



Michigan Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society ANR Seminar

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

March 7th, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
AgroLiquid Conference Center, 1130 S. Dewitt Rd., St. Johns, MI

AGENDA

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration, Coffee/Tea and Sponsor Introduction**
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome**
Sarah Zeiler, President, Michigan Chapter SWCS
- 9:10 a.m. **Digital Technologies to Enhance Agricultural Resilience in a Changing Climate and Society**
Dr. Bruno Basso, John A. Hannah Distinguished Professor
Michigan State University
- 10:00 a.m. **Break**
- 10:20 a.m. **Urban Agriculture**
Naim Edwards, Director
Detroit Partnership for Food, Learning and Innovation
Michigan State University
- 11:00 a.m. **A Journey Toward Great Lakes Resilience**
Jane Elder, Author: *Wilderness, Water and Rust*
Retired Director of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters
Former National Director of Ecoregion Programs for the Sierra Club.
- 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. **A Journey in Regenerative Agriculture**
Aron Buechler, Owner, Buechler Farms, and Total Solutions Consulting, Bay County
Bryan Schwab, Schwab Farms, Bay County
Jason Deshano, Deshano Farms, Bay County
- 1:55 p.m. **Break**
- 2:10 p.m. **Climate and Agriculture: Navigating Policy, Programs, and the Private Sector**
Tess Van Gorder, Conservation & Regulatory Relations Specialist
Michigan Farm Bureau
- 2:50 p.m. **Agroforestry in Michigan: Trees on Farms for Conservation and Profit**
Nathan Ayers, Project Lead
Michigan Agroforestry Partnership
- 3:30 p.m. **Wrap-up, Announcements, and Adjourn**
Sarah Zeiler

Fostering the science and art of soil and water conservation in Michigan and the Great Lakes Region.

02/27/25