



SOUTHERN
NEW ENGLAND
CHAPTER

Soil and Water Conservation Society

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

Tue, Jul 7, 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



Denise Savageau, Connecticut Association of Conservation Districts

Denise Savageau is an environmental planner with over 35 years working in Connecticut. She started her career working for the Hartford County Soil and Water Conservation District and then served as the Conservation Director for the Town of Greenwich for 20 years.

Now “retired,” Denise is an active volunteer at the local, state, and national level on soil and water conservation where she serves as Chair of the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation Districts and is currently President of the Connecticut Association of Conservation Districts and chair of Connecticut’s Council on Soil and Water Conservation. She represents Connecticut on the National Association of Conservation Districts and is the NACD Northeast Region Chair. Her focus is on soil health, watershed management, wetlands protection, drinking water supply protection, local food systems, nature-based solutions that address climate change and biodiversity loss, and the intersection of housing and environmental justice policy. She lives in Old Lyme with her husband, a professional wetland scientist and avid birder, who shares her passion for the environment.

Presentation:

Understanding Soil Health as a Nature-Based Solution

There are two major crises affecting our world: climate change and loss of biodiversity. Protecting and restoring natural systems is essential to solving these crises. Globally, there is a renewed focus on the importance of our working and natural lands and the use of nature-based solutions such as keeping forests as forests and protecting wetlands and riparian areas. This workshop will focus on the critical role that soil and soil health plays across all landscapes as we embrace nature-based solutions and move towards a more resilient and sustainable future.

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.