

# CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

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## 72nd SWCS International Annual Conference

Monona Terrace Convention Center  
Madison, Wisconsin  
July 30 to August 2, 2017  
[www.swcs.org/17AC](http://www.swcs.org/17AC)

### Conservation Connections: Building Pathways to Sustainability

Registration for the 72nd SWCS International Annual Conference is now OPEN, and we can't wait to see you in Madison! Take advantage of the opportunity to learn about the latest research, policies, and practices in natural resource conservation, as well as network and connect with the world's leaders in environmental affairs. This year's conference will feature workshops, concurrent training sessions, symposia, posters, plenary sessions, and technical tours designed to raise awareness of recent developments in the science and art of natural resource conservation and environmental management. Will you be joining us?

Register now at [www.swcs.org/17ac](http://www.swcs.org/17ac) to receive the \$100 early registration discount.



## CONSERVATION CONNECTIONS

Creating Pathways to Sustainability

SWCS 72<sup>nd</sup> International Annual Conference  
July 30 - August 2, 2017 • Madison, Wisconsin

945 SW Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50023

P: 515-289-2331 | F: 515-289-1227 | [pubs@swcs.org](mailto:pubs@swcs.org)

Join Give Journal



## Preliminary Program Now Available

Each year, we wonder how we will outdo the previous year's educational lineup, and each year, our presenters pull out all the stops. Check out all the incredible opportunities for networking and learning that await you in Madison. Download the conference Preliminary Program [here](#).

We would also like to take an opportunity to thank our Presenting Sponsor, Syngenta, as well as all of this year's conference sponsors. Without the support of these organizations, it would not be possible for all of us to make conservation connections in Madison!



## Membership Dues Changes

*Courtesy of the SWCS Board of Directors*

Your annual support is invaluable to the Society. Not only does it make exciting conservation programs, projects, and publications possible, it allows us to gather collectively to advance conservation efforts at events like the 72nd International Annual Conference, in Madison, Wisconsin, this July, followed by the National Conference on Cover Crops and Soil Health in Indianapolis, Indiana, in December. We are also in the process of rebranding the Society to more clearly articulate our mission, core values, and what we do for our members and resource conservation. In addition, watch for two special issues of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* that will feature important and timely research topics. We believe these initiatives will benefit our membership, strengthen the organization, and contribute to our conservation mission.

In an effort to continue to promote the goals of the Society, the SWCS Board of Directors has voted to raise membership dues for the first time in over five years. The scheduled membership dues increase became effective April 3, 2017. This increase reflects the increased operational costs for the Society since dues were last raised. The new rates keep us aligned with other similar science-based societies and allow us to provide the best programs and opportunities for conservation professionals.

Renewals that occur on or after April 3, 2017, will be subject to these new rates. Thank you for your continued support.

### New Annual Rates

Conservationist - \$115

Leader - \$180

President's Club - \$275

Student - \$40

Please feel free to contact Erika Crady at [memberservices@swcs.org](mailto:memberservices@swcs.org) or 515-289-2331 ext. 118 with any questions.

## News from DC

*Courtesy of SWCS DC Representative John Peterson*

- USDA announced it will grant up to \$15 million in technical and financial assistance for producers to restore and enhance critical wetland habitat on working lands. Proposals must be [submitted by April 24](#).
- The Environmental Protection Agency has [rejected a petition](#) from environmental groups that sought to ban the use of the pesticide chlorpyrifos, used in fruit orchards, a decision that reversed an Obama administration proposal to end its use.
- Judge Neil Gorsuch has been confirmed for appointment to the US Supreme Court. [This article](#) explores what a "Justice" Gorsuch means for environmental law.
- Ranchers in areas hit by wildfires in the central US will be allowed to graze livestock on land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program. The USDA decision will allow for emergency grazing in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.
- The Senate will vote April 24 on the confirmation of Sonny Perdue as agriculture secretary after lawmakers return from their upcoming two-week Easter recess.
- The Fish and Wildlife Service is [proposing](#) to list a freshwater mussel called the yellow lance under the Endangered Species Act. The mussel's decline is blamed on runoff from a variety of sources, including farms and sewage treatment plants.

### Upcoming Events

[First World Conference on Soil and Water Conservation under Global Change](#)

Lleida, Spain  
June 12-16, 2017

[Nebraska Chapter Annual Meeting](#)

Beatrice, Nebraska  
June 21-23, 2017

[72nd SWCS International Annual Conference](#)

Madison, Wisconsin  
July 30-August 2, 2017



## New Members

Welcome members who joined in March!

### International

Patrick Gitau  
Eduard Hoffman  
Moussa Kouadri Sameut

### Alabama

Olivia Carleton  
Ryan McGehee

### Arkansas—Razorback

Avery Bise

### Florida

Nicole Laing  
Jeff Medcalf

### Iowa

Steve Thompson

### Idaho

Leslie Nichols

### Idaho/Washington

Andrea Burton

### Illinois

Megan Baskerville  
Anthony Warmack

### Indiana—Purdue University Student Chapter

Heather Pasley

### Minnesota

Adam Herges

### Montana

Richard Nordquist

### North Carolina—Hugh Hammond Bennett

Erin Lineberger

### Oregon

Irina Belozerova  
Dylan Smith

### Pennsylvania—Keystone

Bryn Aston

### Texas—Heart of Texas

Mary Nethery

### Wyoming

Bree Lind

## Corporate Members

Please contact [corporate.info@swcs.org](mailto:corporate.info@swcs.org) for more details.

### Gold



### Silver



### Bronze

