



SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

SNEC – SWCS, P.O. Box 487, Belchertown, MA 01007
(413)213-6885

February 2012

www.swcssnec.org

President's Message **Tom Akin**

Belated Happy New Year to Everyone!

This has been quite the winter that wasn't. A Halloween snow storm that dumps three feet of snow bringing down trees and causing massive power outages across Southern New England, then a winter with NO snow storms, and a January with no SNEC SWCS Winter Meeting, what's going on here?! This doesn't sound like it's going to end well; so now we'll probably end up with 6 feet of snow in April...

But hold on, we DID have a "winter" meeting this past December! Unfortunately, most of you missed a great event that was co-sponsored with the Northeast Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association, the MA Association of Conservation Commissions, and SNEC-SWCS. Over 200 environmental professionals attended the 3-day conference held in December in Natick, MA. Congratulations to the IECA conference chair Jason Lederer, CPESC of the BSC Group in Worcester, the conference sponsors, and all those who volunteered (especially our Executive Director Jeff Anliker—please see Jeff's article for a full description of the conference) who helped to put on a great event. The technical presentations and the exhibitors did a great job of bringing the best of current technologies to our industry. Well done everyone! I'm already looking forward to the 2013 Winter Meeting; maybe we'll even have some snow next winter!

In January, SWCS Headquarters approved the

re-activation of the UMass Student Chapter of the SWCS. Congratulations to student President Emily Olmsted, Treasurer Keith Toffling, and MA Director, Dr. Timothy Randhir who will be advising the student chapter. Our student members are the future of our organization; we wish them (and their compatriots/rivals at the UConn student chapter!) the best of luck in their studies and their SWCS student chapter activities.

Also coming this spring, SNEC SWCS will launch a completely re-designed web site for our chapter; again, please see Jeff Anliker's column for all of the details. It will feature some new bells and whistles including a design that matches the main SWCS web site, student chapter areas, links to our partner organizations such as IECA and MACC, and opportunities for sponsors. We hope that the new SNEC SWCS web site will be up and running in the next month or so. Please check it out and let us know what you think!

And finally, the Executive Committee of the SNEC SWCS is always looking for members (as well as new members!) who are willing to offer some of their precious time to help organize chapter activities. If you would like to volunteer, or have an idea for a project that you would like our chapter to participate in, please get in touch with us. We hope you have an uneventful end to winter and a very productive spring season.

Best regards, Tom Akin.

In the next Newsletter watch for info on the Chapter Summer Meeting in Rhode Island



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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Tolland, CT 06084
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Board Members

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Student Chapter

UCONN Advisor – Gary Robbins, CT
UMASS Advisor—Timothy Randhar, MA

Executive Director

Jeff Anliker
413-213-6885
anliker@charter.net

Executive Director's Report

Our Winter Meeting was a collaborative effort with the Northeast Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association (NE IECA) and the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) held December 1-3 in Natick. Over 200 attendees and more than 20 vendors exhibited at this conference. The theme was: “*The Changing Climate in Sediment and Water Management*,” recognized that the protection, enhancement and preservation of natural resources throughout the northeastern United States, and beyond, requires innovation in the technical and political methods and approaches used for watershed planning and management in rural and urban areas. The agenda included regulatory updates and reviews, technical sessions, hands-on demonstrations, professional certification courses and exams (CPESC, CPSWQ, CESSWI, and CMS4S).

The SWCS Southern Chapter website is under a redesign by Zach Sullivan whose personal website is at <http://zsullivan.com>. Our new design will increase awareness of SWCS and include a consistent branding from the SWCS International site (<http://www.swcs.org/>). It will offer a new Board Members section, a Donation/Contribution page, corporate sponsorship and feature student chapters from UMass and UConn. All current site content will move into the latest version of Wordpress (a web publishing system). This will provide better access for all site administrators and make future updates to design and page templates easier. Additional support for mobile devices is also planned as part of this redesign.

For 2012, the following EnviroCert International programs are scheduled. They are 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. The 1st is Friday, March 2 for the CPESC/CESSWI/CPSWQ Exams; the 2nd is Friday, May 25th for a CPESC Review Session; the 3rd is Friday, June 22nd for CPESC/CESSWI/CPSWQ Exams; the 4th is Friday September 14th for another CPESC Review Session with Friday, October 19th for CPESC/CESSWI/CPSWQ Exams. The Review Sessions and Exams will be in Amherst, Massachusetts. For additional information on these sessions, go to our website at www.swcssnec.org or the EnviroCert International website at www.envirocertintl.org. In addition to our regular scheduled review sessions, we can provide training and/or exams to public or private sector organizations that would like to host either internally within their organization. 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.

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

Jeff Anliker

NEW Massachusetts Student Chapter

A new student chapter of the Soil Water Conservation Society was recently established at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. The SWCS board of directors approved the formation of UMASS Chapter of SWCS. This chapter will focus on bringing together UMass students from all areas of study along with community members who share an interest in soil and water conservation practices and local environmental issues. The chapter aims to provide a connection between the University and the local community by establishing beneficial relationships among students in variety of sciences involving soil and water use. Offering the opportunity to graduate and undergraduate students to explore pioneering programs, which safeguard soil, increase water quality, and enhance local community conservation efforts by examining current practices and future development projects. Members will gain experience in recommended practices for conservation.

There will be monthly meetings, which will include guest speakers, presentations and discussions surrounding relevant soil and water conservation topics. The chapter will schedule several educational outreach field trips in spring, which will unite students who exhibit an interest in these disciplines of conservation by conducting exciting hands on activities. Members of this chapter will have opportunity to network with professionals working in conservation field while also learning about exciting available internships! We encourage new members to join at anytime during the academic year. Joining requires completing an application and \$25 membership payment online at SWCS.org, part of which will be subsidized by the Southern New England Chapter of SWCS. Our first meeting was successful in discussing ideas for projects. The guest speaker on the opening meeting was Tom Akin of NRCS and the Chair of Board of Directors of the Southern New England Chapter of SWCSW. The UMass Chapter will be holding more meetings as well as participating in local environmental projects.

Officers:

President: Emily Olmsted

eolmsted@student.umass.edu

Treasure: Keith Tofflin ktofflin@student.umass.edu

Faculty Adviser: Dr. Timothy Randhir randhir@eco.umass.edu

2011 SWCS Annual Meeting in Washington DC

I was fortunate this year to be able to represent the Southern New England Chapter at the SWCS Annual meeting. It was held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC. The theme for 2011 was Global Perspectives and Applications. The featured speaker was Dan Glickman, former US Secretary of Agriculture, who spoke on Global Food Security and the current US policy towards Agriculture. He discussed sustainable food production for the increasing population, the static land base and water supply for growing food. He also touched on the disconnect between the current farm policy support for commodity crops and the new dietary recommendations for more fruits and vegetables.

Another feature of the conference was the presentation and discussion about the new SWCS Policy statement on Conservation Practices to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change. This Policy was also presented in the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation. The final Plenary Session was about the Strategies for Sustaining Global Food and Water Supplies. This was presented by a panel of national and international experts discussing agricultural production and water quality, soil and water conservations across national boundaries and agricultural programs and policies and how they interact.

Concurrent sessions were numerous and hard to choose between. There were sessions on policy, research and education. There was a wonderful selection of field trips/educational tours in and around the area. I attended the tour of the National Arboretum, Plant Materials Center and ARS Research Farm and the National Agricultural Library. All of these places are fantastic and worthy of a whole day – especially with a knowledgeable guide.

If you have not been to an SWCS Annual Conference before I highly recommend it. Seeing the wonderful work that people are doing in the field is inspiring and the networking in great. Thanks to the Chapter for affording me this opportunity.

Nancy Ferlow

2012 Schedule for CPESC/ CESSWI/CPSWQ Review Sessions and Exams

March 2—10 am to 3 pm—Amherst, MA
CPESC/CESSWI/CPSWQ Exam

May 25—9:00 am to 4:30 pm—Amherst, MA
CPESC Review Session

June 22—10 am to 3 pm—Amherst, MA
CPESC/CESSWI/CPSWQ Exam

Sept 14—9:00 am to 4:30 pm—Amherst, MA
CPESC Review Session

October 19—10 am to 3 pm—Amherst, MA
CPESC/CESSWI/CPSWQ Exam

Note: If you would like to schedule additional private sessions for your business or organization, contact Jeff Anliker.

Seating is limited, so registrations accepted on a first come, first served basis. If a review session or exam is already full when you sign up, you will be automatically be placed in the next available session. If all sessions are full when you register, your name will be placed on a waiting list for a future session. **Your registration is considered pending until you receive a confirmation email.**

The room will open 30 minutes prior to start time.

For additional information contact, Jeff Anliker at the telephone numbers above or at anliker@charter.net. For additional information on the certification process or for a copy of the application packets go to www.cpesc.org.



Member Report

Since June 1st, the following individuals have renewed their SWCS membership or have become new members:

New Members: Kayla Anatone and Scott Reinhardt of the UConn Student Chapter, and Vijay Nazareth all of Connecticut; Drew Morrison, Emily Olmstead, and Amir Sadeghpour of the UMass Student Chapter and Michele Girard and John Spargo all of Massachusetts; Caroline Gottschalk Druschke at the University of Illinois and Max Petrucci at Bridgewater State University.

Renewed Members include: Ralph Chartier, Diane Walworth Duva, Robert Jontos, Barbara Kelly, Kip Kolesinskas, Joe Polulech and John Tetreault of Connecticut; Jeff Anliker, John Chessia, and Curtis Young of Massachusetts; and Mary Talbot of Rhode Island. If you have renewed your membership and are not listed, please let me know so that I can update my records.

Please welcome and thank these members for their support. Congratulations!

Other Items of Interest

Ecological Landscaping Association Conference and Eco Marketplace—Mar 7 - 8, Springfield, MA <http://www.ecolandscaping.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/2012-ELA-Conference-Brochure.pdf>

NEMO Residential Raingarden Training—Mar. 29—30, Norwalk, CT <http://nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens/>

Connecticut Advocate Program—"Growing Farms in your Community" Mar 24, Hampton, CT <http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1109101767803-4/AgConferenceBroLR.pdf>

CT Association of Wetland Scientists Meeting—Mar 22, North Haven <http://www.ctwetlands.org/annualmeetings.html>

Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources, UCONN, Mar 12, Storrs, CT <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=947417>

2012 Annual Conference

67th Annual SWCS International Conference

July 22-25, 2012 | Fort Worth, TX

Choosing Conservation: Considering Ecology, Economics, and Ethics

Both [Hugh Hammond Bennett](#) and [Aldo Leopold](#) recognized that effective conservation decision-making takes many tools. A shovel, a pen, and a solid handshake were used skillfully by both men to help land managers and lawmakers make sustainable choices for working lands. Leopold was particularly vocal on the need to reunite economics with ecology and ethics. He recognized that each field of inquiry strengthens the study of natural resource conservation and its application on the back forty. Recent movements toward transdisciplinary research and systems approaches mirror Leopold's thinking. The 125th anniversary year of Leopold's birth provides us with an opportunity to take cues from Leopold and Bennett as we consider conservation choices today.

[Call for Presentations and Symposia Sessions](#)

Deadline for submissions:

Symposium Sessions & Oral Presentations:

CLOSED

Poster Presentations: March 15, 2012



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