



# FROM THE GROUND UP



An e-newsletter for local teachers

FIRST EDITION

JANUARY 2012

Welcome to the first edition of "From the Ground Up". This newsletter is brought to you by the Northumberland County Conservation District (NCCD) and will give you information about the organization as well as upcoming events and educational resources. The NCCD strives to outreach to local educators and provide them with useful information about our environment and how everyone can actively be involved with conservation.

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## ABOUT THE NCCD

The NCCD, formed in 1943 under the Conservation District Law, is a subdivision of state government and is one of 66 Conservation Districts throughout the state of Pennsylvania. The purpose of the Conservation District is to promote protection, maintenance, improvement, and wise use of the land, water, and other natural resources.

## 2012 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Throughout the year, a variety of programs will be held. See the table below for a brief summary:

TIME	PROGRAM	GRADES/AGES
JAN-FEB	POSTER CONTEST	KINDERGARTEN-12TH
MARCH	WINTER AG CONFERENCE	ADULTS
APRIL	WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE	ADULTS
APRIL	BIRTH OF A TREE	THIRD GRADE
APRIL	NCCD TREE SALE	OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
MAY	HIGH SCHOOL ENVIROTHON	GRADES 9-12
MAY	MIDDLE SCHOOL ENVIROTHON	GRADES 7-8
JULY	YAC (YOUTH, AG, CONSERVATION)	AGES 8-12
AUGUST	AG-CITEMENT	AGES 5-7
SEPTEMBER	TWILIGHT MEETING	ADULTS

## CURRENT & UPCOMING EVENTS

**Poster Contest:** Now open! The 2012 theme is “Soil to Spoon”. The contest is open to students in grades K-12. All entries are eligible to win a \$100 overall prize pack of assorted gift cards and cash prizes for first (\$50) and second (\$30) place winners in each grade level (K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12). For a contest flyer, log onto [www.nccdpa.org](http://www.nccdpa.org) *DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FEBRUARY 24TH.* The NCCD is available to come to your classroom and give a presentation on the theme to help prepare your students for entering the contest. E-mail Jaci Lucas at [jlucas@nccdpa.org](mailto:jlucas@nccdpa.org) to schedule a time.

**Winter Conference:** This day-long agricultural program will take place on March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Revival Tabernacle in Watsonstown and will focus on current issues for farmers. Event details and flyer are on our website.

**Tree Sale:** Look for a flyer on our website in the next few weeks. Always lots of varieties available! Pick-up will be in late April.

**Envirothon:** Interested in having your students participate in this environmental education competition? The local high school event, for grades 9-12, will be held May 8<sup>th</sup> at Shikellamy State Park Overlook. The middle school event, for grades 7-8, will be on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Montour Preserve. Contact Jaci Lucas at [jlucas@nccdpa.org](mailto:jlucas@nccdpa.org) to get involved with this program.

## TEACHER RESOURCES

[www.baybackpack.com](http://www.baybackpack.com) Includes resources about the Chesapeake Bay

[www.agclassroom.org](http://www.agclassroom.org) Agriculture resources including an AgroWorld newsletter about science and technology—you can access a ‘teacher center’ on the homepage with lesson plans, etc.

[www.epa.gov/recyclecity](http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity) Students can be challenged by a game, “Recycle City”, in learning how to improve communities by cleaning up waste, recycling, and saving energy.

## GET INVOLVED

Interested in volunteering for your local watershed group? Contact the NCCD to locate one in or near your area. Any help is always appreciated!

## HOW TO CONTACT THE NCCD

The NCCD office is located at 441 Plum Creek Road, Sunbury, PA 17801. Our office is open 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday. Contact us by phone at (570) 286-7114 x4, by e-mail at [jlucas@nccdpa.org](mailto:jlucas@nccdpa.org), or log onto [www.nccdpa.org](http://www.nccdpa.org).

## NCCD STAFF

District Manager – Judy Becker – [jbecker@nccdpa.org](mailto:jbecker@nccdpa.org)

Education Coordinator – Jaci Lucas – [jlucas@nccdpa.org](mailto:jlucas@nccdpa.org)

Administrative Assistant – Shirley Snyder – [ssnyder@nccdpa.org](mailto:ssnyder@nccdpa.org)

Watershed Specialist – Jaci Harner – [jharner@nccdpa.org](mailto:jharner@nccdpa.org)

Erosion and Sediment Technician – Michael McCleary – [mmccleary@nccdpa.org](mailto:mmccleary@nccdpa.org)

Nutrient Management and Chesapeake Bay Tech. – Todd Deroba – [tderoba@nccdpa.org](mailto:tderoba@nccdpa.org)