



Cayuga County SWCD
7413 County House Rd.
Auburn, NY 13021
(315)252-4171
www.cayugaswcd.org

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS—2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10:00 AM
- EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL WORKSHOP—APRIL 9TH (7:45 AM TO NOON)
- APRIL 23RD—LAST DAY TO ORDER TREES
- REGIONAL ENVIROTHON - HIGHLAND FOREST PARK, FABIUS, NY—APRIL 30TH.
- ARBOR DAY—APRIL 25TH
- TREE PICK - UP—MAY 2ND, 8 AM TO 6 PM
- OVERSTOCK SALE—MAY 5TH (8AM TO NOON)
- FISH STOCKING SALE IN MAY FOR MORE INFO. SEE OUR WEBSITE

Conservation Highlights

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2014

Spring is Here

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District is preparing for spring with our many programs. The 2014 Annual Spring Tree, Shrub, and Groundcover Sale is going to be held on May 2nd. We will be selling fish this year to stock your ponds with. We will also be offering for sale: barley rolls for the control of algae in ponds, birdhouses, bat houses, rain barrels, wood duck boxes, etc. Zero Phosphorus fertilizer is also available for sale at the District. The sun is beginning to shine and the flowers are beginning to blossom. Stop by the District to see how we can help you prepare for spring. For more information on these programs, please check out our website at



Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardener seems to be only one of the instruments, not the composer.

~Geoffrey B. Charlesworth

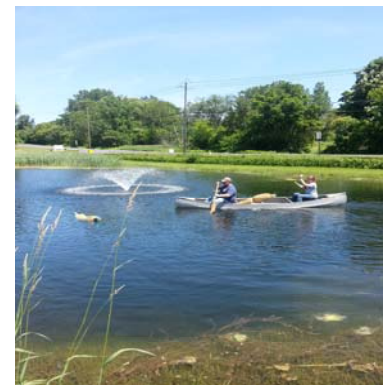
Welcome to our new Owasco Lake Watershed Specialist, Andrew “Drew” Snell. Drew began working with us on March 3, 2014. He brings nearly 15 years of professional expertise with Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout New York State, including 5 years as Coordinator of water quality improvement projects and programs for the Lake Champlain watershed. Drew looks forward to utilizing his experience to continue and enhance the momentum of the inspection and monitoring programs created by past inspectors, Katie and Jessica. He is hoping to engage folks throughout all corners of the watershed in efforts to improve and protect Owasco Lake.

Barley Straw Used to Control Pond Algae

Excessive algae growth is one of the most common problems in ponds. Questions and Answers:

- 1) Does barley straw kill existing algae? **No, rather it inhibits the growth of new algae.**
- 2) When is it most effective to apply barley straw? **Barley straw is most effective when applied before the appearance of algae in the pond (fall through early spring). It remains effective for approximately six months after application.**
- 3) What is the most common application rate for the District's barley rolls? **The most common application rate is about six to eight rolls per acre depending on the shape of the pond.**
- 4) How do you apply so that it is most effective? **It is most effective when applied loosely in cages or netting. It is best to anchor the straw packages to the bottom, but provide a float to keep the straw near the surface of the pond where sunlight and oxygen are more prevalent.**
- 5) Does the District sell it? **Yes,**

the District sells barley rolls (rolled with a float and wrapped in netting) for \$8.00 each.



2014 Spring Tree, Shrub & Groundcover Sale



Daylilies, Hostas, Conifers, Apple Trees, Shrubs, etc. available for sale

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District will be holding their 43rd Annual Spring Tree Seedling and Groundcover Sale. As in the past, the District is offering a variety of New York grown conifers, hardwoods, shrubs, and groundcovers. These seedlings and other plants are a very low-cost way to prevent erosion and to promote wildlife in your area, as well as create noise and visual buffers, and both snow and wind breaks. The Conservation

District will be taking orders through April 23, 2014. The pickup date will be Friday, May 2, 2014. Supplies are limited, so order early for the best selection. There will also be an Overstock Sale on Monday, May 5, 2014 from 8 am to Noon. To get an order form and description brochure, please call the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District at 315-252-4171 or stop by our office located on County House Road in Senett. For further information

and updates you can also check the District's website at www.cayugaswcd.org.



"...I keep looking for one more teacher, only to find that fish learn from the water and birds learn from the sky."
~ Mark Nepo

Congratulations to Mike Riley

for winning the 2014 NYCDEA Division II Merit Award at this year's Water Quality Symposium in Binghamton, NY. Mike has worked with the District for over 11 years and has served the District in many positions. He is currently the Digester Working Foreperson. He has seen the Digester through many challenges and is very well versed in it. We are proud of you and would like to say congratulations and keep up the good work!

Hoopes Park Project

The Cayuga County worked alongside the City of Auburn to complete a nutrient and sediment removal project at Hoopes Park pond, located within the City. The Cayuga County SWCD provided the equipment and operators, while the City provided personnel

that assisted with water control and trucking. The crews worked together to remove approximately 5,400 tons of material that had accumulated throughout the years. The material had been providing nuisance aquatic vegetation, including Eurasian water milfoil the perfect growing substrate.

The nutrient laden material also contributed to algae growth and disrupted the flow of water. The park is a popular destination for local residents who enjoy taking their dogs for a walk, observing the abundant wildlife and landscaped flower beds.



Cedar and Pine Blue-bird Houses available at the District



◀ Floor of the pond with the material windrow ready for removal.

SWCD Excavators ready to load trucks with material for disposal.▶

