

# MECKLENBURG SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## CONSERVATION CHRONICLE



Fall 2010

### 40TH ANNUAL TREE SEEDLING SALE



JANUARY 22, 2011 - 9AM TO 12PM (OR SOLD OUT)

New this year, in addition to our traditional Saturday sale, we will sell a limited number of trees Friday, January 21, 2011 from 12-2pm during an "EARLY BIRD SALE". This is a great opportunity for folks who work Uptown to buy trees during the lunch hour.

Rain Barrels will be available for purchase during the Saturday sale. Seedlings are sold on a first come, first served basis while supplies last! Newsletter recipients can guarantee their choice of seedlings by pre-ordering, using the form on page four. Deadline to pre-order is Friday, October 29, 2010 and pre-payment is required for seedlings. For those of you receiving our newsletter via postal mail, please consider "going green", sign-up to receive our newsletter via e-mail, helping to conserve natural resources and reduce costs. To sign-up, contact [anganette.byrd@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:anganette.byrd@mecklenburgcountync.gov).

### THE URBAN COST SHARE PROGRAM IS BACK!!!

Is your yard subject to excess runoff or erosion? Do you have an unbuffered creek or stream on your property? How about a neighborhood with a lot of pets (and pet waste)? These are examples of non-point source pollutants, prevalent in urban areas; we are here to assist you with addressing these issues. The District is pleased to announce that we have recently received grant funds from the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund specific for the Urban Cost Share Program and are once again accepting applications for cost share assistance. The Urban Cost Share Program provides financial and technical support to qualified land users to protect and improve water quality in six impaired watersheds within Mecklenburg County. We have also amended the program to allow for larger scale projects; participants may now receive up to 75% reimbursement of allowable costs, up to \$7500. For more information, visit our website at [www.mecklenburgconservation.com](http://www.mecklenburgconservation.com) or call 704-336-2455.

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### UPCOMING

#### *Know Your Farms*

#### **Charlotte Area Farm Tour**

*September 18 and 19, 2010*

1:30pm to 6:30pm

[www.knowyourfarms.com](http://www.knowyourfarms.com)

#### **CPCC Fall Plant Sale**

*September 17 and 18, 2010*

9am to 2pm

CPCC Cato Campus

[www1.cpcc.edu/horticulture](http://www1.cpcc.edu/horticulture)

#### **UNCC Fall Plant Sale**

*October 9, 2010*

Sat. 9am to 3pm

McMillan Greenhouse

<http://gardens.uncc.edu>

See website for *Certificate in Native Plant Studies* info too!

#### **Wing Haven Plant Sale**

*October 6th to 9th, 2010*

10am to 4pm *Free Programs Daily*

248 Ridgewood Avenue

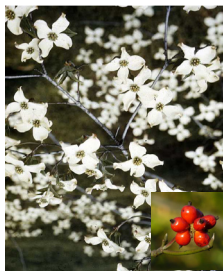
Charlotte, NC 28209

[www.winghavengardens.com](http://www.winghavengardens.com)

*Go green! Sign up to receive our newsletter via e-mail!*

## SMALL HARDWOODS (\$2.00 EA)

## SHRUBS (\$2.00 EA)



### FLOWERING DOGWOOD

(*Cornus florida*)

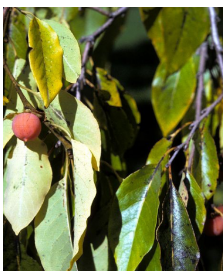
Mature height of 30 feet. Tolerates full sun to shade and prefers moist, well drained soils. Flowers in early spring with white blooms, in fall, red fruit and scarlet foliage. Great wildlife plant!



### EASTERN REDBUD

(*Cercis canadensis*)

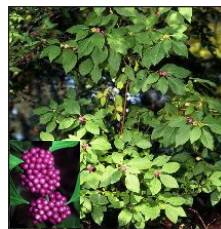
Mature height of 40 feet. Grows in full sun to shady understory preferring well drained soils. Seeds eaten by a variety of birds. This wonderful ornamental produces pink flowers in early spring.



### PERSIMMON

(*Diospyros virginiana*)

Mature height of 60 feet. Prefers moist, well-drained soils but tolerates drought. Ripe fruit is edible and attracts wildlife. In fall foliage turns bright red.



### AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY

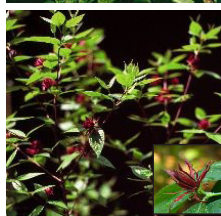
(*Callicarpa americana*)

Mature height 3-6 feet. Produces bright purple berries, eaten by small birds. Grows on a variety of sites and tolerates full sun to partial shade.



### SPICEBUSH (*Lindera benzoin*)

Mature height 6-12 feet. Grows well and offers yellow fall color in full sun followed by red berries. Great plant for butterflies too!



### SWEET SHRUB (*Calycanthus floridus*)

Mature height of 6-10 feet. Thrives in full sun, will tolerate partial shade. Prefers moist, rich soils. Spicy fragrance with reddish brown blooms in spring/summer.

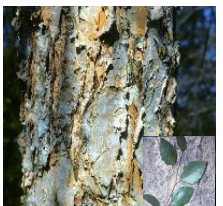


### ELDERBERRY (*Sambucus canadensis*)

Mature height of 8-12 feet. Thrives in full sun to slight shade. White flowers are followed by edible black berries. Great plant for riparian areas!

## LARGE HARDWOODS (\$2.00 EA)

## EVERGREENS (PRICES VARY)



### RIVER BIRCH (*Betula nigra*)

Mature height of 50-90 feet, rapid growth early on. Thrives in full sun with moist to wet soils, tolerant of poor drainage. Bark offers year round interest.



### WATER OAK (*Quercus nigra*)

Mature height of 50-80 feet. Prefers moist soils. Tolerates a variety of soil types. Excellent lawn or street tree!



### AMERICAN BEECH

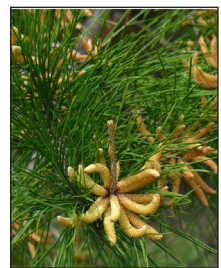
(*Fagus grandifolia*)

Mature height up to 90 feet. Large tree, excellent as yard/shade tree. Golden, bronze leaves held through winter. Tolerant of extreme summer heat.



### BLACK GUM (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

Mature height of 60-80 feet. Tolerates a variety of soil and moisture conditions. Excellent fall color, great for wildlife!



### SHORTLEAF PINE

(*Pinus echinata*)

Mature height of 50-80 feet. Tolerates wide variety of well-drained soils. Grows well in clay soils. Three inch cones persistent in clusters of three to four. Popular as cut Christmas tree.



### SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA

(*Magnolia virginiana*)

Mature height of 50-90 feet. Tolerates sun to partial shade and moist to wet soils. Showy white flowers in spring and summer, cones with red fruits in fall.



### EASTERN RED CEDAR

(*Juniperus virginiana*)

Mature height of 40-50 feet. Prefers full sun and tolerates a wide range of soil conditions, drought tolerant. Aromatic foliage, produces bluish fruit in winter. Red Cedar is great as a screen tree!

# MECKLENBURG SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Many folks have heard of the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District, but only from our tree seedling sale or the Urban Cost Share Program. As such, it is time for an introduction to who we are and what we do! Soil and Water Conservation Districts and their governing Boards were formed nationwide, based on enabling legislation from Congress established as a result of the Dust Bowl of the 1930s. This legislation granted individual states the right to form Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Dr. Hugh Hammond Bennett, a North Carolina native from Anson County, was instrumental in coordinating national efforts toward solving the critical conservation problems that the country faced. The citizens of Anson County, North Carolina chartered the Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District on August 4, 1937, establishing the first Conservation District in the nation, which still exists today. Mecklenburg was organized as a part of the three county, Lower Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District on March 18, 1940. On December 10, 1963, Mecklenburg separated to form an individual district. While we work closely with and receive support from State and local (City/County) agencies, we are actually an independent entity, governed by a board of three elected and two appointed supervisors. District staff include the Conservation District Manager and a part-time administrative assistant. Traditionally, our role in the community was to assist farmers and other agricultural producers with resource concerns related to erosion and other non-point source pollutants. Recognizing the rapid urbanization and development in our area, we expanded our efforts (including starting the Urban Cost Share Program) to include support for urban/suburban as well as agricultural land users in Mecklenburg County. We are available to provide no cost technical assistance and have cost share programs available to qualified land users.

## DISTRICT COST SHARE PROGRAMS

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE

The North Carolina *Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)* is a statewide program designed to help urban and suburban land users to address non-point source pollution and erosion issues, much like our local Urban Cost Share Program. Available practices include: Cisterns, Rain Gardens, Backyard Wetlands, Riparian Buffers, Pet Waste Receptacles and more. Unlike our Urban Cost Share Program, CCAP is available county wide, however, funding is limited. The state has allocated \$4009 to the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District for the 2011 fiscal year. Approved applicants will receive technical assistance related to best management practices (BMPs) specific to your site, as well as reimbursement of up to 75% of allowable expenses. For more information please call 704-336-2455 or visit [www.mecklenburgconservation.com](http://www.mecklenburgconservation.com)

### NC AG COST SHARE PROGRAM (ACSP)

The District is available to help farmers and other agricultural businesses (such as nurseries) prevent water pollution. The state has allocated \$25,548 to Mecklenburg this fiscal year. Funds are available to assist with the cost of installing conservation practices to protect water quality and agricultural interests. For information call 704-336-2455 or visit [www.mecklenburgconservation.com](http://www.mecklenburgconservation.com).

### FEDERAL COST SHARE PROGRAMS

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical assistance focused on natural resource issues. Cost Share Programs available to approved applicants include: Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program and more. For more information please call 704-336-2455.

# 2011 TREE SEEDLING SALE ORDER FORM

Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District 700 North Tryon Street - Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Ph 704-336-2455 Fax 704-336-3846 www.mecklenburgconservation.com

### TREE SEEDLING PRE-SALE POLICIES:

- Seedling pre-orders will be accepted until October 29, 2010
- Payment in full due at time of order - Please make checks Payable to MSWCD
- Receipts will be mailed upon receipt of order and payment
- Pick-up is at 700 North Tryon Street - Friday, January 21, 2011 between **12 p.m.** and **2 p.m.** or Saturday, January 22, 2011 between **9 a.m.** and **11 a.m.**
- **NO REFUNDS** will be issued for orders not claimed during the sale
- Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District is not responsible for orders not claimed during the sale - all unclaimed orders will be considered a donation and sold to the public on a first come, first served basis
- Reminders will be emailed prior to the sale (if you do not have email, a reminder will be sent via postal mail)

### RAIN BARREL SALE POLICIES:

- Rain Barrel pre-orders will be accepted until January 10, 2011
- Payment for RAIN BARRELS is due at the time of pick-up
- Pick-up is at 700 North Tryon Street - Saturday, January 22, 2011 between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.
- Unclaimed orders will be sold to the public on a first come, first served basis at the end of the sale

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	Cost	Seedling	SH - Sm. Hardwood LH- Lg. Hardwood	Quantity	Cost	Seedling	Sb - Shrub E - Evergreen
	\$2.00 ea	Flowering Dogwood	SH		\$2.00 ea	American Beautyberry	Sb
	\$2.00 ea	Eastern Redbud	SH		\$2.00 ea	Eldeberry	Sb
	\$2.00 ea	Persimmon	SH		\$2.00 ea	Spicebush	Sb
	\$2.00 ea	River Birch	LH		\$2.00 ea	Sweet Shrub	Sb
	\$2.00 ea	American Beech	LH		\$2.00 ea	Sweetbay Magnolia	E
	\$2.00 ea	Water Oak	LH		\$2.00 ea	Eastern Red Cedar	E
	\$2.00 ea	Black Gum	LH		10 for \$5	Shortleaf Pine	E
	<b>\$95 ea</b>	<b>Rain Barrel</b>	<b>60 Gallon</b>		<b>\$110 ea</b>	<b>Rain Barrel</b>	<b>80 Gallon</b>

Total Number of Hardwoods/Shrubs/Evergreens \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Total Number of Short Leaf Trees \_\_\_\_\_ 10 for \$5.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL PAYMENT INCLUDED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*\*\*RAIN BARRELS ARE PAID FOR AT TIME OF PICK-UP - January 22, 2011 from 9 am to 12 noon**