



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

# Conservation Highlights

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2015

## 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 30TH—LAST DAY TO ORDER TREES
- REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HIGHLAND FOREST PARK, FABIUS, NY—APRIL 29TH.
- ARBOR DAY—APRIL 24TH
- TREE PICK-UP—MAY 8TH, 8 AM TO 6 PM
- OVERSTOCK SALE—MAY 11TH (8AM TO NOON)
- FISH STOCKING SALE ON MAY 18TH, LAST DAY TO ORDER MAY 12TH

## Legislative Days in Albany

Soil and Water Conservation District Directors, Managers and staff from across New York State met in Albany with our Local State Representatives on March 3, 2015. The message that was brought to Albany included supporting and strengthening the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), the Agricultural Non Point Source Grant Program, as well as, the work of Soil and Water Districts. The EPF listed a \$10 million increase from last year's approved budget and a wide variety of conservation related work is completed with these funds. Increased funding is necessary for the Districts so they can continue to build capacity at the local level within the EPF to support goals that keep NYS's waterways and land resources clean and viable, which in turn, benefits tourism, recreation and local food production for all of NY. The Agricultural Non Point Source Grant Program is a primary funding source for implementation of agricultural related Best Management Practices available only to SWCDs. This opportunity allows Districts to show their Local State Representatives how important the funding is to them and the work that can be done with it.



Cayuga County SWCD's Executive Director and staff with Assemblyman Robert Oaks at Legislative Days. (Right to Left: - Doug Kierst, Assemblyman Oaks, and Mike Riley.)

## 2015 Manure Handling Workshop

A manure handling workshop was held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension with 55 people in attendance. Several local farms attended the event and there were other farms from surrounding counties that attended the event as well.

Talking points on Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans, CAFO required setbacks, permit requirements, weather, spills and more were discussed by the local Region 7 Department of Environmental Conservation, Cornell Pro-Dairy and the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The workshop was held on February 26th, 2015 at CCE.



Presenters were from CCSWCD, NYS DEC Div. 7 and Cornell Pro-Dairy

## 2015 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 44th 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 30, 2015. The pickup date will be Friday, May 8, 2015. Supplies are limited, so order early for the best selection. There will also be an Overstock Sale on Monday, May 11, 2015 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](http://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



## 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.**

Rainbow Trout available at  
the District



## 2015 Fish Stocking Sale

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District will be holding a Fish Stocking Sale this spring. A variety of fish for ponds will be available for sale, including rainbow trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch, bluegill, black crappie, channel catfish and minnows.

Grass carp will also be available, but landowners must have a NYS DEC permit in order to purchase them. The Conservation District is currently taking orders for these species. Orders will be taken through Tuesday, May 12, 2015. The pick-up date is

Monday, May 18, 2015 at 11:00 AM at the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District. For further information you can also check the District's website at [www.cayugaswcd.org](http://www.cayugaswcd.org).