



## Virginia Chapter Newsletter – Fall 2004

### Virginia Chapter President's Message: Dawn Shank, President

Seems like yesterday we were all complaining about drought conditions. This summer's flooding has been the other end of the spectrum. The pictures we've seen of the Richmond area are even scarier when you stand beside one of the roads washed away and realize the power that water has on the land and what we build on it. It makes me keenly aware of how important and ever changing the issues soil and water conservation professionals deal with each year. I know each of you is busier than ever. I hope you got a little R&R over the summer and that you can take time to come to the October annual meeting in Blacksburg. See you there.

Dawn Shank

### Virginia Chapter Annual Meeting - TMDL Implementation, October 27-28, 2004, Holiday Inn Blacksburg, Blacksburg. Phil McClellan, Vice President

The Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society is pleased to sponsor Virginia's first comprehensive workshop on TMDL Implementation Plan Development and TMDL Implementation. The workshop is intended for conservation professionals and others who may be involved in the development and implementation of TMDL implementation plans. Speakers include leaders in TMDL implementation in Virginia from both the public and private sectors. Meeting and registration information is attached to the newsletter or available at the Virginia Chapter Website <http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs> or directly at <http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs/2004Meeting.html>. For a registration form, please click <http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs/registration.html>.

### Do You Have Your Awards Thinking Cap On? Kilby Magette, Awards Committee

The Virginia Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society is gearing up and looking for candidates to be nominated for their 2004 Awards program. The VA Chapter is looking for input from the membership and conservation partners who may know of an individual or group that can be recognize for outstanding conservation work here in Virginia. The winners will be honored during the fall VA Chapter SWCS Annual Meeting. The Awards are in the following categories:

- A. **Outstanding Service Award** for Society members in recognition of unusual efforts in helping the Society develop and carry out its program over a long and sustained period of time.
- B. **Honor Award** for outstanding accomplishments of a voluntary nature, compatible with the objectives of the Society (for members or non-members).
- C. **Merit Award** for outstanding conservation effort, activity or product by a group, business, corporation or organization (for members or non-members).
- D. **Commendation Award** for Society member's service to the Chapter.
- E. **June Sekoll Media Award** for an individual or group that writes or produces materials for radio, television, newspapers, magazines or organizational publications which significantly increase public understanding and promote wise use of Virginia's natural resources (for members or non-members).
- F. **Conservationist of the Year Award** for exceptional service in advancing the science and art of good land and water use. Service may be in practicing, investigating, administering or teaching soil and water conservation or closely related fields (for members or non-members).
- G. **Ecological Excellence Award for Design and Construction** is sponsored by Pineland Nursery and the VA Chapter for innovated and outstanding service in these two areas. The work must be completed and functioning here in Virginia. At this time, the Virginia Chapter will be communicating with Pineland Nursery to see if they would still like to give this award out to people or companies that do conservation work.

Award nomination forms were emailed to you previously and are also available on the Chapter web site at <http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs/Awards.html>. The nomination forms are due by October 9, 2004 and should be sent to: Kilby D. Majette at [kilby.majette@va.usda.gov](mailto:kilby.majette@va.usda.gov) or mailed to 2502 New Kent Hwy., P. O. Box 190, Quinton, VA 23141-0190. Phone: (804) 932 - 4376; Fax: (804) 932 -3438. Please be thinking of potential individuals and/or groups that can receive one of these awards. The Executive Council truly

appreciated your cooperation and support in this matter. We are looking forward to honoring the folks who help improve water quality and wildlife habitat here in Virginia.

## 2004/2005 Virginia Chapter Scholarship Winners

The Society presented \$1,000 scholarships and a society membership to these two deserving students. Congratulations Sheila and Kathryn. **Sheila Ranganath** is president of the Student Chapter of the SWCS at Virginia Tech where she is a senior majoring in Biological Systems Engineering. She graduated from Mills Godwin High School in Richmond and is also VP of the American Society of Ag Engineers at VT. She has also been active in the Society of Women Engineers, the Society of Indian Americans and plays tennis. She is currently a co-op the Natural Resources Conservation Service. She hopes to further her education in land and water through the field of Ecological Engineering.

**Kathryn Ann Durkee** is working on her Master of Science in Environmental Science at Longwood College. She has served as a research technician, assistant and field research supervisor and had a wide range of experience working with bird and amphibian surveys to attaching radio transmitters and tracking bats, to geocoding and spatial analysis of biosolid land application surveillance. Kathryn was employed as Director of Education for the Wintergreen Nature Foundation from 1998-2002, and worked as a wildlife biologist for North American Resource Management Inc., Charlottesville, and for the USDA Forest Service in Darby, MT as a forestry technician. She has volunteered her time at Holliday Lake Forestry Camp, with the Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries and with Girl Scouts. Last year, she was appointed as president of the Longwood College Student Advisory Board.

## Summer Workshop Report, Alyson Sappington, Council Member

The annual summer technical workshop of the Virginia Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society, entitled "Managing and Protecting our Aquatic Resources", was held on August 19, 2004 at the Roslyn Center in Taylor Hall, Richmond. Approximately 30 people attended the workshop which included the following presentations:

- Schools of Shad Public Education/Restoration project – *Brad Davis, President of the Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers Association*
- Embrey Dam Removal on the Rappahannock River – *Army Corps of Engineers*
- Effect of Riparian Buffers on Fish Populations in Small Streams – *Billy Teels, NRCS Wetlands Institute*
- Tour of the fish ladder at Boshier Dam on the James River – *Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries*

## 2004 Virginia Chapter Officers

President: Dawn Shank; (804) 769-2968; [dshank51@msn.com](mailto:dshank51@msn.com)

President Elect: Stu Wilson; (804) 786-4382; [swilson@dcrr.state.va.us](mailto:swilson@dcrr.state.va.us)

Vice President: Phil McClellan; (540) 961-7864; [pmcclellan@maptech-inc.com](mailto:pmcclellan@maptech-inc.com)

Secretary: Jackie R. Byars; (540) 967-0233 ext. 3; [jackie.byars@valouisa.fsc.usda.gov](mailto:jackie.byars@valouisa.fsc.usda.gov)

Treasurer: Larry Wilkinson, (703) 777-2075 ext. 3; [larry.wilkinson@valeesburg.fsc.usda.gov](mailto:larry.wilkinson@valeesburg.fsc.usda.gov)

Council Member: Alyson Sappington, (804) 975-0224, [alyson-sappington@va.nacdn.org](mailto:alyson-sappington@va.nacdn.org)

Council Member: John Myers, [john.myers@va.usda.gov](mailto:john.myers@va.usda.gov)

Past President: Kilby D. Majette; (804) 932-4376 ext. 101; [kilby.majette@vaquinton.fsc.usda.gov](mailto:kilby.majette@vaquinton.fsc.usda.gov)

## Virginia Tech Student Chapter Report, Shelia Ranganath, President

Adrian Harpold and Sheila Ranganath attended the Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual International Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota in July. The trip was both informative and rewarding. While meeting important figures in the conservation world, Adrian and Sheila attended hours of informative sessions. They presented the volunteer work that the Society did at Apple Ridge Farm at the poster competition at the conference. Earlier in the summer, the Virginia Tech Chapter of Soil and Water Conservation Society presented Apple Ridge Farm's educational center with supplemental learning modules for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Apple Ridge Farm is a non-profit organization that focuses on the after school education of inner-city kids. The Virginia Tech Chapter of SWCS won second place in the group projects category for both the quality of poster and type of project that was presented.

For the upcoming school year, the Virginia Tech Chapter of SWCS has already made plans to participate in service projects such as Save Our Streams Biomonitoring at Tom's Creek and participating in further volunteer projects at Apple Ridge Farm. Our first meeting was a bowling social night. Then our second meeting will involve speaker Llyn Sharp, director of Save Our Stream certification training. She will then have a follow-up training day one weekend after her speech. For more information on the Virginia Tech Student Chapter, visit our website at: <http://www.swcs.org.vt.edu/>. It's out of date, but we will be updating it soon.

## 2004 General Assembly Update, Don Wells, Legislative Committee

The General Assembly convened its 2004 Session on January 14 for 60 days with an ending date scheduled for March 13. Since no agreement has been reached on the 2004 Appropriations Act, the Session continues as of April 14, 2004. Several items of interest to the conservation community have been enacted during the Session:

**Stormwater management.** Virginia's stormwater management programs were consolidated within the Department of Conservation and Recreation. This program was previously scattered in the Department of Environmental Quality, Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department and the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Oversight responsibilities were transferred to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board.

**Specifies the Roles of soil and water conservation districts.** Districts are to assist the Department of Conservation and Recreation in (i) providing technical assistance to promote conservation management practices, (ii) delivering educational initiatives on water quality issues, and (iii) promoting incentives to encourage voluntary actions to minimize nonpoint source pollution. The districts will also be responsible for locally administering the Department's Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Assistance Program.

**Study of Virginia's nutrient management plans.** Directs the Joint Legislative and Review Commission to study the effectiveness of the implementation, performance, and enforcement of Virginia's nutrient management plans.

**Air, waste, and water permit fees.** Assesses a combination of permit application fees, annual fees, and permit maintenance fees that will generate approximately \$6 million for funding of air, water and waste permit programs at the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Also requires DEQ to evaluate and implement measures to improve the long-term effectiveness and efficiency of its programs.

**Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry.** The Secretary shall be responsible to the Governor for the following agencies: Department of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Agricultural Council, and Virginia Marine Products Board. *Position dependent on funding in the 2004 Appropriations Act. Absent such funding position, position will commence with term of next Governor (2006).*

**Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund [FAILED].** Would have created a permanent, nonreverting fund that would have consisted of moneys appropriated to it by the General Assembly and any other public or private moneys to be allocated by the Secretary of Natural Resources to the Virginia Land Resources Fund and the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund.

## Soil and Water Conservation Society 2005 Annual Conference– Mark Your Calendars! July 30 – Aug. 4, 2005 Rochester, New York

The 2005 Annual Conference will take place in the heart of downtown Rochester, New York, which was designated recently by Money Magazine as the "Best Small City" in America, "One thing to remember about Rochester is that it has the sophistication of a larger metro area, but not the congestion or the complications." Rochester merges a cosmopolitan atmosphere with Midwestern hospitality giving convention attendees a most memorable experience. The theme for the annual conference, *resource Conservation and Environmental Management*, will unfold in the plenary and concurrent sessions as well as in the technical tours. Additional information on the conference is available at the SWCS conference website: <http://www.swcs.org/>.

## Virginia Chapter SWCS Home Page

Have you checked out the Virginia Chapter SWCS Home Page recently? It contains a variety of information useful to chapter members and others. One of the newest editions is a listing of all chapter members and how to contact them. The home page address is: <http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs>.

## Newsletter and Home Page Contributions are Always Needed!

Contributions to the Virginia Chapter newsletter and home page are always appreciated. If you have a meeting to promote or something else of interest to SWCS members, please mail it to Theo Dillaha, 310 Seitz Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0303 or e-mail it to [dillaha@vt.edu](mailto:dillaha@vt.edu). The next newsletter will come out in the winter 2005.

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TMDL Implementation:  
Technical Workshops  
*Sponsored by the*  
*Virginia Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society*  
October 27-29, 2004  
Holiday Inn Blacksburg  
900 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA

The Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society is pleased to sponsor Virginia's first comprehensive workshop on TMDL Implementation Plan Development and TMDL Implementation. The workshop is intended for conservation professionals and others who may be involved in the development and implementation of TMDL implementation plans. Speakers include leaders in TMDL implementation in Virginia from both the public and private sectors. The Virginia Chapter would like to thank the Canaan Valley Institute and MapTech, Inc. for co-sponsoring these workshops.

### Agenda

Wednesday, October 27	
10:00 AM	Registration begins Lunch on Your Own
1:00 PM	Welcome and Introduction, Phillip McClellan, Vice President, Virginia Chapter SWCS Key Elements of TMDL Implementation Plan Development Overview of Guidance Document, Charles Lunsford, DCR
1:45	TMDL Implementation: Technology Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural BMPs (TBA)</li> <li>• Urban BMPs (TBA)</li> </ul> BMPs for Lake and Reservoir Restoration, Dave Johnson, Ferrum College
3:15	Discussion Break
3:30	TMDL Implementation: Technology Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Community Wastewater Treatment, Gary Crouch, Anderson &amp; Associates</li> <li>• Industrial BMPs (TBA)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mining BMPs (TBA)</li> </ul>
4:30	Questions and Answers
5:00	Adjourn
6:00 – 9:00	Oktoberfest Social and Dinner
Thursday, October 28	
8:00 AM	TMDL Implementation: Sources of Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction, Phillip McClellan</li> <li>• USDA Incentive Programs (TBA)</li> <li>• Virginia Costshare Programs, Gary Moore, DEQ</li> <li>• State Loan and Tax Credit Programs, Walter Gills, DEQ</li> <li>• Conservation Easements, Roger Holnback, Western Virginia Land Trust</li> <li>• EPA Funding Programs for TMDL Implementation (TBA)</li> </ul>
9:50	Break and Discussion
10:00	TMDL Implementation: Stakeholder Involvement and Facilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Public Participation for Environmental Stewardship, (TBA)</li> <li>• The Role of the Agricultural Community, Wilmer Stoneman, Farm Bureau</li> <li>• The Role of Industry, (TBA)</li> <li>• Selling Environmental Stewardship, Steve Talley, CVI</li> <li>• Building an Effective Watershed Group, George Constance, CVI</li> <li>• The Role of Environmental Interest Groups (TBA)</li> </ul>
12:00 PM	Soil and Water Conservation Society Awards Luncheon and Keynote Address “Historical Overview of Participation in Cost-Share Programs” Jim Cox, NASCA
1:45	TMDL Implementation: Case Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPs in Virginia to date, Charles Lunsford</li> <li>• Black Creek Implementation, Joey O’Quinn, DMME</li> </ul> Three Creeks Implementation, Jim Kern and Karen Kline, MapTech
3:45	Break
4:00	TMDL Implementation: Future Directions Panel Discussion of DEQ and DCR representatives and others TBA
5:30	Adjourn
Friday, October 29 (Concurrent Workshops – Additional Registration Fee, Includes Lunch)	
8:00 – 3:00 PM	Workshop I: Tools for TMDL Implementation Plan Development, MapTech, Inc., Blacksburg, Virginia Workshop II: Facilitation and Conflict Resolution within Stakeholder Meetings, Canaan Valley Institute, Davis, West Virginia

**Driving Directions to Holiday Inn Blacksburg:** From I-81: exit 118B Blacksburg/460 West, exit Prices Fork Rd/Downtown, Rt 412 East, pass thru 1 traffic light. Hotel is on the left. From 460 East: exit Prices Fork Rd, turn left at stop sign onto Prices Fork Rd, pass thru traffic light. Hotel on left.

**Hotel Reservations:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Blacksburg, the workshop site. Workshop room rates are \$67 plus tax; additional discounts can be received with government ID if requesting the government rate at the time of reservation. Our block of rooms is being held until Oct. 6, so please reserve your room before then to avoid increases in the rate. Reservations can be made by calling [540-552-7001](tel:540-552-7001). Indicate that you are with the SWCS TMDL Workshop to receive the reduced room rate. The Holiday Inn Blacksburg website is: <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/6c/1/en/hd/roabb>

**Any questions** concerning the workshop may be directed to Phil McClellan ([pmcclellan@maptech-inc.com](mailto:pmcclellan@maptech-inc.com)) or Vikki Fitchett ([vfitchett@maptech-inc.com](mailto:vfitchett@maptech-inc.com)) at MapTech, Inc. at (540) 961-7864 (ext 409).

### Want to join?

The Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society is an organization of professionals who advocate the protection, enhancement and wise use of soil, water, and related natural resources. We host technical workshops, an awards program, track legislation, sponsor the Virginia Envirothon program and provide scholarships to students in natural resources and environmental studies. Contact Stu Wilson at [swilson@dcr.state.va.us](mailto:swilson@dcr.state.va.us) or visit our website at <http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs> or the national website at <http://www.swcs.org> for more information on membership.

**Registration Form**  
 TMDL Implementation:  
 Technical Workshops  
*Sponsored by the*  
*Virginia Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society*  
 October 27-29, 2004  
 Holiday Inn Blacksburg  
 900 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA

**Registration Fees:**

<b>Registration Prior to Oct. 14 (Does not include Friday workshops)</b>			
<b>SWCS Members</b>	<b>Cost, \$</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Total</b>
Adult member	<b>\$95</b>		
Student member with meals	<b>\$25</b>		
Student members without meals (includes breaks)	<b>\$10</b>		
SWCS Membership (complete and attach membership application to registration form with payment)	<b>\$75</b>		
Student Membership (complete and attach membership form to registration form with payment)	<b>\$25</b>		
<b>Nonmembers</b>			
Adults	<b>\$120</b>		
Student with meals	<b>\$25</b>		
Student without meals (includes breaks)	<b>\$10</b>		
<b>Friday Workshops (select one if desired)</b>			
Tools for TMDL Implementation Plan Development			
Member	<b>\$50</b>		
Non-member	<b>\$75</b>		
TMDL Implementation Facilitation and Conflict Resolution			
Member	<b>\$50</b>		
Non-member	<b>\$75</b>		
<b>Late Fee for Registrations after Oct. 14</b>			
	<b>\$30</b>		
<b>Total registration</b>			<b>\$</b>

**Make checks payable to MapTech, Inc.**  
**Send registration form and fees to:**

Vikki Fitchett  
 MapTech, Inc.  
 Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center  
 1715 Pratt Drive, Suite 3200  
 Blacksburg, VA 24060

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to know more about the Soil and Water Conservation Society. Please send me a membership brochure.