

Winter Edition

Newsletter Date:
December 23, 2007



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Minnesota Terrestrial Invasive Plants Conference

This conference will focus on the detection, identification, prevention, management, restoration of impacted areas and measuring of successful terrestrial invasive species management.

The expected audience is resource professionals who manage land areas threatened by terrestrial invasive species who desire to increase their knowledge base.

Plan to join your colleagues from across the Midwest for this day and a half conference to improve your management skills.

Conference Topics:

- Development of Control and Management Plans/Strategies
- Inventory & Mapping
- Control Techniques [Mechanical, Chemical or Biological]
- Rehabilitation/Restoration

Conference Details:

Place: Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN

When: March 7, & 8, 2007

Registration information will be available on the MN



Learn the tools to help protect our native landscapes!

SWCS Website after January 1, 2007.

www.minnesotaswcs.org

Questions-Contact Linda Meschke at linda@ruraladvantage.org

Conservation and Bioenergy 2007 Minnesota SWCS Annual Conference and Meeting

The topic for this year's annual workshop is Conservation and Bio-energy. With the current energy economy, interest in alternative energy sources, including bio-energy, is booming. The push for increased bio-energy has the potential to rapidly change agriculture and the rural landscape. Six speakers will cover a wide range of topics including: renewable energy tech-

nologies and activities at the University of Minnesota Renewable Energy Center, an ethanol industry perspective, economic forces shaping Midwest agriculture, research on effects of residue removal, management alternatives for protecting soil resources, potential effects on water quality, and wildlife impacts and opportunities. Join us at the USDA-ARS North Central

Soil Conservation Laboratory, Morris, MN on March 2, 2007 as we prepare for challenges and opportunities presented by these rapid changes.

A preliminary agenda can be found on the third page of the news letter.

Registration information is also enclosed within this news letter.

Social Event, Thursday Evening March 1st!!



Opportunity to network with and learn from

There will be a social event open to all members and guest to attending the March 2nd, **Conservation and Bioenergy 2007 Minnesota SWCS Annual Conference and Meeting** in Morris, MN.

One of the reasons to being a SWCS member is the opportunities to network with and learn from professional from many

disciplines through local, regional and international meetings.

There is no cost to attend the social event. Snacks, water, pop and some other beverages will be provided. If you wish to have a specific beverage please bring your own to the event. The social event will be in executive suite Room 236 at the

Prairie Inn (Best Western), located on HWY 28 in Morris, MN.

Anyone interested in attending the social event please RSVP to Shannon Bengtson by phone: 320-266-5372 or by email: shan-non.bengtson@mn.usda.gov by Friday **February 23, 2007.**

Minnesota SWCS Chapter 2007 Business Plan!

"Watch the MN SWCD Website for a full copy of the 2007 MN SWCS Chapter Business Plan"

Calendar years 2007 and 2008 will be an exciting time to be apart of the MN SWCS Chapter. The 2007 business plan will included: ideas to reform the Student scholarship and chapter awards process (to make it easier for students to be aware of the scholarship opportunities and for members to have time to nominate leaders in our communities an recognize them for their work in preserving our natural resources); to set up

a committee of members to put together the requirements for "MN SWCS Grant", this grant will be for anyone in the state of MN can apply in a competitive manor for funding to solve a soil and/ water quality concern (this could be a great way to utilize the funding from the 2004 conference); also to start a web-based MN SWCS Student Chapter, where interested students from multiple universities and colleges

around MN can work together communicate and function as one chapter!

I hope that there will be many members willing to come on the bang wagon and help make these things happen! A full business plan will be posted on the MN SWCS website before the March annual meeting for everyone to review and make comments, suggestions, and provide valuable input!

Your 2007 President, Shannon Bengtson.

Award Nominations Due January 31st, 2007!



Calling all members to take a step back and recognize a fellow SWCS member, non-members, groups, agencies, or business in the Natural Resources field for doing a wonderful job, promoting, educating, and assisting with the MN SWCS Chapter.

The following award categories are for SWCS member

nominations only:

- [Outstanding Service](#)
- [Commendation Award](#)

The following award categories are for SWCS members, non-members, and organizations:

- [Honor](#)
- [Merit](#)
- [News/Media](#):

- [Education](#)

Enclosed is a nomination form outlining the criteria for each award mentioned .

Please send award nominations to:

Thomas Steger
909 Larson Drive
Zumbrota, MN 55902

SWCS International Conference—Tampa, Florida

The Soil and Water Conservation Society's 2007 annual conference will be held July 21-25 in Tampa, Florida.

The conference theme is "Conservation Challenges in a Changing Landscape." The conference includes workshops, concurrent sessions, symposia, posters, plenary sessions, and

technical tours designed to expose participants to recent developments in the science and art of natural resource conservation and environmental management on working land—the largely privately—owned land comprising working farms, ranches, forests, and rural and urban communities.

Audience: The SWCS annual conference brings together researchers, practitioners, and policy makers at all levels of government, business, and non-governmental organizations to explore current issues in conservation and environmental management science, technology, practice, programs, and policy.



Student Scholarships Applications Due!



The MN SWCS Chapter has two \$500 scholarships to give out! Anyone interested in returning or currently in college may apply.

Scholarship Application must include the following:

- Resume

- academic plan
- letter of recommendation
- a short essay stating why you should be selected to receive one of the two scholarships being awarded.

Scholarships applications are due by **January 31st, 2007** to

Greg Larson. If you have questions, Greg can be reached by email:

greg.larson@bwsr.state.mn.us

Or by phone: (651) 297-7029

Mail applications to:

Greg Larson

520 Lafayette Road

Saint Paul, MN 55155

"Two \$500 scholarships available for anyone interested in returning or currently in college peruse a career in soil and water resources."

March 2nd, MN SWCS Chapter Preliminary Agenda! Mark your Calendars!!

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

8:30 Registration – Coffee and Rolls

9:00 Introduction – Linda Meschke, Chapter President

9:10 Chapter Business Meeting

10:30 Break

10:45 Mike Reese, Director University of Minnesota Renewable Energy Center, Morris (General Topic: Activities at the U of M Renewable energy Center)

11:30 Bill Lee, General Manager, Chippewa Valley Ethanol Company, Benson (General Topic:

Ethanol Industry Perspective)

Noon Lunch and awards

1:00 Steve Delehanty, USFWS, Morris Wetland Management District, Morris (General Topic: Potential Wildlife Impacts and Opportunities)

1:30 John Baker, Research Leader, USDA-ARS, Soil and Water Management Research Unit, St. Paul (General Topic: Management Alternatives for Protecting Soil Resources)

2:00 Break

2:15 Vern Eidman, Department of Applied Eco-

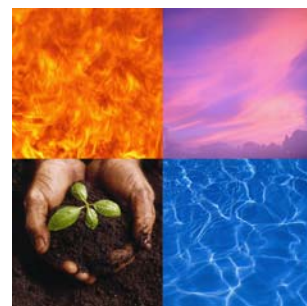
nomics, U of MN, St. Paul (General Topic: "Biofuels: Implications for Midwest Agriculture" (economics))

2:45 Jeff Strock, Soil Scientist, U of MN SWROC, Lambertson (General Topic: Potential Water Quality Impacts)

3:15 Jane Johnson, Soil Scientist, USDA-ARS, North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory, Morris (General Topic: Minimum residue needs to maintain soil carbon)

3:45 Closing Remarks

4:00 Adjourn



Chapter Officers

Linda Meschke meschkel@berbi.org	President
Shannon Bengtson Shannon.bengtson@mn.usda.gov	President Elect
Merle Anderson merleanderson@cloudnet.com	Past President
Sid Cornelius Sid.cornelius@mn.usda.gov	Treasurer
Vacant	Secretary
David Archer	Northern Rep.
Greg Larson	Southern Rep.

www.minnesotaswcs.org

Our mission is to foster the science and art of natural resource conservation



Minnesota Soil & Water Conservation Society (SWCS)
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St. Paul, MN 55101-1854

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>March 1, 2007 Social Event Location: Prairie Inn; Morris MN</p>	<p>March 2, 2007 Conservation Bioenergy, 07 MN SWCS Chapter Meeting Location: USDA-ARS North Central Soil Conservation Laboratory, Morris, MN</p>
<p>March 7 – 8, 2007 Minnesota Terrestrial Invasive Plants Conference Location: Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN</p>	<p>March 8 - 9, 2007 “Maximum Control Measures” Contact: Minnesota Erosion Control Association</p>
<p>Date: to be announced West North Central Regional Spring Leadership Training</p>	<p>July 21-25, 1007 2007 SWCS International Conference Location: Tampa, FL</p>
<p>October 16-18, 2007 West North Central Regional SWCS Meeting Location: Dubuque, IA</p>	



MN SWCS Chapter - President Elect
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