



Dirt On the District

Spring Tree Seedling Sale

Each Spring the Conservation District distributes thousands of trees, shrubs and plants through our Annual Tree Seedling Sale.

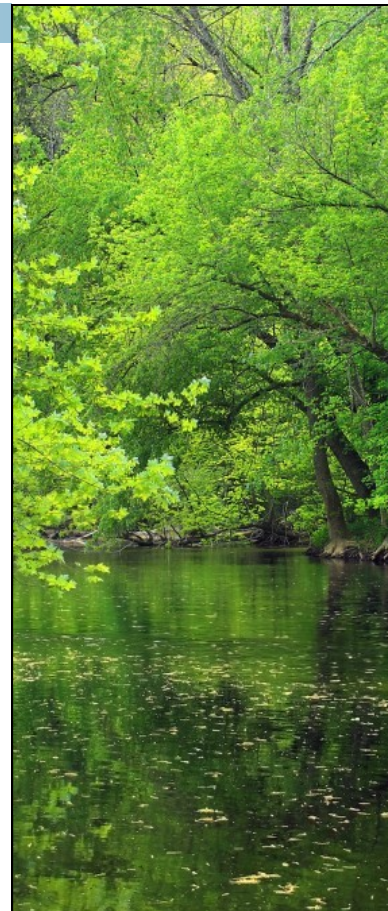
2021 was extraordinary with a record year for number of plants sold.

Evergreen	2,253
Deciduous	1,651
Strawberry Plants, Asparagus and Herb Kits	1,010

Overstock of various seedlings were available for additional purchase and many took advantage. The remainder of tree seedlings were donated to the City of New Castle Parks and Recreation.

A special thank you to the donors this year providing \$130 in donations.

Proceeds from the Tree Seedling Sale fund all of our Environmental Education Programs.



Annual Nature Photo Contest Winners

The results of our **2020 Nature Photo Contest** are as follows:

First Place

**Thomas Minett with
“Eagle Surveying the Connoquenessing” photograph**

Second Place to Shirley Seymour for “Blue Jay and Red-bellied Woodpecker”. Third place goes to Denise Guthery with “Marching Into Spring”.

Winners were awarded prizes of \$100 for first place \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place.

Several Honorable Mentions will also receive a \$10 prize.

Congratulations to the winners!!
We appreciate all that participated.



Thomas Minett “Eagle Surveying the Connoquenessing”



Shirley Seymour “Blue Jay and Red-Bellied Woodpecker”



Denise Guthery “Marching Into Spring”

Lawrence County Conservation District

430 Court Street
New Castle, PA 16101

Phone: 724-652-4512

Fax: 724-657-2008

E-mail: lcd@lawrenceccd.org

Website: www.lawrenceccd.org



**@Lawrence County
Conservation District**



Instagram
LCCD_DOD



LAWRENCE COUNTY EARTH DAY 2021

Lawrence County Earth Day was celebrated differently this year due to COVID precautions. The event was held virtually on the Lawrence County Earth Day Facebook page. There were many environmental education videos and information was shared by numerous organizations and individuals.

The District participated in the event with a post showing how a “little” polluted stormwater runoff can cause BIG problems further downstream. Lawrence County’s runoff ultimately ends up in the Mississippi River where farmers grow crops that feed many people and the river creates vital habitat that is home to plants and wildlife. Pollutants such as sediment, manure, and fertilizer hinder wildlife and crop production. Therefore, we need to promote best management practices to help our friends downstream.

Additional Earth Day topics included:

Storytime with the Ellwood City Library

Penn State Master Gardeners and how they help the county

Microbes Q&A with Bryan Crable, PhD

Art with Amy Drago 4 Heart & Mind

The Spotted Lanternfly courtesy of Penn State Extension

What Can and Cannot be Recycled with the Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling Dept

Solar Power with Solar United Neighbors

Musical Performances by Ron Drago and Jerry & Sandi Rectenwald

Visit Lawrence County Earth Day’s [Facebook event](#) page and check out all of the videos and posts from the 2021 celebration!

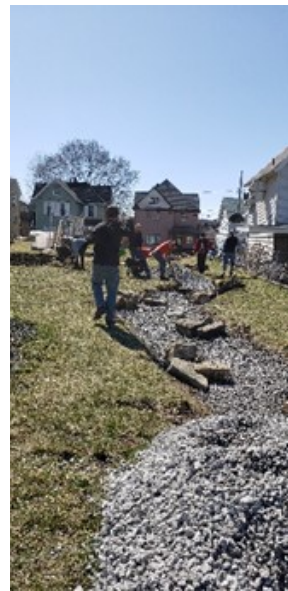


Dry Creek and Rain Garden at the South Side Community Garden

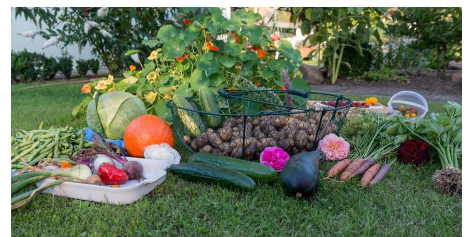
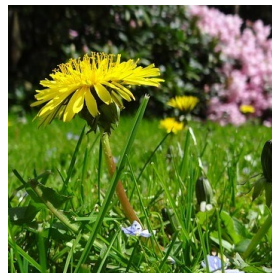
The Lawrence County Conservation District Watershed Specialist, Mary Burris, in partnership with Disability Options Network (DON), neighbors, and volunteers from the Victory Family Church held a work day on March 20th to continue work on the Dry Creek and Rain Garden at the South Side Community Garden. More than thirty volunteers spent a beautiful, warm March morning moving boulders and shoveling gravel.

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced us to work a little differently this year, but we got the job done. The Dry Creek has been completed and will be enhanced with plantings along the creek bed and will terminate in a rain garden planted with flowers to attract pollinators to the garden.

Another work day is planned for May 22nd at 9:00 am to complete planting of the rain garden, plant vegetables, do a neighborhood clean-up, and officially launch the South Side Community Garden.



The Dry Creek in various stages of development



Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Roads

DGLVR Spring Update

Last season, several DGLVR projects were completed on our County's local roadways bringing much needed improvements addressing environmental and safety problems. 2021 will include some construction and a lot of assistance and planning to hopefully initiate even more on-the-ground enhancements to our neighborhoods.

Becca Naber, District Technician, will be working with Shenango Township's municipal forces to complete the last segment of work on Chewton West Pittsburg Road. Work on the roadway will include the replacement of numerous cross pipes, correction of their alignment and addition of new drainage features. In addition to the replacement and installation of new cross pipes, the project will work on installing some Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize the impact of historic mining on this segment of the roadway.

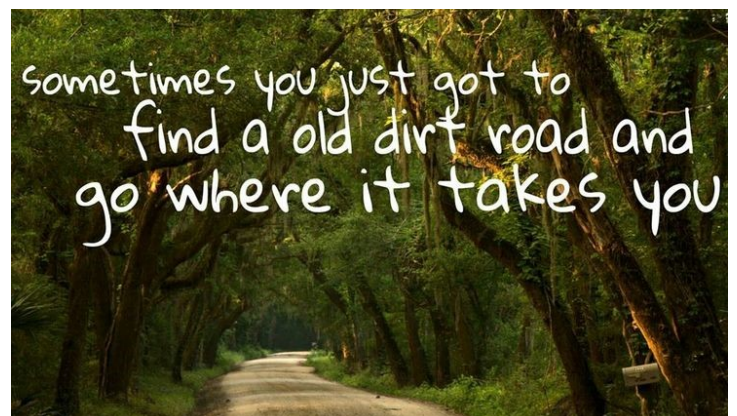


A failing 36-inch cross pipe on Graham Road in Mahoning Township that will hopefully be upgraded during a future DGLVR project.

Located in an area adjacent to historic mining operations always provides challenges when working with stormwater problems. On this particular site, areas of the road bank are failing and contributing additional potential sediment discharge to our roadways and streams. As a part of the scope of work, the project will aim to minimize the instability of the areas around the drainage pipes by installing low maintenance stabilization of the areas "up stream" of the pipes. Following all of the pipe work, the District will assist the municipality in the installation of the Program's Driving Surface Aggregate limestone mix to provide a better less erodible surface.

In addition to the planned construction this season, technical assistance to other municipalities who want to complete projects will be underway. Mahoning Township has requested that the District assist them with a complicated series of drainage problems on Graham Road. Program staff and Center staff are always available to help any municipality who has a problem site and would like to pursue a future application to the program. Assistance with the application and the scope of work for the project is available at no investment to the municipality.

District staff welcomes the opportunity to assist our local municipal partners to create better roads and cleaner streams. Have questions, or simply curious about what all of these upgrades to our area roadways look like in the field? For information contact Becca Naber – District Technician 724-656-2462 bnaber@lawrencecd.org



Chapter 102 Erosion & Sediment Control

NPDES e-Permitting

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) launched the e-permitting online application on January 25th for General NPDES permits and April 21st for Individual NPDES permits.

This system is designed to streamline the submission and review process while decreasing the amount of paper used.

How to Access E-permitting

In order to complete the permit application, a user must first register for a GreenPort account by visiting greenport.pa.gov/gpl. User guides offering detailed instructions on how to register for both Electronic Filing Administrators (Applicants) and Consultants are available on DEP's [website](#).

A dashboard will appear where the new applications will be created and saved. Once the type of permit is chosen, a checklist will be compiled that lists what needs to be submitted.

Is E-permitting Required?

No, e-permitting is not required at this time. It is voluntary but is anticipated to be a requirement at some point in the future. Our office is still accepting paper applications.

Engineering consultants and the public will be made aware on the Lawrence County Conservation District Facebook page when e-permitting is required.

Visit our website www.lawrenceccd.org to download LCCD's E&S Pollution Control Plan Fee Schedule. For more information regarding the permitting process, visit the Department of Environmental Protection's website at www.dep.pa.gov.



E&S Updates

Thus far in 2021, we have:

- Conducted 12 site inspections.
- Terminated 1 General NPDES permit.
- Received 4 new General NPDES applications and permit renewals.
- Issued 3 General NPDES permits

Do you have questions about a future earth disturbance project?

Find out if you need a permit by contacting our E&S Technician, Jillian Court
jcourt@lawrenceccd.org
724-714-3315

Agriculture Best Management Practices

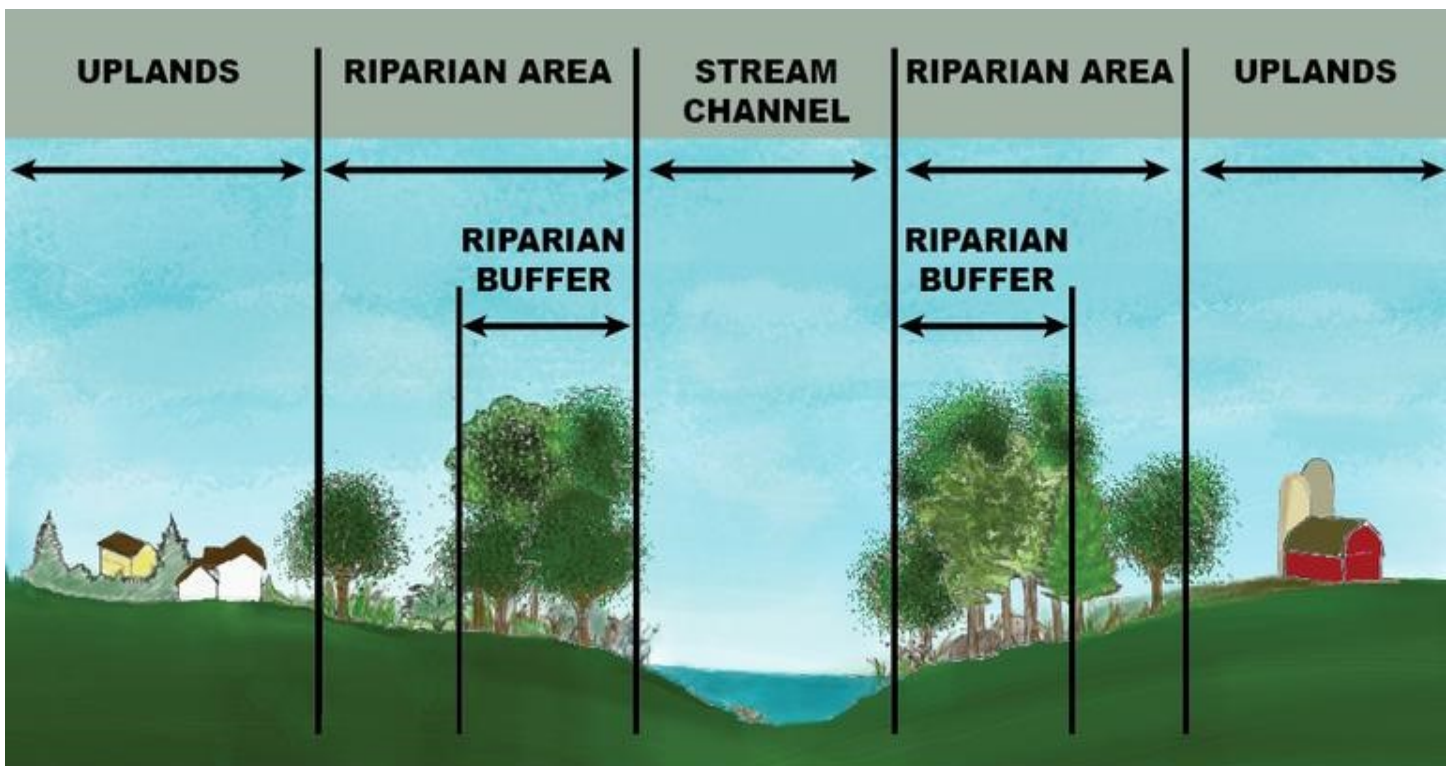
Conservation Buffers

Conservation buffers are a common sense way to protect one of your most valuable assets—your land. Conservation buffers are strips of land maintained in permanent vegetation that help control potential pollutants conveyed by runoff. The dense vegetation slows and absorbs runoff, trapping sediment, nutrients and chemicals that could otherwise be carried away from fields into rivers and streams. Conservation buffers can help producers maintain a productive and profitable farming operation. In addition to providing soil, water and air quality benefits, conservation buffers provide wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities and aesthetic value. Buffers are a visual demonstration of your commitment to conservation and care

Types of Buffers:

- **Filter Strips**—Strips of grass located on the agricultural landscape to intercept runoff and remove the pollutants it carries in suspension or solution before it enters a body of water. Filter strips are effective as cropfield borders and protection zones around lakes, wetlands and on the upland side of forested areas.
- **Grassed Waterways**—Strips of grass that protect natural drainage areas (where topography concentrates runoff) within active cropfields to prevent gully erosion, slow down runoff and trap sediment and other pollutants.
- **Contour Grass Strips**—Narrow bands of grass planted on the contour and alternated down the slope with strips of crops. Runoff escaping the crop strips are slowed down and absorbed in the grass strips.
- **Riparian Forested Buffers**—Buffers planted in trees, shrubs and grasses on both sides of a stream. Effective in absorbing pollutants in both surface runoff and ground water. Protects stream banks from erosion and provides excellent wildlife and fish habitat. Last line of defense before pollutants enter a water body.

Buffer practices are valuable because they are effective, simple and relatively inexpensive. Scientific studies show that when properly installed and maintained, buffers can be as much as 50 percent effective in removing nutrients and pesticides, 60 percent in removing certain pathogens and 75 percent in removing sediment. Buffers are most effective when used as a component of an overall conservation system.



Environmental Outreach

The District provides environmental education programs to both adult and youth audiences. The district hosts a variety of programs such as **Summer Nature Camps** but also conducts programs throughout the year by request.

To help fund educational programs, the district has an **Annual Spring Seedling Sale**. The sale is between February - March with orders being available for pick up in April.

Donations Are Needed

Consider a Donation to our **Summer Nature Camps**.

Donations of Check or Cash can be mailed in or personally delivered to the Conservation Office.

Checks payable to *Lawrence County Conservation District or LCCD*

Credit Card Payments are also accepted through PayPal –
lcd@lawrenceconservationdistrict.org



Do you have a child that loves playing outside or is curious about nature? If this sounds like someone you know, then consider registering them for our

Summer Nature Camp put together by the
Lawrence County Conservation District and the
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

2021 Nature Camp

Nature Camp is a week long Day Camp designed for children entering **grades 3rd - 5th**, where they can learn and discover the uniqueness and importance of water, soil, trees, plants, wildlife and much more. We engage children in fun and interactive hands-on lessons, activities, games and crafts that allow them to explore their natural environment.

Nature Camp will be held **(Monday) July 26th to (Friday) July 30th** at Ewing Park in Ellwood City, PA from 9am - 2pm.

Pick up and Drop off will be at Shelter #8

Nature Camp is limited to 14 participants and will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Registration due by June 25th, 2021.



Volunteers Needed

Summer Nature Camps are always in need of Formal and Informal Educators to offer 30 to 60 minute educational programs.

Those offering general help are also welcome.

Please Contact
jshay@lawrenceccd.org
for a Volunteer Packet

Must have Clearances
Act 33 And Act 34

What you need to know:

1. You must provide transportation for your child.
2. Your child will need to bring a packed lunch each day. The fee does not cover lunch.
- Bottled water and snacks WILL be provided by the District.
3. Camp is outdoors, so make sure your child is dressed appropriately for both terrain and weather. Flip-Flops/Crocs are NOT permitted.
4. State CDC Guidelines for Covid-19 will be implemented at the time of camp week

To Register: fill out the online application at www.lawrenceccd.org
or detach the form at the end of this publication and mail in or bring in to the office
with payment of \$40.00 per child. Cash or Check only.

Checks are to be made out to "Lawrence County Conservation District".

We will contact you with additional information once your child is registered.

*A refund of tuition, due to cancellation, will be at the discretion of the Conservation District.
Also a \$20 service fee on all returned checks.*

2021 Envirothon

Congratulations to the winners of this year's County Envirothon Competition!

First Place Winners from Wilmington High School - Team 2!

They earned the coveted Eagle Trophy!

Second place awarded to Wilmington Team #4 and

Third place to Wilmington Team #1.

40 students - 4 teams from each Wilmington and Laurel High Schools participated.

Due to some local schools having hybrid and/or remote learning, this limited the ability of additional schools to compete.



Team 2 Members:

**Lia Vastano, Morgan Whiting,
Emilie Richardson, Henry Ochs,
Maelee Whiting**

Wilmington Team 2 represented Lawrence County at the Virtual 2021 PA Envirothon held May 10th and 11th.

Thank you to all who Participated and made the day a success! More photos of both schools can be seen on our Facebook page and website.

If you or your school is interested in participating in the 2022 Envirothon Competition, please contact Jeannie Shay at jshay@lawrencecd.org

This project was financed in part by a grant awarded to Pennsylvania Envirothon from the Community Conservation Partnership Program, using Environmental Stewardship Funds, under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation and in part by a grant awarded to Pennsylvania Envirothon under the administration of the Shell Oil Company U.S.



2021 Summer Camp Registration Form

Parent / Guardian _____

Camper's Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Birth Date _____

Grade Entering Fall 2020 _____

School Attended _____

2021 Nature Camp

Entering Grades 3rd - 5th

Due by June 26th, 2021

T-Shirt Size:

**Please Circle size requested*

Youth Small

Youth Medium

Youth Large

Adult Small

Adult Medium

Adult Large

**Mail Application form and
payment of \$40/child to:**

**Lawrence County Conservation District
430 Court Street
New Castle, Pa 16101
724-656-2167 or 724-333-2817**

Sponsorship Opportunity

Education efforts are made possible with your support and help sustain our organization and benefit the community we serve.
Our goal is to educate and promote interest in the conservation of our natural resources to all community members.

Levels of Sponsorship



Bald Eagle Level \$1000

- * Social media "shout-out" on Facebook and Instagram
- * Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- * Advertisement on Nature Camp T-shirts and Envirothon T-shirts
- * Free Advertisement in eight Quarterly Newsletters



Red Tailed Hawk Level \$500

- * Social media "shout-out" on Facebook and Instagram
- * Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- * Advertisement on Nature Camp T-shirts and Envirothon T-shirts
- * Free Advertisement in four Quarterly Newsletters



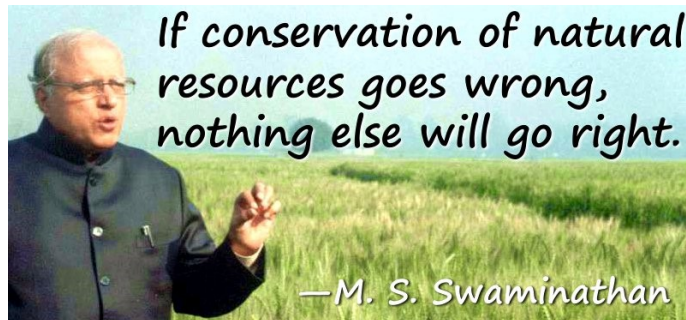
Blue Heron Level \$250

- * Social media "shout-out" on Facebook and Instagram
- * Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- * Advertisement on Nature Camp T-shirts



Robin Level \$100

- * Social media "shout-out" on Facebook and Instagram
- * Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report



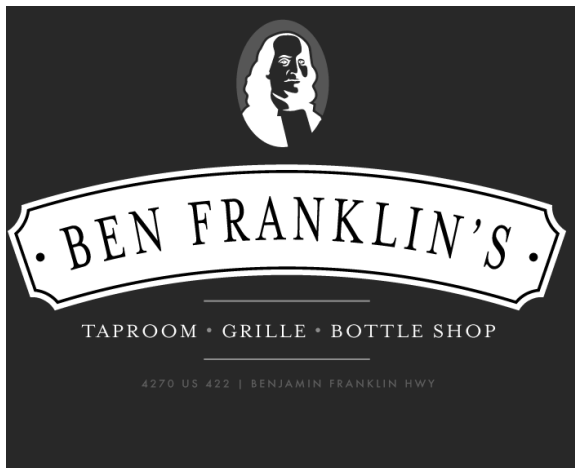
Lawrence County Conservation District Sponsorship Form

Donor Information:

Business Name _____
Last Name, First Name _____
Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Email _____ Phone _____

Donation Amount (please circle one) : \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100

- * Please make check payable to **Lawrence County Conservation District**
- * Any donations earning advertisement will be contacted for ad illustration.



It's why I'm here.

Michael G. Joseph, Agent
 1614 Highland Avenue
 New Castle, PA 16105
 Bus: 724-652-9806
www.agentmichaeljoseph.com

Your home and car are more than just things. They're where you make your memories – and they deserve the right protection. I get it. It's why I'm here.
LET'S TALK TODAY.

State Farm®

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
 Bloomington, IL
 1706811



IMAGINE IF
TREES
 GAVE OFF
WIFI
 SIGNALS

WE'D PLANT SO
 MANY WE'D
 PROBABLY
 SAVE THE
 PLANET

TOO BAD THEY
 ONLY PRODUCE THE
OXYGEN
 WE NEED TO
 BREATHE

Would you like to see your business advertised in this email publication?

Contact us for rates!

Jshay@lawrencecd.org

The "Dirt on the District" is emailed quarterly to over 400 individuals and businesses in Lawrence County and is published on our Webpage and social media outlets.



Help our Facebook Grow!!

Invite your family and friends to "Like" our page as we strive for 1000 Followers before January 2022!!!



**LAWRENCE COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

2021 - Board of Directors

Don Hoye - Chairman
 Blane Sturgeon - Vice Chairman
 Cliff Wallace - Secretary
 Bruce Badger - Treasurer
 Dan Vogler - Commissioner Member
 Phil Dean - Ag Member
 Gary McConnell - Ag Member
 Frank Romeo - Associate Director

Conservation District Staff

Joann McCready	District Manager
Becca Naber	District Technician
Travis Gates	Agriculture Technician
Mary Burris	Watershed Specialist
Jillian Court	E & S Technician
Jeannie Shay	Outreach/Education Technician