



MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Scott Ryan, *Chairman*
Brian Holloway, *Farm Bureau Member*
Richard Kennedy, *Member at Large*
Temp. Vacant, *Legislative Member*
Robert Headwell, *Legislative Member*

Board of directors meet the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

(weather permitting)

DISTRICT STAFF:

Corey Nellis, *District Manager*
Karen Klemczak, *District Clerk*
Scott Davis, *Sr. District Technician*
Joseph Slezak, *Resource Con Spec.*
Victoria Bray, *AED Coordinator*

NRCS STAFF:

Katherine Girard, *District Cons.*

4001 State Hwy 5s
Fultonville, NY 12072
Phone: (518) 853-4015
Fax: 1-855-401-1958

Annual Tree and Shrub Sale– April 17th-18th, 2026

The 2026 order form is enclosed in this newsletter, along with the information about all of this year's selections that we have to offer this year. This program is open to everyone, and you do not need to be a Montgomery County resident to order. Trees are to be picked up on April 17th or 18th at the location provided in the reminder post card.



Some new additions have been made to this year's selections. These include White Spruce, American Hazelnut, Bitternut Hickory, Sycamore, Red Haven Peach, Honeycrisp Apple, and a Lavender Pac.

*NOTE: All of these trees are bare-root seedlings/transplants, sold only in bundles of the specified quantities. They are **NOT** potted trees.* For additional info, or to order online, visit us at: www.montgomerycountyny-swcd.com



2025 Montgomery County Project Tour

On October 23, 2025, Montgomery County SWCD hosted the County Executive and members of the County staff, District Board of Directors, and NYS Ag & Markets on a tour highlighting some of the active projects within the County. The Tour visited a forested buffer, a Heavy Use Area Protection and Vegetative Treatment Area, a pivot irrigation projects, and a large Manure Storage, all on farms within Montgomery County. The funds for these projects stem from different state and federal funding streams. Good conversations were held and knowledge of both farming and conservation was passed around to strengthen work at the local level.



Montgomery County SWCD

Enhancing Pasture Health with Tree Swallows & Integrated Fly Management

Bird species such as Tree Swallows, Eastern Bluebirds, and American Kestrels are more than attractive visitors to a farm. They are effective agents of pest control, helping contribute to healthier pastures and livestock. Tree Swallows thrive in open grassland and pastures, and feed extensively on flying insects, including flies that stress livestock and reduce productivity.



Benefits of Tree Swallows in Pasture Systems

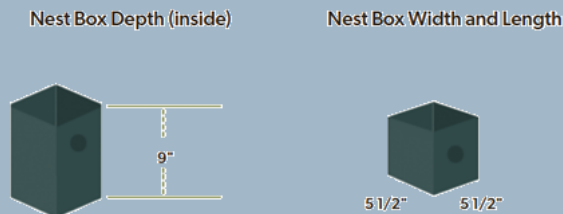
1. Natural Fly Predation: Tree Swallows are aerial insectivores that consume thousands of flies daily, including pests like horn and face flies. Their feeding reduces fly pressure on pastures, reducing stress, boosting weight gains, and lowering fly-related issues without chemicals.
2. Brooder Fly Management Strategy: The system uses non-chemical fly control through rotational grazing and birds. Frequent livestock movement and plant recovery reduce manure-breeding flies.
3. Enhancing Pasture Biodiversity: Supporting bird populations maintains ecosystems balance by controlling pests, reducing pesticide use, and promoting healthier soil and forage in grasslands.

Site selection and Placement of Bird Boxes– Tree Swallows

Place in open fields and mount on poles in open pasture areas, preferably near water, marshes, meadows, or even wooded swamps. Mount to posts, not trees, to reduce access for predators. The box should be East facing for the hole opening as well. Box should be 5-6 feet from the ground with a 1 3/8" round hole opening. Minimum spacing should be 35' apart, but further spacing is preferred to minimize conflicts. Boxes should be routinely cleaned out once the young leave the nest. The cleanout allows other birds such as bluebirds to use it in the off-season. Nesting season occurs from Mid-May until Mid-June.



Nest Box Measurements



Adding a “fledgling ladder” inside of the nest box, under the entrance hole is a benefit for fledglings to get their footing and climb out of the box. This can be a series of horizontal kerf cuts, like a ladder, or a piece of hardware cloth stapled inside of the box.

2026 ANNUAL CONSERVATION TREE & SHRUB SALE

- 🌲 Send in this form and the order form with your check, money order, or credit card info.
- 🌲 Full payment **MUST** accompany your order.
- 🌲 Orders must be received by March 27, 2026
- 🌲 Tree pick-up dates will be April 17 and 18, 2026
- 🌲 **Payment must accompany the order. Your orders cannot be processed without payment.**

Online orders at: www.montgomerycountyny-swcd.com

Name:	_____.
Address:	_____.
City:	_____.
State:	_____.
Zip:	_____.
Phone:	_____.
Email:	_____.
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (from order form) = \$ _____	

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "**Montgomery County SWCD**"
4001 State Highway 5s, Fultonville, NY 12072

OR

CREDIT CARD INFO

  (check one)

Card #: _____
Expiration Date: ____ -- ____ CSC ____ (back of card)

Important Note

It will be very important to pay attention to the post card reminder that will be sent out prior to the order pick-up dates. Location, time frames, and other details may be different this year than in years past.

****All trees and shrubs sold are to be used for effective conservation practices such as windbreaks, soil erosion, etc. and will not be planted for ornamental purposes. Trees and shrubs sold will not be removed with roots attached for resale. This is in compliance with New York State Sale and Use Tax Regulations, 20 NYCRR, Section 529.2(C).**

****No refunds or replacement after you leave the site.** The District is not responsible for orders not picked up on-time. The Montgomery County SWCD accepts no responsibility for tree loss due to circumstances beyond its control, and makes no provisions for replacement of stock.

To view the entire selection and purchase online, please visit our website:
www.montgomerycountyny-swcd.com



2026 TREE AND SHRUB SALE ORDER FORM

2026 TREE AND SHRUB SALE ORDER FORM						
CONIFER SEEDLINGS	SIZE	*25 PER	50 PER	100 PER	QUANTITY	COST
Balsam Fir	4-7"	\$24	\$45	\$85		\$
Douglas Fir	10-18"	\$18	\$34	\$64		\$
White Spruce *NEW*	10-18"	\$33	\$62	\$117		\$
CONIFER TRANSPLANTS	SIZE	*10 PER	50 PER	100 PER	QUANTITY	COST
Colorado Blue Spruce	16-22"	\$39	\$184	\$345		\$
Fraser Fir	10-18"	\$42	\$198	\$370		\$
Norway Spruce	15-24"	\$35	\$165	\$310		\$
White Cedar	10-16"	\$42	\$198	\$370		\$
DECIDUOUS HARDWOODS	SIZE	*10 PER	50 PER	100 PER	QUANTITY	COST
American Hazelnut *NEW*	18-24"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
Black Walnut	18-24"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
Bitternut Hickory *NEW*	12-18"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
Eastern Redbud	18-24"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
Hybrid Poplar	12-18"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
Northern Red Oak	18-24"	\$19	\$89	\$170		\$
Sugar Maple	18-24"	\$30	\$140	\$266		\$
Swamp White Oak	18-24"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
Sycamore *NEW*	12-18"	\$22	\$104	\$197		\$
White Oak	18-24"	\$22	\$104	\$197	\$104	
FRUIT/FLOWERING	SIZE	QUANTITIES			BUNDLES	COST
Bing/Black Tartarian Cherry *NEW*	2-3'	(1) Bing & (1) Tartarian for \$50				\$
Blueberry (Blue Ray & Jersey)	~12"	(5) Blue Ray & (5) Jersey for \$75				\$
Common Lilac	18-24"	Bundle of 10 for \$23				\$
Elderberry	18-24"	Bundle of 10 for \$22				\$
Gala Apple	2-3'	Bundle of 2 for \$45				\$
Honeycrisp Apple *NEW*	2-3'	Bundle of 2 for \$45				\$
Red Haven Peach *NEW*	2-3'	Bundle of 2 for \$45				\$
Red Raspberry	18-24'	Bundle of 10 for \$30				\$
Santa Rosa Plum	2-3'	Bundle of 2 for \$45				\$
Strawberry (Honeoye)	—	Bundle of 10 for \$16				\$
GROUND COVERS/ FLOWERING	QUANTITIES				BUNDLES	COST
Hosta	Bundle of 10 for \$35					\$
Lavender Pac *NEW*	1 pac for \$45					\$
Perennial Flower Pac	1 pac for \$35					\$
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS	QUANTITIES				QUANTITY	COST
Bluebird House	\$12 Each					\$
Compost	\$3.75 Per Bag (1.2 Cubic Feet)					\$
Mulch	\$3.75 Per Bag (2.0 Cubic Feet)					\$
Flags (For Locating Trees)	\$0.15 Each					\$
Fertilizer Tablets	10 For \$4 50 For \$12	25 For \$8 100 For \$20				\$

2026 TREE AND SHRUB SALE ORDER FORM

SPECIES	MATURE HEIGHT	GROWTH RATE	LIGHT PREF.	SOIL TYPE	SOIL MOISTURE	CHARACTERISTICS
CONIFERS						
Balsam Fir	45-75'	↓	FS/S	Various	Normal	Popular Christmas tree, good windbreak
Douglas Fir	40-70'	→	FS/S	Various	WD	Classic Christmas tree, popular for lumber
White Spruce	40-60'	→	FS	Various	WD	Food and shelter for wildlife
Colorado Blue Spruce	50-75'	→ / ↓	FS/S	Various	Normal	Blue-green color, valued landscape tree
Fraser Fir	30-60'	→	FS/S	Various	Normal	One of the most popular Christmas trees
Norway Spruce	40-60'	→ / ↓	FS	Various	Normal	Ideal windbreak, dark green needles
White Cedar (American Arborvitae)	20-30'	→ / ↓	FS	Various	Normal	Great choice for a windbreak or hedges
DECIDUOUS HARDWOODS						
American Hazelnut	15-18'	→ / ↑	FS/S	Various	WD	Produces nuts for wildlife, need 2 for pollination
Black Walnut	65-100'	→ / ↓	FS	Various	Various	Great shade tree, produce nuts for wildlife
Bitternut Hickory	50-70'	→	FS/S	A	M/WD	Large, Native tree w/ yellow Fall color
Eastern Redbud	20-30'	→	FS	Various	M/WD	Excellent landscape tree, Bright pink flowers
Hybrid Poplar	40-50'	↑	FS	A	M	Can grow 5-8' per year, quick shade/buffer
Northern Red Oak	60-75'	↑	FS	S, L, C, A	WD	Good shade tree, nice fall colors
Sugar Maple	60-75'	→ / ↓	FS/S	S, L, C, A	WD	Great color, syrup production
Swamp White Oak *NEW*	50-60'	→	FS	A	M	Acorns are great for wildlife, very weather tolerant
Sycamore	40-100'	↑	FS/S	A	M, WD	Drought Tolerant, grows 2+ feet per year
White Oak	50-80'	→ / ↓	FS/S	S, L, C	M, WD	Excellent shade tree, wood products
FRUIT/FLOWERING						
Bing/Black Tartarian Cherry	20-35'	↑	FS	Various	WD	Large fruit for eating and preserving
Blueberry (Blue Ray/ Jersey)	6-8'	→	FS	S, L, C, A	WD/MD	Landscape bush, low maintenance, juicy berries
Common Lilac	7-12'	→	FS/S	Various	M/WD	Medium-large hardy shrub w/ fragrant flowers
Elderberry	12-20'	↑	FS	Slight A	Moist	Wildlife, culinary, & medicinal use
Gala Apple	10-15'	↑	FS/S	Various	WD	Firm, flavorful, high yield, very popular apple
Honeycrisp Apple	20-25'	→	FS	L	M/WD	Popular fruit choice, grows well in small areas
Red Haven Peach	12-15'	→	FS	L	WD	Fruit for eating and canning, w/ fuzz less skin
Raspberry	4-6'	↑	FS	S, L, C	M/WD	Very juicy berries, good for jam
Santa Rosa Plum	18-20'	↑	FS	L	WD	Self-pollinating, great fruit for eating & processing
Strawberry (Honeoye) *NEW*	—	↑	FS	Various	M/WD	Good color & flavor, Disease Resistant
GROUND COVERS						
Hosta	24" Dia.	↑	FS	Various	WD	Beautiful Variety of landscape flowers
Lavender Pac	—	↑	FS	Various	Various	Beautiful flowering plant w/ bold color
Perennial Flower Pac	—	↑	FS/S	Various	Various	Beautiful Variety of landscape flowers

LEGEND:	GROWTH RATE: ↑ FAST → MODERATE ↓ SLOW	LIGHT PREFERENCE: FS- FULL SUN S- SHADE	SOIL TYPE: S- SANDY L-LOAMY C-CLAY A-ACIDIC	SOIL MOISTURE: M- MOIST WD- WELL DRAINED MD- MODERATELY DRAINED
----------------	---	--	--	---



White Cedar



Blue Spruce



Fraser Fir



Norway Spruce



White Spruce



Douglas Fir



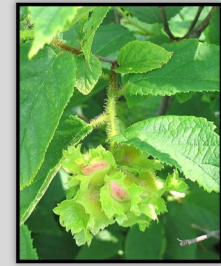
Balsam Fir



White Oak



Red Oak



American Hazelnut



Swamp White Oak



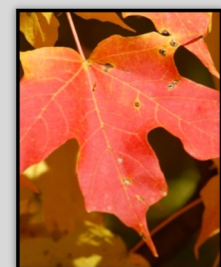
Eastern Redbud



Honeycrisp Apple



Hybrid Poplar



Sugar Maple



Bitternut Hickory



Black Walnut



Gala Apple



Cherry



Red Haven Peach



Raspberries



Blueberries



Elderberries



Santa Rosa Plum



Sycamore



Part of Lavender Pac



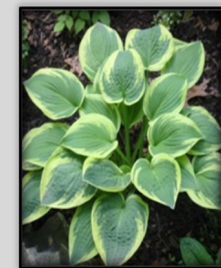
Strawberry



Common Lilac



Part of Flower Pac



Hosta

Agricultural Planning Programs

Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM)

How does your farm impact your local environment?

Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) is a NYS program developed to promote economic viability of farms and environmental stewardship. AEM is voluntary, incentive-based, customized farm-by-farm, confidential, and targeted to watershed needs. Involvement not only aids farmers by improving the function of their daily operations, but can also help prioritize farms in other programs, such as NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). District staff evaluate your farm in areas such as: barnyard runoff, silage leachate runoff, process waste water disposal, soil erosion, and pasture management.



Practice implementation to address resource concerns is eligible for cost-sharing grants. Farmers can contribute by cash, in-kind services, local grants, or funding through Federal Farm Bill conservation programs.

Some examples of potential projects include, but are not limited to:

Prescribed Rotational Grazing System; Riparian Buffer System; Soil Health System; Erosion Control System;

AEM helps to ensure that New York's farms remain viable and continue to meet their business objectives in an ever-changing marketplace. Farms of all sizes and types of operations, from Dairy to vegetables and everything in between, are welcome to participate.



**Heavy Use Area
Protection &
Vegetative Treatment
Area**

Farms seeking more information should call the office at 518-853-7016 or email joseph.slezak@ny.nacdnet.net



Agricultural Economic Development (AED)

From hands-on conservation education to agrotourism and farm marketing, 2025 was a year of connection, learning, and growth for Montgomery County agriculture. I began my role as Agricultural Economic Development Specialist in May and quickly jumped into learning more about soil and water conservation, starting with volunteering at the 2025 State Envirothon.

One of the highlights of the year was participating in the Department of Youth and Veteran Services' annual Youth Day event. We brought our rainfall simulator to demonstrate how different soil types respond to rain, showing how cover crops and grass reduce erosion and improve water infiltration. Children also earned Conservation Hero stickers by answering conservation questions, making it a fun and educational day for all.

Over the summer and fall, I worked with the Montgomery County Farm Bureau to plan Sundae on the Farm at Bellinger's Orchard. The event welcomed over 3,000 attendees! In addition to a free ice cream sundae, guests enjoyed the Mobile Dairy Experience, kids' activities, and educational exhibits about Montgomery County agriculture.

In November, I attended the Agrotourism Conference in Saratoga Springs. While there, I connected with Cornell Cooperative Extension, Taste NY, and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to explore ways to expand agrotourism opportunities in Montgomery County. The month also included three workshops: home composting, Excel for farmers, and a guided walk in the Burbine Forest with certified DEC Forester, Tyler Levy.

Building knowledge, conservation, and economic opportunity for Montgomery County's agricultural community remains at the heart of our work.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or ideas — I would love to hear from you!

-Victoria Bray



MONTGOMERY COUNTY SWCD
 4001 STATE HIGHWAY 5S
 FULTONVILLE, NY 12072-1721

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 UNITED STATES POSTAGE
 PAID PERMIT #5
 Fultonville, New York 12072

Contents: 2026 Tree Sale-Order Form and Newsletter

Services offered by the SWCD

- Annual Tree Sale
- Agricultural Assessments
- Soil Maps/Parcel Information
- Drain Tile and Pipe Sales
- Ponds/drainage projects
- Percolation (Perc) Tests
- Fish Stocking Program
- No-Till Drill Rental
- Tire Recycling Events
- Grant Funding Info & Opportunities
- Municipal Hydroseeding



Online @
montgomerycountyny-swcd.com

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SOIL & WATER

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Special Projects from SWCD

- North Chuctanunda Trail Construction
- Eagle Trail Rehab & Maintenance
- Thomas H. Burbine Memorial Forest Rehab and Maintenance & Disc Golf
- Capital Region Envirothon
- Tire Recycling Programs
- Community Gardens– Amsterdam, NY
- Harvest Connection
- Farm to Table Tour
- Sundae on the Farm