

EASTERN PANHANDLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2020 | Summer Newsletter



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THANK YOU for your 2020 Bare Root Seedling Order

Wow! This simple word seems to sum up 2020 thus far. The annual bare root seedling sale is what the majority of the community knows us for. It is standard practice that around January your order form comes to your mailbox and in April you pick your seedlings up. This year proved to be very different. This is a fundraiser for us (proceeds go towards forestry education efforts for the community and school systems) and the loss of not hosting this event would have certainly put a damper in those funds. But, this is also a community service that we offer and many look forward to receiving quality trees at a discounted price.

In working with our state and local authorities and with the help of our supply nurseries, we were able to still host our pickup, just a little further into the spring than normal. But, in hindsight, maybe that was also a good thing as a late Mother's Day weekend frost wiped out many budding fruit trees and flowers in the area.

We thank each of you that continued with your order and worked with us as we tried to reach out to everyone through e-mail and postcard announcement of the changes and last minute finalizations to make the event happen. Thank you also to each of you that expressed your gratitude at pickup time. Please know that your kind words are appreciated and taken to heart.

We also came to realize that the overwhelming majority don't really understand the process of how their order is handled. So, we wanted to show the packaging progression on a "normal" year of just how your order gets from the nursery to your car. We do not grow the seedlings and we do not have a place to store seedlings post sale. These are probably the biggest misconceptions of the event. Since we are ordering thousands of seedlings at a time, this is how we are able to offer them at an affordable cost to you. We then sort through those seedlings to create your specialized order.

A little bit of the process on how your order is created on a typical year:



This is how evergreens come from the nursery



Fruit trees that came from the nursery. Special paper was placed on top to protect roots.



This is just ONE county of orders to be filled!



"Runners" waiting to give seedlings to the "wrappers"



"Wrappers" packaging the orders

Berkeley County orders ready for pickup



Agriculture Enhancement Program

Applications will be accepted for these practices July 1 through July 31, 2020.

Funds are limited. Practices will be approved based on ranking and available funding.

Forage Re-Seeding (Hay and/or Pasture): The method of re-establishing adapted and/or compatible species, varieties, or cultivators of herbaceous species suitable for pasture and/or hayland. Planting dates are August 15 through September 30, 2020.

- Flat rate of \$65/acre. Eligible up to an accumulative of 50 acres of hay and pasture per year (July to June).
- Soil test analysis report are required to apply. Test must be less than 3 years old.
- Field is ineligible if:
 - If pH is less than 5.6
 - If P levels are below: 12 lbs./ac, 6 PPM or 28 lbs./ac of P_2O_5
 - If K levels are below: 76 lbs./ac, 38 PPM or 92 lbs./ac of K_2O .

Lime: Provide incentive for the maintenance of cropland, hayland, pastureland, vegetables and/or orchard.

- Cost share is 50% not to exceed \$20 per ton.
- Not to exceed 75 acres per producer per fiscal year (July to June).
- Soil test is needed to apply. Test must be less than 3 years old.
- Practices must be completed by December 11, 2020.



Chesapeake Bay Program

All applications will be excepted on July 1 through July 31, 2020 by 4:00 p.m.

Funds are limited. Practices will be approved based on ranking and available funding.



Cover Crops: Must follow a row crop. Producers are eligible for up to 100 acres. Cost share rates are as follows:

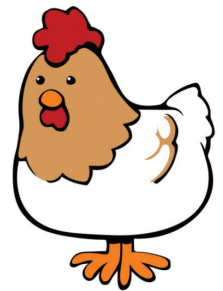
- \$60/ac. by October 4th, must report the planting to the office by Oct. 7.
- \$50/ac. by October 18th, must report the planting to the office by Oct. 21.
- \$40/ac. by November 8th, must report the planting to the office by Nov. 11.

Anything reported after these dates will move to the next planting date payment if planted. Anything received after Nov. 11, will not receive a payment.

Litter Transfer Program: To facilitate the use of poultry litter on soils that do not have a high phosphorus content. Producers are eligible if their soil test results show a low and/or medium saturation levels.

Cost share program is as follows:

- Soil test analysis report is required to apply. Test must be less than 3 years old.
- Producers are allowed up to 100 tons of litter, per Nutrient Management Plan.
- Cost share is not to exceed 50% up to \$20/ton, for litter, spreading and hauling.
- Litter MUST be purchased from the Potomac Valley area (Grant, Hardy, Pendleton, Mineral, and Hampshire Counties).
- Phosphorus levels MUST be in low and/or medium levels to apply. If high, field is in-eligible.
- Producer must have or receive a WV Nutrient Management Plan at time of contract.



Please contact Barbie Elliott at the EPCD office at **(681) 247-3012**, email her at **belliott@wvca.us** or get an application from **<http://www.wvca.us/districts/epcd.cfm>**



2020 AG. SIGNUP REMINDERS

**Agriculture Enhancement Program
(AgEP)**

**Chesapeake Bay Program
(Cbay Program)**

Thank You!

Thank you for your patience and understanding for these past few months. We hope to return to "normal" soon and can't wait to see everyone in the office again.

PROGRAMS

AgEP: Lime, Hay and Pasture Re-Seeding

CBay Program: Cover Crop and Litter Transfer

SOIL SAMPLES

Current soil samples **MUST** be attached with each application requiring a soil sample (re-seeding, lime, and litter transfer). A current sample is within 3 years of application date. No sample results=application not accepted. For lime application, the sample must show the lime requirements.

During the waiting period to sign up would be a good time to take your samples if they are not current or available.

APPLICATION DATES

JULY 1 – JULY 31, 2020

These are the **ONLY** times that applications will be accepted. Applications must be turned in by 4 pm on Friday, July 31.

CONTACT

Barbie Elliott ☎ (681) 247-3012

*Conservation
Specialist*

📠 304-263-4986

✉ bellott@wvca.us

*Mailing
Address:* 151 Aikens Center Suite 2,
Martinsburg, WV 25404

OFFICE HOURS

Currently all office staff are still teleworking. No date has been set to return to the office and to be there during our normal working hours of Monday – Friday 8 am – 4 pm.

With this in mind, please plan now to be able to make arrangements in the event that we are still not in the building in July.

Staff will work with those individuals who do not have access to technology to turn applications in.

We appreciate your assistance and understanding regarding this process.



***new* Rental Equipment Available!**

NEW HOLLAND 165 MANURE SPREADER

Due to increased inquiries on a smaller piece of equipment that was easy to use and able to be used on smaller operations, EPCD was able to purchase a New Holland 165 manure spreader. This spreader is perfect for horse operations and for operations who only need to spread manure once to twice per year. It is easy to use and only requires a 55 HP tractor.

The cost to rent this spreader is \$80 per day and \$10 per load. While a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) is not required to rent this spreader, it is highly encouraged that users that do not have a NMP consider one. The plan helps to manage nutrients and to put them where they are most needed. Contact Amy Henry for more information.

All equipment rentals are handled through J & P Service and Repair. Please contact J & P Service and Repair to rent equipment and for any questions. Billing is handled through EPCD.

New Holland 165 Manure Spreader

Fact Sheet

This paddle manure spreader is perfect for small acreage nutrient distribution. This simple, easy to use model provides even nutrient distribution over a variety of terrains.



Dimensions:

10' 5" total width
12,000 lb load capacity (252 bu)
Chain Driven

Tractor Requirements:

Drill hitch (bring own hitch pin)
Minimum 55 HP
540 PTO
Tractor should weigh at least 1/2 of loaded spreader weight

Cost:

\$80.00 per day &
\$10 per load

Billing Questions:

Eastern Panhandle Conservation District
151 Aikens Center, Suite 2
Martinsburg, WV 25404
(304) 263-4376



For Rental and Equipment Questions:

J&P Service and Repair
2892 Winchester Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25405
(304) 240-7379





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151 Aikens Center, Suite 2
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EQUIPMENT RENTAL & TESTING SERVICES



Haybuster Model 107

10-foot no-till drill

\$10.00 per acre

\$50.00/day after 48 hours



New Holland 165

Manure Spreader

\$10.00 per load

\$80.00 per day



BBI Poultry Litter Spreader

\$10.00 per load

\$80.00 per day



Stoltzfus 5 Ton Lime Spreader

\$10.00 per load

\$80.00 per day



I & J Roller Crimper

No Charge



Grass Works

Weed Wiper

\$50.00/day

Forage Testing : 50/50% Cost Share

Package 1: Dry matter, crude protein, available protein, ADF, NDF, unavailable protein, lignin ash, NSC, RFV, TDN, NEM, NEG, MEL, Calcium, Phosphorus, Magnesium, Potassium, and Sulfur

Package 2: List above plus iron, copper, manganese, and sodium

Soil Testing: Various options available. Contact Barbie Elliott for more information at (681) 247- 3012.

There is a \$70 delivery and \$70 pickup fee for all equipment!

There is a \$200 fee for non-maintenanced equipment that has been returned!

Bring own hitch pin/hitch for all equipment!



EASTERN PANHANDLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

151 Aikens Center, Suite 2 | Martinsburg, WV 25404
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Serving Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan counties

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*"Return Service
Requested"*

*Be sure to check out
our Facebook page and
YouTube channel for
educational activities
for all ages!*

- 🌲 **Largest Tree Contest Entries Due August 1.**
- 🌲 **Any evergreen species (minus white pines) are eligible.**
- 🌲 **Contact 681-247-3013 for more information.**

Please visit our webpage at
<http://www.wvca.us/district/epcd.cfm>

*To Rent District Equipment:
Please Call:
J & P Service Repair
304-240-7379*

Poster and Photo Contest

ENTRIES DUE JUNE 12

The annual photo and poster contest entries are due to the office by end of day on Friday, June 12th. This is the first leg of competition and winners from the district level go on to compete at the state level. Winners at the state level will then compete at the national level.

The poster contest is open to students in grades K-12 and must have the words "Where would we BEE without pollinators?" on their poster. All posters will be a 1/2 sheet this year. Entry forms are available in the office or can be found at http://www.wvca.us/education/poster_contest.cfm



The photo contest is open to amateur adult and youth photographers. Each person can submit up to five 8 x 10 unmated, unedited photographs. A 3x5 card must accompany the back of each photograph along with an entry form. Entry forms are available at the office or can be found at: http://www.wvca.us/education/photo_contest.cfm

For any questions about either contest, please call Heather at
(681) 247-3013 or e-mail hishman@epcd.us