

2014 POND STOCKING AND GRASS CARP PROGRAMS

Pond Stocking

Order Deadline: August 29, 2014

Pickup Date: Thursday, September 11, 2014 10:00am SHARP

General Information: 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: August 29, 2014

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

General Information: The average size of the carp will be between 10-12". 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. You **MUST** obtain a stocking permit from the NYS DEC before submitting your order. If you require a permit application, our office retains a supply of them or you can print a copy on our website, www.niagaraswcd.com.

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.

2014 Pond Stocking Program			
Type of Fish	Cost	# of Fish	\$ Amount
Largemouth Bass 2" - 4"	25/\$54		
Channel Catfish 4" - 6"	12/\$32.00		
Perch 1-2"	25/\$38		
Sunfish 1-2"	25 /\$34		
Fathead Minnows 1"	100/\$20		
Koi (asst. colors) 4"	4/\$32		
Golden Shiners 2-3"	50/\$26		
Subtotal			
+ Delivery			\$5.00
Total Due			
(NYS sales tax included as required)			
Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____			
Daytime Phone: _____			
Mail to: Niagara County SWCD			
4487 Lake Ave.			
Lockport, New York 14094			

2014 Triploid Grass Carp Program	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Address: _____	
Daytime Phone: _____	
Number of Carp _____	
X	\$21/fish
+ Delivery	\$3.00
Total Due _____	
(NYS sales tax included as required)	
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.

Fathead Minnows – Fathead minnows are small in size, averaging 2 to 3 inches in length. They are sturdy, heavy bodied fish with small mouths and a lateral line that stops under the dorsal fin. They are generally dull in color, with dark bodies and a slight brass tint on the sides. They prefer ponds and slow moving water in streams. They can tolerate muddy water, and are occasionally found in roadside ditches. In addition, fathead minnows can tolerate water with salt in it.

Golden Shiners - The golden shiner can be found throughout most of the US. These fish can be found in large schools around submerged structures where they primarily feed on zooplankton. The golden shiner spawns several times throughout spring and summer. Spawning can be aided with the use of structures such as sunken evergreens or stacked pallets. The abundant reproduction of this fish makes it an excellent choice for stocking where predatory species are present. These fish are slightly larger than fathead minnows and are preferred by large predators.

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.

Perch - The true perch of New York State include some of the best tasting and most popular freshwater fishes. As a family, they are widely distributed, adaptable to a wide range of habitats, and fun to catch on rod and reel. In addition, the less known members of the perch family, the darters, are probably the most colorful freshwater fish in North America. True perch are spiny-rayed fish which have one or more sharp spines on their fins. While they are quite variable in appearance, they all are slender in body shape, have two dorsal (back) fins, and one anal fin. True perch can be separated into two groups: larger perches and smaller perches.

Sunfish - Sunfish are small- to medium-sized fish with a single anal fin (bottom Rear) and a two-part dorsal fin (back). They are spiny-rayed, with one or more sharp spines found on their dorsal, pelvic (bottom front) and anal fins. These spines help protect the fish from being eaten by larger fish and can prick the fingers of any angler who is not careful when removing the hook.

Koi - Koi are descendants of the minnow family. They have been selectively bred for more than 1000 years to produce the brilliant colorations that we have today. The Japanese cherish these fish for their colors and longevity. Koi are great at eating filamentous algae and some submerged plants making them a great compliment to grass carp. Koi become almost "dog tame" and will feed from your hand with minimal training. Larger koi live well with large-mouth bass and other game fish.

2013 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Trees Sold - 35,700 to 560 customers
- Ag Value Assessments - 98 totaling 5,403 acres
- Ponds Stocked - 4,197 fish to 21 ponds
- Grass Carp - 61 carp to 13 ponds
- Pond Site Evaluations - 11
- Wildlife Houses Sold - 29
- Resource Map Requests - 39
- Environmental Field Days - 350 students
- Regional Envirothon - 15 teams
- Other educational Events - 198 students
- Media Articles - 8
- Newsletters - 4,631 mailed/emailed twice a year
- Permit Assistance - 5
- WQ/Land Use Technical Assistance - 40
- Resource Map Requests - 39
- Drainage/Ditching Surveyed - 81,864 ft
- Wildlife Habitat Improvement - 2 sites
- Invasive Weeds Project - 4
- AEMs Completed: Tier I-4, Tier II-4, Tier III-6, Tier IV-7, Tier V-14
- Silage Leachate Systems - 2
- Ag Waste Mixing Facilities - 5
- Barnyard Runoff Mgt. Systems - 2
- Open Space Planning - 1

TREE PROGRAM THANKS!



The District would like to thank the entire community for their never-ending support of this program. Together we are planting 28,000 seedlings for reforestation and wildlife habitat!

Thanks so much to those co-workers who helped us prepare and distribute over 430 tree orders: Jamie and Lori in the FSA office, and retired NRCS Conservationist, Greg. Much appreciation goes to the Niagara County Sheriff's Work Program. A special thanks to TOPS Lockport and TOPS Wrights Corners for packing supplies. Please remember to support these local businesses!