



SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

SNEC – SWCS, P.O. Box 487, Belchertown, MA 01007
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January 2011

www.swcssnec.org

President's Message Liz Rogers

Happy 2011! I hope everyone enjoyed the Holiday season with friends and family. The past few months have been a time of change for me. I retired on December 31st after 30 years with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. I enjoyed a wonderful and rewarding career but felt it was time to move on to new adventures. I am very grateful for the kind words and well wishes that I received from so many of my friends at NRCS, the Eastern CT Resource Conservation & Development Council (I was the RC&D Coordinator) and the conservation partners that I had the pleasure to worked with over the years. A week after I retired, on January 7th, I had my birthday. This is an annual event and not unexpected—but retirement and a birthday in the same week can make a person feel old! As you can imagine I have been a little introspective lately about my career, life and things I am looking forward to doing. As I sat down to write this message I started to think about our chapter and it's beginning.

Did you know that our chapter became a charter chapter on December 8, 1946 by a vote of the Soil Conservation Society of America (now SWCS) at their council meeting, which was held in Chicago? That means our chapter has been around for 64 years. Now I don't feel so old! Thanks to the many dedicated chapter members and volunteers, I think we have done an outstanding job of advancing our mission to “promote, educate and advance all phases of the science of conservation of soil, water and all related resources.”

A perfect example of meeting our continued efforts to address environmental topics in a timely manner was the December 17th winter conference “From Rain to Runoff”. This conference, which was the combined effort of our chapter and the UConn Student Chapter, addressed sustainable environmental practices including “green” landscaping, composting and stormwater management. I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the conference's Premier Sponsor CME Associates, Inc for their generous support of the event. The summer meeting planning committee is working on a conference that will build off the discussions and ideas of the winter meeting. The summer meeting will be held in CT this year and meeting details will be available soon.

Grab a cup of coffee, sit back and enjoy this newsletter,

Liz



Save this date: June 16, 2011 — Chapter Summer Meeting



The Southern New England Chapter of the SWCS is a non-profit scientific and educational organization dedicated to promoting and advancing the conservation of soil, water and all natural resources.

Contributions and articles for the SNEC-SWCS Newsletter are welcome and will be printed as space permits, subject to editorial policy. Please submit articles to: Nancy Ferlow
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Jeff Anliker
413-213-6885
anliker@charter.net

Executive Director's Report

Our Winter Meeting on Friday, December 17, 2010 at the University of Connecticut was a huge success. A big thank you to the UConn Student Chapter members in coordinating this effort. According to the evaluation forms we received, the theme of *From Rain to Runoff* was very timely and well received. Almost 50 percent of the attendees came from referrals and promotion of the conference by our co-sponsors. All four presenters received high marks for their presentation and content, as did the tour. The participants rated the Bishop Center and UConn very high and would like to see additional conferences at the same location. Future conference themes suggested include storm water management tour of UConn, additional information on TMDL with presentations by EPA and state water quality agencies, and the downfalls and solutions of low impact development (LID) issues in the field. The presenter's PowerPoint presentations and conference photos are on our website at www.swcssnec.org. Go to the Events and then Past Events for the presentations (http://www.swcssnec.org/past_events.html) and to the Photos (<http://www.swcssnec.org/fw2010winterconferencephotos/slideshow/>) for the conference photos.

Eric Scherer and I will be working closely with the Northeast Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association (IECA) to coordinate training and review sessions and exams for the Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC), the Certified Erosion, Sediment and Storm Water Inspector (CESSWI), and the Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ) certification programs. Once we have set our 2011 schedule, I will be posting the dates and registration information on our website and the websites of the appropriate program at the EnviroCert International website at www.envirocertintl.org. At that time, I will email you with the information so that you may share it with others. We would like to encourage site specific or industry specific training as we did with almost 30 Dominion Resource Services employees from the Southern New England area in their Providence facility. If you are aware of a business, organization or agency that could benefit from our training programs, please let me know or give them my contact information.

For the period of July 1st to December 31st 2010, the following individuals have renewed their SWCS membership or have become new members:

- New Members: Christopher Horne, Jason Lederer, Richard Pace, and Scott Winters all of Massachusetts
- Renewed Members: Diane Alix, Mick Boland, Diane Walworth Duva, Charles Eaton, Mark Hood, Robert Jontos, Barbara Kelly, Tom Morris, Joe Polulech, Ronald Rose, Deborah Seavey, Patricia Sesto, Ken Taylor, and John Tetreault of Connecticut; Jeff Anliker, John Chessia, David Drain, Wendi Goldsmith, Micky Marcus, John Olcott, Timothy Randhir, Richard Starkey, Saiping Tso, and Curtis Young of Massachusetts; and Brandon Faneuf, Donald Jackson, Steven Pinch, and Mary Talbot of Rhode Island. So far in January 2011, Ralph Chartier Sr., Deborah Spalding, Ralph Stanton Jr., and Eric Thomas all of Connecticut and Andy Bohne of Massachusetts have become new members. In addition, Basma Mohammad of

UConn renewed her membership.

Please welcome and thank these members for their support. With the new members in January, our membership for the Chapter including the UConn Student Chapter exceeded 100 members. Congratulations!

If you have any suggestions, questions or comments, please contact me at 413-213-6885, anliker@charter.net or through our website.

Jeff Anliker

SWCS Modeling Summit 2011 Advancing the Science of Modeling

March 29-31, 2011 | Denver, Colorado

This meeting will provide a forum to exchange information, discuss opportunities for collaboration, and learn about the advantages and limitations of available data sets for inclusion in current and future models. The target audience for the meeting is modelers and data stewards from federal and state agencies, non-profit organizations, industry, private consulting firms and universities.

Overarching goal: To get model practitioners together to talk about the best way to utilize and integrate available models and data sets to address specific customer conservation/conservation benefit needs. One of the primary concerns of our customers is estimating the site-specific benefits of conservation practices. Modelers must consider the level of precision that is needed for the intended use which may include general conservation planning, program payment support, credit trading support, reports to congress, inside and outside of USDA requests, and policy formulation/regulation.

The meeting will be held at the Denver Renaissance Hotel, with complementary transportation to and from DIA. SWCS has arranged a special rate and room block: \$129/night (plus taxes)

Meeting agenda and additional information online at www.swcs.org/modelingsummit

Scholarship Opportunities

The **Donald A. Williams Soil Conservation Scholarship** provides financial assistance to members of SWCS who are currently employed but wish to improve their technical or administrative competence in a conservation related field through course work at an accredited college or through a program of special study. *At least one scholarship, up to \$1,000, is expected to be awarded in 2011.*

The **Kenneth E. Grant Research Scholarship** provides financial assistance to members of SWCS for interdisciplinary graduate-level research on a conservation topic that will extend the SWCS mission of fostering the science and art of soil, water, and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability. *One research scholarship of \$1,000 is expected to be awarded in 2011.*

The **Melville H. Cohee Student Leader Conservation Scholarship** provides financial assistance to members of SWCS who are in their junior or senior year of full-time undergraduate study or are pursuing graduate level studies with a natural resource conservation orientation at a properly accredited college or university. *At least one scholarship, up to \$500, is expected to be awarded in 2011.*

***Deadline for all application submissions:
February 12, 2011***

Scholarships are available for individuals who have been a SWCS member for at least one year.

**Membership information can be found at:
www.swcs.org.**

Visit www.swcs.org/en/members_only/ scholarships for more details and application instructions.

SNEC-SWCS 2010 Winter Conference

On December 17, 2010 approximately 50 people attended the SNEC-SWCS Winter Conference at the UConn Bishop Center. The conference brought together students, educators and professionals to learn more about current topics in natural resource conservation. Under the conference theme "From Rain to Runoff" four speakers were assembled to present the status and results of their current conservation efforts.

Dr. Thomas Morris of the UConn Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture spoke on compost end use and explained that phosphorus content can vary 30 fold in composts which makes a nutrient plan essential for responsible use.

Andrew Bohne provided site specific examples of design and implementation of Low Impact Development technology for stormwater management and Green Landscape from his experience as an Ecological Designer/Planner at New England Environmental, Inc. of Amherst, MA.

Eric Thomas of the Connecticut DEP presented a detailed account of the nations first Impervious Cover TMDL (IC TMDL) approved by the EPA which is currently being implemented for the Eagleville Brook watershed in Mansfield, CT and on the UConn, Storrs campus. Eric provided an overview of the research approach used in development of the IC TMDL and presented a summary of implementation, with highlights of current efforts to reduce directly connected impervious area to meet the 11% IC target.

Bruce Gregoire, PhD Candidate, UConn Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, presented the results of his research into the water quality and water quantity impact of a modular green roof. Bruce also provided a guided tour of the study green roof located on the Edward V. Gant Complex at UConn, Storrs.

The UConn-SWCS played a central role in organizing and hosting the conference. Thanks to UConn-SWCS President, Lauren LeShane for her planning efforts as well as Samantha Robinson, Genevieve Flock and Matthew Puntzy for their assistance.

All presentations from the 2010 Winter Conference can be viewed on the SNEC-SWCS website. The next SNEC-SWCS conference will be the annual summer conference to be held in Connecticut. More

information about the 2011 Summer Conference will be made available on the SNEC-SWCS website and included in the May 2011 SNEC-SWCS newsletter.



Grant Applications! Due by June 1, 2011

The Southern New England Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SNEC-SWCS) encourages requests for grants of funds from governmental, academic and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations for worthwhile efforts. Requests must fit the mission of SNEC-SWCS, have a lasting value and be of Chapter wide significance.

The Mission of the Chapter is to promote protection, improvement and responsible use of natural resources in Southern New England through education of resource professionals and other interested citizens, groups and units of government.

The amount of funds available for grants will be determined by the annual budget, as well as additional funds received by the Chapter.

The deadline for proposals is June 1. Proposals post-marked after this deadline will be considered for the following year. Please submit proposal as early in the year as possible so that we can contact you for further information, if necessary. Organizations will be selected for funding by the end of June and will be notified by the end of July. Funds will be issued by the following September 1. Applicants not approved for funding will be notified by the end of July.

More information at www.swcssnec.org

2011 Annual Conference

66th Annual International Conference

July 17-20, 2011

[Omni Shoreham](#)
Washington, DC

Conservation Science and Policy: Global Perspectives & Applications

Conservation is a complex endeavor. It involves multiple actors and disciplines, requiring learning and adapting. No matter where you live, work or study, your knowledge and experiences contribute to the science and art of conservation.

Our focus for this year's meeting is exploring ways to improve the linkages among conservation science, policy and application at local, national, and international scales. The conference will provide participants an opportunity to teach skills, learn techniques, compare successes, and improve understanding.

Washington, DC, is the perfect place for people to convene and explore ways to strengthen conservation practices and policies at home and throughout the world. We invite you to join us and contribute your knowledge and experience.



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