

## Conservation News September 2017

Approved at the September Executive Committee! We will be starting a Weeders Library which will get its seed offerings from videos received from our Zone V Conservation Chair and the information gleaned over the past year from the Conservation News Reports. It should appear as a link on our web site.

By going through the websites of those organizations that we donate to. I have discovered a wonderful resource in the PHS library. You might want to check it out the McClean Library has information on all things conservation oriented, and more.

<https://phsonline.org/resources/the-phs-mclean-library>

Story about how this Rosarian grows his roses. He has designed world renown rose gardens. He know tricks to make new roses appear as Old English roses that are not available. There is a link within the text.

He is an organic gardener. Wonder if he travels and might speak to us?

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-szerlag/2017/09/28/rose-expert/106089552/>

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- News from the ZoneV Conservation Meeting and follow-up information from Eliza Philips of the Wilmington Garden Club:
  - The Garden Club of Wilmington is hosting our 100th anniversary celebration on October 3 at Longwood with Bunny Williams as the speaker. I think there are still tickets if anyone is interested. Also please save the date of March 5 for the C-Change conversation event at Winterthur. Tickets will be \$25 which includes lunch and a tour of the March Bank and all of the gardens will be open for walking. “

Eliza continues:

I also wanted to send the link to the event the Garden Club of Virginia is hosting in October. I will be going and it looks fantastic. This may be something we would want to consider doing next year if there is interest since there have been so many issues with the drilling of the Mariner II pipeline and all of the wells and waterways that have already been affected in Chester County.

Fracking conference:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07edx04z4937358845&llr=g4quzjcab>

-Pipeline drilling damages local wells and water supplies in Chester County:

<https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2017/07/25/judge-halts-mariner-east-2-construction-in-west-goshen-township/>

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Kenya hold the current record for harsh crack down on plastic bags. Some will always “game” the system, but once these issues are resolved, no more plastic bags in Kenya! Good News for their environment and for leading the way toward less plastic waste world wide!

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<https://qz.com/1065681/after-issuing-the-worlds-harshest-ban-on-plastic-bags-kenya-adjusts-to-life-without-them/>

We are filling the world with plastics!

Within text: “The US had the highest contamination rate, at 94%, with plastic fibres found in tap water sampled at sites including Congress buildings, the US Environmental Protection Agency’s headquarters, and Trump Tower in New York. Lebanon and India had the next highest rates.

European nations including the UK, Germany and France had the lowest contamination rate, but this was still 72%. The average number of fibres found in each 500ml sample ranged from 4.8 in the US to 1.9 in Europe.”

[https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/sep/06/plastic-fibres-found-tap-water-around-world-study-reveals?utm\\_source=esp&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=GU+Today+USA++Collections+2017&utm\\_term=242557&subid=10146057&CMP=GT\\_US\\_collection](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/sep/06/plastic-fibres-found-tap-water-around-world-study-reveals?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+USA++Collections+2017&utm_term=242557&subid=10146057&CMP=GT_US_collection)

An interesting discussion of how fish appear to be reacting to plastics, preferring it to normal food sources....

<https://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/fish-plastic-oceans-pollution/2017/09/04/id/811565/>

I’ve got paper straws in my glove compartment. Haven’t yet cured the throw away aspect of straws, cleaning them can be a challenge. I use them in the car. When offered a plastic straw, if I’m taking a drink to go, I simply tell the clerk “No thanks” I also turn down plastic bags at WaWA etc..

[http://earth911.com/inspire/plastic-straws-seattle/?utm\\_source=New+Earth911+List+-+2015&utm\\_campaign=009d6b35cb-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2017\\_08\\_04&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_5e8b4dc609-009d6b35cb-167796461](http://earth911.com/inspire/plastic-straws-seattle/?utm_source=New+Earth911+List+-+2015&utm_campaign=009d6b35cb-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_08_04&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5e8b4dc609-009d6b35cb-167796461)

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This is cool technology! I wonder how much it costs, and how many Starbucks locations have it?

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/smart-recycling-bin-could-sort-your-waste-you-180964848/>

Jenkins Arboretum has many great programs this fall You can sign up for them by going to:

<http://www.jenkinsarboretum.org/docs/fall2017events.pdf>

The Wissahickon Valley Water Shed Association ( WVWA) also has many programs check them out at : <http://www.wvwa.org/calendar/>.

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Shroud Water Research Center events check it out: <https://stroudcenter.org/events/>

Willistown Conservation Trust:

Events at the following link:

[http://wctrust.org/?action=tribe\\_photo&tribe\\_paged=5&tribe\\_event](http://wctrust.org/?action=tribe_photo&tribe_paged=5&tribe_event)

Nice story about how to attract beneficial insects:

<https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/welcome-beneficial-insects-with-a-pollinator-garden-zbcz1709>

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In exploring how to pronounce Round-up's technical name: Glyphosate, I found this article: It articulates information that has long been known, AND... Has not been successfully refuted. First off that the stuff has the "capacity to disrupt thyroid hormone functions."

Implicated in this hormone disruption are the increasing prevalence of not just cancer, but Alzheimers, ADHD, and Autism to name those illness that begin with A. There are many more.

In 1991 :

1991 – After a heavy handed lobbying campaign by Monsanto, the EPA changes classification of glyphosate to Group E. Six years after finding a possible cancer link, the EPA changed the classification for glyphosate, finding "evidence of non-carcinogenicity for humans." This change in glyphosate's classification happened shortly before Monsanto launched its Roundup Ready GMO seeds, which would become a \$6 billion a year product. These genetically modified seeds are resistant to glyphosate herbicide.

1991 – Monsanto hired Craven Laboratories to perform Roundup studies. Months later, the owner of Craven Laboratories and three employees were indicted for fraudulent laboratory practices.

As early as 1997, Greenpeace found that Round-up (Glyphosate) was implicated most often as the cause illness among agricultural workers.

[https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/toxic-tort-law/monsanto-roundup-lawsuit/what-is-glyphosate-herbicide/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMluPfAraav1gIvYbjACh2dmgMoEAAYAyABEglNfD\\_BwE](https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/toxic-tort-law/monsanto-roundup-lawsuit/what-is-glyphosate-herbicide/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMluPfAraav1gIvYbjACh2dmgMoEAAYAyABEglNfD_BwE)

Posting in the GCA website:

On July 12, 2017, the GCA has written to Ag. Sec. Purdue to request a ban on Neonics

"The GCA's Conservation, Horticulture, and National Affairs & Legislation committees also issued an organization-wide call to the GCA's 200 clubs asking their members to avoid purchasing neonic-infused plants at home improvement stores and gardening centers and to urge retailers to mark treated plants so that consumers could make informed decisions. "

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Years ago, I told Wegman's, Lowes and Home Depot that I refused to buy plants that didn't indicate that they were not treated with Neonics. I don't . These poisons can kill a pollinator that visits a plant that 's seed was treated with them.

Plastics are migrating into the most northern parts of the arctic. " Estimates suggest that there are more than 5 trillion pieces of plastic floating on the surface of the world's oceans. It has been claimed that there is now enough plastic to form a permanent layer in the fossil record." :

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/24/arctic-plastic-pollution-polystyrene-wildlife-threat>

Regretfully more of Hurricane Harvey's problems for Texas:

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/09/29/epa-hurricane-harvey-compromised-caps-toxic-waste-site/>