TO: SWCD Directors and Staff  
County Water Quality Coordinating Committee Members  
Cooperating Agencies and Organizations

FROM: Dustin Lewis, Vice-President, NYS CDEA, Inc.  
Mike Latham, Director, NYS SWCC

DATE: December 2, 2019

SUBJECT: 2020 Water Quality Symposium / NYS CDEA Annual Training Session  
DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse, NY  
March 10-13, 2020

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is our pleasure to invite you to the 2020 Water Quality Symposium and the NYS CDEA Annual Training Session held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse, NY March 10th-13th, 2020.

The partnership between the Conservation District Employees’ Association, Inc. and the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee makes the Water Quality Symposium possible. It takes the cooperation and dedication of many people to make an event of this scale successful. Each year the Symposium provides an excellent and affordable forum to share ideas and skills to advance natural resource protection across the state.

Education and training efforts remain a high priority for all parties involved and locating alternative resources for future symposiums is an ongoing and challenging process. Partnerships that mix consistent funding with people capable of sharing technical know-how are essential to continue an event as unique as the Water Quality Symposium.

In this packet you will find the 2020 Water Quality Symposium map with a link to driving directions, a class schedule for the week followed by class descriptions. Registration forms will be accepted electronically for 2020, however, payments must still be mailed to the address below. Registrations are due no later than January 31, 2020. Click on or copy and paste the following link to fill out your registration form.  

https://forms.gle/HzhGJtb2cgNPmNGA6

The registration table will be located in the lobby of the hotel.

Each instructor and attendee must register online separately, even if only attending the Thursday banquet. Please keep track of your registration fees as you fill out the online forms as it is not totaled for you. There will be a fee schedule available for you to reference.

Please make checks payable to: NYS CDEA, Inc.
Please mail checks to: Seneca County SWCD  
2041 US Route 20, Suite #2  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148
If you have questions about registration, the courses or hotel please contact Dustin Lewis at dustinlewissaratogaswcd@gmail.com or by calling (518) 885-6900.

PLEASE NOTE THE POLICY:

EVENT PAYMENT AND REFUND POLICY:

PAYMENT:

All attendance fees for the Water Quality Symposium Annual Training Sessions must be paid prior to the event. Full payment for Symposium attendance must be received or postmarked by Monday, March 2, 2020. If the attendance fee is not paid by this date, a late fee of $50 may be added.

REFUNDS:

CANCELLATIONS MADE BY ATTENDEE:
If an attendee chooses not to attend an event, the cancellation must be made in writing to the NYS CDEA Vice-President by March 2\textsuperscript{nd} to be considered for a refund.

CANCELLATIONS MADE BY NYSCDEA:
If the NYS CDEA cancels a class and that is the only class an attendee is attending, then a refund for the class will be granted. NYSCDEA will do it’s best to notify class participants that the class is canceled as soon as possible.

If the class is still held and the attendee does not notify the NYSCDEA Vice President by March 2\textsuperscript{nd}, then no refund or partial refund will be issued regardless of the reason for missing the course (weather, life circumstance, etc.). If an attendee attends a class and is dissatisfied with the presentation or content, no refund or partial refund will be issued.

PLEASE NOTE: The Banquet time has changed! We are starting the festivities a little earlier at 6:30 PM!

Due Dates:
Registration – Friday, January 31, 2020
Payment – Monday, March 2, 2020
The 2020 NYS CDEA, Inc.
Annual Training Session
And
Water Quality Symposium

Presented By:

The New York State Conservation District Employees’ Association, Inc.

&

The New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee

March 10 – 13, 2020

DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse

Syracuse, NY
**General Information**

**Training Session Dates:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 1:00 pm - Friday, March 13, 2020 12:00 pm

**Registration Deadline:** JANUARY 31, 2020 (Please register early)

**Location:** DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse  
6301 State Route 298  
East Syracuse, NY 13057  
[DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse](https://www.doubletree.com/hotels/location/syracuse)

**Parking:** Parking is provided at the facility and is included in your registration fee.

**Hotel Facilities:** In room refrigerators, coffee makers, hair dryers, iron/ironing board, wireless high-speed internet, exercise room, pool and more!

**Driving Directions:** [https://goo.gl/maps/kjv4kLA7Nf62](https://goo.gl/maps/kjv4kLA7Nf62)

**Check In Time:** 3:00PM  
**Check Out Time:** 12:00PM

**Registration Fees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Full Week Conference Fees (Includes Room, Meals, Breaks and Daily Registration)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Cost</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Room Full Week</td>
<td>$620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Room Full Week -YOU MUST HAVE A ROOMMATE BEFORE REGISTERING.</td>
<td>$520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Daily Commuter Fees</strong></th>
<th><strong>Cost</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Registration Fee</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday (includes pm break)</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday (includes lunch and am/pm breaks)</td>
<td>$115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday (includes lunch and am/pm breaks)</td>
<td>$115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Daily Room Rates</strong></th>
<th><strong>Cost</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Room Daily</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Room Daily -YOU MUST HAVE A ROOMMATE BEFORE REGISTERING.</td>
<td>$105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Daily Meal Cost</strong></th>
<th><strong>Cost</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Banquet-formal dress attire 6:30 PM</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Daily Commuter Fees Are Required For Daily Registrations
# 2020 Water Quality Symposium

## Class Schedule At-A-Glance

*A detailed schedule with all activities will be in your registration packet at check-in.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, March 10, 2020</th>
<th>Wednesday, March 11, 2020</th>
<th>Thursday, March 12, 2020</th>
<th>Friday, March 13, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PM Classes</strong></td>
<td>4. NYS Erosion &amp; Sediment Review</td>
<td>22. Quantifying Economic and Environmental Outcomes using Partial Budget Analysis, NTT &amp; COMET-Farm</td>
<td>36. Ag Silage Bags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. NYS Ag Districts &amp; Ag Assessments 2020</td>
<td>10. 2018 Farm Bill Changes to CRP</td>
<td>23. Siting and Designing Saturated Buffers for Nitrate Removal</td>
<td>37. NFIP Flood Maps Determinations, and Letters of Map Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Tier 3A NM-Core Nutrient Mgmt.</td>
<td>11. Cropware Plus</td>
<td>24. AEM Tier 3A Planning Peer Review</td>
<td>38. Clerks Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. New Employee Orientation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PM Classes</th>
<th>PM Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. NYS Erosion &amp; Sediment Review</td>
<td>22. Quantifying Economic and Environmental Outcomes using Partial Budget Analysis, NTT &amp; COMET-Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Cropware Plus</td>
<td>24. AEM Tier 3A Planning Peer Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Fun with Hydrology Non-Ag</td>
<td>29. Outside Invaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Strategies for Mgmt. of Interfering Vegetation in Forest Landscapes</td>
<td>32. AEM Strategy + Tier 4 Cost-Share Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Forested Riparian Corridors</td>
<td>33. NYS Erosion &amp; Sediment Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Large Pipelines</td>
<td>34. Assisting Your Municipalities with their Municipal Stormwater Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Establishing &amp; Running An Invasive Species Program</td>
<td>35. Stream Habitat and Fish Passage Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Leading Through Change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opening Session Agenda

Tuesday, March 10, 1:00 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.

- **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
  - Brian Steinmuller - Assistant Director, NYSSWCC, Division of Land and Water, NYS Department of Ag and Markets
  - Chastity Miller – President, NYS Conservation District Employees’ Association, Inc.

- **Training Session Orientation**
  - Dustin Lewis, Vice-President, NYS Conservation District Employees’ Association, Inc.

- **NYS Conservation District Employees’ Association, Inc.**
  - Officer and Division Representative Nominations (Open), Steve Lorraine, Former NYS CDEA President

*Credits have been applied for where indicated.*

**Class #  Class Description**

1. **NYS Ag Districts & Ag Assessments**
   - **Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM
   - **Instructor:** Bob Somers, NYS Ag & Markets
   - **Description:** Overview of protections afforded to farm operation located within a county adopted, State certified agricultural district, trends in agriculture, unusual cases presented to the Department, neighbor conflicts, the agricultural assessment program, eligibility and shortcomings. This class will also highlight some of the issues and concerned related to solar and wind projects.
   - **APPLIED FOR Credits:** CCA CEUs (1 SW, 1 PD)

2. **Tier 3A NM-Core Nutrient Management**
   - **Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM
   - **Instructor:** Karl Czymmek, Greg Albrecht, and Ron Bush, Cornell PRO-DAIRY and NYS SWCC
   - **Description:** This afternoon course will focus on the knowledge and methods for developing basic nutrient management plans using the new NM-Core AEM Tier 3A component plan option. Topics will include an overview of the NM-Core 3A component; use of the Cornell Nutrient Guidelines to account for nutrients from all sources and determine remaining crop nutrient needs; gauging crop pH needs and lime applications; and recommendations for manure and/or fertilizer applications to balance those remaining nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium needs.
   - **APPLIED FOR Credits:** CCA CEUs (2.5 NM, 0.5 SW)

3. **General Permitting**
   - **Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM
   - **Instructor:** Judy Robinson and Elizabeth Tracy, USACE, NYSDEC
   - **Description:** What needs to go into a permit application for USACE and NYSDEC? What format? What designs? Here is the opportunity to hear directly from USACE and NYSDEC on what they want and how they want it.
4. **NYS Erosion and Sediment Review**  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM and Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Kelly Emerick, PJ Emerick, Jessica Verrigni, TBA, Monroe County SWCD, NYS Ag & Markets, Chemung Co. Stormwater Coalition  
**Description:** This course presents details of the New York State Erosion & Sediment Control Certificate Program to establish and maintain a process to identify and recognize individuals who are capable of developing, designing, inspecting and maintaining erosion and sediment control plans on projects that disturb soils in New York State. Presentations include regulatory history, permit 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. Participants should bring a scale, calculator and the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control. This class can be counted for Professional Development Units (PDU’s) for those that retain stormwater certifications in Certified Profession in Stormwater Quality (CPSWQ), Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC), and the New York State Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate (NYS ESCC).  

This course is an additional $125 on top of the Water Quality Symposium registration fees. A separate invoice will be emailed to you from the NYSESCCP Administrator. Please DO NOT include this $125 with your WQS check.

Soil and Water Conservation District employees 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.  
**Bring With You:** Scale, Calculator, NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control, copy of the General Permit  
**Credits:**

5. **Don’t Get Ticked NY!**  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Joellen Lampman, New York State IPM Program, Cornell University  
**Description:** Avoiding Lyme and other tick-borne diseases requires avoiding a tick bite! Learn about the different ticks in our area and their biology, the diseases they carry, and how to protect yourself and others from being bitten. Personal protection, habitat management to reduce ticks in the landscape, pesticide control methods, tick removal, and other aspects including online resources will be covered. Weather permitting; we will spend time outdoors monitoring for ticks.  
**Credits:**

6. **FOIL and Open Meetings**  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Kristin O'Neill, NYSDOS  
**Description:** Freedom of Information Law and Open Meetings Law: This session provides an opportunity for attendees to learn more about a government agency’s rights and responsibilities in relation to the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) and a public body’s responsibilities in relation to the Open Meetings Law. The class will focus on the areas of concern most relevant to you, so bring your questions, concerns, and unusual situations to discuss and to receive advice and guidance from the Committee on Open Government.  
**Credits:**
7. **Managers Forum**  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Dustin Lewis, Saratoga County SWCD  
**Description:** This forum is tailored to managers. We will be discussing various topics from around the state. These will include but are not limited to Job Approval Authority, NRCS MOU, Leadership Training, and much more. Please consider coming or sending a staff member in your place. We are planning a chunk of time just for managers and district staff in this session.

8. **Forest Bird Conservation: Applying Management and Best Practices To Improve Habitat**  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Suzanne Treyger, Audubon NY  
**Description:** This course will cover how forest and buffer management can create favorable habitat conditions at the landscape and stand level to meet the habitat needs of a suite of forest birds, while also improving the ability of the forest to provide ecosystem services, such as improving water quality and reducing flooding. Specific management practices that improve habitat and water quality will be discussed, along with birds that benefit from the new and/or improved habitats. Audubon Guides will be provided.  
**Credits:** SAF CAT 1, 3 credits

9. **New Employee Orientation**  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** P.J. Emerick/Chas Miller/ Blanche Hurlbutt/NRCS, SWCC/CDEA/NYACD/NRCS  
**Description:** This is a basic course for new employees or private sector employees wishing to learn more about the conservation agencies. It includes an overview of agency mission, history, enabling legislation, programs, and funding.  
**Credits:**

10. **2018 Farm Bill Changes To CRP**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
**Instructor:** Lorraine Dandignac and Karl Strause, NYS FSA Program Specialist  
**Description:** 2018 Farm Bill has made the most changes to CRP since its conception. This class will cover how those changes will affect NY CRP. The changes will cover from initial enrollment to contract payments. Other topics that will be covered are:  
- New practice ideas for CRP enrollment in NY  
- How partners will play a role in a successful NY CRP program  
- CRP Grasslands, NY State CREP, and the changes to CREP (these will be discussed only if the National information has been released in time for this class)  
**APPLIED FOR**  
**Credits:** CCA CEUs (1.5 NM, 1 SW)
11. **Cropware Plus: A Tool For Crop Nutrient Management Planning**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Greg Albrecht, Mike Contessa, and Ron Bush, NYS SWCC and Champlain Valley Agronomics Inc. / FARM INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, LLC  
**Description:** This full-day session will focus on using Cropware Plus to develop nutrient management plans for crop fields. Students will have hands-on experience in properly characterizing rotations, fertilizers, manure sources, and fields as well as allocating nutrients to fields and developing reports in Cropware. To ensure hands-on experience, participants should bring a laptop with Cropware Plus pre-loaded, but sharing a laptop with another participant is an option as a last resort (www.farminfotech.com). Note, if you don’t already subscribe to Cropware Plus, a fully-functional demonstration version of Cropware Plus may be downloaded for free and used for 30 days from the download date, so wait to download until around February 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Greg Albrecht (greg.albrecht@agriculture.ny.gov or 607.229.4654).  
**Bring With You:** Laptop with Cropware Plus pre-loaded  
**APPLIED FOR Credits:** CCA CEUs (4 NM, 2 SW)

12. **BMP Showcase**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Al Fagen, Wyoming County SWCD  
**Description:** Soil and Water Conservation Districts across New York State have been a lead agency in implementing agricultural best management practices to improve water quality, soil health, and air quality. The Ag BMP Showcase will highlight projects that have been completed by District’s and their partners that have been innovative, state of the art, traditional, or unique projects that can be displayed to engage other peers. Please bring a poster display of your highlighted project to share. Project posters will be displayed so that class participants can observe how the project was planned, funded, and implemented. The goal of this class is to bring projects to light that could be implemented across New York State.  
**APPLIED FOR Credits:** CCA CEUs (1 NM, 2.5 SW, 0.5 PM, 1 CM)

13. **Small Pipelines For Irrigation and Livestock Water**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
**Instructor:** Tim Clark, Ron Young, SWCC, NRCS  
**Description:** This course will review the common types of small diameter (0-2”) piping used on seasonal livestock watering and micro irrigation systems. Participants will learn about friction loss in pipes and fittings, calculations for gravity and pressure flow, and design and selection of submersible well pumps. Participants should bring a calculator for completing in-class worksheets and project.  
**Bring With You:** Calculator  
**APPLIED FOR Credits:** CCA CEUs (2.5 SW, 0.5 CM)

14. **Fun With Hydrology, Non-Ag**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Jimmie Joe Carl, P.E., Chemung County Stormwater Coalition  
**Description:** This will be a hands-on course where students will learn all about hydrology and how to calculate peak storm flows utilizing the Rational Method and the Curve Number Method.  
**Bring With You:** Calculator, scale, paper  
**Credits:**
15. **Motivating Your Audience**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
**Instructor:** Sally Crosiar, Healthy People  
**Description:** Learn how to hook your audience by keeping your focus on solving their problems and meeting their needs. Tap into people’s natural and basic human motivators. Practice active and involving presentation strategies that meet people where they are, help them be eager to learn what you’ve got to share, and get ready to take action!  
**Credits:**

16. **Strategies For Management Of Interfering Vegetation In Forest Landscapes**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Brett Chedzoy, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schuyler County  
**Description:** This course will help conservation professionals understand the causes and consequences of problematic vegetation complexes - including both native and invasive plants - on rural landscapes that limit landowner enjoyment and benefits as well as the influence of deer. Participants will learn about novel and practical approaches to assessing these impacts, what will happen if you do nothing and helping landowners manage them. You will also learn about major management strategies including natural, mechanical and biological methods.  
**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (3 PM)**

17. **Developing An Effective Fund Balance Policy and Appropriate Fund Balance**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
**Instructor:** William Naylor, OSC  
**Description:** Developing an Effective Fund Balance Policy  
This course will explain the components of fund balance, factors to consider when determining a reasonable amount of fund balance, and the need for an effective fund balance policy.  
Appropriated Fund Balance  
This course will include discussion about appropriating fund balance and review best practices if appropriated fund balance is used in your budget.  
**Credits:**

18. **Forested Riparian Corridors: Ecology, Research, and Lessons Learned. A Coordinated Approach and State Funding**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Brandon Dennis, NRCS NYC Watershed Buffer Manager, Lydia Brinkley, USC Buffer Coordinator, Scott Fickbohm, NYS SWCC AEA  
**Description:** Will review the ecological benefits of forested buffers and how they are achieved as well as describe lessons learned by various monitoring efforts and field research. The day will conclude with an overview of the benefits of a “District Coalition Approach” and how to fund buffer projects using available state funding.  
**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (2 SW)**
19. **Large Pipeline For Irrigation and Manure**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Tim Clark, Ron Young, SWCC, NRCS  
**Description:** Building on what we learned in the morning, this course will cover design of larger diameter (2”+) pipes used in conservation projects. We’ll cover proper material selection, and an overview of construction inspection. Larger pipe issues such as water hammer, thrust block design, cavitation, and surface water suction pumps. Lastly we’ll introduce manure pumping, associated problems, and how that differs from pumping water. **Participants should bring a calculator for completing in-class worksheets and project.**  
**Bring With You:** Calculator  
**APPLIED FOR**  
**Credits:** CCA CEUs (0.5 NM, 2 SW, 0.5 CM)

20. **Establishing and Running An Invasive Species Program**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Scott Collins, Lindsey Gerstenslager, Katie Whitcomb, Amanda Barber, Jon Negley, Maren Alexander, Caitlin Stewart, SWCDs, and Hilary R. Mosher, Finger Lakes PRISM Coordinator  
**Description:** Learn how to establish and run an invasive species program. Districts from across the state will share their program's structure, challenges, and success stories. Partner agencies and resources for enhancing invasive species programs will also be highlighted. There will be plenty of time for Q and A. Come with ideas to share and problems to solve.  
**APPLIED FOR**  
**Credits:** CCA CEUs (2 PM)

21. **Leading Through Change**  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Sally Crosiar, Healthy People  
**Description:** Change is inevitable. Growth is optional. Learn to do more than just cope! Effective leaders see change in terms of opportunities instead of loss. Learn what it takes to make the most of opportunities brought on by change. Practice skills effective leaders use to help people and organizations be nimble enough to adapt and thrive in our continually changing world.  
**Credits:**

22. **Quantifying Economic and Environmental Outcomes using Partial Budget Analysis, NTT & COMET-Farm**  
**Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Aaron Ristow and Flo Swartz  
**Description:** Farmers demand more quantitative evidence that soil health management systems provide the touted economic and environmental benefits before they are willing to try them. To provide this evidence, the American Farmland Trust (AFT), in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, developed tools to estimate and share the net economic and environmental improvements experienced by seven farmers who have adopted several soil health practices.  

AFT developed and used partial budget analysis, USDA’s Nutrient Tracking Tool and USDA’s COMET-Farm Tool to quantify the economic, water quality and climate benefits of practices such as no-till, cover cropping and nutrient management. To complement the analysis, AFT produced several two-page case studies highlighting farmer success stories to share with other farmers and landowners who are curious about soil health practices and give them confidence that investing in the practices is worth the risk.
The goal of this course is to provide the background and training for course participants to be able to use partial budget analysis and USDA tools to provide predictive assessment for soil health curious farmers and to create two-page case studies of local experienced soil health farmers. This course will provide a summary of the project data and demonstration and instruction on use of the tools. A panel of case study farmers will be part of the training. The calculator will be made available to course participants, the USDA tools are currently available online.

**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (1.5 NM, 1.5 SW, 2 PD)**

23. **Siting and Designing Saturated Buffers for Nitrate Removal**  
**Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
**Instructor:** Tyler Groh, Iowa State University  
**Description:** This course will cover the siting and design of a saturated buffer under current NRCS practice standards (Code 604). The first portion of the class will provide an explanation and background to saturated buffers as well as walk through the parameters needed to site and design these systems. This will be followed by examples and time for discussion.  
**Bring With You:** A laptop is not required but may be helpful in looking up information.

*APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (1.5 NM, 1.5 SW)*

24. **AEM Tier 3A Planning Peer Review**  
**Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
**Instructor:** Greg Albrecht, Ron Bush, Ryan Cunningham, and others, NYS SWCC  
**Description:** During this course you’ll actively review your AEM Tier 3A plans with Soil and Water District peers. Reviews will be constructive and done in small groups (3-4 max), guided by an experienced planner. The goal is to share and pick-up good ideas about the following key concepts while the small groups “tour” through the pages of your Tier 3A plans:  
- characterizing existing farm conditions (watershed scale, farmer goals, and site-specific assessment ala Tier 2);  
- identifying resource concerns/opportunities;  
- technical aspects of planning BMP systems and alternatives; and  
- plan presentation and documentation.

Each participant will take turns informally presenting their 3A plan in its major sections to the small group (e.g., verbally describing, while showing key elements of that section in the plan binder), so peers may ask questions, learn, and provide feedback.

To participate in the course, please bring one or ideally two of your AEM Tier 3A plans (one copy of each plan) for peer review in one or more of the following Tier 3A categories:  
- Farmstead 3A Plan;  
- Pasture Management 3A Plan;  
- Cropland Conservation 3A Plan;  
- NM-Core 3A Plan;  
- Full 590 Nutrient Management 3A Plan;  
- Stream Corridor 3A Plan; or  
- Forest Conservation 3A Plan.

Please indicate the categories of Tier 3A plans that you’ll be bringing to the course in your Water Quality Symposium registration.
Plan on reviewing one of your plans during the day-long class and if time allows, you’ll have an opportunity to review a second (subject to sign-ups and time spent on reviews). You’re welcome and encouraged to rotate to tables working on different Tier 3A planning categories during the day.

Please contact Greg Albrecht (greg.albrecht@agriculture.ny.gov or 607.229.4654) if you have any questions while registering for this class.

**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (2 NM, 2 SW)**

25. **Barnyards**
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
   **Instructor:** Steve Lorraine, Madison County SWCD  
   **Description:** In this course we will review multiple options for treating problem barnyard sites. A review of a covered system with examples and pitfalls to look out for. How to handle a wintering area for beef cows will be reviewed, including the use of bark chips or gravel for the surfacing medium. Examples of installed operations and how they are functioning years after construction. Bring your questions.  
   **APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (2 NM, 2 SW)**

26. **The Use of Drones in Conservation**
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
   **Instructor:** Erick Haas, RTD Manager  
   **Description:** Technology is always moving at a fast pace. Drones have opened up a new opportunity for how Districts can complete their work. This course will discuss the practical application of drones in the conservation world. The instructor will cover the use of drones in monitoring field crops, erosion events, volume calculations and much more.  
   **Credits:**

27. **Stormwater BMP Maintenance/Green Infrastructure**
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
   **Instructor:** Doug McClusky, EJ Prescott  
   **Description:** Stormwater BMP maintenance and green infrastructure product demonstrations and case studies  
   **Credits:**

28. **Annual Plans of Work, Annual Reports and Strategic Planning**
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
   **Instructor:** Ben Luskin and other State Staff, SWCC  
   **Description:** The discussion will be focused around writing your Annual Plan of Work so that it includes what you are doing with Part C funding. Making that plan work for you more and creates a map for your District. This class will also include the changes that Districts should be looking long term on what their focuses are and how to implement those more than just 1 year at a time. This is to include annual reports and strategic plans. How do we use them, why?  
   **Credits:**

Page 13 of 17
29. **Outside Invaders**  
*Date:* Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
*Instructor:* Nate Siegert, Aaron Barrigar, Teresa Link, Lydia Brinkley, APHIS  
*Description:* This course will include status updates, identification, research, management and treatment options of Emerald Ash Borer and Spotted Lanternfly. Experts from USFS and APHIS will present on current locations, management, research and treatment updates. Districts will present on how they are assisting communities and their counties with inventories and assessments as well as management and reforestation efforts.  
**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (3 PM)**

30. **NYS Stormwater Program and Permit Updates**  
*Date:* Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
*Instructor:* Dave Gasper, Ethan Sullivan, Christina Chiappetta, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
*Description:* Staff from the New York State DEC Central Office will go over changes and possible updates to the Stormwater General Permits for Construction Activity and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). They will also discuss the updates being made to the Stormwater Design Manual.  
**Credits:**

*Date:* Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
*Instructor:* Erica Frenay, Cornell Small Farms Program and Shelterbelt Farm  
*Description:* In this session you will learn about the logistics involved in grazing multiple species of animals together in one paddock or in a leader-follower system. We will discuss fencing, supplemental feed, predator protection, parasites, symbioses, and pasture impacts, and answer any questions you have so that you will leave this session feeling more confident in advising the producers you work with. You will also receive a basic introduction on what silvopasture is, and learn the difference between putting animals in the woods and managing the woodlot/orchard and grazing systems together. Farmers have unused areas on their farms what is the potential that the farmers have with these unused acres? How do you manage them to meet a variety of goals while still being productive and environmentally friendly? Learn how to get started with the different approaches, where to start when you want to convert pasture to silvopasture management or convert a woodlot into grazable areas. The intent of this course is for it to be an introduction with a more in-depth class to follow at Con Skills 2020.  
**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (1 SW, 2 CM)**

32. **AEM Strategy + Tier 4 Cost-Share Track**  
*Date:* Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
*Instructor:* Greg Albrecht, Victor DiGiacomo, and others, NYS SWCC and District AEM Staff  
*Description:* Working on your District's AEM Strategic Plan update? Thinking about ways other Districts are using the new AEM Base Round 16 Program with farmers? Want to share ideas with fellow District AEM staff? This class is for you! State Committee staff and Districts will provide overview and discussion of the new AEM Base Round 16 Program. Then we'll shift to a discussion on ways Districts evaluate, update, and communicate their AEM Strategic Plans toward long-standing and emerging needs in their counties and watersheds. Please bring a copy of your District’s AEM Strategic Plan (current version, a draft, or updated..., any vintage is fine) to discuss and share ideas in small groups for the second part of the session.  
*Bring With You:* Copy of your District’s AEM Strategic Plan  
**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (1 SW, 1PD)**
33. **New York State Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate EXAM**  
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
   **Instructor:** Jessica Verrigni, CPESC, CPSWQ, Chemung County Stormwater Coalition  
   **Description:** This is the exam for the NYS Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate. The exam will test the applicant's knowledge of the fundamentals of erosion and sediment control, 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 students have 3.5 hours to complete the exam and must achieve a score of 75 to pass.  
   **NOTE:** An application and $150 fee need to be submitted 30 days prior to the exam (by February 11th to sit for this exam). If approved to sit for the exam, there is also a $100 exam fee that an invoice will be sent to you from the Program Administrator. For more information on the program and a copy of the application, please visit: https://www.nyscdea.com/nysesccp/  
   **Bring With You:** Students will be notified with their exam acceptance what to bring.  
   **Credits:**

34. **Assisting Your Municipalities with their Municipal Stormwater Program**  
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
   **Instructor:** Andrew Sansone, CPSWQ, Industrial Waste Engineer  
   **Description:** This class will help Districts assist municipalities with developing and implementing an effective municipal stormwater program. The focus will be on the entire MS4 permit including all minimum measures; Education, Illicit Discharge, Construction Post Construction and Pollution Prevention. Case Studies and strategies for successful development and implementation of each minimum measure will be highlighted with a special focus on potential new permit requirements.  
   Attendees will be encouraged to discuss their own program challenges and share thoughts and ideas with the class.  
   **Credits:**

35. **Stream Habitat and Fish Passage Class**  
   **Date:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
   **Instructor:** Jared Popoli, Cortland County SWCD  
   **Description:** This class will give an overview of various practices and design considerations to enhance in stream habitat as well as aquatic organism passage both as stand-alone project objectives and as enhancements to planned stream corridor projects. With the increase in culvert assessments and stream rehabilitation projects, care should be taken to ensure projects not only achieve their primary goal, but also not to impede aquatic organisms’ movement. The sessions will provide an overview of various considerations, applicability, and permitting requirements when scoping a project.  
   **Credits:**

36. **Agricultural Silage Bags-Planning and Design Consideration**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Ron Bush and Tim Clark, NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee  
   **Description:** Agricultural silage bags and feed bags in general have become popular feed storage systems throughout New York. Silage bags offer convenient and effective feed storage for forages that exceed or replace existing systems (e.g., bunk silos, tower silos), however they can also exhibit potential environmental resource concerns. This course will offer an introduction to agricultural silage bags and will cover planning a site, filling the bags, and feeding out of the
bags. Overall, we will look at assessing existing resource concerns, planning the appropriate BMP System and site, as well as the associated management and operation and maintenance with these feed storage systems. In addition, we will examine several ‘real world’ case studies, BMP design considerations, and section off time at the end to serve as a forum.

**APPLIED FOR Credits: CCA CEUs (1 NM, 1.5 SW)**

37. **NFIP Flood Maps, Determinations, and Letters of Map Change**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Brad Wenskoski, CFM, NYS DEC  
   **Description:** This class covers topics related to the mapping aspect of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This includes how to interpret the Flood Insurance Maps (FIRMSs) in different formats (e.g. paper or digital), and how to utilize information found in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) to support determinations made from the FIRM. We also cover online resources and forms, and processes that individual property owners and other interested parties can use to change the maps.  
   **Credits:**

38. **Clerks Forum**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Judy Bennett, Orleans County SWCD  
   **Description:** This is a great opportunity to network with your administrative colleagues. We will have a QuickBooks roundtable to answer any questions you may have. Bring your laptop if you have specific needs. Other topics to be discussed include Monthly Financial Reports to the Board, Audits, and the new Enhanced Reporting for NYS Retirement. Bring your questions and join us for this informal, yet informative session.  
   **Credits:**

39. **Source Water Funding Program-Finding Funds and Building Partnerships**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Bethany Bzduch, NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee  
   **Description:** This course will provide an overview of the Source Water Buffer Program and review key elements of the application process. This course will also discuss ideas for establishing project partners and explore various paths to potential sources of matching funds.  
   **Credits:**

40. **Understanding SHPA and CRIS**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Nancy Herter and other staff from NYS Parks, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
   **Description:** Staff from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will give an overview of the State Historic Preservation Act. They will then lead the group through accessing information on the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS) like how to search for information and how to enter projects into the system. Discussions will be lead on the Archeological Review process and how to determine what triggers a Phase I and Phase II surveys. Bring your specific questions and the instructors will do the best to get them answered.  
   **Credits:**
41. **Records Retention: 2020 and Beyond**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Sarah Durling, New York State Archives  
   **Description:** This class will teach users how to utilize State Archives retention schedules to manage their records as well as discuss the upcoming updates!  
   **Credits:**

42. **Mastering Grant Application from the Correct Lens**  
   **Date:** Friday, March 13, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
   **Instructor:** Emily Palumbos, Director of Grant Services with MRB Group of Rochester  
   **Description:** This class will lead a discussion on reviewing grant programs and how to manage from application through final reporting. Ms. Palumbos has various experiences with providing effective guidance to municipal leaders and community agencies in supporting economic and environmental sustainability through preparation of federal and state funding opportunities, enhancing regional growth.