

# 2011 POND STOCKING AND GRASS CARP PROGRAMS

## Pond Stocking

**Order Deadline: August 3, 2011**

**Pickup Date: Thursday, August 18, 2011 10:00am SHARP**

**General Information:** All fingerlings will be 1-2" in size. Stocking rates usually are 50-100 bass and 500-600 minnows per surface acre. If your pond is relatively new, be sure there is vegetation for reproductive habitat and aquatic life for a food chain. Recommended time to establish a pond before stocking is one year. You **MUST** obtain a stocking permit from the DEC prior to pickup. Applications are available in our office.

**Pickup Information:** Pickup will be at the SWCD office located at the northeast end of the Coop. Extension Administrative Building on the County Fairgrounds, Route 78, Lockport. Your order will be pre-counted and in an aerated bag for your convenience. You will just need to bring a box or cooler in which to stabilize the bag for transport. Transferring the fish to your pond immediately is of utmost importance due to oxygen needs. The hatchery personnel will be available for only 1/2 hour for delivery so **PLEASE BE PROMPT!**

## Triploid Grass Carp for Aquatic Weed Control

**Order Deadline: September 1, 2011**

**Pickup Date: Tentatively scheduled for the third/fourth week of September**

**General Information:** The average size of the carp will be between 10-12". You **MUST** obtain a stocking permit from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. There is no charge for the permit. If you require a permit application, our office retains a supply of them. Stock grass carp only in ponds which have been properly protected so they are unable to escape through inlets and outlets into other NYS waters.

**Pickup Information:** Tentative pickup will be the end of September at the County Fairgrounds, Rte. 78, Lockport. We will contact you by phone when a definite date has been scheduled. At the time of pickup, you will need to bring a container **WITH A LID** (an 18-gal plastic tote holds 4 carp) filled 1/2 full with pond water. These fish are highly perishable and must be transported as quickly as possible. For more information on Triploid Grass Carp and how they can benefit pond weed control, call #434-4949 ext.115

**Payment Information:** Submit payment by check or money order with the bottom portions of this form, payable to Niagara County SWCD. Keep the top portions as your delivery date reminders.

2011 Pond Stocking Program			
Type of Fish	Cost	# of Fish	\$ Amount
Largemouth Bass 2" - 4"	25/\$52.50		
Channel Catfish 4" - 6"	12/\$32.00		
Fathead Minnows 1"	100/\$20.00		
Koi (asst. colors) 4"	4/\$30.00		
Daphnia (to start food chain)	1qt/\$28.00		
		<b>Subtotal</b>	
		<b>x .08 Tax</b>	
		<b>+ Delivery</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
		<b>Total Due</b>	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Niagara County SWCD  
 4487 Lake Ave.  
 Lockport, New York 14094**

2011 Triploid Grass Carp Program	
Name:	_____
Address:	_____
City:	_____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Daytime Phone:	_____
Number of Carp	_____
x \$21.00	_____
+ Delivery	<b>\$3.00</b>
<b>Total Due</b>	_____

Mail payment **WITH ALL 3 ORIGINAL COPIES** of your DEC Permit to:

**Niagara County SWCD  
 4487 Lake Avenue  
 Lockport, NY 14094**

## **FISH FACTS**

The following are brief descriptions of the fish we offer for our Pond Stocking and Triploid Grass Carp programs. Order forms are included in this newsletter on page # 3.

**Largemouth Bass** – Found throughout NYS, they are considered one of the state's most important sport fish. These members of the Sunfish Family (Centrarchidae) prefer weedy, rocky areas to provide both protection and food supply. Usually weighing 3-5 lbs, they can get over 10 lbs and 2 feet in length. They are carnivorous; which means they'll eat small fish, crayfish, frogs, snakes, and some small mammals and birds if given the opportunity.

**Channel Catfish** - Catfishes are characterized by scaleless skin and barbels, better known as whiskers, about their mouth. Channel catfish have a deeply forked tail and dark spots. The spotting, however, diminishes with age. Consequently, older channel cats are frequently mistaken as blue catfish. But the anal fin on blue cats has a flat outer edge and channels have a rounded edge. They can grow to be 4 ft long and weigh up to 58lbs.

**Minnows** – A general name for a family of fishes that is by far the largest such family in NYS. Some 48 species of minnows are found – five of which are introduced species, among them the goldfish (Koi). Various kinds of minnows live in almost all freshwater habitats, widely distributed between both cold and warm water locations. Although the exotic **Koi** are large and may live 7-10 years, most native minnows seldom exceed 4" and live only 3 years. Aquatic insects, plants and animal plankton are the main foods of this fish. The fathead minnow is a hardy bait fish. It is widely raised for this purpose, providing an important link in the food chain for larger game fish and fish-eating birds.

**Daphnia** – Small freshwater crustaceans used to start a food chain in new ponds. These microscopic aquatic arthropods, nicknamed "waterfleas", also help control pond water quality by feeding on particulate algae.

**Triploid Grass Carp** – The grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) is one of the largest members of the minnow family, commonly reaching weights in excess of 25 lbs. They can live up to 10 years. Native to Asia, this carp lacks the barbells and spiny dorsal and anal fin rays characteristic of its North American relatives, bearing a closer resemblance to a large creek chub. It is called "triploid" since it has been bred to retain an extra chromosome, rendering it sterile. Grass carp feed strictly by grazing on aquatic vegetation and are effectively used as aquatic plant control agents in over 50 countries.

## **TREE PROGRAM THANKS!**



The District would like to thank the entire community for their never-ending support of this program. Together we are planting over 46,000 seedlings in and around the county this year! Thanks so much for assisting in the reforestation and wildlife habitat enhancement of our area.

A big thank you to Mike Bienas and Niagara County Sheriffs Work Program for all their help. A special thanks to Quality of Lockport, TOPS Wrights Corners, and TOPS Lockport for all the packaging supplies. Please remember to support our local businesses!!

## **E-NEWSLETTER REMINDER**

Just a friendly reminder that Niagara County SWCD is transitioning to an electronic newsletter to reduce paper waste and defray from office printing costs. If you have not done so already, please provide us with your email address by calling the office at (716) 434-4949 or email Victor DiGiacomo at [victor.digiacom@ny.nacdnet.net](mailto:victor.digiacom@ny.nacdnet.net).

Once you provide us with your email address, you will receive our new "electronic only" Spring and Fall edition newsletters in addition to Summer and Winter editions you already receive. Spring and Fall newsletters are only distributed via email, so send us your address today.

## **2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Trees Sold - 46,400 to 683 customers
- Ag Value Assessments - 131 totaling 8,213.23 acres
- Ponds Stocked - 4,958 fish to 21 ponds
- Grass Carp - 158 carp to 23 ponds
- Pond Site Evaluations - 15
- Technical Assistance Request - 172
- Resource Map Requests - 28
- Environmental Field Days - 647 students
- Regional Envirothon - 10 teams
- Newsletters - 4,460 mailed twice a year
- Stream/Shore Stabilization - 2
- Tile Drainage Surveyed - 29,600 ft.
- Open Ditches Surveyed - 9,020 ft
- Grassland Management - 240 acres
- No-Till Drill Plantings - 13 acres
- Critical Area Seeding Sites - 2
- Silage Leachate Systems - 3
- Ag Waste Mixing Facilities - 2
- Ag Waste Certifications - 3
- Barnyard Runoff Mgmt Systems - 2

## **USDA/NRCS PROGRAMS**

- AMA Funded - 3
- WRPs Underway/In Process - 2
- EQIP Contracts - 4
- EQIP Practices - 12
- EQIP Applications - 12

## **PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS**

Niagara County Public Works, Sheriff's Work Program, Cities of Niagara Falls, Lockport, North Tonawanda, Towns of Hartland, Somerset, Newfane, Wilson, Porter, Royalton, US EPA, US Army Corps, US Fish & Wildlife Service, USDA, NYS-DEC, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Cornell Cooperative Extension, New York Power Authority, Aquarium of Niagara, NC Federation of Conservation Clubs, Tuscarora Environment Program, Ecology and Environment

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- With NRCS, accomplished some Niagara County "Firsts" - Install of 2 high tunnels, 1 Ag handling facility, 1 organic grazing system, and 1 orchard irrigation system.
- Received federal award of \$125,000 to conduct Lake Ontario LaMP outreach.
- Assisted with 4H Youth Pheasant Program and Safari Club Pheasant Program.
- Published 2010 RAP Report Card.
- 18 Mile Creek Food Web Model project
- Published 18 Mile Creek Report Card