

bring the family!

Come before the meeting and stay afterwards!

Not only is there a wealth of things to do in Cherokee, there's plenty to do in Western North Carolina. Experience the beautiful scenery that has made it the perfect backdrop for many Hollywood productions, including *The Last of the Mohicans*, *Dirty Dancing* and *The Hunger Games*. Here's a few of our top picks that are a short driving distance from the resort:

Experience "America's Favorite Drive" on the **Blue Ridge Parkway** or visit the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. The park is world renowned for its diversity of plant and animal life, the beauty of its ancient mountains, and the quality of its remnants of Southern Appalachian mountain culture.

Get outdoors - WNC has plenty of opportunities to stretch your legs. Ziplines, hiking, biking, whitewater rafting, sight seeing and more are just minutes away. Find out for yourself why this area is acclaimed by numerous magazines as a top outdoor adventure destination.



With more than 250 waterfalls in Transylvania County alone, it's no wonder this area is called the **Land of the Waterfalls**. Many are easily accessible, others you'll have to plan a hike, but all are worth the trip.

A trip to WNC isn't complete without visiting the **Biltmore Estate**, featuring America's largest private home and the most visited winery in the United States. While you're there, visit Antler Hill Village, home to many retail shops and fine restaurants.

Other WNC attractions include:

- Great Smoky Mountain Railroad
- Fishing
- Whitewater rafting and river tubing
- Winery and brewery tours
- WNC Farmers Market
- Zipline canopy tours

For more information and ideas, go to:
VisitNC.com/mountains or visitsmokies.org

registration

Online registration will open in late spring of 2016 and payment by check or credit card will be accepted. The cost of registration will be competitive with other regional meetings held over the past several years. Full registration will be available and guest/spouse registration will be offered if accompanied by a full registration.

getting here

Driving Times

From Spartanburg, SC (2 to 2.5 hours)
From Knoxville, TN (2 hours)
From Atlanta, GA (3 hours)
From Asheville, NC (1 hour)

Vicinity airports

Asheville Regional Airport (1.25 hours)
Greenville-Spartanburg International (2.75 hours)
McGhee Tyson (Knoxville) (~2 hours)
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International (~3 hours)

contact us

NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

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Association Officers of Interest

- Franklin Williams, NACD Board Member
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Visit the past.
Imagine the future...



July 31 - August 2
Harrah's Cherokee Resort
Cherokee, North Carolina

Visit the past.



The North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts invites you to the beautiful Smoky Mountains, the most-visited national park in the United States, for the 2016 regional meeting - a collaborative effort of the Southeast Region and the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation.

The meeting will take place on the tribal lands of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians at Harrah's Cherokee Resort from July 31 to August 2, 2016. The ECBI have lived here for millenia, long before Christopher Columbus discovered the New World.

The surrounding area, the Great Smoky Mountains is at the southern end of the Appalachian Mountains, which is thought to be among the oldest mountain ranges in the world.

Imagine the future.

Recently the importance and need for conservation districts in some southeastern states has been challenged. In fact, several have been abolished and no longer exist. So the question is...

How do soil and water conservation districts maintain their relevance and importance today as well as into the future?

The 2016 Regional Meeting will help districts move forward with innovation and creativity. We will be discussing new inventive ways to help districts build their capacity. Come learn, network and enjoy a unique experience in this beautiful setting.

Although the agenda is a work in progress, the meeting will include field trips to area conservation projects as well as multiple tribal cultural activities that include an inside look at the unique culture and heritage of the EBCI.

Inside sessions will include a combination of break-outs on topics of interest and general sessions that will focus on emerging issues relating to soil and water conservation and out of the box thinking.



Harrah's Resort is a 21-story luxury hotel tucked away in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, with many features to take advantage of during your stay. In addition to the many amenities at the hotel, Western North Carolina offers breathtaking views and plenty to do.

the resort

Mandara Spa treatments are inspired by the Balinese tradition of healing blended with Western traditions to leave you feeling relaxed and pampered.

Sequoyah National Golf Club offers golfers a challenging 18-hole course across 6,600 yards of Great Smoky Mountain beauty.

Shopping to satisfy any shopaholic, featuring ladies' clothing, accessories and shoes, logo apparel for men and women, gifts for the home and homemade candy.

Dining options are available to satisfy any craving. Experience traditional comfort food, classic fine dining or quick bites at the food court.

The wispy, smoke-like fog that hangs over the Smoky Mountains comes from rain and evaporation from trees. On the high peaks of the Smokies, an average of 85 inches of rain falls each year, qualifying these upper elevation areas as temperate rain forests.

(National Park Service)

did you know?



room rate

\$129.00 + tax. Includes complimentary garage parking or valet service and complimentary internet in all rooms. More than 1,000 rooms in three towers to choose from.

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