AUBURN, Ala., December 10, 2020— Alabama A&M University’s Autumn Hill has been named the Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society’s 2020 Scholar. Hill, of Columbus, Ohio, is the recipient of the $2,000 academic scholarship that will help her as she continues to pursue a degree in Environmental Science from Alabama A&M’s College of Agriculture, Life and Natural Sciences.

Hill’s interest in the field of agriculture was instilled in her at a very young age. Hill attended connecting kids outside events, Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) board meetings and also participated as an Earth Team volunteer with the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service in Ohio during her senior year of high school.

“Through these experiences over the years, I developed a passion to protect and help create a healthy and sustainable environment,” Hill said.

During her time at Alabama A&M, Hill has interned with the Department of Energy as a research trainee and with NRCS in Georgia. She also studied abroad in Costa Rica where she gained knowledge about tropical agriculture, ecology and environmental sustainability.

Now a senior, Hill reflects on her experience abroad, “Costa Rica had a notable impact on my life and point of view; it was an eye-opening and life changing experience. I look forward to seeing how we could implement some of their agriculture practices in the United States.”

Leslie L. Gahagan, President of the Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society said, “We were very impressed with Autumn Hill’s commitment to learning how she can play a role in addressing conservation issues. A hard worker who is passionate about her field, we knew that she would take full advantage of our annual scholarship to complete her education.”

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The Alabama Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society offers a scholarship to one student enrolled in an Alabama college or university. Since 2010, the society has provided 10 scholarships to college students.

The Alabama Chapter of SWCS fosters the science and the art of soil, water, and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability. We promote and practice an ethic recognizing the interdependence of people and the environment.

For more information about the scholarship, please visit the Alabama Chapter of SWCS website: http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/scholarship.php.

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