



# Conservation Matters

## Newsletter February 2022

### Districts receive state funding for operations!

The purpose of this grant is to provide support for the basic operations of the 75 conservation districts in Michigan for duties associated with natural resource management activities consistent with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451 Part 93, as amended, commonly referred to as Conservation District Law.

Through these grants conservation districts will be able to provide citizens consistent programs for natural resource management education and assistance to landowners, assess, and analyze local natural resource management needs in the community, and help implement best management practices based on the needs identified.

Thank you, Governor Whitmer, State representatives, and all our conservation partners and friends for their consistent push for the return of our funding.

We can now concentrate on programs instead of where our funding will come from.

Time for districts to step up and show our representatives we deserve that funding and can do great things with it.

### Future Workshops and Events

**March 10, 2022, @ 6:30pm** at Creative 360 -Join the Chemical City Garden Club as the MCD presents the Trees 101 Workshop and a presentation on our Barn Education Center Project. Public invited, Please consider a small donation and or joining the club and help with projects that include the flower plantings at the post office and planting and watering over 200 Veterans graves at the Midland City Cemetery on Orchard Drive.

**March 22, 2022, @ 7:00pm** - Virtual Trees 101, Learn the how, when and why on planting trees. Listen from the comfort of your home.

**May 5, 2022, @ 7:00pm** - Backyard Conservation Location and details TBA

**May 17, 2022 TBA**-Annual Meeting - Birthday Barn Bash.

Details on the annual meeting will be provided in our next newsletter.

Please Email RSVP interest on all events to [midlandconservation@macd.org](mailto:midlandconservation@macd.org)

### District receives \$1000.00 Grant

#### **Wildflower Association of MI (WAM) award to plant Michigan native wildflowers and identification signage at the Tomlinson Barn Education Center.**

We would like to thank our partners,

Central Michigan CISMA; Matthew Lindauer- Coordinator

Wild Ones Mid-Mitten Chapter; Jeanne M. Henderson-President

The Little Forks Conservancy; Elan Lipschitz-Executive Director

Coleman Regional Agriscience Center, Marie C. Zwemmer- FFA Advisor

NRCS: Darcy Laurin, and Connie & Fred Phillips for their letters of support for this project. We will be planting over 188 new species on the barn property and create identification signage for each species. THINK SPRING!

### Summer Barn Projects

This summer after the tree sale is done, our plans are to build raised garden beds for the community garden, create a composting demonstration area, plant over native plants to the interpretive trail project.

Volunteer to help! Just shoot us an email and we will put you on the list!

### Annual Tree Sale now taking orders.

For details go to our website. The online store is open.

Plant identification is also available there also to help you make the best choices. Need more help or information, call the office.

We are always happy to help!



### IN THE NEWS

Virginia Florey, former administrator and current writer for Midland Daily News will highlight the history of the district in two informative articles published in the MDN. What an honor to meet and talk to her. Here's the link to Part 1

<https://www.ourmidland.com/news/article/Midland-Remembers-Midland-Conservation-District-16819515.php>



### **HAP**

#### **Hunting Access Program**

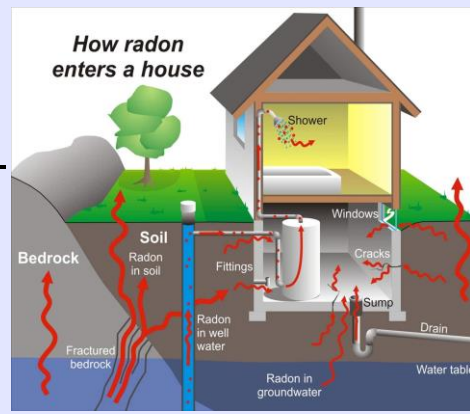
**Help control the DEER population and unwanted hunting on your property. NOW taking applications.**

Parcels of 40 acres or more qualify and the program pays up to \$25.00 per acre to landowners that open their private property to public hunting. Participants can also qualify for habitat improvement cost share payments.

Visit [www.michigan.gov/mihunt](http://www.michigan.gov/mihunt) for locations and information or

Call the office for details! 989-486-2325

# Radon gas Awareness!



Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer. Radon gas is inert, colorless and odorless. Radon is naturally in the atmosphere in trace amounts. Outdoors, radon disperses rapidly and, generally, is not a health issue. Most radon exposure occurs inside homes, schools and workplaces. Radon gas becomes trapped indoors after it enters buildings through cracks and other holes in the foundation. Indoor radon can be controlled and managed with proven, cost-effective techniques.

Breathing radon over time increases your risk of lung cancer. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Nationally, the EPA estimates that about 21,000 people die each year from radon-related lung cancer. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths.

You can take steps to reduce and control the amount of radon in your home. Testing is the only way to determine radon levels. Have your home tested, either by a professional or with a do-it-yourself home test kit. If radon levels are high, contact a certified radon service professional to fix your home. EPA guidance suggests mitigating if levels are at or above 148 Becquerels/meter<sup>3</sup> (4 picocuries/liter). Usually, radon problems are fixed using an underground ventilation system or by increasing the rate of air changes in the building.

**For more information about indoor air quality and the health risk of radon, visit Health Risk of Radon.**  
<https://www.epa.gov/radon/health-risk-radon>



## Field Notes

**NRCS Programs for Landowners  
Now taking applications.**

**Are you a landowner looking for direction on conservation practices on your property?  
We can help!**

Check out this link for more information

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs144\\_p2\\_002597](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs144_p2_002597)



**MAEAP-** MI Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program. Would you like a FREE environmental assessment of your property? Need help or information on environmental issues that may result in resource concerns. Results are confidential.  
Contact: Ken Wawersik - MAEAP Technician  
for information: 989-772-9152 EXT 3

## CONTACT US

Are you looking to become involved with local conservation efforts?

Are you in need of land resource assistance?

The Midland Conservation District is here to help. Contact us to learn more about our programs and services.

**Phone:** 989.486.2325

**Email:** [midlandconservation@macd.org](mailto:midlandconservation@macd.org)

**Website:** [www.midlandcd.org](http://www.midlandcd.org)

**Address:** USDA Service Center

954 East Isabella Rd, Midland MI 48640

Like us on Facebook.

## Upcoming Board Meetings:

February 15, 2022, March 15, 2022, April 19, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Location:

Lee Township Hall, 1485 W Olson Rd, Midland, MI 48640

## Board & Staff

*Karen Thurlow - Administrator/Manager*

*Laura Norcutt - Chair*

*David Ruhle - Vice Chair*

*Amy Klopf - Treasurer*

*Cindy Poole - Board Member*

*Kevin Mudd - Board Member*

*Benjamin VanDyke - Staff - Technical Assistant*

*Darcy Laurin - Staff - Contract Management*

Midland Conservation District is an independent unit of state government which has a philosophy and commitment to the stewardship and conservation of the environment. The MCD consults with landowners to educate them in the planning and use of their land. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).