

# The Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists

[www.vapss.org/](http://www.vapss.org/)

## VAPSS 2016 Annual Conference & Meeting

October 27 - 28, 2016



### "Soils of The Ridge and Valley"

#### **What should conference attendees hope to gain from the VAPSS Fall Conference:**

- Identify saprolite, paralithic, lithic and c horizons
- Understand the historic perspective as well as the value and limitations of soil maps.
- Discuss findings related to recent geologic mapping projects in the Shenandoah Valley.
- Estimate and measure rock and fragment content.
- Interpret the comprehensive water management plan for Warm Spring Run (WSR).
- Understand the contents of HB 558 interim and the final draft report.

#### **Schedule – Thursday, October 27, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

- 8:00 a.m. - Onsite registration
- 9:00 a.m. Program begins
- 12-1 p.m. Lunch provided
- 4 p.m. Program ends
- 4:30 p.m. Annual VAPSS Membership Meeting

#### **Featured speakers & Topics:**

- **Geology of Ridge and Valley** – *Matt Heller*
- **Urban Soil Science: Maps and SWM Soil Maps Use and Abuse** – *Bill Sedjeski*
- **Understanding House Bill 558** (Plan to Eliminate Virginia Department of Health Evaluation and Design Services for Onsite Sewage Systems and Private Wells) – *Mike Lynn*
- **Difference between Saprolite and Paralithic** – *Dr. John Galbraith*
- **Estimating & Measuring Rock Fragment Content in Soil Profiles, Travis & Other Miscellaneous Topics** – *Bruce Legge*
- **The Warm Spring Run Watershed Management Plan – The Intersection of Geology, Hydrology, Soil Science and Biology** – *Bob Denton*

**Schedule – Friday, October 27, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Field Trip** (see page 4 for details)  
**Profile Pits and Explore Local Geology**

# Speaker Bios and Topics



**Matt Heller** is a geologist with more than 20 years of professional experience in geologic mapping, hydrogeology, mineral exploration, natural hazards, and geoscience education. He currently manages the geologic and hazard mapping programs for the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy. Matt is a graduate of James Madison University, North Carolina State University, and the Natural Resources Leadership Institute. He is a Certified Professional Geologist in Virginia and a part-time lecturer with the Department of Geology and

Environmental Science at James Madison University.

**Topic:** Matt will discuss his findings related to recent geologic mapping projects in the Shenandoah Valley, with an emphasis on the North Mountain –Valley transition and associated surficial deposits.

**Dr. John M. Galbraith** - John received his B.S. and M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management at Texas



Tech University. John received a Ph.D. in Soil Science at Cornell in 1997. In between, he worked for ten years as a USDA and university Soil Scientist in eight states, mapping ½ million acres of soil. He taught at Cornell and the University of Florida in 1998-99, then began working at Virginia Tech in 1999. John has been teaching about soils, agronomy, environmental science and wetlands since 1990 and he coaches the soil judging team. He is also a Soil Information cooperative

extension specialist. John enjoys gleaning, sports, exercise, gardening, science, geology, and nature.

**Mike Lynn** is a graduate of Virginia Tech and a LPSS. He is also a licensed operator, installer and OSE. Mike is the president and co-owner of SES Mid Atlantic, a design-build operate sewage system company. Mike also owns a private utility company that owns and operates decentralized water and sewer systems. He is the current Chairman of the SHDAC and is willing to give that position up to anyone else who wants it.

**Topic:** Mike will be discussing the HB 558 interim and final draft report.



**Robert K. Denton, Jr.**, CPG, LRS, LPSS - A professional scientist for 40 years, Robert has extensive experience in all aspects of engineering geology with his primary emphasis being karst evaluation and remediation, hydrogeology, septic drain field studies, and environmental studies. Mr. Denton offers experience in the geological assessment and characterization of sites, both prior to and during development and construction. He has specific experience in soil studies (wet soils, high plasticity clays, etc.), speleogenesis and karst geology (sinkhole studies and remediation, stormwater BMPs in karst, etc.), subsurface studies (soil and rock

borings and their analysis), hydrology, and geological hazard assessment. Robert lives in Old Town, Winchester VA, and has resided in Virginia for 21 years after relocating from NJ in 1995.

**Talk Summary:** *The Warm Spring Run Watershed Management Plan – The Intersection of Geology, Hydrology, Soil Science and Biology*

Due to concern regarding reductions in oyster, crab and fish populations, studies in 1998 demonstrated that large portions of the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries were not meeting water quality standards and subsequently listed as impaired. The main pollutants causing the impairment were nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment. Despite significant efforts by the Chesapeake Bay Program the water quality goals established by the Federal Clean Water Act were not being met. As a result, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) required that a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) be developed, based in part on the Watershed Implementation and Management Plans developed by the

Chesapeake Bay watershed states and the District of Columbia. TMDLs for first tier tributaries of the Bay such as the Potomac, James and Rappahannock rivers were established early on, however the development of the second tier tributary TMDL requirements lagged behind.

Mr. Denton's talk will discuss the development of a comprehensive watershed management plan for the Warm Spring Run (WSR), a second tier "direct drain" tributary of the Upper Potomac River located in Morgan County, West Virginia. The watershed management plan was developed utilizing an interdisciplinary approach involving geology, hydrology, soil science and biology in an effort to reduce the level of pollutants impacting the Bay. The plan established TMDLs for the WSR which were accepted by the USEPA and WVDEP, and including recommendations and action steps to reduce the TMDLs to meet both State and Federal requirements. It is note that one of the requirements for the principal research scientist on the project was that they were a professional geologist and/or soil scientist.

**Bill Sedjeski** - President, Soil Tech Inc., Chantilly, VA

Responsibilities: Supervise and administer operations concerning soil and geologic testing for engineering and environmental uses including on-site waste water systems, environmental assessments, ground water hydrology, soil mapping, seismic testing, geotechnical investigations for general development, agronomic evaluations and supervise operations of laboratory facilities. Studies in northern Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. He is qualified as expert witness in soil science related to onsite sewage disposal, engineering and environmental site evaluations in Fairfax, Prince William, Culpeper, Clarke, Arlington Counties and Federal District Courts for various clients including VDOT, County of Fairfax, County of Loudoun.

**Bruce Legge** –His professional experience includes August 1986 - June 1995 Soil Scientist, Virginia Polytechnic Institute where he worked with a Soil Survey Project; mapped soils in Amherst and Nelson Counties as part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey program.

Since June 1995 he is a Professional Soil Scientist with Marsh & Legge Land Surveyors, P.L.C., Winchester, VA. Bruce does soil evaluation and interpretations for drainfield suitability, preliminary and final soil studies, soil mapping, soil evaluations for private residential subdivisions in northern Shenandoah Valley region, and has over 10 years experience in complete soil evaluations on a state wide basis for the Commonwealth of Virginia – Department of Conservation and Recreation – State Parks. He received a B.S. Agronomy (Soils), June 1986, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, is a licensed Professional Soil Scientist and Alternative Onsite Soil Evaluator.

## **Hotel and Camping**

### **Thursday Meeting: Holiday Inn Winchester Historic Gateway**

250 Front Royal Pike

Winchester VA 22602

**\$89**

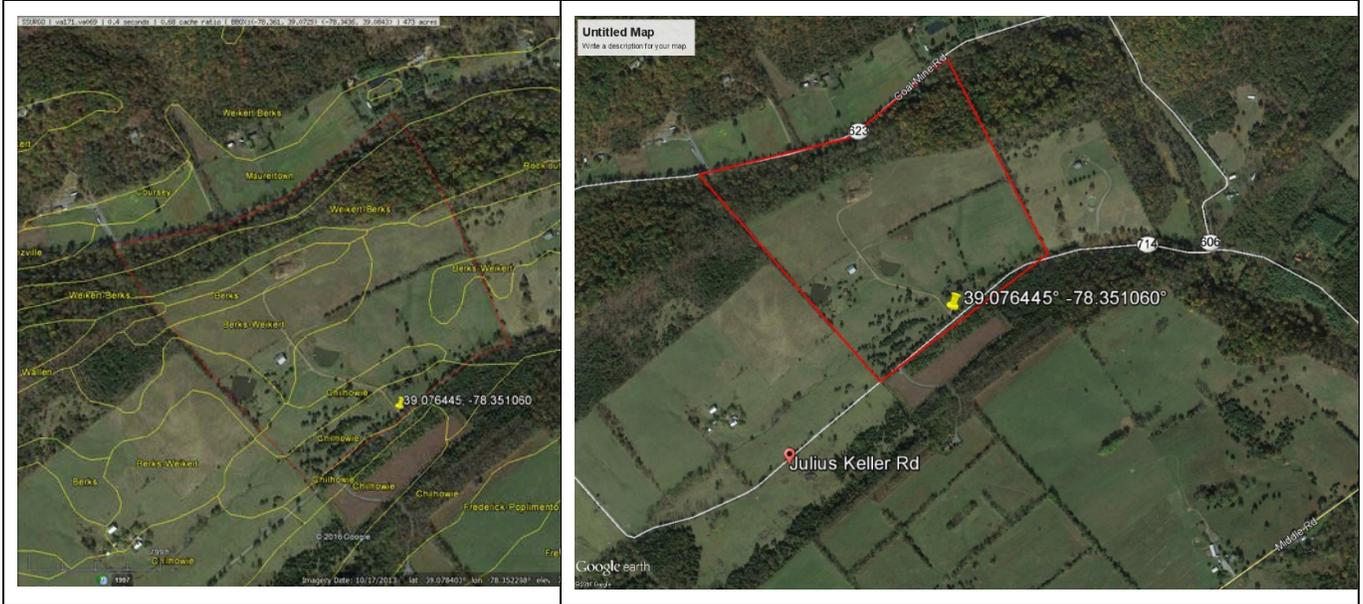
Call 540-667-3300 for hotel reservations. Ask for the VAPSS discount rate.

**Camping:** available at Stephen White's farm at 1251 Julius Keller Road, Strasburg, VA 22657. The coordinates are on the aerial map on the next page. Camping is available at the farm. Water is available and there is a small bathroom with shower in the barn. There are two ponds for fishing.

**Contact Stephen White, directly, to make camping arrangements at [sjwhite@greenwayeng.com](mailto:sjwhite@greenwayeng.com) (540) 974-9111**

Campers can stay free at the White Farm (Friday Field Trip site)

# Field Trip Synopsis – Friday, October 28, 2016 – 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



## 9 a.m.-3:00 pm Field Trip

### Profile Pits and Explore Local Geology

**Lunch will be provided.**

**Directions to Field Trip and Camping location:  
1251 Julius Keller Road, Strasburg, VA 22657**

There will be a VAPSS sign at the entrance.

**Directions from the Holiday Inn.** Right on Rt. 522 out of hotel. Turn left on Rt. 50 and follow signs for I-81 South. Take 81 south to exit 307 and turn right on Fairfax Pike. Stay straight on Marlboro Road (Rt. 631) for 3.3 miles then left on Middle Road (Rt. 628) for 3.3 miles and then right on Gap Road (Rt. 606) for 0.4 miles. Stay left at "Y" on Julius Keller Road for about 0.4 miles then address 1251 on right. Both Gap and Julius Keller are gravel roads.

### ***Continuing Professional Education***

*(13 contact hours, documentation will be provided for all who attend both days.)*

**Registration Fees Include:** Meeting and field trip development costs, coffee/soda breaks, buffet lunches on Thursday and Friday, and credentialing with VAPSS Continuing Education Units (CEU's).

## Registration form on Next Page



# VAPSS Registration Form

October 27 - 28, 2016

(This is a Fill-in PDF file to save and email to [vapss@vapss.org](mailto:vapss@vapss.org) or snail mail)  
Please use a separate form for additional staff from the same company

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Org. \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I have special food, lodging or transportation requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees Include:** Meeting and field trip development costs, Thursday: coffee/drink breaks, lunch, Friday: lunch

### Registration Fees:

___ VAPSS/VAWP Members	\$175
___ Non-members	\$250
___ Students with current ID	\$25
___ Corporate Sponsorship	\$500
___ Thursday or Friday only	\$125

Optional Donations to the VT Soil Judging Team \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ 2016 Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Check here if you are paying with a credit card via PayPal and see link below

No refunds after October 15, 2016

**Mail check (payable to VAPSS) and registration form to:**

VAPSS  
383 Coal Hollow Rd  
Christiansburg, VA 24073-6721

OR Use Creditcard att  <http://vapss.org/Make Payment via PayPal.html>

**Questions? Contact:** Jeff Miller, VAPSS Secretary  
[vapss@vapss.org](mailto:vapss@vapss.org) 540-382-0943 Fax: 540-382-2716