

S.O.S. – Sustainable Opportunities through Soil

Healthy Soils: Helping Local Communities

Move from Grey to Green Infrastructure

Details, Sponsorship Opportunities, Professional Development Credits* & Registration

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Proudly sponsored by New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts, Barnegat Bay Partnership, Ocean County Soil Conservation District & Members of the Planning Committee

May 30, 2012

Ocean County Community College Arts Center, Toms River, NJ

CONFERENCE AGENDA:

- 8:00 - 8:45** **Registration/Refreshments**
- 8:45 – 9:00** **Opening Remarks** - Master of Ceremonies – Don Knezick
- Welcome to OCC** – Dr. Jon Larson, OCC President
- 9:00 – 9:45** **Key Note 1: What Goes on Underground? Soil is a functioning Ecosystem! A Healthy Soil is a Living Soil**
- Dr. Elaine Ingham – Soil Biologist, Chief Scientist, Rodale Institute - Pioneering Organic Farming through Research and Outreach
- 9:45 – 10:30** **Key Note 2: Returning to our Roots – Opportunities in Urban Soil Husbandry as a Core Element of Land Transformation.**
- Dr. Stuart Schwartz – Senior Research Scientist, University of Maryland, CUERE- Center for Urban Environmental Research and Education
- 10:30 – 10:45** **Q & A – Facilitator – Don Knezick**
- 10:45 – 11:00** **BREAK/Travel to Break out Session**
- 11:00 – 12:00** **Healthy Soils Provide Opportunities for Sustainability: Lessons Learned**
Concurrent Break-Out Sessions: Track A, B or C

Track A – Stormwater

Moderator: Dr. Stuart Schwartz, University of Maryland

Facilitator & Recorder: Kyra Hoffmann, NJDEP, Supervising Environmental Specialist

1. **Social, Economic, & Environmental Benefits of Implementing of a Soil Management Plan** - Tony DiLodovico, Environmental Consultant
2. **Restoring Soil Function in Basins & Lessons Learned** – David McKeon & Vicki Peccholi, Ocean County Planning & Chris Smith, Retired NRCS Soil Scientist

Track B – Surface Water & Groundwater – Quality and Quantity

Moderator: Dr. Rich Shaw, NJNRCS

Facilitator & Recorder: Titus Magnanao, NJDEP, Environmental Specialist III

1. Planning for Rain - Looking at the Whole Landscape & Assessing the Function of Soil - Marilyn Mroz, Soil Scientist & P.E.
2. Why Soil Health Matters to Recharge Quantity and Quality - Timothy J. Reilly, Research Hydrologist, US Geological Survey

Track C – Soil Health in the Landscape –

Moderator: Dr. Elaine Ingham, Rodale Institute

Facilitator & Recorder: Kerry Kirk Pflugh, Manager, NJDEP

Public Participation & Stakeholder Involvement Office of Constituent Services

1. Soil Health Practices in the Landscape – Salvatore Mangiafico, Resource Management Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Salem County
2. The Grass Grows Greener when Planted in Healthy Soil – Dr. Jim Murphy, Extension Specialist, Rutgers Turf Management and Dr. Stephanie Murphy, Laboratory Support Specialist, Rutgers Soil Lab

12:00 PM

LUNCH

12:45 PM

Plenary Speaker:

Use Dependent Soil Properties: Results from Some Studies in NJ & NYC

Dr. Rich Shaw, State Soil Scientist, NJ NRCS

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

On the Ground - SOIL HEALTH Assessment & Demonstrations

Stations*

1. Amoozemeter - NRCS staff
2. *Amoozemeter – OCSCD staff
3. Infiltrometer – Measuring Water Flow through Natural/Native Soil
4. Verti-Quake – Georgian Court Staff– Demonstrate on Athletic Field
5. Spader – Loosening the Soil for Improved Infiltration (OCRD)
6. Soil Health Kit – Assessing the Soil Health – Biological, Chemical and Physical (NRCS)
7. *Soil Health Kit – Assessing the Soil Health – Biological, Chemical and Physical (NRCS)
8. Soil Assessment – Penetrometer & the 3 Rod System – Chris Smith

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Next Steps :Sustaining Local Communities from the Ground Up-

Facilitator: Fred Bowers, Princeton Soil Institute

Summation and Insight from Track A, B & C Moderators – Q & A

3:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Wrap-Up/ Evaluations/Certificates/Door Prizes & Resources - Don Knezick

*Pending Professional Development Credit & CEU Approvals –

Please contact Christine Raabe at craabe@ocscd.org if you have specific requests/requirements.