

2015 Conservation Employee Training



Contagious Enthusiasm!

MONDAY – 8.10.2015

MORNING

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Registration Open – Crown Plaza Hotel, Hickory – Lobby

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – NC Conservation District Employee Association Board Meeting

AFTERNOON

1 – 5 p.m. – General Session –

Mr. Brian Hacker, Kentucky native and President for the Southeastern Conservation District Employees Association will set the tone for this year's Conservation Employees Training through his motivational comments and unique perspective on soil and water conservation.

The Conservation Action Team (CAT) will connect the relevance of local efforts starting with your district's operational agreement and employee responsibilities to promoting conservation planning, influencing training opportunities, securing job approval authority and the list goes on. The session will end with a brief NCCDEA membership meeting. Our common goals and missions make this a session you don't want to miss!

EVENING

5:30 p.m. – Gab, Gobble & Games – Devine Farms

Fishing derby with prizes, volley ball, skeet shoot, and horse shoes. A team building evening with a small fee for supper. Bring your lawn chair and a fishing pole. The Mobile Soils Classroom plans to be onsite, too, for those of you who have not had a chance to see what great things it can bring to your district.

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TUESDAY – 8.11.2015

7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Registration Open – Crown Plaza Hotel, Hickory – Lobby

Technical Sessions

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Watering Facilities & Piping –

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about water systems delivery on pasture operations, including used and development of water sources, water conveyance infrastructure, supporting conservation practices and the watering facilities themselves. An on-farm planning component will be a part of the session. 7 CCP Credit Hours Requested

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Floodplain Management –

Participants will take part in a discussion on federal floodplain management regulations, the use of NRCS CPA-52 form, and how both affects the implementation of conservation practices. This session will include scenarios in which participants will determine regulation requirements during the planning process. 7 CCP Credit Hours Requested

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Stream Crossing Variations & Design –

*Students will have the opportunity to learn about the various types of stream crossings, complete activities to determine site selection, plan and design stream crossing and learn about installation considerations. An on-farm planning component will be part of the session as well as completing a design for the site. Laptops are required for the Wednesday session. 14 CCP Credit Hours Requested *****Must register for both Tuesday & Wednesday all day sessions. ******

Administrative/Managerial Sessions

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Grant Writing Essentials –

*Ever had a good project idea and didn't know where to start? Ever wondered how to successfully apply for grants? Come join Michelle Lovejoy for a crash course in project management and grant writing. By the end of the session you will have a first draft for a proposal and have a better understanding of how to engage the right people to get the project done! The workshop will focus on developing a budget, organizing a planning team and drafting common sections of a grant proposal. Attendees will be placed into small groups to facilitate writing exercises. This workshop is open to veteran grant writers and beginners and time will be used to exchange ideas between Districts. *****Must register for both Tuesday & Wednesday all day sessions. ******

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Administrative Resource Review –

Please join us as we review the division website and share resource materials for districts related to NC General Statute – Chapter 139 – “District Law”, Open Meetings Law, minutes, filing and public records, supervisor travel, financial administration, and more... Draft Document Retention Schedule for SWCDs will also be presented by Jason Woolf, Records Management Analyst with the NC Department of Cultural Resources, with an opportunity for districts to provide comments. This session is geared toward district administrators that are familiar with the legal and statutory requirements for districts.

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Effective Presentations –

Are you cool, calm, and collected when you speak before groups? Join us as Roger Montague offers suggestions and tips so your audiences will really remember the information you shared. Guidance will be appropriate for any presentation setting – from County Commissioners, to 3rd Grade Field Days... A textbook of handy tips and suggestions will be provided to participants.

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TUESDAY – 8.11.2015

Educational Sessions

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – It's Our Water –



Holly Denham has agreed to give the Conservation Educators a special 'It's Our Water' workshop with an emphasis on the 2015 contest theme 'We all live in a watershed'. This workshop will qualify as a Criteria 1 workshop for NC Environmental Education Certification credit.

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Mobile Soils Classroom –

This is another opportunity to get acquainted with the mobile soils lab trailer and demonstrations.

SWC Commission Work Session

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Commission Work Session –

EVENING

5:45 – 6:45 – Welcome Supper –

7:00 – 8:30 – NC SWC Commission Work Session Meeting –

9p.m. – Mr. DEA Fund Raiser –

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WEDNESDAY – 8.12.2015

MORNING

7:30 – 2 p.m. – Registration Open – Crown Plaza Hotel, Hickory – Lobby

Technical Sessions

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Fencing –

Students will have the opportunity to learn about fence construction, plan specifications, and materials used. There will be an on-farm planning component, as well as demonstrations of electric fence set-up and use, as well as the opportunity to troubleshoot fencing problems. 7 CCP Credit Hours Requested

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Conservation Compliance Plans –

Students will have the opportunity to learn about Farm Bill conservation compliance requirements, agency roles and responsibilities, best management practice alternatives to assist with compliance, and avenues where districts can provide assistance. 7 CCP Credit Hours Requested

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Stream Crossing Variations & Design –

*Students will have the opportunity to learn about the various types of stream crossings, complete activities to determine site selection, plan and design stream crossing and learn about installation considerations. An on-farm planning component will be part of the session as well as completing a design for the site. Laptops are required for the Wednesday session. 14 CCP Credit Hours Requested *****Must register for both Tuesday & Wednesday all day sessions.******

Administrative/Managerial Sessions

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8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Effective Interpersonal Skills –

Do you ever wonder, "Why did they do or say that?" In order to build effective working relationships, it's important to understand human behavior. Join us as Roger Montague helps us understand behavioral traits and generational differences, and how they impact your ability to communicate more effectively. It's a fun filled look at our behaviors and how they impact our success. A personalized textbook of how to improve your skills will be provided to participants.

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Fundamentals of Management –

*Continue improving your managerial skills in a follow-up session to effective interpersonal skills with Roger Montague. You will explore the functions of management and how they apply to your district job. We will continue the discussion of the impact of interpersonal skills on the job of a manager. In addition we will cover time management, listening skills, and operational planning. This session will be relevant for district employees serving in managerial positions. A textbook with "how to" information will be provided to participants. *****Must attend morning Effective Interpersonal Skills session to participate.******

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WEDNESDAY – 8.12.2015

Educational Sessions

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Outdoor Learning Environments –

Roger Moore, NCSU School of Design, will share a set of best practices for building outdoor learning centers. Hear how one SWC District is using ‘crowd sourcing’ to finance an outdoor learning center, and get an update on grant opportunities for funding an outdoor learning environment in one of your schools. This session will qualify for EE Certification credits

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Advanced Project Wild – Raptors –

In this 4 hour short-course we will cover raptor families, profiles, local species, conservation projects and the practice of falconry in NC. Hands on activities, such as identifying raptors in flight, are portable and trail-friendly for mixed age groups. Join CC King of the NC Wildlife Resource Commission to start down the path to exploring the wonder of our aerial predators. This session qualifies for 4 hours of Criteria II credit for the EE Certification.

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Service Learning Project –

Help plan and install a pollinator garden at a local school. Please let Sandra Weitzel know if you would like to join the planning group.

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Mobile Soils Classroom –

Advanced soils training.

EVENING

6:30 – 8:00 – Banquet –

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THURSDAY – 8.13.2015

MORNING

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Funding District Grant Projects –

Have a great project idea, but not sure where to find funds to support it? This session will introduce you to different grant funding sources for district projects. The session will end with a panel discussion with a variety of funding organizations. This session is open to any partnership employees interested in learning where to find funds for a variety of project types.

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. – A Watershed of Ideas for teaching the contest watershed theme –

Join a group of enthusiastic SWC District educators to discuss and sample techniques for teaching about watersheds and water quality. Get an in depth look at different ways to use, clean, and accessorize the EnviroScape watershed model. Explore other smaller hands on watershed demonstration tools for use with classroom groups, field day groups, and older citizens too. Get a 'bag of BMP' solutions, construct some make'n'take resources for your watershed classroom presentations. Receive the watershed theme alignment to the standard course of study, printed and web watershed resources. EE Certification credit will be available for this session.

8 a.m. – 10:30 – Division Program Updates –

Join us to make sure your district has the most up-to-date information on Soil and Water Conservation Commission Cost Share Program changes effective for FY2016. Division staff will highlight new and revised BMPs, and new tools and resources available for all programs.

10:30 – 12 p.m. – Conservation Planning Persuasive Skills –

Join us as Roger Montague helps us understand why farmers say “no” and what to do about it. He will cover how to ask better questions so agreement can be reached more effectively and efficiently. This session will be relevant for anyone that does conservation planning. Participants will be provided with a handy tip sheet on communicating better in a conservation planning situation. 1.5 CCP Credit Hours Requested

SPEAKER – PRESENTERS' INFORMATION

Administrative/Managerial Sessions

Roger Montague, a North Carolina native, is a 40 year veteran of NRCS serving in a variety of positions as district conservationist and area conservationists. He also worked in training and development at regional offices and in NRCS's headquarters. Roger also spent time after NRCS as a trainer with a consulting company in the construction industry. Roger recently retired from Bayer Crop Science where he served as the National Sales Training Manager.

Michelle Lovejoy became the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation's Executive Director in 2011. She has worked within the conservation partnership since 2004 and was previously employed as an Area Coordinator for the Division of Soil and Water Conservation in areas 2 and 7. She received a Masters of Science in Engineering and Environmental Geosciences from Radford University in 2004. She worked for an environmental engineering firm in Ohio between undergraduate and graduate studies. She received a Bachelors of Arts in Geology, Mathematics and Anthropology from Appalachian State University in 1999. She currently resides in Raleigh with her husband Jason.