



CONSERVOGRAM

 > The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

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Conservation: It Starts with YOU!

It takes a village to advance conservation. Here at SWCS, we are so honored to serve as the central hub connecting passionate conservationists worldwide.

In the last year we have conducted nearly 40 webinars, hosted an international conference with 750 participants in attendance, and launched the Emerging Leaders Program with 123 early career professionals. Each event is crafted to offer invaluable opportunities for conservation professionals to exchange knowledge and insights across diverse disciplines and geographies.

Donations can be made online at www.swcs.org/give, and for federal employees, through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) with the code #11797.

GIVE ONLINE



November/December Journal Highlights



The final *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* of 2023 can now be found [online](#) and will be delivered to mailboxes soon. In this issue, A Section articles include an overview of [machinery choices](#) that impact cover crop establishment; reflections for enhancing [participatory research and outreach](#) from a multistakeholder soil health program; and [practical guidance](#) for deciding whether to account for soil variability when managing for land health, agricultural production, and climate resilience. Research articles include a comparison of short- and long-term impacts of subsurface drainage installation on soil physical and biological properties ([Frankl et al.](#)), patterns and associations between dominant crop productions and water quality ([Nouwakpo et al.](#)), and an investigation of native plants for revegetation of salt impacted soil ([Blanchard et al.](#)). Also in the Research Section, authors reveal insights into the drivers of post-CRP landowner behavior ([Barnes et al.](#)), as well as assess landowners' willingness to accept payments to participate in a potential FloodWise program ([Hovis et al.](#)). Find these articles in the [online journal](#) today!

Save the Date for the 79th SWCS International Annual Conference

Save the date for the 79th SWCS International Annual Conference, July 21-24, 2024, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina! This year's conference theme is "Rising Together: Collaborative Conservation for All."

Call for presentation submissions and more details regarding the event will be posted in the coming months at www.swcs.org/24AC.



Get Your SWCS Gear in Time for the Holidays

The SWCS merchandise online store is back open, featuring all your favorite designs, including the popular "Soil Nerd" and "Rad" products.

With the holidays quickly approaching, take the opportunity to order SWCS gear for your family, your friends—or yourself! Save yourself some time answering the "What do you do for a living again?" question at family gatherings by ordering the "Soil Nerd" shirt! ;) Orders are expected to arrive by December 14.

View all styles and [order](#) by **November 26**.



Vote on the Student T-Shirt Contest

In October we invited students to submit conservation-themed designs for our first SWCS Student T-Shirt Contest, and the submissions are in! Help decide the winner by doing the following:

1. Visit the SWCS [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) page and scroll through the top designs.
2. Vote by commenting on the number of the shirt you like best.
3. By voting, you will automatically be entered to win a SWCS swag bag!

Voting is open through November 17, and the raffle and contest winners will be contacted by Thanksgiving.

Thank you for participating!

Upcoming Webinar Series

SWCS hosts several educational webinar series, all of which are free or exclusive to members. [Learn more.](#)

The next session of the **SWCS Members Only Book Club: A Year with Aldo Leopold** is Friday, November 17, at 12 p.m. CT. Participants will continue their discussions about *A Sand County Almanac*. Contact events@swcs.org to register.

The next **Student Professional Development** session is Wednesday, November 29, at 4 p.m. CT on "Effective Public Speaking." Join leading experts in natural resources, conservation, agriculture, and related STEM sciences as they share insights to help you develop your career. [Learn more and register.](#)

Upcoming Chapter Events

[SWCS North Dakota Chapter Annual Meeting and Technical Workshop](#)

Fargo, North Dakota
December 12-13, 2023

USEPA Seeking Feedback on Nonpoint Source Grant Guidelines

The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is seeking comment on a revised draft of the nonpoint source (NPS) §319 grant guidelines. This revision incorporates two years of engagement with states, Tribes, territories, and other local community stakeholders that are involved in NPS water quality projects. As a member of the conservation community, your feedback is valuable and essential in guiding this round of revisions.

The revisions include new flexibilities and expectations to ensure the equitable delivery of §319 NPS program benefits for communities impacted by NPS water quality challenges. Among other updates and clarifications, the draft guidelines support the use of new science and information to advance climate resilience through NPS solutions.

The USEPA will be taking comments through December 31, 2023. Comments can be submitted via the following:

- The NPS program [§319 grant guidelines update website](#)
- Email to NPSguidelines2023@epa.gov
- Mail to:

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, MC-4503-T,
Washington, DC 20460

The USEPA will also host a webinar on December 5, 2023, from 3:00-4:30 p.m. EST. [Register here.](#)

New Members

Welcome members who joined in October!

International

Florian Wilken

California/Nevada

Kelsey Fenn
Peggy Hauselt
Rachel MacDowell
Matt Rayl

Connecticut/Massachusetts/Rhode Island—Southern New England Chapter

Megan Woytik

Hawaii and Pacific Basin

Keili Mcevilly

Iowa

Rob Austin
Natasha Heavlin

Illinois

Julie Larsen

Indiana—Purdue University Student Chapter

Isabel Jensen

North Dakota

Joanna Larson

New Conservation Community Members

Welcome community members who joined in October! Learn how to become a Conservation Community Member [here](#).

Kentucky—Bluegrass

Kentucky Division of Water

Corporate Partners

Please visit www.swcs.org/corporatepartner for more information on how to become a corporate partner.

Platinum



Gold



Silver



Bronze

