



Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

Oklahoma Chapter

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Links:

The international web site.
www.swcs.org

The Oklahoma web site.
www.okswcs.org

Become a fan on Facebook.
<http://www.facebook.com/okswcs>

Committee Chairpersons:

Program, Josh Ketch
Membership, Stacy Hansen
Awards, Daniel Moriasi
Scholarship, Josh Ketch
Budget, Jason Warren
Audit, Corey Moffet
Nominating/Elections, Jean Steiner
Fund Raising, Melanie Oliver
Website, Joe Freeland
Newsletter, Larry Wright

Vision: A multidisciplinary Society that advocates the protection, enhancement, and wise use of soil, water and related natural resources in Oklahoma and beyond.

Mission: To promote through education and example, an ethic that recognizes the interdependence of people and the environment.

Welcome New Members:

Chapter Leader Training Webinars [Click here to watch](#)

2014 No-Till Oklahoma

The 2014 No-Till Oklahoma conference will occur on March 11 - 12 at the NCED in Norman Oklahoma (same venue as previous years). Mark your calendars.



www.notill.okstate.edu

Organic Oklahoma 2014

The first annual sustainable and organic production conference designed for beginning and advanced growers.

Friday, February 28 & Saturday, March 1, 2014

OSU/OKC Agriculture Technology Building
900 North Portland Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma <http://www.osuokc.edu/OrganicOklahoma/>



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 & SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014

OSU-OKC Agriculture Technology Building
900 North Portland Avenue,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Awards for Individuals

The awards program of the Soil and Water Conservation Society is designed to recognize individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions in advocating the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources. These are not to be confused with Chapter Awards. Information about Chapter Awards can be found [here](#). Please feel welcome to view the [2013 Awards Program](#) to learn more about both the individual and chapter awards.

The criteria and nominating procedures for the awards program are here on the website. Award recipients will be announced at the Society's annual meeting, unless other-

wise indicated.

The [award category selection key](#) will help you place your nomination in the awards category that best fits the nominee's accomplishments. Answer the questions sequentially until you are led to the appropriate award. Incorrectly placed nominations will not be considered for recognition. The formal nomination questionnaire must be filled out for the appropriate award category and may be accompanied by supporting information. There is a specific nomination questionnaire for each award category except chapter awards.

Award nominations must be received by February 12, 2014.

Some nominations require a signed petition accompany the awards nomination form. You may upload these documents to the nomination form, scan and email the signed petition to awards@swcs.org, or fax it to 515-289-1227. All forms of submission will receive a confirmation of receipt. Additional information, if needed, may be obtained from the Society's headquarters office 515-289-2331 ext. 114 or your regional Awards Committee representative.

Summary of Society Scholarships

*Please be aware that you must be a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society for at least 1 year to apply for these scholarships. Opportunities for scholarships are as follows:

I. Research Scholarship — made possible by Kenneth E. Grant

In 1978, friends and associates of Kenneth E. Grant established a scholarship program in his name when he retired as administrator of the Soil Conservation Service. The Kenneth E. Grant Research Scholarship provides financial aid to members of SWCS for interdisciplinary graduate-level research on a conservation topic that will extend the SWCS mission of fostering the science and the art of soil, water, and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability. SWCS actively promotes multidisciplinary research.

II. Soil Conservation Scholarship — made possible by Donald A. Williams

The Donald A. Williams Soil Conservation Scholarship provides financial assistance to members of SWCS who are currently employed, but who wish to improve their technical or administrative competence in

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a conservation-related field through course work at an accredited college or through a program of special study.

III. Student Leader Conservation Scholarship — made possible by Melville H. Cohee

The Melville H. Cohee Student Leader Conservation Scholarship was started in the early 1990s to honor student members who succeed as leaders in their studies, volunteerism, and work. Nominations for this scholarship come from all over the world to compete against other student society members who have interest in conservation or other resource-related fields.

Questions about SWCS scholarships? Contact scholarships@swcs.org or call 1-800-THE SOIL

Applications for the 2014 SWCS awards and scholarships are now available. The deadline for applications is February 12, 2014.

Don't miss your opportunity to nominate someone who is instrumental in soil, water, and natural resource conservation or apply for scholarships available for the 2014 - 2015 school year.



69th SWCS International Annual Conference

**MAKING WAVES
IN CONSERVATION**

Our Life on Land & its Impact on Water
LOMBARD, IL • JUL 27-30, 2014



**Oklahoma Soil Health 101 Sessions
An Introduction to Soil Health and its
Role in 21st Century Agriculture**

Presented by Oklahoma NRCS

Draft Agenda

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introduction
- 9:15 a.m. Soil Health Basics
- Soil health demonstrations (Slaking, Infiltration)
- Understanding how soil health affects soil functions
- Soil health impact on resource management and basics of Soil Management Systems and 9-Steps of Planning (review development of a SHMS)
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Soil Health Planning Principles
- Manage more by disturbing the soil less
- Using plant diversity to increase the diversity in the soil biota
- Keep a living root growing throughout the year
- Keep the soil covered as much as possible
- Develop a local strategy (class exercise)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. How to tell if a Soil is Healthy
- Understanding ecosystems processes
- Evaluating habitat to improve soil biota
- Indicators of soil health & soil quality assessments (Soil Quality Bucket)
- 245 p.m. Soil Health Management Systems
- Cover Crop Use and Planning
- Cropland case study (Mike Kucera farm)
- Oklahoma case study
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn

**Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts
Annual Conference**

The Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference will be March 2—4, 2014 at the Reed Center in Midwest City, Ok.

Donate to help support *Conservation NewsBriefs* and all of your Society's publications and activities.

As little as \$10 from each member during the Annual Giving Campaign will help support the SWCS mission!

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Cover Crops Webinar

More than ever before, farmers are planting cover crops because they retain soil moisture, reduce erosion, and maximize profitability. Given these, and other, recognized conservation benefits of cover crops, USDA directed an interagency task force to put together cover crop termination guidelines so farmers who adopt this practice do not lose their crop insurance coverage.

This webinar will feature short presentations by experts in cover crops and crop insurance policy. They will explain the new cover crop termination guidelines and then answer any questions from webinar participants about how these new guidelines will affect farmers on the ground. The webinar is funded in part by the USDA Risk Management Agency through the Risk Management Education Partnership Program. Thursday, January 23, 2014 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM CST.

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/789127970>

RSVP by January 7 if interested in attending one of these sessions:

- January 13 at Woodward – High Plains Tech Center
- January 14 at Wagoner – not sure on location
- January 15 at Atoka Vo-Tech
- January 16 at Fort Cobb – Caddo Kiowa Tech Center