



SNYDER COUNTY

A Newsletter from the
Snyder County Conservation District
10541 Route 522
Middleburg, PA 17842
Phone: 570-837-3000

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2017 Farmers Winter Meeting



The Snyder County Conservation District, along with AgChoice Farm Credit, Mifflinburg Bank & Trust, L&M Seed Dealership, Doebler's, Rosetree Consulting, RHP Law Group, LLC and Susquehanna Valley Veterinary will host an agricultural winter meeting on Friday, February 17, 2017 at Christ Community United Methodist Church, 3939 Park Road near Selinsgrove. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. The meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

The Snyder County Conservation district is applying for Pesticide and, Nutrient Management and Manure Hauler/Broker Credits from the PA Department of Agriculture.

Topics include: crop insurance, manure storage and handling safety, conservation district and U.S. Department of Agriculture updates, and agricultural conservation practices. Penn State Extension will give a presentation on GMO crops, pesticide resistance and agronomic crop production.

Lunch is \$5.00 per person. Pay at the door. Call 570-837-3000 for reservations at the Conservation District Office or email at sccd@ptd.net by Friday, February 3, 2017.

If assistance to participate is required, contact the Conservation District by February 3, 2017, for coordination.

All Conservation District, USDA and Penn State programs and services are offered on a non-discrimination basis. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Penn State is an affirmative action equal opportunity University.

Manure Management Workshop for Farmers, Livestock & Horse Owners

The Snyder County Conservation District will hold two workshops to aid farmers and livestock/equine owners/boarders in writing their own manure management plans (MMPs).

These workshops will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2017, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday, February 25, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Conservation District office. Participants will leave the workshop with knowledge and information to complete a manure management plan workbook that meets current environmental regulations required by PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Please register by calling our office at 570-837-3000, extension 110. If you have questions, contact Barry Spangler, Ag. Conservation Technician, at extension 118.

Note: Financial support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection through the Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant, the Clean Water Fund and the Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program (CBRAP). ■

Annual Banquet Coming: March 17, 2017

The Snyder County Conservation District will host its annual awards banquet on Friday, March 17, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at the Christ Community United Methodist Church, 3939 Park Road near Selinsgrove. Traditionally, many individuals, organizations and FFA members are honored for their efforts toward conservation. A delicious turkey and filling dinner will be served.

This year's guest speaker will be Mike Klimkos. Mr. Klimkos will give a presentation on "The Fires of Penn's Woods". Logging, charcoal making, railroads, mining and other industries that helped Pennsylvania grow were all dependent on Pennsylvania forests in order to prosper. Fire followed the axe as the vast forests of the state were cut. Come hear Mike tell the history of what formed our forests.

Featuring Guest Speaker

Michael Klimkos

"The Fires of Penn's Woods"



Tickets may be purchased from Conservation District Directors and Associate Directors or at the Conservation District office during regular work hours. Ticket prices are as follows: Adults are \$15.00, children ages 6 to 12 are \$8.00 and children under 6 are free. **Please purchase tickets by Friday, March 3.** For more information, please contact us at 570-837-3000, extension 110 or sccd@ptd.net.

Snyder County's Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Roads Program

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) currently has funds available to help townships, boroughs and agencies with road projects in environmentally sensitive areas. This funding is made available through the State Conservation Commission (SCC) and Penn State Center for Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads.

The Dirt and Gravel Roads program was established in 1998 to fund safe, efficient and environmentally sound maintenance of dirt and gravel roads. In 2013, the program expanded to also focus on our paved low-volume roads (under 500 cars/day). Since the program started in 1998, the SCCD has provided \$737,854.55 to improve our county roads. Our remaining funding available for 2017 is over \$175,000, with nearly \$72,000 already contracted out for projects this year.

We will be hosting a breakfast, to familiarize township and municipal officials with the program, on February 9, 2017 at the Shade Mountain Winery. There will also be a local training on June 7 & 8, 2017 to certify and recertify our officials. This will be a free training held at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club with more information to come in the near future.

If you have a road or stream crossing that you feel should be considered, please contact your local supervisors who own the road and encourage them to look into the program. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact Craig Bingman or Tim Hornberger at (570) 837-3000.

2016 Spring Township Project at Mattern Road, Faylor Lake



Before



After

Chapter 102 – Erosion and Sediment Control

While the weather outside may be cold, windy and frozen, there are many new projects "in the works" for spring. Whether you are building a new house, proposing an addition to your existing home, or expanding your farming operation with a new barn or manure storage, it is a good idea to check-in with the Conservation District.

Under Pennsylvania Law, earth disturbance activities relative to new construction projects are required to utilize Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize impacts to the water quality of our streams and other water bodies. The size and scope of the BMPs and required planning for the construction project is relative to the amount of proposed earth disturbance.

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) partners with other state and federal agencies to facilitate and administer the Chapter 102 program. Through this program, the E&S staff also works with landowners, engineers, and municipalities to minimize impacts to local water quality of our streams and other water bodies as new construction projects occur.

The SCCD is here to help you through this process. Any project involving 5000 sq. ft. of earth disturbance requires an erosion and sediment plan to be utilized and available onsite. There are times when this plan may need to be submitted to the SCCD for review. When the earth disturbance reaches 1 acre or more, an NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit is required and must be submitted for review and approval through the SCCD. Your local municipality may have further regulations that could affect your project.

For more information or assistance, please contact Tim Hornberger at (570) 837-3000 ext. 113 or by email at thornberger@ptd.net



Sediment Barrier, Dollar General, Selinsgrove



Turkey Barn, Richfield

Chesapeake Bay Reboot

Because Pennsylvania will not meet its 2017 pollution reduction goals for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, DEP has developed a new strategy called the "Bay Reboot". This new plan sets an annual goal of inspecting 10% of the farms in each county that is within the bay watershed. As part of this reboot strategy, DEP is strongly urging conservation districts that receive funding from the Chesapeake Bay Program to do compliance visits. In Snyder County, this would mean approximately 50 farm inspections per year. Because every farm in the state is required to have both a manure management plan (if the farm has animals or spreads manure) and an Ag erosion control plan, EPA is pressuring DEP to be more accountable by making these inspections. And, since DEP is understaffed, conservation districts are now being pressured by DEP to take on their role as compliance officers. These farm inspections will determine if there are any deficiencies in the plans, and will result in taking appropriate actions if the plans are not current or not being followed. If districts refuse to take on this new role that harbors on enforcement, their Chesapeake Bay Program funding will be withdrawn. At the Snyder County Conservation District we have always prided ourselves in our role of serving the county by providing assistance to farmers and landowners with implementing manure management plans, nutrient management plans, best management practices and water quality projects. In this new role, districts will be strongly urged to switch from wearing the traditional white hat of providing technical, financial and administrative assistance to the new black hat of compliance and enforcement. We would like to encourage all farmers, whether small, large, part-time or full time, to get into compliance by having the needed plans for your farm whether a manure management, nutrient management, or conservation plan. Contact our office if you need assistance with any compliance issues.



Snyder County Conservation District

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Rachel Naylor, Nutrient Management Technician, x119
Barry Spangler, Ag. Conservation Technician, x118
Renee Swineford, Administrative Assistant x 110
Jason Winey, Watershed Specialist/SCALPB Administrator, x112
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SNYDER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

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01/12/2017

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**If you no longer wish to receive this publication please
call 570-837-3000 or email us at sccd@ptd.net.**

Conservation District Holds Annual Tree Sale

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) is holding its annual tree, seed, and plant sale in 2017.
An order form has been added to this newsletter for your convenience.

The SCCD will be accepting orders, with payment, **by 4:00 p.m. on March 31, 2017** People can pick up their orders at our office, 10541 Route 522, Middleburg, **ONLY on Wednesday, April 12 from 2PM to 7PM OR Thursday, April 13 from 7AM. to 7PM.**

TREE ORDER FORM IS ENCLOSED

Upcoming Events:

- *Dirt & Gravel Road Program Workshop for Municipal Leaders: Thursday, February 9, 2017, Shade Mountain Winery, 8:00 a.m. Reserve by Wednesday, January 25, 2017.*
- *Farmers Winter Meeting: Friday, February 17, 9:00 a.m., Christ Community United Methodist Church, Selingsgrove. Reserve by Friday, February 3, 2017.*
- *Manure management writing workshop Thursday, February 23, 2017 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, February 25, 2017 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.*
- *Manure Hauler & Broker Meeting: Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Snyder East Building, Selingsgrove.*
- *Annual Awards Banquet: Friday, March 17, 2017, Evening, Christ Community United Methodist Church, Selingsgrove.*
- *Annual Tree & Seed Sale: Orders with payment due Friday, March 31, 2017. Pick up orders at SCCD Office on Wednesday, April 12 and Thursday, April 13, 2017.*