



SOUTHERN
NEW ENGLAND
CHAPTER

Soil and Water Conservation Society

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

Thu, Jun 18, 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



Ginny Patsun *North Central Conservation District*

Ginny Patsun will be joining us on July 30th at SNEC's 2026 conference, Soil Matters, in the Information Technology Engineering (ITE) Building at UConn Storrs campus.

Ginny is a Soil Conservation Specialist and a Connecticut Licensed Arborist. Ginny found her passion in agroforestry while serving in the United States Peace Corps in Zambia and is now practicing and promoting temperate agroforestry practices in Connecticut.

Presentation:

Being Creative with Multi-Use Riparian Buffers

Ginny's presentation will cover how to plant and manage a riparian buffer that is both ecologically beneficial and economically desirable. Ginny is developing the North Central Conservation District's project, Edible Riparian Buffer at Tolland County Agricultural Center (ERB at TAC), which is a multi-use riparian buffer demonstration plot planted along a stream in Vernon, CT.

Because land in Connecticut is becoming scarce, landowners and producers are finding it necessary to cut back vegetation buffers along waterways to get as much use from their land as possible. Ginny offers ideas on how to plant buffers with marketable botanicals, florals, craft materials, food, and timber in addition to gaining the benefits of flood mitigation, bank stabilization, nutrient management, and ecological resources for wildlife.

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.