



Healthy Land  
Clean Water  
For Life

# 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 Organizational Updates.

## 2019-2020 SWCS Annual Report

The 2019-2020 SWCS Annual Report is now available [online](#). To conserve resources, the report is not mailed and is only accessible as a PDF download from the SWCS website. Please enjoy reading about the Society's accomplishments over the last fiscal year, including conferences, several grant-funded projects to support on-the-ground conservation practice implementation, and two special topic issues in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*. Also included are chapter highlights, intern achievements, and a financial report. Our accomplishments are the product of our members' dedication to conservation efforts both locally and internationally. Thank you for your ongoing involvement and support!



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## Time to Update Your Information

Have you moved recently? Has your email address changed? Here at SWCS we are doing a bit of “house cleaning” and need your help! Please take a moment to review and update your account and contact information so you can be sure to stay up-to-date with all of the news and events happening at SWCS. Please log on to [members.swcs.org](http://members.swcs.org) to access your membership account and update your information. Thank you for your help!

## Imagine a Day Without Water BINGO

SWCS invites our members and partners to take part in Imagine a Day Without Water, a national education campaign that brings together diverse stakeholders, like YOU, to highlight how water is essential, invaluable, and in need of investment. In place of our regularly held in-person Imagine A Day without Water trivia event, we have



created Imagine A Day Without Water BINGO. Find the BINGO card [here](#). Play SWCS’s Imagine A Day Without Water BINGO leading up to October 21, 2020. Everyone who shares their BINGO card on social media by October 21st with #ValueWater and #SWCS will be entered into a drawing for prizes!

## Combined Federal Campaign

For 75 years, SWCS has been working to educate land managers and promote natural resources conservation practices. These efforts are made possible through contributions from supporters like you. Payroll deductions are an easy way to have a valuable impact on the Society’s work. Please show some love for the land during this



campaign by supporting the Soil and Water Conservation Society. **The Charity Code for the Society is 11797.** Thank you for supporting the future of soil and water conservation!

## 2020 Giving Campaign

SWCS has been at the forefront of the soil and water conservation movement for the last 75 years. Over the course of the past year, we have embraced the soil and water conservation movement’s incredible past and the role SWCS and conservation professionals have played in addressing critical challenges facing society. As we wrap up our 75th anniversary celebrations, we seek to use this moment in time to progress, evolve, and lead SWCS and its members into a new era of conservation.

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](http://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.

## Upcoming Events

[Imagine a Day Without Water](#)  
Virtual Event  
October 21, 2020

[California Watersheds: Water Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainability](#)  
Lodi, California  
October 22–23, 2020

[All Ohio Chapter: Working Wetlands - The Role of Wetlands in Nutrient Reduction Part 2](#)  
Virtual Event  
November 4, 2020



## 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.

- USDA publishes final rule for [Conservation Stewardship Program](#)
- Importance of [conservation professionals](#) highlighted in Subcommittee Hearing
- USDA sets aside \$30M to help preserve Tennessee [wetlands](#)
- [Mexican farmers](#) revolt over sending water to United States during drought
- US farm landscapes could be reshaped by changing [climate](#)
- How to redesign a [forest](#): Restoring California's trees in the age of fire
- Four million acres have [burned](#) in California: Why that's the wrong number to focus on
- [Flint, Michigan](#) residents sue investment banks, accuse them of helping create water crisis
- California water probe finds [PFAS](#) in majority of tested wells
- What regenerative farming can do for the [climate](#)
- McDonald's among food firms urging tougher [deforestation](#) rules
- US Secretary of Agriculture [Sonny Perdue](#) fuels ethics scrutiny as Trump's rural envoy
- US agriculture secretary says unsure if [China](#) will meet Phase 1 farm commitment
- Up in smoke? California [wineries](#) struggle with lingering effects of fires
- USDA has announced plans to not run its survey of [farmworker](#) wages
- Iowa awarded [wetland](#) mitigation funding
- [Groundwater](#) depletion in US High Plains leads to bleak outlook for grain production
- [Farmland prices](#) holding steady, maybe even ticking upward in Minnesota
- Falcons, the "Top Gun" of the skies, are helping farmers scare away [pests](#)

- [Oat milk](#) surges to second most popular in plant-based dairy
- Hit by too much rain, then drought, a derecho, and the pandemic, [Iowa farmers](#) roll into a harvest unlike any before
- Agriculture to be protected from foreign [espionage](#), bill's sponsors say with new bill
- American Farmland Trust \$2.6 million to improve soil health [practice adoption](#)
- What went wrong with [weed control](#) in 2020, and what's ahead

*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 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 the past month:

- [Farmer knowledge is key to finding more resilient crops in climate crisis](#) (International Center for Tropical Agriculture)
- [Global study reveals time running out for many soils, but conservation measures can help](#) (Lancaster University)
- [Enough with 'local' and 'organic'. We'll begin to eat well when we farm well](#) (The Guardian)
- [The man who saved the nation from one of the worst environmental disasters in history](#) (5280)

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

## New Members

Welcome members who joined in September!

### DC—National Capital Chapter

Sarah Cline

### Iowa

Justin Clark  
Brent Hall

### Kansas

Logan Simon

### Massachusetts—University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Thomas Dugan

### Michigan

Laura Campbell

### Minnesota

Mriganka De

### Montana

Zoe Sherman

## Corporate Partners

Please contact [memberservices@swcs.org](mailto:memberservices@swcs.org) or visit [swcs.org/corporatepartner](http://swcs.org/corporatepartner) for more details.

### Platinum



### Gold



### Silver



### Bronze

