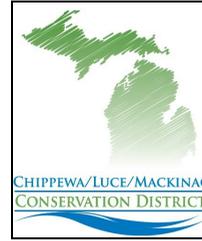


CHIPPEWA/LUCE/MACKINAC
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2847 ASHMUN STREET
SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT
NO. 330



CHIPPEWA/LUCE/MACKINAC
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2847 ASHMUN STREET
SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783
(906) 635-1278
WWW.CLMCD.ORG

No-till Drill
Tree Planters/bars
Aerator
Back Pack Sprayer
Wildflower Seeds
Tree Wraps
Tree Seedlings
Nature Books



Mark your Calendar - FREE Winter Workshops!

District Programs Information Session @ 6:00pm. M: Jan 31st—N: Jan 10th—S: Jan 17th

Come learn how you can benefit from the various programs offered by the District including FAP, MAEAP and CWMA as well as federal cost-share opportunities available to landowners.

Identifying Invasive Species @ 6:00pm S:Jan 22nd Become an invasive species expert and learn to identify and eradicate invasive species before they become an issue on your property!

What's In Your Forest? @ 6:00pm. M: Feb 6th—N: Feb. 7th—S: Feb. 5th

Our Forester & CWMA Coordinator will teach you how to identify forest and understory species present on your property, roles they play at the landscape level, and potential management options.

MAEAP Education Session (February 12th, Location TBD) Join Michelle Jarvie and guest speakers for a Phase I Credit session with a focus on farmers markets, vegetable farming, and hoop houses.

M: Mackinac workshops will be held at the Brevort Twp Comm. Center (W1941 Church Rd., Moran)

N: Newberry workshops will be held at the McMillan Township Hall (405 Newberry Ave, Newberry)

S: Sault Ste. Marie workshops will be held at the District Office (2847 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie)

Board of Directors

Forbes McDonald 647-9000

Tina Love 478-5201

Orville Kabat 478-7531

Jane Bishop 647-3682

Thomas Allan 632-6870

For information regarding any of these workshops please call 906-635-1278 or stop by the office.

Our Mission is to assist with land use and management through education, community projects and services.

The Chippewa/Luce/Mackinac CD is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.

Winter 2012 issue

ANNUAL DINNER JANUARY 24TH, 2013

6:00 pm at the Bruce Township Hall.

We invite you to join us for the evening and learn about the District's accomplishments in 2012 and what's to come in 2013!

District welcomes two new employees

Patrick Blanzky, Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) Forester and Nick Cassel, District Outreach and Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Coordinator both started in October and have hit the ground running. Learn about them and the programs they are offering as well as how they can help you meet your land management needs inside!

FEDERAL COST-SHARE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Now until January 18th, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will have their EQIP and WHIP signup period. If you are interested in receiving cost-share to implement management practices, call the NRCS staff at (906) 632-9611 ext. 3. Staff are happy to visit your property and assist you in determining what cost-share is available.

What is a Conservation District?

Many people do not know what a Conservation District is or how they work. Conservation Districts throughout Michigan are extremely diverse as each works utilizing various state, federal and private sector resources to solve today's conservation problems. We believe decisions on these issues should be made at the local level, by local people, with technical assistance provided by government.

District's provide a link between land managers and a host of conservation service providers while continually seeking to determine the needs of the local community. We've built strong partnerships with others involved in conservation to set local priorities and develop action plans to solve natural resource problems and we pride ourselves on being a point of contact when questions arise on how to manage natural resources. Through our efforts, citizens are able to manage their lands for a cleaner, healthier Michigan.

We offer a variety of services free-of-charge to all landowners in the tri-county area including Forestry Assistance, the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program, invasive species identification/eradication, and educational outreach programs to individuals and organizations. If we cannot help you with your land management needs we will find someone who can. Call or stop by today!

Season's Greetings from the District Staff and Board of Directors!

CLMCD Poster Contest and Leaf Contest Winners

This year, the theme to the NACD Auxiliary Poster Contest was *Soil to Spoon*. Students created posters portraying their understanding of where our food comes from. This year we received entries from three age groups and the 2012 1st Place winners are:

K-1 **Jilian Galarowic**, Pickford

2-3 **Maya Vonderau**, Pickford

4-6 **James Storey**, Pickford

Honorable Mentions went to **Jaxon Short** (Grade 3) and **Luke Royer** (Grade 2) both of Turner-Howson. Congratulations to all!

Open to all 4th and 5th graders throughout the district, students were required to collect leaves and prepare a book with at least 15 correctly identified leaves. Participants received a coupon for a free tree from the Spring Tree Sale.

1st Place **Lauren Arthur** Gr. 5 Soo Twp

2nd Place **Shellsea Lefebre** Gr. 5 Soo Twp

3rd Place **William Gibson** Gr. 5 Soo Twp

Honorable Mention went to **Nisa Hernandez**, 5th Grade of Engadine.

Teachers and students, to get involved next year in either contest contact nick.cassel@macd.org.



MAEAP Moments: The Importance of Education

by Michelle Jarvie

Recently, at the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Winter Conference in Lansing, I attended various sessions ranging from updates in the MAEAP program to “Sediment Fingerprinting.” I learned many new things, but the underlying theme was

the need for continuous education. Not just for us technicians, but for farmers and consumers alike. A presentation by the MSU Center for Regional Food Systems shared a great quote: “Land is limited, so farming has to change - production has to become more efficient and ecological.” Essentially, our practices on the land need to become more sustainable in order to meet the ever increasing demand for fresh, local, healthy food. **ALL** citizens, farmers and consumers, need to educate themselves and each other on how that can best be done.

Aldo Leopold, father of land ethic stated: “The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land... In short, a land ethic changes the role of *Homo sapiens* from conqueror of the land-community to plain member and citizen of it. It implies respect for his fellow-members, and also respect for the community as such.” It’s important we don’t forget that we are *part* of the land, not just managers and users of the land and resources.

What does all this boil down to? Educating ourselves about sustainable practices, putting those practices into use, and adopting the land ethic as our personal ethic. MAEAP provides educational sessions for farmers and consumers that help you learn the “how’s” and the “whys” of sustainable practices. Look for upcoming sessions in Luce county on January 10, 2013, and Chippewa County on January 17, 2013.



Invasive and Invading!

by Nick Cassel

The spread and presence of invasive species is a reoccurring theme everywhere I work. Invasive species are detrimental to our ecosystems and our economy in many ways. They outcompete our native species, reduce and degrade forest regeneration, eliminate food for wildlife, and negatively impact recreational opportunities. Whether you’re a hunter, farmer, boater, landowner, etc., you should be concerned with the management and elimination of invasive species.

Luckily, the District is here to help and we can assist you in identifying and removing these invading species. Come to one of our free invasive species workshops and learn how to identify pesky species that may already be invading your own back yard. We’re happy to provide educational outreach events to schools/organizations too!

For more information on any of these opportunities or to get involved as a volunteer please contact Nick Cassel at nick.cassel@macd.org or 906-635-1278. Happy Holidays!

FAP Today

by Patrick Blanzky

As you may or may not know, the Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) is designed to help landowners better understand, plan, manage, protect, and utilize their forest resources. My role as the District Forester is to provide information and education to landowners and connect them with local resource professionals.

Since beginning this position in October, I have been fortunate enough to attend informative trainings, expand the District’s professional network, and coordinate and promote outreach events. In addition, I have been able to provide free initial assessments to multiple landowners and assist them throughout the process of working with a private consultant. Thus far, my work has been extremely rewarding and I am excited to continue promoting sound forest management and working with landowners in the Eastern Upper Peninsula to meet their land management needs.

Please contact me at patrick.blanzky@macd.org or 906-632-9611 x109 to learn more about FAP or if you have any forestry related questions. I urge you to attend one of our upcoming meetings (details on back) and look forward to meeting and working with you soon!



District Forester

Hello, my name is Patrick Blanzky and I am the new District Forester for the Forestry Assistance Program (FAP). I am a recent graduate of Michigan Technological University’s Forestry Program and have spent the last two summers as a seasonal field technician with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in Gaylord, Michigan. I am excited to use the valuable knowledge and leadership skills I have gained to serve as the District Forester and look forward to meeting and working with landowners in the EUP!



District Outreach and CWMA Coordinator

My name is Nick Cassel and I’m originally from the Lansing area. I moved to the Soo for school and decided to stay after graduating from LSSU with a B.S. in Wildlife Management. I have done a wide range of work in the natural resources field, from Northern Goshawk surveys in Northeast Utah, to Emerald Ash Borer surveys in the swamps of Mackinac County. I feel my vast work experience will aid and benefit my current position to help manage and eradicate invasive species.