



NACD SOIL HEALTH CHAMPIONS NETWORK #3

"Elevating the national dialogue on soil health"



The Soil Health Champions Network

The goal of the Soil Health Champions Network, organized by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) in cooperation with state/territory associations and local districts, is to raise awareness of and increase the adoption of soil health systems by farmers and other landowners. NACD is working to recruit 150 individuals who are willing to use, demonstrate, and share their enthusiasm for soil health practices. To date, we have 64 Champions from 22 states participating; check out the list below. These individuals are actively enhancing the soils on their farms and advocating to their peers.

Champions' Profiles on the NACD Website

Have you checked out your bio and your peers' on the NACD website at www.nacdnet.org/policy/healthy-soil/soil-health-home? If you haven't already, be sure to send in your profile questionnaire as soon as possible. Otherwise, your name will be listed soon with "Profile Pending."

Tool for Communicating

- **Champions Listserv** - NACD has created a listserv through which Soil Health Champions can interact with one another and share their experiences, information and questions. This was determined to be the easiest and most user-friendly way to connect you with other champions in our Network. To share information with and/or ask questions of all of the champions and NACD staff team, send an email to soilhealthchampions@email.nacdnet.org.
- **Champions Teleconference** – NACD hosted the first Champions teleconference on December 16. NACD President Lee McDaniel, NACD CEO Jeremy Peters and NRCS Deputy Chief for Science and Technology Wayne Honeycutt made introductory comments about the Network and soil health resources. Champions and district representatives from around the country shared their ideas for networking with each other, promoting soil health and research. NACD staff is looking at how to best incorporate these suggestions.

NACD 2016 Annual Meeting – This informative conference, scheduled for January 30-February 3 in Reno, Nevada, will give you an opportunity to network and learn from your fellow champions and conservation district leaders from across the nation. Keynote speakers include Trendspotter Michael Tchong and *National Geographic* photographer Jim Richardson. Details about the Annual Meeting are available on our website at www.nacdnet.org/resources/presentations/annual-meeting/annualmeeting. As noted in the special invitation sent earlier this month, NACD is pleased to offer a \$1,000 stipend to the first 25 Champions who respond. If you didn't receive that invitation, contact Debra Bogar at deb-bogar@nacdn.net as soon as possible.

Datu Research

A separate component of this Soil Health project is research being conducted by Datu, an international consulting firm created in 2012 by analysts from Duke University. Datu is developing case studies by working with four farmers within the upper Mississippi river basin who are employing a variety of soil health management practices over a diversity of ecological conditions and cropping systems. Once the final data is gathered and compiled into reports, they will be shared with our Champions Network. For more information, contact Rich Duesterhaus at rich-duesterhaus@nacdn.net.

For More Information on NACD:

NACD Website - www.nacdnet.org/

NACD Publications - www.nacdnet.org/news/publications/



NACD SOIL HEALTH CHAMPIONS as of December 30, 2015

NAME	STATE	CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Wrigley, Bryce	AK	Salcha Delta SWCD
Baxter, Jay	DE	Sussex CD
King, Carl Paul 'CP'	DE	Sussex CD
Phillips, Guy	DE	Sussex CD
Hegele, Paula	HI	Central Maui SWCD
Boyer, Jack	IA	Tama SWCD
Elsbernd, Don	IA	Allamakee SWCD
Diaz, Dan	IL	Stephenson County SWCD
Maier, Marcus	IL	Livingston County SWCD
Gough, Tyler	IN	Marion County SWCD
Ransbottom, David	IN	Kosciusko County SWCD
Smiley, Gordon and Jeff	IN	Decatur County SWCD
Starkey, Mike	IN	Hendricks County SWCD
Badger, Keith	KS	Osage County CD
Taves, Donavon	LA	East Carroll SWCD
Bacon, Bruce	MN	Anoka SWCD
Boen, Mark	MN	West Otter Tail SWCD
Cunningham, Charles	MN	Kandiyohi SWCD
Ditlevson, Mark	MN	Steele SWCD
Klug, Tom	MN	Waseca SWCD
Roberts, Darwin	MN	Martin SWCD
Below, Allen	MO	Stoddard County SWCD
Hunter, Johnny	MO	Stoddard County SWCD
Rothermich, Linus	MO	Callaway County SWCD
Willis, Ron and Michael	MO	Andrew County SWCD
Barton, David	MS	Hinds County SWCD
Coker Jr, Robert E	MS	Yazoo County SWCD
Eastman, Dr. Bill	MS	Lowndes County SWCD
Graves, Mike	MS	Tippah County SWCD
Guedon, Emile	MS	Adams County SWCD
Hudson, Tim and Betty	MS	DeSoto County SWCD
Hunter, Pete	MS	Coahoma County SWCD
Morgan, Joe	MS	Forrest County SWCD
Furr, Curtis	NC	Stanley SWCD
Hedrick, Russell	NC	Catawba SWCD
Lowder, Nathan	NC	Stanley SWCD
Aalund, Jeffrey	ND	Renville County SCD
Bateman, Rocky	ND	Morton County SCD

Hopfauf, Jim	ND	Morton County SCD
Miller, Kenneth	ND	Morton County SCD
Sand, Cody and Deanna	ND	McIntosh County SCD
Steckler, John and Aaron	ND	Morton County SCD
Wilson, Jeremy	ND	Stutsman County SCD
Cox, Dorn	NH	Strafford County CD
Bassett, Christopher	NM	East Rio Arriba SWCD
Fresquez, David	NM	East Rio Arriba SWCD
Beam, Joe and Mike	OH	Greene SWCD
Brandt, David	OH	Fairfield SWCD
Dennis, Keith	OH	Perry SWCD
Lane, Dan	OH	Delaware SWCD
Snyder, Ron	OH	Wood SWCD
Streit, Joe	OH	Butler SWCD
Emmons, Jimmy	OK	Dewey County CD
Herriman, Scotty	OK	Nowata County CD
Jeans, Rick	OK	Kay County CD
Carter, Jason	SC	Richland CD
Coleman, Carl	SC	Dillon CD
Hoyle, Dennis	SD	Edmunds CD
Nigg, Dan and Kris	SD	Roberts CD
Reimer, Steve	SD	Brule-Buffalo CD
Bown, Trent	UT	Sanpete CD
Bragger, Josef	WI	Buffalo County LCD
Herricks, Jack and Patricia	WI	Monroe County LCD
Evelo, Lyle	WY	Powell Clarks Fork CD

Connecting with NACD

We have a great team of staff working on this initiative. You may be contacted by your Field Rep or the Communications staff as we gather and share information. Please feel free to contact any one or all of us at any time.

NACD Field Reps (check out the Region map at www.nacdnet.org/about/districts/directory)

Northeastern Region – Katie Stump, Washington DC, katie-stump@nacdn.net, 202-547-6223

Southeastern Region – Phylis Vandever, Mississippi, phylis-vandever@nacdn.net, 601-941-8251

North Central Region – Beth Mason, Indiana, beth-mason@nacdn.net, 317-946-4463

South Central Region – Tamara Daniel, Texas, tamara-daniel@nacdn.net, 512-869-4986

Northern Plains Region – Debra Bogar (interim), Colorado, deb-bogar@nacdn.net, 303-988-1893

Southwest Region – Jeff Burwell, Colorado, jeff-burwell@nacdn.net, 970- 413-1454

Pacific Region – Jeff Burwell, Colorado, jeff-burwell@nacdn.net, 970- 413-1454

Communications Staff

Director – Mary Price, Washington DC, mary-price@nacdn.net, 202-547-6223

Associate and Web Manager – Alexandra Kuhlman, Washington DC, Alexandra-kuhlman@nacdn.net, 202-547-6223