March/April Issue of the Journal Is Here!

In the latest issue of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, Smith et al. compile a list of possible contributors to the increased soluble phosphorus loads and related harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie in order to make recommendations for research and management goals. Also in the features section, Powell examines the historical relationship between land value and periods of innovation and growth for conservation programs. The research section includes a study by Stone et al. that measures the delivery of sediment loads to Cheney Reservoir in Kansas to determine optimal management approaches, while survey-based research by Turinawe et al. identifies factors that influence adoption of conservation practices by subsistence farmers in southwestern Uganda. Read these and more articles in the online journal or in your print issue.
Annual Conference News

The 2015 SWCS International Annual Conference will be held July 26-29, 2015, at the Sheraton Hotel in Greensboro, North Carolina. To keep up to date on all annual conference news, visit our website at www.swcs.org/15AC.

Preliminary Program and Conference Registration

Be sure to watch your email in the upcoming weeks for the announcement that conference registration is open and the Preliminary Program is available to download.

Traveling to Greensboro

You have several options when flying into North Carolina. The closest airport to the conference hotel is the Piedmont Triad International Airport, located in Greensboro. This airport is approximately 15 minutes from the Sheraton. Participants may also choose to fly into the Raleigh-Durham International Airport, which is slightly over an hour from the hotel. This option would require setting up car service or renting a vehicle to travel back and forth. Please note the North Carolina State University Lake Wheeler Field Laboratory and Syngenta Tour will have a Raleigh-Durham International Airport drop-off option, and the North Carolina Viticulture Research and RayLen Vineyards and Winery Tour will have a Piedmont Triad International Airport drop-off option. This may be something to keep in mind when booking your arrival and departure air travel.

The Sheraton Greensboro provides complimentary shuttle service to and from the Piedmont Triad International Airport. The shuttle departs the hotel every hour on the hour. Guests may also pre-arrange for pickup from the airport by contacting the hotel. Alternative transportation options may be found here.

For information regarding ground transportation options from the Raleigh-Durham International Airport, click here.

Accommodations

This year’s conference hotel is the Greensboro Sheraton at Four Seasons. Many times participants wonder why they are encouraged to stay at the conference hotel instead of other hotels in the area. When the Society is able to guarantee that a certain percentage of participants will stay at the hotel, it is easier to negotiate better room rates and to keep conference registration costs lower. Additionally, guests at the conference hotel often receive amenities and perks for being included in the SWCS room block. This year, guests will receive complimentary internet and fitness club access, discounted golf, and complimentary parking. Please support the Society by booking your hotel room at the Greensboro Sheraton!

A block of rooms has been reserved at the discounted rate of $97/night + taxes and is available from July 23 through July 31, 2015. Rooms must be booked on or before July 9, 2015, to be eligible for the discounted group rate.

To book your discounted room, visit www.swcs.org/15ac_hotel.

Outdoor Classroom – Educational Training Tours

Enhance your conference experience by participating in an educational training tour on Wednesday, July 29. These tours are designed to highlight interesting and informative conservation work happening in the area. The North Carolina Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter has lined up some exciting tours for this year’s conference! You may find details and tour pricing at www.swcs.org/15ac_tours.

Exhibitor and Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Do you have an organization or a business or know of one that could benefit from increased exposure to over 400 conservation professionals? If so, please visit www.swcs.org/15ac for details on becoming an exhibitor or sponsor of the 70th SWCS International Annual Conference.

You may also contact Chrissy Rhodes at christine.rhodes@swcs.org or call 515-289-2331 ext. 114 to receive further details or to discuss a customized sponsorship package. Exhibitor and sponsor referrals are also greatly appreciated!
Conservation Conversation: We’d like to hear from you!

Every month we pose a question for our readers to respond to as a way of providing a discussion forum for the SWCS community. This month, instead of responding to a question, we’re asking our readers to suggest questions and topics they’d like to see discussed in our Conservation Conversation for the coming months. Now is your chance to ask for opinions and insights from fellow conservationists worldwide.

We ask that our readers respond with their topics and questions via email (to pubs@swcs.org) or through social media, and we will use some of your suggested questions in the coming issues. We hope that this will provide a discussion forum for our readers and us!

SWCS Welcomes New Editorial Assistant

Jody Thompson is the new editorial assistant at the SWCS headquarters in Iowa. She started on February 19, 2015. Jody received her Bachelor of Arts degree in rhetorical studies and technical communication from Iowa State University and recently finished her Master’s degree in rhetoric, composition, and professional communication from Iowa State. At the SWCS, Jody will work with Annie Binder, director of publications, to publish the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation. She will also serve as staff point of contact for the Conservogram newsletter and assist with web communications.

Upcoming Events

Oklahoma SWCS Chapter Annual Conference
Medicine Park and Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Oklahoma
June [TBD], 2015

Alabama SWCS Chapter Annual Conference:
“Creating a Clean Water Future through Water and Soil Conservation”
Spanish Fort, Alabama
June 23-25, 2015

70th SWCS International Annual Conference
Greensboro, North Carolina
July 26-29, 2015
In Memoriam

We remember those friends who have passed on and keep their families in our thoughts.

Paul Smith was a member of the Nebraska Chapter.

New Members

Welcome members who joined in February!

International
Nikita Paliya

California/Nevada
John McCann
Bobette Parsons

Connecticut/Massachusetts/Rhode Island—Southern New England
John Sieviec

Georgia—University of Georgia Student Chapter
Meryom Pattillo

Iowa
Luke Gran
Stacie Lowe
John Swanson

Louisiana
Joshua Foster
Matthew Greene
Jeremy Irion
Taylor Kall
Grant Kleiner
Kyle Landeta
Kaitlyn LeJeune
Simbrey Majors
Mikayla Meaux
Fabiane Santos Neto

Michigan
William Busby

Missouri—Show Me
Jamie Gundel

North Dakota
Morgen Burke
Daniel Devitt

New Hampshire/Vermont
Andrea Jilling

Ohio—All Ohio
Cynthia Brookes
Crawford SWCD

Wisconsin—UW Stevens Point Student Chapter
Lisa Moehlman

Corporate Members

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

Gold

Agri Drain Corporation

Dow AgroSciences

Hickenbottom Inc.

Silver

AGREN

The Fertilizer Institute

La Crosse Seed

Bronze

The Nature Conservancy

Ecosystem Services Exchange

CTIC

Pioneer