



Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District



Summer Newsletter



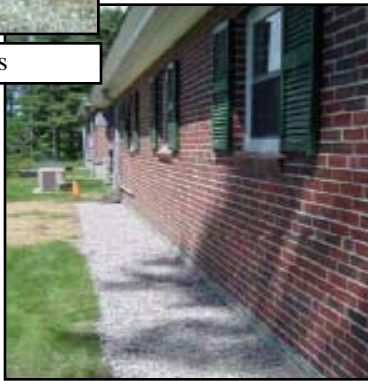
190 Bangor Road, Ellsworth, Maine 04605

July/August 2006

Conservation Practices for the Home Now Available Online



Infiltration steps



Dripline trench

Are raindrops from your roof digging a foot-deep trench around your house? Do you have steep footpaths that are eroding and dangerous to walk down? Is your driveway experiencing washouts? If so, then this website is for you! Developed by the Portland Water District and Maine Department of Environmental Protection, "Conservation Practices for Homeowners" factsheets are now available by visiting <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docwatershed/materials.htm>.

These factsheets are in pdf. format and can be downloaded and printed out for your convenience, or simply viewed online. Other conservation topics include; construction of paths and walkways, open-top culverts and waterbars for road and driveways, use of rain barrels, lists of conservation plantings that do well in full sun, partial sun, or shady areas, and more.

All of these conservation practices help keep soil stable, therefore continuing to protect the surface and ground water quality which we all share, and maintaining or even increasing the value of your home! If you are unable to view these files online, contact the District, and we'd be happy to mail you hardcopies.

There's Still Time to Order your Maine Ag Plate!

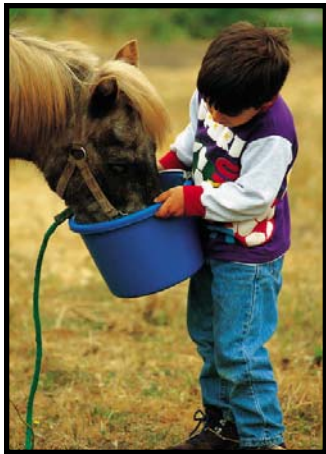


The folks at Maine Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITCA) are still working to collect signatures for the Maine Agricultural License Plate.

Only **250** more signatures needed to make this happen! Of the subsequent \$15 annual fee, \$10 will be transferred to a special fund for agricultural education programs administered by the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Association.

To learn more, please visit www.maineagtag.com or call (207) 287-5522

Summer is Back...and so is the 17th Annual Open Farm Day!



It's time to bring the whole family to the local farm of your choice to celebrate agriculture in Maine! Scheduled for **Sunday, July 23rd, 2006**, many farms throughout the state will be open to the public, offering such activities as farm and barn tours, carriage/wagon rides, informative talks, harvesting demonstrations, samples to taste, refreshments, and more!

For additional information, including local farm directions and hours, please visit http://www.mainefoodandfarms.com/visit/open_farm_day.html or call at (207) 287-3491. Participating farms in Hancock County are listed below:

Mandala Farm

Sara Faull & Genio Bertin
46 Youngs Farm Road, Gouldsboro
Diversified Organic

Darthia Farm

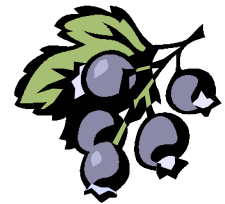
Bill Thayer
51 Darthia Farm Road, Gouldsboro
Diversified Organic

Peaked Mountain Farm

Daniel & Gail VanWort
16 Ellery's Lane, Dedham
Wild Blueberry Farm

The Good Life Center, Forest Farm

Katie Prochaska & Mike Bollinger
372 Harborside Road, Harborside
Homestead



Happy Town Farm

Paul & Karen Volckhausen
Happy Town Road, North Orland
Diversified Organic Vegetable & Sheep

Simons Hancock Farm

Ron, Marie & Todd Simons
Route 1
Vegetable & Fruit Farm and Greenhouse

Support Your Local Farmers' Market

Eden Farmers' Market

YMCA Parking Lot, Bar Harbor
Sundays 10am - 1pm

Ellsworth Farmers' Market

245 East Main Street
Mon., Thurs., 2-5pm, & Sat., 9:30-12:30pm

Blue Hill Farmers' Market

Blue Hill Fairgrounds, Blue Hill
Saturdays, 9am - 11:30am

Deer Isle/Stonington Farmer's Market

Congregational Church, Deer Isle
Fridays, 10am - 12 noon

Bucksport Riverfront Market

Main Street, Route 15, Bucksport
Saturdays, 9am - 3pm

Northeast Harbor Market

Across from Kimball Terrace Inn
Thursdays, 9am - noon



Upcoming Agricultural Events



Sunday, July 23rd - Maine Open Farm Day

See page 2 for details.

Sunday, July 30th - Small Farm Field Day

9am - 3pm, MOFGA's Headquarters, Unity. A full day of workshops and demonstrations for small agricultural and homesteading. Call 568-4142 or visit www.mofga.org for more information.

Aquatic Invasive Plant Programs Scheduled for Summer

Continuing our efforts to keep destructive and costly aquatic invasive plants from arriving in Hancock County lakes, the District will again be coordinating the *3rd Annual Hancock County Lake Survey Week for Aquatic Invasive Plants*, scheduled for *Sunday, August 13th-Saturday, August 19th, 2006*. We're happy to say that 2005 was a relatively good year for Maine, as NO NEW plants infestations were found. However, prevention is always at the top of our list, as once an 'invader' becomes established in lake, eradication is extremely difficult and costly, if not impossible.

So, with that in mind, we're happy to again offer several public workshops to help lake lovers join local efforts and help them become familiar with aquatic plants on their lake. Please contact the District at (207) 664-7496 or email hcsxcd@me.nacdn.net to register for these workshops, or if you would like to volunteer during our *Hancock County Lake Survey Week*.

Wednesday, August 2nd - "Native" Aquatic Plant ID Workshop

6-8pm, University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in Ellsworth - Boggy Brook Rd. Join us as we help you identify all those great native plants growing in your lake, while also making you better prepared to notice if a "bad guy" comes your way!

Saturday, August 5th - Advanced Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) Workshop

1pm-5pm at the Ellsworth City Hall. For those of you who have already attended an "IPP Basic Aquatic Invasive Plant ID Workshop", it's time to learn more about plant survival and how to tell the difference between these invasives and your favorite natives.



Variable Leaf Milfoil
in Southern Maine.

Sunday, August 13th - Saturday, August 19th - Hancock County Lake Survey Week for Aquatic Invasive Plants

Join us for our Annual Lake Survey Week! Volunteers are assigned a public boat launch and/or hand-carried access point on a lake of their choice in Hancock County at which to perform a plant field survey. Training, survey forms and most field equipment needed (including underwater viewsopes) are provided and surveys only take approximately 1 hour to complete. Please join this important effort!



HANCOCK COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

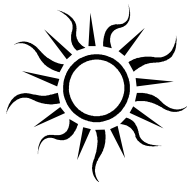
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(207) 664-7496 hcswcd@me.nacdnet.org

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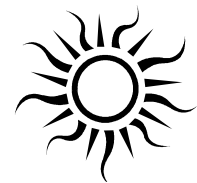
*If you have a change of address,
or no longer wish to receive a copy
of our newsletter, please let us know.
Thanks!*

All programs of the Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District and USDA are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or financial status. Persons who require alternative means of communication of program information should contact USDA's Target Center at (207) 720-2600.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W Whitten Bldg. 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410, or call (292) 720-5964.



2006 Summer Newsletter



It's Time to Order Bulbs for Fall Planting!



See inside for details...

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