

Ontario County SWCD  
480 North Main Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
(585)396-1450  
[www.ontswcd.com](http://www.ontswcd.com)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY:

- Next OCSWCD Board Meeting is on April 22, 2019
- HWA Workshop 4/9
- Realtor Workshop, 4/10 (5.5 credits)
- Rain Barrels 4/23
- Partnering with Trees 4/24
- Tree Pick-up 4/26 & 4/27

# Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District Newsletter



## 2019 Soil Health Workshop

The 2019 Soil Health Workshop on March 7<sup>th</sup> held at King's Catering in Canandaigua was a great success! This workshop was hosted by Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Ontario County SWCD, and Yates County SWCD. There were about 180 attendees that learned about cover crops, no-till operations, pest and disease control, tiling research, water quality, conservation easements, and other soil health topics. Thank you to our sponsors and our amazing speakers for making this a memorable event.



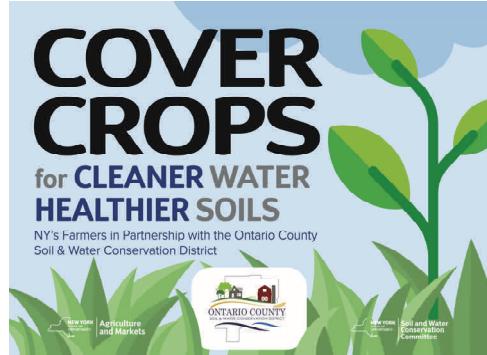
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## Bluebird Nest Boxes for Sale



Over the years, land has been cleared for housing/industrial developments, shopping malls, highways and cropland. Many old trees have been cut down for firewood. Wooden fence posts that provided nesting cavities have now been replaced with metal posts. With modernization, the supply of natural nesting cavities for bluebirds and other native cavity nesters has been greatly reduced. Compounding the problem of habitat loss has been the introduction into North America of two invasive species - the House Sparrow and the European Starling. Both starlings and sparrows are cavity nesters, and both are very aggressive. House Sparrows are small enough to enter any hole that a bluebird can, and are so aggressive that they will chase away the more timid bluebird. Starlings can be excluded from bluebird boxes by using the correct size entrance hole, but will outcompete bluebirds for woodpecker holes and other natural nesting cavities. During the summer, bluebirds feed mainly on insects. In the winter, bluebirds depend on many kinds of wild berries for their food supply. However, the supply of wild berries has also decreased over the years. The few berries that remain are often stripped quickly by large flocks of starlings. Even though the bluebird population has greatly decreased, the future can still be promising for them. The most important step we can take to help bring back the bluebird is to provide nesting sites by setting out a bluebird box or starting a bluebird trail. A bluebird trail is a series of bluebird boxes placed along a prescribed route. In areas where nesting boxes have been put up in suitable habitat, bluebird populations are increasing. Bluebirding is a great outdoor, hands-on project that people of all ages can enjoy.

**Bluebird Nest  
Box: \$15**

### 4 Hour Erosion and Sediment Control Course: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

The Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District is holding a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Endorsed 4 Hour Erosion and Sediment Control Required Training on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at the Victor Town Hall. This course will cost \$100 and pre-registration is required. The class is filled on a first come, first serve basis. Please contact the Ontario County SWCD at (585)396-1450 or [info@ontswcd.com](mailto:info@ontswcd.com) for more information. Registration forms are on our website at [ontswcd.com](http://ontswcd.com).



# Happy Retirement to Elaine!

Elaine Borgeest, Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District's Secretary/Treasurer, is retiring next month. Elaine has been with the District since 2008. Her hard work and dedication to the District has been exceptional. She will be greatly missed and we wish her well on her next adventure!

**Congratulations!**

## NYS CDEA Division 2 Merit Award

Tucker Kautz, Ontario County SWCD Water Resource Technician, received the New York State Conservation District Employees' Association Division 2 Merit Award. Tucker has been a tireless advocate for the District and has worked hard to grow and build programs wherever he has been. He continues to strive to educate himself and others on new technologies and best management practices. A Certified Crop Advisor, Tucker has recently received his certification as a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planner. Tucker is a highly capable, highly motivated District employee who is a true asset to the agricultural community and we join NYS CDEA in congratulating Tucker on this achievement. *Pictured to the right are Tucker Kautz and Chairperson Sam Casella.*



## Ag Plastic Recycling

In 2018, the Ontario County SWCD, the Ontario County Planning Department, and USAg Recycling partnered together to coordinate an agricultural plastics recycling event. We worked with 6 local farms and helped recycle approximately 450 agricultural plastic containers which ranged in size from 5 to 55 gallon containers. The farms triple-rinsed their containers and USAg Recycling came to the farm for pick-up. This company chips the plastic containers so that the materials can be repurposed into other products. We want to make this an annual event and increase participation with our local farms. If your farm is interested, please call us (585)396-1450 or email us at [info@ontswcd.com](mailto:info@ontswcd.com).



# Thank You Casey Mantione

Casey Mantione has served on the Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors since March of 2007. His contribution to the board has been greatly appreciated over the last 11 years. He has provided excellent consideration of matters that affect the preservation of soil and water resources within Ontario County. Casey has capably represented the position of Practical Farmer on the Board of Directors and has also participated on the Personnel Committee throughout the years. Casey Mantione has diligently served the Soil & Water Conservation District utilizing his extensive knowledge, experience, and common sense for the betterment of Ontario County and has concluded his service as of December of 2018. Casey owns and operates Golden Oak Farm in Honeoye, New York with his wife and son, raising alpacas and Hereford cattle. Thank you to Casey for his 11 years of service and his commitment to Ontario County.



## Western Finger Lakes Regional 2019 Envirothon April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at FLCC

Ontario County, Yates County, and Seneca County Soil & Water Conservation Districts are hosting the **Western Finger Lakes Regional Envirothon at the Finger Lakes Community College on Thursday, April 25th, 2019**. The Envirothon is a competition for high school students designed to test students' understanding of natural resource issues and to cultivate students' desire to learn more about natural resources and environmental issues. Teams consist of five students and an alternate. More than one team from a school is welcome to participate. Winning teams from each county are eligible to participate in the New York State Envirothon, at Hobart William Smith College, in Geneva, New York on May 22nd and 23rd, 2019. The winner of the New York State competition will then be eligible for participation in the National 2019 NCF Envirothon in Raleigh, North Carolina. New York teams have consistently placed in the top ten at the national event.



# Welcome Diana!

Diana Thorn has joined us as Ontario County SWCD's new Treasurer! She is from East Bloomfield, New York and previously worked as the Library Manager for the Bloomfield Public Library. With a strong background in accounting and administration, she makes an excellent addition to the SWCD team!

## We have a New Board Member!

Please join us in welcoming Amanda Button to the Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors in the role of Practical Farmer. Amanda brings a plethora of knowledge to our District. Amanda currently serves as Herd Manager for Landmark Farms in Clifton Springs, and formerly worked for the Farm Service Agency in Ontario County as well as being a Young Cooperator representative in the AgriMark milk co-op. She is a great addition to our team!

## Ontario-Wayne Stormwater Coalition

Over the winter months, Alaina Robarge, of Ontario County SWCD, and Kim Boyd, of BME Associates, traveled throughout Ontario County and Wayne County to discuss Pollution Prevention, Good Housekeeping, and Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE). They presented to the employees of the Ontario County Highway Department, the Village of Victor, the Town of Victor, the Town of Farmington, the Town of Macedon, Wayne County Highway Department, and the Town of Walworth. This training fulfills part of the OWSC goals and minimum measures required for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit.





## Detecting and observing hemlock woolly adelgid throughout the year:

### On land and from the water

**Laura Bailey, Natural Resources Educator, Yates CCE**

Winter is the optimal time of year to detect and observe hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), as the adult insects are active, growing and covered in “wool.” During this time of year, an infestation can be identified by the white, waxy masses that are secreted around the bodies of the invasive aphid-like insect, clustered on the underside of hemlock twigs, near the base of the needles. For additional information about HWA: <https://blogs.cornell.edu/nyshemlockinitiative/>

Underneath the cover of its wool, the HWA is attached to the hemlock twig and feeding with its piercing-sucking straw-like mouthparts. Its mouthparts (stylets) allow it to feed deep within the plant tissues. As the tree attempts to heal this wound, the flow of water and nutrients to developing buds beyond the wound site becomes blocked, preventing new growth and eventually resulting in tree death. From late fall to early spring, HWA goes through four developmental stages before laying eggs as an adult. To learn more about life cycle stages, see HWA phenology information: <https://blogs.cornell.edu/nyshemlockinitiative/hemlock-woolly-adelgid/hwa-phenology/>

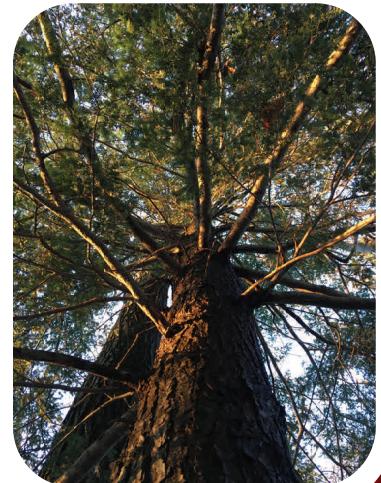
During the period from late spring to early fall, HWA is not covered in wool, although remnants may still be visible. At this time, HWA are in a dormancy period known as aestivation and appear as small, black nymphs (immature insect form) surrounded by a halo of white wool. Nymphs are sesame seed-shaped and can be seen on the underside of new growth with the help of a magnifying glass or hand lens.

From the water (kayak, motorboat, ice fishing, etc.), look for hemlock trees along the shore that show signs of decline: pale or greyish foliage and dead or dying branches. Infestation of HWA can cause a greyish appearance. Trees with a greyish cast can easily be spotted from a distance. If you see a tree with this appearance and are able to get nearer the shore and look more closely, verify the presence of HWA and report it. For pictures and boat survey protocol, see: [https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/f/7151/files/2016/12/Hemlock-and-HWA-Hunters\\_Boat\\_Protocol-1ayhgai.pdf](https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/f/7151/files/2016/12/Hemlock-and-HWA-Hunters_Boat_Protocol-1ayhgai.pdf)

Other signs to watch for year-round that could indicate the presence of HWA is a weakened crown or excessive woodpecker damage caused from feeding on the hemlock borer. HWA infestation will eventually lead to crown damage and defoliation. If the crown has lots of dead branches and a lack of needles, this could indicate the presence of HWA. The hemlock borer is a native pest of hemlock, not often abundant and considered a secondary pest. As a secondary pest, it generally does not pose a significant threat unless other conditions exist that weaken the tree, such as attack from a primary pest like HWA. For more information about the hemlock borer, visit: <https://www.forestpests.org/acrobat/hborer.pdf>

**If you spot hemlock woolly adelgid, report it! Use one of the following reporting methods:**

- 1) NYimapInvasives app on your phone (available in the App Store or Google Play) and create an account online at [www.nyimapinvasives.org](http://www.nyimapinvasives.org) where you can find training and other resources and then report both the presence or absence of an infestation
- 2) Call DEC's Forest Pest Information Line: (866) 640-0652
- 3) Email location details, photo, and GPS coordinates to NYS Hemlock Initiative: [nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu](mailto:nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu)



# Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Workshop

Join Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County at the Naples Library as we welcome Charlotte Malmborg from the NYS Hemlock Initiative for a presentation about research updates and management of hemlock wooly adelgid (HWA).



- In this talk you'll learn about the importance of hemlocks on our landscape, the threat of HWA, the present and future of HWA management in New York, and how you can be involved in slowing the spread of HWA in your area. Hemlock trees are a foundation species in our forests and are threatened by the invasive HWA. The New York State Hemlock Initiative addresses this threat through research, management practices, and outreach.
- This workshop is intended for all, including beginners just learning about hemlock trees and HWA, as well as those with intermediate knowledge and/or skill looking to stay updated and engaged.
- Attendance is free, but please let us know you are coming so we can plan accordingly. Participants are encouraged to bring note taking supplies. Snacks will be provided!

**Date:** Tuesday, April 9th, 2019

**Time:** 5:30 PM– 7:30 PM

**Location:** Naples Library, 118 S. Main Street, Naples NY 14512

**Cost:** FREE!

**FOR REGISTRATION or more INFORMATION:** Please visit [https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/hwanaples\\_257](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/hwanaples_257) or contact Laura Bailey ([lb698@cornell.edu](mailto:lb698@cornell.edu)) at Cornell Cooperative Extension- Yates County at 315-536-5123

## Cornell Cooperative Extension | Yates County



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# A WATER WORKSHOP FOR REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

5.5 Continuing Education Unit Credits Approved by NYS  
Department of State Division of Licensing Services

**When:** Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 8:30am to 3:00pm

**Where:** Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District

480 North Main Street

Canandaigua, NY 14424

**Cost:** \$50.00 due by April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Return Registration and Payment To:**

Ontario County SWCD

480 North Main Street

Canandaigua NY 14424

**You will learn about:**

- Groundwater/Surface Water Basics
- Recognizing Wet Lots
- Wells, Presented by Richard Moravec of Barney Moravec, Inc.
- Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems
- Stormwater Management



Please make checks  
payable to:  
**Ontario County SWCD**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Realtor License Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please call Alaina Robarge at (585)396-1450 or email her at [Alaina.Robarge@ontswcd.com](mailto:Alaina.Robarge@ontswcd.com).

# Rain Barrel Workshop: April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

**When: April 23, 2019**  
**Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm**  
**Ontario County**  
**Cornell Cooperative Extension Auditorium**  
**480 North Main St**  
**Canandaigua, NY**  
**14424**

**RSVP By April 11, 2019**  
**to the Ontario County**  
**Soil & Water**  
**Conservation District**  
**480 North Main Street**  
**Canandaigua, NY**  
**14424**  
**Phone: 585-396-1450**  
**Fax: 585-396-1305**



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

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Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Ontario County

*Come build a rain barrel at the Ontario County CCE Auditorium! The cost is \$20 and you will leave with a 55 gallon rain barrel for your home!*

Installing a rain barrel is an easy way to protect our environment and save money! A rain barrel collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains or streams. Installing a rain barrel will minimize runoff pollutants into our waterways, conserve treated drinking water, and reduce demand on the wastewater treatment system. Using a rain barrel not only helps protect the environment, it saves money and energy. The water from your barrel can be used for watering gardens and lawns, topping off swimming pools, washing cars and pets, cleaning sidewalks, cleaning outdoor furniture, and the list goes on!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Barrels You Would Like to Build (\$20 each): \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to take home a pre-built rain barrel (\$40)? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to Ontario County SWCD.*

*RSVP by April 11th, 2019.*

# PARTNERING WITH TREES

April 24, 2019  
6-7:30 pm  
Onnalinda Room  
(Court Room)  
Canandaigua Town Hall



Attendees will receive a free tree!

## *The Value of Trees*

*Hydrologic, water quality, habitat, well-being, effects on climate change, aesthetics*  
**Laura Bailey, Natural Resources Educator, Yates CCE**

## *Invasive Species*

*Diseases/invasions of trees: HWA, Oak Wilt, Emerald Ash Borer, Spotted Lantern Fly*  
**Patty Wakefield-Brown, Finger Lakes PRISM**

## *How to Plant Trees*

*Nurturing your tree, soil conditions, testing, fertilization, protection*  
**Alaina Robarge, Ontario County SWCD**

## *Notes from the Field*

*Anecdotes from a resident who has planted hundreds of bare root trees.*  
**David Sauter, Bristol Oaks Farm**

*This free Tree Workshop is brought to you by the  
Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board.*



# MASTER FOREST OWNER (MFO) PROGRAM

## ONTARIO COUNTY EVENT 2019



### Woodlot Management Planning: Watershed & Ecosystem Considerations

Join the Ontario County MFO program for a workshop and woods walk to learn about and observe practices used to mitigate impacts to the surrounding ecosystem and watershed when developing a woodlot management plan

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 27th

**TIME:** 10:30am to 3pm

**WHERE:** Workshop will be held at Naples Library and the woods walk and lunch will follow at Camp Cutler, BSA

Attendance is **FREE!** Attendees are asked to dress for the weather and wear boots or shoes suitable for walking on woodland trails. Participants are encouraged to bring note taking supplies and a water bottle. Please plan for a short drive from the library to Camp Cutler where we will have lunch together before the woods walk - **BYOL** - Bring Your Own Lunch!

**Naples Library**  
118 S Main St  
Naples, NY 14512

**Camp Cutler, BSA**  
7131 Gulick Road  
Naples, NY 14512

**TO REGISTER or for more information:**  
[https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/woodlotplanning\\_257](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/woodlotplanning_257)



**Alaina Robarge** — District Educator at Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District (S&WCD) will explain forestry best management practices (BMPs) to protect water quality.

**Brice June** — NYS DEC Forester will discuss how to develop a woodlot management plan and lead us on the woods walk through an actively managed woodlot and discuss the different management projects and practices that have been implemented.

**Brittany Lagaly** — Invasive Species Educator from Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (FL-PRISM) will discuss the impacts of invasive species on the native ecosystem.



Department of Environmental Conservation



# Ontario County SWCD Staff:

District Manager: **Megan Webster**

District Clerk/Treasurer/Secretary: **Diana Thorn**

Water Resources Technician: **Tucker Kautz**

Water Resources Technician: **Katie Cappiello**

Conservation District Technician: **Tad Gerace**

Conservation District Educator: **Alaina Robarge**

Canandaigua Lake Watershed Inspector: **George Barden**

Canandaigua Lake Watershed Administrative Assistant: **Jamie Noga**

## Ontario County SWCD Board of Directors:

**Samuel Casella**, Chairman, Practical Farmer

**Kenneth Livermore**, Vice-Chairman, Grange

**Rich Russell**, County Supervisor

**Mark Venuti**, County Supervisor

**Jim Peck**, Farm Bureau Representative

**Edward Jackson**, At Large

**Amanda Button**, Practical Farmer

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Get in Touch!  
**(866)547-3954**  
[customerinfo@meadowviewtreefarm.com](mailto:customerinfo@meadowviewtreefarm.com)

Office: 9678 Lawrence Hill Road  
 Springwater, NY 14560

Farm/Warehouse: 7727 State Route 21  
 Naples, NY 14512

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[kareymgrover@gmail.com](mailto:kareymgrover@gmail.com)



@chadandkareyrealtors

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**585-624-1440**

989 Honeoye Falls #6 Road  
 Rush, NY 14543  
[www.vernvallanceseptic.com](http://www.vernvallanceseptic.com)

We provide septic tank cleaning, real estate inspections (if not required to be done by Ontario County SWCD), install risers, repair baffles, as well as leach field restoration and trouble shooting problems. Call us today for an appointment.