

Spring 2006

Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Society

Tracy Cole, President



Annual Meeting Time!

Theme: "Conserving Our Soil and Water Resources for Future Generations."

When? June 7, 8, 9, 2006

Where? Huntsville, AL
The Holiday Inn Research Park

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Coming In the Next Issue:

Science-Fair Winners from across the state.

Reports on the Annual Meeting and up to date Calendar Events for the state.

Time. Webster defines it as the measured or measurable period during which an action, process, or condition exists or continues, a nonspatial continuum in which events occur in apparently irreversible succession from the past through the present to the future. We are all allotted the same amount each day, although some might argue otherwise, but it's really about setting priorities. Life bombards us with competing demands for this limited natural resource, if I may categorize it as such, and as I reflect on my remaining time as your president, let me say that I hope God, family, and service to others are priorities for you as well as your outstanding commitment to conservation. You are part of an award-winning chapter, as evidenced by the Alabama Chapter receiving the 2005 Outstanding Chapter Award, 2005 Chapter Achievement Award, and 2005 Chapter Professional Development Award. These awards were given under the leadership tenure of my predecessor, Ben Moore, and I thank all of you for making this happen.

I am proud to announce that the Chapter Development committee has finalized the details of a Leadership Development Internship position that will be posted soon. This will be an outstanding opportunity for a new member to learn about and serve this chapter while developing leadership skills that should last throughout his or her career. I have encouraged the area vice-presidents to develop plans for mid-year area meetings and I would like your input as to what programs and activities would be most meaningful to you. Also, we are making progress on an interpretive soils display to be placed at one of our state parks, although a bit slower than we had hoped. Recently, several SWCS members were involved in judging regional and state science fairs, which the Alabama Chapter supports with cash awards. May 23-25, our chapter will help sponsor the NRCS National Agronomy Meeting held in Auburn. This should be a great meeting and I would encourage your attendance. For more information, please contact Ben Moore.

And finally, make plans to attend our annual meeting June 7-9, 2006, in Huntsville. Kirk Iversen and the whole planning committee have worked very hard to put together a great technical program and tour that should be informative and enjoyable. Thanks to the executive committee for making it a pleasure to serve this year and for all your efforts and time promoting stewardship of our natural resources. See you in Huntsville.

Tracy

Erosion and Sediment Control News

Earl Norton, Chairman, CPESC Committee

Planning for Red Water Blues Field Days 2006 is underway. The Erosion and Sediment Control Program Steering Committee has decided to hold only two events this year with the notion that they can be moved around the State and over a few years will have been held in most of the strategic locations (just not at these locations every year). 2006 field days will be at Tuscaloosa – September 14 and Auburn – September 28. Another change this year is an extended program to formally cover Regulations and Erosion Control Blankets.

The first update of the 2003 Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas (Revision No. 1) was distributed in February. There are a number of handbook holders that have not returned the Receipt form and did not get the update. If you have a Handbook and still have your receipt form, it should be completed and mailed to the address at the bottom of the receipt form.

A 1 1/2 day erosion and sediment control seminar for disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) operators was presented through Tuskegee University in February with excellent attendance and positive feedback from the participants. Another session is being planned for presentation in South Alabama later this year.

A number of firms and groups have participated in printing of the Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama and, with this excellent support, 9,500 copies are now available for users. If large numbers are needed, they may be purchased through the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation Foundation (see the Soil and Water Conservation Committee homepage for ordering information, www.swcc.state.al.us). A single copy may be picked up at a local soil and water conservation district office.

Seventeen persons participated in the CPESC Exam Review Course and CPESC Exam held at Clanton in March. Interestingly, half of the group was from out-of-state and included participants from GA, LA, OK, TN and TX. The next offering of the Exam and Review Course will be in August at Clanton – registration information will be posted soon on the Chapter homepage.

Congratulations to Alabama's new CPESCs: Chinglun Chu (Sain Associates, Birmingham), Ben Elledge (AMEC Earth & Environmental, Birmingham), Johnny Grace (U.S. Forest Service, Auburn), Warren Hammac (ADEM, Mobile), Danny Spriggs (Danny Spriggs Construction Services, Centre).

Also, CONGRATULATIONS to Wilson Folmar, Thompson Engineering, Montgomery. Wilson is the first Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ) in Alabama.

The Southeast Chapter of IECA and local governments in the Nashville area will present Muddy Water Blues at Franklin, TN on May 10 and 11. This excellent event is close enough for many of us to attend. Registration information is on the IECA homepage: www.ieca.org.

Last, but certainly not least, be sure to participate in the AL Chapter SWCS Annual Meeting at Huntsville. It should be one of the Chapter's best meetings.

I will welcome any suggestions of items to cover.

Earl Norton, Chairman

CPESC Committee nortone1@bellsouth.net

The Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Research Park, Huntsville, Alabama June 7-9, 2006.

This year's theme is, "**Conserving Our Soil and Water Resources for Future Generations**" You are invited to present a poster at this meeting.

Poster authors will be scheduled to be present for a one- to two-hour period, to discuss their research, answer questions, etc. Posters will be displayed on Wednesday June 7, 2006 [afternoon] on half-size poster boards. Please prepare your posters to fit a 48" wide x 42" high space.

There will be a student poster award during the poster presentations. All posters submitted will be eligible for awards. The outstanding posters and authors (to be determined by a team of judges) will be given prizes that will be determined by the Society.

Additional information about Alabama Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society and the annual meeting can be found at this address <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/> OR

Contact Monday Mbila (Monday.mbila@email.aamu.edu; 256-372-4185); Kirk Iversen (kiversen@auburn.edu; 334-844-4741, x179) for information about the poster presentation.

Visit our Website: <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/>

The Auburn Student Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

Mary Goodman

The AU Student Chapter will have a booth with activities, a display, and information on SWCS for participants at the Earth Day Celebration at Auburn University on April 20 from 10 am to 4 pm in the Foy Student Union Ballroom. Details of the event can be found at <http://earthday.auburn.edu/index.php>. The chapter will interact with participants using 2 activities: an 'Edible Aquifer' (<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/cool/ameliaedibleaquifer.htm>) and an 'Edible Soil Profile' (<http://www.ctic.purdue.edu/CTIC/BetterSoilRecipe.htm>). These activities allow participants to build a delicious sweet treat as the activities illustrate how groundwater is stored, how what we do above ground can affect the water underground, and how soil is formed and protected by surface vegetation and residues. Plan to come and join in the celebration and get a treat to eat at the same time!

The AU Chapter has become a partner in the SWaMP by endorsing the implementation of the Saugahatchee Watershed Management Plan (SWaMP). AU Chapter members will be involved in future SWaMP project activities for the conservation and restoration of the watershed including watershed assessments and education/outreach activities.

The spring bulb sale raised \$250.00 for student memberships and activities. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Welcome to our newest members: Shelly England (Fisheries), Robert Florence and Trey Prevatt (Environmental Science), and Mack Moncus (Biosystems Engineering).

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Annual Meeting, June 7–9, 2006

Conserving Our Soil and Water Resources for Future Generations

The Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Society's annual meeting, June 7–9, 2006 in Huntsville, is looking to be a real humdinger (translation: *really cool*). The meeting will feature speakers on a variety of topics in natural resource management, soil erosion and sediment control, and agriculture, and will include a keynote presentation by Dr. Doug Phillips of *Discovering Alabama*. An all-day field tour will visit the Marshall Space Flight Center's superfund cleanup program, an industrial park using state-of-the-art environmental practices, a local farm utilizing conservation agriculture and broiler litter storage and application, and an AL-DOT site using best management practices for erosion and sediment control.

Also included in the meeting: exhibits by businesses and agencies, a student poster session, dinner at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, and the always-popular business meeting. A silent auction will benefit student chapters at Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities. CEU's will be offered for CPESC, CCA, and pesticide certification.

Please visit our web site, <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/>, for more information and registration forms. NOTE: Registration for students is FREE.

For more information about the meeting, please contact Kirk Iversen at: (kiversen@auburn.edu; 334-844-4741, ext. 179)

Exhibitors, please contact Billy Bullard at: (bullardb@dot.state.al.us; 334-353-6945)

Program

Wednesday, June 7, 2006

Exhibits and Silent Auction – all day

Opening Session – 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Dr. Doug Phillips – KEYNOTE: Saving Our Natural Resources – Saving Our Natural Heritage

Dr. Monday Mbila – Geology and Soils of Northern Alabama

Dr. Dick McNider – The Sustainable Irrigation Initiative

Ed Poolos – New ADEM Regulations and Approaches

Harvey Cotton – Invasive Species

The Land Trust of Huntsville and Northern Alabama

Poster Session and Mixer – 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Program continued

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Exhibits and Silent Auction – 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM; 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

All-day Field Tour – 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Marshall Space Flight Center Superfund Program

North Huntsville Industrial Park

Jimmy Newby Farm – Conservation Agriculture and Broiler Litter Storage & Application

AL DOT Best Management Practices

Committee Meetings – 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Dinner – 6:00 PM

Huntsville Botanical Garden

Friday, June 9, 2006

Exhibits and Silent Auction – 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Business Meeting – 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

Concurrent Technical Sessions – 10:00 AM to Noon

Session One – Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr. Charles Mitchell – Long-Term Agricultural Experiments in Alabama

Dr. Jason Bergtold – Conservation Agriculture Economics

Dr. Yucheng Feng – Microbial Source Tracking of Alabama Streams

Dr., Teferi Tsegaye – Water Quality and Weather Monitoring

Session Two – Erosion and Sediment Control

Doug Clendenon – Soil Surveys and NRCS Web Site Resources

Chris Johnson – GPS Technology

Calendar of Events and Meetings

Muddy Water Blues 2006 (IECA SE Chapter)

May 10-11, 2006 Franklin, TN <http://www.ieca.org>

May 23-25 National Agronomy Meeting @ Auburn, Al

June 7-9, 2006 Alabama Chapter SWCS @ Huntsville, Al

CPESC Exam Review Course and Exam

To be scheduled for August 2006 <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu>

Red Water Blues Field Days 2006

September 14 - Tuscaloosa; September 28 - Auburn

<http://www.swcc.state.al.us>

Erosion and Sediment Control Seminars

To be scheduled by Tuskegee University and Auburn University

<http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu> (after scheduled)

The Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Research Park, Huntsville, Alabama June 7-9, 2006.

2006 Board of Directors

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