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SHIAWASSEE FLATS CITIZENS & HUNTERS ASSOCIATION
Shiawassee Conservation Since 1985

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AREA WORK DAY AUGUST 28TH

The SFCHA will be having a work day on the area August 28th. We will be meeting at the Ott farm (where the pavement ends on Prior road) at 9:00 AM. The following is a list of projects that we are going to work on:

- Improving pull over conditions on selected dykes
- Removing willows from infected areas
- Parking lot clean up (Miller Rd, Prior Rd, Wahl Rd, Hulien Rd)

What to bring (if available):

- Chainsaw
- Weed whip or brush cutter
- Junky pair of waders or tennis shoes. Work clothes : old shorts, pants and shirt (clean clothes for after)
- Work gloves, safety glasses, and ear plugs
- Bottled Water and Snacks
- Heavy Duty Garbage Bags

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THE SHIAWASSEE SPORTSMAN

NEWSLETTER #87 SUMMER 2010

HIGHLIGHTS for Summer 2010!

- 25th Annual Banquet Info
- Dinner Ticket Promotional Prices
- SWD Ban at SRSGA
- SRSGA Field Conditions
- MDNR SRSGA Report
- Summer Work Day Information
- 2nd Annual Youth Day at SRSGA

Newsletter Attachments

1. SFCHA Trustee Ballot
2. 25th Annual Banquet Dinner Order Form

SFCHA ANNUAL BANQUET - DAVID ROBERTS

This years SFCHA banquet will be held on Thursday, September 9th at the Albee Township Community Center. Attached to this newsletter you will find a flyer with the ticket form and all the information for ordering your tickets.

Dinner & Raffle Ticket Cost:

- **Dinner Tickets:**
- Adult = $40 (Ages 17 and Older)
- Youth = $20 (Ages 16 and Younger)
- **Raffle Tickets:**
- $300 (Receives $500 in tickets) This package is only available as a PRE-PAY with dinner ticket purchase ONLY!

Continued on page 3

Summary of spinning wing decoy 3 year ban at SRSGA - dan dykstra

Based on a proposal by the SFCHA, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment has approved an experimental three year ban on the use of all spinning wing decoys on the managed waterfowl unit portions of the Shiawassee River State Game Area beginning with the 2010 hunting season. The SFCHA feels this ban will help reduce conflict among hunting parties, and will help maintain a quality managed hunting experience.

Many hunters have witnessed first-hand the negative effect that using SWDôs at the wrong time can have on birds working an entire field, which is especially true as the season progresses when birds become educated as commonly happens with birds in the refuges. Some estimate as high as 80% of the birds change course before reaching the field when SWDôs are being used. In addition, larger

flocks of ducks avoid spreads which include SWDôs, and geese commonly flare from them in flooded crop fields. However some hunters donôt realize the negative effect the SWDôs are having and continue to use them, which hurts the chances for all parties in the field. This can lead to more conflict among hunting parties, and often an increase in longer shots being taken and cripples lost. Hunters choosing to utilize these areas already must abide by stricter regulations such as shot shell limits, shot size restrictions, etc. This new regulation is consistent with that philosophy. Hunters wishing to use SWDôs can do so on any other property in the state.

The three-year experimental ban will include a hunter satisfaction survey by the DNRE to assess the impact. The SFCHA is confident that the results of the surveys will support this new regulation. We encourage all hunters using SRSGA to give this ban an honest try, and when asked by the DNRE to complete a survey, please provide your input. This will be critical in any future regulation that may be proposed or considered.

End of article