

Summer 2015

Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District

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Conservation Highlights

Cayuga County SWCD

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Wet Summer Weather

As we all know, June 2015 was a very wet month! Most of the weather stations in the area have reported approximately twice the normal rainfall for the month of June. Although work on some conservation projects had begun this spring, many of our planned projects have experienced delays due to the weather. Construction is anticipated to resume as things dry out. We are all hoping that the weather conditions improve for the remainder of 2015.

Special Events:

- MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS (2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10:00 AM)
- JULY 3RD, 2015— HOLIDAY AND OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
- EMPIRE FARM DAYS— AUGUST 11-13, 2015 IN SENECA FALLS.
- STATE FAIR BOOTH— AUGUST 27TH — SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2015 AT THE NEW YORK STATE FAIRGROUNDS IN SYRACUSE.
- LABOR DAY— SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2015—HOLIDAY AND OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
- CONSERVATION FIELD DAYS— SEPTEMBER 22ND AND 23RD, 2015 AT EMERSON PARK

Mathers Road Washout

Severe rains on June 10 washed out a portion of Mathers Road in the Town of Venice. Runoff from the storm plugged the 36 inch culvert with tree limbs and other debris, causing water to



Storm damage along the east side of Mathers Road.

overtop the road. The water flowing across Mathers Road then eroded the roadbed and pavement on the downstream side of the road. The damage was so severe that the road had to be closed while highway departments from Venice, Moravia, and Scipio began remediation. District staff met with the highway department to discuss ways to improve the culvert and road so that they can handle future storm events. The town plans on replacing the existing 36 inch corrugated metal culvert with a 48 inch smooth interior pipe. They are also having a contractor drive piles and place large concrete blocks in order to stabilize the road bank and culvert outlet.

No-Till Seeding

Despite the late spring and wet weather in 2015, the District utilized their tractor and no-till drill to seed two sites totaling 45 acres. The first site included 16 acres of hay and pasture seeding for a beef farm in the Town of Cato. The remaining 29 acres were seeded to warm season grasses and wildflowers for the NYS DEC, at the Connecticut Hill Wildlife Management Area. The District will return to Connecticut Hill

later this summer to mow these fields in order to promote the establishment of this grassland habitat. Anyone interested in a no-till grass seeding should contact John or Jason at the SWCD (315)252-4171.



Bluegill fish from the program .



Fish Stocking Program at the District -

The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District held a successful fish program this spring, with another to be held in September. We would like to thank everyone who purchased fish and also Don Shaw for providing the fish for our program. If anyone is interested in purchasing fish in September, please contact us and let us know.

Tire Recycling Event

The Cayuga County SWCD worked in conjunction with County Planning and Cornell Cooperative Extension to coordinate the County's Annual Tire Round-up that was held at the SWCD Facility on June 13th. Residents were encouraged to recycle their used tires by bringing them to the event for proper disposal. The event charged a small fee to cover the cost of disposal. This year, 192 participants recycled approximately 2,500 tires and 23 pounds of lead during the event.



"About 96% of the wheel weights are still lead, and are recycled separately..." From 2004 through 2015, we have recycled 1000 pounds of lead wheel weights.