



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



Program Preview

The program is still being developed but we can describe the general framework to help inform planning. Soil Matters will run concurrent sessions upstairs and downstairs at the Information Technology Engineering Building (ITE) and at the Plant & Soil Health Center (PSHC).

Sign-in (upstairs), Coffee and Exhibits (both floors) – ITE 0800H

Opening Session - ITE Lecture Hall (C80) 0900H

Welcome and Presentations by **Denise Savageau (CT Council on Soil & Water Conservation)** about soils as the foundation for nature-based solutions and **Dr. Amelia Magistrali (UConn Extension)**, who will talk about the importance of aggregate stability to soil health and then tee-up the Rainfall Simulator.

Plant & Soil Health Center <i>shuttle provided</i>	ITE Building - Sign In (upstairs) Coffee - Exhibits (upstairs & downstairs)		
	C80 Lecture Hall	Upstairs A	Upstairs B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Presentations (Savageau, Magistrali) 		
	1st Rainfall Simulator Demonstration Break - Exhibits - Networking		
Workshop: Soil Texture and Color in the Field + Tour : Plant & Soil Health Center labs	Presentations	Workshop: Soil Health 3-Ways – An Overview Microbial Life in Healthy Soil	Demonstration : Stone Dust
	Buffet Lunch (upstairs) - Dining (both floors) Rainfall Simulator Demonstrations (downstairs)		
Workshop: Soil Texture and Color in the Field + Tour: Plant & Soil Health Center labs	Presentations	Presentations	
	Break - Exhibits - Networking Rainfall Simulator Demonstration		
	Presentations	Presentations	
	Closing Remarks		

Soil Texture and Color in the Field (A.M. and P.M. workshops) will be at **PSHC** and includes a tour of the new labs. A shuttle will be provided, and a student volunteer will escort participants to and from the shuttle stops. The morning workshop will begin after the Opening Session and morning break at ITE. The afternoon workshop will begin after lunch at ITE.

Soil Health 3-Ways – An Overview of Microbial Life in Healthy Soil (A.M. workshop only) will be in an upstairs classroom at **ITE**. Participants are encouraged to bring samples to learn how to prepare slides, which can then be displayed on-screen for discussion. This workshop will begin after the Opening Session and morning break at ITE.

Presentations will run concurrently in two or three rooms in **ITE**. For updates, go to <https://swcssnec.org/snec2026/>