

2020 Fall District Employees Training Series

Register at the link below

<https://fs3.formsite.com/ncdswc/sjvbdyoai/index.html>

Monday, November 9, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE BASICS – SharePoint Access, Required Annual and New Term Supervisor Paperwork, and Administrative Resources – Presenter, Allie Dinwiddie

Get some answers about basic administrative responsibilities. Newly elected and appointed supervisors can't begin serving until required paperwork is completed. Learn how to do that in this mini session led by Allie Dinwiddie of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. The session will address how to access your District's SharePoint page and how to upload, edit, and delete the required documents. Annually required paperwork from supervisors and staff will also be covered. And finally, come aboard for a tour of the Division's website to find important resources that will help you in administering your job.

~~Monday, November 16, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.~~ **New Date/Time: Tuesday, December 8, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

ENVIROTHON CHALLENGE – SWC Districts' Informational Session – Presenter, Lynn Lambert

Here is an opportunity for you to keep your Envirothon students engaged with your local district program. Lynn Lambert, Harnett SWCD, has devised an Envirothon Challenge for individual students to take. It's all advertised on the North Carolina Envirothon website and social media pages.

Each student can take a quick, online test answering questions on any of the five Envirothon study areas – Aquatics, Wildlife, Forestry, Soils, and Current Environmental Issues. There will be recognition and prizes when the student meets the 'State Envirothon Challenge' level.

You can encourage your students and champion their achievement through this program. Its goal is not only to keep them engaged but to encourage them to study the Envirothon resources in advance of the Spring Area Envirothon events. [Challenge begins on December 8, 2020!](#)

Wednesday, November 18, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

THE HOW TO'S OF HOLDING A VIRTUAL TEACHERS' WORKSHOP – Presenter, Tammi Remsburg

Due to the pandemic, we are in a new, and could be exciting, time. Everything is up for evaluating in how Districts do their educational and outreach programs. Tammi Remsburg, Cabarrus SWCD, has held three virtual Food, Land & People (FLP) workshops this fall. She is willing to share her experiences in setting up and running the virtual workshop. You too can do this! Join Tammi and other district educators in discussing the how to's of moving your education program onto the virtual stage when necessary.

Monday, November 30, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

REFRESHER TO CONSERVATION EASEMENTS – Presenter, Michelle Lovejoy

Do you or your board have questions about holding easements? Get some answers during this session about the basics of how your district can hold a conservation easement. Get a glimpse of what it means to monitor an easement. And, find out about the programs that help with the financial aspects of easements. Michelle Lovejoy, of the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation, is leading an effort to help districts with the easement process. She will also be soliciting ideas for future training that she is planning on the easement subject during this session.

Monday, November 30, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION – INFORMATIONAL SESSION – Presenters, Lisa Tolley & Marty Wiggins

Did you know that there is a website devoted to helping environmental (and conservation) educators? The www.eenorthcarolina.org website is an enormous treasure chest of resources, information, and networking opportunities for district educators. The website includes information about the certification process to obtain the North Carolina Certified Environmental Educator designation. It also contains a calendar of educational training opportunities and a place where you can advertise your educational workshops too. On the website is a

place to register for the EE List Serve which will send a trove of great information and opportunities to your email. Lisa Tolley and Marty Wiggins, of the Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs within NC DEQ, are the staff who oversee all these great resources.

Tuesday, December 1, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

DISTRICT'S LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY; A LOOK AT THE DISTRICT LAW, GS139 – Presenter, Bryan Evans

Do you know the name, Hugh Hammond Bennett? Do you get excited when you hear NC General Statute (GS) 139? You should! Delve into why your district exists, and what it has legal authority to do. Since its adoption in 1937, General Statute 139 remains largely unchanged. Most additions to this law have been added by requests of Districts through the Association's resolution process. This mini session will focus on items in the law that often spark questions. Come join the conversation!

Tuesday, December 1, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

LOCAL DISTRICT CONTESTS – Design one that fits your needs – Presenters, Lisa Marochak & Pam Steuer

North Carolina Sol and Water Conservation Districts are locally led entities! Hear from two districts that have devised school-aged contests to meet their local needs. Lisa Marochak, Durham SWCD, saw the need several years ago to engage her primary school (K-2) students who were too young for the standard district poster contests. Lisa invented simple natural resource topics that students drew pictures about. She then turned them into bookmarks for all to enjoy. Let Lisa tell you how she did it.

Pam Steuer, Caldwell SWCD, was presenting this year's contest themed presentations to an EC class of seventh and eighth graders via Zoom. The students were engaged and wonderful in the virtual meeting. But it became apparent that the standard speech contest was not going to fulfill these students' needs. Find out how Pam added these students to her roster of active contestants!

Wednesday, December 2, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. – [NEW Listing](#)

NATURAL RESOURCE POETRY – Tom Randolph

Explore getting kids to write poetry about the natural world with Tom Randolph, Education Ranger at Mt. Jefferson State Natural Area. We are connected chemically and biologically to our earth and soil and water, but Munsell Soil color charts and pH kits don't always reflect those deep connections. Join us for a workshop that will help you combine poetry & education with soil and water.

Friday, December 4, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. - [NEW Listing](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE TOPICS with Helen Wiklund

Join Helen for a retake on the Master Agreement session presented on Monday, November 9th. There should be ample time for questions on a range of administrative topics. Individual district questions/issues with DUNS number should be addressed to Helen during her regular office hours outside this special session. Lisa Fine will also be joining the meeting to discuss Form Site, the registration software.

Wednesday, December 9, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. - [NEW Listing](#)

BASIC SOIL FERTILITY – Luke Gatiboni

Join Luke Gatiboni, Soil Fertility Extension Specialist at NCSU, for a quick overview of what soil fertility is all about. He will cover soil fertility and plant nutrition evaluation for North Carolina crops. The evaluation of nutrient availability in the soil and its uptake by plants are crucial tools for an adequate fertilization program. In this presentation we will discuss how the soil test and plant analysis have been calibrated in North Carolina to recommend the right fertilizer rates to obtain the maximum crop profitability but avoiding environment pollution. Dr. Gatiboni will also cover how to interpret the complete soil test report (for farmers/agents) to your cooperators.

Wednesday, December 9, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

BASIC SOIL SCIENCE – Allen Hayes

Do you know why clay is called clay? How is it different from sand or silt? Can you explain the difference? Where does loam fit into the soil science picture? Allen Hayes, Interpretative Soil Scientist with the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, will take you on a brief journey into the wonders of soil.

Thursday, December 10, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

SOIL SURVEYS & WEB SOIL SURVEY – Allen Hayes

Explore with Allen Hayes, Soil Scientist, how to get the most out of your county's soil survey. Take a quick journey through the printed version and then explore the web version to find the land information you'll need in helping your cooperators.

Thursday, December 10, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - [NEW Listing](#)

SOIL HEALTH – Nathan Lowder

Explore the emerging concepts in soil health with Nathan Lowder the NRCS specialist. This session will be a soil health 'refresher' along with presentation of some new materials that have developed.

Tuesday, December 15, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. - [NEW Listing](#)

AMERICORPS & VISTA – INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS INFORMATIONAL SESSION – Hosted by Allie Dinwiddie

Learn about several potential programs that can help you get extra help into your district office. Join us for a seminar covering some of the National Service Opportunities that districts can take advantage of including AmeriCorps VISTA, the Resiliency Corps program through Conservation Trust for NC, and others! Through this session, you will hear from a few guest speakers and get a better understanding of how these programs/opportunities can increase the capacity of your district's education, outreach, and BMP implementation efforts. We look forward to your participation and questions!