



West Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

Spring Field Day at Mason Run Dairy

May 12, 2016

Location: Search Google or Apple Maps: Gibson, Bruceton Mills, WV

Registration: \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members. RSVP by 6th.

6 Nutrient Management CEUs, 6 Conservation Planner CEUs

****Attendees will be provided lunch and morning and afternoon refreshments.**

Agenda

9:00 - 9:10

Registration and SWCS Welcome By State Chapter President Suzy Campbell

9:10 – 10:00

WV P-Index on Crop Field & Setback Determination from Perennial, Intermittent Surface Streams and Roads

Tom Basden Nutrient Management Specialist, WVU Extension, Kathy Allen, Agricultural Engineer, NRCS and Justin Brackenridge, WVU Plant and Soil Science Graduate Student

This session will use a field rotating from Alfalfa to Corn that has a medium P-Index, stream, intermittent grass waterway and a road beside it. We will use these features to illustrate how to determine setback length along each area of concern.

10:10 -- 11:10

Using a Handheld GPS unit to Develop Shapefiles in the Field.

Jacky Strager, Research coordinator, Natural Resources Analysis Center, Davis College Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design, WVU.

This session will review the steps to enter data into a hand held GPS unit to develop shape files in the field. Using online web sites to develop setbacks, field boundaries or other shape files can result in errors that can be corrected within field.

11:10 -- 12:10

Mason Run Farm MMP Planning Process, Farmer and Planners Perspectives

Greg Gibson, Owner Operator and Justin Brackenridge with Brian Young Graduate Student and Student Intern

This session will provide an overview of the first completed MMP on private farming operation in WV. Presenters will share the process used to collect needed cropping information including fertility timing, amounts, rotations and yield goals.

12:10 – 1:15

Lunch and SWCS Meeting

1:15 – 2:15

Strategic Soil Sampling to Track Soil Fertility in Corn alfalfa Crop Fields

Ed Rayburn, WVU Forage Agronomist

This session will review the fertility program used by Mason Run Farms on the crop fields that have a corn and alfalfa rotation. Current soil samples collected from fields scheduled to be rotated from alfalfa to corn will be compared with soil fertility status from previous soil samples collected 3 years prior.

2:15-3:15

RUSLE, Field Determination Process, Data Collection on Pasture and Crop fields

Isaac Wolford, NRCS State Agronomist and Justin Brackenridge, WVU Graduate Student

This session will cover how to collect and estimate field data such as field slope, slope length, surface rocks and ground cover. We will use two field locations, a crop field and a pasture field. Attendees will be asked to make estimates on the two fields and results will be shared and discussed.

3:15-3:30

15 min. Break

3:30-4:30

RUSLE, Part 2 Equipment, Special Field Features, Harvest And Tillage Considerations

Isaac Wolford, NRCS State Agronomist and Justin Brackenridge, WVU Graduate Student

This session will continue our RUSLE2 data collection and will include harvest, manure application and tillage equipment. We will visit a field with contour strips and discuss the implications of reducing slope length with alternating sod strips on moderately sloping land.