



**Charlevoix
Conservation District**

Happy Holidays

District News
December 2009

*The Charlevoix Conservation District
Board of Directors & Staff*



*Wish you a very
Merry Christmas
and a very
Happy New Year!*

DIRECTORS & STAFF

- **Timothy Matchett, Chairman**
- **Eric Beishlag, Vice-Chairman**
- **Dave Stolt, Treasurer**
- **Ron Reinhardt, Member**
- **Dennis Howard, Member**
- **Kelly Martin, District Coordinator**
- **Chris Anderson, Groundwater Technician**



New news

NO MORE Fall Tree Sale

After several very small fall sales, the District Board decided to suspend holding a fall tree sale for the next 3 years. ☹️

Spring Tree Sale - your only chance

If you are interested in placing an order, catalogs/order blanks will be mailed after the first of the year. Watch your mailbox in January and keep in mind, this will be your only chance to purchase seedlings in 2010. Tree sale information will also be available online at: www.charlevoixcd.org

Charlevoix County Plat Books

Plat books are a great gift idea.

You can help support the Conservation District by purchasing a plat book for \$25 at any of the locations around the county where they are sold.

To order by phone contact Kelly at 582-6193, OR send \$30 to the District Office, 303 North Street, Boyne City, 49712 and one will be mailed to you.

NOTE: The new plat book was planned for 2009. However, due to the current economy and the number of 2006 books still on hand, production of the next plat book has been postponed.

Chris's new work schedule

Beginning: January 4, 2010

Groundwater Technician, Chris Anderson

Work schedule: Monday—Tuesday—Wednesday

8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. with lunch from 10:30-11:00 a.m.

His email address will also change from:

forester@charlevoixcd.org

to:

chris@charlevoixcd.org

Not just a shoreline owner's problem

Invasive Phragmites



The Charlevoix Conservation District's phragmites efforts began with a website on the invasive species & the threat it poses to the natural resources. Many thanks to Pam Grassmick for first alerting the District and for being the "driving force" on Beaver Island.

Their crusade against invasive phragmites set the stage for successful community treatment efforts. Three years ago there were 27.2 acres needing treatment on the main Island. Because of their diligent efforts, this past season **less than 1/2 an acre** had to be sprayed! Plus - High and Garden Islands also received treatment this year.

In combination with the 14 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline treated by Norwood Twp., Charlevoix Twp., and the St. Mary's Cement Plant, plus approximately 7 acres treated around Lake Charlevoix in September by the Lake Charlevoix Association - it's great to say, "invasive phragmites is currently being held in check in Charlevoix County!"

Rapid response is critical and we have so many accomplishments to be proud of over the past 8 months!!

Education is key and must continue. As media coverage picked up and some townships began developing Ordinances to address the problem, it gave the impression invasive phragmites is just a lakeshore owner's problem. **HOWEVER that's not the case!!!** Obviously (& unfortunately) shoreline owners were the first to suffer as it typically grows along shorelines and in low wet areas. But it can also be found in roadside ditches and other dry areas. Therefore **all citizens should be aware & concerned** about the threat invasive phragmites poses to our natural resources.

Please visit the website at: www.charlevoixcd.org, and be sure to check out both Invasive Phragmites pages.

Pictured: Apol property, Norwood Twp. Spring 2009

Way to go!

Deserving Recognition

March 2009 Beaver Island's / SaveOurShoreline (SOS)

Letters, permission slips and donation forms are mailed to shoreline property owners requesting their attendance at a meeting to learn more about the SAVE OUR SHORELINE program and donate to the cause. It's the responsibility of the Townships to maintain the SOS donations which cover the cost of permitting & treatment on all properties within the township. Last December an online poll at: www.phragwrites.com selected the Beaver Island SOS program as the winner of the *Phragwrites yearly donation* and they received a check for \$150.

September 2009 Citizen Commendation, Carol Apol

Norwood Township resident Carol Apol made it her mission to eradicate invasive phragmites from the Lake Michigan shoreline. She met with her neighbors and informed them of the devastating affects invasive phragmites has on the natural resources and to alert them it had been discovered on her property. Stressing the fact it spreads rapidly & improper control methods will make it worse, she gathered the township's support. Norwood Twp. developed an Invasive Phragmites Ordinance (following B.I.), and Carol continued her work. At a Saturday meeting she collected permission slips & donations for treatment costs, which resulted in **100%** participation from lakeshore property owners giving permission and donations for treatment this fall.

At the September Norwood Township Board Meeting, Carol was recognized for her efforts. Governor Granholm, Senator Jason Allen, and Representative Kevin Elsenheimer commended Carol and her efforts to eradicate phragmites from Norwood Township's shoreline. She was presented with their signed resolution.



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Looking for

Steering Committee

The Charlevoix County Invasive Phragmites Steering Committee is made up of representatives from: Michigan State University Extension, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, Charlevoix County, Northwest Michigan Community Health, Lake Charlevoix Association, Norwood Township, Hayes Township, Evangeline Township, the City of East Jordan, the Conservation District and a few Antrim County neighbors.

Formed to begin development of a coordinated, countywide approach to invasive phragmites control the group met six times between February and October. These brainstorming sessions produced numerous accomplishments by all the groups and organizations involved.

Now it's time to formulate and plan for the next attack in 2010. Actual results from this season's treatment won't be known until spring, but signs indicate the spraying was successful. Follow-up surveys & inventories will need to be completed and stand maps updated. EDUCATION is key and must be an on-going effort.

We are looking for motivated individuals interested in serving on the Steering Committee. Does your township have a "Carol Apol" or a "Pam Grassmick" that would like to be involved? Please contact Kelly at the Conservation District office 582.6193 if you are interested or would like more information. Thank you in advance for your assistance.



Deserving Recognition

There isn't adequate room to list all the Assoc. efforts deserving recognition. The Phragbusters got the job done and we are very thankful.

Please visit: www.lakecharlevoix.org to learn more.

Special Project

Antrim County Plat Book



Special projects become necessary when times are tough. Looking **“outside the box”** for new sources of funding brought about an opportunity to partner with our neighbors to the west. Antrim County 4-H was running out of plat books and taking bids on publishing a 2009 book.

Having produced & published the 2006 Charlevoix County Land Atlas & Plat Book, the District submitted a bid and was awarded the job!

Working directly with the Antrim County 4-H Leaders & Staff and with information provided by the County GIS Department, I put the book together. All the advertising was sold & designed by 4-H and the beautiful cover photo was provided by Preston Cole. The book is being printed locally at Points North Printing & Imaging in Boyne City.

Partnerships can produce amazing results. Keeping it local supports area business. Special projects can bring in “much needed” revenue. Please support Antrim County 4-H and purchase a 2009 plat book when they’re available!! Delivery is expected before Christmas.

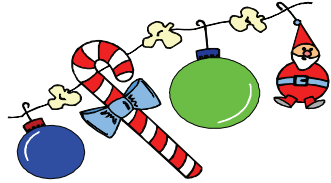
The 2009 Antrim County Land Atlas & Plat Book will be available for purchase at the Charlevoix Conservation District Office in Boyne City. Cost: \$25.00.

Attention Recyclers

HOLIDAY WASTE

2010 HHHW Collection Dates
June 12th
September 11th

Putting up colorful lights, showering each other with gifts, preparing the feasts. The holidays are a beautiful, bountiful time of the year. All the festivities make the holidays a boom time for trash too.



Statistics show American's generate 25% more trash in the weeks between Thanksgiving & New Year's than during any other comparable time period throughout the year.

Unfortunately, once you get beyond the cardboard boxes and some of the food packaging, little of this material is recyclable. **For example:**

Greeting Cards & Wrapping Paper are **NOT recyclable** because of the variety of papers, inks, and finishes used to print them.

With this in mind,

- Please recycle what IS accepted at the drop-off sites.
- Please don't leave items outside the containers. Regular scheduled pickups will be one day later due to the holiday.
- Please if the bins are full come back later. Thank you!
- Please consider waste-reducing gift ideas.

Reduce...Reuse...Recycle



www.charlevoixcounty.org/recycling.asp



Charlevoix Conservation District
303 North Street
Boyer City, MI 49712
www.charlevoixcd.org



2010 HHHW Collection Dates:

June 12th

September 11th

9 AM - 2 PM



Non Profit Org.
PRSRF STD.
U.S. Postage PAID
Boyer City, MI
Permit No. 10