2011 FALL NEWSLETTER



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Conservation Connection

Pollinator Buzz

en new schools were awarded Plants for Pollinators in the Classroom resource kits from Freehold SCD in 2011 joining four returning schools in this unique, hands-on learning experience. Each resource kit included a 2-tier plant growing stand, grow bulbs, starter soil, seeds, lesson plans, teacher resources and gardening tools. Each school received potted per-



McKinley School students prepare their new pollinator garden in New Brunswick. Photo: E. Schlossberg

A Plants for Pollinators in the Classroom Teachers Workshop, co-hosted by Mercer County SCD and Freehold SCD, was

held at Terhune Orchards in June.

Pictured left (1-r) Gary Mount, NJ Secretary of Agriculture Doug Fisher, Pam Mount, Frank Minch, Dr.Rachael

Winfree and Lindsey Fenner



"Visiting the orchard and the opportunity to spend time in the field were excellent." —

J. Catena School Teacher

Dr. Rachael Winfree, **Rutgers University** Assistant Professor, and several of her research assistants guided the teachers through field observation and data collection methods at the workshop. Secretary Fisher had a hands-on pollinator lesson in the squash fields at Terhune Orchards in Princeton.



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Three Rutgers Students Win Scholarships

The Freehold SCD Board of Supervisors awarded three local college students with scholarships in August.

Charlie Buscaglia, District Chairman presented students with a \$2,000 check and a certificate of achievement. "We are pleased to provide funds to students each year and at the same time honor three gentlemen through our scholarship program," said Buscaglia.

The three winners attend Rutgers University School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

Aaron D'Addio, Freehold Township, received the Neal W. Munch Scholarship. Aaron is a junior majoring in landscape design/architecture.

John Kruse, Ocean, is a senior agricultural science major and received the Mac Clark Scholarship.

Amanda Hannen, Colts Neck, received the Bill Schauer Scholarship. Amanda is a senior majoring in environmental policy, institutions and behavior.

2011 marks the 32nd consecutive year Freehold SCD has awarded scholarships to students from Middlesex and Monmouth Counties majoring in conservation related fields.

The 2012 scholarship application will be available in December on our website under Education at: www.freeholdscd.org or by calling our office at 732-683-8500.



Photo Credits: (above) Paul Califano, (right) Ines Grimm

Scholarships Awarded (Left l-r) District Manager Ines Grimm, Aaron D'Addio, Amanda Hannen and Chairman Charlie Buscaglia

Supervisor Rue Retires After Serving Board 25 Years (Below l-r back) Freehold SCD Supervisors Bob Dreyer, Donald Patterson, Charlie Buscaglia, Wayne Van Hise and Roger Gravatt



District News

George Rue, has retired from the Freehold Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors after 25 years. George served as the treasurer for over 17 years and chaired many committees during his tenure including the scholarship committee. George was named

the NJ Association of Conservation Districts Supervisor of the Year in 2003. He resides with his wife Vi on the Cream Ridge farm that has been in his family since the late 1800's. Their 325acre farm is entered in the New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program. Thank you George for 25 years of dedicated service to Freehold SCD!

Van Hise Joins Board Wayne Van Hise, a long time Cream Ridge farmer, has been sworn in to fill George's seat on the Board of Supervisors.





F orests for People — More Than You Can Imagine is the theme for the 2011 Conservation Poster Contest sponsored by Freehold SCD and the New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts.

Students in 2nd—12th grades in Middlesex and Monmouth counties are invited to create a poster highlighting their artistic talents while exploring the important role forests play in our everyday lives.

Freehold SCD will award \$100, \$75 and \$50 prizes in four grade categories: 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 & 10-12.

All first place district level posters will be submitted to a state level competition where cash prizes will also be awarded. One NJ Grand Champion will be selected and their poster will be reproduced on a pocket-folder and distributed state wide.

Entry forms are available online at www.freeholdscd.org under Events or by calling 732-683-8500. The deadline is October 14, 2011.

2011 is the United Nations International Year of Forests and information can be found online at: www.un.org/en/events/iyof2011.

Photo Contest: Adults & Teens

Freehold SCD is sponsoring its annual Photo Contest with several new features. Photographers are asked to capture subjects in Middlesex or Monmouth counties in the following categories: agriculture, conservation practices, natural resources and wildlife.

The contest is open in two divisions: Adult (ages 18 and over) and Teen (ages 13-17). A \$75 prize will be awarded in each themed category for both age divisions.

Rules

- Photos must be taken in Middlesex or Monmouth county
- Photos must fit into one of the themed categories and be 8"x10" or larger
- An entry form must be included

with each photo (limit two entries per person)

- Photos can be submitted by mail, in person or by email to: info@freeholdscd.org. (Prints are preferred, but not required)
- Photos will not be returned. The photographer does retain photo rights. Photos will be used in district (non-profit) educational and outreach efforts
- Photos will be judged in both Adult and Teen divisions as of the entry deadline
- Entry Deadline: October 14, 2011

Contact Karen Rowe at 732-683-8500 or by email at krowe@freeholdscd.org with any questions. Project Learning Tree offers teachers forestry workshops and a nationally acclaimed Environmental Education Activity Guide. Details can be found online at: www.newjersey.gov/dep/ parksandforests/forest/plt.html.

Department of Ag Photos Now Online

New Jersey Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno and Secretary of Agriculture Douglas Fisher unveiled the State Archives' online data and image bank of Department of Agriculture photographs at ceremony held at the Howell Living History Farm.

This project included indexing and descriptions of over 7,000 vintage photographs. More than 2,000 photos have been scanned for web presentation. The result is a vast, searchable resource on New Jersey agriculture spanning from the late 19th century into the 1970s.

"This major historical resource created by the New Jersey State Archives is a monumental achievement," said Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno. "It illustrates not only the history of farming, but also the dedication of archivists to making that history accessible."

More than 2,000 photos have been scanned and are now publicly viewable in the image bank at :

njarchives.org/links/agphotos.html

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Serving Middlesex and Monmouth Counties Since 1938



Editor: Karen B. Rowe



NJ Envirothon Set for Camp Sacajawea

The 19th annual New Jersey Envirothon, a natural resources problem-solving competition for high school students, will be held May 5, 2012 at Camp Sacajawea Girl Scout Camp in Farmingdale, in Monmouth County.

Throughout the day, five-member teams will be challenged by written and hands-on tests in the areas of aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, team presentation and a current issue. The 2012 current issue is: "Nonpoint Source Pollution/Low Impact Development."

Participants will have the opportunity to network with a large variety of conservation professionals who manage the various testing stations and to interact with hundreds of students from over 40 New Jersey high schools.

The 2012 winning team will go on to represent our state at the National Canon Envirothon at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania in late July.

Freehold Soil Conservation District is the host district for the 2012 NJ Envirothon.

Interested teams should go online to www.njenvirothon.org for registration and event information. Additional questions can be directed to Rich Belcher at Richard.belcher@ag.state.nj.us or at 609-292-5540.

4 Guys and Princess Win 2nd Place



Five ambitious Middlesex County students entered the 2011 NJ Envirothon, without school backing, and earned second place and a standing ovation from all participants for their achievement. Team members include: Calvin Lai, Daniel Hillman, Ryan Gossiaux, Anasemon Aioub and Yegor Chekmarev