

2019 CONSERVATION SKILLS WORKSHOP

The 2019 Conservation Skills Workshop will be held September 23rd – September 26th in Cortland, NY. Included in this packet you will find the 2019 Conservation Skills Workshop registration information, class descriptions and class schedule.

This year we have a number of classes that cover multiple days. Please read each class description carefully and be aware that classes will overlap. All classes run from Monday to Thursday this year. The NYS E&SCCP Exam will be held on Friday. In addition, **classes will start at 10:00 am on Monday morning. Classes start at 8:30 on Tuesday – Thursday. The E&SCCP exam will start at 8:00 on Friday.**

This workshop is sponsored by the NYS Conservation District Employee's Association, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, and NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee.

This year's registration rate is \$30 per person.

*****Please be aware that there is an additional fee for the NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Implementation Course. Please send a check for \$125 to Chemung County SWCD to cover enrollment.**

Please read the class description closely.

*******Please be aware that you must submit an application to sit for the NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program Exam – this application must be submitted 30 days prior to the exam date.**

There is a \$150 application fee. If you are approved to sit for the exam, there is an exam fee of \$100.

Please read the class description closely.

Registration forms will be accepted electronically for 2019, however, payments must still be mailed to the address below. Receipts will be sent once payment is received by Cortland County. Registrations are due no later than September 6, 2019.

[Click here to fill out registration form](#)

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NYSCDEA
PLEASE MAIL CHECKS TO: CORTLAND COUNTY SWCD
100 GRANGE PLACE, ROOM 202
CORTLAND, NY 13045**

QUESTIONS??? PLEASE CONTACT CORTLAND COUNTY SWCD AT (607)756-5991

DIRECTIONS: Take Interstate 81 to Exit 11. At the end of the Exit, turn towards the Business District (restaurants). At the second light turn right onto Clinton Ave. Go about 100 yards and turn right into the NY State Grange Building driveway and right into the parking lot. The District Office is located on the second floor, in room 202.

LODGING: Available at the Ramada [(607) 756-4431], Comfort Inn [(607) 753-7721], Quality Inn [(607) 756-5622], Econo-Lodge [(607) 756-2856], and Hampton Inn [(607) 662-0007] right off Exit 11 of Interstate 81. **You are responsible for making your own lodging arrangements.**

DINING: All meals for the workshop are on your own. Participants should be prepared for lunch in the field if site visits are necessary.

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Please remember, 1) you are visiting these field sites as part of the 2019 Conservation Skills Workshop for educational purposes, 2) these sites are open to you as a courtesy to help accommodate your training needs, and 3) by participating in this training you agree to utilize information for training purposes only and to keep all information confidential.

Course List

(Located at NYS Grange unless otherwise indicated. Subject to change.)

- 1) **AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training** **Sept. 23rd 10:00 – 4:30**
Sept 24th 8:30 – 4:30
Sept 25th 8:30 – 4:30
Sept 26th 8:30 – 4:30
LIMIT: Min – 5 Max - 20
CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Greg Albrecht, Dale Gates, Ron Bush, Ryan Cunningham

During this weeklong course, participants will work through the NRCS / AEM planning process starting with an introduction to the core planning component, on-farm assessment, and fundamentals of planning key farm land uses such as farmstead, cropland, and pasture. Participants will form small groups to develop conservation plans (i.e., AEM Tier 3A and NRCS CAP Plans) for a nearby farm. Participants will then present their plans for discussion among classmates and instructors. This is a critical course for those who are starting to work with farms on NRCS/AEM conservation planning and are interested in building their planning skills. The course will provide credit for those seeking NRCS planner certification by satisfying the Phase III (also known as Modules 6-8) training requirement. Time will be shared between the classroom and the farm, so be prepared for seasonal weather (boots, raingear, etc.) each day.

- 2) **Basic Surveying** **Sept 23rd 10:00 – 4:30**
Sept 24th 8:30 - 4:30
LIMIT: Min – 5 Max - 20
CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Phil Griswold

This course provides basic skills for surveying, such as note taking, instrument care, instrument use, reducing notes, plotting, and staking. This is a great course to learn surveying or brush up on your skills. Students should dress appropriately for the weather and bring an engineering scale, #2 pencil, and survey equipment including instrument, tripod, and rod.

3) **Wetland Delineation Training**

Sept 23rd 10:00 – 4:30

Sept 24th 8:30 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min – 10, Max – 30

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Frank Gibbs

Wetland Delineation Training, using USCOE Regional Supplements, 3 Parameter Approach and applying On-Site Indicators with Special Emphasis on Hydric Soils. 2-day Short Course packed with practical information for those who work around Wetlands. Morning Lectures with Afternoon “Hands On” Field Exercises to Apply the Wetland Indicators. Students to dress for Field Conditions and Weather Forecast of the Day. Students to bring the following Equipment if available: Spades, Soil Sampling Tubes or Augers, Munsell Color Book, Clip Board, Pencil, Water Proof Boots, Insect Repellant. Hard Copies of :”NRCS Field Indicators for Hydric Soils, Vs 8.2, 2018” :

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_053171.pdf

and “ACOE Northcentral and Northeast Regional Supplement Vs 2.0” :

<https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Portals/57/docs/regulatory/Website%20Organization/Northcentral%20and%20Northeast%20Regional%20Supplement.pdf>.

4) **Rural Roads Active Management Program Information and Discussion**

Sept 23rd 10:00 – 4:30

Sept 24th 8:30 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min – 10, Max – N/A

CLASS

Instructors: Dave Reckahn, Pete Hagar, Dean Moore, Jeff Flack, Angel Hinickle, TBD

This course will feature speakers from several Soil & Water Conservation Districts describing their individual Rural Roads Active Management Programs. Course topics will cover their individual RRAMP programs, manuals, data collection strategies and how each District interacts with their municipalities and landowners when managing rural roads for water quality.

There will be ample time for questions and answers.

5) **Stormwater Pollution Prevention & Good Housekeeping for Municipal Facilities**

Sept 23rd 10:00 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min –10, Max – 40

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Andy Sansone

The Pollution Prevention (P2) Good Housekeeping course will feature information on stormwater management requirements for municipal facilities. This class will help Districts assist their municipalities with developing and implementing an effective pollution prevention/good housekeeping program. The focus will be on the various pollutants generated by municipal facilities and operations, such as DPW garages and highway maintenance facilities, and their impacts on water quality. Emphasis will be placed on assessing operations, identifying pollution generating activities and selecting the appropriate BMP’s to reduce pollutant discharges. Developing a site specific SWPPP that includes BMP inspections and monitoring will be covered along with strategies for training municipal staff. The classroom portion of the course will conclude with Mr. Sansone facilitating a roundtable discussion of emerging issues for MS4’s. Attendees are strongly encouraged to bring questions and challenges to the class to be shared and discussed.

The afternoon field portion of the course will include a visit to a municipal facility to audit their stormwater management operations.

This course will be held off-site in Onondaga County. Transportation for the training will be the responsibility of the student. Directions to the municipal facility will be provided once registration is complete and the class agenda is finalized.

6) **Post Construction Stormwater Management Practices Maintenance**

Sept 24th 8:30 – 2:00

LIMIT: Min – 10, Max – N/A

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: John Dunkle, DEC staff

John Dunkle, PE, will teach the class when Stormwater BMP maintenance inspections are required, how to do them, what to look for, reporting, follow-up and compliance (repair, replace, etc.). He'll lead a discussion on District roles and potential opportunities for Districts. Staff from NYSDEC will cover requirements for MS4s. In the afternoon the class will travel to an existing stormwater facility and conduct an inspection and discuss options for any repair/maintenance needed. Note: **This class will be meeting in Syracuse, NOT Cortland. Please note ending time for class.**

7) **Utilizing GPS for Conservation**

Sept 25th 8:30 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min – 5, Max - 25

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Julie Miller

Learn the basics of GPS data collection for inventory and evaluation, as well, as practice implementation such as as-builts and project layouts. We'll cover why to collect data, how to collect, and what data to collect. The course will be both classroom and field time. Be prepared to go outside.

BRING A GPS UNIT WITH YOU IF YOU HAVE ONE

*We will not cover the transfer of collected data to computer operating systems.

8) **Forestry 3a**

Sept 25th 8:30 – 4:30

Sept 26th 8:30 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min – 5, Max - 20

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Greg Albrecht, Kristin Ballou, Mark Burger, Joe Chairvolotti, Pat Crast

This two-day course will provide hands-on experience with the new AEM Tier 3A Forest Conservation Planning component (i.e., Tier 3A planning for on-farm forest lands with a minimum focus on assessing and addressing soil and water resource concerns). Each day will be divided between the classroom and nearby forest lands as participants practice AEM Tier 2 assessment and Tier 3A Forest Conservation Planning with experienced District Foresters. Course participants will learn about identifying resource concerns and then planning practices associated with landings, skid trails, forest roads, stream crossings, sensitive areas for setbacks/buffers, and post-harvest restoration, among others. Participants are encouraged to review the AEM Tier 2 Forest Management Worksheet and its supporting information sheet and training video (www.nys-soilandwater.org/aem/techttools.html) as well as the NYS Forestry BMP Field Guide (www.dec.ny.gov/lands/37845.html) in advance of the training (all class participants will receive a copy of the BMP Field Guide). Please be prepared for seasonal weather (boots, raingear, etc.) each day.

9) **Fundamentals of Prescribed Grazing Planning**

Sept 25th 8:30 – 4:30

Sept 26th 8:30 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min – 10, Max – 20

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Karen Hoffman, Rob DeClue, Troy Bishopp

This class will cover the basics of planning a grazing system, from working with landowners to identify resource concerns, to calculating acreage needs and paddock layouts, to infrastructure needs such as watering systems and laneways. This class is geared towards those who have no or minimal experience with grazing systems, or feel they need a refresher of the basics. We will use the PGM workbook and the pasture condition scoresheet and spend time out on a farm to apply classroom learning to the field.

10) **The New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Implementation Course**

Sept 25th 8:30 – 4:30

Sept 26th 8:30 – 12:00

LIMIT: Min – 15, Max –N/A

CLASS

Instructors: PJ Emerick, Jim Lieberum, Jessica Verrigni, Kelly Emerick

This course presents details of the New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Certificate program to assist individuals in obtaining recognition of their qualifications to implement the state's water quality objectives for construction sites. It includes presentations on regulatory history and requirements, site planning and management, NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Standards, as well as site plan review and construction inspections.

Participants will calculate soil loss impacts, stormwater runoff volumes, fertilizer and seeding quantities, and key design elements of runoff and sediment control practices. **There is an additional fee of \$125 to enroll in this course. Please send a separate check to Chemung County SWCD to cover enrollment.**

Individuals currently presenting the NYS DEC 4 hour Contractor's E&S training course should attend to prepare to present this course in the future in their local areas.

Participants should bring a scale, calculator and the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control (aka Blue Book, either hard copy or on a laptop).

This class can be counted for Professional Development Units (PDUs) for those that retain stormwater certifications in Certified Professional in Erosion & Sediment Control (CPESC) & Certified Professional in Stormwater Quality (CPSWQ).

11) **Cropland Conservation**

Sept 26th 8:30 – 4:30

LIMIT: Min – 10, Max –30

CLASS & FIELD

Instructors: Steve Lorraine, TBD

The past few years we have seen some extreme weather events effecting our farms and communities. Severe rain events have resulted in significant runoff events causing erosion to crop fields and damage to roads and property. This course will look at some of these events. What happened? Who was affected? Did something we did cause or make the problem worse? How can we mitigate the risk to our farming partners and protect the public? After looking at some issues from the past and identifying potential solutions to those events we will review some time-tested conservation practices and how they can be used to reduce problems from future events.

The class will focus on concentrated flow and gully erosion areas through cropland and how to treat them to reduce and eliminate erosion and flooding issues. We will review the suite of practices available to planners and designers to handle these areas in or crop fields. This session will be a combination of classroom and in the field training.

12) New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Certificate Exam Sept 27th 8:00 – 12:00

New York State Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate Program (NYSESCCP) Exam.

NOTE: There is a process to go through to sit for the exam. **An application along with a \$150 fee needs to be submitted 30 days prior to the exam. If approved to sit for the exam, there is an Exam Fee of \$100. Please send a separate check to Chemung County SWCD to cover the application fee. An Approval Letter and an Exam Policy with more detail will be distributed by the Program Administrator to the examinee once approved. At that time, please send a separate check to Chemung County SWCD to cover the exam fee.**

Contact Jessica Verrigni (jbverrigni@stny.rr.com) or Tim Clark for a copy of the application.

Individuals seeking the NY Erosion & Sediment Control Certificate will need to make application to the NYCDEA, Inc. program administrator at least 30 days in advance of the exam date. Once approved, these individuals will have an opportunity to take the Certificate exam. * **NOTE:** *There is a process to go through to sit for the exam. Individuals are not required to sit through the NYS E&SCCP Implementation Course to apply to sit for the exam.*

The exam will test the applicant's knowledge of the fundamentals of erosion and sediment control, New York stormwater rules and regulations, basic hydrology applications, soil loss estimation, as well as the planning, design, construction, inspection, and maintenance of erosion and sediment control practices. The exam is an open book exam and the examinees have **3.5** hours to complete the exam and must achieve a score of **75** to pass the examination. All necessary resource information, data, charts, etc. to complete the exam will be provided as attachments at the exam.

Applicants must bring an authorized calculator, engineering scale, copy of the November 2016 NY Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control and the NYS General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity GP-0-15-002 with them to the exam. Both the book and the permit are free to download from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation website at:

Blue Book: http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/2016nysstanec.pdf

Construction Permit: http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/gp015002.pdf

Fees Associated with program: Application fee: \$150 Exam Fee: \$100

Contact Tim Clark at tim.clark@agriculture.ny.gov with any questions.

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	Monday Sept. 23 Classes start at 10:00 AM	Tuesday Sept. 24 Classes start at 8:30 AM	Wed Sept. 25 Classes start at 8:30 AM	Thursday Sept. 26 Classes start at 8:30 AM	Friday Sept. 27 Test starts at 8:00 AM
10:00 – 12:00 (Monday only) 8:30 – 12:00 Tues - Thurs	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (2) Basic Surveying (3) Wetland Delineation Training (4) Rural Roads Active Management Program Information and Discussion (5) Stormwater Pollution Prevention & Good Housekeeping for Municipal Facilities (Syracuse location)	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (2) Basic Surveying (3) Wetland Delineation Training (4) Rural Roads Active Management Program Information and Discussion (6) Post Construction Stormwater Management Practices Maintenance (Syracuse location) (class ends at 2:00)	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (7) Utilizing GPS for Conservation (8) Forestry 3a (9) Fundamentals of Prescribed Grazing Planning (10) The New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Implementation Course	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (8) Forestry 3a (9) Fundamentals of Prescribed Grazing Planning (10) The New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Implementation Course (11) Cropland Conservation	(12) NYSE&SCCP Exam.
1:00 - 4:30 PM	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (2) Basic Surveying (3) Wetland Delineation Training (4) Rural Roads Active Management Program Information and Discussion (5) Stormwater Pollution Prevention & Good Housekeeping for Municipal Facilities (Syracuse location)	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (2) Basic Surveying (3) Wetland Delineation Training (4) Rural Roads Active Management Program Information and Discussion (6) Post Construction Stormwater Management Practices Maintenance (Syracuse location) (class ends at 2:00)	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (7) Utilizing GPS for Conservation (8) Forestry 3a (9) Fundamentals of Prescribed Grazing Planning (10) The New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Implementation Course	(1) AEM Tier 3A Planning / NRCS Phase III (Modules 6-8) Training (8) Forestry 3a (9) Fundamentals of Prescribed Grazing Planning (11) Cropland Conservation	

Note: Some of these courses have time frames that overlap. If you wish to take more than one course during the week, please check to make sure that your choices do **not** overlap.

Field trips and off-site classroom locations will require transportation – be prepared to drive or carpool.

Be prepared for unpredictable fall weather.

Off site locations will be provided prior to the beginning of the session.

CCA CEU credit approval is pending for certain classes.