



Ohio Pedologist

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

President's Message

To misquote a line by Humphrey Bogart in the movie SIERRA MADRE, 'NASIS, we don't need no stinking NASIS!' Well, we in fact do need this stinking NASIS. Its regrettable how non-user friendly it is and how much time it is going take out of our lives for a while. But right now it is the only game in town. I just hope we can remember what normal is when we get back to normal.

The summer picnic has come and gone and I have only heard good comments about it. I apologize for not being there, but many months ago, before the date for the picnic was set, the band that I play in had committed to do a show that day. I really regret not being there.

The soils exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution is scheduled to begin in 2006. Part of the exhibit is a display of monoliths of all the state soils. Wish we had one. A Miamian monolith will be sent in at the appropriate time. Lots of money is needed to put the exhibit together and the Soil Science Association from each state has been asked to donate. A separate line on the dues renewal form this winter will allow us all to donate toward this worthy cause. Please dig deep and give what you can because this may mean more for the future of soil science than anything we have ever been a part of.

After a little searching, it has been discovered that only two soil science associations in the United States have the word "Pedologist" as part of their name. Your Executive Council has decided to present

to the Association a proposed name change to be voted on at the winter meeting. The change would put us more in line with the other soil associations in the country, and maybe eliminate a little confusion about who we are. Think about this and be ready to discuss it at the winter meeting.

The date and location for the winter meeting has been set. Mark your calendars for January 21, 2004 at the Battelle-Darby Creek Metro Park Cedar Ridge Lodge. This is the same location we used this past January. Be there or be square!

The Certification Board has been asked to submit an article for the next newsletter about CEU's. We need to know how to calculate how many CEU's a training event is worth so we can keep track of how many we have and how many more we need. Look for this article in December.

Pedologists. We don't need no stinking Pedologists! This appears to be the public's current mantra. It's our responsibility, and we owe it to our science to change this. Activities as large as the soils exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution and as small as changing the name of our Association must be only the beginning of our educating the public about the importance of our science.

Hang in there and start watching those old Bogart movies. You never know what you'll find.

Have a healthy and prosperous fall.
Dan Lemaster

Inside this issue:

ODH & OSS 2

Education Credits 3



President Lemaster

2002 Directory of Officers

Dan Lemaster, President
Steve Prebonick, President-elect
Jeff Glanville, Past President
Kathy Sasowsky, Secretary
George Derringer, Treasurer
Steve Miller, Newsletter editor
Frank Calhoun, Academic Rep.
Gordon Gilmore, Federal Rep.
Todd Houser, Private Rep.
Steve Hamilton, State Rep.

Interaction Between the Ohio Dept. of Health and the Ohio Soil Survey

Once again, five regional soil workshops were scheduled for sanitarians in 2003, through the Ohio Dept. of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Soil Inventory Board. Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) in five counties hosted the workshops. About 55 sanitarians from more than 30 counties are expected to participate in the workshops, which include five hours of hands-on training "in the pits" for up to six sanitarians with one soil scientist.

In ODH's announcement of the workshops to local health districts, AOP affiliate member Jean Caudill included a questionnaire developed by her and Tim Gerber "to determine interest in alternative options for utilizing the services of soil professionals." A listing of AOP consultants was provided with the questionnaire. Results of that survey are given below.

The last question in that survey referred to a scenario in which "the state funded, starting in Fiscal Year 06, the hiring of a professional soil scientist by a limited number of SWCDs, to provide free site evaluation assistance as a pilot program for a few years." Based on survey results and reactions to a similar proposal presented at the Ohio Federation of SWCDs annual meeting in January, sanitarians may be more supportive than SWCDs of such a pilot program. If the program were to be funded, SWCDs presumably would have the option of hiring qualified professionals full-time, part-time, or under contract. (The 88 SWCDs currently employ a total of four AOP pedologists or soils professionals.)

QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS Local Health Department Options for

Utilizing the Services of Soil Professionals

Brief Summary of Responses

Respondent Position: Environmental Health Director = 31 Other = 13

1. Do LHD sanitarians conduct soil evaluations as part of the site evaluation process?
YES = 39 NO = 5
If YES, do these soil evaluations include detailed soil descriptions?
YES = 23 NO = 16
1. Does the LHD require that applicants provide detailed soil descriptions as part of their submittals to obtain household sewage system permits?
YES = 6 NO = 37
1. Check those applicable professionals listed below that are recognized by your LHD as being competent to conduct a soil evaluation with a detailed soil description:
 - 35** a. Soil Scientist: ARCPACS Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) or Certified Professional Soil Classifier (CPSC)
 - 34** b. Soil Scientist: Association of Ohio Pedologists (AOP) Certified Soil Scientist (CSS)
 - 34** c. Soil Scientist: AOP Pedologist
 - 14** d. Other members of AOP: Soil Professional; Affiliate Member
 - 26** e. Registered Sanitarian
 - 11** f. Professional Engineer
 - 22** g. Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) professionals: NRCS conservationist, District technician, or District urban specialist
 - 0** h. Other: _____
1. Regardless of LHD requirements, are you aware of professionals available to conduct soil evaluations in your area (located in the city, county, or surrounding counties)?
YES = 30 NO = 14
1. Does your LHD ever directly utilize the services of a Professional Soil Scientist (Private Sector, SWCD, ODNR, NRCS, or others)?
YES = 25 NO = 18
1. If a local SWCD (i.e. your county office or an adjoining county office) had a Professional Soil Scientist on staff (full-time, part-time, or under contract) would your LHD consider any of the following?
 - 8** a. Contract service to perform all site and soil evaluations for the LHD
 - 16** b. Contract service only for detailed soil descriptions (not general site eval)
 - 17** c. Contract service to perform site and soil evaluations for marginal sites
 - 27** d. Contract service for consultation when LHD needs a third party opinion
 - 4** e. Other: _____
1. If the state funded, starting in Fiscal Year 06, the hiring of a professional soil scientist by a limited number of SWCDs, to provide free site evaluation assistance as a pilot program for a few years, would you encourage your local SWCD to apply for such funds?
YES = 35 NO = 2 Only under certain circumstances = 6

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 3 years.

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.

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:

| <u>Category</u> | <u>Max. CEU per reporting period</u> | <u>CEU content limits</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 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 present. |

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

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
More information to come