



Join Your NRCS Colleagues as an SWCS Member Today!

WHO WE ARE

The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is the premier international organization for conservation professionals. Our mission is to foster the science and art of natural resource conservation so that land managers, and the conservation professionals who advise them, are equipped with up-to-date knowledge, best practices, and creative solutions to achieve sustainability.

SWCS is THE professional development organization for NRCS employees. SWCS recognizes that conservation practitioners are the people who best understand the strengths and weaknesses of the programs that they administer as they work with their farmer and landowner customers to implement soil and water best management practices. Because of this, SWCS strives to address the needs and amplify the voices of conservationists. Be a part of the organization built to support your work!

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



Indiana NRCS photo by Brandon O'Connor

The Conservation Practitioner Poll was released in June 2021 by the Soil and Water Conservation Society in partnership with Iowa State University and funded by the Walton Family Foundation. Through this initial survey, we have a roadmap for connecting conservation professionals to the resources and support they need, such as updates on rule and procedural changes, training and information about climate-smart agriculture, and strategies for facilitating communication between agencies and program partners.

- 1. Events.** Participate in national and chapter events to:
 - Obtain continuing education units (CEUs) and maintain certifications
 - Network with cross-sector conservation leaders in your region and across the nation
- 2. Mentoring Opportunities.** Share your experience and inspire the next generation of conservationists!
- 3. Volunteer Opportunities.** Serve as a leader in your local chapter and develop skills like event management, communications, problem solving, and collaboration.
- 4. SWCS International Annual Conference.** Attend and participate in:
 - Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Showcase
 - USDA Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) Watershed Assessment Studies Annual Meeting
 - Women in NRCS (WiN) Annual Meeting
 - Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees (ARCSE) Lunch and Annual Business Meeting
 - Workshops, plenary sessions, oral presentations, poster presentations
 - Networking opportunities with NRCS staff from across the country, farmers, researchers, students, and more!
- 5. Conservation Practitioner Poll.**
 - Share what tools and training you need to do your job efficiently
 - Help us identify barriers to getting conservation on the ground so we can work to remove them through policy changes and innovation



www.swcs.org/join