



Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.....January 15, 2016

TO: Towns and Villages of Monroe County
CONTACT: Karen Ervay, Secretary to the Board
RE: Annual 2016 Conservation Tree and Shrub Program

QUESTIONS: karenervay@monroecounty.gov or 585-753-7663 for details

2016 CONSERVATION TREE AND SHRUB PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Winter has arrived (on the calendar) and the snow will be coming soon. As difficult as it may seem, spring will be here before we know it! In preparation, the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District has released their Conservation Tree and Shrub species list for the spring of 2016.

This year, property owners will have the opportunity to pre-order more than 60 different species of bare-root conifers, hardwood trees, shrubs, wildflowers and groundcovers, as well as seed mixes and other products used for conservation projects. Packages range in unit size and price, from a bundle of 10 plants for as low as \$11, to bundles of 100 plants for as low as \$68. New species and items this year include: Marsh Rose, Phlox, Pin Cherry, Red Cedar, Rough Leaf Dogwood, Sweet Birch, Woodland Strawberry, a Hosta Multi-pack and a food plot seed mix for those interested in improving wildlife habitat.

The District has also updated one of the multi-packs and is launching a new multi-pack selection. Multi-packs are great choices for homeowners looking for plant combinations that help meet a conservation need while providing fewer of each plant species. Rather than receiving a single pack of ten trees/shrubs composed of one species, the multi-packs offer two plants of five different species; perfect for the suburban conservationist! As always, species adapted to Monroe County site conditions have been selected to provide a variety of conservation uses.

“Planting trees and shrubs is perhaps the most effective way for individuals to help keep our environment clean and green,” said District Executive Director Kelly Emerick. “In addition to providing shade, privacy, wildlife habitat, borders, windbreaks and snow fences, trees provide many environmental benefits not visible to the eye.” She explained, “They work as filters to help protect drinking water, clean the air of pollutants, stabilize soil to prevent erosion, and reduce noise by acting as sound barriers. Trees can help cool your home in the summer, and break cold winds in the winter, helping to reduce energy use. They can even add value to your property.”

The Conservation Tree and Shrub Program is a pre-order program with a deadline for ordering on March 11, 2016. We have a limited availability for plant stock so to ensure we can meet your needs, order early! The distribution of the plant material will occur at the Monroe County Ecopark on April 21-22, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Those interested in this program can find the order form and our full color catalog on the District’s website: www.monroecountyswcd.org or you can pick up an order form at your local Town/Village Clerk Department. Check it out!! If you have any questions or you’d like the form sent to you, contact the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District at (585) 753-7380, Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Providing Today, Protecting Tomorrow