



CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

In This Issue

75th SWCS International Annual Conference	1
Individual Awards and Scholarships Deadline: April 24	1
Chapter Activity Report and Awards Nomination Form Deadline: April 24	1
<i>Journal of Soil and Water Conservation News</i>	2
Upcoming Events	2
Conservation Photo Contest	2
Sport the Newest SWCS Swag	3
SWCS Publications 75% Off to Celebrate 75 Years	3
Science and Policy News	3
From the Archives	4
Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from February	4
New Members	5
Corporate Partners	5

75th SWCS International Annual Conference

Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center
Des Moines, Iowa
July 26-29, 2020
www.swcs.org/20AC

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 with any questions.

Individual Awards and Scholarships Deadline: April 24

The SWCS awards program recognizes 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 an individual today! Visit www.swcs.org/awards for more information and to submit your nomination.

SWCS also has three scholarship opportunities for all members. Take advantage today and apply! Visit www.swcs.org/scholarships for additional information and to fill out your application.

Submission deadline for individual awards and scholarships is April 24, 2020.

Chapter Activity Report and Awards Nomination Form Deadline: April 24

The mandatory chapter activity report is available [online](#) and must be completed by **April 24, 2020**. This report is combined with the chapter awards nomination form, allowing chapters to easily apply for two annual awards when filling out the report. This report can be filled out, saved, and continued at a later time as well. Questions? Contact your chapter leader or memberservices@swcs.org.



Journal of Soil and Water Conservation News

March/April Issue of the Journal



The [March/April issue](#) of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* is available online and will be arriving in mailboxes soon. This issue's A Section includes a unique viewpoint article by [Hargrove et al.](#) regarding underutilized conservation-based methods for providing access to clean water in isolated rural communities. In addition, a feature by [Olson and Tharp](#) explores the

history of the Passaic River and its contamination due to Agent Orange manufacture during the mid-twentieth century. Efforts to recover the river, now an Environmental Protection Agency Superfund site, continue today.

Research in this issue addresses many topics, including impacts of a drip irrigated conservation agriculture system in [sub-Saharan Africa](#), effects of forest burning on soil properties in [subtropical China](#), and soil health results of integrating cover crops, no-till, and terraces in [Missouri corn and soybean agriculture](#). Additionally, an article by [Poudel et al.](#) takes a comprehensive approach to water quality in a Louisiana watershed by examining relationships between physiochemical and biological properties over time. Find these and many more articles in the [online journal](#).

New Look for the Online Journal

You may have noticed that the [online journal](#) has a new look! On March 10, SWCS launched an upgraded *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* website in order to better communicate conservation research and provide additional services to readers and authors. The site will continue to be updated with new features in the coming months.

Upcoming Events

[Southern New England Chapter
2020 Winter Conference](#) **POSTPONED**

Amherst, Massachusetts
March 20, 2020

[SWCS 75th International Annual Conference](#)

Des Moines, Iowa
July 26–29, 2020

You're Invited to Serve as a Journal Reviewer

The Journal invites conservation professionals and researchers to serve as peer reviewers for research submissions. Over the past decade, the journal has increased in impact (from an impact factor of 1.121 to 2.175), more than doubled in citations, and grown in the number of papers submitted and published. This success is the result of contributions from a dedicated editorial board and hundreds of expert reviewers worldwide.

Serving as a reviewer both provides an inside look at cutting edge research in conservation science and allows you to use your expertise to improve the work of colleagues. Through our blind review process, you are able to dialogue with authors and provide feedback that will strengthen the quality of research published. In addition, reviewing can be an important professional development opportunity to help improve your own work and advance your career.

Learn more on the [journal website](#) and [create a reviewer profile](#) today.

Conservation Photo Contest

We want to see photos that display soil and water conservation in action, showcase the beauty of our natural resources, pay tribute to past achievements, and/or inspire 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 for full details.

Enter our Free Photo Contest

The winner will receive a \$50 Amazon e-giftcard!

Send us your best shots by **June 5!**



Sport the Newest SWCS Swag

This year SWCS is celebrating 75 years of being the professional society for those who practice and advance the science and art of natural resource conservation. Celebrate with us by purchasing one of these limited edition t-shirts, and help us protect our natural resources for the next 75 years. Shirts will not be available for purchase after March 22, so get yours today!

Visit www.bonfire.com/store/swcs/ to view our selection of long- and short-sleeve shirts.



SWCS Publications 75% Off to Celebrate 75 Years

To show appreciation for our members and celebrate 75 years of conservation publishing, SWCS publications have been discounted by up to 75% in the online store. The sale applies to many e-books as well as print textbooks and educational cartoon booklets, and will last through the end of 2020—or until supplies run out! Discounted books include classics, like *Man-Induced Soil Erosion on the Piedmont* and the *Environmental Management Glossary*. Also available are the popular titles *Managing Mississippi and Ohio River Landscapes* and *Managing Agricultural Landscapes*.

In addition to deep discounts on publications, SWCS is now offering the opportunity to purchase bundles of three *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* special issues for only \$45, a cover value of \$90! Choose from special issues on topics like climate change and agriculture, precision conservation, cover crops, and nutrient management.

Visit the [SWCS online store](http://www.bonfire.com/store/swcs/) for these special 75th anniversary deals.

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.

- Science advisers slam [US Environmental Protection Agency](#) (USEPA)'s new stream and wetland protection rule
- Farmers fight [John Deere](#) over who gets to fix an \$800,000 tractor
- US Government Accountability Office finds [USDA](#) improperly paid more than \$930 million in farm programs
- The largest organic [dairy company](#) says it wants to go beyond carbon neutral
- Trump official in Interior Department embeds [climate change](#) denial into the agency's scientific research to justify allocating water to farmers
- Opinion: Expand [duck stamp](#) program to strengthen help for migratory-bird habitat
- Agriculture secretary says no more [trade aid](#) after Trump raises possibility
- USEPA revamps "[secret science](#)" rule, scientists warn rule still limits research and Trump calls for full funding for conservation program
- US senator's trade advice to [EU](#): Keep calm and put agriculture on the table
- USDA delays enforcement of disposal of noncompliant [hemp](#) plants
- In a win for [public lands](#)—and Cory Gardner—Trump vows to fully fund Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Food grown without dirt isn't [organic](#), farmers say in suit
- Soy water? Almond juice? Virginia could be the next state to declare [milk](#) must come from animals
- Judge cancels oil and gas leases on some [sage grouse](#) lands in Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming
- Optimism about current conditions pushes [farmer](#) sentiment index to all-time high
- A comprehensive new federal roadmap for [climate action](#) on farms
- [Hemp prices](#) for CBD tank, but new opportunities are on the horizon
- How 5G promises to [revolutionize](#) farming
- Secretary Perdue announces new [innovation](#) initiative for USDA

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.

From the Archives

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the USDA published annual yearbooks that included hand-drawn illustrations of fruit and nut varieties. In the days before color photography, these images were extremely valuable to educators, scientists, and researchers. Today they are significant reminders of what fruits and nuts looked like over 100 years ago. Beyond that, they are also stunningly and beautifully detailed works of art.

To see more posts like these, follow SWCS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



"Pineapple" by James Marion Shull, 1929. Source: Pomological Watercolors Collection, National Agricultural Library Digital Collections, USDA.



"Passiflora" by Amanda Almira Newton, 1924. Source: Pomological Watercolors Collection, National Agricultural Library Digital Collections, USDA.



"Pomegranate" by Amanda Almira Newton, 1907. Source: Pomological Watercolors Collection, National Agricultural Library Digital Collections, USDA.

Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from February



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 the past month:

- [A comprehensive new federal roadmap for climate action on farms](#) (Civil Eats)
- [Where rural and urban Americans divide on the environment — and where there's common ground](#) (Duke University via Phys.org)
- [Two states are leading a cover crop revival](#) (Civil Eats)
- [Saving water for Utah farms: 'Banking' may be the key in face of growth](#) (Deseret News)

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

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




@SWCSnews

New Members

Welcome members who joined in February!

Alabama

Autumn Hill

Arkansas—Razorback

Val Love

California/Nevada

Margaret Smither-Kopperl

Georgia

Janine Sherrier

Hawaii—Hawaii and Pacific Basin

Alishia Orloff

Iowa

Thomas Fawcett

Indiana—Hoosier

Terry Bonbrake

Kansas

Augustine Obour

Jeff Olson

Massachusetts—University of

Massachusetts-Amherst

Student Chapter

Adam Galambos

Montana

Kalyn Bohle

Claude Bronec

Heidi Fleury

Mike Lockman

North Carolina—Hugh Hammond

Bennett

Kyle Watkins

North Carolina—North Carolina State

University Student Chapter

Noel Lyons

Laurie Muzzy

New Jersey—Firman E. Bear

Craig Patterson

New Mexico

Aaron Winn

Oklahoma

Valerie Hannon

Oregon

Shaun McKinney

South Dakota

Jeanne Hamilton

Maddy Rabenhorst

Jim Ristau

Texas—East Texas

Alexander Williams

Texas—North Texas

Grant McKinley

Virginia

Laljeet Sangha

Washington—Olympic

View

Joe Williams

Wisconsin—University

of Platteville Student

Chapter

Keegan Bruins

West Virginia

Suzy Daubert

Corporate Partners

Please contact memberservices@swcs.org or visit

swcs.org/corporatepartner for more details.

Gold



Agri Drain
CORPORATION



Hickenbottom Inc.
Look for the bright orange inlet - Hickenbottom's Trademark®

Silver



The
Fertilizer Institute



SAND COUNTY
FOUNDATION