

Conservation Pages

Newsletter



The 48th Annual Tree Seedling Sale

Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District in collaboration with TreesCharlotte is pleased to announce the 48th Annual Tree Seedling Sale. TreesCharlotte, established in 2012, is the driving force behind the bold initiative of achieving 50% tree canopy coverage by 2050. Learn more about TreesCharlotte by visiting <http://treescharlotte.org/>.

This annual event will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (or sold out) at the NC Cooperative Extension Center located at 1418 Armory Drive, Charlotte, NC 28204. A wide variety of species will be offered ranging in price from \$2 to \$5 (pages 6-7). Seedlings can be used for developing green buffers to protect water quality, cleaning the air by removing carbon dioxide, improving wildlife habitat and reforestation.

The deadline to pre-order seedlings is Monday, January 7, 2019. Pre-payment is required at the time of order. Those who pre-order seedlings are guaranteed their selection. Seedlings are sold on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last. The tree seedling list and order form is on page 4 of the newsletter.



Rain Barrels are a great way to store rain water

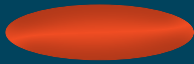
Rain barrels provide an easy way for homeowners to help protect our streams and lakes in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Capturing the water that flows off your roof keeps rain water out of the storm drains and allows it to flow into the ground and replenish the ground water supply.

Mecklenburg County has experienced a lot of rain fall this year. The next time it rains be prepared to collect rain water in your new rain barrel. Rain barrels are available for purchase year-round at the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District. We offer two sizes: 60 gallon rain barrel is \$105 and 80 gallon rain barrel is \$120 (prices include tax).

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LEARN ABOUT LOCAL FOODS

the Family Food Garden Series
Register for Classes

Center for Environmental
Farming Systems (CEFS)
www.cefs.ncsu.edu

Mecklenburg Soil & Water
Conservation District
2145 Suttle Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28208
704.336.2455



2019 Tree Sale News and Updates

We along with our partners at TreesCharlotte are very excited to bring you our 48th Annual Tree Seedling Sale.

As in past years, the majority of species offered will be in bareroot form. Due to a lack of bareroot availability, we will be selling Highbush Blueberries in tubling form. Tublings are seedlings that come in their own mini-pot (tube). Due to higher costs for this variety, we will be selling a limited quantity of the blueberries for \$5 each. Please note Fringe Tree and Yellowroot are also priced differently at \$3 each due to supplier cost. We highly recommend pre-ordering, especially for blueberries.

To give you a little more information and visuals of each tree, we have also added links to each photo with additional information and photographs. We are very pleased to have had the opportunity to utilize the beautiful photographs taken by local wildlife and nature photographer Will Stuart. Please look for the additional details about the sale beginning on page 7. Remember, if you pre-order your trees you have your choice of selection, avoid the lines and receive a 10% discount.



Leslie receives length of service award



Dietrich Kilpatrick and Bryan Evans present Leslie N. Vanden Herik with a NCASWCD Length of Service Award at the Area 8 Fall Meeting in Lexington, NC.

Leslie N. Vanden Herik is the Conservation District Manger with the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District. Leslie joined the District in February of 2008. Leslie oversees day to day operations of the District under guidance of the board and manages the District's cost share and technical programs and services. Leslie holds a Bachelors degree in Biology from UNC Charlotte and has completed graduate course work in both Earth and Soil Sciences at UNC Charlotte and NC State University.

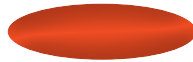
On October 10, 2018 Leslie received an award from the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation District for 10 years of service with the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District.



State Cost Share Programs

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)

The NC Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) is a statewide program designed to help citizens to address urban/suburban non-point source pollution and erosion issues, much like our local Urban Cost Share Program. This program is especially valuable to citizens who live within the corporate limits of the towns of Davidson, Cornelius, Huntersville, Mint Hill, Matthews and Pineville (eligible for only limited practices through the UCSP). Available practices include: Cisterns, Rain Gardens, Backyard Wetlands, Riparian Buffers, Pet Waste Receptacles and more. CCAP is available county wide, however funding is limited. The Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District has submitted an application for project funds through our 2019 regional pool. Additional application will be ranked and reviewed for maximum water quality benefit. Approved applicant will receive technical assistance related to best management practices (BMPs) specific to their site, as well as reimbursement of up to 75% of allowable expenses. For more information, please call 704.336.2455 or visit www.MecklenburgConservation.com



Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP)

The District is available to help farmers and other agricultural producers reduce erosion and prevent other water pollution. The Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District received an allocation of approximately \$28,907.00 this fiscal year. Funds are available to assist with the cost of installing conservation practices to protect water quality and agricultural interests. Practice examples include livestock exclusion systems, waste management systems, stream stabilization and more. For more information, please call 704.336.2455 or visit www.MecklenburgConservation.com



Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP)

The newest of our state cost share assistance programs; the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) is available to assist with increasing water availability for agricultural production. The Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District received an allocation \$12,457.00 for the 2019 fiscal year. Funds are available to assist with the construction of new farm ponds (restrictions apply), the dredging or repair of existing farm ponds, wells for irrigation and/or livestock watering and other water quantity related conservation practices. For more information, please call 704.336.2455 or visit www.MecklenburgConservation.com

Federal Cost Share Programs

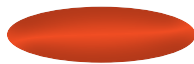
USDA Federal Cost Share Programs

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides financial and technical assistance focused on natural resource concerns. Programs available to approved applicants include:

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) CREP is a collaborative effort between the local District, the NCDA&CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation and Division of Forest Resources, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency. CREP provides long-term protection of environmentally sensitive cropland and marginal pasture land through conversion to conservation practices (e.g. Stream Buffers) on agricultural land. CREP is currently only available in and east of the Yadkin River Basin (includes eastern Mecklenburg County). Eligibility is subject to qualification by USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). For more information, please contact Leslie Vanden Herik at 704.336.2455.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program provides financial and technical help to eligible producers for installation of conservation practices on agricultural land. Eligibility is subject to qualification by USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). For more information, please contact Chris Childers at 704.788.2107 extension 3.



Urban Cost Share Program



The Urban Cost Share Program is an incentive-based program designed to help land users address existing erosion and other non-point source water pollution issues in approved watersheds.

The program offers financial and technical assistance to reduce runoff, stop erosion and address other non-point source pollution issues. Approved applicants are eligible to receive 75% of allowable costs, up to \$7,500.00, associated with installing approved Best Management Practices at their location.

Urban Cost Share Availability:

The full Urban Cost Share Program is open to citizens throughout the City of Charlotte and in unincorporated Mecklenburg County.

A limited version of the Urban Cost Share Program is now available county wide, with funding available for all municipalities and unincorporated Mecklenburg County. Citizens in Matthews, Mint Hill, Pineville, Huntersville and Cornelius are now eligible to apply for assistance with stabilization of eroding streambanks. Due to restrictions by our grant funding source, citizens in these areas are NOT currently eligible for assistance with remaining practices, excepting riparian buffers associated with a streambank stabilization project.

Urban Cost Share Program - BMPs

Urban Cost Share Program Information:

To be considered for assistance, please complete an interest form as a first step in being considered for assistance. District staff will review forms and property maps and schedule a site assessment and assist with application to the program when appropriate.

All applications to the program are ranked for their benefit to water quality. Qualified applications are funded in order of rank as funds allow. Approved applicants will receive a BMP design and installation guidance. Applicants may begin implementation of practices upon notice of board approval. Funds expended prior to board approval are not eligible for reimbursement. Per contract terms, participants are responsible for maintaining practices for a minimum of five years. Additional restrictions may apply.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

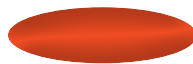
Best Management Practices Offered (City of Charlotte and Unincorporated Mecklenburg County only):

Critical Area Planting: Establishing permanent vegetation on sites that have steep slopes with high erosion rates, and on sites that have physical, chemical, or biological conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with normal practices.

Grassed Waterway (Swale): A natural or constructed channel that is shaped or graded to required dimensions and established in suitable vegetation for the stable conveyance of runoff.

Pet Waste Receptacles: Receptacles and supplies to better manage pet waste, usually in public areas.

Rain Garden: A landscaped area that collects storm water runoff.



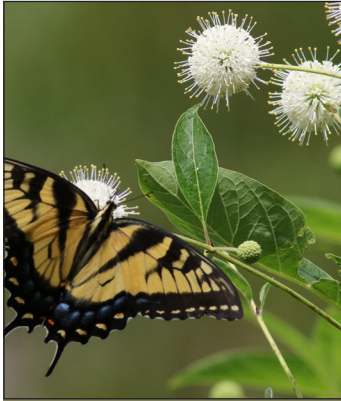
Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Best Management Practices Offered (throughout Mecklenburg County, including the seven municipalities):

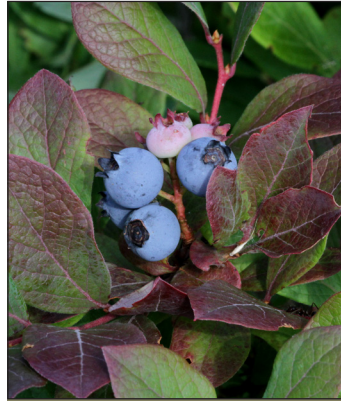
Streambank Stabilization: Vegetative stabilization (planting) and/or grading of erosive streambanks and shorelines to stabilize erosion and reduce soil loss.

Riparian Buffers (restrictions apply): An area dominated by trees and/or shrubs located adjacent to and up-gradient from water courses or water bodies.

For additional information or questions, please contact the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District at 704.336.2455 or Leslie.VandenHerik@mecklenburgcountync.gov.



Buttonbush



Highbush Blueberry



Red Chokeberry



Spicebush



Sweet Pepperbush



Winterberry Holly



Yellowroot



Eastern Redbud



Flowering Dogwood



Fringe Tree



Sweetbay Magnolia



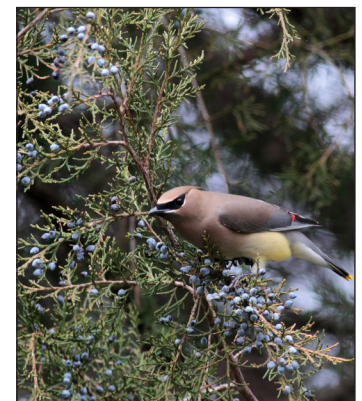
Pecan



Red Maple



Sassafras



Eastern Red Cedar

MSWCD Annual Tree Seedling Sale

2019 Species List

			Wildlife - Winter Cover	Wildlife - Fleshy Fruit	Wildlife - Nut or Seed	Wildlife - Nut or Seed	Butterfly - Nectar Plant	Edible Nut/Fruit	Shade or Host Plant	Attractive Fruit (Human)	Spring/Fall Color	Evergreen Foliage	Shrubs - Large and Small	Small Trees (10' -30')	Large Trees (>30')	Soil Moisture - Dry	Soil Moisture - Moist	Soil Moisture - Wet	Shade Tolerant	Partial Sun/Shade	Full Sun
\$ 2.00	<u>Buttonbush</u>	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>		x	x					x		x				x	x		x	x	
\$ 5.00	<u>Highbush Blueberry</u>	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	x	x	x	x		x	x		x					x			x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Red Chokeberry</u>	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	x					x	x		x					x	x		x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Spicebush</u>	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	x		x			x	x		x					x		x	x		
\$ 2.00	<u>Sweet Pepperbush</u>	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	x	x				x			x					x	x		x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Winterberry Holly</u>	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	x	x	x			x	x		x					x	x		x	x	
\$ 3.00	<u>Yellowroot</u>	<i>Xanthorhiza simplicissima</i>	x	x				x			x					x	x		x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Eastern Redbud</u>	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>		x	x	x				x			x			x	x		x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Flowering Dogwood</u>	<i>Cornus florida</i>	x	x	x			x	x		x					x			x	x	
\$ 3.00	<u>Fringe Tree</u>	<i>Chioanthus virginicus</i>	x					x	x		x					x	x		x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Sweetbay Magnolia</u>	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>		x	x					x	x		x			x			x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Pecan</u>	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>		x		x	x	x					x			x					x
\$ 2.00	<u>Red Maple</u>	<i>Acer rubrum</i>		x				x	x				x			x	x		x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Sassafras</u>	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	x		x			x					x	x	x				x	x	
\$ 2.00	<u>Eastern Red Cedar</u>	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	x	x		x				x			x			x	x				x

Links are added with additional information and photographs. Please click on the underlined text to view information. All Photo Credits: Will Stuart

Tree Seedling and Rain Barrel Order Form

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Seedling	Unit Price	Quantity	Amount	Seedling	Unit Price	Quantity	Amount
Buttonbush	\$2.00			Flowering Dogwood	\$2.00		
Highbush Blueberry	\$5.00			Fringe Tree	\$3.00		
Red Chokeberry	\$2.00			Sweetbay Magnolia	\$2.00		
Spicebush	\$2.00			Pecan	\$2.00		
Sweet Pepperbush	\$2.00			Red Maple	\$2.00		
Winterberry Holly	\$2.00			Sassafras	\$2.00		
Yellowroot	\$3.00			Eastern Red Cedar	\$2.00		
Eastern Redbud	\$2.00						
<i>Please include the 7.25 % Tax</i>							
TOTAL							

***The seedling pre-order deadline is Monday, January 7, 2019.**

Quantity	Rain Barrel	Price	Quantity	Rain Barrel	Price
	60 Gallon	\$105.00 ea.		80 Gallon	\$120.00 ea.

***Rain Barrels are paid for at the time of pick up on February 2, 2019 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Tree Seedling Sale Policies

- Seedling pre-orders will be accepted through **Monday, January 7, 2019**
- Payment in full is due at time of order
- Cash, Check or Money Order - Please make check payable to MSWCD
(Check and Money Order only via US Mail - DO NOT MAIL CASH)
- Receipts will be mailed upon receipt of order and payment
- **Pre-orders** will be available for pick-up at **1418 Armory Drive, Charlotte, NC 28204**
Friday- February 1st from 12-2 p.m. OR Saturday- February 2nd from 9-11 a.m.
- MSWCD is not responsible for orders not claimed during the sale - Unclaimed orders will be considered a donation and sold to the public on a first-come, first-served basis
- NO REFUNDS will be issued for orders not claimed during the sale
- Reminders will be e-mailed prior to the sale (via postal mail if e-mail is unavailable)
- **Questions?** Please call 704.336.2455 or e-mail Anganette.Byrd@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Return Order Form (Please include payment for seedlings) to:
 Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District
 Attention: Anganette Byrd
 2145 Suttle Avenue

Contact Information

Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District
2145 Suttle Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28208, 704.336.2455

Business Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

BOARD SUPERVISORS:

Brad Johnson, Chair (Elected) - brjohnson@davidson.edu
Eric Spengler, Vice Chair (Appointed) - eric@spengleraganslaw.com
Jonathan Schwartz, Treasurer (Appointed) - j_schwartz@mindspring.com
Nancy Carter, Supervisor (Elected) - n3157w@yahoo.com
Barbara Bleiweis, Supervisor (Elected) - bleiweis4meckswcd@gmail.com

ASSOCIATE BOARD SUPERVISOR: Gray Newman

STAFF:

Leslie Vanden Herik, Conservation District Manager
Leslie.VandenHerik@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Anganette Byrd, Administrative Support Assistant III/Education Coordinator
Anganette.Byrd@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Chris Childers, NRCS District Conservationist - Christopher.Childers@nc.usda.gov

WESTERN REGIONAL COORDINATOR:

Rick McSwain - Rick.McSwain@ncagr.gov

***A special thanks to our proud partner Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services.**

Newsletter Sponsorship

Do you own or run a farm, natural resource or other conservation related business? Would you be interested in sponsoring our newsletter through a small ad? If so, we need your input! What size add would you be interested in – one eighth page, quarter page, half page? How much would you consider a reasonable cost for sponsorship? How frequently would you be interested in sponsoring? Our newsletter is distributed via e-mail once a quarter to over 2,500 people in Charlotte/Mecklenburg County and the surrounding area in addition to posting it on our website. We need your feedback to help us move forward with development of a newsletter sponsorship program. If you or someone you know might be interested in newsletter sponsorship, please send us your feedback to Leslie.VandenHerik@mecklenburgcountync.gov

