# Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District





Black swallow-wort flowers and leaves

For a free invasive plant species identification guidebook stop by our office!

# Invasive Species Spotlight: Black Swallow-Wort

Black swallow-wort (*Cynanchum louiseae*) is a perennial, twining herbaceous vine. Native to Europe, it was introduced as a horticultural plant and escaped cultivation. The leaves are oval shaped with pointed tips, 3-4" long by 2-3" wide, and occur in pairs along the stem. The small five-petaled star shaped flowers are dark purple to almost black with white hairs, about ½" across, and are found in clusters. The fruits are slender tapered pods, 2 to 3" long by about ½" wide, turning from green to light brown as they mature. Plants have rhizomes (underground stems) that sprout new plants and grow in clumps of several to many stems.

This invasive species can form extensive patches that crowd out the native vegetation. Old field habitats of goldenrod and grasses can be replaced almost exclusively by swallow-wort, completely changing their physical structure. Typical habitats include old fields, hedgerows, brushy areas, and the ground layer of woodlands.

Black swallow-wort emerges in spring and flowers from June to July. The flowers are self-pollinating. Black swallow-wort spreads long distances by seed movement and wind dispersal and can establish vegetatively from rhizomes. Thick infestations in full sun can produce 2,000 seeds per square meter. For established infestations, chemical, manual and mechanical control methods are available. As with all invasive species, early detection and removal is the best approach for preventing the establishment and spread of this plant.



Black swallow-wort seed pod



### Welcome, Maxine Appleby!

Maxine Appleby has a deep rooted connection to the water. Growing up on the Chesapeake Bay, Maxine started boating and fishing at the age of three. She moved to Sodus Point in 2009 from Milwaukee, Wisconsin where she had lived for over 30 years. While in Milwaukee she was active in the development of the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the Milwaukee River Estuary, worked with EPA on the Lake Michigan LaMP, and was appointed by the governor to serve on a committee of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. She has a deep commitment to water quality issues of the Great Lakes both locally and state wide. Maxine attended the University of Illinois and holds a 50 ton USCG Master's License and is also a User Experience (UX) interaction designer. She will be assisting the district with website updates, Envirothon program development, and meeting coordination.

### **Upcoming Training Events**

Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 9am-12:30pm - Forum on Cover Crops & Soil Health: Harvesting the Potential

Free - Preregister by 2/14, Carol MacNeil: <a href="mailto:crm6@cornell.edu">crm6@cornell.edu</a> or 585-394-3977 x426

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County, 480 N. Main St, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Thursday, February 27, 2014, 8am-noon, 4 Hour Erosion and Sediment Control Training in the Town of Penfield

\$100 per person - Preregister by 2/20, http://monroecountyswcd.org/Pages/Stormwater.html,

Town of Penfield Main Auditorium, 3100 Atlantic Ave., Penfield, NY 14526

NRCS On-line Training Opportunities – The NRCS East National Technical Support Center has a listing of upcoming webinars that may be of interest. Web link: <a href="http://www.conservationwebinars.net/documents/planned-conservation-webinars">http://www.conservationwebinars.net/documents/planned-conservation-webinars</a>

Looking for information on topics like invasive species, aquatic weed control, or conservation? C h e c k o u t o u r publications!

Invasive Plant Species ID Guide: this quick reference pocket guide details many common invasive plants and differentiates them from their native look-alikes.

Well Water Testing Program Brochure: this brochure includes guidelines for regular well testing, parameters for water potability, and sample collection procedure.

# Aquatic Plant Management Information:

this informational newsletter describes the benefits of using benthic mats for aquatic weed control and provides detailed instructions on building your own benthic mat.

Rain Barrel Buyer's/Builder's Guide: these guides provide detailed information on how to build and install a rain barrel and where to purchase pre-assembled barrels.

If you are interested in any of these publications, please email Stephanie at: sschroederswcd@rochester.rr.com

### 2008 Chevy Trail Blazer For Sale

One Owner-55,129 miles

Color: Tan with 4 door & hatch back Engine: 4.2L I6 SF, P/W, P/L Cruise

4 wheel drive, good condition, runs well, 9k miles on tires, full interior and exterior detail. Upon final inspection showed some wearing on front wheel bearings. These were fixed on January 24, 2014. Sold as is. The District has set a minimum accepting price of \$9,500.00







The truck is available for inspection at 10 Leach Road, Lyons, NY on Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Any offers will be considered and sales are final.

The Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District reserves the right to reject any and all offers.

### **2014** Conservation Services

Water Potability Testing-\$25.00

**Ag. Value Assessment**—\$25.00 (Soil Group Worksheet)

Beaver Permit Assistance-\$20.00

**Permitting Assistance**—\$125.00 -Includes up to 2 site visits and filing of the DEC/USACE Joint Application.

Additional Site Visits-\$20.00

Additional Map with Design -\$20.00

Basic Survey-\$30.00/hr

Land map or Topography Map \$5.00/

Blue Bird House-\$11.00

**Wood Duck House**—\$25.00 (Can double for an Owl House)

**Bat House**-\$20.00

Marker Flags

Bundle of 100—\$9.00 Per Flag—\$0.10

Fertilizer Tablets (20-10-5)

10—\$1.50 100—\$12.00

Wooden Stakes/piece-\$2.00

Grass Carp available seasonally—call for details

### **Planning for Grass Carp**

Triploid grass carp can provide pond weed control for 8 to 10 years when properly stocked. We can assist pond owners with obtaining the required DEC permit to stock grass carp and decide how many fish should be stocked through site inspection and pond evaluation.

Would you purchase other fish for stocking? If so, what would those be? Contact our office at 315.946.4136 or email Stephanie at sschroederswcd@rochester.rr.com.

### We Need YOU! NYS Envirothon School Program



[Above] Students in the 2011 Envirothon

The NYS Envirothon is a hands-on competition about environmental education put on by the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD). The program was started in 1979 in Pennsylvania when it was originally called the Environmental Olympics. Each school that participates selects five students (9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) to attend the Wayne County SWCD Envirothon with the hope of going to the state or national level to win scholarships and other awards. The Envirothon encompasses all topics covered in biology, life sciences, earth science and environmental education. The Wayne County SWCD is looking to partner with local school districts to develop an educational Envirothon program to not only better prepare our students for success at the competition, but also to give students a glimpse into a career pathway of natural resources and a fun environmental experience in the community.

**The idea:** To establish an Envirothon prep program within the schools current science curriculum or as an extracurricular activity for students.

How many students can participate in the program?: Even though each team consists of only five students to compete, at the local level Envirothon, each school can have up to three different teams. Also, the class or club can be offered to additional students interested in the environment.

**How do you select the five competitors?:** This can be decided by the school! Some suggestions: have the teacher decide, have the students vote, or chose the five students with the highest grade in the class to compete.

What are the important dates?: The local Envirothon is usually in mid April and the state level Envirothon is usually end of May at a participating college (Previous years it has been held at Hobart William Smith College, Keuka College, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Cobleskill, and SUNY Morrisville). It is co-curricular education and a chance to visit a college.

## What will the Wayne County SWCD provide for you if you set up a program at your school?

- A foundational outline for setting up your course
- Information on where to get supplemental materials and resources for developing lesson plans
- A list of sample activities for your class
- SWCD guest speaker presentations or field activities

#### What will the school need to provide?

- A class teacher or club advisor
- Transportation to field activity sites and to the Envirothon
- Classroom and materials

### We are looking for teams! Interested?

Contact: Wayne County Soil and Water
Conservation District
10 Leach Road
Lyons, NY 14489
(315) 946-4136
rdtswcd@rochester.rr.com

### Or visit www.nysenvirothon.net

(For general information, sample questions, topic outlines etc...)

### "Dairy Local Emphasis Program"

The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) has launched a "Dairy Local Emphasis Program" (LEP) in New York to curb the increasing number of farm-related accidents and deaths in the state. The LEP will include random, unannounced compliance inspections at New York State dairy farms starting in 2014. The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health has created a Web site about the OSHA Local Compliance Program - <a href="http://www.nycamh.com/osha-ny-dairy-lep/">http://www.nycamh.com/osha-ny-dairy-lep/</a>. The Web site has important material to assist farmers to prepare for an Occupational Health and Safety (OSHA) inspection.

Farms that fit at least one or both of the following criteria could be subject to a LEP inspection:

- 1. Farms that have had more than 10 total employees, not including immediate family members, at any time in the past 12 months preceding the day an inspector shows up (1 part time employee is equal to 1 full-time employee); and/or
- 2. Farms that have provided housing on the farm to temporary labor at any time in the past 12 months preceding the day an inspector shows up, even if the housing was only for just one person.

### 2014 Tree & Shrub Sale!

### We are now accepting orders for the Spring 2014 tree & shrub sale. See the order form included in this newsletter and place your order today!

Trees beautify our communities and countryside. They shade and cool our homes, bring songbirds to our backyard, and mark the changing of seasons. Trees are a source of countless products including lumber and food. They clean the air we breathe and help protect rivers and streams whose water we drink. In order for trees to provide all these benefits, we need to care for the trees we already have and to **plant more.** Planting and caring for trees is something each individual can do to improve their local community and the environment.

#### Order with payment due:

Monday, March 24, 2013

#### Checks to be made out to:

Wavne County SWCD

#### Pickup dates/times:

Thurs. April 17, 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm Fri. April 18, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Sat. April 19, By Appointment

#### Location (pickup only):

8338 Ridge Road, Alton, NY 14551



2014 Board of Directors Steve Brownell, Board Chair, Farm Bureau Bob VanLare, Vice Chair, Grange Representative. Bill Hammond, Macedon Town Supervisor Steve LeRoy, Sodus Town Supervisor

Tom Caprilla, Member at Large

2014 Conservation Staff Lindsey Gerstenslager MSEd, District Manager Catherine Comfort, Conservation Sec./Treasurer Ronald Thorn, CCA. AEM Specialist, District Technician Chris Hotto, Drainage Specialist, District Technician Scott DeRue, Water Quality Specialist, District Technician Terry Reynolds, Agriculture Implementation Specialist Stephanie Schroeder, District Env. Educator Assistant

Mail orders to:

10 Leach Road, Lyons, NY 14489

\*\*\*We now accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover credit cards. To place an order by credit card please call 315.946.4136 for details.

WAYNE COUNTY



10 Leach Road

Lyons, New York 14489

Phone & Fax (315) 946-4136

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