



CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

In This Issue

74th SWCS International Annual Conference	1
Join Us for Upcoming Chapter Webinar	2
Upcoming Events	2
Our Annual Giving Campaign is Underway	2
SWCS Members Contribute to the Fourth National Climate Assessment	3
Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from 2018	3
News from DC	3
New Members	4
Corporate Members	4

74th SWCS International Annual Conference

Wyndham Grand Downtown
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
July 28–31, 2019

www.swcs.org/19AC

Call for Presentations is Still Open

SWCS is seeking oral presentations, poster presentations, symposia, and workshops for the 74th SWCS International Annual Conference, taking place July 28–31, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

This year’s conference features four submission tracks:

- Adapting Landscapes to Climate Change
- Engaging the Private Sector in Conservation
- Watershed Conservation to Unify Urban and Rural Communities
- 2019 General Conference Theme Submissions – Bridging the Divide: Uniting Rural and Urban Landscapes for Conservation
 - Adaptive Management of Conservation Efforts
 - Conservation Economics and Policy
 - Conservation Models, Tools, and Technologies
 - Conservation in Organic, Specialty, Small-Scale, or Urban Agriculture
 - Outreach, Education, and Community Engagement
 - Social Sciences Informing Conservation
 - Soil Health Resources, Indicators, Assessment, and Management
 - Water Resource Assessment and Management

The submission deadline is **January 9, 2019**. The submission deadline for poster presentations is **March 6, 2019**. Learn more about the Call for Presentations [online](#).



Join Us for Upcoming Chapter Webinar



Are you a current leader within your local Soil and Water Conservation Society Chapter? Are you considering leadership with your local chapter or another board? Then join us for an upcoming webinar, **Reimagining Your Local Soil and Water Conservation Society Chapter**, on Friday, January 4, 2019, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm CST.

Discover ways to reimagine your chapter and learn about tools and resources available to do so during the first hour. Participate in Q&A discussion during the second hour.

To join, go to <https://zoom.us/j/635374194> shortly before 10:00 am on Friday, January 4, to download the Zoom software and join the webinar. While it is very quick and easy to install Zoom, please visit the page a little early so you don't miss any content. We look forward to your participation!

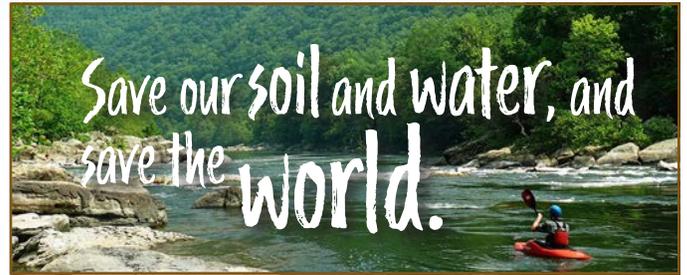
Upcoming Events

[Montana Chapter Ag Business Strategies Workshop](#)
Billings, Montana
February 5-6, 2019

[Southern New England Chapter Annual Winter Conference](#)
Berlin, Connecticut
March 22, 2019

[SWCS 74th International Annual Conference](#)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
July 28-31, 2019

Our Annual Giving Campaign is Underway



Our "Save the World" giving campaign kicked-off in November, and we appreciate all of the generous donations we have received so far. As members, you recognize the value that SWCS brings to society and to natural resource conservation. We need your support to continue advancing a greater understanding of the science of saving our soil, water, and other natural resources through our journal, reports, trainings, conferences, advocacy, communications, and on-the-ground projects.



When you give to the Society, you are supporting an organization that shares your passion for stewardship and sustainability, is committed to science, and seeks to continue growing its diverse community of conservation professionals.

Also, with a donation of \$50 or more made by January 1, you will receive a complimentary SWCS notebook to record all your ideas for saving the world!

GIVE ONLINE

www.swcs.org/give

MAIL

[Download the giving form](#) and mail to:

Soil and Water Conservation Society
945 SW Ankeny Road
Ankeny, IA, 50023

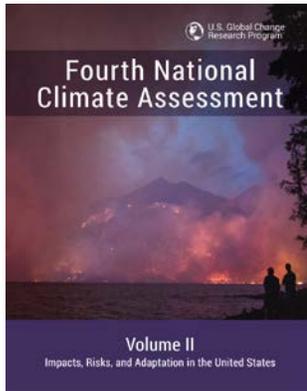
CALL

1-515-289-2331 ext. 118

SHOW SOME LOVE – Combined Federal Campaign
Are you a federal employee? Then "Show Some Love" and participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)! SWCS Charity Code: **11797**.

SWCS Members Contribute to the Fourth National Climate Assessment

In November, the *Fourth National Climate Assessment* was released by the US Global Change Research Program.



The Assessment, which is congressionally mandated to be released every four years, is a compilation of the most recent and rigorous peer-reviewed climate change research. The Society is proud of its members' contributions to the Assessment, as well as the research referenced in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*. Several Society members were cited in the report, including Jorge Delgado, Clark Gantzer, Doug Karlen, Rattan Lal, Ken

The full report is available [online](#).

Olsen, Mark Nearing, Andrew Sharpley, Doug Smith, and Lindsey Yasarer. We thank them for their contributions to the scientific community and the Society.

Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from 2018

Are you up-to-date with news about soil and water conservation research and policy? *Conservation NewsBriefs* is a highly informative e-news brief that delivers the most relevant content to your inbox each and every Thursday. Below are links to some of the most read articles from over the past year:

- [‘A complete shock’: Economists stunned by USDA’s decision to move economic research arm](#) (Politico)
- [There are many ‘ifs,’ but the discovery of corn that fertilizes itself could transform agriculture](#) (Journal Sentinel)
- [Robot weed killers poised to disrupt US agriculture](#) (Reuters via St. Louis Post-Dispatch)
- [Produce is less healthy than it was 70 years ago. These farmers are trying to change that](#) (Cincinnati Enquirer)

[Click here](#) to sign up and start receiving your weekly *Conservation NewsBriefs* today!

News from DC

Courtesy of SWCS DC Representative John Peterson



John Peterson, SWCS's Washington DC Representative, will be retiring at the end of December. John has been SWCS's eyes and ears in DC for the past six years. He has had an impressive career including as assistant chief of the USDA Soil Conservation Service (now Natural Resources Conservation Service) and executive director of the National Watershed

Coalition. John has been a steadfast supporter of the Society, and we thank him for his lifelong work to protect our natural resources.

- Matthew J. Lohr is named as chief of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and friend and member of SWCS Leonard Jordan steps down. A profile of Lohr from earlier this spring can be found [here](#).
- A new federal report finds that climate change is affecting the natural environment, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, and human health and welfare across the United States and its territories. Read the report highlights [here](#). Read the chapter dedicated to agriculture and rural communities [here](#).
- Illinois lawmakers voted overwhelmingly to override Gov. Bruce Rauner's veto of a bill to establish [urban agriculture zones](#) in Chicago and other Illinois cities, enacting a law that advocates say could help break up food deserts and provide new resources for underserved communities.
- How we built our way into an [urban flooding epidemic](#): The three-way collision of supercharged rainstorms, unchecked urban growth, and outdated infrastructure has produced a wave of urban flooding crises in recent years.
- The [Chesapeake Bay Foundation's](#) (CBF) midpoint assessment focused on the principal Bay states' progress in implementing the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint. The CBF's assessment found successes, but also some troubling trends.
- Legal battle in southern California could threaten federal [Colorado River](#) drought plan.

New Members

Welcome members who joined in November!

International

Ali Ünlükara

Arkansas—Razorback

Katie Ausbrooks

Canada—Ontario

Kira Burger

Florida

Jim Cohen

Indiana—Hoosier

Ariel Kittle

Aly Wells

Ben Wicker

Kansas

Erin Bush

Minnesota

Erin Meier

Missouri—Show Me

Christal Spurgeon

Mississippi—Mississippi State University

Student Chapter

Chase Gartrell

Hunter Simrall

Trevor Strong

All Ohio

Karen Seidel

Corporate Members

Please contact corporate.info@swcs.org for more details.

Gold



Silver



Bronze

