MAINE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS

The Lay of the Land

The Newsletter of the Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists

Volume 28, Issue #1 **www.mapss.org** **Winter 2025 Edition**

IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rodney Kelshaw, Maine LSS #522

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: RODNEY KELSHAW

Hello MAPSS Membership. I want to start by saying thank you once again for the opportunity to be a contributing member to our association and continue in the role of President. Unlike past years it was not difficult to find a topic for this year's message: **GROWTH**.

The Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists Constitution; Article II Objectives, states that MAPSS was created with the intention:

1. To promote the profession of soil science by maintaining high professional standards and code of practice.
2. To assist with the continuing education and training necessary for professional development of soil scientists.
3. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among members.

4. To promote a feeling of friendly and cooperative relations among members and other related professional organizations.

Over the last year I think MAPSS operated in many ways that helped to fulfill these objectives, and we will continue through 2025. Examples of this are:

- The MAPSS Executive Committee worked with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) and Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) Stormwater group to help develop State rules and regulations to protect important farmland soil and to manage stormwater. We participated during public comment periods, on technical committees, and write guidance documents.
- In the spring 2024 semester MAPSS members supported the University of Maine at Orono (UMaine) as guest lecturers to help instruct EES 140: Intro to Soil Science. Abby Stevens (graduate student) and Bill Livingston (Director of the Forest Resources Department) administered the course. Abby set up a system for the guest lecture soil scientists to sign up to teach specific topics on certain dates. Then Abby and Bill provided the day-to-day processes, including grading, administering tests, and student support. MAPSS made it possible to provide the introductory soil course for over 100 students in a year when the University needed assistance. I heard from both soil scientists and students that took the course that they learned a lot and enjoyed the experience.
- In 2024 the annual meeting was a joint MAPSS and Maine Association of Wetland Scientists (MAWS) annual meeting. This provided a continued opportunity for friendly and cooperative relations among members and other related professional organizations. The 2025 meeting will also be a joint MAPSS/MAWS meeting.
- The fall 2024 workshop was a joint effort between MAPSS, the Maine Association of Site Evaluators (MASE), and MAWS. At the request of MASE, a goal of this workshop was for soil scientists to help provide site evaluators with more information on soil features, such as identification of limiting factors and soil texture. It was a VERY WET day, however participants were in good spirits and the workshop was a success.
- On January 15, 2025 Roger St.Amand attended a State of Maine Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee meeting to introduce MAPSS and let them know we are available to help them understand, write and review proposed legislation involving soil and soil science.
- Both during the Healthy Soil Program public comment, and an ongoing effort with UMaine and DACF MAPSS is identifying gaps in opportunities for soil science education at the University level and highlighting the importance of development of a healthy Workforce centered around soil science.

I want to thank the members of the MAPSS EC, and other individual members that have been active in 2024 and 2025 to help MAPSS be relevant and achieve our goals.

RECAP OF THE 2024 MASE/MAPSS/MAWS NATURAL RESOURCES WORKSHOP

The 2024 MASE/MAPSS/MAWS Natural Resources Workshop was held at the Stevenson Farm fields, in Wayne, Maine, on Thursday, September 26, 2024.

Joe Stevenson volunteered to operate the backhoe earlier in the week. A team of Glenn Angell, Dave Rocque, Chris Dorion, and Rod Kelshaw located and described the soil test pits. A team from MAWS located challenging field determinations in a natural-modified stream, a natural-modified Potential Vernal Pool, and difficult wet meadow (hayland) wetland delineations. Several soil test pits were located in the transition zone between dominantly hydrophytic herbaceous vegetation in hayland and FAC to FACU taxa.

The field conference featured two distinct locations. The first was on the lower fields along the Tucker Road and the second site was at slightly higher elevations off the Berry Road.

The primary goal of this workshop was to provide soil test pits for the annual Maine Site Evaluators' exam. Hence, many of the soil test pits were structured for this exam, featuring multiple site evaluation determinations (can you design a septic system here). Additional soil test pits and wetland problem areas were located to train environmental scientists, students, and the regulating communities in identification of natural resources and to facilitate a discussion of permitting scenarios based on the resources observed at the site. Topics such as wetland boundary delineation, significant vernal pool determination (including is there an "outlet" and is this natural), a stream determination, discussions around soil/site suitability for stormwater management, and hydric soil determinations.

Tucker Road Fields

These fields were at an elevation of between ~330-360 fasl. This range of elevations in this part of the State can be extremely challenging. This is the highest elevation that marine waters reached during deglaciation. Thus, the parent materials typically found can range from marine sediments, sands, intertidal deposits, and reworked tills, to dune sand (analogous to the present day beach dunes, surf zone, estuarine environment, and offshore deep water deposits). We know these elevations based on published data from:

Thompson, W. B., Crossen, K. J., Borns, H. W., Jr., and Andersen, B. G., 1989, Glaciomarine deltas of Maine and their relation to late Pleistocene-Holocene crustal movements, in Anderson, W.A., and Borns, H.W., Jr., eds., Neotectonics of Maine: Studies in seismicity, crustal warping, and sea-level change: Maine Geological Survey, Bulletin 40, p. 43-68. (Available from Maine Geological Survey website: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/pubs/index.shtml#otheronline).

The highest elevation marine waters reached in Wayne was ~360 fasl (termed the "marine limit"). The Tucker Road fields lie between 330-360 fasl, so marine sediments would be expected in the test pits. The Berry Road soil pits ranged from ~360-390 fasl, so the lowest pits could contain marine sediments, while the soil pits higher up would contain till.

The Tucker Road soil pits contained Adams-Croghan sands, Elmwood-Swanton and their variants, Boothbay loams, Lamoine silty clay loams, and Scantic silty clays.

The photo below of the pumpkin crop in the field demonstrates the nearly level marine plain typical of the Tucker Road sites.

From the September Stevenson Farm Tucker Road fields workshop. This nearly level landform is typical of marine sediments in Maine. However, soil pit excavations revealed deep water sediments (Scantic and Lamoine soils), intertidal deposits (Elmwood and Elmwood variant soils), and beach and / or dune deposits (Adams soils).

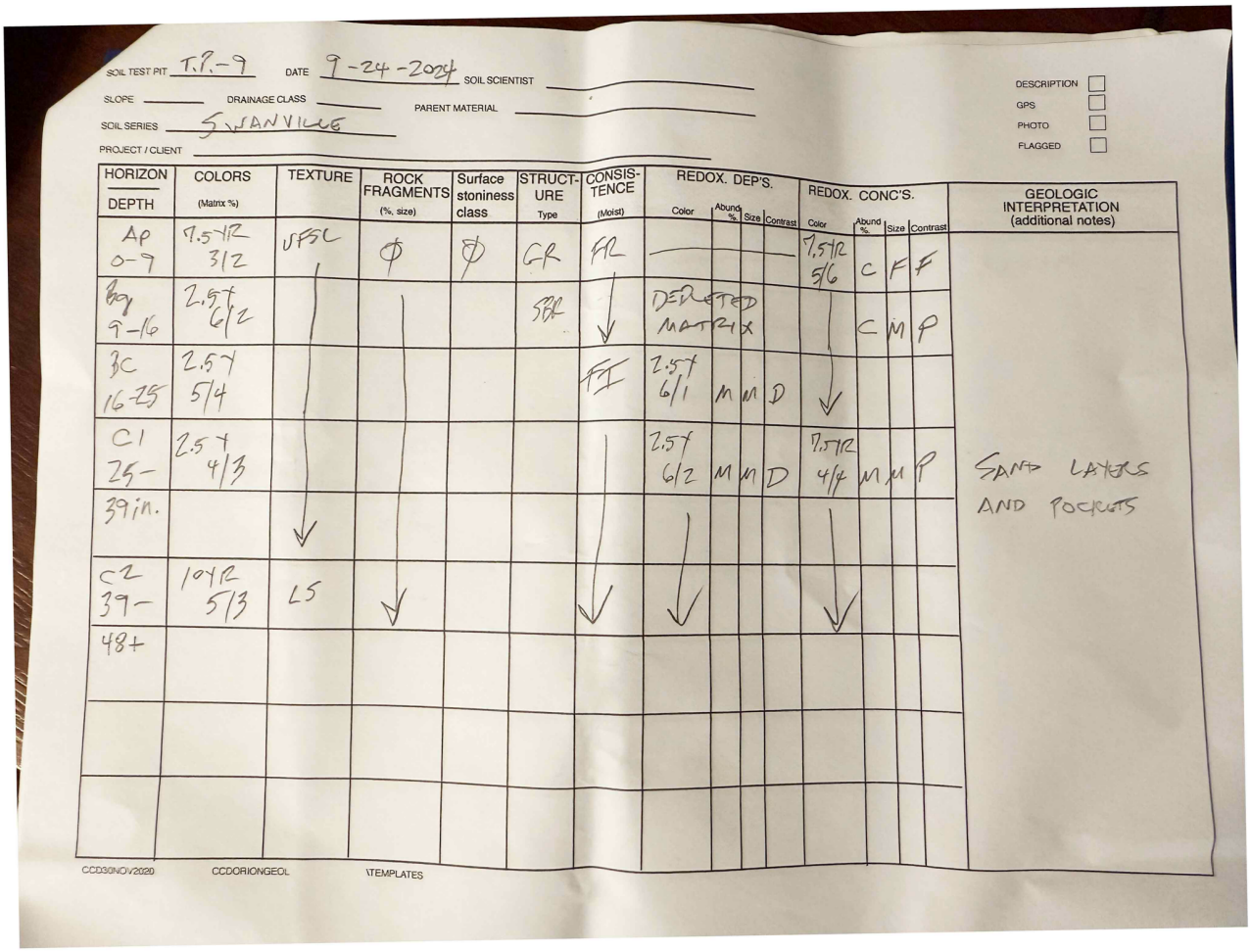
Berry Road Fields

The Berry Road soil pits ranged in elevation from ~360-390 fasl, so the lowest pits could contain marine sediments, while the soil pits higher up would contain till, with interfingering of these two parent materials likely present. Soil pits were keyed out to Skerry-Westbury and their variants, Swanville series, and Roundabout series.

TP-9 ("before" and "after" photos follow) was excavated and described during the dry period last September. The pedon description follows. After discussion, it keyed out closer to the Roundabout soil series.

"Before" (dry season) TP-9 at the Berry Road farmland. The soil pit was dug during a prolonged dry period. The slope break in the background indicates the transition to lodgement tills. The hillside was formerly prime beach front property during deglaciation.

"After" prolonged heavy rains, photo of TP-9. Note absence of rock fragments in the backdirt pile, while a prominent stone wall is seen in the background. The transition to till parent material is ~ 80 feet to the left of the soil pit, at the slope break seen in the previous photo.



SOIL TEST PIT T.P.-9 DATE 9-24-2024 SOIL SCIENTIST
SLOPE DRAINAGE CLASS PARENT MATERIAL
SOIL SERIES SWANVILLE
PROJECT / CLIENT
DESCRIPTION GPS PHOTO FLAGGED

HORIZON / DEPTH	COLORS (Matrix %)	TEXTURE	ROCK FRAGMENTS (%, size)	Surface stoniness class	STRUCTURE Type	CONSISTENCE (Moist)	REDOX. DEP'S. Color	Abund %	Size	Contrast	REDOX. CONC'S. Color	Abund %	Size	Contrast	GEOLOGIC INTERPRETATION (additional notes)
Ap 0-7	7.5YR 3/2	VFSL	Ø	Ø	GR	FR					7.5YR 5/6	C	F	F	
Bw 7-16	2.5Y 6/2				SBK		DEPLETED MATRIX					C	M	P	
3C 16-25	2.5Y 5/4					FI	2.5Y 6/1	M	M	D					
C1 25-	2.5Y 4/3						2.5Y 6/2	M	M	D	7.5YR 4/4	M	M	P	SAND LAYERS AND POCKETS
39in.															
C2 39-	10YR 5/3	LS													
48+															

CCD30NOV2020 CCDORIONGEOL \TEMPLATES

TP-9 field description. After discussion, the soil was assigned to the Roundabout soil series due to the sandy layers in the substratum.

Two additional soil pits, TP-D and TP-E, were located just off Berry Road in a small idle hayland area. They keyed out to Westbury variants with SPD and PD drainage classes. They did not contain definitive Cd-horizons but did contain the typical sand layers and lenses of this catena. These pits were excavated specifically for the challenging wetland delineation line placement in this small field.

The field conference was attended by well over 100 attendees from MASE, MAPSS, and MAWS, in addition to State and Federal regulatory agency staffs.

I can't name the many folks who worked to make this event a success, but special thanks to the Stevenson family for providing an excellent venue.

Chris Dorion

New England Hydric Soils Technical Committee (NEHSTC) Reconvened

(MAPSS members Chris Dorion and Dave Rocque continue to represent MAPSS)

The committee is proposing a two-day meeting from 21-22 April 2025, location to be determined. For those who do not know me, I [Josh Gaimaro] am a NRCS Resource Soil Scientist out of Orford, NH and I will be taking over as Secretary of the NEHSTC courtesy of Jim Turenne.

Tentative Schedule:

Start noon on April 21
Start morning on April 22
Adjourn

Agenda Items:

1. Items to discuss:
2. Mucky-modifiers
   i. Update sliding scale, >12% organic carbon (by weight) per the 13th edition of Keys to Soil Taxonomy
   ii. Review the methods in Version 9.0 of the *Field Indicators of Hydric Soils*
   iii. Calibrating using known SOC% + texture, lessons learned?
      b. Depth measurements, whether to start from the mineral or organic surface
      c. Need approval from the committee for edits to Version 4 that Jim has received
      d. Discussion of F3 indicator language: "A layer that has a depleted matrix with 60 percent or more chroma of 2 or less and that has a minimum thickness…"
2. Approve new members
3. Plan a Fall Tour of the VT Clay Study (VT NRCS cc'd)

Thank you,
Josh Gaimaro
Resource Soil Scientist
NH NRCS State Office | State Resource Conservation Team

Natural Resources Conservation Service
19 Archertown Rd, Suite A, Orford, NH 03777
p: (603) 731-5692

Proposed Fall 2025 MAPSS – MAWS Field Conference in the Millinocket Lake Region

Johanna Szillery and Chris Dorion completed reconnaissance of challenging soil and wetland sites in the Millinocket Lake area last November. Soil exposures are large and extensive and were used for the 2012 National Cooperative Soil Survey field trip led by Tony Jenkins. The proposed itinerary would include a one day field conference with a second day as optional to examine additional sites and allow for travel time. The panel discussions and evening program would take place at the New England Outdoor Center (NEOC) on the shores of Millinocket Lake. Following are some typical photos of the interesting and challenging landscape:

View of Millinocket Lake from New England Outdoor Center. Katahdin in background, composed of granites. Islands are composed of marble, while the NEOC lies on Carrabassett Formation slates. The underlying bedrock lithologies can be masked by the overburden (tills, eolian sands, lake sediments) which are typically composed of material (fine earth fraction and rock fragments) from areas several miles to the northwest. The regional ice sheet flow was predominantly from northwest to southeast in Maine.

This shallow depressional area is likely a Significant Vernal Pool. To Be Determined…. Note apparent micro shoreline on the boulder in the center of the photo.

Wetland of Special Significance (peatland and open water >20,000 sq. ft.). Potential Vernal Pool? Interesting plant taxa present. Golden Road in background.

From a cursory walkover, it would appear to be an area of glacial till with the large granitic boulder on the surface…however, there is deep (>40 in.) eolian sand in the soil pit. Note intact albic and spodic horizons, suggesting long term stability of the landform. What is the Mechanism to get the boulder on top of the wind blown sand? How prevalent is this soil situation in Maine?

The soil exposures are very deep and extensive. This is likely a Ragmuff soil overlying Carrabassett Formation slate bedrock. Rock fragments in the soil are Katahdin granites.

Soil Test Pits in the Brunswick Sand Plain

Photo by Rod Kelshaw. A typical soil test pit from Brunswick, Maine. The Brunswick sand plain (informally termed by geologists) contains the marine regressional deposits left following deglaciation. During maximum isostatic depression, the Gulf of Maine extended inland in major river valleys up to 490 fasl, reaching Millinocket, Bingham, North Jay, and South Paris. The "blue clays" of Maine, or Presumpscot Formation (marine sediments) were deposited by slow suspension settling of silt and clay particles in deep water. As the land rebounded, the intertidal environment, and finally the surf zone crossed southeasterly across the state and deposited beach (surf zone and intertidal) sands and muds on top of the older blue clays. Around this time, the PaleoIndian migration from Asia arrived in Maine.

Hydrologic Soil Groups

The Society of Soil Scientists of Northern New England (SSSNNE) published *Ksat VALUES FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE SOILS* in 2009. This document provided lists of soils mapped in New Hampshire by the USDA NRCS and their corresponding saturated hydraulic conductivity (Ksat) values and Hydrologic Soil Groups.

This article will address Hydrologic Soil Groups (HSG). More about Ksat some other day.
HSGs were developed by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to categorize soil series into groups with similar precipitation infiltration characteristics. HSGs are primarily used to assess the capability of land to absorb precipitation. Soil series are assigned to one of four HSGs using data collected on controlled study plots and linking the data to soil characteristics.

Site Specific Soil Maps in New Hampshire provide an HSG for each map unit, to help engineers design appropriate stormwater management systems for land development in a way that protects public interests, natural resources, and water quality. The engineered designs are reviewed by the New Hampshire Alteration of Terrain Bureau (NH-AOT) to ensure compliance with New Hampshire laws and regulations.
SSSNNE publication 5, *Ksat Values for New Hampshire Soils*, 2009, listed HSG from NRCS data for soil series mapped in New Hampshire at that time. This publication is referenced in NH-AOT rules. Users of this publication have noted some inconsistencies, such as HSG values that are different for physically similar soils in different temperature regimes. Publication 5 did not assign HSG for human disturbed soil map units, which are being mapped with increasing frequency. In addition, Publication 5 needs to be updated to reflect newly named soils, remove soil names no longer used, and remove miscellaneous land types and non-soil areas from the listings. Though Web Soil Survey is our source for the most current soil data, the primary user for HSG, NH-AOT, needs a dated publication they can reference in their rules. It was not clear how SSSNNE could assign HSGs independent of NRCS to address all these issues; and NRCS is not going to produce a static document when they are continually updating their data on Web Soil Survey.

The NRCS relies on the research data and experience of many professionals to prepare HSG values. While HSGs are excellent tools, SSSNNE believes a single purpose, New Hampshire-specific Hydrologic Soil Index (HSI) would be better for design of stormwater management systems. At least two other New England states have recognized the limitations of the NRCS-HSG and have developed State- specific methods for determining stormwater infiltration and runoff potential. In 2022, SSSNNE established a work group to review the NRCS method for determining HSG and methods developed by other states. The considerable thought and work done in other states and by NRCS provided an important foundation for this project.

SSSNNE selected an approach like the one developed at the University of Rhode Island. The New Hampshire approach differs by creating the concept of a Hydrologic Soil Index (HSI) for each soil mapped in New Hampshire. The term HSI was chosen so users would not confuse this New Hampshire-specific HSI with NRCS generated HSG values. Though the HSI concept was developed with helpful input from NRCS soil scientists and relies heavily on previous NRCS research, this is not an NRCS approved document. HSIs are calculated using three principal criteria: depth to the seasonal high water, depth to bedrock or restrictive layer, and particle size family. The values for these three criteria are taken from the Official Series Descriptions.

HSI is a single purpose tool that can be derived from the attached Logic Matrix or Logic Triangle. They both yield the same result; users can select whichever is easier for them. With this tool, New Hampshire Certified Soil Scientists (NHCSS) can look up the HSI for named soil series on a table, or consistently assign an HSI to whatever unnamed soils or human- disturbed soils they may map. This makes HSI more useful for the Site Specific Soil Mapping required for NH-AOT applications.

The four HSI designations are A through D. SSSNNE intends to republish an updated Publication 5 in 2025 which will list the HSI for each soil series currently recognized and mapped in New Hampshire. For soils not listed, like unnamed soils or those recognized at a future date, the soil scientist can use the Logic table or Logic Triangle to assign an HSI in a manner that is transparent, repeatable, and consistent. SSSNNE is working with NH-AOT on this effort and it will be necessary for them to update the reference in their rules to complete this process.

Michael Cuomo

Updating 2009 MAPSS Guidelines:

There have been several important updates, additions, and deletions over the last 13 years. We need to incorporate these changes and move to an all digital document. There are currently scanned portions of the Guidelines which are large files and cumbersome to download and edit. Please step forward if you have an interest in working on the committee to update the Guidelines.

Website:

The website link "REGULATORY/SOIL links" in the left navigation pane on the MAPSS website is regularly updated. If anyone finds dead links or similar problems, please contact web master Chris Dorion or Matt Dorman.

The on-line directory of members (http://www.mapss.org/directoryinfo.htm) was updated in early February, 2024. Please review your specific contact information and send any edits to: dorionchristopher61@gmail.com or gfullerton@sebagotechnics.com.

VERIFY YOUR LICENSE INFORMATION AND STATUS:

Go to:

https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/board-licensure-geologists-soil-scientists

Link to the menu options in the right navigation pane to maintain the accuracy of your license contact information.

License renewals are due by December 31 each year. Failure to pay the renewal fee may result in the loss of your license and you will be required to reapply and retake all exams.

Soil Test Pit from the Stevenson Farm MASE – MAPSS – MAWS field conference. The particle size control section dictated which catena to key out: Lamoine-Scantic? Pushaw-Swanville? PD or SPD? These challenging calls are the hallmark of the annual field conference.

MAPSS 2024 Treasury Report

MAPSS Checking Account as of 12/31/23		**$16,399.83**
2024 Income:		
2024 Dues (full membership)	$625.00	*25 full members at $25.00 each*
2024 Dues (associate membership)	$75.00	*5 associate members at $15.00 each*
2024 Dues (student membership)	$0.00	*0 student members at $0.00 each*
2024 Dues (honorary membership)	$0.00	*1 honorary members at $0.00 each*
	$700.00	
Annual Meeting Registration	$200.00	*4 registrants at $50.00 each*
	$200.00	
2024 Workshop	$0.00	*0 registrants at $45.00 each*
	$0.00	*0 registrants at $50.00 each*
MASE (2024 Workshop)	$1,072.54	
	$1,072.54	
Janet Cormier Scholarship	**$100.00**	
TOTAL INCOME	**$1,872.54**	
2024 Expenses:		
Envirothon (Maine Association of Conservation Districts)	$1,200.00	
MAPSS/ MAWS annual meeting expense	$1,040.00	
Janet Cormier Scholarship	$0.00	
Website Host (DiscountASP.net)	$120.00	
Domain Registration (Speedsoft)	$18.95	
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$2,378.95**	
MAPSS Checking Account as of 12/31/24		**$16,093.42**

2025 Membership Form

Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists

Name _____

Company or Affiliation_____

Address:_____

Work Phone:_____ Cell Phone:_____

E-mail:_____

Are you a Maine Certified Soil Scientist? _____ If yes, License #: _____

Are you a USDA-NRCS Soil Scientist? _____ If yes, How many years in Maine? _____

Are you ARCPACS Certified? _____ APSS _____ CPSS _____ Certification #:_____

*Full Member - **$25** Associate Member - **$15** Students - **Free**

*Full members must be Certified Soil Scientists in Maine, NRCS Soil Scientists working in Maine for at least 3 years, or have taught collegiate courses in soil science in Maine and been an associate member for at least 3 years.

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please submit form and check made payable to **MAPSS** and mail to:

Gary Fullerton
104 Millturn Road
Limington, ME 04049

for more information: www.mapss.org

gfullerton@sebagotechnics.com

Below is the meeting agenda as of early February, 2025. Always check the MAWS and MAPSS websites for last minute changes.

On-line Registration Opening Soon at:
http://www.maws.me/upcoming-events

MAWS-MAPSS Annual Meeting 2025

Wednesday, March 26, 2025
University of Maine at Orono – Wells Conference Center
Orono, ME 04473
The meeting will be recorded and posted later, but not streamed live

Speakers

DEP Land	*Rob Wood*
MTA Storm Water, MDEP Storm Water	*Kerem Gungor and Cody Obropta*
USACE	*Peter Tischbein and staff*
USFWS	*Wende Mahaney and staff*
MDIFW	*Dr. Phillip deMaynadier and staff*
LUPC	*Stacie Beyer, Audi Arbo*
DACF	*Matt Boucher, Nancy McBrady*
Maine Legislature	*Bob Duchesne – bills/laws/rules*
MNAP	*Dr. Eric Doucette*
MAPSS & MAWS	*Fall 2025 Field Conference*
MAPSS & MAWS	*July/August Restoration/Mitigation Workshop*

07:45 – 08:30	*Registration and Coffee/Snacks*
08:30 – 09:00	*Opening Remarks: 2025 Natural Resource Field Conference; New England Hydric Soils Technical Committee updates*
09:00 – 11:30	*REGULATORY PRESENTATIONS*
11:30 – 12:00	*Stipend Presentation # 1*
12:00 – 2:00	*Lunch & MAPSS Business Meeting*
12:30 – 1:45	*MAPSS Business Meeting (separate Room)*
1:45 – 2:15	*Stipend Presentation # 2*
2:30 – 3:30	*Workforce and Education Roundtable -- UMO/ACF staff, Dawn Hallowell (MDEP)*
3:00 – 3:30	*Breakouts Coffee/snacks, short break*
3:30 – 4:30	*MAWS Business Meeting*

Rich Jordan
Maine Association of Wetland Scientists
Flycatcher LLC

ESTIMATED BUDGET

MAWS/MAPSS 2025 Annual Meetings
March 26, 2025

Description	Price	Quantity	Amount
VENUE			
Wells 1, 2, 3	$555.00	1	$555.00
FOOD SERVICE			
AM Coffee/Tea (per gallon)	$24.19	10	$241.90
Executive Deli Buffet, Garden Salad, Quinoa Cucumber Salad, Grilled Fresh Asparagus, Assorted Cookies, Iced Tea, Water Station, Coffee/Tea refill	$19.99	150	$2,998.50
PM Break			
Coffee/Tea (per gallon)	$24.19	10	$241.90
Assorted Sodas	$1.89	150	$283.50
MISC			
Directional Signs	$200.00	1	$200.00
Media Services - on site for the whole event per day	$350.00	1	$350.00
8% Maine Sales Tax on Food Only (can be waived with a copy of State of Maine Tax Exemption Certificate)	$3,765.80	0.08	$301.26
Administration Fee 20%	$4,315.80	0.2	$863.16
Thank you for choosing the University of Maine.	**Estimated Total:**		**$6,035.22**

RECOMMENDED FEES
Last year at UMA was $6429 for all the same stuff, but UMO has more coffee assumed for morning and afternoon.
The following assumes full cost (including for signage and tax):

$6035/150 = $40.23 ($7500 total @ $50/ for 150 people)
$6035/100 = $60.35 ($5000 total @ $50/ for 100 people – likely where we'd land (estimating non-member fees))
$6035/85 = $71.00 ($4250 total @ $50/ for 85 people)
…to break even at $50/person, we need 120.7 paid entries…so…

MAWS/MAPSS Members $50
non-members $65
Speakers/Students/State/Federal Employees Free

Request Sponsors to help cover costs/keep fees low
Sponsorship Levels
ERIOPHORUM/CHOCORUA: $500 (the hard to say level, this helps provide six student entries!)

- four entries
- logo on the invite and opening remarks slide

- four MAWS drink coozies
- a reserved front table for up to six people with a placard
- recognition from president during opening remarks
- Opportunity to moderate a panel (with 1-minute introduction (scripted))

SCIRPUS/SCANTIC: $250 (AKA the hayfield level, this helps provide three student entries)

- two entries
- two MAWS drink coozies
- logo on the invite and opening remarks slide, recognition from president during opening remarks

JUNCUS/LAMOINE: $150 (what a rush, this level helps provide two student entries)

- one entry
- two MAWS drink coozies
- logo on the invite and opening remarks slide

Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists (MAPSS)
March 21, 2024 Annual Business Meeting Minutes (to be approved / amended at the March 26, 2025 Annual Business Meeting)

Randall Student Center, UMaine Augusta
3/21/24 (12:35-1:33pm) MAPSS annual meeting

1. **Election of Officers:** Rodney Kelshaw (president); Roger St. Amand (Vice President); Gary Fullerton (Treasurer); Eric Whitney (Secretary); Chris Dorion (Past President); Natalie Curry (Director) - Dave Moyse motioned to accept, Tony J. second - Officer slate accepted
2. **Treasurer Report** - Gary Fullerton handed out report for review
    a. Discussed that sharing the meeting with MAWS is going well
    b. Dues are $25 and need to be paid separately (from MAWS) to Gary for membership

- Roger motioned to accept treasurer report, Tony seconded it - Treasurer report was approved

3. **Envirothon Donation:** $1200.00 total donation was approved ($1000.00 + $200 earmarked donation)
4. **Membership update** - Gary Fullerton
    a. Currently 33 full, 10 associate total members (memberships up!)
5. **Education Chair & Janet Cormier Scholarship -** Dave Moyse
    a. The application is out of date and needs to be updated/rewrite
    b. Discussion of maybe making it a natural resource scholarship to bring in more people?
    c. Discussed how it is distributed through the University of Maine system through the online app.
    d. Gary F. made a motion for $2000.00 ($1600.00 + 400.00 earmarked donation) for scholarship, Roger Second - motioned approved
6. **University of Maine** - Abby Stevens
    a. Soil scientists are filling the gaps in the 100 level soils class. Class is going well, students like meeting all the different soil scientists.
7. **Natural Resource Conservation Service Update** - Tony Jenkins - no updates
8. **State Soil Scientist Update** - Matt Boucher
    a. Soil health program set to launch soon - 6.5 million over 10 years

b. Matt has also mentioned he is willing to be newsletter editor and using Bytes for website (Bytes is what the state uses for website)

9. **Doug Fox (Unity College of Environmental Science)** - Doug presented an idea to create a class or classes through Unity directed for students looking to get licensed/certified as a soil scientist in Maine. Most of the classes currently at the school are online and the current age of students is around 27. They complete 3 credit classes in 5 weeks online. It was discussed that this idea should be brought in front of the licensing board to see if they would approve the class. Doug mentioned he will be retiring within a year so would need to act quickly to create class while he's there.
10. **2024 Workshop Request for help** - Rod Kelshaw
    a. Location? NOT going back to Wolfe Neck Farm, Joanne Szillery mentioned she might know of a location..maybe Saddleback area?
    b. Topics: MASE Training, Farmland Soil Protocol….

The Lay of the Land, the Biannual Newsletter of MAPSS, Seeks an Editor

Currently, Chris Dorion is performing the job of newsletter editor. He would like to pass on the job to an enthusiastic MAPSS member or associate member. The work requires soliciting articles of interest from members and associate members twice per year and formatting them into an existing MS Word template. Photos can be inserted liberally, and Chris can give the simple 2 step method to reduce their size (export a raw image JPEG to a smaller file size). Anyone with MS Word experience can compile the newsletter.