



# Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District's Annual Report 2005

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## The District Says Goodbye To One Of Its Own



**Pictured above is Mr. Erway with students during Environmental Field Days**

On January 9, 2005 retired District Manager Robert D. Erway Sr. passed way. Bob, as we called him, came to be the Director of the Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District in 1980. Before becoming Director he had worked and been involved in many things. He worked for Elmira Bank & Trust and Eclipse/

Bendix Aviation during World War II. After that he established Erway's Sweet Shoppe, which he operated for about 10 years. He then sold securities and Mutual Funds for Rockwell Gould, First Albany Corporation & Townsley-Liptak.

Bob was a lifelong resident of Chemung County and very active in our community. Some of his activities include: Director and past President of Chemung County Cooperative Extension, Chairman of Boy Scout Troop 13 Committee, Town Supervisor of Erin in 1964-69 and 1976-77, County Board of Supervisors in 1964-69. Bob was the New York State Conservation Council "Soil Conservationist of the Year – 1973". He was the coordinator of the Newtown-Hoffman Creeks Watershed Project which include the flood control dams in the county like Park Station. Bob also served as Chairman of the Sullivan Trail Resource Conservation & Development Committee, and was Chairman of the Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District. The District's Annual Arbor Green Tree and Shrub Seedling program now in its 36<sup>th</sup> year and the Districts stream restoration program was created by Bob. At the age of 73 he retired from the District in 1991. A great life, a great career. Bob was 89. Thank You Bob for the great service to your community, you will be missed.

## District Manager's Report

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### Mr. Watts goes to Washington

This past April the Farm Bureau, Upper Susquehanna Coalition and District made a trip to Washington. The purpose of the meeting was to meet with our federal representatives to discuss the Chesapeake Bay's pending TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) issue as well as the Farm Bill.

We had an enjoyable two days with good sessions with our Senators and Congressmen. Our hopes are to develop a strategy they can review to try and help agriculture in our area.

### Farmers Meeting

The District sponsored a farmers meeting at the Wings of Eagle Warplane Museum. The purpose of the meeting was to bring the farmers up to speed on some issues that will be affecting them in the near future.

The first part of the program talked about the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program. This program is a process by which you can talk with a farmer about environmental issues and develop a plan on how to address the issues. We discussed how to develop a strategy and implement the AEM Program in Chemung County.

The second part of the program discussed the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL's) Program. The District discussed how the possible TMDL issue will affect the Agricultural industry and how they can help to divert the possible regulations from occurring.

The third part spoke about the AG Protection Board and how they could assist in Ag Protection. Then last but not least we discussed Ag education. The District tried to convince them that there is a real need to educate both the Ag and non-Ag community on agricultural and its benefits to the community.

Upon completion those present were asked to fill out a survey to see how beneficial the meeting was and also ask if they thought there was a need for and would support a local Ag Advisory Committee (AAC). For those who attended, all believed it was a good meeting.



**Farmers at Wings of Eagle Warplane Museum Forum**

### County Starts an Ag Advisory Committee (AAC) for Chemung County

The first meeting of the Chemung County Ag Advisory Committee was held June 9th, 2005. The first meeting was utilized to develop goals for the committee which are:

- Ag Education
- Right to Farm Laws
- Implementation of the AEM Program
- Inventory Type and Number of Farms in the County

The committee now meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:00 at the District Office. Keep watch for updates or call if you would like to become involved.



### What is AEM?

Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) is a voluntary, incentive-based program that helps farmer operate environmentally sound and economically viable businesses.

The AEM program coordinates agricultural and environmental conservation agencies and programs, as well as private services. All agricultural counties in New York State are conducting AEM programs, and participation has grown to include nearly 8,000 farms.

### Why AEM?

Farmers utilize AEM to address water quality concerns originating from agricultural activities by:

- Assessing environmental concerns associated with their farming operations
- Documenting current stewardship
- Developing environmental farm plans
- Implementing environmentally sound practices to address identified concerns
- Complying with state and federal environmental regulations.

Local management of AEM program activities allows consideration of site specific agricultural practices, local environmental concerns, and individual business objectives.

### How Does AEM Work?

Using AEM's 5-tiered approach, farmers work with local AEM resource professionals to develop and implement comprehensive, site-specific farm plans.

**Tier 1:** A short questionnaire identifies current farm activities, future plans and potential environmental concerns

**Tier 2:** AEM worksheets document current environmental stewardship while identifying and prioritizing environmental concerns

**Tier 3:** A plan is developed providing solutions to environmental concerns identified in Tier 1 and 2. Plans are designed with a farm's mission, goals, and objectives in mind.

**Tier 4:** Agricultural agencies and consultants provide farms with technical, educational and financial assistance to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs)

**Tier 5:** Ongoing evaluations ensure that AEM helps protect both the environment and the viability of farm businesses

### Agricultural Environmental Management Program (AEM) Strategy



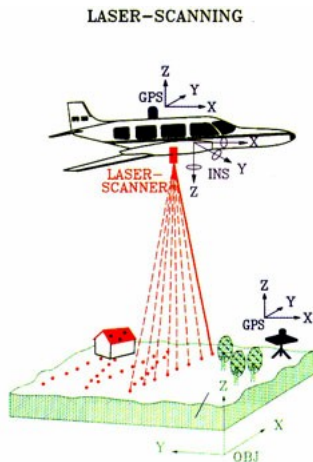
The District, along with its partners, the Farm Bureau, Water Quality Committee, Natural Resources and Conservation Service, Cornell Coop. Extension, Farm Service Agency, Upper Susquehanna Coalition, and the NYS DEC developed a strategy on how to implement AEM in Chemung County. Over the next five years the AEM strategy of Chemung County will be implemented.

## District Manager's Report

### LIDAR is here!!!!!!!!!!!!

Lidar-Light Imaging Detection and Ranging is a new technology used to obtain topographical data. A few years back, the Town of Southport, working with the District paid to have the Seeley Creek Watershed flown.

The outcome is topography detailed enough to do small dam designs, as well as other survey projects. This is done without the need of survey equipment. With this technology, the District and Town were able to design and construct two wetlands utilizing the Lidar Data.



The District then took this opportunity to demonstrate it's uses to the county. Our hopes were to fly more of the county with the Lidar technology. Being a proactive county, the Executive, along with the County Legislative, approved \$100,000.00 for the project. The District then applied, along with our MS4 communities, for an additional \$50,000.00. Then the District requested a \$50,000 Member Item which was approved to make up the \$200,000.00 used to finish the county.

Then working with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology a contract was signed to finish the remainder of the county. The project area was flown this spring and in December Lidar arrived.

### Floodplain Mapping Update

The NYS DEC recently contacted the District and offered to update our flood maps. This invitation came about because the county could offer Lidar, soils, and land use without a cost to DEC. In the re-mapping of floodplain maps, this is a large component of the cost.

So, on October 19th and 20th of 2005, the DEC sponsored a meeting at the Town of Horseheads to obtain input from local municipalities. They first presented a PowerPoint discussing the floodplain re-mapping program. Then the groups spent the remainder of the meeting working with the local folks on establishing priority areas. Keep watch for updates on this in future issues.

### Stream Guide

A few years back, the District, with assistance from Jim Curatolo of the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, wrote a grant. The grant was to the Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FL-LOWPA) special project funds. The District was successful and then worked toward the development of a stream guide.

The purpose of the guide is to educate municipal boards, highway departments, as well as local land-owners about the stream process. After reviewing the information in the book, our hopes are that people can make informed decisions about if you should build next to the stream.

Keep watch for the final product later this year. A special thanks goes to Janet Thigpen who accepted the role to develop the guide for us.



**The babbling stream became a residential nightmare. Gravel is up to the middle of the 1st floor and the cars are nearly buried**

## District Manager's Report

### District Speaks at NYSEMA Conference

On February 9th, 2005, the District was invited to speak at the State Emergency Management Association in Syracuse. The District was there to explain our new Internet Mapping System (IMS).

The District, working with Weiler Mapping, created a point and click site on the internet. Available on the site is aerial photos from the years 1938, 1955, 1964, 1970, 1980, and 2002. Also there are the soils, tax maps, streams, wetlands, roads, and soon Lidar.

This has been a great tool for the code enforcement officers, highway departments, as well as assessors. Upon completion of the talk there was a great deal of discussion on use in emergency management.

### Project Wet

The Chemung County Stormwater Coalition sponsored a program called "Project Wet". The purpose of Project Wet is to show interested participants different educational opportunities that can be utilized to teach environmental programs.

The day was well attended and what was learned will be used at local Community Days, Environmental Field Days, as well as other venues.

A big thanks to the NYS DEC for providing the program.



**Jean Cazorla teaches a new bug dance to interested onlookers**

**Tire Day**

The District once again held two successful "Tire Day Collections" in Chemung County. To date, we have held six tire days and have collected and discarded almost 20,000 tires. The District, along with the Local Town Highway Association plans to continue this worthwhile program.



**A special thanks to all that volunteer their time for this event!**

## District Manager's Report

### Forest Lawn Cemetery Project



**Diversion ditch under construction**

For the past several years water running off the cemetery has caused problems on county road Rt. #1. The District was asked to help evaluate the problem and assist in developing possible solutions.

After a few meetings on site, it was decided that the first step was to try and divert at least part of the water from the watershed before it reaches County Route #1.

The District, working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, designed a tile outlet diversion that would accept approximately 30% of the watershed and divert it away from County Route #1.



**Installing pipe & anti-seep collars for outlet**

This past fall, working with the County Highway, a 500' diversion was constructed with a basin constructed at the end. A stand pipe was installed with a 12" outlet. Approximately 500' of the proposed 1,000' of pipe has been installed. (The winter closed in before we could finish.)

The District and county will finish the project this upcoming construction season. A special thanks to landowners Robert and Denny May for allowing us to use their pasture for the pipe and outlet. Once this part of the project is completed, we will start working on the drainage issues within the cemetery.



**Finished pond with riser**

### District Coordinates Free Rock Project

Early last year, the District was contacted by our local state senator about the availability of some big rock rip rap. There was some road work being accomplished just inside Steuben County and the local construction company was digging up some rock, which was offered to us. The District



**Silverline Construction loading rock onto to Mix Brothers truck**

contacted the county and some towns to gain interest. Silverline Construction and Mix Brothers Trucking were used to haul the rock. By the end of the project we hauled 103 tractor trailer loads or approximately 2,600 ton of rock.

The rock was utilized throughout the county to stabilize streams.

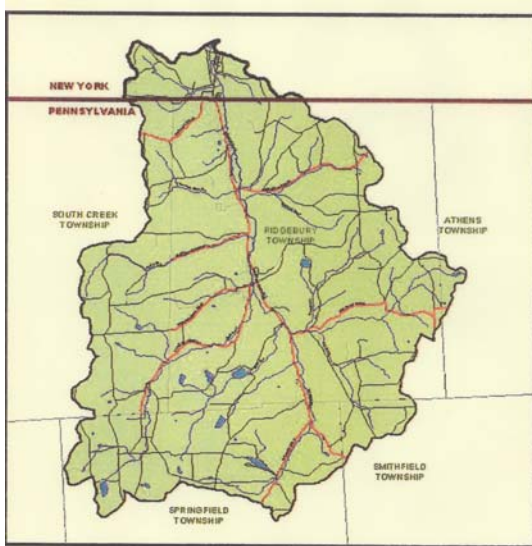
The price of this amount of stone from the quarry would have been nearly \$50,000. For the District to hire Silverline and Mix Brothers



**Rock used to pave the outlet of this road culvert**

the total was \$17,750.00. Our thanks to the State Senator for informing us about this opportunity.

## District Manager's Report



### Bentley Creek Update

This past October 11th, 2005 the Natural Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) held a public meeting in Wellsburg. The purpose of the meeting was to update the local residents on the ongoing PL-566 Program. This program assists small communities in developing strategy/plans to address flooding issues.

The meeting revolved around the current alternatives being reviewed to help reduce flooding within the Village. The residents there had the chance to ask questions. Throughout the next couple of years we hope to narrow down the alternatives and develop a plan to implement.

### Road Ditch Stabilization Projects

Thanks to Jim Curatolo of the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, EPA, and NYS DEC, the District was able to take advantage of some grant funding. The grant was utilized to purchase materials to stabilize road ditches. Below are a couple of pictures of a job completed.



Benjamin Road, Town of Veteran



## District Manager's Report

### Farmers Ephemeral Wetland

The District continued to work with the Town of Southport to construct flood attenuation wetlands. There were two completed this year. The first was Farmers Wetland. This wetland was created out of a previous gravel mine. The objective of the project was to construct a high flow channel from South Creek to the gravel pit. The pit will accept storm runoff to a point where it would outlet across an abandoned railroad bed into another ponding area currently owned by the state, then finally outlet back to South Creek again.



**Silverline Construction & Hendershott Excavating working on channel**



**Gravel pit sides were sloped and seeded**



**Project working perfectly during recent storm**

### Dutch Hill Wetland

This wetland was constructed in a pasture to take the peaks off a tributary to Clark Hollow Creek. The 280 acre watershed now has a 3 acre wetland/pond that can take the peak off the 100 year storm. A big "thanks" goes to Hendershott Excavating, the towns of Horseheads, Elmira, Southport and BOCES for assisting in the completion of this project.



**Prior to construction**



**Starting to strip topsoil**



**Stripping topsoil**



**Digging the core trench**



**Compacting the core trench**



**Pouring concrete pipe bent**



**Pipe bent complete**



**Welding anti-seep collars to pipe**



**Construction completed**

## District Manager's Report

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### Wetlands

With the completion of the final two this year, the District closes out the Seeley Creek Flood Attenuation Wetland grant. Below find the pictures of all 10 wetlands that were constructed. The District now hopes to take this program into other watersheds within Chemung County.



**Black Dog 2000**



**Keyser Pond 2000**



**Strouse #1 2001**



**Guardino #1-2001**



**Guardino #2-2001**



**Reese Wetland Re-do 2002**



**Strouse #2 2002**



**Carey Wetland 2004**



**Watts Wetland 2005**



**Farmers Wetland 2005**

## District Technician's Report

### Seedling Sale

The District had a successful tree sale this season. Over 28,000 seedlings were sold to over 235 residents. We offered a variety of evergreens, deciduous, ground covers, conservation packets, and transplants. The District usually has extra trees available for sale during pick up for those who didn't get a chance to order. Look for this year's order form at the back of this publication.



**District Technician Mark Richer packaging up trees for a customer**



**Packed Trees ready for pickup**



### Fish Stocking Program

In 2006, the District will again offer fish fingerlings to landowners who wish to stock their ponds. The following fish will be available: Rainbow trout with delivery in April, Channel Catfish and Triploid Grass Carp with delivery in June, Largemouth Bass with delivery in July, Yellow Perch and Black Crappie with delivery in October, and Fathead Minnows available at all delivery dates. As in years past, all fish will be delivered to the District office. Customers will need to bring their own containers filled with enough pond water to get them home safely. For more information please refer to our order form at the back of this publication or call the District office at 739-2009.



**Residents to pick up orders**



**Rick Musa of Fish Haven Farm counting out fish**



**Rainbow Trout**

## District Technician's Report



### 2005 Summer Slave

For the summer of 2005 the District re-hired Chris Cox to be our summer slave. Chris is a Graduate of Thomas Edison High school and also attended the GST BOCES Conservation Class. Chris participated on the school wrestling and football teams. Chris's job last summer was to again aid the District Technician with the summer activities. Some of these activities included: building wood duck nest boxes, mowing the dams, hydro-seeding, cleaning debris from the canal and dams, help in the construction of wetlands, running chain saw, equipment and the saw mill.

Chris did a great job for the District last summer he has a great attitude, and is always ready to go. The important hands-on skills that Chris learned at BOCES really gave him a step up working with us. Many of the summer interns hired by the District have been through that program. Chris has since moved on and taken a full time laborer position with the Chemung County Highway Department located next door to the District. The best of luck to Chris in his new job! Now comes the task of breaking in a new summer slave for 2006 oh boy!

### Catherine Creek Willow Planting

As in years past the District along with the GST BOCES Conservation students, members from the Federation of Fly Fishers and members from the Federation of Sportsmen planted willows along Catherine creek. For the past several years the District and volunteers from the fore mentioned groups have been trying to re-vegetate some of the bare and open banks of the famous Catherine creek trout stream. These are ongoing efforts from when the stream was decimated by the flooding of 1996. Last year about 600 feet of stream was re-vegetated with stream-co willows. The project utilizes BOCES skid steer loader with a trencher attachment. A trench is dug near water level and the pre cut willows are placed in the ditch and lightly covered. Willows are very easy to grow; they root themselves when placed in wet soil. The "Stream-Co" willow is our variety of choice. They are easy to plant, and root well. Once established they offer great stream bank protection with there massive root system. They also offer shade for the stream but do not get so tall and large as to generate woody debris that can cause log jams. They were developed by the USDA Plant Materials Center in Big Flats. The willows are cut in March and kept in a cooler to keep them dormant. Then during the first part of May they are planted. More willow planting is planned for 2006.



## District Technician's Report

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### Got Turkey's?

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is looking for landowners to help with the first major field assessment of wild turkey management in New York since the 1970's.

Beginning in January of 2006, DEC will partner with the National Wild Turkey Federation to conduct a four year study in which wild turkeys will be captured and fitted with leg bands. All work will be done by DEC personnel on public and private lands from January through March. At the same time, DEC will collect data on winter turkey flocks across the state to assess the feasibility of a long-term population monitoring program. The DEC hopes to identify several locations in every county of New York where they can count turkeys each winter to monitor population changes.

*Banding Study* – In preparation for the banding study, DEC is seeking landowners in DEC Regions 3 through 9 who would be interested in allowing birds to be trapped on their land, as well as alerting project coordinators when they see turkeys on their property. After turkeys are trapped and banded, they will immediately be released at the same location. The objective of the banding study is to examine hunter harvest rates, turkey survival rates and harvest reporting rates.

*Winter Flock Survey* – In preparation for the winter flock survey, DEC would appreciate reports from landowners, hunters, birdwatchers or others about winter turkey flock locations anywhere in New York State. Observations of turkey flocks (even a few birds) during mid-December through March can be reported to the project coordinator for your region.

If you are interested, please consult the project coordinator in your region. For DEC Region 8 the project coordinator is Scott Smith. Scott can be contacted at (607) 776- 2165 (ext. 16) or by mail at NYSDEC, Bureau of Wildlife, 7291 Coon Rd. Bath, NY 14810. Scott covers Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates counties. The Statewide coordinator is Michael Schiavone he can be contacted at (518) 402-8943 or by mail at NYS-DEC, Bureau of Wildlife, 625 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Albany, NY 12233-4755

### Dam Maintenance

The District has been continuing its efforts to maintain the counties dams keeping them mowed and free of debris. To help in these efforts the District has acquired two more pieces of equipment. The first is a four wheel drive Steiner mower to aid in the mowing of the dams, dikes and waterways. Now with two mowers the District can mow a lot of ground in a timely manner. The second item is a new 90 horsepower four wheel drive tractor with a front loader. This tractor is used for removing debris from the dams and waterways. It is also used for brush hogging the larger areas around the dams. The tractor was used this summer to aid in the construction of some wetlands by towing a sheepsfoot roller for compaction of the dike and the infinite uses of its front end loader. Thanks to Senator Winner and Assemblyman O'Mara the District was able to acquire the mower and tractor through a 50/50 member item grant.



## District Technician's Report

### Envirothon

Chemung County once again participated in the New York State Envirothon. There were six teams that participated, three from SCT BOCES and three from Twin Tiers Christian Academy. After testing their knowledge on soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, and current environmental issues, the SCT BOCES Senior team came out on top winning the County event. They moved on to the state competition at SUNY Morrisville, Morrisville New York. Our team scored 43rd out of 49 participating counties. The State competition is very tough and a large amount of preparation is needed. Our team had a great time and learned many new things throughout the competitions.



Candor High school of Tioga County won the state competition and represented New York at the National Envirothon. The 2005 National Envirothon was hosted by Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield Missouri. Candor placed third. The 2006 National Event will be hosted by the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada. In 2007, New York State will be the host of the National Envirothon taking place

at Hobart & William Smith Colleges in Geneva NY.

**Support the 2006 Envirothon-Purchase a raffle ticket for your chance to win:**

- 1st Prize-50" Inch Sony Plasma Screen Television**
  - 2nd Prize-Necky Manitou 13' Kayak, paddles & life jacket**
  - 3rd Prize-\$250 Gas Card to winner's local gas station**
- Tickets available at the District Office for \$5.00 donation**



### Agricultural District 30 Day Open Enrollment

The 30-day enrollment period for the Agricultural Districts in Chemung County starts November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Agricultural District Law recognizes that the agricultural lands are important irreplaceable resources. Some of these lands are in jeopardy of being lost as a result of increasing costs of agricultural businesses, development pressures and regulatory constraints. The Law seeks to create economic and regulatory incentives which encourage farmers to continue farming.

Owners of predominantly viable agricultural land can request to be added to the Districts. All requests are subject to review by the Agricultural Farmland Protection Board, a public hearing, action by the County Board of Supervisors and certification by the State Department of Agriculture and Markets. Call The Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District at (607) 739-2009 for more information.

### Nest Boxes

**The District has available for sale Eastern Bluebird nest boxes and a small quantity of Wood Duck and Bat roost houses available. Call the District for more information. 739-2009**

### Native Tree Spotlight

Eastern Red Cedar *Juniperus virginiana*

Red Cedar can be found bordering pastures and abandon fields, dry gravelly slopes, rocky ridges and even swamps and lake borders over most of the eastern half of the country from the Atlantic seaboard to the Great Plains. Ordinarily red cedar is a tree twenty to fifty feet tall with a short trunk one or two feet in diameter. In the southern states it may attain heights up to 120 feet and produce a deeply fluted trunk four feet in diameter. On poor soil in the north, red cedar may live for years, becoming nothing more than a bush. Growing slowly, trees sixteen inches to two feet in diameter may be 130 to 150 years old, but larger ones live to 300 years or more.

A juniper rather than a true cedar, this species of juniperus was distinguished by the name *virginiana* because the first botanical specimens were from the Virginia colony.

Each tree bears two forms of tiny evergreen leaves. Those on seedlings and vigorous twigs are sharp pointed, blue-green and awl shaped, while most or all on mature trees are covered with closely pressed overlapping, scale-like leaves that occur in opposite pairs. They remain for five or six years on the branches, becoming browner each year.

From February to May, small inconspicuous male and female flowers appear on different trees, and occasionally on the same tree. By autumn, the flowers develop dark blue, fleshy, highly aromatic, berry like cones, each containing one or two and rarely three or four tiny, wingless chestnut brown seeds. The cones are covered with white a powdery bloom that makes them appear to be pale blue-green. Not only do these furnish food for birds and small mammals, but they possess medicinal values and are used to flavor gin. Berry crops are abundant every two or three years, but only one to two-thirds of the seeds are capable of germination. Natural reproduction of red cedar is by seed only and often scattered by birds.

The shreddy, light red-brown bark is scarcely more than one eighth to a quarter of an inch thick, and peels off in narrow fibrous strips. The trunk is often so grooved as to suggest that the tree may have had difficulty in growing. It was the red of both the bark and the wood that led the French of Canada to call this cedar *baton rouge*, meaning red stick. Finding the same tree in Louisiana, they gave this name to their state capital, Baton Rouge.

The slow grown, fine grained, brittle, highly aromatic wood is bright pinkish red to deep reddish brown, surrounded by a thin layer of nearly white sap wood. Because of its soft texture, easy working qualities, fragrance, ability to take high polish, and durability, it finds an active demand for lead pencils, lining for clothes chests and closets, cigar boxes, canoes and a wide variety of wooden-ware. Cedar oil is distilled from the leaves and twigs. Commercial production is largely in the form of small lots of short logs.

A few destructive boring insects feed on living and dead trees and bagworms occasionally eat the foliage. The chief enemy, however, is fire, for the thin bark and shallow root system leaves red cedar an easy victim of relatively light surface fires. Wood rots do considerable damage to southern trees, and as the alternate host of the cedar apple rust, it is considered a menace wherever apple growing is of importance.

Extensively used for ornamental planting, over thirty horticultural forms of red cedar are recognized. It will grow on almost any soil except that which is distinctly swampy.

## Local Farm Profiles

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### Capo Di Monte Farm



For almost twenty years the farm's main goal has been to operate a small family owned mushroom farm. We have had to construct a building and special equipment just for this purpose.

In the last two years we have started to grow other crops needed for a growing substrate for the mushrooms. We are now growing hay and straw in hopes of reducing our mushroom growing costs. In order to have a good crop rotation for our soil we will be growing other vegetables and forages. We will be erecting two greenhouses near the mushroom building to grow various greenhouse vegetables in hopes of using the spent mushroom compost as a growing substrate.

We grow various types of exotic mushrooms. Our main crop is Portabella mushrooms with smaller crops of Shiitake mushrooms. In the past we have grown white, pink, and yellow Oyster mushrooms. The farm also has a full working microbiology laboratory which allows us to produce tissue cultures of the more exotic types we grow.

The Portabellas grow on a specially formulated compost we make from hay, straw and other ingredients needed. This compost is loaded into the growing boxes and placed in the growing room. Live steam is injected into the room to kill any pathogens and convert the raw compost into the nutrients needed by the mushrooms. We then seed the crop with sterilized grain inoculated with the tissue culture cells from the lab. A layer of sterilized peat moss is then applied on the top of the growing boxes. The mushrooms soon appear with manipulation of the oxygen concentrations and temperature. The crop is harvested. When the crop is done, live steam is again injected into the growing room until the substrate reached 160 degree F and held for three hours. The compost is then removed from the boxes and the next crop is then place in the room. The total crop from start to finish takes about 110 days.

The Shiitake grows on wood chips with various supplements. This is then placed into growing bags. The bags are sterilized in an autoclave. Then, they are inoculated with the tissue culture cells. They grow in a sterile room for three months and then are put into the picking room. With the environment manipulations similar to the Portabellas. The Shiitakes will be ready to pick in about 28 days. The total crop time is about 8 months.



We are very proud of our quality and have very strict grading standards. We are also very proud members of the New York State's Pride of New York program. Marketing can at times be a challenge as we are so close to the large mushroom farms of Pennsylvania.

The Capo Di Monte Farm is owned and operated by Neil & Kristen Scriven

The farm is located Sawdey Road in the Town of Catlin

## Local Farm Profiles

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**Nature's Way Farm –Joel Klose** Our Agri-business was founded in 1994. In the early days we concentrated on management of our then 50 hives of Honey Bees for maximum production methods and marketed locally in virtually every venue. In 1996, Varroa mites, a honey bee parasite arrived in New York killing 90 percent of our stock. After learning to manage against this new threat we increased our numbers to 100 hives of bees. In 1999 my oldest daughter Heather and I struck out to market our wares in the New York City Green Market Program. In the years since we have made considerable progress by learning techniques that focus on Biodynamics, Permaculture, Sustainable Agriculture and Agri-tourism. Our goals have refocused on control of pest and disease without the use of chemicals, working with the natural forces that drive our bees and helping consumers find a connection with the people that produce their food.

Today we run 150 hives under a special management system called 2-queen unit. We have virtually eliminated the use of chemical controls. We winter our hives in South Carolina and make up and sell approximately 100 nucleus hives to local beekeepers each spring. Producing and marketing approximately 15,000 lbs of honey, 500 lbs of bee pollen and a full line of “value added products” including soaps, health products and skin care items allows my wife Peony, my son Brian and I to work together towards a common family goal.

Forty trips to New York City's Green Market and four to South Carolina each year man many hours on the road and wear and tear on trucks. This is one of the compromises of sustainable agriculture today. My youngest son, Brian, has taken on a deep interest in the operation and at fourteen is able to step into any area of business and effectively manage any aspect of what we do.



Like all agriculture there are always new challenges on the horizon. Addressing Africanization of bees in the south, breeding improved stock and improving non-invasive management techniques are high on our list of priorities. We are proud to be a part of this very unique sector of agriculture in the Finger Lakes Region of Upstate New York.



You can learn more about us on our website @ [www.natureswayfarm.com](http://www.natureswayfarm.com)



### **Benefits of Buffers** **By GLCI John Wickham**

CREP and Continuous CRP Buffers are programs designed to assist landowners with natural resource concerns along streams, rivers, lakes, hydrologically sensitive areas and other water bodies. Buffers are small areas or strips of land adjacent to these water bodies, in permanent vegetation designed to intercept pollutants and manage other environmental concerns. Buffer areas are environmentally beneficial for the following reasons:

- As living filters for both surface and subsurface water.
- To trap and modify soil sediment and agricultural chemicals, including nitrates, phosphates, herbicides, and pesticides before these pollutants can enter streams and water bodies.
- To stabilize stream banks by reducing bank erosion and by slowing stream meandering across pasture and row crop fields.
- To increase the water holding capacity of soil, which moderates flooding and recharges groundwater supplies.
- As important terrestrial wildlife habitat and to control the aquatic ecosystem of small to mid-sized streams, wetlands and other permanent water bodies such as lakes and ponds.
- Reduce noise and odor
- Provide connecting corridors that enable wildlife to move from one habitat area to another.
- Offer a setback distance for agricultural chemical use from water sources.

To encourage landowners to install buffers, financial incentives in the form of cost share and incentive payments are available to construct exclusion fences, alternative water sources, stream crossings and plantings to create or restore the buffer area. Other incentives are the yearly rental payments and sign up incentives. The main difference between CREP and Continuous CRP are the enhanced rental payments. Information on eligibility for cost share and financial incentives of a particular site is available from your local Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA NRCS and Farm Service Agencies. Many state and local governments and even some private organizations offer additional financial incentives to install buffers. Aside from financial reasons for installing buffers, they may help you meet federal, state, or local pollution control requirements. Buffers are a visual demonstration of your commitment to land stewardship.

# 2006 FISH STOCKING PROGRAM

CHEMUNG COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

851 CHEMUNG ST. HORSEHEADS, NY 14845 PH. 739-2009

SPECIES	PRICE PER HUNDRED	STOCKING RATE PER SURFACE ACRE	QUANTITY
Rainbow trout (5-7")	\$130.00	300 - 400	
Largemouth bass (4-6")	\$270.00	150 - 200	
Fathead minnows (1-3")	\$12.00/lb	800 - 1000	
Channel catfish (4-6")	\$110.00	200 - 300	
Triploid grass carp* (12")	\$18.00/ea	3 - 15	
Yellow Perch (3-5")	\$100.00	300	
Black Crappie (3-5")	\$115.00	200	

**MINIMUM ORDER 25 EXCEPT FOR GRASS CARP**

*Grass carp require a New York State permit to acquire call early for details	8.00% sales tax _____ TOTAL _____	Please enclose payment - make checks payable to: Chemung County SWCD
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**Order by dates:**

- Rainbow trout & Minnows by: **April 17, 2006**
- Channel Cats, Grass Carp & Minnows by: **May 30, 2006**
- Largemouth Bass, & Minnows by: **July 10, 2006**
- Perch, Crappie & Minnows by: **October 23, 2006**

**DELIVERY DATES**

All deliveries will be at the Conservation District's office parking lot located at 851 Chemung St. in Horseheads.

- Rainbow trout & Minnows: Saturday April 22, 2006 9am to 10am
- Channel Catfish, Grass Carp & Minnows: June 3, 2006 9am to 10am
- Bass & Minnows: Saturday July 15, 2006 9am to 10am
- Perch, Crappie & Minnows: Saturday October 28, 2006 9am to 10am

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Order by  
March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**36th Annual  
2006 Arbor Green Tree Program**  
Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District  
851 Chemung St., Horseheads, NY 14845  
607-739-2009

Limited quantities available  
on pickup day.

**Mail Entire Form Back with Payment**

Trees must be ordered in quantities listed or in multiples of those listed  
**TREES AND SHRUBS ARE FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES ONLY!**

Evergreens									
Qty. Ordered	Species	Size	Age	10	50	100	500	1,000	Total \$
	Red Cedar	10-20"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	N/A	N/A	
	Balsam Fir	6-10"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$195.00	Call	
	Concolor Fir	8-14"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$195.00	Call	
	Douglas Fir	10-18"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$150.00	\$245.00	
	Austrian Pine	10-18"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$150.00	Call	
	Scotch Pine	8-12"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$160.00	\$285.00	
	E. White Pine	10-18"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$150.00	Call	
	Colorado B. Spruce	10-18"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$150.00	\$245.00	
	Norway Spruce	10-18"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	\$150.00	\$245.00	
	Rocky Mt. Juniper	6-16"	3-0	\$8.00	\$32.00	\$55.00	N/A	N/A	

Transplants									
Qty. Ordered	Species	Age	Size	10	20	100	1,000	Total \$	
	Balsam Fir	3-2	10-18"	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$100.00	Call		
	Douglas Fir	2-2	18-24"	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$100.00	Call		
	Colorado Blue Spruce	2-2	18-24"	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$100.00	Call		
	Norway Spruce	2-2	18-24"	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$100.00	Call		
	White Cedar	3-1	8-15"	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$100.00	N/A		
	Cannan Fir	3-1	8-15"	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$100.00	N/A		

Deciduous Trees & Shrubs									
Qty. Ordered	Species	Size	Age	10	50	100	Total \$		
	Burning Bush	12-18"	1-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Common Lilac	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Native Birch	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Chinese Chestnut	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	American Hazelnut	12-18"	1-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	W. Fl. Dogwood	24-36"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Red Oak	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Swamp White Oak	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Sawtooth Oak	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Chestnut Oak	8-16"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Sugar Maple	18-24"	2-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			
	Winterberry	10-24"	3-0	\$8.25	\$35.00	\$60.00			

Ground Covers-Taxable									
Qty. Ordered	Species	Size	Bundle/Cost				8% tax	Total \$	
	Myrtle	Rooted Cut	50	\$30.00					
	Pachysandra	Root Cut	50	\$25.00					
	Daylily	1-Fan Div.	10	\$8.00	50	\$30.00			
	Hosta	1-Eye Div.	10	\$8.00	50	\$30.00			

Fruit Plants									
Qty. Ordered	Species	Bundle of Ten - Cost		Total \$					
	Blackberry	1-0 Root Cut	1-2'	\$11.50					
	E. Blueberry	1-0 Root Cut	1-2'	\$16.00					
	Raspberry	1-0 Root Cut	9-12"	\$11.50					

Conservation Packets									
Qty. Ordered	Type							Cost	Total \$
	<b>Flowering Tree &amp; Shrub</b> : 2 each Forsythia, Lilac, Nanking Cherry, Rose of Sharon, Sgt. Crabapple							\$12.00	
	<b>Fern Pac</b> : 2 each-Cinnamon, Christmas, Ostrich, Maidenhair & New York							\$14.00	
	<b>Butterfly Pac</b> : 2 each Butterfly Bush, Black Cherry, Sunset Daylily, Arrowwood, Lilac							\$12.00	
	<b>Wildflower Pac</b> 2 each-Golden Poppy, Blazing Star, Cardinal Flower, Red Trillium, Spring Beauty							\$14.00	

Conservation Items (Taxable)				
Qty Ordered	Item	Cost	Tax 8.0%	Total Cost
	Wildflower Mix	\$3.50		
	Bluebird Boxes	\$6.00		
	Bat House	\$15.00		
	Fertilizer Case	\$65.00		
	Fertilizer Tabs	.15c each		

Pickup date will be April 14<sup>th</sup> 8-3 & Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> 8-11.  
Location is the District's office @ 851 Chemung St., Horseheads. NOTE: All species are bare rootstock. The District reserves the right to refund payment on species if unavailable.  
**The District will not be responsible for the success or failure of plantings.** Please make checks payable to Chemung County SWCD-There will be a \$30 service charge for returned checks. Thank you!

Total Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check = \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone= \_\_\_\_\_

## **ARTICLES FOR SALE**

Bluebird nest boxes	\$6.00/ea	Bat roost box	\$15.00/ea
Flagging tape	\$2.00/roll	Wire flags	\$0.10/ea or \$10.00/100
District hats	\$15.00/ea	Drain tile animal guards	\$6.00-\$7.00
Waterproof tape	\$5.00/roll	Timber harvesting booklets	\$3.50/ea
Topography maps	\$7.50/ea	Tree seedlings (spring) contact for details	
		Fish fingerlings (spring, fall) contact for details	

Barley straw (algae control) \$6.00/bale

## **SERVICES**

HYDRO-SEEDING  
EROSION CONTROL  
AG LAND CONSERVATION  
CONSERVATION EDUCATION  
POND SITE EVALUATION

POWER MULCHING  
SOILS INFORMATION  
WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT  
WOODLAND ASSISTANCE

**\*All items and services are taxable.**



851 Chemung St.  
Horseheads, NY 14845

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postal Paid  
Permit # 152  
Horseheads, NY 14845