

Seedling

Spring 2016

**Get your submissions in for the
Photo Contest**

**South Schuylkill Garden
Club Annual Plant Sale**

SEEDLING SALE BENEFITS SWEET ARROW LAKE

See you at the Bear Creek Festival!

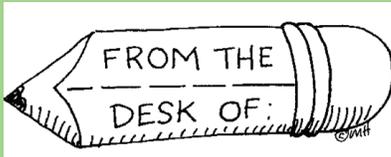
**YOU CAN HELP TO CLEAN UP SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.
JOIN SKIP IN THEIR EFFORTS!**

News Journal of the



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES

The bright blue of bluebirds really stands out in a number of meadow habitats here in Schuylkill County. A lot of good people, including Gary Bair of Port Carbon who has built many bluebird houses over the years, have done much to enhance habitat, build houses, and count these beautiful birds that nest in spring.



MANAGER'S CORNER

Liz Hinkel, District Manager

It's with mixed emotions that I write this column, because this will be my last one as District Manager. Several months ago I made the decision to leave the Schuylkill Conservation District, in order to return to the family farm full time.

Finding a way back to the farm has always been my goal, so I am very excited that I am at a point where I can make it happen. The average age of a farmer in the United States is 55 years old, and rising. It's very important that younger farmers stay involved in the business, because we need farms to continue for future generations. I am thrilled that I have this opportunity to return to the farm, but also to be an advocate for agriculture.

I am also glad that it will give my children more opportunity to be involved in the farm, just as my husband and I were when we were growing up. If our children decide to farm, they will be the 7th generation of both of our families to do so. I learned many valuable life lessons, as well as a good work ethic, growing up on the farm, and I want that for my children.

While I am thrilled to be heading back to the farm, it's bitter-sweet for me. I have enjoyed my time here at the SCD so much. This organization is truly special, and it's thanks to the board and staff. An organization like this is only as good as the people who are a part of it, and this team is one of a kind!

During my time as manager, the SCD has been through some real struggles. It hasn't been easy, but I am leaving knowing that the district is stronger because of them. I know that the SCD is on the right path for future success. At this time the new District Manager has not been confirmed, but I'm sure you will have the opportunity to hear from him/her in the next edition of the Seedling.

Thank you to everyone for your support of the SCD. This is an amazing organization, and I am so glad to have had the opportunity to be a part of it for the last nine years!



Liz

Settle into your nest and enjoy your "Seedling"



- Page 3—Bear Creek Festival information
- Page 4—Stormwater curriculum unveiled
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- Page 8—South Schuylkill Garden Club plant sale
- Page 11—Throw for the Lake!
- Page 12—Annual Seedling Sale flyer to benefit Sweet Arrow Lake County Park
- Page 14—Your chance to help Penn State Extension

BEAR CREEK FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 15, 2016 12 - 4 p.m.

Schuylkill County Fairgrounds, Rt. 895, Summit Station



Celebrating all things

Environmental

OUTDOORS

NATURAL

Agricultural

in Schuylkill County

FREE ADMISSION—FREE ACTIVITIES—FREE PARKING



Like us on Facebook for #BearCreek2016 updates
Schuylkill Conservation District
570-622-3742 www.schuylkillcd.org



Stewardship Materials available for FREE

The National Association of Conservation District's "We All Need Trees" Stewardship Week is April 24-May 1, 2016. For the first time, all the materials: placemats, posters, bookmarks, student booklets, etc. are in electronic format and are free of charge!

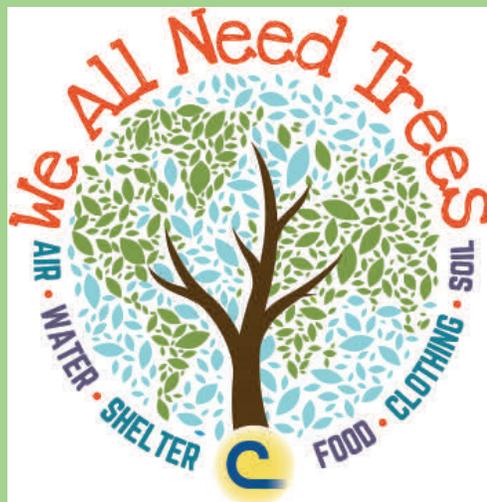
Click on this website to see what is offered:

<https://nacdnet.z2systems.com/np/clients/nacdnet/giftstore.jsp>

If you want to get the electronic file you simply add what you want to the cart and check out. You will then get an email with a link to download the items you requested.

Note: The files with LR at the end are low-resolution and can be printed on a printer in your office. Those with HR are high-resolution and are for professional printing since they include printer marks. For more information:

www.nacdnet.org



Penn State Extension and Pennsylvania 4-H Unveil New Stormwater Education Curriculum, Rain to Drain – Slow the Flow

Rain to Drain – Slow the Flow is a fun and hands-on curriculum designed to teach about the movement of stormwater through natural, developed, and green communities. Concepts covered in the curriculum include runoff and infiltration, impervious surfaces, green infrastructure, human impacts on the environment, flooding, groundwater, forces and the science of motion, and more.

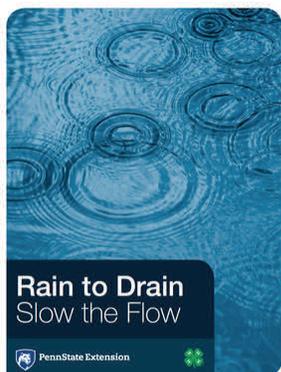
Rain to Drain – Slow the Flow was written with middle school aged youth in mind, but is easily adaptable to younger and older audiences – including the general public. Adaptations for quick demonstrations using the **Rain to Drain** model at community events and fairs are possible.

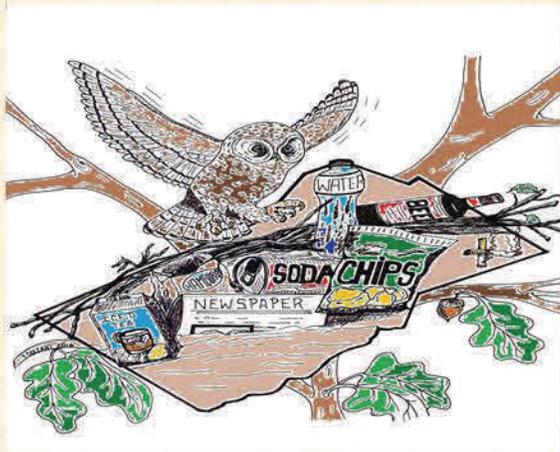
Rain to Drain – Slow the Flow is an inquiry-based science experiment when completed in its entirety. The whole curriculum could be used as a week-long or multi-week module or sections can be completed as independent lessons.

Rain to Drain – Slow the Flow is currently available as a FREE online download. The materials needed to complete the activity with up to 20 participants were specifically chosen to cost you less than \$20, and they are readily available in typical grocery and craft stores.

Click here to check out this innovative, fun, and impactful curriculum at:

<http://extension.psu.edu/natural-resources/water/youth/rain-to-drain>





Schuylkill Keep It Pretty announces...

Out With Litter

Spring Cleanup for Schuylkill County

Join SKIP, PENNDOT and GREAT PA CLEANUP

for a Spring 2016 Schuylkill County Cleanup

Thursday, April 21 to Sunday, April 24 from 9 to noon

Schuylkill County is challenged by litterbugs and needs your help to clean our roadways. You can register now to help during this Out With Litter (OWL) campaign. You'll be doing much to help make our corner of PA to be a better place to live, work and play. Supplies will be provided at the locations mentioned below. Young people, adults, groups and individuals are invited to participate to make our county cleaner.



GROUP/INDIVIDUAL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

ADULTS _____ # YOUTH (TO AGE 18) _____ TOTAL IN GROUP _____

* LOCATION WHERE YOU WILL BE CLEANING _____

* NOTE: indicate whether this is a state highway. If not, then arrangements will be made to pick up your litter bags. If you clean local roads, bags must be taken to a state highway for pickup.

Pickup supplies at these locations prior to April 14:

ASHLAND: Heizenroth Funeral Home, 901 Center Street

POTTSVILLE: Agricultural Center on Rt. 901

MAHANOEY CITY: Borough Hall

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN: Borough Hall

ORWIGSBURG: Borough Hall

SHENANDOAH: Tri-Way Metal Workers

PINE GROVE: Guilford/Gold Mills

TAMAQUA: Municipal Building

Mail this form by April 10 to: SKIP, 91 South Progress Avenue, Pottsville, PA 17901



There are two themes:

“It’s Schuylkill County—Naturally!”

and “Nature Matters to Me”

**2nd Annual
GIVE US YOUR
BEST SHOT
PHOTO CONTEST**



- **TIMELINE:** Contest runs from February 1 to April 6, 2016. Photos must have been taken between January 1, 2015 and April 6, 2016.
- **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. Note: One Grand Prize includes the notoriety of the photo being enlarged, matted and framed. It will then be presented to an award recipient at the annual awards ceremony of the Schuylkill Conservation District. The other 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. It is not necessary to submit to both themes but make sure to denote your choice of theme. The first focuses on landscapes, close-ups or beautiful scenes found in our county. The second highlights the connections that people of any age can have with nature. 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:** Mail an 8” X 10” print to: Schuylkill Conservation District, Attn: Porcupine Pat, 1206 Ag Center Drive, Pottsville, PA 17901 **OR** email a JPEG file to: porcupinepat@yahoo.com

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 snapping!

SEEDS



Pinterest has many DIY projects that are eco-friendly. You can get creative and re-use items and help our planet at the same time. Check out Pinterest by clicking on this link:

<https://www.pinterest.com/>



Bats are natural bug zappers! Build your own house by clicking on this link: <http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Gardening-Tips/Build-a-Bat-House.aspx>



There is hope if people will begin to awaken that spiritual part of themselves, that heartfelt knowledge that we are caretakers of this planet.
—Brooke Medicine Eagle

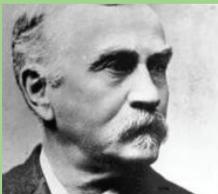
<http://www.50waystohelp.com/>

50 ways that you can help our planet!

Pennsylvania
pursue your happiness™

This is Pennsylvania's new tourism slogan and is inspired by the Declaration of Independence. Tourism in PA is a \$40 billion dollar business with a good portion of that income from outdoor pursuits. For more information:

www.visitpa.com



The cultivation of trees is the cultivation of the good, the beautiful, and the ennobling in man, and for one, I wish to see it become universal.

Julius Sterling Morton, who first proposed a "tree planting holiday" called Arbor Day.
www.arborday.org
April 29, 2016



National Park Week
April 16-24, 2016

Visit any of America's national parks for free all week long!

#FindYourPark



Spring 2016
Page 7

Avian Influenza

Avian influenza (AI), commonly known as “bird flu,” is caused by an influenza type A virus. Avian influenza viruses occur naturally in birds. Wild bird species (such as ducks, swans and geese) can carry the viruses but usually do not get sick from them. However, avian influenza in birds is very contagious and can make some domesticated birds (chickens, ducks, quail, pheasants, guinea fowl and turkeys) very sick or even cause death.

Avian influenza viruses do not usually infect humans, but certain strains of AI have the potential to infect people and are referred to as “zoonotic.” If a highly pathogenic or zoonotic AI strain enters the United States, it could have serious economic and health impacts on the poultry industry and public health.

Current Status in Pennsylvania

No highly pathogenic Avian Influenza viruses have been detected in Pennsylvania since the 1983-84 outbreaks.

Species Affected: Chickens, turkeys, quail, pheasants, ostriches, geese, swans, any feathered animal.

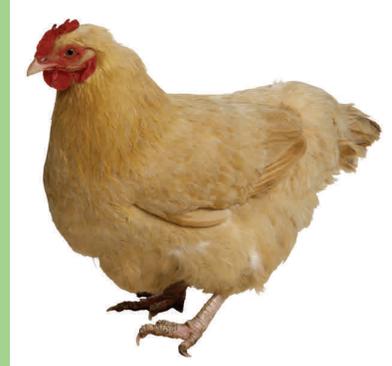
Prevention

Biosecurity is most important for anyone who owns or works with poultry – whether on a commercial farm, in the wild, or at a hobby/backyard farm. You should take proper steps to keep HPAI from spreading. The best way to protect your birds is to follow good biosecurity.

- Keep your distance.
- Keep it clean.
- Don't haul disease home.
- Don't borrow disease from your neighbor.
- Know the warning signs of infectious bird diseases.

Report sick birds.

For a complete guide, [click here for the USDA APHIS website.](#)



ANNUAL PLANT SALE

SOUTH SCHUYLKILL GARDEN CLUB



Saturday, May 21, 2016
7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
46 Avenue “C”
(behind Medical Arts Building)

Hundreds of plants including: premium daylilies, hostas, sedum, vegetable plants (heirloom tomato). Big variety of perennials for sun and shade plus shrubs and small trees. **Prices starting as low as \$1.00!** Take advantage of this sale for starting your garden or adding to an existing landscape. All plants are grown locally. South Schuylkill Garden Club gardeners and Penn State Master Gardeners will be on-site to answer your questions. Also, Monarch Butterfly specialists will be available for information sharing. More info: 570.345.2423

WALK 2016 SCHEDULE



Info for directions or cancellation: (best way via email!) porcupinepat@yahoo.com or 570.622.4124 x 113
Schuylkill On the Move promotes positive steps toward good health through walking.

- * **Sunday, January 31 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.:** “Mahanoy City Meander” Explore the “Town on the Level” with Paul Coombe of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society who highlights points of interest. Meets on North Main Street by Kaier Brewery. (3 miles-moderate)
- * **Sunday, February 14 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.:** “Shenandoah Shuffle” John Domalakes highlights an urban winter hike on Rotary Way. Hike is dedicated to the late Dr. Stan Rakowsky who was superintendent of Shenandoah Valley and a proponent of the trail. (2 miles-easy)
- * **Saturday, February 27 from 10:00-11:30 a.m.:** “Cabin Fever Walk” Porcupine leads you on a walk guaranteed to cure your fever! Meets at the Waterfall Road parking lot of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. (3 miles-moderate)
- * **Sunday, March 13 from 1:00-3:30 p.m.:** “Frackville Foray” Frackville native John Domalakes visits the grave of Frackville’s founder and offers a spectacular view of historic Mahanoy Valley. Meets at Saint Ann Church on Line Street in Frackville. (3 miles-moderate)
- * **Sunday, April 10 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.:** “West Mahanoy Township Nature Trail” Scenery, wind-mills,...what more could you ask for? Porcupine leads you on this new hike that includes checking into all the local cemeteries! Meets at the Coal Miner’s Memorial on the north side of Shenandoah for travel to the hike start. (3 miles-easy)
- * **Saturday, April 16 from 10:30 am 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. Dogs are welcome. (8 miles-moderate)
- * **Saturday, April 30 from 1:00-4:00 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 15 from 1:00-3:30 p.m.:** “Orchid Adventure” Local outdoor enthusiast Tom Pesock takes you on a new path that features many ladyslippers and intriguing stones. Meets initially at the old Schoolhouse Auction on Rt. 924. (3 miles-easy)
- * **Saturday, May 21 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.:** “SCEETR Sojourn” We visit the site of a major watershed improvement project led by Schuylkill Headwaters. Porcupine then takes you along some back country coal roads near the site. Meets at the post office in New Philadelphia along Rt. 209. (3 miles-moderate)
SCEETR=Silver Creek Environmental Education Trail Recreation.
- * **Saturday, May 28 from 10:30 am. to 2:30 p.m.:** “Silver Creek Fire Tower Hike” Very nice turkey and grouse habitat with a stop for lunch at the bottom of the historic fire tower. Meet Park education specialist Robin Tracey in Locust Lake State Park parking lot. Dogs are welcome. (8.5 miles-challenging)
- * **Saturday, June 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.:** “PPL Susquehanna Riverlands/Wetlands Hike” You must register for this hike by calling Robin Tracey at 570.467.2506. Great place to see wild-life. **No dogs allowed.** (6.5 miles-moderate)
- * **Sunday, June 12 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.:** “Kaufman Run Caper” Enjoy Mountain Laurel in bloom as John leads us on a challenging hike on the Broad Mountain. Meets at the south end of the Schuylkill Mall parking lot. (4 miles-challenging)
- * **Saturday, June 18 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.:** “Old Schuylkill Haven Water Dam Hike” Mike takes you to a site that is surrounded on three sides by the Second Mountain Tract of Weiser State Forest. Meets along Ketner’s Road off Panther Valley Road west of Cressona. (4 miles-moderate)

LandSCAPES



"A heritage worth saving is a legacy worth protecting"

www.schuylkillconservancy.org

Conservancy Forestry Committee holds successful workshop

Two very active committees of the Schuylkill County Conservancy collaborated to organize a popular woodland workshop. Called "Woods in Your Backyard" the workshop was geared mostly to the small woodlot owner of ten acres or less. Both the Community Forestry and the Forestry committees worked with Penn State Master Gardeners, Penn State-Schuylkill, and DCNR-Bureau of Forestry to make the program possible. About 80 participants registered and were treated to a variety of speakers that featured Dr. Jim Finley of Penn State main campus who is one of the authors of the manual that was given to participants as part of their registration. Many left brimming with ideas to enhance habitat and look at their woodlot in a new way!



Conservancy board member Ben Vaupel speaks during the workshop while Jessica Simkulet, Penn State Master Gardener and a presenter, looks on. Photo from Republican Herald

**CONSERVATION
TOOLS.ORG**
Pennsylvania Land Trust Association

Good things are happening throughout PA regarding land conservation. This website offers news and tidbits on the conservation of your land.



Do your part to help our local environment! Join the Schuylkill County Conservancy!

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 and you are cordially invited to leave one too!



SATURDAY APRIL 16th

THROW FOR THE LAKE!

SWEET ARROW LAKE COUNTY PARK

PINE GROVE, PA

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT:

THE FRIENDS OF SCHUYLKILL PARKS AND RECREATION

- ◆ **2 ROUNDS OF DISC GOLF**

(Unsanctioned)

- ◆ **PLAYER PACKS**
- ◆ **RAFFLE AND PRIZES**
- ◆ **TROPHIES FOR DIVISION WINNERS!**

ALL DIVISIONS \$30

- ◆ **OPEN**
- ◆ **AMATEUR**
- ◆ **MASTERS**
- ◆ **WOMEN**

AGENDA

REGISTRATION: 8-9 AM

PLAYERS MEETING: 9 AM

ROUND 1: 9:15 AM

LUNCH: 12 PM

ROUND 2: 45 mins after last card is turned in

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED

www.discgolfu.com



For more information contact:

Drew Kline (570)449-8894

drewkline9@gmail.com

FREE PICNIC LUNCH!!!



41st ANNUAL SEEDLING SALE 2016

All proceeds from the sale benefits Sweet Arrow Lake!



Your quality seedlings will increase property value, enhance wildlife habitat, beautify the landscape, improve the environment, and can provide a source of income. Proceeds benefit programs at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. The Sweet Arrow Lake Conservation Association (SALCA) and the Schuylkill Conservation District work together on this sale. **Your support is greatly appreciated!**

- **CONCOLOR FIR:** Extremely popular tree in past sales. Excellent ornamental or Christmas tree. Has flat, soft green to deep blue citrus-scented needles. Hardy because it withstands dry periods and high temperatures. 4 year old seedlings. Size: 8-16.”
- **NORWAY SPRUCE:** Fastest growing of the 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.”
- **BLACK HILLS SPRUCE:** Desirable, symmetrical cone shape to this conifer. Dense bright-green needles mature to an interesting blue-green. Great landscape accent, useful as windbreak or screening. Browsed by mammals and attracts birds. Serves as a good yard or ornamental tree either solo or in a group. 5 year old seedlings. Size: 10-24.”
- **AUSTRIAN PINE:** This is an extremely tolerant pine of adverse soil conditions. This stately tree can be seen in parks, along streets, in residential landscapes, and as farm windbreaks throughout much of the United States. Landscapers use the dark beauty of these trees for backdrops, but it is also an excellent specimen tree because of its leaf pattern. Can grow up to 60 feet high with a 20-40 foot spread. 4 year old seedlings. Size: 10-28.”
- **AMERICAN ARBORVITAE:** This slow-growing tree prefers full sun to partial shade but adapts to a variety of soil conditions. Prefers moist soils but can withstand drought. It grows to a mature height of 25-40 feet, and has a mature spread of 10-15 feet. Makes a good wind-block and provides cover for all types of wildlife year round. 3 year old seedlings. Size: 6-12.”
- **RED MAPLE:** This maple grows at a moderate to rapid rate and does best in bright sun to partial shade. It will grow in a range of soil types from sandy loam to clay. Better soil will result in a better healthier tree. The tree has a pyramidal shape when young. When tree matures it will attain a larger more rounded crown and will grow to a size of 40-60 feet with a width of 25-45 feet. Leaves turn a brilliant red during fall and accent any yard. 2 year old seedlings. Size: 5-10.”
- **RED OAK:** Very popular landscaping tree for shade on lawns, parks and golf courses. This oak is fast growing and easy to transplant. It is tolerant of urban conditions including dry and acidic soil and has abundant acorns that attract wildlife. Leaves turn a brilliant brick-red fall color and adds color to a forest. This tree has been used in mine reclamation sites for revegetation purposes. 2 year old seedlings. Size: 10-24.”
- **TULIP POPLAR:** This tree is considered both a shade tree and an ornamental tree. It features a spreading canopy capable of blocking sunlight and adds visual interest and beauty to landscaping. It is the tallest of the eastern hardwoods—and a rapid grower when conditions are right. 2 year old seedlings. Size: 10-28.”
- **AMERICAN CRANBERRY:** *Popular seedling the last three years!* This is an 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: 10-22.”
- **FORSYTHIA:** Beautiful yellow-flowered shrub that is fast-growing to about seven feet tall. Tolerates poor soil and city conditions. Good for screens and hedges and cover for birds and small wildlife. 3 year old seedlings. Size: 10-24.”
- **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. Insignificant flowers appear in May – June and are followed by 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: 8-18.”
- **COMMON LILAC:** A medium to large hardy shrub with stout, spreading branches developing an oval to irregularly-rounded crown. The showy flowers are fragrant and enjoyed each spring. 3 year old seedlings. Size: 10-20.”

41st Annual Seedling Sale Order Form—2016 To benefit Sweet Arrow Lake County Park



- **ORDER DEADLINE:** Wednesday, April 6, 2016 or while supplies last!
- **PICK UP INFO:** Saturday, April 30, 2016 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) _____



Help 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 =	
Black Hills Spruce	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Austrian Pine	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Am. Arborvitae	10/bundle		X 9.00 =	
Red Maple	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Red Oak	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Tulip Poplar	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Am. Cranberry	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Forsythia	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Winterberry	5/bundle		X 8.00 =	
Common Lilac	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



Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County

schuylkillmg@psu.edu

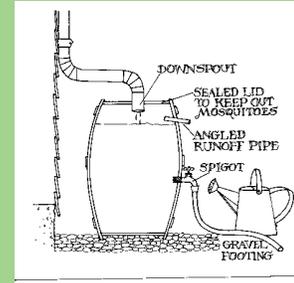
570.622.4225 ext. 13

Penn State Extension sponsors Rain Barrel Make 'N Take

Rain barrels do much to capture water for your flowers, shrubs and trees. Your plants will love the pure and natural water from your barrel. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 26 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Sweet Arrow Lake County Park Pavilion near the Clubhouse. The fee is \$35 and includes the rain barrel, fittings and help with the construction of your barrel. Register online at

<http://extension.psu.edu/rain-barrel/schuylkill>

For directions to Sweet Arrow Lake:
www.sweetarrowlakepark.com



Spring is a time to divide certain perennials plants

PREPARING TO DIVIDE PERENNIALS

Plants that are to be divided should be well watered a day or two before. Prepare an area where you plan to place the new divisions. Cut back stems and foliage to 6 inches from the ground. Pry underneath the plant with a tool and lift the whole clump.



Fountain Grass Purple

Spreading root systems with matted roots, such as grasses and tickseed, can be pulled apart by hand or cut apart with a sharp knife. Make individual clumps with three to five shoots.



Bee Balm

Plants that have clumping root systems such as daylilies and hosta can be divided by cutting through the crown with a heavy, sharp knife.

Educational Bus Trip to Tyler Arboretum



Join the Schuylkill Master Gardeners for this trip to be held on Tuesday, May 17. Tyler Arboretum is one of the oldest arboreturns in northeast U.S. Cost is just \$50. Register on-line at:
<http://extension.psu.edu/mg-tyler>

Please speak up in support of Penn State Extension

The lack of a state budget impacts extension offices throughout PA. We encourage everyone to continue to make your voice heard for agriculture sciences, research, development and education. Letters are effective and phone calls are immediately effective and hard to ignore. Here is the link to find your state senator and legislator to contact them:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/>

To contact the Governor's office: 717.787.2500 or mail: Governor's Correspondence Office, 508 Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120.



You'll be singing too once you find out what these websites offer you!



- **www.earthday.org** - April 22, 2016 is the 46th annual Earth day that continues to inspire, challenge ideas, ignite passions, and motivate people to action. The first Earth Day gave voice to an emerging consciousness and channeled human energy to solving environmental issues.
- **www.PaParksAndForests.org** - Are you looking to give back to the lands that gave you hours of pleasure and millions of memories? This organization is the foundation to help our state forests and state parks. It gives you an opportunity to make a difference today for future generations.
- **www.arborday.org** - Trees provide so much for us from lumber for our homes to food and shelter for wildlife. Arbor Day in Pennsylvania is Friday, April 29 and gives you an opportunity to appreciate the trees all around us and what they provide and what we provide them.
- **www.schuylkillhistory.org** - Site of Schuylkill County's oldest historical society based in Pottsville at the Female Grammar School down the street from City Hall. Much of our county's history can be told with stories about our resources that have created the county that we know today.
- **www.schuylkill.org** - The Schuylkill County Visitors Bureau offers much to the tourist whether local or from out of state. Be sure to check Maps & More to see a trails directory, bird checklist and more. Schuylkill County is naturally beautiful!
- **www.southschuylkillgardenclub.weebly.com** - A very active garden club that has members from throughout the county. Like to garden? You will enjoy the meetings featuring speakers and programs. The club has done much for the community with two pollinator gardens located in Schuylkill Haven and Pine Grove in addition to offering a \$1,000 scholarship for a student and managing Frog Hollow.

Schuylkill Conservation District Board and Staff

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Chair: Glenn Luckenbill • Vice Chair: Scott Graver • Directors: • Commissioner Gary Hess • Stanley Fidler • Helen Masser • Dottie Sterner • F. Diane Wolfgang • Eric Leiby • Glenn Hetherington | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Directors: • Chris Bentz • Wayne Bowen • John Usalis • Robert Carl, Jr. • Frank Zukas • "Boots" Hetherington • Ronny Aungst • Russell Wagner • Ben Vaupel • Wayne Haas • Diana Beausang | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Staff phone extensions for 570.622.3742: • Elizabeth Hinkel, District Manager, 117 • 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 • Christy Zulli, Conservation Program Technician, 114 • Bill Reichert, Upper Swatara Flood Recovery Manager, 118 • Wayne Lehman, County Natural Resources Specialist, 120 • Andrea Geist, Agricultural Program Coordinator, 112 • Jenna Fehr, Conservation Program Coordinator, 123 • Lorie Reichert, Conservation Program Asst., 102 • Drew Kline, Parks & Rec. Supervisor, 122 |
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**See you at the annual
Bear Creek Festival!
Sunday, May 15, 2016
12 to 4 Fairgrounds**



**Spring 2016
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