P U L L Y W
X U Y O C G N L S H M B M J Q I Y D Z T

Local County Youth Artists Are Found!

Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District hosted our 2nd National Association of Conservation District Poster Contest. We were surprised to receive 110 posters from the talented kids in Delaware County. The fun posters featured this year's theme of "May the Forest be with You Always". This contest is open to ALL Delaware County youth grades K-12 (including homeschoolers, Boy/Girl Scouts, summer programs, FFA, clubs or any individual child).



One winning poster from each category will be picked by our employees at 44 West St., Walton to move onto the NYACD office and from there they have the potential to move onto the National Level. The National contest offers cash prizes to the top three posters in each category.

- First-place \$200.00
- Second-place \$150.00
- Third-place \$100.00

Winners are announced in February 2025 at the NACD's Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City.

We hope that you enjoy the posters and the creativity of the students as much as we did. We are looking forward to seeing next year's posters. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Wood or Jessica Patterson.



• Local County Youth Artists continued



7th-9th category



10th-12th category

CHECK OUT OUR INTERNSHIPS

- Earn College Credits
- Gain Work Experience
- Protect our Environment
- Serve the Community

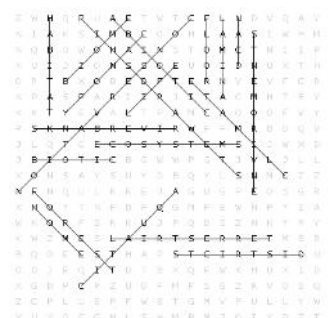
Call (607) 865-7161 to learn more



Answers for
page 9
word search

Above and left :

DCSWCD staff and Stream Program Staff demonstrate stream characteristics using our stream table. This interactive stream table makes it a fun way to teach youth and adults alike about our waterways.



Trees for Tributaries Program: An Opportunity to Reforest Your Streamside Areas

Are you located in the Susquehanna watershed? Do you have a stream running through your property? Streams are their best when the riparian area, or land area next to the stream, is forested. The New York State Department of Environment Conservation's "Trees for Tributaries" Program provides landowners with native trees and shrubs at no cost to reforest these streamside areas.

If the riparian area is not vegetated, or if the vegetation is of poor quality, stream stability is vulnerable. This vegetation, or riparian buffer, provides many services in regard to stream stability, but also to terrestrial and aquatic habitat. The riparian area aids in stream stability by slowing flood waters as well as reducing bed and bank erosion. Both aquatic and terrestrial habitats benefit from this area too- shaded streams have lower temperatures and higher oxygen content providing for a more habitable area for invertebrates and fish. Riparian buffers filter out nutrients from storm water, therefore protecting waterways from nutrient pollution, and the diverse, shaded riparian area provides for a refuge and corridor for land animals. Plus, pollinators and migratory birds are attracted to these areas!



Additionally, riparian forest buffers enhance aesthetic and economic value of our properties, may create privacy green screens, or create hunting ground.

Upper Susquehanna Coalition is here to help you plan and plant your buffer through this program. The main eligibility requirement is to have a stream on your property. Private and public sites qualify for the program.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the program, please contact: Lydia Brinkley (lbrinkley@u-s-c.org) at the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, or Jessica Moore (jessica-moore@dcsbcd.org) at Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District at (607) 865-7161.



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



TREE & SHRUB GENERAL INFORMATION

BAREROOT STOCK: Our trees and shrubs are bare root, with no soil attached to the roots. They are dipped in a gel, then packaged in damp shavings and heavy kraft paper to preserve moisture.

PLANT SIZE: Actual tree heights may vary slightly from those shown on the order form. Most orders may be easily transported in an average car.

PLANT AGE: The first number in the age indicates the number of years of growth in a seedbed; the second shows the years in a transplant bed.

For example, 2-2 indicates a

four-year old tree with two years in a seedbed and two in a transplant bed. Though transplants are more developed, seedlings are economical and much easier to transport and plant, making them a good choice for larger plantings.



Ten 12-inch,
3-year old
seedlings



Ten 16-inch, 4-year old
transplants

PLANTING TOOLS: Steel planting bars are 39" long with a footstep and blade "spike." The bars easily penetrate difficult and rocky soil cleanly; they work great for quickly planting bare root stock.

TREE SHELTERS: Shelters protect and foster young hardwood trees in the first crucial years of development. Shelters include a 5' hardwood stake and zip ties. Benefits include:



- ◇ Protection against deer and animal browse
- ◇ Minimizing wind damage to branches and foliage
- ◇ Reduction of drought stress through moisture retention
- ◇ Ventilation allows plants to acclimate to dynamic conditions

INSURING PLANT SURVIVAL: For optimum survival, trees and shrubs should be planted immediately, but bundles may be stored in a cool, dark place for up to a week. Bundles should not be immersed in water. Once planted, they should be watered and monitored regularly.

PLANT MORTALITY: The Delaware County SWCD is not responsible for the success or failure of plantings. We cannot check a planting location or guard against improper handling or storage, pests, or weather-related problems. We protect and maintain the healthy condition of plants in our care and cannot be responsible for refunding or replacing plants.

DATES AND DEADLINES: Place your order by Monday, March 3. Pickup is Saturday, April 12. No refunds can be made for plants not picked up.

PAYMENT: Please make checks payable to DCSWCD if not ordering online and must include paper order form. Please do not send cash through the mail.

2025

Don't forget!

**Online
Ordering at**

dcswcd.org

**all major credit
cards accepted**

**ALL ORDERS DUE
MONDAY
MARCH 3**






**ORDER EARLY
FOR BEST
AVAILABILITY**

**PICKUP
SATURDAY
APRIL 12 AT
SWCD OFFICE
IN WALTON**

**Call
607-865-7161
for more
information**

**DELAWARE
COUNTY**



Species (*New)		++Age	Size	Price for bundles of:		Total Number of Stems	TOTAL COST
				10	100		
 CONIFERS	TRANSPLANTS						
	White Spruce	2-2	15-24"	\$35	\$259		
	Norway Spruce	2-2	15-24"	\$43	\$314		
	Fraser Fir	3-2	10-18"	\$43	\$314		
	Balsam Fir	2-2	10-18"	\$47	\$341		
	SEEDLINGS						
	Norway Spruce	3-0	10-15"	\$19	\$138		
	White Pine	3-0	6-12"	\$20	\$149		
 HARDWOODS	Black Walnut	2-0	24-36"	\$32	\$231		
	Black Cherry	2-0	24-36"	\$32	\$231		
	Pin Oak	2-0	24-36"	\$32	\$231		
	Swamp White Oak	2-0	24-36"	\$32	\$231		
	Sugar Maple	2-0	12-18"	\$28	\$204		
	Hybrid Chestnut *	1-0	10-18"	\$30 for 5 plants			
	 SHRUBS	American Cranberry	2-0	18-24"	\$34	\$248	
Elderberry		2-0	24-36"	\$35	\$259		
American Hazelnut		2-0	18-24"	\$28	\$204		
Black Chokeberry		2-0	24-36"	\$32	\$231		
Buttonbush		2-0	24-36"	\$32	\$231		
 FRUIT CROPS	BlueRay Blueberry	2-0	15-24"	\$30 for 5 plants			
	Jersey Blueberry	2-0	15-24"	\$30 for 5 plants			
	MacIntosh Apple		1/2-7/8"	\$25 <u>EACH</u> tree			
	Freedom Apple *		1/2-7/8"	\$25 <u>EACH</u> tree			
	Kristin Sweet Cherry *		3/8-1/2"	\$28 <u>EACH</u> tree			
	Summit Sweet Cherry		3/8-1/2"	\$28 <u>EACH</u> tree			
	Anjou Pear *		1/2-7/8"	\$25 <u>EACH</u> tree			
	Hosui Asian Pear *		3/8"	\$25 <u>EACH</u> tree			
	Madison Peach *		1/2-7/8"	\$25 <u>EACH</u> tree			
 SUPPLIES	3' X 3' Weed Control Mats with Pins			\$1.75 each or \$150/100			
	Planting Bars			\$68 each			
	5' Tubex Combitube Tree Shelter w/5' Stake			\$8.50 each or \$75/10			
	Fertilizer Tablets (10 gram, 20-10-5)			15¢ each or \$115/box of 1000			

++ Age: First number is years in a seedbed; second is years in a transplant bed.
5' Tubex Combitube Tree Shelters are only recommended for use on Hardwood Tree species.

NOTE: 2025 pricing reflects increased costs from our suppliers

TOTAL ORDER \$

When ordering online there may be processing fees and contactless payment charges that will be added to your online Square payment.

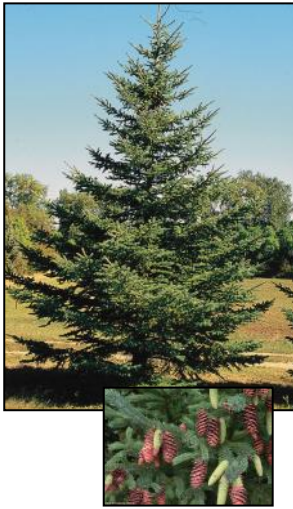
Name _____
Please print clearly

Email _____
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Mailing Address _____

Daytime phone _____ Cell _____

**All major credit cards are accepted! Don't forget the order online option! Or:
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO DCSWCD MAIL TO: 44 WEST ST. Ste 1, WALTON, NY 13856**



White Spruce

- Christmas trees, windbreak
- Slow to moderate growth to 100'
- Compact, regular branching
- Short, green needles
- Significant food/nesting source for wildlife
- Attracts butterflies
- Low deer browse
- Native to New York
- Well-drained soil to seasonal wetness



Norway Spruce

- Windbreaks, screenings, lumber, wildlife habitat
- Moderate growth to 80'
- Large, showy cones
- Branches droop with maturity
- Good roosting home for hawks and owls
- Easy to grow; fastest growing of the spruces
- Grows best in full sun
- Well-drained soil to seasonal wetness



Fraser Fir

- Very popular Christmas tree species
- Reaches height of 80'
- Pointed crown of silvery white aromatic foliage
- Dark blue-green needles
- Pleasant scent
- Intermediate in shade tolerance
- Softwood used for pulpwood, crates, and frame construction
- Prefers slightly acidic rocky to sandy soils



Balsam Fir

- Best known for use as Christmas trees
- Slow growth; 45-75' H to 20-25' W
- Evergreen, 4-6" cones, smooth bark
- Likes moist, well-drained, acidic soil
- Full or partial sun
- Lumber, wildlife habitat, windbreaks, essential oils, deer browse damage



White Pine

- Grows to 50-100' tall and 50-60' wide
- Blue-green, long, soft needles in clusters of five
- Tolerates most moist, well-drained soils
- Favorite food for deer
- Serves as shelter for forest dwellers
- Lumber



Black Walnut

- Fast growing to 80-150'
- Lumber used in furniture and gun stocks
- Fruits for food and wildlife in October
- Moist, rich, well-drained soil
- Shade intolerant
- Disease and pest free
- Inhibits other plant growth
- Native to New York



Black Cherry

- Grows 1'-2' per year to 60'-80'
- Pendulous clusters of white flowers in spring
- Edible 1/2" fruit matures in July-August
- Fruit used in jellies, wine
- Wood used for furniture
- Food source for wildlife, insects, migrating birds
- Thrive in wide range of soil, climate and drainage
- Native to New York



Pin Oak

- Excellent shade tree
- Fastest growing of the Oaks; 2+ feet per year
- Noted for its environmental value for wildlife
- Deep red to scarlet leaves in fall
- Grows to 60'-70'; pyramidal shaped tree



Swamp White Oak

- Excellent shade tree
- Attractive peeling bark
- Orange-gold autumn leaves, acorn fruit
- Acid moist well-drained soil
- Drought, salt, and heat tolerant
- Transplants well
- Grows to 50'-60'



Sugar Maple

- Grows to 50' high, has spreading canopy
- Loved for its sap to make maple syrup
- Slow to medium growth rate of 12"-24" per year
- Stunning red, gold and orange leaves in fall
- Provides habitat and food for several wildlife species
- Prefers well-drained soils



Hybrid Chestnut-New!

- Chinese American Hybrid
- Best growth in slightly acidic soil
- In best conditions can be a very fast grower
- Resistance to chestnut blight
- Prefers well-drained soils
- Delaware County grown at the Forest Exchange Nursery.



American Cranberry

- Hardy in our zone
- Grows 8-12' tall/wide in a rounded shape
- Showy white flowers in the spring, with yellow to purple foliage in fall
- Edible, bright red berries from fall though winter attracts birds and wildlife
- Medium growth rate of 13-24" per year
- Prefers well-drained, moist soil and partial shade to full sun



Elderberry

- Vigorous, native shrub
- Grows to 6'-12' tall, 5'-10' wide; fast-growing
- Used in streamside buffers
- Extremely winter hardy
- Great habitat and food source for wildlife
- Vitamin C rich fruit used in wine, jam and syrup
- Dark berries ripen in late summer; easy to harvest
- Hollow stems useful for hobby carving
- Prefers moist, well-drained soil



MacIntosh Apple

- Ripens Mid-September
- Heavy producer
- Medium to large apples
- Bright red with a little green/yellow
- Mildly tart taste
- Great for apple sauce, baking, and cider
- Partially self-pollinating, but does better with a pollinator
- Semi-dwarf rootstock



Freedom Apple-New!

- Ripens late September
- Disease resistant
- Large bright red fruit
- Juicy tender flesh
- Cold hardy
- Great for apple sauce, baking, and cider
- Pollinator needed
- Mid bloom time



Button Bush

- Multi-stemmed bush
- Grows 6-12'
- Glossy, dark green leaves
- White ball like blooms
- Long lasting blossoms in clusters
- Buttonlike balls of fruit
- Suited to wet soils
- Trunks are often twisted
- Nectar for Hummingbirds and butterflies



Black Chokeberry

- Deciduous tree
- Ht. 3-8'; Width 2-6'
- Upright, rounded plant form
- Plant in full sun
- Dark green glossy leaves
- 2-3" clusters of white flowers
- Choke berries are also known as Aronia berries



American Hazelnut

- Rugged, native, nut-bearing shrub
- Grows 10' high, 12' wide
- Extremely cold hardy
- Yellow and red fall colors
- Tasty nuts for eating, roasting, and oil-pressing
- Wood, shells, and husks have numerous uses



Anjou Pear-New!

- Originated in Belgium
- Large egg-shaped fruit
- Bright green skin
- Does not change color when ripening
- Ripens in late September
- Cold Hardy
- Early mid-bloom
- Versatile, with a wide array of culinary uses
- Can be used in pies, salads, or pureed for sauces
- Sweet and juicy with a subtle lemon-lime flavor



Hosui Asian Pear-New!

- Large, round, golden brown pears
- Ripens late summer, early fall
- Firm and juicy fruit
- Requires a pollinator
- 10-15' in height
- Sweet flavored
- Originated in Japan
- Blooms mid-spring
- Loves full sun



Madison Peach-New!

- Self-pollinating
- Bright red fruit
- Ripens late August-early September
- Medium sized, freestone fruit
- Tree is hardy, vigorous, and frost resistant
- Fruit is rich in flavor



Jersey Blueberry

- Late season berries
- Medium sized, sweet
- 4' - 5' tall at maturity
- Reliably vigorous producer
- Crack resistant
- Fast growing in acidic soil
- Cross pollinate for better yields
- Full sun



BlueRay Blueberry

- Midseason producer
- Extra large berries with extra sweet taste
- Cold hardy
- Ripens in July
- Self pollinator; but ideal for pollinator for other varieties
- Abundant berry producer
- Light blue berries that will not crack



Summit Sweet Cherry

- Vigorous grower
- Excellent disease resistancy
- Abundant fruit with firm texture
- Large heart shaped fruit
- Resists cracking
- White blooms
- Dark red fruit when ripe



Kristin Sweet Cherry-New!

- Very cold hardy
- White blooms
- Ripens in July
- Requires a pollinator
- Blooms early-mid spring
- Produces a heavy crop of large, gloss, purplish-black cherries
- Crack resistant
- Firm and juicy fruit

Delaware County SWCD
44 West Street, Suite 1
Walton, New York 13856

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2025 NACD Conservation Poster Contest!
Please call 607-865-7161 with interest,
questions and/or comments. Or watch
DCSWCD Facebook page!

All orders
due
Monday
March 3

Pickup
Saturday
April 12

Call
607-865-7161
for more
information.

Like us on Facebook and Instagram!



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For Tree and Shrub /Fish Sales!

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Credit Card fees on purchases will be applied.