

FALL PROGRAM

We are now taking orders for: barley straw, bluebird nesting boxes, and rain barrels!

Barley Straw



***Our barley straw provider of many years did not have a good crop this year. We found a source from outside of the county, which increased the cost of the barley straw, and the cost of trucking it here. We apologize for the inconvenience of the increased pricing, but hope that you will still continue to support this practice. ***

Excessive algae growth is one of the most common problems in ponds. Barley straw is used to control pond algae by inhibiting the growth of new algae. Large quantities of algae can be harmful for livestock consumption and can also cause severe winter fish kills as oxygen is depleted during decomposition of algae blooms in the fall. Less oxygen will then be available to fish over those crucial winter months when the water is ice and snow covered.

Fall and spring applications are recommended because water temperatures between 50 and 55 degrees are needed for barley straw to be effective. The recommended application rate is 6 bales per surface acre.

Bluebird Nesting Boxes

The future of eastern bluebirds has been of concern as populations have shrunk over the last few decades. However, populations have been growing recently. Bluebird populations have declined due to habitat destruction and competition.



The most effective measure that has been implemented to protect eastern bluebirds has been the introduction of nest

boxes in good nesting habitat. They have been quite successful in providing nesting places for eastern bluebirds.

You should put up your nesting box in the fall. Bluebirds start looking for breeding nesting boxes mid-February at the earliest and on into June at the latest. Nesting boxes should be located in an open space such as a large lawn or an orchard away from houses, barns, and thick clumps of trees. They can be placed on fence posts, garden U-posts and metal posts at least three feet above the ground. A box mounted 4-5 feet high is ideal.

Conservation Rain Barrels

A rain barrel collects and stores rainwater from rooftops to use later for watering plants and gardens. Water collected in a rain barrel would normally pour directly off your roof or flow through roof gutter downspouts and become stormwater runoff. Depending on your yard, this runoff can travel onto paved surfaces and eventually into a storm drain.



Why Use Rain Barrels? Rain barrels conserve water and help lower costs (a rain barrel can save approximately 1,300 gallons of water during peak summer months). Rain barrels also reduce water pollution by reducing stormwater runoff, which can contain pollutants like sediment, oil, grease, bacteria and nutrients.

Because residential irrigation can account for up to 40% of domestic water consumption, water conservation measures such as rain barrels can be used to reduce the demand on the municipal water system or your homes personal well. During a storm, even a light one, it doesn't take much time for a rain barrel to fill with enough water for your lawn and plants to thrive. We have 55 gallon barrels available for purchase.

Please see the attached order form to place an order or call us at 315-866-2520 ext. 5 for more information.

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Welcome!

Welcome Bob Tilbe to the Herkimer County SWCD. Bob joined our team in July as our new full time Conservation Aide. He has operated the District's hydroseeder and will continue helping with the invasive species and many other district programs. He has a BS in Forest Resources Management from SUNY-ESF in Syracuse, NY. Bob graduated from Mount Markham School District, and he moved back to the area this summer. He is currently spending his free time with his fiancé, Haley, fixing up their new home.





Herkimer County SWCD
 5653 State Route 5
 Herkimer, NY 13350
 (315) 866-2520 Ext. 5

2018 FALL ORDER FORM



Item	Price (includes tax)	Quantity	Subtotal
Barley Straw (40 lb. bales)	\$11.50/bale		
Conservation Rain Barrel	\$65.00 each		
Bluebird Nest Box	\$15.00 each OR 2 for \$28.00		
Grand Total			

Name:
Mailing Address:
Email:
Phone Number: ()

Please send this completed order form and
 payment to:
Herkimer County SWCD
5653 State Route 5

Order with payment due: **Wednesday, October 24th**
 Checks to be made out to: **Herkimer County SWCD**
 Pickup Date & Time: **Thursday, November 1st 8am – 12 noon**
 Pickup location: **Herkimer County SWCD Office**
5653 State Route 5 Herkimer, NY 13350



NOTE: Orders accompanied by payment must be in the SWCD office no later than Wednesday, October 24th. Make checks or money order payable to "Herkimer County SWCD". Pick up will be on Thursday, November 1st between 8am and 12 noon at the SWCD parking lot on Route 5. We are located 2 miles east of the Route 28 North junction.

