

***NYS Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.
NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee***

TO: SWCD Directors and staff, Water Quality Coordinating Committee members, and cooperating agencies, organizations, and partners

FROM: Jessica Armstrong, Vice President, NYS CDEA, and Bethany Bzduch, Executive Director, NYS SWCC

DATE: January 2, 2024

SUBJECT: 2024 Water Quality Symposium / NYS CDEA Annual Training Session

Dear friends and colleagues:

It is our pleasure to invite you to the 2024 Water Quality Symposium and the NYS CDEA Annual Training Session March 12 – 15, 2024 at the Double Tree Hotel, 6301 NY-298, East Syracuse, NY 13057.

The partnership between the Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc. and the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee makes the annual Water Quality Symposium possible. It takes the cooperation and dedication of many partners to make an event of this scale successful. Each year, the Symposium provides an invigorating and affordable forum to share ideas and learn science-based skills to advance natural resource conservation, climate resiliency, and watershed protection to all corners of New York State. While education and training efforts remain a high priority, identifying alternative resources for future Symposiums is an ongoing and challenging process. Partnerships that blend consistent funding with staff capable of delivering technical instruction are essential to the continuation of an event as unique as the Water Quality Symposium.

In this packet, you will find the Water Quality Symposium class schedule at-a-glance followed by class descriptions. Registration is due by January 26, 2024, no exceptions.

[Click here to register.](#) Each instructor and attendee must register separately online.

Payment is due Friday, February 23, 2024. [To pay by credit card, click here.](#) To pay by check, make checks payable to: NYS CDEA, Inc., and mail to: Chenango County SWCD, Attn: Katy Kemmeren, NYS CDEA, 99 North Broad St, Norwich NY, 13815.

For questions, please contact Jessica Armstrong: Jessica.Armstrong@oneidacountyswcd.org, 315-736-3334.

With gratitude,

Jessica Armstrong, Vice President, NYS CDEA, and Bethany Bzduch, Executive Director, NYS SWCC



**Soil and Water
Conservation
Committee**

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 March 1. If the attendance fee is not paid by this date, a late fee of \$50 may be added.

REFUNDS:

A. 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 1 to be considered for a refund.

B. 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. NYS CDEA will do its 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 NYS CDEA Vice President by March 1, 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.

REGISTRATION

Online registration:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvGzoAQQ9jkNC-LS091twNOeyjRx5yYlzc32sNifmvHcPWw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Registration deadline: January 26, 2024. Please register early. No late registration forms will be accepted.

Payment: Payment is due Friday, February 26, 2024. [To pay by credit card, click here.](#) To pay by check, make checks payable to: NYS CDEA, Inc., Chenango County SWCD, Attn: Katy Kemmeren, NYS CDEA, 99 North Broad St, Norwich NY, 13815.

Registration fees:

Full Conference - Single \$570

Full Conference - Double \$470 (YOU MUST HAVE A ROOMMATE BEFORE REGISTERING!)

Daily Conference (fee will vary) - selections in the next section. Banquet Only - \$50

Daily Conference & Banquet (fee will vary)

Daily Conference Registration Fee

Daily commuters must choose from the following list. Lunch and snacks are included in the Wednesday and Thursday Daily Commuter Registration Fee.

Tuesday includes lunch \$125

Wednesday includes lunch \$165

Thursday includes lunch \$165

Friday \$125

Banquet \$50

Overnight Single Room - Daily Conference

Tuesday \$120

Wednesday \$120

Thursday \$120

Overnight Double Room - Daily Conference

Double room option is only available if you have a roommate at time of registration and you are attending the conference for the same period of time. Please indicate your roommate's name.

Tuesday \$105

Wednesday \$105

Thursday \$105

Breakfast - Daily Conference

Wednesday \$20

Thursday \$20

Friday \$20

Dinner - Daily Conference

Tuesday \$35

Wednesday \$35



New York State Conservation District Employees' Association, Inc.
Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide ongoing programs and services to conserve, enhance, and protect soil and water resources in communities.

2024 Water Quality Symposium Class Schedule At-A-Glance

Ag Track Non-Ag Track Clerk / Admin Track Forestry Track Education Track

Tuesday March 12	Wednesday March 13	Thursday March 14	Friday March 15
Registration 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Breakfast 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.	Breakfast 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.	Breakfast 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Opening Session 1:00 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	8. Design Day (all day) 9. AEM Teir 3A (all day) 10. HydroCAD and HEC-RAS 101 (all day) 11. Aquatic Vegetation 12. Accounting and Reporting Responsibilities 13. Managing Fallow Areas (all day) 14. Mangers Forum	18. Addressing on-farm Manure and Imported Nutrients 19. Practical Soil Health (All Day) 20. Stormwater and Stream Restoration Project Showcase 21. Agroforestry (all day) 22. Communications, Conflict Resolution, and Mediation (all day) – Clerk and Education Track	25. Grazing Q&A 26. Specialty Farms (Vegetable, Orchard, and Fruit) 27. DEC and ACOE Permitting Updates 28. Financial Statements, Audits, and Annual Financial Reporting 29. Wildlife Habitat Management 30. Project Wet
Farmers Market / Resource Fair 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Lunch and Division Meetings 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Checkout by 12:00 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Please print this page and circle your choices for your records and use during the Water Quality Symposium.
Game Night 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	15. How to Manage Difficult Projects and Difficult People 16. From Chaos to Calm: Unlocking the Secrets to Balance and Stress Management 17. Six Thinking Hats Dinner: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Entertainment 9:00 p.m.	23. Grazing Design and Layout 24. New Stormwater Products and Solutions Cocktail Hour: 5:30 – 6:30 Bucket Raffle winners announced: 5:45 p.m. Reception: 6:30 p.m. Silent Auction closes at 6:15 p.m. Awards Banquet: 7:00 p.m. (formal dress attire)	

Class Descriptions

For clarity, the class numbers on the online registration form and the class schedule at-a-glance correspond to the numbers in the class descriptions below.

1. Working with Small Farms Effectively

Instructor: Tucker Kautz- Senior Conservation District Technician Ontario SWCD, Liz Camps-District Conservationist USDA-NRCS, Erica Frenay, Farmer and Online Course Coordinator and Livestock Specialist for the Cornell Small Farms Program, Stephanie Castle-American Farmland Trust, Women for the Land New York Program Manager.

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: Farms under 50 acres are one of conservation's biggest new customer base. Many operations are raising small numbers of diversified livestock, vegetables, fruits, bees and niche products for family use and direct to consumer outlets. They seek good advice from the business planning side to land management and BMP practice decision-making as well as targeted funding opportunities. This class will address what is a "defined" small farm, understanding the diverse needs, the skills, framework and tools needed to help. Staff will highlight their experiences using successful examples of projects or approaches that work consistently.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW, 1 CM, and 0.5 PD

2. Climate Smart Round Table:

Instructor: Savanna Shelnett, Cornell Ag Climate Resiliency Specialist, Ann Marie Calabro-Soil Health Educator and Project Manager for the Soil Health Institute, Scott Fickbohm-NYS Ag & Mkts Regional Associate Environmental Analyst, Alan Martinez, Senior Manager at the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability, CLCPA Ag advisory member.

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: This class will help service providers understand the "current" context of weather changes, problems and items to consider in formulating farm resiliency plans. What is the state really proposing for action items and can they be adopted by all farms? What are the resiliency strategies that work? What tools and funding sources are there for New York Agriculture and how will federal (IRA) climate resources coming through farm organizations be distributed? Ever wonder what a carbon credit program looks like for farms with different contexts and sizes? We will have a practical conversation about these topics from folks who are active in this space so we can gain pro-active knowledge for our rural customers.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW, 1 CM, and 0.5 PD

3. Post-Flood Emergency Stream Training

Instructor: Gale Neale, Graydon Dutcher – Delaware County

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: This class will look at the in's and out's of stream assessments and review the existing training program and manual that is aimed at helping municipalities, contractors and local officials respond to flood damage. This training will review the guidelines and recommendations for post-storm intervention practices to promote flood resiliency and prevent costly repairs. This class will also look into streambank and floodplain restoration practices.

CCA CEU: 1.5 SW

4. ArcPro 101

Instructor: Sarah Frankenfeld – Warren County

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: Take your mapping skills to the next level with ArcPro 101. This class will look at all the handy features ArcPro has to offer and how you can use the platform on your next project. We will learn how to integrate data and visualize the information in both 2D and 3D, and show how your maps and data can be shared via the web for meetings or presentations in your district.

CCA CEUs: 2 SW and 0.5 PD

5. Clerks Forum

Instructor: Cheryl TenEyck

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: This session is for those that function as secretary-treasurers/clerks in their Districts. We will start with *Tips and Tricks for using Microsoft Outlook*. This will review the various components of Outlook and share tips and tricks for getting the most out of the program. The remainder of this session will be open discussion time for clerks to get to know each other, share experiences, and ask questions.

6. Tree Disease and Risk Management

Instructor: Gloria Van Duyne, Karen Snover-Clift, and Kim Adams

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: Tree diseases are ever-present and something we all get calls about. This session will help you better understand and be able to identify the most common urban tree diseases and hear about treatment options. The session will also cover new invasives, funding options for urban forestry projects and highlight a successful program that assists underserved communities with tree maintenance and care.

7. New Employee Orientation

Instructor: Members of the 4-Way Partnership (Soil and Water Conservation Committee, New York Association of Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Conservation District Employees' Association).

Date and Time: Tuesday 3/12/2024 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: Bring your helmets and high visibility shirts to the Crash Course for New Employees. Our target audience is all new employees, from clerks and managers to technicians and educators. Learn the who, what, where, when, and why of New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Members of the 4-Way Partnership will share how they support Districts and their role in day-to-day operations. Network with other new employees, connect with partners, and pay attention for your chance to reign supreme at District Trivia! Come with your business cards to pass out, questions to solve and challenges and success stories to share.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW

8. Design Day

Instructor: Morning: Brian Reaser, Professional Engineer for Tioga Co. SWCD and Steve Lorraine, District Manager for Madison Co. SWCD, Afternoon: Ethan Bentley- Civil Engineer USDA-NRCS, Tim Terry- Farm Strategic Planning Specialist for PRO-DAIRY.

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: Morning: Planning, design and implementation criteria for installing a pasture-based watering system, and other successful water delivery projects highlighted to show professionals what's possible (from the basic to the complex). Afternoon: Planning considerations, design and implementation criteria for installation of roof runoff systems and "keeping clean water clean" using successful examples.

CCA CEUs: 1.5 NM, 2.5 SW, and 1 CM

9. AEM Tier 3A Planning Discussion and Peer Review

Instructors: Ron Bush, Brendan Jordan, and Greg Albrecht, New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee; and various District Planners depending on the types of Tier 3A plans being brought for review/interests of course registrants.

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: This course offers the opportunity to discuss AEM Tier work with your peers and experienced planners. It's structured around AEM Tier 3A planning, but has plenty of flexibility to discuss all things AEM as we work in small groups throughout the day. If you don't have an AEM Tier 3A plan to bring, that's absolutely fine, as you can bring other AEM experiences and questions to the class for discussion with peers.

During the day, we will work in small discussion groups guided by an experienced planner (3-5 people). Participants who bring plans will informally present their AEM Tier 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. Reviews are fun, constructive and really helpful in learning from each other based on your own work. The goal is to share and pick-up good ideas about key AEM concepts while you "tour" your peers through the pages of your Tier 3A plans, such as:

- Communicating and building trusting, working relationships with farmers
- 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.

For those with AEM Tier 3A plans, please aim to bring a hard copy of one (or two!) that you've completed or are working on to the class from the following Tier 3A component plan 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 if you'll be bringing a Tier 3A plan or not and, if so, the type of plan from the list above in your Water Quality Symposium registration. You are welcome and encouraged to rotate to tables working on different Tier 3A planning categories during the day.

Please contact Ron Bush (ronald.bush@agriculture.ny.gov or 315.314.0352) if you have any questions while registering for this class.

CCA CEUs: 2 NM, 2.5 SW, and 1 CM

10. HydroCAD and HEC-RAS 101

Instructor: Daniel Macadam and James Houle - The UNH Stormwater Center, James Woitdt - J.L. Woitdt Engineering, PLLC / Streamworks, PLLC

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: This class will provide the basics foundation and features of HydroCAD and HEC-RAS for simulating stormwater runoff and designing stormwater management systems and performing hydraulic calculations. Some of the items covered will be calculating discharge, peak flows, time of concentration, storage, flow simulations, water discharge and stage, and modifying the channel geometry.

CCA CEUs: 2.5 SW

11. Aquatic Vegetation Forum

Instructor: Mark Burger, Megan Vanderwarker - Onondaga County, Tim Lozier, Doug Kierst – Cayuga County, Joe Chairvolotti – Oswego County, Scott DeRue - Wayne County, Sam Beck-Andersen – Finger Lake Institute

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Description: Come get an overview from a few districts on how they harvest and control aquatic vegetation along rivers and lakes within New York State. Aquatic weeds are managed in many ways conducted, positive and negatives of each method, the new challenges that we are facing with invasive and climate change, and everything in between.

12. Accounting and Reporting Responsibilities

Instructor: William Naylor

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Description: This session will familiarize officials with the accounting process for Soil and Water Conservation Districts and some of the unique elements of governmental accounting. It will include an overview of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the Uniform Accounting System, measurement focus, the Treasurer's Report, and accounting responsibilities and records. We will also discuss resources available from the Comptroller's Office to assist fiscal officers with their responsibilities.

13. Managing Fallow Areas

Instructor: Joe Chairvolotti, Pat Crast, Ava Glasser, Jessica Moore, Chris Zimmerman, Ranier Lucas, Lydia Brinkley, Jennifer Clifford, Katie Walsh.

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: Trees are the major component of carbon sequestration in state and federal climate plans. As we manage forested areas typically one of the goals is to regenerate the forest with a new age class for forest health, diversity and carbon sequestration benefits. Fallow areas or reverting farmland provide afforestation opportunities; however these areas are commonly dominated by undesired species and require intensive management. In this session you will learn about how to assess these fallow areas to determine what is currently growing, what species would be best suited for the site, how to develop a planting plan and what some of your potential funding sources may be.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW, 1.5 PM, and 1.5 CM

14. Managers Forum

Instructor: Caitlin Stewart

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Description: This course is for Managers and Executive Directors only. This will be an open forum to freely discuss your priority topics and issues (please come with questions, problems, and success stories to share).

CCA CEUs: 0.5 SW and 0.5 PD

15. How to Manage Difficult Projects and Difficult People

Instructor: Alaina Robarge – Ontario County

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: We have all had one project where everything that could go wrong, went wrong. The project was designed poorly and did not function as anticipated. The landowner was upset about the project and argued every step of the way. The contractor decided to go off the specifications of the design and complete the project a different way. Local officials became involved due to constituent concerns. This

class will provide recommendations and methods to make sure your projects go as planned and ways to diffuse conflicts.

16. From Chaos to Calm: Unlocking the Secrets to Balance and Stress Management

Instructor: Heather Cosgrove

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: In the demanding world of a clerk, finding equilibrium between professional responsibilities and personal well-being can feel impossible. This presentation is designed to empower you with practical strategies and insights to navigate the demands of your role while maintaining a sense of balance. This engaging and interactive session will help you discover effective techniques to manage stress, enhance productivity, create harmony, and get the support that you need to succeed. Through group discussions, hands on activities, and expert guidance, you will leave feeling like you have the tools you need to transform chaos into calm in both your professional and personal life.

17. Six Thinking Hats- A leaders Guide to Practical Thinking

Instructor: Richard D. Orth

Date and Time: Wednesday 3/13/2024 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: Six Thinking Hats® is a proven thinking method for leading group discussions and individual thinking. It provides a framework to help people think clearly and thoroughly by directing their thinking attention in one direction at a time. The Six Thinking Hats technique stimulates clear, objective, creative thinking, and reduces the “trenching” of endless discussions and arguing. Applying this technique results in shorter, focused, results-oriented meetings where people want to participate. Participants effectively analyze issues, generate ideas, and make better decisions. The use of hats is a simple mental metaphor. Hats are easy to put on and to take off. Each hat is a different color that signals a unique thinking technique. In this half-day interactive class, we will identify the purpose of each hat color and apply the method to a variety of real-life scenarios at work and personal scenarios.

18. Addressing On-farm Manure and Imported Organic Nutrients

Instructors: Ron Bush, Brendan Jordan, and Greg Albrecht, New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee; Paula Bagley and Josh Hornesky, USDA-NRCS; and Kirsten Workman, Cornell PRO-DAIRY.

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Description: This morning course will cover identifying resource concerns and planning practice systems to make better use of different types of organic nutrient sources (e.g., on-farm manures, imported organic nutrient sources) with approaches applicable to crop farms and smaller livestock farms. Discussions will cover:

- various manure and organic nutrient sources;
- common resource concerns;
- the Short-Term Waste Collection and Transfer System from the SWCC’s Ag BMP Systems Catalogue;
- project examples and lessons learned for different types of storages, stacking pads, and compost pads;
- using manure, imported organic nutrients, and fertilizers to their fullest for crop production; and
- assessing and planning manure/imported organics application equipment compatibility.

Please contact Ron Bush (ronald.bush@agriculture.ny.gov or 315.314.0352) if you have any questions while registering for this class.

CCA CEUs: 2.5 NM and 0.5 SW

19. Practical Soil Health

Instructor: Jason Cuddeback-Cayuga Co. SWCD, Kristen Workman-PRO-DAIRY, Nutrient Management and Environmental Sustainability Specialist, Dan Ufnar, NYS Soil Scientist-USDA-NRCS, Ann Marie Calabro-Soil Health Institute, Caroline Marschner- Cornell Invasive Species Extension Associate, Guest Farmer panel.

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: From interpreting a soil health test, reading the land, talking with farmers, weed management, wintering livestock to implementing projects and learning what crops and timing work together and “staff getting away from making a lot of blanket statements to farmers”. The class will prepare staff to know how to approach soil health advice from a practical standpoint by learning about cover crops, equipment, cost analysis and getting perspectives from guest farmers.

CCA CEUs: 1 NM, 1.5 SW, 1 PM, and 2 CM

20. Stormwater and Stream Restoration Project Showcase

Instructor: Katie Lafler and Megan Webster - Ontario County, Angel Hinkle – Tompkins County, Jim Sroka - Monroe County, Jim Lieberum – Warren County, Tim Schneider – Cayuga County

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Description: Come learn from district folks around the State to see what stormwater and stream related projects that districts have installed over the last few years. This class is an opportunity not only to showcase some of the great work completed, but a means of learning from each other. Discussion will be centered around which practices and techniques work have worked best, what has been learned through trial and error, and general tips and ideas that can be taken back to your district. We will have a Q & A session to discuss technical skills, how to communicate with your contractors, and which districts you can reach out to for support.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW

21. Agroforestry

Instructor: Brett Chedzoy, Greg Albrecht, Nick Rowell, Lydia Brinkley, Jeff Zarnowski, Joshua Greene, Harry Greene

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: How do you communicate with your farmers and landowners to add trees and shrubs into farming systems? What programs or groups are available to assist with the planning? In this session you will learn about how to communicate and plan agroforestry systems, pilot projects success stories and established groups sharing their story.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW and 4 CM

22. Communications, Conflict Resolution, and Meditation

Instructor: Richard D. Orth

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM (full day)

Description: This class is an opportunity to further develop leadership skills and improve how you communicate with others. Due to its popularity at last year's WQS, this class is being offered again in its entirety. This full day class will explore how to apply foundational leadership skills – and life skills – to real life scenarios at work and also in your personal relationships. The purpose of the class is to deepen your awareness of Emotional Intelligence (EI) – the capacity to be aware of, express and channel one's emotions, and to handle interpersonal relationships judiciously and empathetically. The learned skills are also an underpinning for increasing employee engagement, as well as improving – and sustaining – organizational performance. Through lecture, engaging conversations, story-telling and group activities, participants gain an introspection of EI concepts by expanding their self-awareness and social-awareness.

23. Grazing Design and Layout

Instructor: Steve Kenyon-Greener Pastures Ranching Canada (Virtual), Cheryl Cesario-Vermont Farmer and American Farmland Trust Grazing Specialist, Daimon Meeh, Farmer and New Hampshire Grazing Specialist

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: So you've got a grazing plan and now you want to put it into action. Learn all the nuances of taking the plan to the field and applying it to the topography. Squares, rectangles, triangles, up hills, and in bottomland are all in play. Animal flow, sacrifice areas, laneways, water delivery and sensible paddock sizing add to the intrigue of creating grazing system scenarios that work for the customers.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW and 1.5 CM

24. New Stormwater Products and Solutions

Instructor: Doug McCluskey – EJP

Date and Time: Thursday 3/14/2024 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Description: Overview of new stormwater products on that market that can help your district with any type of project. Come learn from industry leaders on what is new in the stormwater industry to help stabilize soil, reduce flooding risks, reduce labor and equipment costs, and see other product options that might work on a difficult site in your region. Case studies will be presented.

25. Grazing Q&A

Instructor: Cheryl Cesario-AFT Grazing Specialist, Daimon Meeh-USDA-NRCS NH Grazing Specialist, Karen Hoffman-USDA-NRCS NY Grazing Specialist, Troy Bishopp, Upper Susquehanna Coalition Grazing Specialist

Date and Time: Friday 3/15/2024 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Description: Fire away all the questions you have been wanting to ask about grazing animals and the forages that feed them, infrastructure and pasture management.

CCA CEUs: 0.5 SW and 1 CM

26.Specialty Farms (Vegetable, Orchard, and Fruit)

Instructor: Judson Reid, Vegetable Specialist with the Cornell Vegetable Program, Janet Van Zoeren, Fruit tree specialist for Cornell Cooperative, Extension Lake Ontario Fruit Program, Tom Eskildsen-Yates County SWCD, Ian Priestley- Ontario County SWCD

Date and Time: Friday 3/15/2024 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Description: Come join an in depth look at the planning and farming considerations for working effectively with vegetable and orchard operations and using the AEM program to deliver practical advice and projects to these large, medium, small and homestead farms.

CCA CEUs: 0.5 NM, 0.5 SW, 0.5 PM, and 0.5 CM

27. DEC and ACOE Permitting Updates

Instructor: Maggie Crawford and Aaron Smith – USACOE, Kevin Balduzzi and Jean Foley – NYSDEC Bureau of Habitat, Matthew Kazmierski - NYSDEC Division of Water

Date and Time: Friday 3/15/2024 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Description: Overview of latest changes to NYS and Federal permitting regulations relating to streams, wetlands, and construction activities.

CCA CEUs: 1 SW

28. Financial Statements, Audits, and Annual Financial Reporting

Instructor: Michael DeBadts

Date and Time: Friday 3/15/2024 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Description:

In this session we will look at the differences between the required annual financial report and audited or reviewed financial statements, with a focus on understanding what is included in financial statements. We will discuss different types of attestation engagements that CPA firms can provide. We will cover the different scopes of work, and the general use of each type of engagement. We will discuss Single Audit requirements for federally funded grants. This session will also touch on the use of audits in grant funding applications and submission of financial statements to granting agencies after the receipt of awards.

29. Wildlife Habitat Management

Instructor: Gian Dodici, Mike Federice, Julie Miller

Date and Time: Friday 3/15/2024 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Description: Wildlife habitat improvement is a common landowner goal. This session will assist you in making management recommendations for incorporating wildlife habitat features into forest management planning, aquatic habitat considerations, vernal pool siting and design and funding options.

CCA CEUs: 0.5 SW and 0.5 CM

30. Project Wet

Instructor: Michael Jabot

Date and Time: Friday 3/15/2024 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Description: This session will be an overview of Project WET. We will be working through a series of hands-on activities around some of the BIG ideas around water. While we will most certainly not be able to bring activities to a conclusion, we are hoping that you will leave with a number of ideas to bring to your work.

CCA CEUs: 0.5 SW and 0.5 PD