



Ohio Pedologist

[Http://www3.uakron.edu/geology/aop/](http://www3.uakron.edu/geology/aop/)

President's Message

It's hard to believe that this is my last President's Message. The year has just flown by. I would like to thank all of you for your support for AOP throughout the year. This is your organization and it only goes where you send it.



President Lemaster

The winter meeting on January 21, 2004 will be an important one. It will be held at the Battelle-Darby Creek Metro Park Cedar Ridge Lodge (same as last year). Let's plan to eat at noon and be on our way home by 3:30. We'll elect new officers and decide whether or not to change our name. If you remember the ruckus over selecting the state soil, this one over the name change may beat it.

The opportunity to donate to the Smithsonian soils exhibit is a separate line on the dues page. Jon Gerken, State Soil Scientist, has been appointed by the AOP Execu-

tive Council to lead the fund raising for the exhibit. The committee involved with the Smithsonian requests that each state donate \$10,000 for the exhibit. Some may say this is rather excessive but many feel that this is a once in a life time opportunity to highlight the soil science field.

Many different ideas have been presented but most of us feel a large donation should come from members. After all, we are the ones profiting from the science. Our membership is approximately 80 which will result in only a \$125 donation by each member to reach our goal. Obviously this is not going to occur so other pots are being explored. Please donate what you feel is necessary to promote our science; this opportunity probably will not present itself again in our lifetime.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season.

Dan Lemaster

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2003 Directory of Officers

Dan Lemaster, President
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Gordon Gilmore, Federal Rep.
Todd Houser, Private Rep.
Steve Hamilton, State Rep.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Events

January 21, 2004—AOP Winter Meeting, Battelle-Darby Metro Park

February 2–6, 2004—Correlation and Management of MLRA Soil Surveys

February 5 & 6, 2004—Ohio Water Quality and Waste Management Conference

Certification Board

Two terms of the four member board have been extended for an additional term. This was requested by the Certification Board members so that they may complete the necessary tasks that will allow the certification program to operate efficiently. Replacing two of the members would have slowed or stalled some of the process which is already

Forest Soils Conference

Submitted by Larry Tornes

Ohio had a good contingency at the 23rd Central States Forest Soils Conference held October 14 to 16, 2003 at Scottsburg, Indiana. The planning committee, under the leadership of Gary Stuben, did an outstanding job organizing and conducting the conference. Field stops with soil pits were at Clark State Forest, Phil Turley's private farm forest, and a Nature Preserve. Turley's forest stop included a discussion of his forest management plan containing expenses and returns from hiring a private forester, timber stand improvement, timber marking, and sales. Another nice stop on the second day was Kotter's Woodworking Mill and the Forest Discovery Center north of Louisville, Kentucky.

Attendees from Ohio included: John Allen, Dave Berna, Rich Gehring, Jon Gerken, Gordon Gilmore, Clark Harshbarger, Rex Mapes, Don McClure, Larry Milliron, Joe Steiger, Brad Tolbert, and Larry Tornes. I am sorry if I left anyone off the list.

Congrats

Congratulations to Dr. Norman Fausey for receiving the International Drainage Hall of Fame Award on November 19, 2003 at a special awards presentation at The University Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Columbus, Ohio. Norm is recognized internationally as an expert on drainage of soils in humid regions, as an authority on modeling of soil-water flow phenomena, and as a pioneer in the use of subirrigation in

slowly permeable soils. He currently is Supervisory Soil Scientist and Research leader for the USDA Agricultural Research Service—Soil Drainage Unit at Columbus, Ohio

Justification for Name Change

Executive council voted at the September 17 meeting that we propose to the general membership to change the name of the association to "Association of Ohio Professional Soil Scientists". The main reasons cited for the proposed change are: 1) probably nobody other than soil scientists know what a pedologist is; 2) AOP is one of only 2 soil scientist associations in the country to have "pedologist" in the name; and 3) "soil scientist" reflects the profession of a greater proportion of our members than does "pedologist" – "pedology" refers mainly to soil genesis and morphology.

Association of Ohio Professional Soil Scientists (AOPSS) was chosen as a potential new name because it retained the familiar AOP acronym. This will hopefully reduce any confusion that the name change will cause.

Isn't everyone tired of being confused with pedophile?

Of course there is the historical significance of use pedologist.

Ohio Water Quality and Waste Management Conference

February 5 & 6, Holiday Inn on the Lane, adjacent to OSU campus. \$125 per person

Agenda

Site and Soil Evaluation—Dr. David Lindbo

The Pennsylvania Approach to Soil Suitability Assessment for On-lot Sewage Disposal—Joseph Valentine, CPSS

Site and Soil Evaluation in Ohio—The Regulator's Perspective—Jean Caudill

The Evolving Role of Soil Scientists in Site Evaluation for Onsite System Design—Tim Gerber

Technology to Measure Water Tables Related to Soil Morphology—Dr. David Lindbo

Application of Effluent to Somewhat Poorly Drained Soils—Joseph Valentine, CPSS

Site Specific Soil Survey and Evaluation—Dan Michael

Matching Soil Natural Resource to Treatment Technologies for Ohio—Karen Mancl

Program questions, contact Karen Mancl at 614-292-6007
Registration questions, call 614-292-8571

HB 231 Introduced by Niehaus Regarding Household Sewage Treatment Regulations

Submitted by Tim Gerber

House Bill 231 was introduced in June by Representative Tom Niehaus, who is acquainted with household sewage treatment (HST) issues from his involvement locally in Clermont County prior to becoming a member of the Ohio General Assembly. His staff worked closely with the Ohio Dept. of Health while drafting HB 231, so the bill includes some of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc HST Advisory Committee appointed by ODH in 1997. When the bill was introduced, it also included two sections that were not recommended by the Ad Hoc HST Advisory Committee. They are Sec. 3718.03.(A), which would create a HST System Technical Advisory Committee, and Sec. 3709.091.(A)(1), which would change the definition of a HST system from a system for one-, two-, or three-family dwellings to any system (residential or commercial) receiving 2,500 gallons per day or less.

Among the changes that may be of interest to AOP members are the following:

- Section 3718.02(A)(2) charges the public health council to adopt rules to require that a board of health conduct a site evaluation for any proposed installation of a HST system. Site evaluations are not required under current law, so many HST systems are currently installed as conventional soil absorption systems on soils that are unsuited.
- Section 3718.02(A)(6) charges the public health council to adopt rules to inspect a HST system not later than 18 months after its installation. This is related to Section 3718.02(A)(5), which calls for rules that would require that installers warrant that the system will pass the inspection. Section 3718.02(A)(6) also provides for ODH to receive reports on all permits issued by local health districts. The increased accountability and record-keeping should result in greater reliance on soil and site information by system designers.
- Section 3718.06(A)(2) allows the public health council to establish by rule a fee to fund ODH's expanded role in household sewage.
- Section 3718.08 provides ODH with authority to survey local health districts on compliance with sewage laws. Currently, household sewage is the only local public health program for which ODH does not have this authority. This lack of authority has allowed non-compliance with the current law.

Concerning the HSTS Technical Advisory Committee in Sec. 3718.03.(A) of the original bill, two of the ten committee members are to be selected to represent "site evaluators," installers, and/or service providers, although, "site evaluators" is a term that is not defined in the bill. Also, a total of two others are to be selected from among sanitarians from local health boards, Ohio EPA engineers, and ODNR soil scientists. Although the committee is identified as "advisory," it has authority under Sec. 3718.04 to approve systems submitted by manufacturers. The ODH director has that authority now.

The change in the HSTS definition in Sec. 3709.091.(A)(1) would take authority away from Ohio EPA for commercial systems receiving 2,500 gallons per day or less. Local health districts rarely design systems now – even for three-family, three-bedroom-per family dwellings – to receive more than 1,000 gallons. Commercial systems add the possibility of chemicals not commonly used in dwellings. Local health districts appear to be challenged to address HST systems under the current definition, and the proposed change could make their role significantly more difficult.

The Regulatory Reform Subcommittee of the House Energy and Environment Committee has heard testimony on HB 231 in several hearings, and there is currently no organized opposition. Some changes in Technical Advisory Committee membership are likely before the subcommittee acts on the bill. Rep. Jim McGregor (Gahanna) is Chair of the subcommittee, which also includes Representatives John Widowfield, Jim Aslanides, Niehaus, Jeff Wagner, Dan Stewart, Mary Cirelli, and Michael Skindell. Rep. Nancy Hollister (Marietta) is Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee. The bill can be accessed at http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=125_HB_231. Since 2004 is an election year, quick action in the subcommittee and committee is needed to prevent the bill from stalling. The Senate passed a more comprehensive household sewage bill in 2000, so the Senate is considered likely to approve the bill if it passes in the House early enough in 2004.

CEU's and AOP Certification

There has been some confusion on how to calculate and report Continuing Education Units (CEU's) to maintain AOP Certification. To remain certified, a certified soil scientist needs to report 60 CEU's during a three year certification cycle. For most AOP certified soil scientists, 2003 is the end of year two of the three year cycle. In other words, if your certification began in 2002, you need 60 CEU's by December 31, 2004.

CEU's can be reported using the form that was in the Fall 2003 edition of *Ohio Pedologist*. An updated version of the form is also included in this copy of the newsletter. The Certification Board recommended a revision to the Certification Document that expanded the categories that would be recognized for continuing education credit. This recommendation was approved by the Executive Council in June. In addition to professional training, self directed study, professional service, and authored educational materials are recognized for CEU's. See the reporting form for more details.

The Certification Board will determine and approve CEU's for meeting, workshops, etc. when they receive advanced notice. In other cases where advanced approval of CEU's by the Board has not been received, each certified soil scientist will be responsible for calculating CEU's based on the criteria recommended by the Certification Board and adopted by the Executive Council.

An example of calculating CEU's using the approved criteria follows. The 23rd Central States Forest Soils Workshop meets the criteria for a professional meeting. There is no limit on the number of CEU's for professional meetings that can be reported during a three year reporting cycle. The agenda for the workshop on Tuesday shows 2 hours for displays, exhibits, papers, and registration. No credit is given for registration, but if an individual spent time at the displays and exhibits, that time is credited at 1 CEU per hour spent. Also on Tuesday's agenda were 2 hours of presentations. 2 CEU's are allowed for this portion of the agenda. Wednesday's agenda had 5.75 hours of presentations and field stops, not counting breaks, lunch, or travel to the sites. An evening program with banquet, entertainment, and door prizes was listed for 3.5 hours. No credit is given for the evening program since the agenda clearly stated "entertainment". No professional presentations were given. The total CEU's for Wednesday are 5.75. Thursday's agenda listed a tour of the Forest Discovery Center and Koetter Woodworking Mill for 4 hours. 4 CEU's are allowed, not counting travel time. This brings the total for the workshop to 11.75 CEU's, with an additional allowance of up to 2 CEU's for time spent at the displays and exhibits.

Similar reporting can be done for other meetings. If you have questions about calculating your CEU's, contact the Certification Board. The Board will send a notice to each certified soil scientist by the end of this year with the number of CEU's reported to date and will send an annual report every October 1. Since the Board received no reports of CEU's this prior to October 1 this year, nothing was sent out in October.

Board Approved Continuing Education Credits

During the past two years, the AOP Board of Certification has approved continuing education credits for the following training opportunities:

- 7/19/02, AOP's On-site Investigation Training for Septic Systems: 5 hours
- 8/20/02, ODNr Mineral Resources Management Applied Research Conference: 6 hours
- 9/13/02, Ohio Fracture Flow Working Group Field Day – Northeast Ohio: 5 hours
- 9/10-12/02, Ohio Soil Survey Soil Scientists Workshop: 14 hours
- 10/15-17/02, Central States Forest Soils Workshop: 9 hours
- 10/14-16/03, Central States Forest Soils Workshop: 11.75 hours + up to 2 hours for observing exhibits
- 2/5-6/04, Ohio Water Quality & Waste Management Conference: 8 hours

Credits for all other training activities offered since January 1, 2002 can be requested on the continuing education credits form. Supplying the Board with a copy of the activity agenda or program will assist in reviewing the proper number of credit hours and facilitate approval.

Continuing Education Credits for Certified Soil Scientists

To maintain active status as an AOP Certified Soil Scientist, continuing education credits totaling 60 hours must be earned every three years. For AOP members who were certified in 2002, the year in which the "grandfather" clause was in effect, the three-year period ends on December 31, 2004.

To receive credit, the certified soil scientist must send in documentation of credit being requested. A report will be sent to members annually via e-mail showing the current earned hours. The first report will be sent by December 31, 2003. The next report will be sent by October 1, 2004.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALLOWABLE CREDITS

The Board is committed to maintaining integrity on the important education requirements. When attending training meetings, do not count lunch and break times. If part of the session is not soils related, do not count that portion. Time spent in normal job duties are not included. Possible ways to earn credits for "Professional Training" would be:

- Actual training seminars on soils or topics related to soils
- College Courses
- Field Demonstrations
- Seminars given by technology vendors
- AOP meeting in which a lecture is given by a guest speaker.
- College seminars
- Professional Meetings
- Short courses
- Workshops
- Distance education
- Conferences
- Symposia
- Scientific presentations
- Distance learning

The Professional Training category was established in the AOP Certification Document in 2001. On June 9, 2003, the AOP Executive Council approved the Board's recommendation to add the following three categories for earning continuing education credit:

- Self Directed Study: scientific journals, books, videos.
- Professional Service: professional boards, committees and offices (e.g., society committees, exam committees, standards/ethics panels, certification boards, editorial boards, elected or appointed offices); community service related to profession.
- Authored Educational Materials: scientific papers and books, popular articles promoting soil science, educational materials related to profession (e.g., posters and presentations).

The Board has also recommended to the AOP Executive Council a maximum CEU per category for a 3-year reporting period, and limits on CEU content were proposed as follows:

Note: Minimum CEU for reporting = 0.5

This form is subject to audit by the Board. If audited, you will be requested to provide documentation of your attendance. Registrants should keep documentation, such as meeting agendas, on file

Complete the following form when submitting a request to add to your credit hours balance.

Your Name _____

Course Description	Date Completed	Credit Hours Requested
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Complete and mail this form to:
AOP Board of Certification
c/o Richard Gehring
200 North High Street, Rm 522
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Category	Max. CEU per reporting period	CEU content limits
Professional Training	No maximum	1 CEU per hr (excludes breaks)
Self Directed Study	15 hr	1 CEU per 6-pages of text
		CEU = 2x run time for videos
Professional Service	15 hr	1 CEU per hr of activity
Authored Educational Materials	15 hr	1 CEU per published page
		2 CEU per poster
		2 CEU per 30-min oral presentation

December 17th Washington Post Article

What if we run out of soil?

In 1968, a young college marketing student asked a guest lecturer from a major oil company what would happen if America ran out of oil. The executive laughed, saying it would never happen in the student's lifetime.

Today, while America has not run out of oil, we must import millions of barrels to keep our economy running. The need for oil is a constant force in our foreign policy as well as a threat to our national security. Just this fall we invested \$87 billion in hopes of bringing stability to an oil-rich part of the world, and a threat of global war shadows all our policies.

In the 1930s, American conservationists began asking what would happen if America ran out of soil — not oil, but soil. What if we lost the capacity to produce enough food for ourselves and nations that depend on our exports? It seemed a ludicrous question to many, but then the great dust storms of 1934 came. They blotted out the sun and blew Kansas grit into New Yorkers' teeth. Ships at sea were coated with dust. We awoke to the reality that each year we were losing billions of tons of topsoil and millions of acres of productive crop and grazing land.

Not only were we spending billions of dollars to clean streams and dredge waterways, we began to have serious concerns about our ability to feed our growing population unless the trends were reversed. Even as we began to build up our defenses in the face of a then looming global war, our country began to invest in soil conservation as an integral component of the security of our nation.

Local soil and water conservation districts were formed. Farmers became educated in how to reduce erosion and protect streams and air quality. Through the years, a number of additional conservation measures have been added, and the great annual losses of productive soil have been substantially reduced.

But the conservation battle is far from won. The vast majority of gains we have made in the past 60 years or so have come from focusing on the most vulnerable acres. In fact, our most highly erodible lands have been taken out of production, reducing the total land used for food production. In addition, the growth of urban areas continues to consume productive farmland. The amount of land available for food and fiber production will not increase, but our population will. Therefore, we must protect the resources we have.

National resource inventories showed marked improvement in soil conservation up until the late 1990s, but there has been a leveling off in the past several years as existing conservation programs have essentially fulfilled their potential.

There is now a critical need to focus on the lands that remain in production. Even though the most vulnerable acres have been protected or taken out of production, we still lose 1.3 billion tons of topsoil each year. Tons of silt flow into our streams. Tons of fertilizer are applied to restore lost nutrients. Billions are spent to dredge our waterways and clean our water for drinking.

In the last Farm Bill, the nation's 3,000 local conservation districts strongly supported establishing a new Conservation Security Program (CSP), which would take soil conservation to the next level. Under this program, any producer would be eligible to qualify for incentive payments by implementing conservation measures on his or her working lands. Through a tiered program, farmers would receive higher incentives for higher levels of conservation practices. These practices might include conservation tillage, planting of buffer strips and grass waterways, the use of cover crops, animal waste retention basins or stream bank reinforcements.

Increasing the funding for conservation would direct resources where they can benefit all of society. Our society is increasingly supportive of environmental efforts. Implementing conservation practices on millions of more acres of working farmland would have a major positive impact on the environment, would preserve the productivity of our precious farm acres and would help improve homeland security today.

Providing incentives is the surest way to achieve widespread grower adoption and make the greatest impact quickly. The CSP was included in the 2002 Farm Bill, which was signed into law by President Bush in May 2002. It was to allocate at least \$2 billion, most of it in incentive payments, to encourage conservation practices on working lands.

Congress has been working to finalize the 2004 Agriculture Appropriations bill that will fund CSP and other critical conservation programs. It's time Congress and the Bush administration put conservation back on track by fully funding these much needed conservation programs.

Each year that we lose topsoil takes us a year closer to the time when our soils cannot produce what we demand of them. Not only do we demand they produce food and fiber, we may see the day very soon when we demand they produce bio-fuels as well. How secure will we be if our soils cannot produce? What if we run out of oil? Worse yet, what if we run out of soil?

Written by Gary Mast, a Holmes County, Ohio, dairy farmer, president of the National Association of Conservation Districts, an umbrella agency for the nation's 3,000 local conservation districts.

ASSOCIATION OF OHIO PEDOLOGISTS

Association Dues, Certification Fees, Winter Meeting Registration, Smithsonian Soil Exhibit Donation, Absentee Ballot

Name _____

Association Dues (Pedologist or Soils Professional, \$20; Affiliate or Student, \$10) \$ _____

Certification Fees (ARCPACS Certified, \$10; Not ARCPACS, \$20) \$ _____

Winter Meeting Registration (\$25 per person) \$ _____

Smithsonian Soil Exhibit Donation (Grand total goal of \$10,000) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to 'The Association of Ohio Pedologist.'

Mail to:

George Derringer
AOP Treasurer
819 Sue Lane
Dayton OH 45415-2134

Absentee Ballot—Complete if not attending the Winter Meeting

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Mailing label



Ohio Pedologist
The Ohio State University
School of Natural Resources
Columbus, OH 43210

Mark your calendars
AOP Winter Meeting
Wednesday January 21, 2004
Battelle-Darby Metro Park—Cedar Ridge Lodge