

# The Dirt

News from MCSWCD

VOLUME 31  
ISSUE 1  
MARCH 2008



## FINAL WEEKS TO ORDER TREES & SHRUBS!

Don't miss the opportunity to order trees and shrubs for 2008! This program is a cost-effective way to enhance your property with a spring planting project. We continue to offer a wide variety of species that can be used for conservation projects, wildlife habitats, and restoration measures, with many new species this year.

The **deadline for orders is March 21st** and inventory is limited. Ordering early ensures that you get the species you want. The District has a full **color catalog and the order form available on our website at: [www.monroecountyswcd.org](http://www.monroecountyswcd.org)**.

### New this year are:

**Chestnut Oak:** A deciduous tree, medium shaped and native with a moderate growth rate. Just \$15 for 10!

- **Sassafras:** A small tree between 20-40 ft. preferring moist sandy loam soils. Flowers are small but showy, followed by berries on female trees

which are a favorite of songbirds. Only \$12 for 10!

- **White Flowering Dogwood:** With a beautiful show of white blossoms in spring and berries in the fall, this native tree is a favorite for its color and growth habit. \$12 for 10!
- **Native Flowering Packet:** A new variety packet which has a mix of native trees and shrubs to increase wildlife and conservation enhancement while providing color. Each packet of 10 plants includes two of the following: Sandcherry, Chokecherry, Spicebush, Washington Hawthorne and White Flowering Dogwood. Just \$18 for each packet of 18-24" seedlings.

Other changes this year include: larger sizes for 18 of the 34 species offered, lower prices for our 50 packs to provide cost savings and replacing a few non-native species with native alternatives.

[Visit our website or call our office for more information regarding this and many other programs.](#)

## Increase the strength of your farm business with AEM...

For many farmers, environmental stewardship is viewed not just as the 'right thing to do,' but increasingly as an important strategic asset for their businesses. Farmers know that in order for their businesses to remain strong, they need to be vigilant about protecting the environment. New York State's Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program provides the tools to help accomplish both.

AEM is a voluntary, incentive-based program that assists farmers in their environmental stewardship efforts and protects the quality of

their farms' natural resources, which are the foundation of their long-term economic viability. The AEM Program coordinates agricultural and environmental conservation agencies and programs, as well as private sector consultants, to provide a one-stop resource for services.

If you are a production farmer or a landowner who rents cropland to farmers you are eligible to participate in this program. Contact Henry at the Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District to find out how your farm could benefit from becoming enrolled in AEM.

### The 'Electronic' Dirt?

Sign up to receive an email link to each new issue, rather than a hard copy in the mail. By becoming a "paper-free" subscriber, you will conserve natural resources and lower the District's operating expenses. Send us an email with "Newsletter" as the subject: [newsletter@monroecountyswcd.org](mailto:newsletter@monroecountyswcd.org). Please include your name and address in the body of the message.

### Important Dates:

**March 21—Tree & Shrub Order Forms Due**

**March 28 - Annual Farm Bureau & District Dinner**

**April 24 & 25 - Tree & Shrub Order Distribution at 1200 Scottsville Road from 9:00am—6:00pm**

**April 26 - Overstock Sale**  
Sales are first come, first serve and prices are the same as on our order form - extremely limited supply of seedlings available; 12-3 pm behind our office building on Scottsville Road

**May 1 - Monroe County Envirothon Competition, Ellison Park**



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1-800-876-0222

Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District and the  
Monroe County Farm Bureau's  
**Annual Meeting/Rural Urban Dinner**

Friday, March 28th, 2008

6:00 PM at the Lodge on the Green

2888 Ridgeway Avenue, Rochester, NY (near Elmgrove Rd.)

**Join Us For:** \_\_\_\_\_

- **Guest Speaker: Mr. Paul D'Amato,**  
Director of the New York State Dept.  
of Environmental Conservation—Region 8
- **2007 Conservationist of the Year**
- **Great Food**
- **Good Company**
- **Door Prizes**

Call the District for Details! (585) 473-2120 x3

\$18 per person w/advanced  
reservations

Make Checks Payable to:

**Monroe County Farm Bureau**

Mail to:

Monroe County Farm Bureau

276 Colby Street

Spencerport, NY 14559

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District and is available at no cost to interested landowners, land users, and to the general public. If you would like to receive our newsletter, call us with your mailing address or view it online at [www.monroecountyswcd.org](http://www.monroecountyswcd.org). Programs and services offered through the Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District are made possible through the financial support of the USDA NRCS, County of Monroe, State of New York, specialized grant opportunities, and fundraising programs. All NRCS & SWCD programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, political beliefs, religion, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability. Our Board of Director meetings are open to the public; please call for information.

**Monroe County Soil & Water  
Conservation District**

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