

Good afternoon Soil & Water fans!

I hope this email finds you well. We have a few updates for you to be aware of:

- Our free soil testing for lawns is still available! E-mail me for forms. You can pick up the soil boxes at any CSWCD or Extension offices by appointment.
- **Attention teachers!** I'm available for Zoom/Google Meet up -- I brought my Enviroscope model home! E-mail me. I am happy to provide multiple presentations to reach students that are in-person and online. Programs will be held virtually.
- Our latest quarterly newsletter can be found here: <http://www.culpeperswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/final2-culp-swcd-nletter-05.20.pdf>.
- **This year we will be holding in a Poster Contest!** Posters can be 8.5" by 11" papers and scanned or mailed to me. Entries are due to me by December 15. Want a lesson for students before they work on their posters? Email me! Any teacher can participate -- art, science and others! Open to home school and remote learners too. The topic is **Where does YOUR Water Shed?**
- **Annual Tree Sale:** let me know if you have ideas for species selections for our annual sale. We typically purchase from the Virginia Department of Forestry.
- **Conservation Educator of the Year:** Each year we recognize outstanding formal and non-formal educators that are dedicated to conservation education. Know someone? Let me know!
- Our **annual Envirothon training** will be held Saturday November 21 at Graves Mountain Lodge, as of now. The fee will be \$20 per person, which includes lunch. This training is open to any coach, potential coach, teams or SWCD staff. Students must be accompanied by adults that stay on the premises. We are keeping the topic Local Water Control, Local Water Solutions. **We are investigating options to hold this training virtually.**
- Check out our website calendar for interesting webinars from many partners!
- The **VA Conservation Assistance Program** is available if you're interested in addressing stormwater management on your property. E-mail Richard Jacobs at richardJ@culpeperswcd.org for information.
- **Rain barrels are available!** As you use this time for gardening think about getting a rain barrel! They are available through our office. The price is \$75 for one and \$140 for two.
- **New resource: A Guide to Salamanders of Virginia** from the Department of Wildlife Resources (formerly known as the Department of Game & Inland Fisheries). This new guide joins similar ones for Virginia turtles, snakes, fishes & bats. These are beautiful full color guides and I can't wait to get my hands on this one! You can purchase here: https://license.gooutdoorsvirginia.com/Shop/Inventory/Detail?inventoryId=74&LicenseTypeID=2992&groupId=28&utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nftf&utm_content=nftf_viewing_april2020.
- The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries is now the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources. Find out more here: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/>
- The State Arboretum at Blandy named the Sassafras the 2020 Tree of the Year for its fast growth, striking colors and sweet, root beer-like fragrance. It is a beautiful tree and just saying the word makes me smile! That could have something to do with the fact that I grew up in Queens looking at an Ailanthus tree.

Take care!

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