



# SOCIETY OF WETLAND SCIENTISTS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

## PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST E-LETTER

Volume 9 Issue 1, 2016  
Spring 2016

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER



We often feel refreshed with the first signs of spring. Everything around us and within us awakens, refreshed and eager to work hard and play hard. We tend to clean things up, plant our seeds and let things grow. It is now that I enter into my last season of Presidency with SWSPCP and metaphorically, still getting dirt under my fingernails.

I must give my greatest appreciation and respect to the Executive Board and Committee chairs, who diligently tend to their roles and responsibilities, planting seeds and growing our organization, membership and procedural development to the foundation of the Professional

Certification Program.

We continue to launch and connect with streamlined processes for communications, PWS applications, social media and outreach. Becoming a PWS, renewing your certification or paying your maintenance fees couldn't be easier with our on-line tools. Our short course program is growing and the Board is working concurrently to qualify an increasing amount of webinars to support membership requirements. Interactive training for continued education among our membership is our goal.

Certification and recertification continue to edge up in volume. Our asset growth reflects the support of our members promotion and mentoring of 112 Approved PWS and 55 WPIT (2015 totals). On behalf of the SWSPCP Board, we welcome everyone to the Certification Program and look forward to meeting you at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas in June.

I would like to personally invite and encourage all PWSs to consider volunteering with the SWSPCP. We have opportunities to participate within and among our founding committees along with our developing outreach program. Anytime is a great time to connect and participate, to learn and build on the wetland professional community and growing body knowledge. If you have an idea or recommendation, plant the seed! Reap what you sow.

Robbyn Myers, PWS -SWSPCP President

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The Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program, serving the public's need to identify qualified individuals to assess and manage the nation's resources. This program is intended to meet the needs of professional ecologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, educators, agency professionals, consultants, and others who practice wetland science. [www.wetlandcert.org](http://www.wetlandcert.org)

## SWSPCP IS LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL LEADERS

Do you have interest in serving on a committee or working group? If so, please contact the business office and let us know. Toll Free: 877.226.9902

If you're committed to nonprofits and passionate about the work of wetland scientists, we encourage you to apply to be a member of our Board of Directors.

What can you expect?

Board members are required to attend quarterly Board meetings, act as ambassadors at select weekend events, and work on at least one committee. Board members typically invest about ten hours of work a month. A Board member's term is two years. Service on the Board of Directors is without remuneration.

Ideal candidates will have most of the following qualifications:

Extensive professional experience with significant executive leadership accomplishments in business, government, philanthropy or the nonprofit sector

Savvy diplomatic skills and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships and persuading, convening, facilitating and building consensus among diverse individuals

Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, responsibility and conscientiousness

Characteristics that increase the Board's diversity

## CHOOSE TO "MEET-UP" WITH SWSPCP IN YOUR LOCAL AREA

As discussed recently before the Board of Directors, we want to provide the opportunity to meet up with other PWS's and WPIT's in your local area. Although the intent of this effort is to roll things out planfully, please continue to look for news about this in the coming months. Ideally, SWSPCP is looking for key contacts in several local areas to serve as the point person in their local area. Those initial areas include the northwest (Seattle and Portland), the southeast ( Tampa, Atlanta), the northeast (upstate New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts) along with the mid-Atlantic coastal areas of North Carolina and South Carolina.

## SWSPCP THANKS MAL GILBERT

SWSPCP would like to take a moment to sincerely thank Mal Gilbert who has generously devoted his time over the past several years as Chair of the SWSPCP Ethics Committee. Under Mal's direction, the Ethics Committee has carefully presided over needed modifications to the ethics complaint/review process and he will be sorely missed! At the same time, the torch has now passed to Matthew Schweisberg who will preside as the new Chair of the SWSPCP Ethics Committee.

## SWSPCP STAFF NEWS

We extend a warm welcome to Adrianna Borczyk who joined the SWSPCP team as Assistant Program Coordinator and is now fully functioning as Program Coordinator working closely with Jocelyn Cordero who has assumed duties of Program Manager. In her role, Jocelyn continues to be involved with the management of issues and policies regarding the program and works closely as needed with both Pat Frost and Rob Shannon. Adrianna's most recent previous experience included key responsibilities for constituent relations and event planning with the Polish Consulate General's office in Chicago.

## SWSPCP PRE-APPROVED COURSES:

### RICHARD CHINN ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING, INC.

Title: ACOE Wetland Delineation, Waters of the US and Regional Supplement Training [More Info](#)  
 Title: Wetland Permitting Training [More Info](#)  
 Contact: Richard Chinn, PWS  
 Address: 804 Cottage Hill Way, Brandon, FL 33511  
 Phone: 813.655.7549  
 Email: [rchinn@richardchinn.com](mailto:rchinn@richardchinn.com)  
 URL: [www.richardchinn.com](http://www.richardchinn.com)



Title: Wetland Delineation [More Info](#)  
 Title: Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands (ORAM) [More Info](#)  
 Title: Vegetation Index of Biotic Integrity (VIBI) [More Info](#)  
 Title: Identification of Common Wetland Plants [More Info](#)  
 Title: Primary Headwater Habitat (PHWH) [More Info](#)  
 Contact: Mick Micacchion  
 Address: 4673 Northwest Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026  
 Phone: 614-403-2085  
 Email: [mmicacchion@mwbinst.com](mailto:mmicacchion@mwbinst.com)  
 URL: [www.midwestbiodiversityinst.org/](http://www.midwestbiodiversityinst.org/)

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## Call for Nominations

The following positions for the Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program (SWSPCP) Executive Board are open for election in June 2016:

### **President-Elect, 2016-2017**

### **Secretary General 2016-2017**

We invite your input to identify qualified and motivated nominees. The credentials of each nominee will be verified by the Nominating Committee. Every nominee must be a PWS in good standing. Nominees must be willing to serve the full term if elected. Feel free to nominate yourself.

To submit a candidate for consideration, prepare a nomination email message specifying your reasons for the nomination, including the following information about the nominee:

1. History in the field
2. Present professional position
3. Brief 2-3 paragraph Candidate Statement presenting interest in supporting and promoting the mission of SWSPCP
4. Willingness to stand for election
5. Commitment to serve and fulfill the duties of the position sought (see below).

Please submit your nomination via email, no later than April 8, 2016 to: [info@wetlandcert.org](mailto:info@wetlandcert.org) and cc Bill Kirchner, Nomination Committee Chair at [bill\\_kirchner@fws.gov](mailto:bill_kirchner@fws.gov).

#### Duties of the President-Elect:

Duties of the President-Elect are to assist the President and to perform the duties of the President when that officer is absent or unable to act. The President Elect will serve as President for the term of 2017–2018 and as Immediate Past President for the term of 2018–2019.

#### Duties of the Secretary-General:

1. Obtain quarterly updates from the business office of certified or pending applicants. Upon request from the Board of Directors, provide digital copies of such updates.
2. Maintain and update the Certification Program Bylaws and Standing Rules.
3. Record and read minutes of the annual meeting and the mid-year meeting of the Certification Program and all called meetings of the Board of Directors.
4. Distribute minutes to Board members.  
Oversee development, procurement, brochures, postage, photocopying, stationery, and other items as needed or directed.

## SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING!

The Society of Wetland Scientists' 2016 Annual Meeting will be held at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi, Texas, May 31 – June 4, 2016. This unique meeting is themed *Protecting wetland ecosystem services. Promoting stronger economies.* Learn more about the meeting by visiting the [SWS 2016 Annual Meeting website!](#)

### SWS 2017 Annual Meeting

San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 5 - 8, 2017

If you are planning on attending the full week of the conference, you may earn 1.5 renewal points towards the PWS renewal requirement. Other conference –related activities that may earn additional renewal points are:

- Field Trips
- Poster Presentation
- Oral Presentation
- Ethics Workshops

Section 26 (G) of the Standing Rules highlights and clarifies requirements for Section G of the renewal application.

*Attending a wetland-related conference shall earn renewal points at the rate of 0.5 points per conference lasting a minimum of 8.0 hours per conference. Conferences lasting 16 hours shall earn 1.0 renewal point and conferences lasting more than 16 hours shall earn 1.5 points. No more than 4.0 points for attendance of wetland conferences shall be applied to certification renewal per five-year period. PWS seeking renewal points must submit evidence of participation. Application for points from conferences sponsored by SWSPCP, Inc. need only submit evidence of participation and the length of the conference. Applicants seeking points for other conferences must include a description of the conference, including technical content for approval.*

## NEW PWS CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their PWS certification:

Joel Butterworth	2598	Andrew Croy	2628
Wayne Blythe	2599	Alissa Berthelot	2629
Brian Meiering	2600	Clover Muters	2630
Jessica Campo	2601	Jason Eckberg	2631
Jason Sellers	2602	Beth Krumrine	2632
Jason Smith	2603	Joshua Hofkes	2633
Mary Elizabeth Sprenkle	2604	Elizabeth Bowers	2634
Kyle Dahl	2605	Alea Tuttle	2635
Emily Creely	2606	Timothy Hull	2636
Rebecca Murphy	2607	Alexander Callender	2637
Margaret Wellins	2608	Joshua Gabel	2638
Christopher Burkardt	2609	Spencer Hidalgo	2639
Steve Winter	2610	Andrew Gatewood	2640
John Derbish	2611	Tanner Morris	2641
Tracey Olexa	2612	Melissa Smith	2642
Nicholas Yuknis	2613	Jason Cook	2643
Aaron Boers	2614	John Ryan Polascik	2644
Devleena Ghosh-Brower	2615	Kelly Thames	2645
Danielle Rogers	2616	Michael Van Loan	2646
Kelly Rieger	2617	Brian Fletcher	2647
Amy Yahnke	2618	Charles Smith III	2648
Jason McMaster	2619	Adam Miller	2649
Christian Sutter	2620	Eric Goddard	2650
Jason Lancaster	2621	Jimmy Herrington	2651
Ric Queen	2622	Ian Rodway	2652
Susan Ives	2623	Matthew Blake	2653
James Savitski	2624	Louis Bridges	2654
Mark Vosberg	2625	Kerrie McArthur	2655
Kasie Collins	2626	Brian Derenick	2656
Amin Davis	2627		

## NEW PWS CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their PWS certification:

<b>Irving Day IV</b>	<b>2657</b>	<b>David Brotherton</b>	<b>2664</b>
<b>Joseph Drumm</b>	<b>2658</b>	<b>Machael Warrick</b>	<b>2665</b>
<b>Roger St. Amand</b>	<b>2659</b>	<b>Benjamin Moorhead</b>	<b>2666</b>
<b>William Morse</b>	<b>2660</b>	<b>Mike Carothers</b>	<b>2667</b>
<b>Marijke Noens</b>	<b>2661</b>	<b>Wesley Cunnigham</b>	<b>2668</b>
<b>Rachel Levert</b>	<b>2662</b>	<b>Simon Wigren</b>	<b>2669</b>
<b>Matthew Brosious</b>	<b>2663</b>		

## NEW WPIT CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their WPIT certification:

<b>Skylar Netherland</b>	<b>Corey Krooken</b>	<b>Jaclyn Haynal</b>
<b>Jessica Joyce</b>	<b>Nicole Dutcher</b>	<b>Brandon Blackburn</b>
<b>Melissa Letosky</b>	<b>Kristi Lee Halpin</b>	<b>Colleen Puzas</b>
<b>Gabriel Miranda</b>	<b>Katherine O'Neill</b>	<b>Matthew Martin</b>
<b>Jocelyn Wardrup</b>	<b>Annamarie Hoenig</b>	<b>Robert Clark</b>

## 2016 MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENT

Annual Maintenance Notices are generally sent out via email every last week of December of the current year for fees applicable to the upcoming year. Please be reminded that in order to keep your certification status active, you have to pay your annual maintenance fees.

We have made this process really easy for you. Anytime of the year, you may click on the **maintenance portal** of the SWSPCP site and enter your last name and your six digit member/application number.

[http://www.wetlandcert.org/login.html?r=ann\\_ren](http://www.wetlandcert.org/login.html?r=ann_ren)

You forgot your six digit member/application number? No worries... on this same link, you can enter your email address associated with your certification account and the system will automatically send via email your member/application number.

We have also made the 2016 downloadable form available on the website by clicking on the link below:

## SWSPCP 2016 MAINTENANCE NOTICE

All inactive and lapsed WPITs/PWSs may settle past due maintenance fees online as well.

## SWSPCP 2017 RENEWAL REQUIREMENT NOTICE

All five (5) year PWS renewals will be required to participate in an online ethics training session as a requirement for renewing your certification. The online training will count towards the required points. The online ethics training course will be awarded .25 for completion of the course.





## MAINTENANCE FEE NOTICE

### Annual Professional Wetland Scientist/Wetland Professional in Training Certification Maintenance Fee for 2016

SWSPCP has amended the annual PWS maintenance fee, the five year PWS renewal fee, and the one time Emeritus fee by a minimal \$25 increase on January 1, 2015. The SWSPCP Board unanimously voted to increase these fees after thorough review and due diligence reviewing the current financial and budget demands. The fees have remained the same for the past five years and will be effective for years to come. The remaining fee structure will remain intact.

### Starting January 1<sup>st</sup> - \$75.00

Only annual certification maintenance fees can be made with this notice.  
**DO NOT** send SWS annual membership fees with this notice.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

PWS Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Application/Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

For back dues, kindly indicate the years that you would want your payment to be applied to:

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment

- Check Enclosed (*Checks must be made in US dollars and drawn upon a US bank*).  
**Checks and money orders MUST be made payable to: SWSPCP.** *Checks made payable to SWS will be returned.*
- Credit Card Payment - VISA OR MASTERCARD ONLY.

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Billing Address of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Remit payment to: SWS/PCP, 2800 W. Higgins Rd. Suite 440 Hoffman Estates IL 60169  
or fax this form to 847.885.8393.

***Thank you for your payment.***

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3 **SWSPCP PRE-APPROVED COURSES:****RUTGERS** Office of Continuing Professional Education

Title: Southern Vegetation Identification for Wetland Delineation  
 Title: Vegetation Identification for Wetland Delineation  
 Title: Introduction to Wetland Identification  
 Title: Methodology for Delineating Wetlands  
 Title: Wetland Construction Design

Contact: Bianca Sardina  
 Address: 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 0890  
 Phone: 732.932.1187  
 Email: [sardina@rutgers.edu](mailto:sardina@rutgers.edu)  
 URL: [www.cpe.rutgers.edu](http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu)



Title: Wetland Delineation Short Course

Contact: Philip J. Quarterman, PWS  
 Address: 9755 SW Barnes Road, Suite 300 Portland, OR 97225  
 Phone: (503) 626-0455  
 Fax: (503) 526-0775  
 URL: [www.whpacific.com](http://www.whpacific.com)



Title: Wetland Delineation & Regional Supplement Training

Contact: Marc Seelinger  
 Address: 621 Starburst Lane, Raleigh, NC 27603  
 Phone: (877) 479-2673  
 URL: [www.swampschool.org](http://www.swampschool.org)



Title: Monitoring and Assessment of Wetland and Riparian Ecosystems  
 Title: Wetland Regulations: Understanding Federal, State, and Local Regulations and the Permitting Process in Montana [More Info](#)

Contact: Stephanie McGinnis Education Outreach Coordinator  
 Address: 335 Culbertson Hall, Bozeman, MT 59717  
 Phone: (406) 994-6671  
 Fax: (406) 994-6660  
 Email: [mcginnis@montana.edu](mailto:mcginnis@montana.edu)  
 URL: [www.mtwatercourse.org](http://www.mtwatercourse.org)

**Board of Directors****President**

Robbyn Myers, PWS

**President Elect**

John Lowenthal, PWS

**Secretary General**

Robbyn Myers, PWS

**Treasurer**

Yvonne M. Vallette, PWS

**Immediate Past President**

Rob Shannon, PWS

**Executive Office****Executive Director**

Robert O. Patterson, JD

**Executive Administrator**

Donn Lesko

**Program Manager**

Jocelyn Cordero

**Program Administrator**

Adrianna Borczyk

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 Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

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