



September 23, 2020

Dear Wetland Commission:

Enclosed is a Notice document regarding the "Registry of Soil Scientists" brochure published by the Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England (SSSSNE). In past years, the brochure has been distributed in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island to state and local agencies and the public at no charge. Due to COVID concerns and our desire to ease the burden of in-person Town Office visits from the public, we have put a stop on printing the updated Registry and are only providing this service online on the Society's webpage:

<http://www.ssssne.org/>

We have enclosed two print versions of the Notice: one is for your Inland Wetlands Commission and one copy is for the town Conservation Commission. We request that you please deliver the second copy to the Conservation Commission. Please feel free to post the Notice or keep as a office reference for public inquiries about the need to hire a Soil Scientist.

Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act (IWWA: sections 22a-36 through 22a-45 of the General Statutes of Connecticut) defines "wetlands" as land, consisting of soil types designated as poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial, and floodplain by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. Since the Connecticut IWWA uses a soil-based definition of wetlands, a soil scientist is necessary to determine and delineate such wetlands. The IWWA also defines a "soil scientist" as an individual meeting standards set by the federal Office of Personnel Management (IWWA Section 22a-38. Definitions. (5)).

All members listed in The Registry of Soil Scientists of Southern New England (SSSSNE) meet the OPM GS-470 Soil Science Series standards, which mirror SSSSNE membership educational requirements. The Registry includes soil scientists who perform wetland delineations and other environmental evaluations in their jobs as private consultants, educators, or government employees. Member's educational background, employer, and experience are also listed.

The SSSSNE Board of Directors hopes this Registry serves as a valuable resource.

Respectfully,

Jacob Isleib, Secretary
Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England
<http://www.ssssne.org/>

Enclosure: Notice document

P. O. Box 258, Storrs, CT 06268

Notice:

The Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England Official Registry

will *only* be available online during 2021

(no print copies at the Town Office)

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For the current registry, please visit:

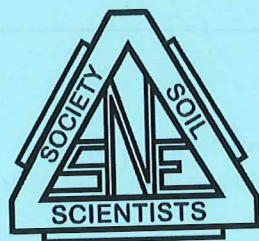
http://nesoil.com/ssssne/SSSSNE_Official_Registry.html

Or use this QR code:



The purpose of the Society Registry is to identify trained and qualified soil scientists, to foster and maintain professional competency, and to protect the public interest in the area of responsible use of soil and land resources.

The Registry of Soil Scientists intends to help in answering private and public demands for professional soil science assistance in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. Although persons listed in this Registry meet specific requirements, the Society is not responsible for quality or costs involved in work performance.



www.ssssne.org