

CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

In This Issue

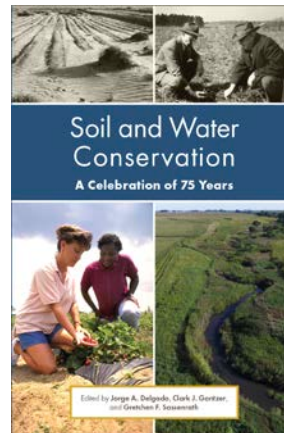
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The Soil and Water Conservation Society and COVID-19

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 Organizational Updates.

New Book from SWCS Celebrates 75 Years of Conservation

As we bring the 75th year of SWCS to a close, we are pleased to release a collection of essays, *Soil and Water Conservation: A Celebration of 75 Years*, edited by Jorge A. Delgado, Clark J. Gantzer, and Gretchen F. Sassenrath. With 29 chapters and the contributions of 70 scientists and practitioners, this book serves as a landmark in natural resource conservation history.



Throughout the collection, researcher and practitioner experts celebrate progress of the past and explore the future of conservation at a critical time when all natural resources are threatened by the imminent impact of a changing climate. Collectively, the book serves as an introduction to the field, emphasizing the truly interdisciplinary nature of conservation work. Individually, however, chapters review

developments and make recommendations for continued advancement in areas such as water quality and quantity, erosion, soil biology and health, carbon sequestration, and conservation modeling. Authors also address the evolution of key practices, including irrigation, nutrient management, drainage, cover crops, and precision conservation, and the cooperative efforts and policies that have facilitated their adoption.

Decades of published research and in-field experience are distilled into brief, informative chapters that provide perspective on the complex relationships between land managers and the environment in the face of current challenges, such as a changing climate, shrinking water resources, a growing global population, and shifting land uses.

The book is now available for [preorder in print](#), and will be accessible free of cost as a downloadable PDF through SWCS Publications, starting December 15.

76th SWCS International Annual Conference

Virtual Event

July 26 – 28, 2021

www.swcs.org/21AC

The 76th SWCS International Annual Conference will be virtual again in 2021. The conference theme is “One World, Connected through Conservation.”

Save the date for July 26-28, 2021!

SAVE THE DATE



One World, Connected through
CONSERVATION

July 26-28 | Virtual Event
www.swcs.org/21AC **2021**

 **#SWCS21**

Recent Journal Issue: Wetlands in Agricultural Landscapes



The [November/December issue](#) of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* is now available online and will arrive in print soon! This issue contains a special research section with a focus on wetlands, specifically the findings of recent work completed by the Wetlands Component of the USDA Conservation Effects Assessment Project, a multiagency effort to advance science related

to the effects and effectiveness of conservation practices and programs on services provided by wetlands in agricultural landscapes. Articles include a research introduction ([Mushet and Effland](#)), an overview of the study of 48 wetland sites in the Mid-Atlantic Lower Coastal Plain ([Lee et al.](#)), discussion of a newly developed modeling framework for evaluating the effects of depressional wetlands within croplands ([McKenna et al.](#)), and a study describing use of the Agricultural Policy/Environmental eXtender (APEX) model to evaluate effects of wetland management and increasing temperature on nutrient removal by wetlands in the Sacramento Valley of California ([Kim et al.](#)). Additionally, a feature article by [Thompson et al.](#) presents a tool that natural resource managers can use to classify playa wetlands of the High Plains and estimate ecosystem service provisioning within the wetland basins. Find the wetlands special section and many more articles in the [online journal](#).

Calling all Students: Apply to be the Science and Policy Committee's Student Representative!

Do you have a google news alert set for “soil”? Are you always trying to convince your friends to live-stream the House Agriculture Committee meetings? Have you ever opened up a new issue of an academic journal with a squeal of delight? Do you believe in a vision of agriculture that works in harmony with our natural resources? If you answered “yes!” to any of these questions, then the SWCS Science and Policy Committee wants YOU to apply to be our new Student Representative! More information [here](#).

Do you have 10 minutes to spare? It's SO simple to apply. Just fill out this six-question [application](#) by November 30, 2020. Questions? Feel free to contact Catherine DeLong at catherine.delong@swcs.org.

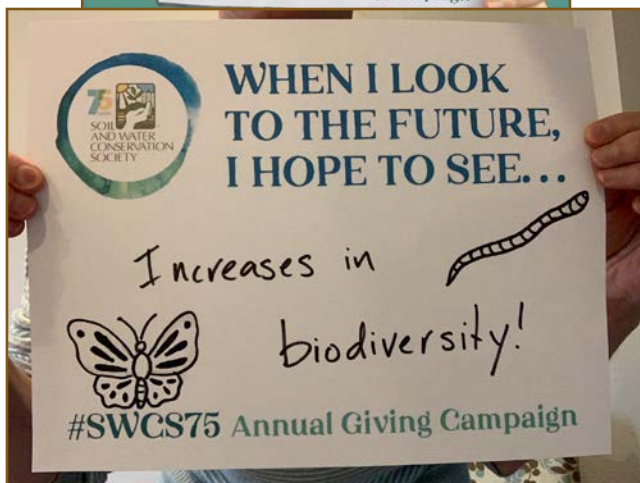
2020 Giving Campaign

Thank you to all who have donated during our 2020 Giving Campaign so far. Your gifts contribute to our ongoing mission of seeking conservation solutions that will benefit and improve the quality of life for all people, both now and in the future.

We need your continued support to advance natural resource science and practice through our journal, reports, conferences, advocacy, communications, and on-the-ground projects. Become part of history in the making as we shape the future of conservation and our profession with a gift to SWCS.

Donations can be made online at swcs.org/give, by phone at 1-800-THE SOIL (1-800-843-7645), or checks can be sent to 945 SW Ankeny Rd., Ankeny, IA, 50023.

During this anniversary, we want to celebrate all of you who support our mission. [Download](#) one of our giving signs and share why you care on social media! Be sure to tag @SWCSNews or #SWCS75 in your posts.



From the Leadership

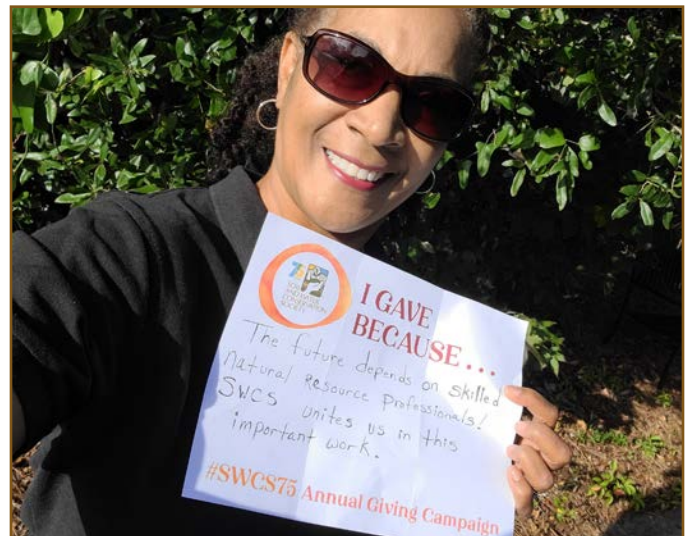
Courtesy of SWCS Chair Dale Threatt-Taylor

As we wrap up the 75th Anniversary celebrations, we look beyond the horizon toward an exciting future. It's been great celebrating our last 75 years of accomplishments with you. Recently, on a sunny fall day, I decided to take a leisurely drive using rural roads, avoiding traffic jams and speed traps. Fields of soybeans were ready for harvest, and yet on other farms, plants were still dropping leaves. I wondered if winter cover crops would be planted and if spring no-till fields would sprout new crops. Everything seems to be in different stages of time. Are you preparing for what comes next? Have you planned your work for the new year ahead?

Your Board of Directors decided to plant a strategic “crop” that will provide SWCS with a bountiful harvest for our future with the engagement of a consultant to lead SWCS in developing a strategy for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing recommendations, alternatives, and fresh, bold ideas over the next three years. With this new strategic organizational development project, SWCS seeks to make forward movement in the organization for our members, chapters, and partners—both existing and potential. Above all, we consider you the most important seed of this initiative! We are excited about the Society’s leadership in professional development on a national scale. To quote SWCS CEO Clare Lindahl, “This will not be a cookie cutter approach.”

As we conclude our 75th year and embark on the creation of a bold implementation plan for evolution, we remind you of the important role your support plays in ushering SWCS into a new era of conservation. Providing ongoing support is simple! Give [online](#), give by [mail](#), and federal employees can give through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) with the code #11797.

Thank you for your commitment and support.



New SWCS Swag is Now Available

Earlier this month SWCS released new merchandise! From sweatshirts to graphic T-shirts to mugs, we've got your holiday gifts covered. These items will only be offered through November 23rd, so order yours today! Visit www.bonfire.com/store/swcs/ to view our full selection of swag.



- Farmers are depleting the [Ogallala Aquifer](#) because the government pays them to do it
- American Farmland Trust shares [Biden Administration](#) transition recommendations
- Government program [payments](#) to farmers, what's to come?
- Washington Supreme Court: [Farmworkers](#) to get overtime pay
- New Environmental Quality Incentives Program ([EQIP](#)) final rule comes with pros and cons for farmers
- National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition: Pros and cons of new [EQIP](#) rule
- As [biotech](#) crops lose their power, scientists push for new restrictions
- Lawsuit claims US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved "dangerous" [fungicide](#)
- Can California's top [wine region](#) survive the era of megafire?
- [China's](#) purchases of US farm goods at 71% of target under trade deal
- EPA approves three [dicamba](#) herbicides with federal cutoff dates
- "Our heart breaks": South digs out from [Zeta's](#) wrath
- USDA survey finds fast-growing [organic food](#) sales at nearly \$10 billion
- University researchers map water scarcity related to [meat and ethanol](#) production
- Why are [British people](#) protesting US farm imports?
- Several states see massive die-off of [migratory birds](#)
- Interior OKs expanded oil activity in [Alaska](#) petroleum reserve

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.

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.

- Women dominate the list of potential nominees for [agriculture secretary](#)
- Congratulating Biden, [farm groups](#) look ahead to new President
- What Michelle Fischbach's victory over [Collin Peterson](#) (Chair of the House Ag Committee) means for the Seventh District

Upcoming Events

[Southern New England Chapter 2020 Conference](#)
Virtual Event
December 3-4, 2020

[All Ohio Chapter: Working Wetlands - The Role of Wetlands in Nutrient Reduction Part 3](#)
Virtual Event
December 9, 2020

New Members

Welcome members who joined in October!

International

Chema Aguero

Arkansas—Razorback

Deborah Leslie

California/Nevada

Wendy Krehbiel

Connecticut/Massachusetts/Rhode Island—

Southern New England Chapter

Melissa Mange

DC—National Capital Chapter

Chad Stachowiak

Iowa

Katie James

Pam Miksell

Bridget Nixon

Matthew Streeter

Landon Van Dyke

Michigan

Erez Brandvain

New Hampshire/Vermont

Lisa Scott

South Carolina

Chasity Jones

South Dakota

Chyenna Julius

Derek Zenk

Corporate Partners

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

Platinum



Gold



Silver



Bronze

