



Conservation Matters

Summer breeze...

Summer is always a fun time of year. Vacations, warmer weather, longer days; it's as if we spend the whole year preparing for this particular season. Don't blink, because before you know it fall will be here!

This summer will be a time of change in our office. We will be starting Chesapeake Bay inspections on July 1st. We also have a few personnel changes in our office, which are covered later in this issue. Regardless of these changes, one thing that doesn't change is our mission: to promote the protection, maintenance, improvement, and wise use of the land, water, and other natural resources in Northumberland County.

As you enjoy the summer months, we hope you'll take some time to appreciate the natural resources in your surroundings. See you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Judy Becker

Cover Crop Incentive Program

By: Judy Becker, District Manager

The Northumberland County Conservation District in cooperation with NRCS is offering a diverse cover crop incentive program. The goal of the program is to demonstrate the successful use of cover crops as a means to improve soil health on local farms while reducing production costs and improving water quality and infiltration. Soil health will be improved through a systems approach including no-till and diverse species cover cropping.



There are a set of guidelines to participate. Please visit our website for specific information: www.nccdpa.org. The deadline to sign up is September 30, 2018. Limited funding is available, and contracts will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis. You can also contact Ryan Cherwinski, Agricultural Conservation Technician at rcherwinski@nccdpa.org or 570-495-4665 x304.



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"Conservation Matters" is a quarterly newsletter
published by the Northumberland County
Conservation District, Sunbury.

Our Programs: Erosion and Sedimentation Control, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Dam Safety and Waterway Management, Environmental Education, Chesapeake Bay Program, Dirt & Gravel Roads, Agricultural Land Preservation, Watershed Protection and Education, Mosquito-borne Disease Control

Visit www.nccdpa.org for more information. We are also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nccdpa.

New Watershed Specialist

By: Judy Becker, District Manager

They say the only thing that stays constant is change. It is with mixed emotions that I announce that our watershed specialist of 11 years, Jaci Harner, has moved on to work for PA DEP. Jaci did a tremendous amount of work in the watershed specialist program, as well as the Act 38 program. Although we will miss her greatly, we wish her well and appreciate the great work she did for the District.

On July 9th, Chantel Shambach will be moving into the watershed specialist position. Chantel is no stranger to NCCD. She interned for our office during the summer of 2014. She has also been one of our seasonal mosquito-borne disease control technicians for the past 2 years. She graduated from Bloomsburg University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental, Geographical and Geological Science with a focus on Environmental GeoSciences. We welcome her onboard to our full-time staff!

Although we encourage you to reach out to Chantel with any watershed issues you may need assistance with, we ask that you give her time to transition into her new position. After July 9th, Chantel can be reached at 570-495-4665 ext. 306 or at cshambach@nccdpa.org.



NCCD Board Member Profile: John Kopp

By: Judy Becker, District Manager

One of NCCD's greatest assets is our Board of Directors. As a District Manager, I truly feel like our Board is like family. They take a genuine interest in what we do, and they are here because they care about conservation issues.

For the next several issues, we will be highlighting each of our board members to honor their voluntary service to our Board. This issue, we are featuring John Kopp. John has been a farmer director since 2005. He also served as Board Chairman during the years of 2008 through 2011.



About his farming operation: The operation is corn, beans and hay. They also have 15 acres of wheat. They are currently tilling 260 crop acres. They've owned the farm since 1971, and his son, Gordon, will be taking it over. They have 100 dairy heifers and Gordon has 2 chicken houses.

About his family: John and his wife Linda have been married for 52 years. They have 3 children: Gordy, Kim, and Justin, and 8 grandkids.

About his additional activities: John volunteers for a number of organizations. He was a county farm bureau board member for at least 6 years. He is also an active member of the Sunbury Bible Church in Northumberland. He served as a Deacon and is currently an Elder. He serves on the school committee for the church. He also serves on the leadership committee for the Sunbury Christian Academy. He is currently on the Zoning Hearing Board for Lower Augusta Township and was a township supervisor.

What is the hardest thing about being a Board member? John: "The most difficult thing is trying to keep informed about the variety of issues the District deals with on a daily basis."

How do you feel about all the acronyms that get tossed around at Board meetings? John: "We will actually stop the meeting and ask for clarification. We also keep threatening to implement a collection jar! Every time someone throws an acronym around without explaining what it means, they have to put money in the collection jar."

You are known for your concise proofreading of the minutes prior to the Board meeting. How did you become such an avid proofreader? (Author's note: John was very humble here, but the directors often look to John before they vote on the minutes to confirm they are accurate.) John: "I just take an interest in what took place at the last Board meeting. When I read the minutes, it is a good reminder, and if I see something wrong, I'm not afraid to speak up."

This wasn't as difficult as you thought it was going to be, now was it? (Author's note: I didn't get an answer to this question. It was worth a shot.)

Chesapeake Bay Inspections Start July 1st

By: Ryan Cherwinski, Agricultural Conservation Technician

Starting July 1, 2018, the NCCD will be participating in DEP's Chesapeake Bay Inspection Program. In previous newsletters we have talked about this program and what the inspections will entail. If your operation is already regulated by DEP, (i.e. CAO, CAFO), or your operation already underwent a bay inspection, you will not be subject to an inspection by the District. Check our website and your mailboxes for more information about the program in the near future.

There are two plans we will be looking for during inspections: If you have livestock that produce manure and/or you apply manure to crop fields and pastures, we will be looking for a manure management plan (MMP). (depending on your animal density numbers, you may need a nutrient management plan). An up-to-date agricultural erosion and sedimentation plan (Ag E&S) or conservation plan is required if you plow or till land (including no-till). Animal heavy use areas also must be addressed in the Ag E&S or conservation plan. If you are unsure whether you need one of these plans, or would like assistance developing an MMP or Ag E&S plan, please don't hesitate to contact the conservation district at 570-495-4665 x304.

Our goal with these visits is to reach out to producers in Northumberland County that we previously haven't and to be a resource providing assistance. The goal of the farm inspection is to make sure all Pennsylvania agriculture operations are in compliance with PA's manure management and agricultural erosion and sedimentation regulations.



Each year we are required to visit a certain number of farms which are selected randomly based on township. The townships we are focusing on for the 2018-2019 fiscal year are: Delaware, East Cameron, Jordan, & West Chillisquaque. If you live in one of these townships, you may be randomly selected for an inspection during the 2018-2019 period. Letters will be sent to those selected in an attempt to schedule a visit at a time appropriate for the landowner and the district. We look forward to working with landowners throughout the county in conservation!

These inspections can seem overwhelming. If you have questions, or would like more information, call Ryan Cherwinski at 570-495-4665 x 304. Be sure to check www.nccdpa.org for more details about the program.

On a final note, the NCCD will no longer be reviewing nutrient management plans as of July 1, 2018. At this time, all nutrient management work and correspondence will go through the State Conservation Commission. For assistance, please contact Michael Walker at 570-433-2640 x221.

Enjoy your summer!



CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA THRUWAY UPDATE

by: Michael McCleary, Erosion and Sediment Technician

THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY THRUWAY PROJECT HAS PASSED THE HALFWAY MARK. COMPLETION IS ANTICIPATED IN THE YEAR 2020.

Relocated Ridge Road interchange: Beam placement on the west side of the river has been temporarily curtailed. The storm event a few weeks ago with high winds and the threat of tornadoes convinced the contractor and Penn DOT officials of the need for additional, temporary lateral support for the large beams being placed on the piers 160' to 180' above the ground.



Nine large cranes are on hand to continue beam placement once this lateral support has been approved.

The causeway has been extended into the east half of the river to accommodate the construction of Pier 9.

Eight Pilons are being placed on bedrock prior to construction of the footer for Pier 9.

Water is pumped from the foundation pit into a box lined with filter fabric. This removes sediment so that clean water can be returned to the river. The pH of the pumped water is also adjusted to match the pH of the river.



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CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA THRUWAY UPDATE, *continued*

Pier construction has also begun on the East side of the river. The foundation pit has been dug for Pier 13 which is located between the railroad and SR 147. A 10' deep footer will be constructed in the pit, and Pier 13 will be constructed on top of it.

Piers 10 and 11 will be constructed in the water after the coffer dam has been moved to the east side of the river. Pier 12 will be constructed on dry land near the river bank, and Pier 14 will be constructed near the west bank of SR 147.

The northern abutment has been partially constructed.



Once the beams are in place across the river, up to the abutments, forms will be placed and the abutments will be backfilled with concrete.

The approach to the bridge will be filled with stone and earth to complete the transition from the bridge to the road surface.



Relocated Ridge Road interchange:

The bridge that will carry the Thruway over Relocated Ridge Road is nearly complete as seen from a point on the original Ridge Road on the east side of the Thruway. Beams and decking will eventually be placed on the abutments and pavement will be placed over the deck.



Wooded Run crossing: Piers and abutments have been constructed. This bridge spans a driveway, a stream, and a small wetland. Due to the height of the Thruway the bridge will be approximately 90' long.



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CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA THRUWAY UPDATE, *continued*

Looking south along the thruway from a point near the Chillisquaque Creek toward the Service Road A bridge: This view gives a rough idea of the amount of earth that has been moved on this project.

Chillisquaque Creek crossing: The new bridge which will carry the northbound lanes of the Thruway over Chillisquaque Creek has been completed and is currently being used to allow traffic to cross this stream.



The original bridge has been demolished and is being replaced by a new structure which will carry the south bound lanes of the thruway.



NCCD Summer Intern: Tyler Craig

Hi! My name is Tyler Craig, and I am the summer intern with the Northumberland County Conservation District. I am currently finishing up my first month with the District and I am loving every day of it. Being an intern, I get to work with everybody in the office, allowing me to get an experience with everything that goes on in the District. I graduated from Central Columbia in 2014 and recently graduated from Bloomsburg University in May of 2018 with a degree in Environmental Geographical and Geological Sciences.

My interest for environmental conservation stemmed from my family members. My grandfather had a career in environmental conservation working as a Soil Conservationist and retired as an Assistant State Conservationist out of Harrisburg in 1987. Growing up with a passion for hunting and fishing and hearing stories from my grandfather about the work he did, I knew I needed to pursue a career that would allow me to help preserve our environment and ecosystem for generations to come.

The internship opportunity I have with the District is extremely important to me and is a great way for me to expand my knowledge in environmental conservation. Even though I have only been with the district for a short amount of time, I have learned so much and made some great contacts with many important people. I look forward to the rest of my time working with the great people of the Northumberland County Conservation District.

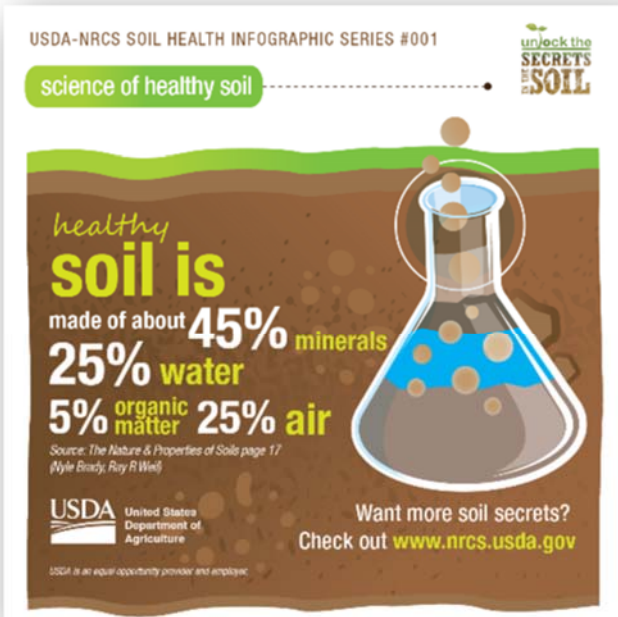


DIG A LITTLE, LEARN A LOT (PART 4)

by: Janette Lesher, District Conservationist, NRCS

Now that spring planting season has passed us by, I hope that you had a chance to check soil health in your fields. Of course, I am going to tell you that healthy soils are: 1- full of life, 2- high in organic matter, 3- covered all the time, and 4 - well structured! The last article I focused on why being high in organic matter really does *matter*! As I finish up this series on soil health, the last topic to discuss is why well-structured soils lead to healthy soils.

“Soft and crumbly, like cottage cheese.” “Like a sponge, loose and full of holes.” These are both common descriptions of what healthy soils look and feel like when we refer to good soil structure. Soil structure can be described as the arrangement of the solid parts of the soil and the pore spaces between them. The structure of the soil is critical to how the soil functions. A good soil structure is important to allow air and water into the soil which are vital for healthy plant growth. It will improve drainage and reduce soil erosion caused by excess surface run-off.



Highly aggregated soils—those granular, durable, distinct aggregates in the topsoil that leave large pore spaces between them—are soils with good tilth and good structure.

An interconnected network of pores associated with loosely packed, crumbly, highly aggregated soils allows rapid infiltration and easy movement of both water and air through the soil and provides habitat for soil organisms.

Many factors play a role in aggregate formation in soils. For example, earthworms produce both new aggregates and pores. Their binding agents are responsible for the formation of water-stable, macro-aggregates, and their burrowing creates continuous pore linking surface to subsurface soil layers. As they feed, earthworms also speed up plant residue decomposition, nutrient cycling, and redistribution of nutrients in the soil profile. Soil organic matter also helps develop stable soil aggregates. Soil microorganisms that are fed with organic matter secrete a gooey protein called glomalin, an effective short-term cementing agent for large aggregates. Organic glues are produced by fungi and bacteria as

they decompose plant residues. Water-resistant substances produced by microorganisms, roots, and other organic matter provide long-term aggregate stability from a few months to a few years!

So, now that we know why soil structure is important, what can we do to change it? Management practices that reduce soil cover, disrupt continuous pore space, compact soil, or reduce soil organic matter negatively impact soil structure. Since tillage negatively affects these properties, it's high on the list of practices damaging to healthy soils. When tillage loosens the soil, it leaves soil particles exposed to the forces of wind and water. Transported by wind and water, detached soil particles settle into pores, causing surface sealing, compaction and reduced infiltration. When this happens less water is available to plants, and runoff and erosion increases. On the other hand, soils that are not tilled and are covered with diverse, high residue crops throughout the year have better soil structure, are highly aggregated with high levels of organic matter and microorganism activity, high water holding capacity, high infiltration rates, and little compaction.

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visiting www.nccdpa.org or
www.facebook.com/nccdpa.

DIG A LITTLE, LEARN A LOT, *continued*

As soil managers we can help build soil aggregates by growing green manure cover crops or adding animal manure. Also think about your tillage regime. Over the long term, repeated soil tillage can reduce soil tilth and break down stable soil aggregates. Such soils can be so degraded that they become addicted to tillage, and crop establishment requires a soil-loosening operation. If you can reduce your tillage operations, you may reduce the disturbance to the soil biota that are essential for building aggregation. Feeding the soil food web with cover crops or other organic materials also increases the numbers of these organisms. Then bacteria and fungi work to help make aggregation happen.



I hope you enjoyed the series on “Healthy Soils,” taking a look at the four factors for healthy soils (full of life, high in organic matter, covered all the time, and well structured), and that it helped you understand the fundamentals of soil ecology and what you can do to build soil health on your farm or property!

When farmers use soil health management systems, they are building the soil, AND they are also building the land’s production potential over the long-term.

By focusing more attention on soil health and by educating our customers and the public about the positive impact healthy soils can have on productivity and conservation, we can help our farmers feed the world more profitably and sustainably – now and for generations to come.

MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATE

by: Corey Bower, Mosquito-borne Disease Control Coordinator; Chantel Shambach and Brittney Hartzell, Mosquito-borne Disease Control Technicians

The Northcentral Region Coalition has entered its second season; with returning staff – Chantel Shambach and Corey Bower - more knowledgeable and wiser than the season before. We have acquired a great new member, Brittney Hartzell, to our team. Brittney hails from Bloomsburg, PA and has a degree in Environmental Science from Bloomsburg University. You can find her out surveying for mosquitoes in both Snyder and Union counties. When not hunting for mosquitoes, Brittney enjoys spending time with her newly-wed husband and two dachshunds.

Our starting goal this year was to immediately set out to find problematic areas and revisit locations that we knew were an issue last year. We did this by being as proactive as we could by treating breeding areas in our counties. We successfully treated 13 sites before the official start of the trapping season and have currently treated 69 sites year to date.

We are only two and a half months into our season, and we have made some wonderful strides. In the beginning, we participated in a number of tire collection events that eliminated approximately 3,000 tires between all of the events (see photo 1, below). With each tire producing approximately 10,000 mosquitos a year, we can successfully say we are making a substantial difference for the environment and the community.



(Photo 1: Tires collected at the AOAA event on 4/6/2018- photo credit to the Daily Item)

Currently, complaint calls are rolling in, and we are tackling the influx with education and treatments. Some complaint areas are heavily polluted with poison and mosquitos, so we gear up with full bodied jumpsuits for protection (see photo 2 on the next page). Some areas are best handled with a larger force, for example: Ultra Low Volume (ULV) treatment. We held our first truck mounted ULV spray event in Snyder County on Wednesday, June 6, 2018. This event was justified through numerous complaints within a small radius, with a combination of high nuisance mosquito numbers collected in our traps.

By setting various traps, our team will continue to survey the five designated counties (Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union) through October. Along the way we will be responding to any positive test samples of the West Nile Virus fiercely and

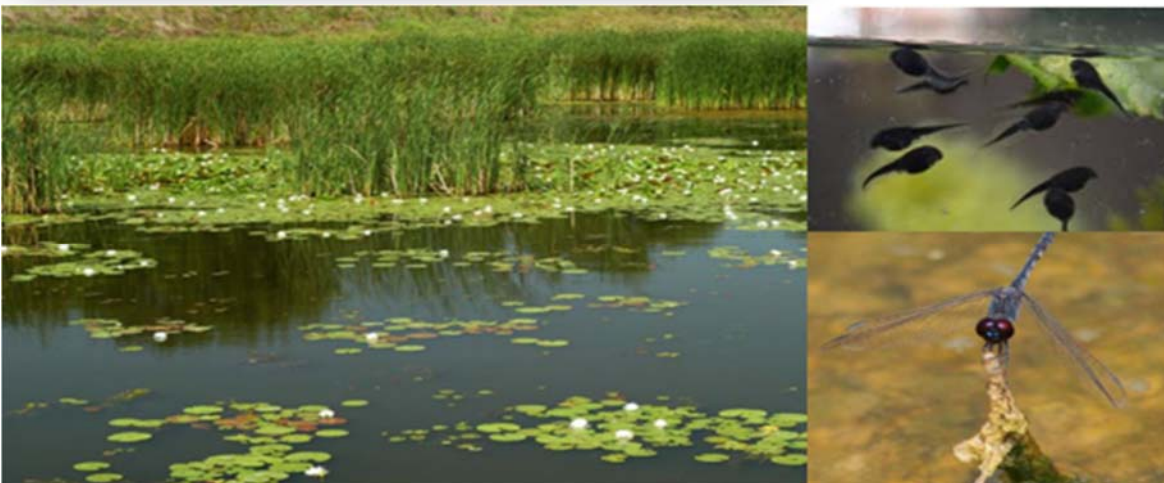
MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATE, *continued*

effectively. We will continue to decrease breeding grounds through proper applications of treatments and source reduction. Lastly, we aim to utilize the most powerful tool we have to offer, and that is education.



(Photo 2: Chantel Shambach, fashionably suited in full bodied gear for a larvicide application- photo credit to Corey Bower)

To reduce your risk of contracting mosquito-borne diseases, wear deet repellents according to label instructions and help us to control mosquito breeding hotspots by eliminating standing water. However, not all standing water bodies, such as healthy wetlands, are a source for mosquitoes. Common indicators of healthy aquatic systems are dragonflies and tadpoles, such as those displayed in photo 3 shown below. Commonly overlooked places are low spots on your property, open containers, window wells, and gutters, with special emphasis on old tires and tarps (refer to photo 4 below). Some mosquitoes only take 7 days to hatch from egg to an adult!



(photo 3: signs of a healthy aquatic system- photo credit to Google Images)

(photo 4: problematic standing water areas- photo credit to Google Images)



If you have any questions for our team regarding our program, please contact our office at 570-495-4665. We are here to help!

POISON HEMLOCK OVERVIEW

Compiled by: Dwight Lingenfelter, Penn State Weed Science (resources taken from various Penn State Extension articles)

Poison hemlock is a biennial plant with a basal rosette of leaves in its first year. Once it overwinters, plants will bolt into an erect branched plant producing conspicuous white flowers generally in June and July (see accompanying image). Poison hemlock is in the parsley family and the leaves and foliage resemble carrot and parsley. Late April and early May are the time of year when you start to notice it in fallow areas, fence rows, pastures, roadsides and creeks as it begins to bolt and soon will be flowering. Plants can reach up to 6 feet tall and have a smooth, hollow stem with purple spots and a disagreeable odor when the leaves crush.

Poison hemlock is native to Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia and was introduced to North America as an ornamental garden plant. It is infamous as a poisonous plant, and hemlock tea reportedly killed the Greek philosopher Socrates in 399 BC. The plant contains a number of closely related pyridine alkaloids with the main one being coniine, a colorless, volatile and strongly alkaline oil. All parts of the plant are poisonous, and some studies have shown toxicosis at 0.25% fresh wt. (of the animal's weight) for horses and 0.5% for cattle. That would be 2.5 to 5 lb. of material per 1000 lb. animal. Mature seeds are the most poisonous. Significant poisoning can result in muscle paralysis and suffocation.



Images of poison hemlock during vegetative stage (top) and at flowering (bottom). (Source: Penn State Extension images)

Identification and control of this plant in sensitive areas where livestock could come in contact is important. When managing poison hemlock, be sure to wear protective clothing or PPE as contact with the skin has been known to cause irritation for some people. You can easily dig individual plants out using a shovel or for larger infestations, several herbicides are effective for control. Applications are most effective when made before plants bolt in the spring. Preferred herbicides include 2,4-D + Banvel/Clarity, Crossbow (2,4-D+triclopyr), or glyphosate as a spot treatment.

Poison hemlock is biennial, so those flowering plants will finish their lifecycle when they set seed. Biennials are more susceptible to control with herbicides in the first year of growth when they are rosettes, rather than now, near the end of their lifecycle. Mowing the plant in late flower should set it back and may even control it and prevent seed production in areas where mowing is possible.

Poison hemlock is toxic and can be fatal to humans, pets, and all classes of livestock. All parts of the plant are known to be poisonous, even after the plant has died. You should review this invasive weed's key identification features to avoid human exposure and livestock poisoning. You should also consider making others who use your property aware of the increase of poison hemlock in the area.



Poison hemlock is typically seen along roadsides, fallow areas, fence rows, pastures, and creeks. Native to Europe, this weed is a biennial, completing its life cycle in two years. In its first year, it will produce a rosette of leaves close to the ground. In the second year, it will bolt; this means that it will send up a stem, producing more leaves, flowers, and many seeds.

Poison hemlock is closely related to wild carrot (also called Queen Anne's lace). Poison hemlock has white flowers and lacy leaves similar to wild carrot. However, it is a larger plant, growing 4 to 6 feet tall when mature. The stems of poison hemlock have purple spots and are hollow and hairless. The whole plant has a musty smell, and the leaves produce a parsley-like odor when crushed.

Just as its name suggests, it is a poisonous plant. Touching this plant has caused skin irritation for some people. But it is also toxic if ingested by livestock and humans. It can take as little as 0.25 percent and 0.5 percent of a horse and cow's weight, respectively, to cause poisoning and severe damage to the nervous system. If too much is ingested, it can cause death. Therefore, it is important to eradicate this weed in areas where livestock

could come into contact with it. Mature seeds are the most poisonous. Significant poisoning can result in muscle paralysis and suffocation.

POISON HEMLOCK OVERVIEW, *continued*

Using an herbicide to control poison hemlock is best done in its first year as a rosette, rather than when it is flowering and close to the end of its lifecycle. When the plant is in late flower, mowing should set it back, prevent seed production, and possibly control it. There are no pre-emergent herbicides to use against poison hemlock in ornamental settings. Post-emergents include: diquat, pelargonic acid, glyphosate (all are non-selective), and 2,4-D. The most effective approach is to treat the 1st year rosettes and not the larger, mature plant. When using an herbicide to control and eradicate poison hemlock use an approved herbicide and always follow the label and safety instructions on that label.

To remove the weeds by pulling, wear rubber gloves and protective clothing and follow up with an herbicide to prevent future growth. Hand-pulling of poison hemlock works best with young plants or small infestations in wet soils. Mature plants should be dug up and removed. Once the plant and its roots are extracted from the ground, place the plant into a plastic garbage bag and dispose of it into a trash receptacle. Wash all clothing and tools afterwards. Do not attempt to compost poison hemlock as the poisons are persistent. Even the use of weed trimmers needs to be conducted using precautions so that plant material doesn't come into contact with the body.

Identification and eradication of this plant wherever livestock and people could come in contact is important. Also, care should be taken when eradicating the plant to wear gloves and protective clothing. Contact with the skin has been known to cause irritation for some people.

Additional Poison Hemlock information:

- [PA DCNR Poison Hemlock fact sheet](#)
- [USDA Poison Hemlock fact sheet](#)
- <http://oak.ppws.vt.edu/~flessner/weedguide/coima.htm> (Virginia Tech Weed ID guide)

NCCD would like to thank our 2018 members for their support!

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SPOTTED LANTERNFLY QUARANTINE INFO

Source: PA Department of Agriculture

Currently a quarantine is in place to stop the movement of the Spotted Lanternfly to new areas and to slow its spread within the quarantine. The quarantine affects a variety of plant, wood and stone products. Surveys are currently underway to determine the complete spread of this pest in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Efforts are also underway to ensure the Spotted Lanternfly is not present in other parts of the commonwealth. On the next page, you will find a form you can submit if you come across this pest.

The following counties are currently under quarantine:

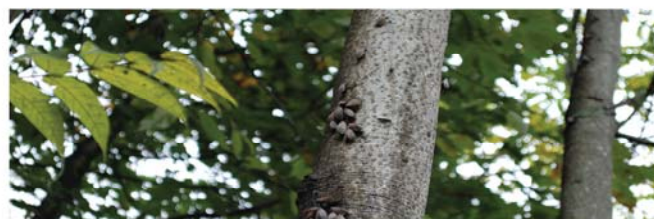
Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill



Adult with Egg Masses | Eggs: October - May



Adults on Ailanthus



Egg Masses | Eggs: October - May



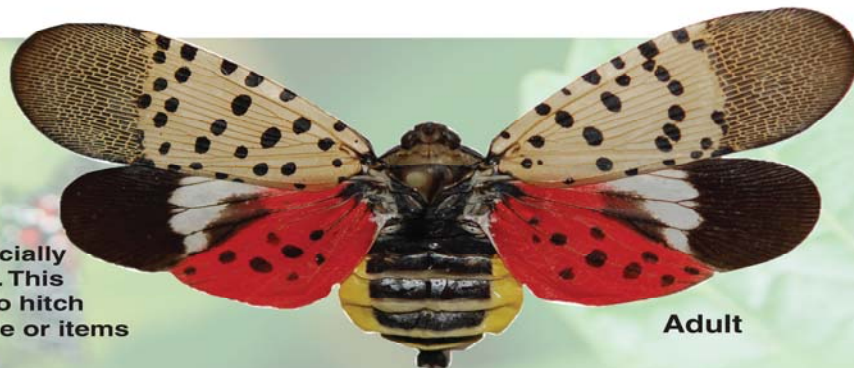
Early Nymph | May - June



Late Nymph | June - July



Spotted lanternfly threatens the Pennsylvania agriculture industry. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) are asking for your help in the eradication efforts of this pest. Look for the insect before leaving a quarantined area, especially after walking or parking near a tree line. This insect is not a strong flier, but may try to hitch hike a ride on your clothing, your vehicle or items sitting outdoors. For more information and the current quarantine, please visit:



Adult

WWW.AGRICULTURE.PA.GOV/SPOTTEDLANTERNFLY

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY SUBMISSION FORM

Source: PA Department of Agriculture



ENTOMOLOGY PROGRAM SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORM

*The Entomology Program at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture can provide identification.
Please complete this form to be submitted with the specimen(s).*

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

1. All specimens should be dead.
2. Most specimens should be placed in 70-80% Ethyl or Isopropyl Alcohol in a leak proof vial.
(Moths, Butterflies, and Mealy bugs should be frozen and placed in a hard plastic container with dry paper toweling)
3. The vial should be placed in a zipper style bag.
4. Specimens from different locations (if applicable) should be placed in different vials.
5. A completed sample submission form must accompany the vial/container.

REQUIRED INFORMATION:

Name of Submitter: _____

Contact Information: Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Address where specimen was collected: _____

Date Collected: _____ Plant Host/Habitat: _____

Name of Person Who Collected Specimen: _____

Comments/Special Instruction: _____

Mail the vial/container and completed form, or deliver in person to:

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Entomology - Room 111
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Contact: Sven-Erik Spichiger at 717-772-5229 or Leo Donovall at 717-772-5225

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY AG LOCAL WORKGROUP MEETING

by: Northumberland County Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service



What: Northumberland County
Agriculture Local Workgroup Meeting

When: Tuesday, July 24th
from 11 am until 2 pm

Where: USDA Service Center, 441 Plum
Creek Road, Sunbury, PA 17801

Why: Provide input on Agricultural
Services and priorities in
Northumberland County!

How: Call 570-495-4665 to register for
free! (lunch will be provided)

****For reasonable accommodations requests, please
contact Janette Leshar at 570-415-3117.****

Please join us as we provide information on current programs available and give you the opportunity to participate in a discussion about agricultural services in Northumberland County. We want to hear from you! Your input will help provide us with the information we need to set priorities for funding in Northumberland County. Representatives from USDA NRCS and the Northumberland County Conservation District will be available at this meeting.



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider,
employer and lender.

"MOW HIGH AND LET IT LIE!"

by: Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District and the City of Columbus, Ohio



Summer lawn care

About Watering

1. **To water or not to water?** It is important to make a decision about whether or not you'll provide regular watering for your lawn to keep its green color, or let it go dormant in the summer. Dormancy is best suited for well-established lawns rather than new or heavily trafficked lawns. Residents in new developments where topsoil has been removed may want to keep their lawns watered.
2. **Dormant grass is not dead.** Turfgrasses are cool-season plants designed for dormancy when water is scarce, though they may look ugly and brown. After 4-6 weeks of no rain, even dormant grass needs to be watered. Watering it seldom and deeply (1-1.5 inches) will keep the roots alive without causing the grass to green up. This encourages deeper roots that are more drought-tolerant.
3. **Don't tease your lawn with an occasional sprinkle.** Sporadic, irregular watering "confuses" your turf resulting in shallow rooting and stress. If you're watering grass to maintain its green color, approximately 1" of water per week is necessary. Measure using a rain gauge (why yes, you're welcome!) or even a tuna can.
4. **How and when you water matters.** Overwatering is more of a problem for homeowners than is under-watering. Too much irrigation deprives plant roots of oxygen, and can contribute to water pollution when fertilizer is washed away before grass is able to use it. Grubs will enjoy laying eggs in your damp lawn too! Watering deeply in the morning when water is needed and less likely to evaporate is ideal.

Mow High and Let It Lie

Keeping your grass a little taller at about 3" in the summer reduces soil temperatures, preserves moisture, prevents weed germination, and helps maintain turfgrass quality. Grass that's cut too closely is easily stressed, causing it to brown more quickly than longer grass. Dandelions are especially common in lawns that are thin or cut too short. Leaving the grass clippings on your lawn recycles nutrients, and doesn't cause thatch (it's caused by over-fertilization and over-watering that produce excess growth and long clippings.) Grass in our storm drains pollute our water, and provide nutrient-rich "food" for algae- so keep that mower aimed away from the street, and be sure to clean up after yourself!

Proper Lawn Care Practices Protect Our Streams

Healthy lawns benefit our streams because they absorb more water during rain storms, require less fertilizer, and are less likely to require pesticide and/or herbicide application than unhealthy lawns.

Program support comes from the following communities:



Northumberland County
Conservation District
441 Plum Creek Road
Sunbury, PA 17801
Phone: (570) 495-4665
Website: www.nccdpa.org



Northumberland County Conservation District

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.

Directors

Mike Hubler: Chairman, Public
Leon Wertz: Vice-Chairman, Farmer
Richard Shoch: Commissioner
Gary Truckenmiller: Farmer
John Kopp: Farmer
Natalie Wertman: Public
Rich Daniels: Farmer

Mike Erdley: Associate
Dave Swank: Associate
Blair Carbaugh: Associate
Albert Mabus: Associate
John Pfleegor: Associate
Ted Carodiskey: Associate
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Ryan Cherwinski: Agricultural Conservation Technician
Corey Bower: Mosquito-borne Disease Control Coordinator
Brittney Hartzell: Mosquito-borne Disease Control Technician
Tyler Craig: Summer Intern, Mosquito-borne Disease Control Technician

NCCD Board of Directors Upcoming Meetings:

August 2, September 6, October 4 at 7:00pm; all held at the NCCD EE Center