



Streamlines



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRODHEAD WATERSHED ASSOCIATION **30 years** SPRING 2019

Two steps for a greener garden

First, install a rain barrel

If you could access a free, always-ready, easy-to-use source of garden water that doesn't cost a thing, you would, wouldn't you? Give your water bill (and the environment) a break, and install a rain barrel to green your garden.

Harvested rainwater not only keeps your garden healthy and deeply moisturized between rains, it prevents runoff from your roof, driveway and other artificial surfaces from polluting the watershed. (While rain barrel water does not have the chlorine contained in municipal water, it does pick up environmental contaminants. Do not drink or cook with rain barrel water.)

The Penn State Extension office offers these tips for choosing a rain barrel:

- Determining barrel capacity involves measuring the surface area of the roof draining into the downspout inserted into the barrel, as well as calculating the volume

See BARREL Page 2



Second, get native plants

Native plants are another must-have for environment-minded gardeners.

Native plants – ones that grow in the area naturally – evolved here, are adapted to the climate and are generally easy to care for once established. They also need little to no fertilizer – a boon for the watershed.

Native plants also encourage Pennsylvania's biodiversity. Development can strip an area of its native plants by installing lawns and exotic plants. Then animal populations that rely on native plants are reduced.

The Penn State Cooperative Extension offers these tips on choosing native plants to match your growing site:

- Determine your soil type – do you have heavy clay or silty loam? Is it high or low in organic matter? Does it tend to dry out quickly after a rainfall or does it hold moisture?

See NATIVE Page 2

BARRELS OF FUN AT EARTH DAY

Brodhead Watershed Association will join the Monroe County Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 27, offering information and examples on rain barrel usage. Visit our booth to learn more!

The county-wide Earth Day celebration will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Northampton Community College's Tannersville campus. For information, see mcearthday.org.



NATIVE PLANT SALE BLOOMING

Local gardeners just can't go wrong at Brodhead Watershed Association's annual Native Plant Sale. To be held Friday and Saturday, May 31 to June 1, the popular sale will feature environmentally

responsible flowers and shrubs sure to flourish in area gardens.

The sale will be held at Pocono Township Fire

See SALE Page 2

BARREL

From Page 1

of rain per event in inches. For example, a surface area of 1,000 square feet receiving half an inch of rain would result in 300 gallons of water captured in rain barrels. How much water does your garden need?

- Look for a barrel that is child and animal proof, with a lid that can't be easily removed.
- Choose a barrel with a mesh screen to filter out debris, whether on top of the rain barrel or attached to the downspout.
- Install an overflow valve connected to a hose in order to allow water from a fully filled barrel to flow away from your house. Another option is to purchase a diverter to install on the downspout. Diverters allow water to fill the barrel and, once full, return the flow back into the downspout.
- Place the barrel on an elevated stand. This allows easy access to a spigot at the base of the barrel. Stands must be sturdy enough to withstand the weight of a full rain barrel.

"Rain Barrels in the Home Garden" from the Penn State Cooperative Extension: extension.psu.edu/rain-barrels-in-the-home-garden

NATIVE

From Page 1

- Is the site in sun or shade?
- How much room does the site allow for perennials to grow to their maximum size without crowding? Combining plants that grow well in the same natural habitats will help create healthy, vigorous plantings.

"Pennsylvania Native Plants for the Perennial Garden," from Penn State Cooperative Extension: extension.psu.edu/pennsylvania-native-plants-for-the-perennial-garden

SALE

From Page 1

Company's "carnival building" on Route 611, Tannersville. The Friday sale, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., is for members only. Join BWA at the sale to receive first pick of the most sought-after plants, as well as a 10% discount!

Saturday's sale will run 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The membership discount also applies this day.

"This year's sale will be the biggest and best. We'll have over 100 different varieties of perennials totaling over 1,000 plants," said Deb Mattie of Paradise Township, sale organizer.

There will also be a selection of trees and shrubs.

Almost every gardener in the Poconos wants deer-resistant plants, and the BWA won't disappoint them. "The majority of the plants are deer resistant," Mattie said.

"As usual, our informative signs will answer your questions and give you all the information you need," she said. Expert gardeners will also be available to answer questions and help choose the appropriate plants for your garden.

The Penn State Master Gardeners will also host a display booth and presentation for those wishing more in-depth information about greener gardening.

Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted. For information and printable plant lists, see brodheadwatershed.org/nativeplantsale.html. Call 570-839-1120 or email info@brodheadwatershed.org with questions.

Volunteers needed!

Would you like to help with BWA's annual Native Plant Sale, May 31-June 1?

We could use people to help set up tables, organize the plant deliveries, and assist customers with their purchases.

Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or call 570-839-1120 if you'd like to volunteer.

Native plants planned for sale

**Subject to change*

Yarrow
Northern Maidenhair
Anise Hyssop
Nodding Onion
Threadleaf Bluestar
Big Blue Star
Canadian Columbine
Jack in the Pulpit
Goatsbeard
Wild Ginger
Swamp Milkweed
Butterfly Weed
Blue Wood Aster
White Wood Aster
Smooth-leaved Aster
New England Aster
Lady Fern
Blue False Indigo
False Aster
Feather Reed Grass
Poppy Mallow
Marsh Marigold
Blue Cohosh
Northern Sea Oats
Turtlehead
Goldenstar
Cohosh
Lanceleaf Coreopsis
Threadleaf Coreopsis
Tufted Hairgrass
Dutchmans Breeches
Coneflower
Hollow Stem
Joe Pye Weed
Queen of the Prairie
Wild Strawberry
Wild Geranium
Bowmans Root
Swamp Sunflower
Ox Eye
Coral Bells
Scarlet Rose Mallow
Crested Iris

Blueflag
Spike Gayfeather
Cardinal Flower
Great Blue Lobelia
Ostrich Fern
Virginia Bluebells
Beebalm
Sundrops
Prickly Pear Cactus
Red Switch Grass
Beardtongue
Hairy Beardtongue
Smooth Phlox
Spotted Phlox
Garden Phlox
Obedient Plant
Mayapple
Creeping Jacobs Ladder
Christmas Fern
Short-toothed
Mountain Mint
American Mountain Mint
Black-eyed Susan
Three-lobed Coneflower
Green-headed Coneflower
Bloodroot
Stoncrop
Wild Pinks
Fire Pink
Cup Plant
Blue-Eyed Grass
Fragrant Goldenrod
Stiff Goldenrod
Prairie Dropseed
Stokes Aster
Carolina Lupine
Foamflower
Spiderwort
Blue Vervain
New York Ironweed
Culvers Root
Golden Alexanders

Climate change: It's time to talk

The subject of climate change can no longer be delegated to the back burner. It's here, it's now, and it's impacting our watershed and entire planet.

As we watched rising average temperatures, increased rainfall amounts, and more severe weather events hit the Pocono region over this past year, we came to the realization that climate education had to become a priority if we were to fulfill our mission "to protect the environment and water resources within the watershed."

That's why the Brodhead Watershed Association has decided to bring this conversation to the forefront by bringing climate education to our members and supporters. We'll discuss current science behind climate change and actions you can take to reduce your impact.

We began the conversation on March 31 at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center with the first event of a speaker series on climate change: "Reflections on a

Changing Climate," facilitated by Mark Lichty. We introduced the subject, discussed some of the science, and tried to dispel some of the myths.

But that's just the beginning. On April 10, we'll continue the speaker series with "Bloom Times, Budburst, Bird Migration, and Bugs," featuring Dr. Diane Husic, dean of natural science at Moravian College. Husic will speak about the regional effects of climate change and the Eastern Pennsylvania Phenology Project, a citizen science undertaking to help collect observations of changes occurring in our natural world. The event will be held as part of a Trout Unlimited meeting starting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

Join the conversation. It's an important one.

For information on this and other news from BWA's Climate Change Committee see brodheadwatershed.org/ClimateChange.htm.



FROM THE
DIRECTOR

Bob
Heif

Happy birthday to us

On April 19, 1989, the Brodhead Watershed Association filed with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to become a nonprofit organization. Thirty years fly by in the blink of an eye. Like reminiscing about childhood and teen years, we think of all the great things we have accomplished and all the wonderful people that have touched our organization.

From taking on significant issues and policies to educating our community on the importance of clean water, the successes fill scrap books. Partnerships and friendships and lessons learned along the way.

Now 30, BWA looks at this year as a celebration: Earth Day, our Native Plant Sale, our annual Ramble and, perhaps most importantly, our annual Members & Friends Celebration in September, to be held at the iconic Shawnee Inn. And all year long, we'll celebrate all the good that is our Pocono waters with outdoor walks and talks and getting people and their children in the water.

However, 30 is still young, and we look forward to many years of working with partners, municipalities, and the people of this community to continue to promote and protect the clean and abundant water of the Brodhead watershed.

WELCOME, NEW STREAMWATCHERS

About 40 people attended BWA's annual Streamwatch training sessions on March 21 and 23, held at Northampton Community College in Tannersville and Barrett Paradise Friendly Library. At the training, participants learned how BWA's 70+ Streamwatchers test water quality throughout the watershed.

New Streamwatchers are joining creek teams now; you can, too! Call the BWA office at 570-839-1120 or email info@brodheadwatershed.org if you'd like to be a Streamwatcher. We can match you with a veteran tester and a convenient testing site.



Marilyn Detrick photo

CALENDAR

"BLOOM TIMES, BUDBURST, BIRD MIGRATION, AND BUGS"

(Part of the speaker series on climate change)
7 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at
Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

Dr. Diane Husic, dean of natural science at Moravian College, will speak about the regional effects of climate change and the Eastern Pennsylvania Phenology Project, a citizen science undertaking to help collect observations of changes occurring in our natural world. Free; registration is not required. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or call 570-839-1120. For information: brodheadwatershed.org/ClimateChange.

APRIL SHOWERS CHILDREN'S HIKE

(Part of the free Water Wiser Kids series)
10 a.m. Saturday, April 13, at
Henry's Crossing Preserve

In a hike geared toward families, search for signs of early spring. Free, but registration is required. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org, call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; see brodheadwatershed.org/WaterWiser.html.



SAVE THE DATE!

A BWA's annual Members & Friends Celebration marking our 30th anniversary will be held Friday, Sept. 13, at Shawnee Inn.

EAGLE-EYED HIKE AT FOREVERGREEN

(A free Get Outdoors Poconos event)
10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at ForEvergreen
Nature Preserve, Analomink

This trail is barely a mile, with wide gravel paths and gentle terrain. The views are pastoral and lovely but not jaw-dropping. And then you see the eagles. This naturalist-led, easy hike is free; registration is required. Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email info@brodheadwatershed.org; see brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos.

ARBOR DAY WALK AT ESU'S 'TREE MUSEUM'

9:30 a.m. Friday, April 26, at East
Stroudsburg University's front circle

Part of a greater Arbor Day celebration. An easy walk guided by a naturalist and a professor. All events are free and open to the public. To register for the walk, contact BWA at 570-839-1120, info@brodheadwatershed.org or 570-242-7171.

Welcome, new BWA members!

Emily Ahnert McCauley of Stroudsburg; Bob Armstrong of Stroudsburg; Steven Binnick of Blue Bell; John & Sue Briggs of Pocono Pines; Betty Fetherman of Canadensis; Colleen Haley of Philadelphia; Glenn Hessler of Stroudsburg; Claudia Hill of Saylorsburg; Colleen Jamison of Cresco; Crystal Joy Kelly of Stroudsburg; Steven Krawitz of Stroudsburg; Jean & Dan McCoubrey of Philadelphia; Wolfgang Pohl of Pocono Lake; Stacy Rodriguez of Bushkill; Fred & Beth Ross of Stroudsburg; Peter Shriver of Princeton, N.J.

The Brodhead Watershed Association is a non-profit organization formed in 1989 to promote and preserve the environment of the Brodhead watershed and the water quality of the Brodhead, Cherry, Marshalls, McMichael, Paradise and Pocono creeks and their tributaries.

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