

AWSS Newsletter

Association of Women Soil Scientists

<http://www.awss.org>

Just a Reminder...

2007 AWSS Annual Meeting in New Orleans

Tuesday, 6 November 2007

6:30 PM-8:00 PM, Hilton Riverside, Fountain



*We
Need
Your
Help!*

We need your help working the AWSS Booth at the Tri-Society meetings!

The booth is open 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Thursday. Please stop by and volunteer an hour or two to help us meet and greet, answer questions and sell t-shirts for our scholarship fundraiser! There is no better way to get to know your fellow members!!

A sign-up sheet will be available at the booth or you can stop by!!

Dig It! The Secrets of Soil Preview of soils exhibit to be held in New Orleans on November 7

Place the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit: 2008 Opening Preview at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meetings in New Orleans on your must-attend event list!

Nov. 7, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Convention Center, Room 230

The 5,000 square foot exhibit on soils will open in July, 2008, at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC.

For more information, please visit www.soils.org/smithsonian or <http://forces.si.edu/soils>



Encouraging and supporting women in soil science

AWSS Members Presenting at the Tri-Society Meetings

Name and Session-Presentation

Sunday

Member	Present #
DeAnn Presley	11-5.

Monday

Member	Present #
Sherry Fulk-Bringman	32-6
Ray Weil	48-6
Amanda Hensler	76-7
Christine Bliss	89-5
Sabine Goldberg	91-9
Amber Moore	95-4
Teri Balser	96-8
Teri Balser	96-13
Lena Yousef	96-31
Karen Vaughan	105-2
Susan Casby-Horton	106-4
Susan Casby-Horton	106-7
Soni Pradhanang	110-3
DeAnn Presley	115-4
Ray Weil	116-1
Mary Schuh	119-13

Tuesday

Member	Present #
Ruth Yanai	123-1
Wendy Greenberg	131-7
Nithya Rojan	137-11
Nithya Rojan	139-6
Rufina Ward	164-12
Kari Sever	178-1
Amber Moore	194-19
Susan Casby-Horton	196-2
Gail Meads	199-1
Kelli Coleman	199-4
Lorene Lynne	200-3
Ray Weil	202-1
Laura Ward Good	204-16
Diane Stott	211-4
Amanda Williams	211-10
Rebecca Elwood	231-44

Wednesday

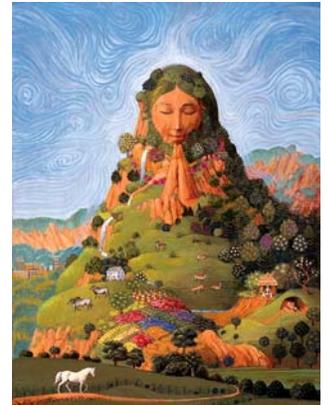
Member	Present #
Ingrid Hallin	244-7
Amber Moore	244-9
Ingrid Hallin	246-11
Rufina Ward	257-4
Asmeret Berhe	286-1
Ann-Marie Fortuna	286-3
Thilini Ranatunga	288-6
Mary Ann Bruns	289-1
Ann-Marie Fortuna	289-6
Mary Ann Bruns	293-5
Maxine Levin	302-4
Amanda Williams	302-17
Tanja Williamson	306-8
Teri Balser	309-7
Christine Bliss	312-1
Ivan Fernandez	312-2
Cristina Siegel	312-6
Ivan Fernandez	313-1
Ruth Yanai	316-1



I apologize if I missed anyone!

Ask Mother Earth... I am working on my master's degree in soil morphology and would like to get a job as a soil scientist with the federal government (NRCS or Forest Service). I keep watching the job postings at USAJOBS, but there are very few openings for entry-level soil scientists. What can I do to increase my chances of getting my dream job?

Mother Earth's reply... For NRCS, contact the Human Resources department in the state office of your choice and ask to apply under the SCEP (Student Career Experience Program.) The SCEP provides work experience which is directly related to the student's academic program and career goals. Students in the SCEP may be noncompetitively converted to term, career or career-conditional appointments following completion of their academic and work experience requirements. SCEP offers you valuable work experience directly related to your academic field of study. It provides formal periods of work and study while you are attending school. This is an excellent way for you to "look into" your "dream job."



Next Mother Earth Question... I volunteered to do a presentation on the following topic... "Making Soils Fun - If the word "soil" doesn't bring to mind images of candy bars and exploding fruit, 1) you're not alone and 2) it's time for you to learn how to make soil education fun for your students. Join us to learn a variety of hands-on demonstrations in soil science"...but I need inspiration. I would appreciate a sentence or two about some cool soils demonstrations that you have done or have seen. I'll be sure to give credit where credit is due, and I'll send out the list of ideas that I compile for use by all!

Go to <http://www.awss.org> to post your response. Remember...all answers are anonymous. If you want credit for your demonstration, please be sure and provide your name!

Our First of Hopefully Many Responses by Mother Earth...

An activity from a USDA publication... "Trace the Origin of Things We Use". Give a list of common items the students use every day. Ask the students to write down (or do it together on a board) where the items came from and the steps along the way. Ex: Leather shoes (department store, shoe factory, tannery, packing plant, stockyard, farm, corn/oats/hay, SOIL

Ex: Candy bar (store/vending machine, - break it down into ingredients - sugar, sugar factory, plantation in Hawaii, sugarcane field, sugarcane, SOIL. Nuts, peanut distributor, field in Georgia, peanut plant, SOIL. Chocolate, chocolate bean, plantation in Brazil, cocoa tree, SOIL.

Also could do cotton, nylon and rayon (clothing), synthetic rubber (erasers)

Application: from the soil we get food, clothes, building materials, fuel (coal, oil, gas, etc.)



**RECRUITMENT for Career Intern Program at NRCS
SOIL SCIENTIST, GS-0470-07/09
CAREER INTERN POSITION**

NRCS New York is currently recruiting for a Career Intern Position at the Lowville Field Office to assist in the soil survey of Lewis County as well as other survey areas in the Adirondacks and other portions of the North Country of New York. The selected applicant will participate in a two-year internship in the Excepted Service, and may be eligible for noncompetitive conversion at the end of this two-year period. The agency will provide 160 to 240 hours of training to be accomplished through on-the-job and formal instruction for each year of the internship. The applicant must sign a mobility statement when applying for this position. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone who has an interest in working at the soil survey project office level to conduct all phases of soil survey activities.

The Career Intern will be on the NY Soils Staff. He/she will work with experienced soil scientists to collect the field documentation needed to accurately map soils according to the National Cooperative Soil Survey standards, enter data into the national soils database, interpret soils for various land uses, conduct investigations, use GIS to assist in the soil survey process and to digitize soil information, prepare soil survey manuscripts and provide soil information to internal and external customers. If you are interested, complete the Career Intern Program (CIP) application, which can be found at:

<http://www.usda.gov/da/employ/CareerInternApplication.htm> . Applicants must be sure to attach their resume and transcripts with the CIP application. Submit your application immediately directly to the NRCS HR Office in New York (address below). Be sure that you submit the completed application, copies of your college transcripts, a resume, and a signed mobility agreement (attached.)

Also, applicants must indicate which grade(s) they are applying for and willing to accept if selected.

For more information on the position, contact Dan Hall, Human Resources Specialist, at 315-477-6514 or Terri Ode-kirk, Human Resources Officer, at 315-477-6512.

Send applications to: USDA-NRCS New York, Human Resources Office
Attn: Daniel Hall, Human Resources Specialist
441 South Salina Street, Suite 354
Syracuse, New York 13202-2450



BKS Environmental Associates, Inc

Position: Soil Scientist

Location: Gillette, Wyoming

Starting Date: No later than January 1, 2008



Requirements:

- Minimum BS in Soil Chemistry, Soil Science, or equivalent
- Ability to work independently in a sometimes challenging field environment
- Proficiency with MS Office software (Excel, Word, etc.); ARCview or AutoCad capability is desirable

Duties:

- Perform soil classification at an order 1-3 level and to the series level, if needed
- Design soil sampling programs
- Operate soil sampling equipment; knowledge of Giddings samplers is desirable
- Report field activities and analyze laboratory data from outside sources
- Assist customers with interpretation of soil analysis results - requires frequent direct client contact

Compensation:

- Commensurate with education and/or experience
- Benefits package that includes retirement, health insurance, and a generous time off policy

Contact Information:

Brenda Schladweiler, PhD

bksevenvironmental@vcn.com

P.O. Box 3467

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(307) 686-0800

About BKS Environmental Associates, Inc.:

BKS Environmental Associates, Inc, based in Gillette, Wyoming, was incorporated in 1981. BKS specializes in soils, vegetation and wet-land assessments as they relate to baseline assessments, and reclamation and environmental monitoring for the mineral extraction and oil and gas industries, both traditional gas and current methane development. At BKS, our mission is to provide the highest quality technical soils, vegetation, and wetlands based nature resource services to all our clients.

Although originally located near the active energy industry near the Gillette area, BKS has completed projects throughout Wyoming and the western United States. The company views its role in both active energy development areas, as well as pre- and post-disturbance sites.

About Gillette, Wyoming:

Gillette is located in the northeastern corner of Wyoming within an hour of the Big Horn Mountains. Campbell County is located in the heart of the resource rich Powder River Basin, providing over 35 percent of the nation's annual coal production. Energy and supporting industries result in a growing population and expanded construction industry. Gillette offers many recreational opportunities including the CAM-PLEX Multi-Event Facility, golfing, hiking, hunting, biking, snowmobiling, and many youth activities.

The Association of Women Soil Scientists (AWSS) is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization of **women and men** in soil science who support these goals:

- To establish and maintain high standards for professional women soil scientists;
- To promote and enhance communication among professional soil scientists;
- To promote a dialogue of soil information and to encourage an interchange with other technical and scientific communities;
- To promote better understanding of the role of soil scientists;
- To provide assistance and encouragement for women in non-traditional fields and for women seeking employment in the field of soil science.



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