

Summer 2013

Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District



Have You Seen This Critter?



Japanese Knotweed Shoots (Early Spring)

Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) is a terrestrial plant that was introduced into the United States in the late 1800's as an ornamental plant. Knotweed is an aggressive species that can crowd out all other vegetation and form dense stands. Many riparian habitats (those along streams and rivers) are at risk as well as other disturbed areas along road ways or farms. By eliminating grasses and other native plants, the banks of creeks become less stable. This increases sediment in the creek and affects other nutrient filtration during storm events.

Japanese knotweed stands grow 3-9 feet tall and have thick, hollow, bamboo-like stems. Leaves are broad, heart-shaped, and attached alternating on the stem. Flowers are small and greenish-white in branched sprays and bloom in late summer. Knotweed has small winged fruits with small, shiny, triangular-shaped seeds.

Japanese knotweed spreads through seed, stem fragmentation and rhizomes. Mechanical methods of control can be performed on young plants; however, be careful to get the entire root and rhizome system. Chemical herbicides are also frequently used to control knotweed stands.

For more information, visit www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov or contact the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District at: (315) 946-4136.



Japanese Knotweed in flower

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

Welcome Andrew and Stephanie!



Andrew Wegman

I am a 2013 graduate at RIT, studying Environmental Science. Currently at RIT I am working on an independent study evaluating the below ground carbon content of RIT's soils. I specialized in field skills because I enjoy every minute I can spend outdoors, for both work and recreation. My plans for the summer include continuing my assistantship at Wayne County Soil and Water District, where I assist with GIS, publicity, and conservation programs. I am very grateful that I have this opportunity to gain practical experience and work for the protection of the environment at the same time.

I am a recent graduate of RIT with a M.S. in Environmental Science. My thesis work involved studying the phenolic and antioxidant content of native and invasive fruits consumed by migrating songbirds. I joined Wayne County SWCD in July as the District Environmental Educator Assistant. I highly enjoy field work and I hope to one day have a teaching career after getting my Ph.D.

"We at the District are glad to have these two energetic and bright individuals working with us in 2013" Lindsey Gerstenslager, District Manager



Stephanie Schroeder

Welcome to our Website

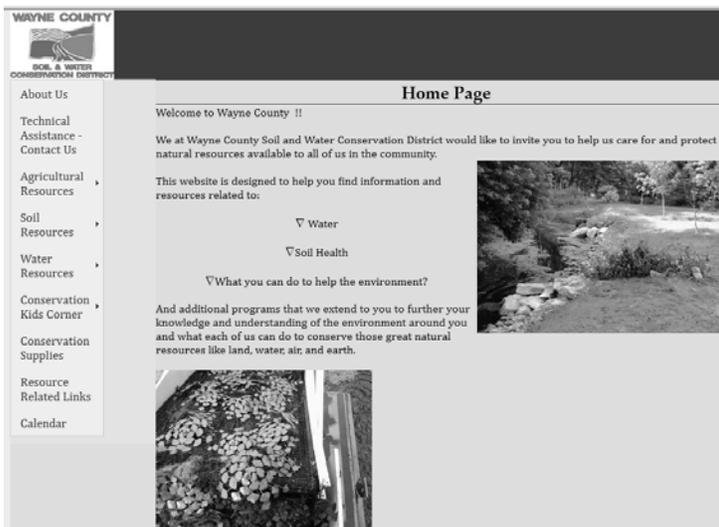
Key Features

- About Us
- Contact Us
- Agricultural Resources
- Soil Resources
- Water Resources
- Conservation Kids Corner
- Conservation Supplies
- Resource Related Links
- Calendar

See Upcoming Events on our Google Calendar!



Just click the calendar link on our home page.

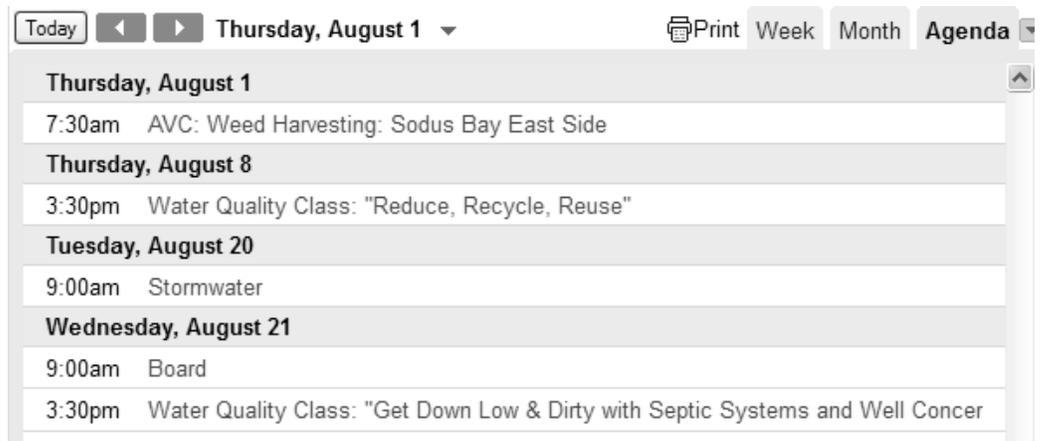


Are you looking for information and resources related to:

- Water?
- Soil Health?
- Helping the environment?
- Additional programs to further your knowledge about conserving resources?

You can find all of these topics and more on our website!

www.waynecountynysoilandwater.org



2013 Program Assistance Available

- Agriculture Environment Mgt.
- Critical Area Seeding
- Aquatic Vegetative Mgt.
- Fish Stocking: Grass Carp
- Pond Site Inspection
- Soil Group Worksheets
- Maps—Topo/Geography
- Envirothon & Youth Ed.
- Uniform Procedures Program – Septic Asst.
- Watershed Municipal Planning
- Permitting
- Drainage Assistance
- Beaver Eradication Assistance
- Conservation Tree & Shrub Sale
- Stream Monitoring

CleanSweepNY Collection Event, Fall 2013

This fall collection will be the 15th CleanSweepNY collection event since the program's inception. It provides chemical waste disposal services to those such as New York State farmers, certified pesticide applicators, landscapers, school laboratories and others. It is not open to individuals. For more information, visit www.cleansweepny.org, call 877-793-3769 or e-mail questions to info@cleansweepny.org

Collection Dates

- Monday, Oct. 21, Watkins Glen
- Tuesday, Oct 22, Hornell
- Wednesday, Oct 23, Lakeville
- Thursday, Oct 24, East Rochester
- Friday, Oct 25, East Rochester (if necessary)

Do It Yourself: Ecological Pond Management Techniques

Grass Carp Stocking

Triploid Grass Carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) are a cost effective and natural alternative in controlling pond weeds when proper numbers of grass carp are stocked. Grass carp are long, thin profiled fish of the minnow family with dark grey or golden brown coloration on their back and white on their belly. These fish are native to the Amur River in eastern China and have been introduced in almost 50 other countries as a biological vegetation control method due to their ability to consume many nuisance plant species. Grass carp will balance plant growth through consumption. They provide weed control from 8 to 10 years.

There is no need to fear that grass carp introductions would lead to this species becoming an invasive species like its distant relative, the common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*). Triploid grass carp are sterile and will not produce offspring, thus allowing the species to control the vegetation problem without proliferating and becoming invasive. Triploid Grass Carp are a controlled species and require a permit from the NYS DEC. If interested in obtaining grass carp for weed control in your pond please contact the District office. We



can assist pond owners with obtaining the required DEC permit to stock the grass carp. We can help decide how many fish should be stocked through site inspection, pond evaluation and plant identification. We also deliver the fish to your pond. Grass carp can live up to ten years, so ponds can be restocked with grass carp every two years with up to 15 grass carp per pond acre (NYS DEC).

You will need to have a permit before filling out an order form. Both permit applications and order forms can be found at our website or at our office.

How can you get triploid grass carp in your pond?

Applications for pond stocking permits are available through the DEC or Wayne County SWCD.

Next stocking orders are due by August 30th, 2013.

Barly Straw Rolls

Treating a pond with barley straw is an alternative way to control excess algae growth in ponds without using herbicides. As the barley straw decomposes in your pond it inhibits the growth of algae. It is best to treat you pond with barely straw before an algae bloom because of its action in algae prevention for long term water quality. Treat your pond before the summer season gets under way and the algae and plants get out of control.

Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District will be selling barely straw rolls again next spring, with orders becoming available during the annual tree sale. We are taking the work out of wrapping and floating the straw, providing you with an easy solution and an effective way to use barely straw

in your pond. The roll will be easy to handle and ready for installation into your pond. Rolls can be returned and refilled every season for a reduced cost of the replacement of the barley straw. It is conservation and recycling all in one. We also offer general pond consultation to help pond owners decide how to manage their pond and different solutions for land management surrounding your pond.



Plan on ordering your barley straw roll next spring or call for a fact sheet on how to make your own!

Upcoming Events

Water Quality Class: “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”

Thursday, August 8th from 3:30pm-5:00pm

The 3 R's are a common theme when it comes to man made homeowner wastes however it applies on your own property with nature's best gifts that can help you to reduce the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicide needs, recycle your yard wastes and reuse your current water supply from storms. Master Gardeners will teach composting concepts of how to successfully improve your water front water quality over the next few years by applying these principals.

Water Quality Class: “Get Down Low & Dirty with Septic Systems and Well Concerns”

Wednesday, August 21st from 3:30pm-5:00pm

6200 Spiegel Parkway, N. Rose, NY 14516 (off of Spiegel Drive)

Waste not, want not is something we have to think of hard every time we go to the faucet. During this workshop we will have presentations from a codes enforcement officer to talk about municipal regulations, a third party inspector for information that can be attended to on a regular basis and discuss some of the forgotten secrets to regular care. Part of our WQ improvements can come from regular maintenance on septic systems and wells that will improve not only our personal water quality but also for the entire community as well!

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