

# CONSERVOGRAM

The newsletter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society



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### 2014-2015 Board of Directors

Following the 2014 SWCS International Annual Conference, the Society transitioned to the 2014-2015 Board of Directors and Board officers. Each of the Society's five regions is represented by at least one elected director. Check the list below to find your region's representative(s). Four at-large directors also currently serve on the Board. For additional Board member photos and bios, visit the [SWCS website](#).

- Mark Berkland: Southeast Region Director
  - Mike Collins: Southwest Region Director
  - Wendi Goldsmith\*: Northeast Region Director
  - Bruce Knight\*: At-Large Director
  - Susan Meadows: North Central Director
  - Tom Prout: North Central Director
  - John Rissler: At-Large Director
  - Jon Scholl\*: At-Large Director
  - Cheryl Simmons: Southwest Director
  - Dan Towery: At-Large Director
  - Don Wysocki\*: Northwest Director
- \*New officers

### 2014-2015 Officers

- President: Mark Berkland
- Vice President: Cheryl Simmons
- Secretary: John Rissler
- Treasurer: Tom Prout



## 2014 Annual Conference Recap and Thank You

The 2014 SWCS International Annual Conference took place July 27-30, 2014, in Lombard, Illinois. The suburban Chicago setting provided the perfect backdrop to this year's conference theme, "Making Waves in Conservation: Our Life on Land and Its Impact on Water."

More than 400 conservationists gathered to hear about the latest research findings, projects, programs, and technologies in the conservation industry. SWCS collaborated with several hundred presenters and authors to offer participants a variety of learning platforms including 3 technical workshops, 3 offsite tours, 16 symposia, 40 poster presentations, and more than 120 oral presentations.

Videos of both Richard Cruse's Pritchard Lecture and the Tuesday Plenary Session are available on the [SWCS conference website](#), along with a collection of photos from the conference. The [2014 awards program](#) with recipient bios and the [final program](#) are also available online. PowerPoint slides of the conference oral presentations can be viewed [online here](#).



69th SWCS International Annual Conference

## MAKING WAVES IN CONSERVATION

Our Life on Land & its Impact on Water

LOMBARD, IL • JUL 27-30, 2014

The hashtag #SWCS14AC was used for online conversation throughout the conference. Thank you to everyone who tweeted with us! Here are a few of our favorite tweets:



**SWCSNews** @SWCSNews · Jul 28

#SoilHealth means to me having earth worms, microbes, bacteria & fungi back in the soil. #SWCS14ac farmer panel



**Abigail Petersen** @GalixP93 · Jul 28

Attending conference talks all day and learned some cool things about soil education #exciting #SWCS14AC pic.twitter.com/JX8AjYIBc



**Amer. Farmland Trust** @Farmland · Jul 29

AFT staff talking about #womenlandowners, OhioRiverBasin #WaterQualityTrading #2014FarmBill & #covercrops @ #SWCS14AC pic.twitter.com/70sxvT8eD9



**sandcounttyfdn** @sandcounttyfdn · Jul 29

Honored to hear Jamshed Merchant, Consul General for #Canada in Minneapolis, speaking on US-Canada water management issues at #SWCS14AC



**IndianaNRCS** @IndianaNRCS · Jul 29

NRCS Wayne Honeycutt addresses international audience today at #SWCS14ac #soilhealth #waterquality pic.twitter.com/amtK2XdvwR



**Jacqui EmpsonLaporte** @notrunningfast · Jul 28

Talk on farm size. Comment from panel - # of acres irrelevant; Concern at pt at which diversity, #soilhealth can no longer be managed #swcs14ac

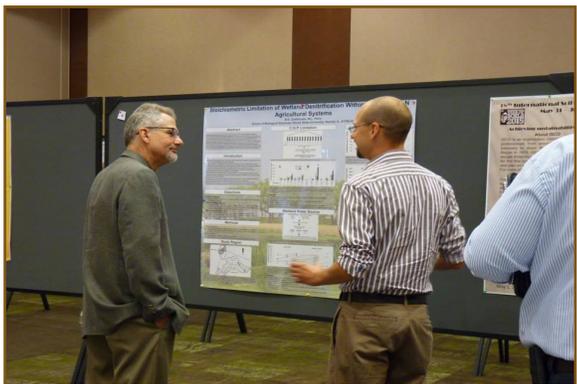
To continue the conservation conversation, feel free to tweet @swcsnews any time!

SWCS would like to thank all of the sponsors, exhibitors, presenters, session organizers, tour coordinators, volunteers, and participants who made the 2014 Annual Conference a great success! A special thank you to the annual conference planning committee for a compelling program this year and the Illinois Chapter for helping to plan and host the silent auction and tours.

Mark your calendars now for the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina, on July 26-29, 2015. Check the [SWCS website](#) for updates or stay connected with SWCS via [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). We look forward to seeing you there!

If you took any photos at this year's conference, we'd love to see them! Tag us on Facebook or email photos to Amy Thompson at [amy.thompson@swcs.org](mailto:amy.thompson@swcs.org).

## 2014 Annual Conference Photos



First column, top to bottom: plenary session; SWCS silent auction table; poster presentation; Executive Director Jim Gulliford, H.H. Bennett award recipient Mark Nearing, and former SWCS President Dan Towery.

Second column: a photo from the O'hare sediment control tour; photo compliments of Lois Wright Morton and Robert Lawson

### Upcoming Events

Wyoming Chapter Stream Restoration Workshop  
Casper, Wyoming  
September 11, 2014

Agroforestry Workshop  
Corvallis, Oregon  
October 21-22, 2014

21st Century Watershed Technology Conference and Workshop—Improving Water Quality and the Environment  
The University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand  
November 1-7, 2014

SWCS International Annual Conference  
Greensboro, North Carolina  
July 26-29, 2015

## Call for SWCS Committee Members

During the 69<sup>th</sup> International Annual Conference we put out a call for committee members, and the response was overwhelming. We would like to give everyone this opportunity to become committee member and make a difference in Society activities.

As a member of SWCS, there are several opportunities for you to play an active role in carrying out the Society's mission. One such opportunity is volunteering to serve on a committee. Below you will find a list of committees and a brief description of their charges.

### Professional Development

- Select overall professional development focus each year based on needs of the Society
- Assist chapters by producing and distributing documents, tools, and/or presentations to deliver professional development opportunities at the chapter level
- Assist Annual Conference Committee in selection and review of workshop submissions for Annual Conference

### Leadership Development

- Coordinate a workshop at the SWCS Annual Conference with a focus on leadership development skills for chapter leaders and members
- Maintain and create new Chapter Leadership Guidelines
- Solicit submission of chapter forms, award applications, and select award recipients

### Awards

- Assist the SWCS Board of Directors in the selection of recipients for Society awards
- Promote SWCS awards and scholarships and encourage award nominations from chapters
- Review applications and make recommendations to the SWCS Board of Directors for approval

### International

- Provide support to international individuals and organizations who are engaged in networking and educational efforts and assist the Board in establishing liaisons with organizations and leaders in other countries
- Encourage people outside the United States and Canada to become SWCS members and to attend Society annual meetings and specialty conferences
- Facilitate international exchanges of experts in the fields of soil and water conservation through SWCS interaction

### Science and Policy

- Serve as the planning and action committee to enhance the work of the Society in the areas of science and policy
- Identify emerging scientific and policy conservation issues for possible SWCS programming and publications
- Assist SWCS staff in developing proposals for grants and other types of fundraising

### Nominations

- Nominate candidates who meet the qualifications for Board membership
- Solicit recommendations from Society members and chapters for nominees

### Annual Conference

- Collaborate to build a strong science-based technical program for Annual Conference
- Decide on yearly theme and special areas of interest, which will be used to create a Call for Presentations to solicit symposia, oral presentations, and poster presentations
- Review paper submissions and select presentations for inclusion on the agenda

If you are interested in serving on a committee or have questions, contact [Contact Chrissy Rhodes](#) or your regional director by August 31, 2014.

## Wyoming Chapter Will Host Stream Restoration Workshop

The Wyoming Chapter will host a stream restoration workshop on Thursday, September 11, 2014, at Casper College in Casper, Wyoming. The technical workshop, "Shaping Our Waterways for the Future," is open to practitioners, students, agency representatives, and interested members of the general public.

Coming on the heels of the International Soil and Water Conservation Society 69<sup>th</sup> Conference in Lombard, Illinois, themed "Making Waves in Conservation," this Wyoming event focuses on an important and timely topic and features a field tour to two Casper stream restoration projects in the afternoon. Morning presenters include Chris Gauthier, a civil engineer with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), speaking on natural channel design, and Paul Starkey, a civil engineering technician, speaking on visual stream assessment protocol. Additional presenters will be Clyde Bennett of True North Steel, Jolene Martinez from the Casper City Manager's Office, and Nathan Jean with Stantec. Following lunch, the North Platte River Revival Committee and Chuck Schmitt of NRCS will introduce the Morad Park Riparian Restoration Project and the Garden Creek Stream Restoration Project. The afternoon will feature a field tour of both project sites, with the event closing at Nancy English Park.

Full day registration before September 1, 2014, is \$70. The morning technical session without tour is \$40. Half day registration for technical session after September 1 is \$50. Student registration for the day is \$45 or free with SWCS membership enrollment. All registrations include coffee break and lunch. For more information on this event or registration materials, please contact Wyoming SWCS Area 1 Director [Mark Opitz](#).

## How Can SWCS Corporate Memberships Benefit Local Companies/Organizations and Chapters?

### Increase Your Company's Positive Exposure

The Soil and Water Conservation Society Corporate Membership Program links like-minded businesses and organizations with the SWCS members and mission. A corporate membership helps fund SWCS conservation activities, identifies your business or organization with a respected international conservation organization, and offers you and your firm the opportunity for national and international visibility with the land and water conservation cause. Additionally, a portion of corporate dues goes back to your company's local SWCS chapter!

Corporate members receive:

- Networking and marketing opportunities
- An invitation to a private leadership event at the annual conference
- Complimentary or discounted conference exhibit space and registration
- Corporate member highlights on social media and in the SWCS newsletter
- Recognition in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, SWCS newsletter, annual report, at some conferences, and on the SWCS website
- Discounted advertising rates in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*

### Increase Your Chapter's Funding

Corporate memberships are most successful when the relationship is facilitated through individuals that know SWCS—who we are and what we do. This is why we want to reach out to chapters and members for assistance. When local chapters recruit corporate members, they receive corporate member dues and benefit as well!

There are several ways you can approach a local business about involvement as a corporate member:

- If you own a business, consider the benefits of joining at the corporate member level.
- If you or your chapter has a working relationship with an environmentally friendly business, tell them about the SWCS and ask them to become a corporate member.
- If your chapter recognizes outstanding businesses with any type of stewardship award or conservation award, consider these businesses as candidates for corporate membership.

A lot of work has been done in the area of conservation, but our job is not finished! Through your support, SWCS will be able to continue efforts to ensure long-term sustainability of our soil, water, and related natural resources for future generations.

For more details go to [www.swcs.org/corporate\\_membership](http://www.swcs.org/corporate_membership) or contact Chrissy Rhodes at 1-800- THE SOIL ext. 114 or [christine.rhodes@swcs.org](mailto:christine.rhodes@swcs.org).

The collage features the following logos and text:

- CTIC**: Conservation Technology Information Center logo, featuring a stylized water drop with a green base and blue top.
- Ecosystem Services Exchange**: Valuing Conservation logo with a blue and green geometric background.
- Agri Drain CORPORATION**: Logo in purple script and block letters.
- AGREN**: Logo in brown block letters with a blue and green geometric symbol below.
- WHITE RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT**: Logo featuring a blue bird and a plant on a yellow background.
- PIONEER**: Logo with a green plant icon and the word "PIONEER" in green.
- DUPONT**: Logo in red and white.
- DOW**: Logo in a red diamond shape.
- Dow AgroSciences**: Text in black.
- The Nature Conservancy**: Logo with a green leaf icon and the text "SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH" below.
- The Fertilizer Institute**: Logo with a green and yellow leaf icon and the tagline "Nourish, Replenish, Grow".
- Hickenbottom Inc.**: Logo with a stylized bird icon and the tagline "Look for the bright orange inlet - Hickenbottom's Trademark".

## New Members

*Welcome members who joined in July!*

### Alabama

Diane Guthrie

### Arkansas—Razorback

Bill Fowler

### California/Nevada

William Baker

Ping Li

### Canada—Ontario

Chris Van Esbroeck

### Colorado

Caroline McKinney

### District of Columbia—National

#### Capital Chapter

Clayton Ogg

### Iowa

Martin St. Clair

### Illinois

Rabin Bhattatai

Kuldip Kumar

Guanglong Tian

### North Dakota

Steve Dvorak

Jay Fuhrer

### Ohio—All Ohio

Rem Confesor

### Oregon

Daniel Zinkand

### Texas—East Texas

Owen Sitton

### Virginia—Virginia Polytech

#### University

Amory Fischer

## Current Corporate Members

For more information about corporate membership, please contact Chrissy Rhodes, 515-289-2331 x 114, [corporate.info@swcs.org](mailto:corporate.info@swcs.org).

### Gold

Agri Drain Corporation

DuPont Pioneer

Hickenbottom Inc.

Dow AgroSciences

### Silver

Agren Inc.

The Fertilizer Institute

### Bronze

Conservation Technology

Information Center

Ecosystem Services Exchange

The Nature Conservancy

White River Irrigation District

