



## Michigan Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society ANR Month Seminar

# **SUSTAINABLE INTENSIFICATION OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPE: *Protecting Soil Health, Water Quality and Farm Profitability***

March 8th, 2024, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
AgroLiquid Conference Center, 3055 W.M-21, St. Johns, MI

### AGENDA

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration, Coffee/Tea and Sponsor Introduction**
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome**  
**Steven Schaub**, President, Michigan Chapter SWCS
- 9:10 a.m. **The Saginaw Bay Monitoring Consortium:  
Water quality results and their potential to inform conservation and restoration activities**  
**David Karpovich, Ph.D.**, Director  
Saginaw Bay Environmental Science Institute, Saginaw Valley State University  
**Doug Pearsall, Ph.D.**, Senior Conservation Scientist, The Nature Conservancy
- 10:00 a.m. **Break**
- 10:20 a.m. **Motivational Barriers to Implementing Conservation**  
(pre-recorded presentation, virtual Q&A)  
**Robyn Wilson**, Professor of Risk Analysis and Decision Science and  
Acting Associate Director of SENR, Ohio State University
- 11:00 a.m. **Stacking Conservation Practices to Improve Water Quality**  
**Colleen Forestieri**, Senior Conservation Specialist, Van Buren Conservation District
- 11:50 p.m. **Lunch and Sponsor Recognition**
- 12:40 p.m. **Michigan Scholarships in Conservation Program - Scholarship Presentation**  
**Zachary Curtis**, Chair, Scholarship Committee, Michigan Chapter SWCS
- 12:50 p.m. **From the Field: Conservation in Action**  
**Marilyn Thelen and Lee Thelen**, Thelen Farms  
**John Burk**, Burk Farms  
**Blaine Baker**, Bakerlads Farms
- 1:50 pm **Moderated Farmer Panel Discussion**  
**Steven Schaub**, Moderator
- 2:20 p.m. **Break**
- 2:35 p.m. **Michigan Soils and Soil Landscapes: An Overview**  
**Randy Schaetzl**, University Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University
- 3:20 p.m. **The Pokagon Band's Dowagiac River Restoration:  
A Tribal Wetland Project with a Decade of Progress**  
**Jennifer Kanine**, Director of Natural Resources, Pokagon Band
- 4:00 p.m. **Wrap-up, Announcements, and Adjourn**  
**Steven Schaub**