



CONSERVOGRAM

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 [here](#) for COVID-19 SWCS Annual Conference Impacts and Organizational Updates.

75th SWCS International Annual Conference

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

The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is going virtual for its upcoming 75th International Annual Conference.

View the announcement [HERE](#).

Our agenda and registration will be released in the coming weeks.

While we will miss seeing our great conservationists from around the world in person, a virtual event allows for broad participation and ensures the health and safety of our attendees.

We are really excited about the potential for this online event!

Here are a few reasons why:

- An easy to use, familiar platform. If you are successfully taking part in virtual meetings at this time, you will be able participate in this event.
- A reduced registration fee of \$75 for members (in honor of our 75th year!) and \$99 for nonmembers. Also, there will be savings on travel and lodging. Your registration allows us to hold the event and supports SWCS.
- Live general sessions and breakout presentations with the ability to ask and rank questions.
- A virtual exhibit hall.
- Galleries featuring posters, virtual conservation and history tours, updates from SWCS, interviews with notable individuals, award winners, and more!
- Virtual networking and social opportunities.



- Games and contests with prizes.
- A resource library with exclusive access.
- The same great content, available to you right from your home or office desk.
- A potential for greater reach. With the ability for people to tune in from their home or office, there is an expanded opportunity for participation. Presentations will be recorded and accessible to presenters and attendees after the event.

Please visit www.swcs.org/20AC for updates.

Sponsorship Opportunities

The virtual 75th SWCS International Annual Conference is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to connect with a uniquely targeted group of conservation and environmental professionals. Becoming a sponsor gives you an affordable opportunity to market your products and services to a key audience and maximize your organization's exposure. Put your brand in front of those who are directly involved in the decision-making process of purchasing products or those who influence prospective buyers and conservationists.

Download and review the [Sponsor Guide](#) for more information.



EXPANDING HORIZONS
WHERE CONSERVATION MEETS INNOVATION



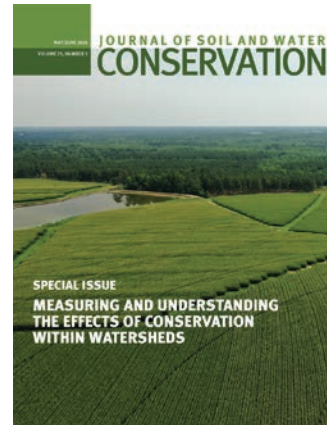
SWCS 75TH INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JULY 27-29, 2020 | WWW.SWCS.ORG/20AC

Upcoming Events

[SWCS 75th International Annual Conference](#)
Virtual Event
July 27–29, 2020

Journal of Soil and Water Conservation News

Special Issue: Measuring and Understanding the Effects of Conservation within Watersheds



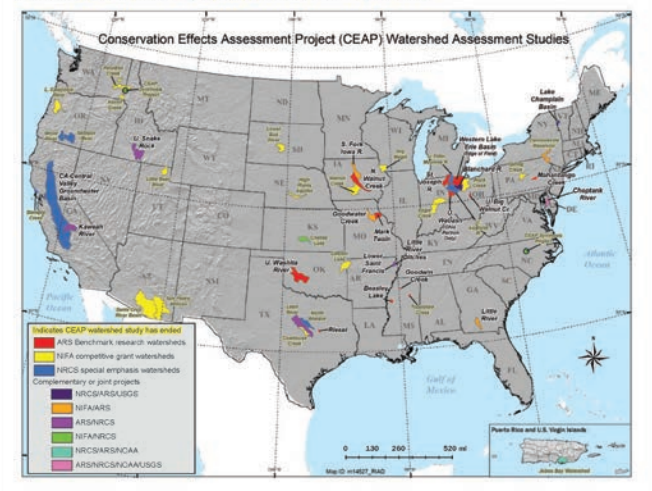
The [May/June issue](#) of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* (JSWC) is a special collection of research documenting findings from the USDA Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) watershed assessments. This project, with the goal of quantifying the environmental effects of conservation practices and programs for improved management, has amassed over 15 years of data and

publications. The special issue includes a [comprehensive overview](#) of CEAP watershed efforts and potential future direction by Moriasi et al., an [editorial](#) by USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Bill Northey, and a [feature](#) describing impacts of the Sustaining the Earth's Watersheds–Agricultural Research Data System (STEWARDS database). Fourteen original research articles share results of both field- and watershed-scale studies from watersheds in diverse locations, such as Georgia, Texas, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Arizona, Idaho, and more. Additionally, [results of a survey](#) by Ranjan et al. reveal decision support tool education and training needs of conservation agency staff in counties with CEAP watershed sites.

This special issue is entirely open access. Feel free to link interested colleagues to articles in the [online journal!](#)

Figure 1

Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) Watershed Assessment Studies sites.



Online Journal Added Accessibility

The [JSWC online](#) has added two new features in the past month: full-text articles for new issues and early online content. The full-text view allows readers to discover the latest conservation research in an easy-to-read format, whether on a desktop, tablet, or mobile device. Content tabs provide access to the articles, downloadable figure and table files, and linked references. PDFs also remain available for each article.

The [early online section](#) of the journal website includes articles that have passed peer review, but that have not yet appeared in the print journal. The JSWC is excited about this new commitment to publishing accepted research as soon as possible.

These updates as well as a new journal website were made possible through support and recommendations of the JSWC Editorial Board, Research Editor Jorge Delgado, the SWCS Board of Directors, and SWCS CEO Clare Lindahl. SWCS and the JSWC continue to serve as a leading publisher of multidisciplinary natural resources conservation research, practices, policy, and perspectives.



Call for Articles: COVID-19 and Conservation

The JSWC invites submission of short articles (4,000 words or less) related to COVID-19 implications for conservation. What are potential impacts of the virus—and related social, economic, and environmental shifts—on soil and water resources? How is the pandemic affecting practice implementation, conservation research, and agricultural systems? Articles will be published online for rapid dissemination. To submit, please email an abstract of the proposed article to pubs@swcs.org.

Interested in the reactions of other conservationists? Read [“Soil Science beyond COVID-19”](#) by Rattan Lal in the online journal now.



Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/soilandwaterconservation

Welcome Joe Derry, SWCS Intern!



In May, Joe Derry of Johnston, Iowa, joined SWCS headquarters as the Student Leader Project Intern for the summer. Joe will be focused on the development of a nonprofit program and assisting with the operations and logistics of the virtual 75th SWCS International Annual Conference.

Joe has been involved in nonprofit and philanthropy studies at the University of Iowa where he’s majoring in Journalism and Mass Communication with a Certificate in Creative Writing.

Thank you to our Student Leader Project Intern sponsor, [Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees](#), for making this possible!

Conservation Photo Contest

We want to see photos displaying soil and water conservation in action, showcasing the beauty of our natural resources, paying tribute to past achievements, and/or inspiring 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 during the virtual 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

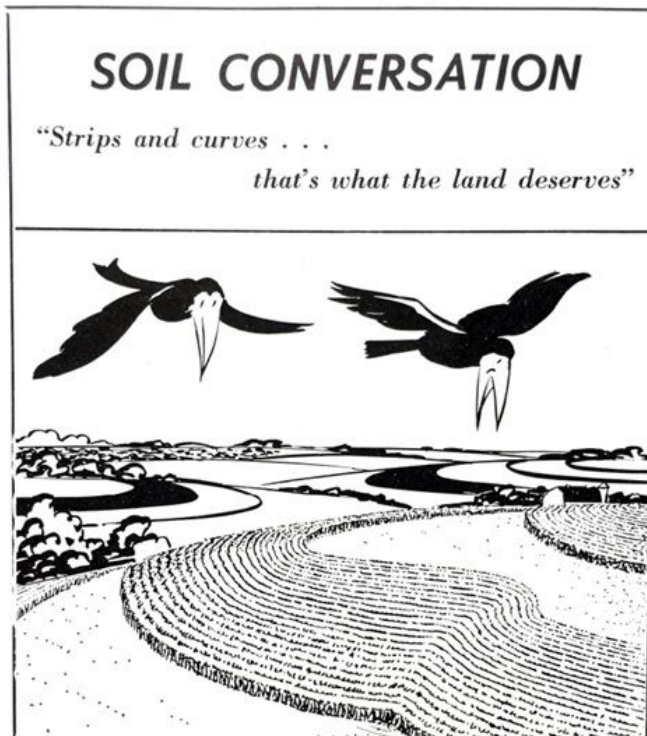
The winner will receive a \$50 Amazon e-giftcard!

Send us your best shots by June 5!

www.swcs.org/photocontest

From the SWCS Archives

“Soil Conversation” is a comic strip that ran in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* between 1955 and 1967. The creator was USDA artist Felix Summers, whose one-panel strip often showed two crows commenting on a farmer’s conservation practices, or lack thereof, and how they impacted the community. In honor of the SWCS 75th Anniversary, we are publishing classic “Soil Conversation” strips to our social media accounts every week throughout the year! For more of these posts, follow our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.



Source: *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, Vol. 16, No. 4 (September, 1961), 199. SWCS archives.

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.

- [California](#) is the nation’s ag capital. Here’s how it’s addressing the food crisis.
- USDA announces \$5 million for [wetland mitigation banking](#) program
- Senator Gillibrand introduces legislation to help farmers and [food banks](#) feed families during pandemic
- Food panic recedes for now as nations row back [export curbs](#)
- Supercharged by climate change, “[megadrought](#)” points to drier future in the West

- Booker renews push to phase out [factory farming](#) by 2040 after pandemic hits meatpacking plan
- At least 4,500 [Tyson](#) workers have caught COVID-19, with 18 deaths
- Infections near US [meat plants](#) rise at twice national rate
- Some lighter news: “Not just weeds”: How [rebel botanists](#) are using chalk graffiti to name forgotten flora
- Perdue says Coronavirus Food Assistance Program [payment](#) limits will be higher
- USDA’s trade bailout program overpaid certain farmers, especially southern [cotton growers](#)
- USDA allows changes in reporting [organic acreage](#)
- World’s largest [ethanol producer](#) forced to find a new market—hand sanitizer
- The American West’s [drought](#) is its second-worst for 12 centuries

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.

Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from April



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:

- [River towns adapt to flooding](#) (Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette)
- [On this Earth Day, let’s think about agriculture](#) (High Country News)
- [The Mississippi River has many nicknames. Now it has a new one: America’s ‘most endangered river.’](#) (Phys.org)
- [Repurposing straw lets farmers grow more food with less water and fertilizer](#) (Phys.org)

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

New Members

Welcome members who joined in April!

International

Ihsan Noor

Arkansas—Razorback

Canton Ford

California/Nevada

Ed Glazebrook

Brandi Murphy

Georgia

Debbie Ligon

Iowa—Iowa State University Student Chapter

Trace Bolsinger

North Carolina—Hugh Hammond Bennett

Richard Hendley

Zakiya Leggett

North Dakota

Aaron Field

Nebraska

Laura Rubeck

Oregon

Herb Winters

Pennsylvania—Keystone

Christopher Burch

South Carolina

Carl Coleman

Tennessee

Sindhu Jagadamma

Virginia

Julia Sargent

Wisconsin

Noah McVay

Corporate Partners

Please contact memberservices@swcs.org or visit swcs.org/corporatepartner for more details.

Platinum



Gold



Silver

