



SOUTHERN
NEW ENGLAND
CHAPTER

Soil and Water Conservation Society

SWCS Southern New England Chapter <keara@swcssnec.org>

Fri, Jun 26, 2026 at 6:00 AM



SWCS Southern New England Chapter
2026 Conference and Annual Meeting
Thursday July 30th
UConn Storrs | 8 - 4:30



Speaker Spotlight



We are delighted to announce that **Alex Patterson, EA Engineering, Science, and Technology Inc., PBC**, will be joining us on July 30th at SNEC's 2026 conference, Soil Matters, in the Information Technology Engineering (ITE) Building on the UConn Storrs campus.

Alex Patterson is an ecologist with over 15 years of multi-disciplinary experience in the planning, design, permitting, and oversight of ecological restoration and habitat management projects in estuarine, freshwater, and terrestrial systems. He has served as project manager and senior ecologist for scores of projects, primarily in the Northeastern United States, including salt marsh habitat restoration, tidal restoration and other coastal resilience improvements, cranberry bog and other freshwater wetland restorations, dam removals, stream bank restorations, coastal and freshwater dredging, and habitat management projects, among others.

Presentation:

Salt Marsh Restoration through Sediment Nourishment in Massachusetts

Salt marshes are highly productive ecosystems that provide a wide range of ecological and community services, but are threatened by sea level rise, tidal restrictions, and the legacy of past agricultural activities, among other factors. Several studies have documented that the current rate of salt marsh accretion is insufficient to keep pace with current and predicted future rates of sea level rise, and evidence of salt marsh degradation is widespread in Northeast estuaries. One strategy which has been used to enhance the resilience and sustainability of salt marshes is the intentional placement of sediment onto the marsh surface. Massachusetts has recently adopted state-level guidance for the application of relatively thin layers of sediment to enhance salt marsh resilience, and several projects are currently in the design stage. Alex Patterson's presentation will review the role of sediment in salt marsh health and current efforts to restore and enhance salt marsh communities through the beneficial reuse of sediment in Massachusetts.

SOIL MATTERS

Event Schedule

Thursday, July 30th, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. EST.

Lunch, coffee breaks and workshops are included in the cost of registration.

Certificates of attendance will be provided to document six (6) hours of educational content for professional certification renewals.

Location: **UConn Storrs Campus Storrs CT 06268**

Information Technology Engineering (ITE) Building

No Vehicular Access to ITE - All vehicles must park at the [South Parking Garage](#) (\$16).

Parking subsidies available to students at all levels!

Contact keara@swcssnec.org or call (508) 945-3283



2026 Registration Rates

Register online via credit/debit card, PayPal or Google Pay.

- General Admission: \$125
- SWCS Member: \$75
- Student General Admission: \$50
- SWCS Student Chapter Member: \$25



Hands-on Soil Classification and Soil Microscopy Workshops are INCLUDED in the cost of registration. Workshop spaces are limited - reserve your spot today!

25% off for Groups of 3 or More who Register Together!!

- Group General Admission: \$93.75
- Group Student: \$37.50

Blue Light Special: \$190

Join the Soil & Water Conservation Society now at the \$115 Conservationist level and benefit immediately by registering for Soil Matters at the \$75 SNEC Member rate! We'll handle the SWCS membership paperwork. *This offer is for first-time SWCS members only.*

REGISTER NOW!

Exhibitors are Signing Up!

A variety of compelling exhibits will be on display, featuring innovative products that are driving progress in the field of soil and water conservation.

SWCS Southern New England Chapter's mission is to promote, educate and advance the science of soil, water and related resources conservation. We seek vendors of products and services that can help deliver solutions.

- Exhibitor Registration: \$500
 - Includes one 6ft table with drape and registration for one (1) person
- Non-Profit Exhibitor: \$250
- Additional Exhibit Staff: \$75 (2 max)

To sign up or ask about **opportunities for more active participation**, please contact Christine Odiaga at (508) 945-3283 or treasurer@secssnec.org.

SOIL MATTERS

To **REGISTER**, please go to <https://snec2026.eventbrite.com/>. For **SOIL MATTERS** updates, go to <https://swcssnec.org/snec2026/> or contact keara@swcssnec.org.