

Hello Soil and Water friends!

Happy November! I hope this note finds you well!

When my daughter, a now third grader, switched to virtual learning in the spring I wanted to develop an activity that would be easily adaptable whether a student is learning virtually or in-person. I came up with the 1st Annual Poster Contest (flyer attached). I intentionally made it simple! **Students can participate with their class or individually!** Let me know if you need any resources to participate. Each student that participates will receive a color certificate and I'm working on prizes!

Culpeper SWCD continues to offer programs for you, the resident:

- **Teachers!** I'm available for virtual visits! I have my Enviroscape demo!
- We are offering free soil tests for your lawn! You mail the sample to Virginia Tech and they send the results to both of us and the bill to me! (win-win) *Just reply to this email for the forms. **Flyer attached***
- Our **tree seedling sale** returns! The new flyer is on our website, with pick up in early spring 2021. Prices have been five of one species for just \$5! *This year's species are: Norway spruce, white dogwood, black cherry, hazelnut, American elderberry & river birch. **NEW THIS YEAR:** live stakes of red osier dogwood and Streamco willow.* <http://www.culpeperswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2021-tree-sale-10.21.20.pdf>
- Our latest newsletter can be found on the website here: <http://www.culpeperswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/culp-swcd-nletter-summer-2020.pdf>
- The popular **Woods & Wildlife Conference** will be virtual for 2021! This is my very favorite public event! Tentative dates are Friday February 19 in the afternoon and in the morning on Saturday February 20, 2021. Contact Adam Downing to get on the notice list: adowning@vt.edu.
- Have an area of your yard that struggles to drain? We have a cost share program that pays for converting managed lawn to native plants plus 20+ other practices based on needs and interests. Contact my coworker Richard Jacobs at richardJ@culpeperswcd.org for a site visit.
- **Rain barrels** are available as a water conservation tool. They are \$75 for one and \$140 for two, which includes barrel, lid, hardware & directions! Email me if you're interested!
- Our Annual Report, which covers July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 can be found here: <http://www.culpeperswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/annual-report-2019.2020.pdf>
- The Department of Wildlife Resources (formerly DGIF) has added their fabulous **Bats of Virginia** online! Did you know the official bat of Virginia is the Virginia Big Eared Bat? Learn more about bats and their vital part of our natural world: https://dwr.virginia.gov/wildlife/bats/?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nftf&utm_content=nftf_all_batguide.
- 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!

Please let me know how I can help you or if you would like to be removed from this list.
Apologies if you receive this email more than once.
Take care,
Steph DeNicola

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Education/Information Coordinator

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