Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees (ARCSE) Annual Meeting
Monday, July 27
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM CT
The Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees (ARCSE) will hold a special virtual ARCSE 75th Anniversary Conference Experience this year. The on-line event will include a presentation by the SWCS historian, viewing never-before-seen Hugh Hammond Bennett artifacts, networking activity and state and national updates from ARCSE, NRCS, and SWCS representatives. A primary goal is to network past, present, and next generation conservationists looking forward to the decades of work ahead. Registration is free for this event, but attendees are asked to complete the reservation form found at www.arcse.org.

USDA Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) Watershed Assessment Studies Annual Meeting
Monday, July 27
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM CT
Please join USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Agricultural Research Service (ARS) CEAP scientists to learn about and discuss the CEAP Watershed Assessments in small watershed studies. This year’s meeting will occur prior to the general SWCS conference program. Presentations in the CEAP meeting will feature ongoing ARS and university CEAP Watershed Assessments followed by a stakeholder engagement session on water and soil conservation assessment (to contribute to the new Five Year NP211 Water Availability and Watershed Management Action Plan) needs and research priorities. If you have an interest in outcomes and documenting benefits of conservation, please join us to provide your input into future efforts!

WiN Annual Meeting
Monday, July 27
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM CT
Women in the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) (WiN) will be hosting their annual organization meeting via zoom. The annual meeting will go over the highlights of the year. If you are interested in joining, this session this is a good time to hear about the recent activities that WiN is doing. The Mission for WiN is “to provide women with training, opportunities, and mentoring to develop into their fullest professional potential.”

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Showcase
Tuesday, July 28
11:00 AM – 4:30 PM CT
The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in conjunction with SWCS, will host the CIG Showcase at the virtual SWCS International Annual Conference. Since 2004, CIG has supported the development of innovative natural resource conservation approaches and technologies on working lands.

This year’s showcase includes an overview of the CIG program and three themed panels. The first panel highlights the future of Iowa conservation through innovations in agricultural land management systems. The second panel explores CIG projects that address pollinator conservation and innovative ways to improve pollinator habitat. The final panel includes presentations from CIG grantees demonstrating innovative tools for planning and management practices.

This showcase runs from 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM CT on Tuesday, July 28. Following the showcase, CIG project posters will be showcased in the poster presentation gallery during the duration of the event.