

Tree Distribution Tentatively Planned For Fall

Through the District's Partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Keystone 10 Million Tree Initiative and the PPL Community Roots program, a tree distribution event is tentatively planned for the fall. In an effort to promote and successfully establish planted buffers along Perry County streams, please contact Kristie at 717-582-5138 or ksmith@perryco.org if you are a landowner interested in participating in this free program.

Perry County Added to the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine

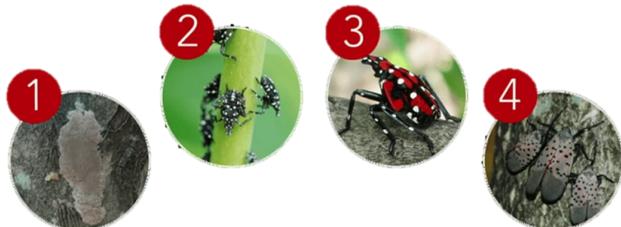
As of March 2020, Perry was one of the many counties added to the extended quarantine zone now covering almost half of Pennsylvania. At the request of the PA Department of Ag, please do your part to stop the spread of this invasive species by following these simple steps:



Check: Do a sight inspection of all vehicles and outdoor equipment before and after travel or transport.



Squash: Know the life stages. Scrape egg masses off of trees and structures, squash immature and adult insects immediately.



Report: Call the hotline Mon-Fri between 8am and 5pm (1-888-422-3359)

NRCS Update

Welcome Samantha DiLorenzo, the newest member of the Perry County Field Office. She joined NRCS as their new soil conservationist on April 27, 2020. She comes to us from her previous job with the USDA in the Wildlife Services division.



Updates on Electronics Recycling

Now through the end of 2021, the Dauphin County Recycling Center will take a wide variety of electronics at no charge thanks to a regional program with Vintage Tech. Details can be found on the District website at www.perrycd.org/Pages/Recycling

Free Backyard/Equine Manure Management Wksp July 14 6-9pm to be held at the Penn State Extension Bldg in New Bloomfield. Call 717-594-3003 to RSVP.



Equipment Demo Day
Details Inside: August 7 9am-11am
Call 717-594-3003 to RSVP by Aug 6.

Annual Tire War: Oliver Township Bldg in Newport September 19 8am-12pm.

Women For The Land
Conservation Learning Circle
Details Inside: Sept 29 9am-4pm
& Oct 27 11am-6pm

Contact Us www.perrycd.org
Perry County Conservation District
31 West Main Street, P.O. Box 36
New Bloomfield, PA 17068
#717-582-8988 ext. 3002

Like us on Facebook for News and Updates!
 Perry County Conservation District
(New Bloomfield, Pa)

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future



Summer 2020 Newsletter

District Operations Under Covid-19 Guidelines

The Perry County Conservation District has been operating under restricted procedures to protect the health and safety of our staff and the public. While we eagerly await the lifting of all operational restrictions, our offices are open to the public from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM by appointment or by calling to let us know you are outside. Contact numbers are posted on the door. Regardless of the situation, we are focused on maintaining a high level of service by promptly responding to phone calls and emails, receiving plans, processing permits, conducting site visits, planning summer events, and delivering no-till drills.

We appreciate your patience and look forward to seeing you at one or all of our summer and fall events!

Employee Updates



Mary Lou Moyer, the District's Administrative Assistant for 20 years, celebrated her retirement on May 15.

We thank her for two decades of dedicated service to the District. She will be missed!

Welcome April Skethway! April joined the District as the new Administrative Assistant on May 27. She has a background in working with several community based organizations in the area.



No-till Drill Rental Rates & Updates



The county rents three 10ft John Deere 1590 no-till drills. These drills are suitable for planting small grains, soybeans, forages, cover crops, and large pastures. A minimum 85hp tractor is required along with 1 remote hydraulic valve.

Rental rates include delivery at \$11/acre for commodity crops and \$8/acre for cover crops. The county also has a 6ft Land Pride 606NT that is commonly used for native grasses, pastures, wildlife food plots as well as small grains, soybeans, and cover crops. The 606NT requires a minimum 40hp tractor and 1 remote hydraulic valve. Rental rates for this drill are \$9/acre. So far this year, the John Deere drills have been used to plant 144.8 acres of oats, 99.2 acres of hay/grass mixes, 87 acres of alfalfa, and 322.3 acres of soybeans. The Land Pride has been used to plant a total of 76.9 acres of pasture grasses, wheat, and cover crops as of June 18. Please contact Ben Smith at #717-275-5111 for drill availability.

How to Control Herbaceous Weeds in Your Neck of the Woods

Multiflora Rose:

Brush mowers, or similar equipment, can be used to cut and pulverize the top growth of established plants.

Mowing alone will not control it, but it is a great way to make it easier to treat the plant with a spot-applied herbicide to the remaining foliage and severed stems.

Poison Hemlock:

To eradicate this plant, it needs to be removed by the entire root and flowering heads should not be left on the ground. Remember to wear protective eyewear and gloves to avoid toxins.



Herbicides should only be applied at rates specified on the label.



Equipment Demo Day

August 7th from 9am—11am

Hosted by Weller's Dairy

(At the Stambaugh Farm—Not the Dairy) 1797 Shermans Valley Road, Ellittsburg PA 17024

How does a single disk opener compare to a double disk opener? What do coulters do? Come to the Equipment Demo Day August 7th (rain date August 14th) to see how different models of grain drills and tillage equipment interact with the soil. Join us at 9am for coffee and doughnuts.

Please RSVP by August 6th

to Lauren Leinbach at 717-594-3003

or lleinbach@perryco.org

—Women For The Land—

Conservation Learning Circle For Women Farmers and Farmland Owners in Perry County

Dates: September 29, 2020 9am—4pm

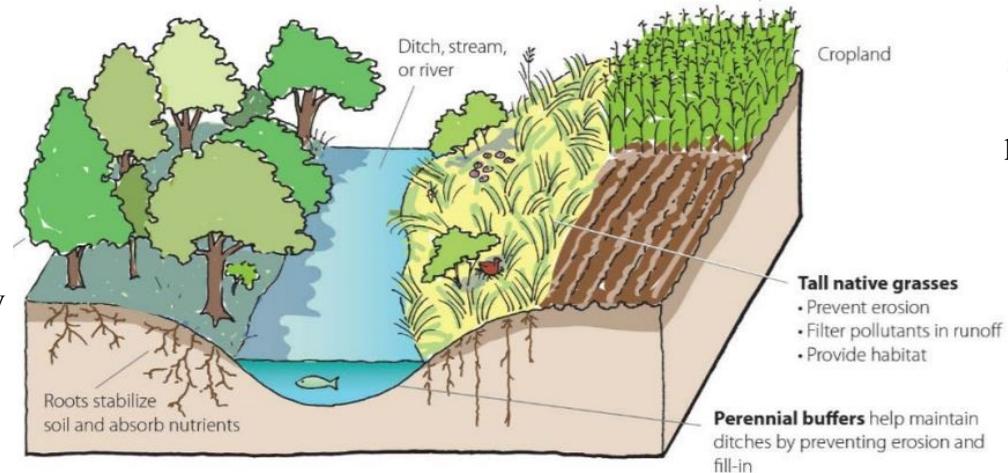
& October 27, 2020 11am—6pm

Conservation on my land, where can I find help? The American Farmland Trust invites women who farm, or who own farm or forest land, in Perry County to participate in a two-day workshop of engaging discussion. We will focus on accessing programs and information to help manage you land now and into the future. Day 1 will be held at the Witmer Farm 261 State Route 235, Liverpool, PA.

Day 2 will be held at the Penn State Extension Building 8 South Carlisle Street, New Bloomfield, PA. Lunch will be provided both days. Register by emailing mid-atlanticoutreach@farmland.org or call Janice at (240) 626-5209.

Streambank Protection & Rehab on a Budget

Muddy water got you down? Sedimentation in our Pennsylvania waterways can be expensive in more ways than one. The accumulation of silt in streambeds impacts water quality by increasing temperature, decreasing oxygen levels, aquatic life, fish habitats, and recreation. Here are some quick and easy strategies to keep your streambanks in place without 'breaking the bank.' 1) Create no-mow zones that are at least 35 feet in width around erosion issues. Living roots are the best solution to hold soil in place all year round. 2) Plant live-stakes that you can harvest yourself in early spring. Trees and shrubs like black willow, redosier & silky dogwoods, alder, blackberry, and elderberry prefer wet soils and will grow rapidly in those areas. 3) Set-back land use practices at least 100 feet from streambanks. 4) Let wildflowers and native grasses grow in and around



drainage ditches, swales, and springs.

5) Place rocks and pebbles in areas that experience a lot of foot traffic such as personal boat launches, play areas, private fishing spots, stream crossings, etc.

Applause For Pollinators

About 75% of crops grown worldwide depend on pollinators. That crop production holds a value of approximately \$577 billion dollars annually. Although in recent years, evidence shows that pollinator numbers are on a severe decline due to loss of habitat, pesticides, diseases, invasive species, and parasites. Here are a few suggestions to help prevent this hardship: Plant native wildflowers and plants that provide energy and sanctuary these creatures need to survive, create no-mow zones in meadows and open spaces, cut back on the use of harsh chemicals, and make responsible choices while spending time outdoors to reduce the spread of invasive plants and insects. Here are some neat facts about some commonly known and not-so-common pollinators living right in our own backyards:

Honey Bees—In order to produce one pound of honey, the worker bees of a hive need to visit at least two million plants.

Hummingbirds—Plant nectar is their primary food source because it gives them the energy they need to fuel their high metabolism, since they are the only group of birds able to fly backwards.

Bats, Mice, Squirrels, Butterflies, Beetles, and Lizards—Either by day or by night, they take turns pollinating the world's most important food sources including medicines derived from plants.

