



WINTER 2024

Greene County's Reinvestment in Agriculture: Cost-share Enhancement Program

The Greene County Conservation District is now accepting applications for a newly expanded program that they are directly funding. Greene County's Reinvestment in Agriculture: Cost-share Enhancement (GRACE) Program is a conservation-based program designed to enhance soil health within the agricultural community.

All cost-share rates are reimbursements based on receipts.

Let us help with these practices!



A farm visit is required with all applications.
Taking applications through August 31st.
Visit www.co.greene.pa.us to find the application.
For more information, call 724-852-5278.



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- Tess Prochaska, Conservation Technician

NRCS NEW STAFF

My name is Jack Lee, and I am the new Supervisory District Conservationist for West team 6 (Fayette, Greene, Washington) I started with the NRCS as a pathway student in Bucks County 13 years ago. I have worked in Alabama, New Mexico, North Carolina, and Arizona before coming back home to the Keystone state with my Wife Ash and our son Atlas. I am more than excited to be able to bring experience to this part of the state and to help people, help the land.

Jack Lee III
Supervisory District Conservationist
USDA - NRCS
Phone: 724-437-7971 | Email: jack.lee@usda.gov

My name is Alissa Pilkington, and I am the NRCS soil conservationist for Fayette and Greene counties. I started with NRCS about 2 years ago in Somerset County, and I moved to Fayette County in the summer of 2023 before going on maternity leave. My husband and I had our first baby, a daughter, in July and we live in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia. We enjoy hiking, biking, and spending time outdoors with our dogs. I have always been passionate about conservation, and I love to help people. Though I did not come from a farm background, I am a hard worker and am always learning!

NRCS is bustling right now. We have a lot of new programs and plenty of opportunities to receive assistance on farms. As always, farmers can apply to EQIP, which is a program that provides cost-share assistance for a broad range of projects from rotational grazing systems, cover crops, manure storage, forest management, and chemical storage facilities. If you have an idea of what you need but are not sure if NRCS can help, please give us a call so that we can discuss it! The deadline to be considered for this year's funding was November 1, 2023, but if you apply now, you will be considered for funding in 2025. CSP is another program that is always available and is particularly helpful for the farmer who has already had an EQIP contract and has solved the resource concerns on their farm. We just received word that the deadline for CSP applications will be March 1, 2024.

We are always available for any questions you may have, and we are always accepting applications for assistance.

Alissa Pilkington
Soil Conservationists NRCS
Phone: 724-437-7971 | Email: Alissa.pilkington@usda.gov

COOPERATING AGENCIES

- Greene County Department of Economic Development
Jeremy Kelly, Planning and Business Development Manager
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
Jack Lee, District Conservationist
Alissa Pilkington, Soil Conservationist
- PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry
Russell Gibbs, Service Forester
- PA Fish and Boat Commission
Dorian Siebel, SW Region Waterways Conservation Officer
- Penn State Cooperative Extension
Justin Brackenrich, Agronomy Educator
- Washington/Greene County Farm Service Agency
Michal Roup, CED

DISTRICT LOCATION

Our office is located on the 2nd Floor of the Ben Franklin Building at
22 West High Street, Suite 204
Waynesburg, PA 15370
Phone: 724-852-5278
gccd@co.greene.pa.us
Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday

The GCCD Board meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am at the Greene County Fairgrounds 4-H Building, located at 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA 15370.

GRACE FORESTRY

The Greene County Conservation District’s GRACE forestry program provides a true countywide cost-share program that is designed to help private forest landowners implement forestry conservation practices on their land. Sustainable forest management has been becoming increasingly difficult due to the challenges we have and continue to face. Historically, it was considered common practice for landowners to have multiple harvests within a 30-40-year window. However, challenges in the form of invasive species, high deer impacts, new and introduced forest pests, and poor harvesting practices have prevented desirable hardwood regeneration from establishing and resulting in degraded forests within the county. Now landowners may apply for cost-share assistance to help restore their forests into a healthy state.

The first step for landowners wishing to implement forestry practices on their land is to have a forest management plan written for the property. The importance of the plan is to identify and prioritize the landowner’s objectives. Plans are generally oriented to goals targeting wildlife habitat, forest health, recreation, enhanced water quality, and reforestation. The minimum eligibility requirement to have a plan written is at least ten forested acres. When eligibility is established, landowners may submit their application to the conservation district and wait for approval. Once approved, the landowner may select a plan writer from the list distributed by the county’s DCNR Bureau of Forestry’s Service Forester and have the management plan written. Once the plan is established, the landowner may then re-apply for cost-share to implement forestry practices identified in the forest management plan. It is recommended to have the DCNR Bureau of Forestry Service Forester out for a site visit to see if the cost-share program would benefit the landowner. The Service Forester may also give the landowner ideas on how to best utilize the program’s forestry implementation practices.

Forest Stewardship Plan cost-share rates will depend on which category increment, in acres, a landowner falls into. Here are the current cost-share rates by acreage:

2023 Forest Stewardship Plan Cost-Share Rates

10-20 ac	\$900.00
21-100 ac	\$1,100.00
101-250 ac	\$1,700.00
251-500 ac	\$2,400.00
501-1000 ac	\$2,900.00
1001+ ac	\$3,600.00

With this program being cost-shared, it is important to understand these rates may not fully cover the entire cost of plans. Therefore, it is the landowner’s responsibility to cover the difference if the plan’s price exceeded the allocation rate.

FORESTRY IMPLEMENTATION PRACTICES

Once a forest management plan is established, landowners may then apply for cost-share to help cover the costs for forestry implementations. GRACE forestry implementation practices provide multiple benefits that are designed to improve forest health and tree productivity, reduce undesirable plants, and restore native plant communities. Forestry implementation practices are grouped into five categories; woody vegetation management, herbaceous non-woody invasive control, tree planting, riparian forest buffers, and timber stand improvement. Landowners may complete multiple categories per contract. However, implementation contracts must be completed by the last working day in July during a current contract. For example, if you were awarded implementation cost-share in October of 2024, you are required to have your implementation practices completed by the last working day in July of 2025. This allows the DCNR Service Forester time to certify practices and help plan the next step or series of practices for the following year. The DCNR Service Forester is available to provide technical assistance and guidance for all projects. Landowners have the option to complete implementation practices on their own. However, landowners also have the option to use services provided by private contractors and consulting foresters as well. Implementation practice descriptions are explained as follows:

WOODY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Woody vegetation management is used to remove or reduce undesirable saplings, trees, and shrubs within a treatment area identified in a landowner's forest management plan. Control of undesirable species may be done mechanically with a mower or chainsaw, chemically with herbicides, or a combination of both. Chemical applications can be foliar broadcast or targeted as spot spray foliar applications. Each treatment scenario is unique, and the Service Forester will help identify which option would be most efficient. This practice is most effective when trying to control woody invasive species such as multiflora rose, honeysuckle, Japanese barberry, privet, oriental bittersweet, autumn olive, and ailanthus. However, you may also use this option on native species, such as spicebush, which prevents desirable tree regeneration from establishing.

HERBACEOUS NON-WOODY INVASIVE CONTROL

The non-woody invasive control practice involves using a foliar ground herbicide application method to control Japanese stilt grass, mile-a-minute, Japanese knotweed, fern, and garlic mustard. These treatment areas may be found throughout forested stands, on old skid trails, and on pasturelands. This practice may be used alone, in combination with another practice, or as site preparation for future tree plantings.

TREE ESTABLISHMENT

This practice is applicable for planting bare-root tree seedlings with the goal of reforesting areas of low stocking, or to convert pastureland into forests. Tree shelters at the minimum height of 5' are required for all hardwood seedlings. Conifer seedlings will need to be fenced with a minimum height of 5'. The minimum treatment area per contract planting is ¼ acre with a maximum of 2 acres. Tree species to plant can be found in the recommendations section for each management unit within the forest management plan. Landowners will have three spacing requirement options:

- 10x10 (436 trees per acre)
- 12x12 (302 trees per acre)
- 14x14 (222 trees per acre)

The DCNR Service Forester will help the landowner decide spacing and tree selection based on the goals and objectives of the project. The tree establishment practice payment is ineligible for orchard species, ornamentals, nursery production, and Christmas tree farms. (See Figures 1-2 for Pastureland Conversion to Forest) (See Figure 3 for Conifer and Hardwood Plantings)



Figure 1 and 2: Pastureland conversion into forest using bare-root oak seedlings 2019 with a spacing of 10x10. Site preparation mechanical mowing was conducted prior to the planting.



Figure 3: Combination planting of hardwoods and conifers with tree protection.

RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFERS

Riparian forest buffer plantings include establishing bare-root tree seedlings along waterways to help protect water quality, improve bank stability, and reduce erosion. The same tree protection, tree selection and spacing standards for the "Tree Establishment" practice will apply to riparian forest buffer plantings. A minimum buffer width will be 15' from the stream bank and a maximum distance of 50'.

TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT

The timber stands improvement implementation practice offers a variety of harvesting methods to enhance forest stand structure on privately owned forests. Forest stand improvement is manipulating tree species composition, structure, and stocking of trees in a forested stand. The practice may improve tree productivity, reduce undesirable tree species, and enhance wildlife habitat by creating early successional young forests. Some forest stand improvement activities are implemented early on or in the middle of a forest stand's rotation to influence the quality of the stand. Some harvest types are also conducted later in a stand's rotation when regeneration is the objective. Harvest types under timber stand improvement include crop tree release treatments, non-commercial thinning, and low shade removal harvests. Harvest type is dependent upon the landowner's goals

for the stand. The DCNR Service Forester will evaluate the site and help the landowner make a harvest selection that will best address the landowner's goals. Timber stand improvement practices are described below:

CROP TREE RELEASE

A crop tree release is an intermediate harvest used to enhance the performance of individual trees. This harvest provides increased growing space on selected "crop trees" through the removal of crown competition from adjacent trees. The number of crop trees per treatment area will depend on site characteristics such as stand age, crown class, species, vigor, and wildlife value. This harvest is typically conducted during the first third of the stand rotation when the stand is 15-60 years old. Each crop tree should be released from competition on three or four sides (*Figure 4*). Released crop trees will increase in diameter growth and crown size, resulting in increased mast production for wildlife. (*See Figures 5-6 for Crop Tree Release Harvest favoring Oak Species*)



Figure 4: Ground view example of crop tree release on four sides.



Figure 5 and 6: Crop tree release harvest on a 20-year-old clearcut treatment block favoring oak species as crop trees.

NON-COMMERCIAL THINNING

Thinning harvests are designed to increase stand quality by removing the poor-quality trees. This harvest type may also be used as a preparatory cut to establish new seedlings or to provide more light for existing seedlings. The goal of this treatment is to leave the best quality trees for potential future harvests once seedlings have established and matured. In many cases, herbicide treatments are often used pre-harvest to treat low-lying vegetation or invasive species that are already established in the understory.

LOW SHADE REMOVAL

Low shade removal harvests are generally conducted later in the stand's rotation and have the goal of regenerating the stand shortly. Undesirable understory and mid-story vegetation are mechanically harvested to remove the seed source of undesirable trees within the treatment area. Other treatment options may include "hack n squirt" stem injections, basal bark herbicide applications, or both. This harvesting type is typically conducted in oak-hickory forests where no desirable seedling regeneration is present. An example of this harvest would include removing the sweet birch component that is established beneath the canopy of an oak-dominated forest. (*See Figure 7 for Low Shade Removal Harvest in an Oak Dominated Overstory*)



Figure 7: Low shade harvest conducted by removing red maple and birch. The goal is to provide growing space for a new oak seedling to establish.

Landowners wishing to apply for GRACE can download the application eligibility form directly from the Greene County Conservation District's website. This program provides a great opportunity for landowners looking to invest in their forests. Any questions related to the forestry program may be directed to the DCNR Bureau of Forestry Service Forester covering Greene County.

Russell Gibbs | Service Forester
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Forestry | Forbes State Forest
724.757.0508
rugibbs@pa.gov

CONSERVATION DISTRICT HONORS 9 AT THE ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

The Greene County Conservation District honored nine recipients during its annual awards ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at Valley View Farm.

Each year, the Conservation District honors those within the county who have shown an outstanding commitment to soil and water conservation. Honorees for 2023 included Jim Willis, recipient of the Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Award; Brad Johnson, recipient of the Outstanding Forest Conservationist and Chloe Holloway, recipient of the Outstanding Conservation FFA Speaking Award; Jefferson Township Supervisors, recipient of the DGLVR Municipality of the Year; Kevin Willis, recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award. 4 District and Farmland Board directors were honored for years of service.

Jim Willis and his family were honored as the 2023 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year. This award is given to local farms that have shown substantial improvements to their operations by committing to the use of conservation practices that are intended to improve soil and water quality. Mr. Willis' farm is in Jefferson Township along Pumpkin Run. Mr. Willis and his sons manage and farm 270 acres with a herd of 53 brood cows, 40 calves, 5 heifers, and 2 bull black Angus cattle. Mr. Willis placed 100 acres of his farm into a farmland conservation easement in 2012, he has worked tirelessly and closely with USDA NRCS to implement his conservation plans on his farm that enhance his operation and maintain the health of the soils and livestock since 1983. Mr. Willis has worked with the Conservation District to obtain funds to implement heavy-use protections, subsurface drains and outlets, roof runoff management, animal walkways, spring developments, animal crossing, a grazing plan, streambank fencing, and 1200 feet of streambank restoration.

Brad Johnson was presented the Outstanding Forest Conservationist Award for his tireless work improving the forest stand on his Dunkard Township, PA farm. His past accomplishments include having a completed forest stewardship management plan for his 63-acre property. In 2023, he was able to complete multiple invasive control herbicide treatments. He has also implemented a timber stand improvement harvest and completed various tree plantings throughout the property.

OUTSTANDING COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Lisa Snider presented Jim Willis with the 2023 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Award at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

OUTSTANDING FOREST CONSERVATIONIST



Brad Johnson was presented the 2023 Outstanding Forest Conservationist Award by Russell Gibbs, PA DCNR Service Forester and Lisa Snider at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

DIRT, GRAVEL AND LOW VOLUME ROAD PROGRAM MUNICIPALITY OF THE YEAR AWARD



Lindsay Kozlowski (left) and Lisa Snider (right) presented Ryan Wise (center) with the 2023 Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program Municipality of the Year Award at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Lisa Snider presented Kevin Willis with the 2023 Outstanding Achievement Award at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION FFA SPEAKING AWARD



Theresa Prochaska presented Chloe Holloway, the 2023 Outstanding Conservation FFA Speaking at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

SERVICE AWARDS



Zachary Basinger, James A. Cowell, Jr., Glodenna Halstead and Richard Belding were presented Service Awards at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Each year the district recognizes a municipality that shows a commitment to improving water quality using Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Practices while improving their roads. Jefferson Township represented by Ryan Wise, was recognized for their implementation of the Dirt, Gravel, Low Volume Road program practices on Sugar Camp Road with the Municipality of the Year Award. The township installed a 100 ft red-rock wall, a stream deflector to protect the road bank, shifting the roadway approximately 15ft and cleaning up the ditches, and stabilizing the upper slope.

Kevin Willis was honored with the Outstanding Achievement Award for his tireless commitment to his Carmichaels High School Students education. Mr. Willis has been the advisor for the Carmichaels Envirothon Team for over 25 years. He was recognized for his outstanding contribution as an education professional which has led to the academic success of the Carmichaels Envirothon Team winning the county Envirothon for 20 consecutive years. Over the past 20 years the Carmichaels Envirothon teams have placed in the top ten at the state Envirothon 16 times and managed to win the state competition twice taking them to Idaho in 2018 and North Carolina in 2019 where the team placed 3rd in the world at the NCF Envirothon.

Chloe Holloway, a senior at Waynesburg Central High School was recognized for her outstanding speaking skills at the county speaking contest with her speech entitled "C2H60: The Answer to Concerning Fossil Fuels". During the 2023 speaking contest year, she placed 1st in county, 3rd in areas, and 3rd at regionals. Chloe would have advanced to the state competition but instead decided to choose to compete with her Parli-pro team instead. Holloway is the daughter of Sarah Miller and Micheal Holloway.

The district honored four for their years of service to either the Conservation District Board or the Farmland Preservation Board and district staff. Those members were Glodenna Halstead, 10-year Service Award-Conservation Board; Richard Belding, 10-year Service Award-Farmland Preservation Board; James Cowell, Jr., 20-year Service Award-Conservation Board and Zachary Basinger, 10-year Service Award-Conservation Staff Member.

Washington County Crops Day

hosted by



PennState Extension



**WASHINGTON COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Experts will recap crop production in 2023, and provide information on the latest agronomic research, products, and technology.

When:

Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024

8:00am - 11:30am

with optional meeting after

Where:

Washington Co. Fairgrounds

2151 N. Main St, Washington

Pennsylvania 15301

Cost:

\$10 early bird

\$20 after 2/28/2024

Registration:

877-345-0691

extension.psu.edu/crops-days

Questions:

Call Justin Brackenrich

(724) 207-2009

8:00 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Pesticides and Buffers Susan Boser 1 PDA Core Credit
9:30 – 9:45	Agency Update/ Vendor Update
9:45 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 10:45	Improving Nitrogen Recommendations for Corn Charlie White 0.5 CCA NM Credit*
10:50 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:00	Dynamics of soil-applied herbicides Dwight Lingenfelter 1 PDA Cat PC, 01, 18 Pesticide Credit* 0.5 CCA IPM Credit*
12:00	Wrap up/ Evaluations
12:00 – 12:30	Break/ Pizza Lunch
12:30 – 1:00	Optional: Reading the Glyphosate Label Justin Brackenrich 1 PDA Core Pesticide Credit*

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2024 CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS



The banner features a circular logo on the left with the text "Appalachian Grazing Conference" around a green landscape. The main title "2024 Appalachian Grazing Conference" is in large blue font. Below it, the subtitle "Managing the System: Land, Water and Livestock" is in a cursive font. The dates "March 7-9, 2024" and location "Morgantown" are in bold blue font. The background shows a herd of brown cows in a field. At the bottom, a green bar contains the website "www.wvagc.com" and the text "SAVE THE DATE!" in white.

2024 Appalachian Grazing Conference

*"Managing the System:
Land, Water and Livestock"*

March 7-9, 2024
Morgantown

www.wvagc.com **SAVE THE DATE!**

2024 Appalachian Grazing Conference

March 7th - 9th "Managing the System: Land, Water and Livestock"



Keynote speaker.

Retired behavioral ecology professor and author Fred Provenza will be next year's keynote speaker at the Appalachian Grazing Conference.

Provenza has written three books, including "Nourishment: What Animals Can Teach Us About Rediscovering Our Nutritional Wisdom." An audiobook adaptation of the book was released in November of 2022.

Provenza is professor emeritus of behavioral ecology at Utah State University's Department of Wildland Resources. At the university, he directed an award-winning research group that pioneered understanding of how learning through metabolically mediated flavor-feedback relationships and experiences in utero and early in life influence foraging behavior and how behavior links the health of soil, plants, herbivores, and humans.

He also has published more than 300 research papers in a wide variety of scientific journals and he has been an invited speaker at more than 600 conferences.

Greene County Hay Production Meeting

March 13, 2024

6 – 8:30 pm

Auction Building #9

Greene County Fairgrounds

107 Fairgrounds Rd., Waynesburg PA 15370

We invite local hay producers to join us for a light dinner and discussion regarding hay production. For most operations, dry hay is the most important source of winter feed for livestock. During this meeting, we will discuss how forage varieties and practices used during the summer can have a positive impact on quality and yield of stored forages.

Agenda:

6:00 – 6:30.... Dinner and Welcome

6:30 – 6:45.... *Greene County Conservation Update* - Lisa Snider

6:45 – 7:30.... *Forage Quality and How We Effect It* - Leanna Duppstadt

7:30 – 8:15.... *Tips for Making Better Hay* - Justin Brackenrich

8:15 – 8:30.... Closing

Please register with the Greene County Conservation District at (724) 852-5278.

Registration is not required but appreciated.



PennState Extension

“GOOD FROM THE WOODS” WORKSHOP

LOCATION:

April 14, 2024, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m
Greene County Fairgrounds (4-H Building 10, Upper level)
107 Fairgrounds Rd., Waynesburg, PA 15370
To sign up contact Rebecca Trigger via email: rtrigger100@gmail.com

TOPIC:

"Goods from the Woods" is an introduction to non-timber forest products and forest farming with an emphasis on Ramps and Ginseng.

Dr. Burkhart will lead an overview of popular non-timber forest products such as ginseng, ramps, and wild mushrooms and discuss forest farming opportunities and approaches for each. The agroforestry practice known as forest farming is the planting and management of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) in existing forests to produce edible and medicinal crops for personal use and/or income. Dr. Burkhart will also share research findings throughout this presentation from this little studied and poorly understood forest product sector.

PRESENTER:

Dr. Eric Burkhart is a botanist, ethnobotanist, and agroforester with Penn State, where he is Director of the Appalachian Botany and Ethnobotany Program at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center and Associate Teaching Professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management. His research and education program in Pennsylvania is focused on developing sustainable wild stewardship and agroforestry production systems for specialty forest products including American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*), Indian-pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*), and ramps (*Allium tricoccum*).



FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH

The Very Small Meat and Poultry Processor Reimbursement Grant Program through the PA Farm Bill was organized to assist small, meat processing businesses throughout Pennsylvania. In 2022-2023, \$676,140 was awarded with 12 small businesses receiving funding to assist with operation improvements.

Costs eligible for reimbursement through the Very Small Meat and Poultry Processor Reimbursement Grant Program may include establishment of new operations, expansions of current operations, technical support services, employee training and educational services, equipment and supplies, and employee safety gear and supplies.

Though a new application cycle has not been announced, we anticipate this program will continue. We urge anyone with interest in the program to continuously check the website listed below

[Very Small Meat and Poultry Processor Grant \(pa.gov\)](http://pa.gov)

For additional questions, reach out to Corinne Elliot: corielliot@pa.gov, 717-257-6550



May the forest be with you, always. The phrase carries a message of respect, appreciation, and harmony with nature, specifically highlighting the forest environment. It suggests that we should recognize the value of forests and the benefits they provide to us and for our future generations.

Forests are vital ecosystems that support diverse plant and animal life. They provide clean air and water, give us food, fuel, and other forest products, as well as help combat climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide. They offer recreational opportunities, serve as habitats for wildlife, and contribute to the overall well-being of the planet.

By saying “May the forest be with you, always,” it’s a way of expressing a desire for people to be mindful of the forests and to maintain a strong connection with nature. It encourages us to protect and preserve these important natural resources so that they can continue to thrive and benefit us in the long run.

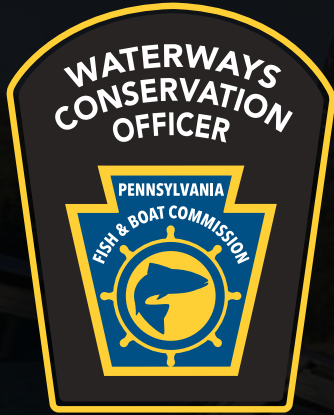
The annual NACD Poster Contest provides students from kindergarten through 8th grade the chance to have their art displayed as part of a national conservation outreach initiative. Each year, the winning posters reflect NACD’s annual Stewardship theme and highlight the work of conservation districts and their state conservation associations, auxiliaries, and agencies to protect and enhance natural resources. The contest starts at the district level; winners advance to the state level, and then to the national level, where they receive recognition at NACD’s annual meeting.

All entries at the local and state-level contest must be submitted by the due dates set by your local conservation district. Posters for the national contest will only be accepted from state poster contest organizers.

Find contact information for your local conservation district on NACD’s Conservation District Directory at: <https://www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/conservation-district-directory/>

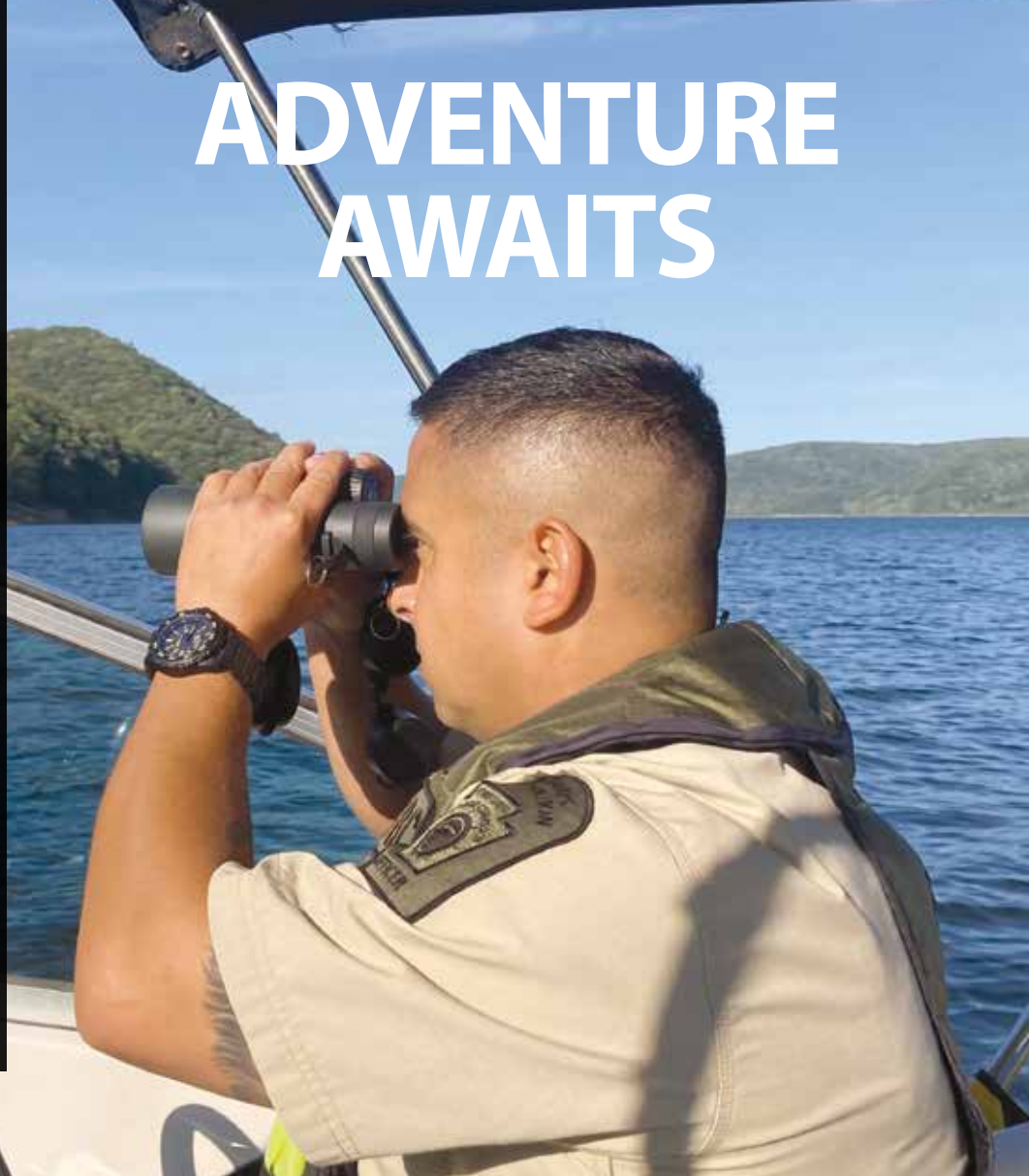
The poster contest is open to public, private, and home-schooled students. All poster submissions must be sponsored by a local conservation district. For more information, please scan the QR code in the upper right corner of this page.

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2024 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

presented by the
Ralph K. Bell Bird Club of Greene County



1st PLACE \$1000.00 - 2nd PLACE \$500.00

TO ENTER: WRITE A 500 WORD ESSAY STATING WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT "THE WINTER BIRDS OF GREENE COUNTY"



NORTHERN CARDINAL
(male)



PILEATED
WOODPECKER



RED-BELLIED
WOODPECKER



RED-BREADED
NUTHATCH



HOUSE FINCH
(female)



BLUE JAY



WHITE-BREADED
NUTHATCH



AMERICAN
GOLDFINCH

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS GUIDELINES

MUST BE A RESIDENT OF GREENE COUNTY PA.

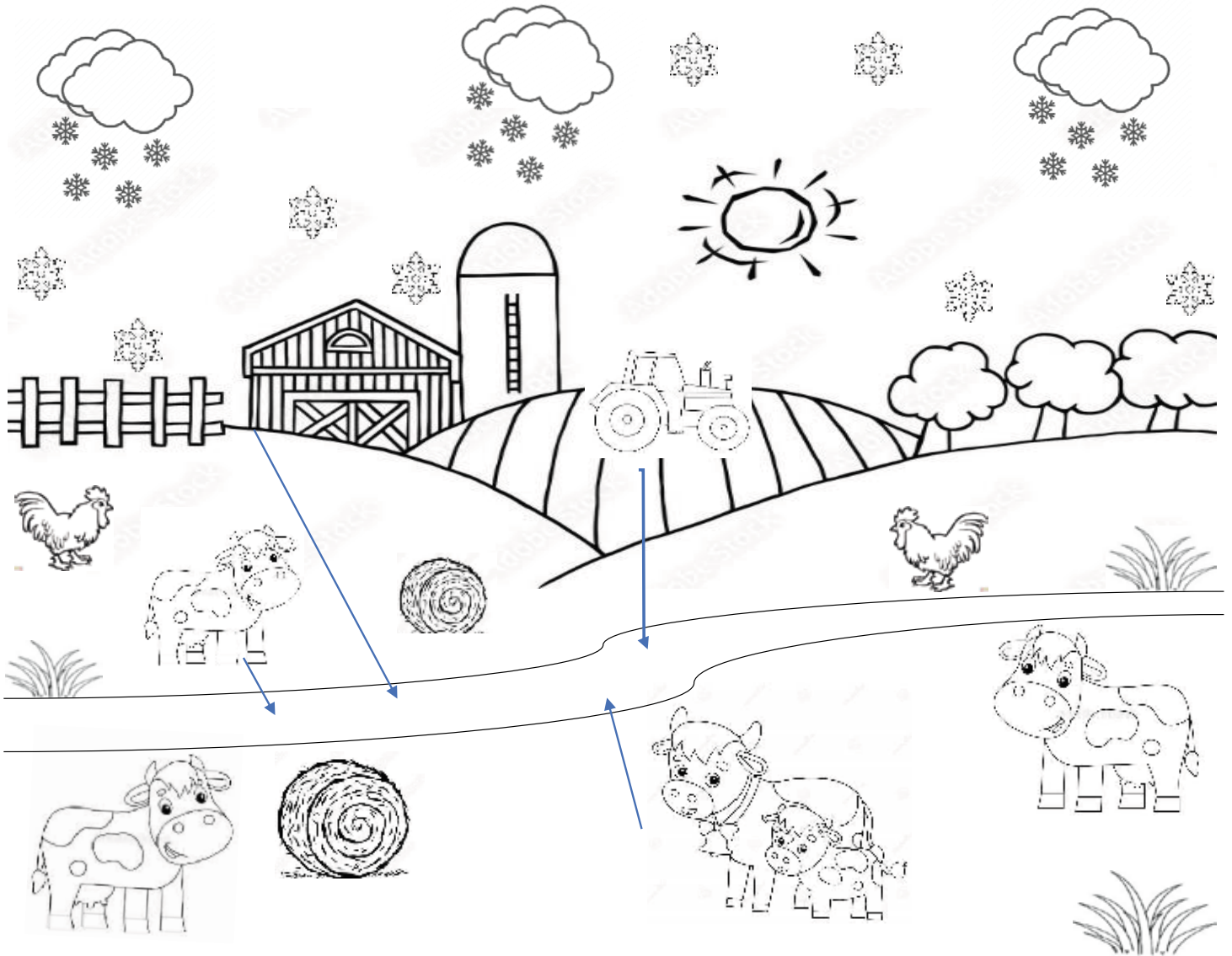
OPEN TO GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL, PRIVATE or HOME SCHOOLED SENIORS, COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY FRESHMEN WITH A 3.0 GPA OR HIGHER.

ESSAY MUST BE RECEIVED BY **MARCH 31, 2024**

EACH SUBMISSION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR EITHER SCHOLARSHIP.
ONE SUBMISSION PER APPLICANT.

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS AND AN ENTRY APPLICATION, PLEASE e-mail rkbirdclub@yahoo.com or VISIT YOUR SCHOOL OR COLLEGE WEBSITE

WINTER RUNOFF MANAGEMENT ON FARM



During the winter months, most streamflow in streams is composed of melted snow. For agricultural-rich areas, like Greene County, runoff from runways and agricultural operations flow in melted snow into the watersheds. To prevent snowmelt runoff, landowners and farmers can take the following to improve the drain pathway of snow from our homes to the streams.

- 1.) Regrade slopes or add shallow diversion ditches to direct runoff water flow around animal yards, feed storage areas, and high-traffic areas.
- 2.) Install gutters and downspouts that empty away from animal lots or driveways. Grade around the farm building to direct snowmelt away from buildings and animals.
- 3.) Avoid plowing uphill around the outdoor lots feeding areas and traffic lanes. Instead plow snow off to the side of the outdoor exercise lots, feeding areas, and heavy traffic lanes.



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Waynesburg, PA 15370

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OUR MISSION

It is the mission of the District to commit to protection, stewardship, and conservation of the County's natural resources to ensure a wise balance between the protection of the environment and the benefit of the landowners of the County.

It is the District's belief that conservation works best when people living and working in the local area work together to manage their natural resources collectively. Valuable partnerships are formed when diversity is brought into the conversation and decision-making process. Our office is a conservation-oriented organization that offers a wide variety of expertise and knowledge. The District staff can assist with questions related to permitting, offer guidance on planning for farming, and assist landowners with various natural resource related topics.

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