



# Washtenaw County Conservation District

## MAY 2021 CONSERVATION UPDATE

*Your Source for Conservation News in Washtenaw County*



*Photo credit: Invasive Species Phylo TCG Deck via flickr*

### Oak Wilt: Prevention, Detection, and Action!

By Summer Roberts, Community Forester

Do you have an oak tree in your yard? A favorite oak tree at a local park? Or just enjoy seeing the majestic, mature oaks as you roll along a street or country road? Then help protect them! [\(Continued...\)](#)

### Take the WCCD Survey Online!

Every five years conservation districts (CD) in Michigan survey county stakeholders to identify environmental and resource concerns (e.g. surface and ground water quality, loss of habitat and farmland, invasive species, etc). CDs use the information collected to make decisions on what work to prioritize.

***A link to the online survey will be made available to e-newsletter subscribers in our June newsletter, but if you happen to also receive a postcard with a link, please only take the survey once.***

Individual answers will be kept strictly confidential, but aggregate locality (i.e. township, city, and village) level data may be shared with other local government or non-profit partners and the WCCD will release a report in late summer with general findings. Survey data will be used to help the WCCD create a plan of work for the next five years! Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping shape our work



*Students at Emerson School. Photo credit: Matt Nolan*

## **Educational Opportunities through Permaculture**

By Matt Nolan, Emerson Middle School Science Teacher, Permaculture Garden Coordinator and the 2019 Tree Conservationist of the Year Awardee

In the Winter of 2015, what would one day become Emerson School's Garden site was a typical gardener's nightmare. Heavy machinery, used for adding a new Performing Arts wing to the building, sat parked on the ground, compacting soil that was already overly rich in clay and woefully deficient in organic matter. Rains would regularly flood the area with salts and oil from the sizable parking lot just Northeast and above it. [\(Continued...\)](#)



Students install permaculture garden at Emerson School. Photo Credit: Matt Nolan

## **School & Community Habitat Grant Deadline: June 11th**

The School & Community Habitat Grant Program is designed to provide plants, materials, design plans, and technical support for schools and community groups looking to establish natural areas.

Are you a School or Community organization? You can sign up for more information and updates or start your application now:

<https://www.washtenawcd.org/school--community-habitat-grant.html>

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Second Annual Native Plant Expo & Marketplace**

**Saturday, June 5th  
from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
The Native Plant Expo & Marketplace offers residents one convenient

### **Fish Day 2021**

**Saturday, June 5th  
from 12-3 p.m.** The WCCD, in cooperation with [Harrietta Hills Trout Farm](#), sponsors Fish Day events for the purchase of fish to stock ponds each spring.

location to shop for Michigan native plants from several Michigan native plant growers, learn how to establish and maintain native landscapes and connect with companies specializing in planning native landscapes.

Reserve a (free) ticket for entry [here](#).

Pre-order your fish with the Harrietta Hills Trout Farm for pick up on June 5th at the Farm Council Grounds.

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## Washtenaw County Conservation District

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