



CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

In This Issue

North Central Region One Water Action Forum	1
Introducing the Conservation Media Library	2
2017-2018 Annual Report Now Available	3
Upcoming Events	3
Time to Update Your Information	3
2019 Annual Conference Save the Date	3
News from DC	4
Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from September	4
New Members	5
Corporate Members	5

North Central Region One Water Action Forum

Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing
Indianapolis, Indiana
December 11-13, 2018
www.onewaternc.org

Registration is Now Open

Registration for the North Central Region One Water Action Forum is now open! The forum will bring together researchers, educators, practitioners, and policy makers to advance more connected and cohesive approaches to water and watershed management in the North Central Region.

Register today at www.onewaternc.org to receive the early registration discount!

Workshops and Tour

Enhance your experience by attending a pre-forum workshop and/or post-forum conservation tour. Both add-ons are excellent opportunities to enrich your overall forum experience. Registration for workshops and the tour may be purchased in addition to the forum registration or as a stand-alone option.



Workshops

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Workshop 1: Great Lakes Big Rivers Climate

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

This workshop will help educators, conservation professionals, natural resource managers, and outreach professionals recommend management practices that respond to changes in climate. Topics include agriculture and natural resources, community development, human health, youth engagement in climate, and communicating about climate.

Workshop 2: NextGen Youth Water Leadership

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

This workshop will feature discussion and planning for youth water outreach programming in the North Central Region. Amy Timmerman of University of Nebraska-Extension will share the results of the North Central Region Water Network funded youth water education needs assessment. Justin Hougham of the University of Wisconsin-Extension will share details about an innovative youth water program connecting youth with science and the outdoors by using modern mobile technology tools. Discussion groups will unpack this information to enhance current programming, share ideas for incorporating water into youth programs and form teams to develop new programs.

Workshop 3: Conservation Finance

1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

To achieve desired conservation and water quality goals, conservation professionals increasingly need the knowledge and skills to bring a diversity of funding sources together. This workshop will examine a variety of different strategies for funding conservation efforts and explore how nontraditional funding sources and partnerships can lead to more sustainable watershed management efforts across the North Central Region.

Indiana Conservation Tour

Thursday, December 13, 2018

1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Join the SWCS Hoosier Chapter and Purdue Extension on a tour of One Water concepts in action. This half-day tour will showcase Cicero Creek, a tributary of the Morse Reservoir, which supplies water to the city of Indianapolis. Hear from the groups that have banded together, forming a unique partnership to ensure water quality along the stream and into the reservoir. The last hour will be spent on a guided walk through Oliver's Woods, a 53-acre nature preserve in the middle of this bustling metropolitan center. Learn about the partnership that made this preserve possible, participate in a fun art activity, and hear about the distinctive biodiversity of this area along the White River.

Introducing the Conservation Media Library



In September of 2018 we unveiled a new multimedia resource on the SWCS website called the Conservation Media Library. SWCS staff have been hard at work on this resource for three years and are thrilled to see the joint collaboration with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Conservation Districts of Iowa made available to the public. The Conservation Media Library is a multimedia storing house for conservation photos, graphics, informational videos, factsheets, PowerPoints, and other resources.

The Library showcases conservation happening on the ground and is currently focused on cover crops, drainage water management, saturated buffers, and prairie strips. It includes over 500 professional photos of farmers and landowners who are in the process of installing these practices. The Library also includes drone footage and aerial photographs so that visitors can see a bird's eye view of large-scale practice implementation.

The Library is open to all and all materials can be downloaded and circulated free of charge. To check it out go to www.swcs.org/conservation-media-library!

This project was made possible by an Iowa NRCS funded Conservation Innovation Grant.



Installation of Drainage Water Management system in Sac County, Iowa, on Donna and Chris Schafer farm.



Brian Jackson uses cereal rye cover crops on farmland he rents near Storm Lake, Iowa, in Buena Vista County.

NRCS/SWCS photos by Lynn Betts.

2017-2018 Annual Report Now Available

The 2017-2018 SWCS Annual Report is now [available online](#). Please note that the report will not be mailed in order to conserve resources and is only available as a [PDF download](#) from the SWCS website. We encourage you to take a look at our accomplishments over the past year, including conferences, special grant projects, and communications, and we thank you for your



involvement and support. Our achievements reflect the efforts of our members and chapters, who work tirelessly for conservation across diverse landscapes. In her letter to the membership, CEO Clare Lindahl writes, "We look forward to bringing our membership and partners the best resources we can to assist them in understanding, teaching, and implementing conservation."

Time to Update Your Information

Here at SWCS we are doing a bit of "house cleaning" and need your help! Please take a moment to review and update your membership account and contact information so you can be sure to stay up to date with all of the news and events happening at SWCS. We have several exciting events coming up that you will not want to miss out on!

Please log on to members.swcs.org to access your membership account and update your information. Thank you for your help!



MEMBERS.SWCS.ORG

Upcoming Events

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

Devils Lake, North Dakota
October 16, 2018

[Southern New England Chapter 2018 Fall Field Days](#)

Vernon Rockville, Connecticut, and
Kingston, Rhode Island
October 17-18, 2018

[California/Nevada Chapter Annual Meeting: Soil Health in Northern California](#)

Suisin City, California
October 18-19, 2018

[Michigan Chapter Annual Meeting and Tour](#)

Bellaire, Michigan
October 29, 2018

[Missouri-Show Me Chapter Fall Forum](#)

Salisbury, Missouri
November 7, 2018

[Colorado Chapter Soil Health in the West Workshop](#)

Alamosa, Colorado
November 13-14, 2018

[North Central Region One Water Action Forum](#)

Indianapolis, Indiana
December 11-13, 2018



SAVE *the* DATE

**THE SWCS ANNUAL CONFERENCE IS HEADED TO
PITTSBURGH, PA**



2019
JULY 28-31

News from DC

Courtesy of SWCS DC Representative John Peterson

- According to a new [report](#) from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change we may have as little as 12 years to decrease global emissions by 45% to avoid catastrophic environmental breakdown.
- Southwestern states agree on plan to manage overtaxed [Colorado River](#).
- Why Exxon is spending \$1 million to push for a [carbon tax](#).
- On Wednesday, the same day as a national day of action known as “Imagine a Day Without Water,” a major water infrastructure bill [passed the Senate](#) and was sent to the President’s desk. The bill’s many provisions include funds for the maintenance of inland waterways, the upgrade of various dams and irrigation systems, increasing water storage infrastructure, and reauthorizes the Safe Drinking Water Act including a new requirement that smaller communities monitor their water for emerging contaminants.
- Hurricane Michael made landfall with 155 mph winds and weakened only slightly as it crossed into Georgia, [endangering key crops](#), as well as poultry and dairy farms.
- [Vertical farming](#) operations are seen by some as the future of agriculture—allowing crops to be grown year-round without the limitations of weather, pests, or pathogens. However, sky-high costs, reliance on investors, and technological demands have raised questions about its viability.
- Oregon researcher shows earlier [grazing](#) reduces future fire risk while benefiting native plants—now works to scale up practice.
- New research reveals a clear link between the economic health of ranches and the ability to maintain habitat for an iconic wild bird that for years has been at the center of public land policy debate: the [greater sage grouse](#).
- Just south of Moberly, Missouri, researchers confirmed [waterhemp](#) with resistance to six herbicide modes of action.
- Cover crop use among Iowa’s seed corn growers has escalated in the past few years with 35% of [seed corn](#) acres expected to be protected by cover crops in 2018.

Conservation NewsBriefs: Popular Articles from September



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 over the past month:

- [Study examines ag retailer challenges with cover crops](#) (Wallaces Farmer)
- [Here’s what agriculture of the future looks like: The multiple benefits of regenerative agriculture quantified](#) (Union of Concerned Scientists)
- [Cover crops reap financial benefits, not just environmental](#) (Iowa Public Radio)
- [Engineered sand zaps storm water pollutants](#) (University of California – Berkeley via ScienceDaily)

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



New Members

Welcome members who joined in September!

Arizona

Phil Guertin
Harry Hosler

Canada—Ontario

Scott Hortop

Iowa—Iowa State University Student Chapter

Patrick Jones-Hughes
James McDermott

Indiana

James Farmer

Massachusetts—University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Student Chapter
Cayla Paulding
Stephanye Zarama-Alvarado

New Jersey—Firman E. Bear

Cheyenne Harrington

Pennsylvania—Keystone

Laura LaGrave

Tennessee

Mackenzie Painter

Texas—Heart of Texas

Bridget Guerrero

Texas—Texas A&M University Student Chapter

Angela Mohle

Wisconsin

Joseph Lauer

Corporate Members

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

Gold



Silver



Bronze

