



# CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

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## The Soil and Water Conservation Society and COVID-19

As COVID-19 has impacted all of our lives, at work and at home, we want to let you know your professional society is thinking of you and your families. Click [here](#) for COVID-19 SWCS Annual Conference Impacts and Organizational Updates.

## 75th SWCS International Annual Conference

Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center  
Des Moines, Iowa  
July 26-29, 2020  
[www.swcs.org/20AC](http://www.swcs.org/20AC)

## Conservation Photo Contest

We want to see photos displaying soil and water conservation in action, showcasing the beauty of our natural resources, paying tribute to past achievements, and/or inspiring conservation professionals working to ensure the future of our natural resources on both private and public lands.

Enter our free photo contest by June 5 for a chance to win a \$50 e-giftcard from Amazon, be selected for display at the 75th SWCS International Annual Conference, and see your photo on the cover of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*!

Visit [www.swcs.org/photocontest](http://www.swcs.org/photocontest) for full details.

**Enter our Free Photo Contest**

Send us your best shots by June 5!

[www.swcs.org/photocontest](http://www.swcs.org/photocontest)



**Exhibitor and Sponsorship Opportunities**

Allow us to help connect your organization with our audience of more than 500 conservation professionals! View the opportunities in our [Exhibitor and Sponsor Guide](#) for details on becoming an exhibitor or sponsor of the 75th SWCS International Annual Conference, “Expanding Horizons: Where Conservation Meets Innovation.” Contact [events@swcs.org](mailto:events@swcs.org) with any questions.



**Students—Apply for the Student Moderator Program**

The Student Moderator Program is a great opportunity for full-time student members of SWCS to attend the conference, assist with breakout session moderation and room support, and experience the conference in a hands-on learning capacity. Registration fees and three nights of hotel costs are covered thanks to our student moderator program sponsor, Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees (ARCSE)! Undergraduate and graduate students are both eligible to apply.

The application deadline is **May 1, 2020**. Read [full program details and apply](#).

**Upcoming Events**

[SWCS 75th International Annual Conference](#)  
Des Moines, Iowa  
July 26–29, 2020



**Find us on Facebook**  
[facebook.com/soilandwaterconservation](https://facebook.com/soilandwaterconservation)

**AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS** Deadline: April 24

1 week left

**TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS!**

Take 5 minutes to nominate a friend or colleague today

**Nominate a Friend or Colleague for an Award by April 24**

The SWCS awards program is designed to recognize individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions in advocating the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources.

The award nomination forms have been updated and simplified; please take five minutes to submit your friend or colleague today! Visit [www.swcs.org/awards](http://www.swcs.org/awards) for more information and to submit your nomination.

Take advantage of the three SWCS scholarship opportunities for members and apply today! Visit [www.swcs.org/scholarships](http://www.swcs.org/scholarships) for additional information and to fill out your application

The submission deadline for individual awards and scholarships is **April 24, 2020**.

**Your Chapter Report, One and Done!**

Chapters are asked to provide reports to headquarters one time a year, and the time is now. Chapter leaders, please access the [Annual Chapter Activity Report](#) online and submit the mandatory report by April 24, 2020.

Headquarters requires your information so we can complete our federal reporting. Make today the “one day” you fill out your Annual Chapter Activity Report.



SWCS is on Instagram!

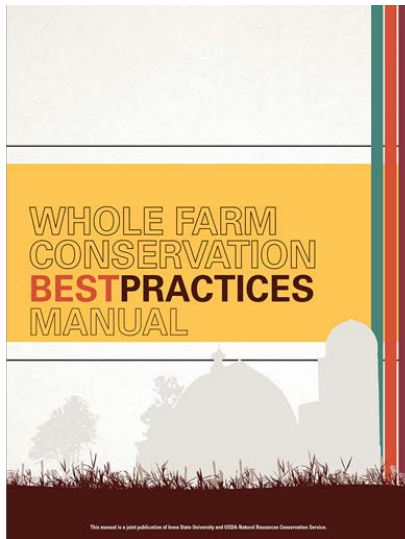
Follow @SWCSnews for inspirational quotes and photos, and feel free to tag us in your conservation shots!



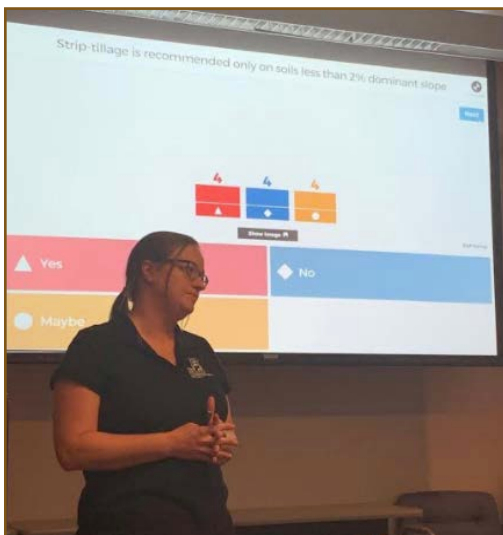
@SWCSnews

## Newly Released Manual Uses Imagery and Graphics to Make Recommendations

SWCS and partners facilitated groups of scientists and practitioners in Iowa last spring to build consensus on a set of best management recommendations for farmers and landowners getting started with conservation and water quality practices. The meetings led to the creation of the recently released manual, *Whole Farm Conservation Best Practices Manual*. Through incredible imagery and graphics, the publication serves as a one stop shop to help farmers and those assisting farmers in selecting and incorporating in-field and edge-of-field conservation practices. The manual includes practices such as cover crops, no-till, diverse rotations, bioreactors, and more. Download the manual, free of charge, [here](#).



To inquire about having SWCS assist your group or organization with facilitation, check out SWCS's full set of conservation professional service offerings [here](#).



We can help your group through split decisions like this!

## Science and Policy News

Below you will find a list of some of the latest conservation science and policy news. Links to full articles on the different subjects are included.

- Ag groups unite to advocate for conservation [funding](#) support
- President Trump to open more [wildlife](#) refuge land to hunting, fishing
- Despite coronavirus grocery buying spree, [farmers](#) fearful for the future
- Largest US [dam removal](#) stirs debate over coveted West water
- [Food](#) goes to waste amid coronavirus crisis
- Poet idles [ethanol](#) plants: corn farmers lose home for 110 million bushels
- Editorial: What's in the virus relief bill for [farmers?](#)
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) proposes changing conservation [practice standards](#)
- Facing devastating losses, [small farmers](#) pivot to sell directly to consumers
- With no fries sold, [Dutch](#) farmers face billion kilo potato pile
- The effects of COVID-19 will ripple through [food systems](#)
- [African Swine Fever](#) outbreak in US could cost industry \$50 billion over 10 years
- [USDA](#) service centers taking coronavirus precautions
- Representative Josh Harder (CA-10) requests agriculture representative added to [Coronavirus Task Force](#)
- [Dairy](#) losses may exceed \$2.85b due to COVID-19
- 1 million acres in [California](#) could be fallow due to water rule
- [Farmworkers](#) face coronavirus risk: "You can't pick strawberries over Zoom"
- "Without These [Workers](#), Everything Ceases to Exist": How Coronavirus Is Coming for Your Produce
- Revealed: [Monsanto](#) predicted crop system would damage US farms
- US senators urge coronavirus delay to June 1 United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement [trade deal](#) start date
- Massive stimulus deal authorizes billions in new [farm aid](#)
- USDA authorizes additional flexibilities to [crop insurance](#) due to coronavirus

*The opinions expressed in these articles are meant to keep SWCS members informed of current conservation conversations and do not necessarily represent the views of SWCS.*

## New Members

Welcome members who joined in March!

### California/Nevada

Leah Hartman

### Iowa

Bruce Barnhart  
Julie McMichael  
Clark Porter

### Indiana—Hoosier

Holly McCutchan

### Kentucky—Bluegrass

Greg Stone

### New York—Empire State

Jon Negley

### South Dakota

Jonathan Lundgren

### Virginia

Laura Demmel

## New Conservation Community Members

Welcome community members who joined in March! Learn how to become a conservation community member [here](#).

### New York—Empire State

Sullivan County SWCD  
Washington County SWCD

## Corporate Partners

Please contact [memberservices@swcs.org](mailto:memberservices@swcs.org) or visit [swcs.org/corporatepartner](http://swcs.org/corporatepartner) for more details.

### Platinum



### Gold



### Silver

