

Schuyler County 6th graders learn about the outdoors at Conservation Field Day

Special to The Odessa File

MONTOUR FALLS, June 6, 2015 -- About 160 sixth-grade students from the Bradford, Odessa Montour and Watkins Glen Central School Districts attended an outdoor education program, Conservation Field Day, on June 2 at the Millport Hunting and Fishing Club.

The day-long program provided hands-on activities to stimulate youth to continue to explore and respect their natural surroundings and to show them that there are many professions that work in, and with, nature. Students learned about floodplains, tree identification, fire safety, birds of prey, and other wildlife, and learned how to fish, how maple sap is gathered and syrup produced, and the importance of modern wastewater treatment.



The Field Day was organized by the Schuyler County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) with assistance from the Millport Hunting and Fishing Club, the three school districts and their 6th grade teachers, the Schuyler County Water Quality Coordinating Committee and a number of local businesses and organizations.

The SWCD extended special thanks to McIntyre's Bait and Tackle in Beaver Dams for the donation of worms for the fishing station and to all the speakers who worked with the students. The Montour Falls Fire Department brought their pumper and fire truck to the club so all the students could use a fire hose.

For more information about Conservation Field Day or other Soil and Water District Programs, visit the website www.schuylerswcd.com

Photo in text: A Conservation Field Day participant fishes at the Millport Hunting and Fishing Club. For some students, this was their first time fishing. (*Photo provided*)