

Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup>

**Special Workshop 1**

## Conservation Leadership Workshop

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### The Future: Dreaming Big, Acting Wisely



In the September-October 2006 issue of the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, Craig Cox, the Executive Director of SWCS was quoted saying,

“Water, energy, and climate change – these issues will create challenges for conservationists as great as, or greater than, the challenges we faced at the birth of our movement and profession.....Truly sustainable solutions to these challenges will require much more than simply minimizing effects on resources – we will have to meet demands for water and energy in ways that restore and enhance resources, ecosystems, and our environment.”

The work of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) and other conservation organizations is to advance conservation science by promoting professionalism, informing policy, and putting knowledge into practice. In this way, we can act as a positive change agent in meeting conservation challenges. The SWCS is leading the way at the national level with its conservation effects assessment project, the national conference on agricultural landscapes, formulating recommendations to adapt the way we do conservation planning and operate programs to a more extreme climate, and the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation.

What is really needed to advance the conservation cause, however, is increased grassroots activities by conservation professionals at the state and local levels. The purpose of this year's Conservation Leadership Workshop is to train conservation professionals to be more effective conservation activists. Issues that will be addressed include:

- How can conservation professionals more effectively advance conservation?
- How can conservation professionals support national leadership and maximize their contribution to the “professionalism, policy and practice” of conservation science?

A complete agenda for the workshop is available online.

Lead organizers: Leadership Development Committee  
Fee: \$65, \$75 late - incl. lunch & breaks  
Minimum: 25; Maximum: 100

Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>

**Special Workshop 2**

## Soil Quality: The Foundation for Natural Resource Quality

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Soil quality is a major determinant of water and air quality as well as soil biodiversity and productivity. Understanding these relationships and how to build soil quality can substantially improve conservation management of our natural resources and farm income. This one-day workshop will introduce soil quality concepts as well as current opportunities for improved management, assessment, environmental policy, and research. Participants will discover and discuss applications for soil quality concepts to help solve local, regional and global environmental issues.

General and concurrent sessions will include discussions of management systems to build soil quality for different land uses such as cropland, grasslands, and forest ecosystems. Current methods for soil quality assessment, both in-field and models, will be presented and demonstrated. Forward thinking national policies and practices from North America, South America, and Europe will also be presented. How these management, assessment, and policy tools are working for different regions and how we might improve them will be a major theme throughout the day.

Presenters will use various formats to bring you the latest information on these related topics with time set aside in each session for interactive brainstorming and problem-solving. Continuing education units (CEUs) will be offered in multiple disciplines. A special Soil Quality Poster Session will also be held in conjunction with the General Poster Session and during the workshop. This workshop, organized by the SWCS chapters in the Southeast Region, USDA-NRCS Soil Quality National Technology Development Team, and the Soil Science Society of America (S-3) Soil Quality Workgroup, will bring together practitioners, researchers, educators, and policy makers in a unique forum for discovery and application.

A complete agenda is available online at [www.swcs.org/soilquality](http://www.swcs.org/soilquality)

Lead organizers: Susan Andrews, USDA-NRCS,  
Dory Franklin, USDA-ARS  
Fee: \$100, \$125 late - incl. lunch & breaks  
Minimum: 75; Maximum: 200

**Online registration  
available at [www.swcs.org](http://www.swcs.org)**

## *SWCS Preliminary Program - 2007 Annual Conference - Tampa, Florida*

### **Technical Workshops**

The professional development workshops held in conjunction with the SWCS international conference will be eligible for continuing education credits from various certifying organizations. Certified, licensed, or professional engineers (PE), agronomists (CPAg), soil scientists and classifiers (CPSS and CPSC), crop advisors (CCA), crop consultants (CPCC), foresters, range managers (CPRM), grassland professionals (CGP), professionals in erosion and sediment control (CPESC) and storm water quality (CPSWQ), and other professional conservationists may be able to obtain credits through these workshops that will be applicable toward meeting continuing education requirements.

Late fees for workshops apply beginning on June 15. All workshops are held on Sunday, July 22 and begin at 8:00 a.m. unless listed otherwise.

### **Facilitator's Tool Box**

As part of your job responsibilities, are you expected to arrange and conduct meetings with a variety of stakeholders from the public or other agencies and organizations?

This workshop will help you enhance the skills required to conduct such meetings effectively. The presenter is Bruce Delaney, Executive Director of the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute (NRLI) at the University of Florida. NRLI is an outreach program designed for mid and upper level management natural resource professionals. The full NRLI program involves eight three-day sessions over the course of a year. This workshop will focus on one aspect of the NRLI program: effective meeting management.

Instructor: Bruce Delaney  
Fee: \$110, \$120 late - incl. materials, lunch  
Minimum: 20; Maximum: 50

### **SWAPP Program Training**

The Comprehensive Economic and Environmental Optimization Tool (CEEOT-SWAPP) enables efficient simulation of a wide variety of agricultural practices. In this workshop the CEEOT-SWAPP program and its nested models will be introduced and distributed to the attendees. The application of CEEOT-SWAPP for the Upper North Bosque River watershed in Central Texas will be demonstrated. Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop (PC) for a hands-on demonstration. The model will be loaded on each participant's laptop. Participants will also receive an instruction manual and a CD containing these materials. Familiarity with the APEX, SWAT and FEM models is desirable but not required.

Instructor: Ali Saleh  
Fee: \$80, \$90 late - incl. materials, lunch  
Minimum: 15; Maximum: 35

### **Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) – The Smart and Efficient Way**

This workshop will focus on utilizing readily available nutrient management technology software to automate the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) or a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) development process and allow individuals to customize their output documents for state-specific requirements or producer needs. Workshop presenters will describe the entire process from gathering producer information, software downloading, geospatial products, to NMP and CNMP development, including output products for diverse end users. Software to be presented will include Spatial Nutrient Management Planner (SNMP), Manure Management Planner (MMP), Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation 2 (RUSLE2), State Phosphorus Indexes (PIS), Animal Waste Management (AWM) software, and the NRCS Customer Service Toolkit (CST). Workshop participants will gain hands-on experience using the various technology tools and become more familiar with the overall planning and automation process.

Instructor: Chris Gross  
Fee: \$150, \$160 late - incl. materials only  
Minimum: 10; Maximum: 40

### **Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) Training**

The objective of the workshop is to train professional conservationists, erosion control workers, federal, state and private business employees, consultants, and specialists in the use of the Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) model for application to various natural resource problems. Topics to be covered include an introduction to WEPP and its various user interfaces: the WEPP windows interface, WEPP on the Internet, and GIS applications with the Geospatial Interface for WEPP (GeoWEPP). There will be considerable hands-on use of WEPP for hillslope and watershed applications for cropland, rangeland, forestland, urban land and construction areas. At the conclusion of the workshop, attendees should be able to install and run WEPP through its various interfaces, build and modify input data files for various applications. They should also be able to select and interpret outputs and apply WEPP to their specific problem areas.

Attendees should bring a notebook computer running Windows 98 or newer. The hard drive should have a minimum of 400 MB of free space and 256 MB of RAM (512MB is highly recommended). A WEPP CD and a training manual will be provided. In order to run GeoWEPP for GIS applications on your own computer, you must have the commercially available ESRI GIS software ArcGIS 9.x, Spatial Analyst Extension, and Microsoft .NET Framework installed. Alternatively you can also use the GeoWEPP ArcView version with similar functionality for ArcView 3.x and Spatial Analyst Extension. Please indicate in your registration if you have the ESRI software already installed.

Instructors: John Laflen, Chris Renschler  
Fee: \$115, \$125 late - incl. materials only  
Minimum: 8; Maximum: 40

## SWCS Preliminary Program - 2007 Annual Conference - Tampa, Florida

### CPESC Review Workshop

If you're attending the SWCS Annual Conference, you may also want to register for the full-day Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) Exam Review Session and apply to take the exam itself on July 25 following the conference. If you plan to apply for certification in the future, or if you're interested in learning more about how professional certification can benefit your career, then you don't want to miss this information-packed exam review session. You may register to attend the review session only, without having to take the exam.

How to Register for the Exam Review Session. Anyone is eligible to attend the full-day review session. You must complete the SWCS Registration Form to reserve your space. Your registration fee for the exam review session includes a review workbook with essential information for passing the CPESC exam. Whether you're taking the exam or considering becoming certified in the future, this is a great opportunity to review the principles of erosion and sediment control, hydrology, and urban runoff.

How to Get Certified. Applicants must successfully pass a proctored one-day exam covering hydrology, environmental indicators, impacts of urbanization, and federal and state laws and regulations. A full-day exam review session is offered on Sunday, July 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The exam is offered following the conference on Wednesday, July 25 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. You must have prior approval from CPESC, Inc. to take the exam.

How to Apply for the Exam. To be eligible to sit for the CPESC exam associated with the SWCS conference, you must register for the review session and exam using the SWCS registration form and also apply to the certifying organization, CPESC Inc., with your academic and work history and professional references. For a CPESC exam application form and further information, please visit [www.cpesc.org](http://www.cpesc.org). You are not eligible to take the exam unless you have received a confirmation letter by mail from the CPESC organization prior to the exam date.

CPESC Exam Application Deadline. The CPESC Inc. review committee needs 45 days to evaluate your information and confirm your eligibility to sit for the exam. Your materials must be received by CPESC no later than June 7, 2007, to allow enough time.

For more information, contact: David Ward, CPESC Inc.  
Phone: 828-655-1600 E-mail: [david@cpesc.org](mailto:david@cpesc.org)

Instructor: TBD  
Fee: \$225, \$250 late - incl. materials, lunch  
Minimum: 10; Maximum: 50

### Involving the Private Sector as Part of Your Conservation Team

The Farm Bill authorized use of the private sector for planning and design of working private land conservation efforts. A system has been established to provide funding to the private sector for this work, but more than funding is required. In order for the private sector to be fully engaged, it must be accepted as an equal player on the conservation team at the local, state, and national levels.

This workshop will serve as a team building and problem solving event — to help local DC's, consultants, and government agency folks at all levels to be most efficient and effective in their use of the private sector, particularly through TSP funds. The session will focus on results of a recent report on use of the private sector in EQIP and the TSP Programs and actions that must be taken if the private sector is, in fact, to become an equal partner in the conservation movement.

The session will involve an opening hour of presentation on the report and recent experiences from private sector partners and government agency officials. The remainder of the workshop will be used to develop the workshop product—a plan on how to involve the private sector in your program—how to use the planning process to make most effective use of the private sector in your program.

Half-day Workshop: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Dennis Pate & Validus team  
Fee: \$140, \$150 late - incl. materials only  
Minimum: 15; Maximum: 30

### Wetlands: An Overview of Federal Identification Methods and Policy

Wetlands are defined for purposes of federal law by three criteria: hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and hydrology. The federal definition and criteria used to delineate wetlands will be discussed, along with selected federal regulations, including the Clean Water Act and Food Security Act. Topics will include jurisdictional issues and mitigation. Large scale restoration of historically important wetlands has proven successful for many governmental agencies and NGO's. A case study of a Florida wetland restoration project will be presented.

Half-day workshop: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Instructor: Rosalind Moore  
Fee: \$30, \$40 late - incl. materials  
Minimum: 15; Maximum: 30

**Late fees for workshops apply  
beginning on June 15.**