

## **CONSERVOGRAM**

75th SWCS International Annual Conference

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 <u>here</u> for COVID-19 Organizational Updates.

#### 75th SWCS International Annual Conference

Virtual Event July 27-29, 2020 www.swcs.org/20AC

The first virtual SWCS International Annual Conference is in the books! SWCS would like to extend our most sincere thank you to the sponsors, presenters, session organizers, volunteers, and participants who made the virtual 75th SWCS International Annual Conference a success! There is a tremendous amount of time and energy that goes into planning behind the scenes that makes this conference possible, and we would like to recognize the efforts of the lowa Chapter along with our Program Planning Committee for their countless volunteer hours to help plan, organize, and coordinate this year's event. We truly could not have brought our participants such a quality program without the help of all involved.

The 2020 virtual conference brought together 979 conservationists, representing 6 countries and 48 states. The conference program included 3 workshops, 135 oral presentations and symposia, and 59 poster presentations. This year's specialty topics included Applied Data in Agriculture, Back to the Future, Edge-of-Field Practices and Monitoring, and The Producer and The Plot.



SWCS 75<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFEREN JULY 27-29, 2020 | WWW.SWCS.ORG/20AC

## **Annual Conference Twitter Highlights**



Anna Mac Go @Viriette · May 1 Way to go, SWCS!

At a time when so many things are getting canceled and postponed, hats off to the SWCS staff and conference organizers for finding a way to make this event a (virtual, haha) reality, and giving us something to look forward to in July! #SWCS75



Jerry Hatfield @JerryHatfield67 · Jul 28

Congratulations to the Soil and Water Conservation Society #swcs75 For an outstanding 75th anniversary meeting. We still have some great challenges in conservation but I am confident that we can enhance our natural resources and the quality of life for everyone.



Hanna Bates @hannatbates · Jul 28 @iaswcs President-Elect @sjkonrady highlighting lowa's outdoor recreation at #SWCS75 - BIG thank you for coordinating this virtual tour!





Jean Eells, PhD @JeanEells · Jul 29

Really appreciate the thoughtful inclusion of women landowners in presentations I got to hear by @Iprokopy @G\_Roesch Ashley Brucker, @AngieLCarter and Betty Wells, and appreciate these sessions being selected for #SWCS75. True ag innovations coming from the ground up.



Kelly Nayara 🔯 🚝 💲 @kehcoelho · Jul 29

Last day of the #SWCS75!! What a great opportunity to connect and learn from outstanding conservation scientists. I'm very happy with this event. #GradSchool



Chris Lee @chrisleefish · Jul 28

There are many positives to attending a virtual conference. My favorite is that you can take it in anywhere even in the dentist's chair. He didn't even make me where ear buds. #SWCS75 @SWCSNews #soilhealth #conservation

## **Upcoming Events**

California Watersheds: Water Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainability Lodi, California October 22-23, 2020

## **Photo Contest Winners Announced**

Attendees of the virtual 75th SWCS International Annual Conference had the opportunity to vote in the 5th SWCS Annual Photo Contest. A panel of judges narrowed the submissions down to the top 12 photos, which were then put on display and voted on during the virtual conference. The 2020 People's Choice winner was Lisa Blazure with her yellow canola flower photo taken in Clinton County, Pennsylvania!



2020 People's Choice winning photo by Lisa Blazure.

The 2020 "Expanding Horizons" winner, chosen by a panel of judges, was Chris Lee with his battery urban farm photo taken in New York City, New York! Congratulations to both of our winners!



2020 "Expanding Horizons" winning photo by Chris Lee.

## 2020-2021 SWCS Board of Directors

Following the 75th Annual Conference, SWCS transitioned to the 2020-2021 Board of Directors. Each of the Society's five regions is represented by one elected director. Four at-large directors also currently serve on the Board. For additional Board member photos and bios, visit the SWCS website.

#### 2020-2021 Board of Directors

- Dale Threatt-Taylor, Chair and Southeast Region Director
- Rebecca Power, Vice-Chair and North Central Region Director
- Jane Hardisty, Secretary and At-Large Director
- Rex Martin, Treasurer and At-Large Director
- Ellen Gilinsky, Northeast Region Director
- Keith Berns, Northwest Region Director
- Steve Kadas, Southwest Region Director
- Jason Weller, At-Large Director
- Jerry Hatfield, At-Large Director

## Sign Up for JSWC Issue Content Previews and Notifications

Did you know that you can customize your content notifications for the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* (JSWC)? By setting up email alerts, you can choose to be notified when a new issue or early online content is available or when topic-specific articles are published. This service is offered to both subscribers and nonsubscribers. It takes only a few steps to set up content alerts.

- 1. Go to <a href="https://www.jswconline.org/">https://www.jswconline.org/</a> and select "My alerts" from the top right-hand menu.
- 2. Sign in or create an account:
  - If you are a JSWC subscriber, log in with your username and password.
  - If you receive the print journal or are a nonsubscriber, enter your email address to log in.
- 3. View/change current alerts or select a link under "Add New Alerts" to start receiving notification emails. The following alerts are available:
  - eTOC: Receive an email with the table of contents when a new issue is published
  - Citation: Choose a specific article and be notified when it is cited
  - **Keyword/Author**: Receive notification when a word/ phrase or author is included in articles
  - Collection: Receive notification when an article is added to a special topic collection

## **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.

- <u>Chief Lohr</u> to depart USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) post
- Millions of acres of lowa corn, soybean crops heavily damaged by derecho
- 2.1 million acres of grassland habitat lost in North American Great Plains in one year
- Trump signs Great American Outdoors Act into law
- Big Data to <u>calculate carbon</u>: New ag tech programs stress reducing environmental footprint while boosting profitability
- USDA <u>Agricultural Research Service</u> (ARS) launches website highlighting research impacting people around the world
- Under pressure, Brazil's Bolsonaro forced to fight <u>deforestation</u>
- Dozens of researchers worked for years to predict <u>flood risk</u> for homes and other properties across the United States
- Living off the land: the new sisterhood of <u>Black</u> female homesteaders
- Vital Farms' Blockbuster IPO proves <u>Wall Street</u> has an appetite for sustainable farming
- US farm state senators in a beef over livestock bill
- Campbell Soup and Land O'Lakes agricultural sustainability pilot project finds success in reducing onfarm greenhouse gas emissions
- The nation's oldest <u>organic produce</u> distributor is weathering the pandemic
- Conservation practices regenerate <u>dairy</u>
- Mystery seeds identified as non-invasive plants, but Minnesota leaders warn residents not to plant them

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 July!

#### International

Anna Forsmark Wu Qianjiao

#### Arizona

Mary Nichols

#### California/Nevada

Yvonne Katzenstein Faith Machuca Elia Scudiero

#### Canada—Ontario

Paul Smith

### Connecticut/Massachussetts/ Rhode Island—Southern New England Chapter

Margot Payne

## DC—National Capital Chapter

Allison Brooks Owens

#### **Florida**

Arthur Bides

#### Georgia

Stephen Bontekoe Roger Bowman Cindy Haygood Dee Pederson Stuart Proctor

#### Iowa

Kelsey Fleming Peter O'Brien Todd Peterson Suraj Upadhaya

#### Illinois

Victoria Livingston

#### Indiana—Hoosier

Jane Santucci

#### **Kentucky—Bluegrass**

Crystal Renfro

#### Michigan

Kurt Feenstra

#### Minnesota

John Becker TJ Kartes Dave Legvold

#### Montana

Sunni Heikes Knapton

#### North Carolina—Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter

Rebecca Dodd

Ryan Silver

#### New Mexico Johnny Chavez

## **New York—Empire State**

Cliff Love Chastity Miller

#### Oklahoma

Rachel Jones

#### **Tennessee**

Nathaniel Reid

#### **Texas—Golden Spread** Narayanan Kannan

Texas—Heart of Texas

Marla Heger

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## **Platinum**



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