

# Ohio Pedologist

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

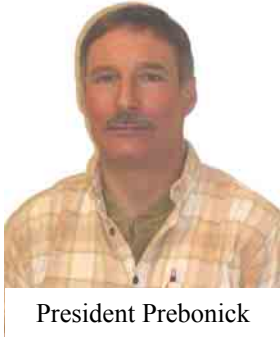
## President's Message

Dear AOP members,

Early on in my working life I took to heart two hard lessons on what really makes the work world turn. The first lesson came from my Uncle Nick. In typical young man fashion I made a rash statement putting my personal recreational needs above my responsibilities to my employer. I can still remember the look on his face when he pointed out the error of my ways as he said, "you got it all wrong kid, when the boss can't depend on you the boss doesn't need you." Since that eventful day his words inspired my dedication and perseverance in the work environment.

The school of experience taught the second lesson. At the time I was a rookie foreman for a crew of carpenters. Standard practice was to give the new foreman basic assignments to see if he could prove himself and then take it from there. At times I took on the job with more than just a little apprehension but with perseverance and dedication things worked out. As the company owner looked over the finished job he would say, "good work." Often the next assignment would be more challenging than upon completion would be followed by the usual "good work". In just a little while I began to realize good work gets you more good work.

Our influence in the market place increases as AOP membership grows in number and professional diversity. The more we apply the above lessons the more posi-



President Prebonick

tive our experiences will be. In whatever capacity we practice as soil professionals, if our customers can depend on us they will find need for and rely on our knowledge and experience not looking to other professionals to meet their requirements for soil interpretation data. Let us strive to promote our profession and organization with dependability and accountability as we supply soil information for natural resource decision making.

American industry flourishes under competition. Competition on both the individual and corporate level has made the United States the great country it is. Americans expect the best and have the best because there is competition to market the best. No other professionals can supply soils information as quickly and accurately as the soil professionals in the AOP can. As I learned in the second lesson good work will always get us more good work. Our society is more conscious of environmental issues related to soil concerns than any previous generation. Let us capitalize on these concerns as we accurately assess customer needs and then strive to supply products that more than meet their requirements so we can continue to capture market share in the natural resource information arena for today's soil professional and tomorrow's.

On a different topic, please mark your calendars for the summer get together to be held this year in the Canton area. Rick Buzard has done an excellent job planning this year's event. As an added AOP membership bonus council has voted to have the picnic costs sponsored by the organization. Rick Griffin expects the new AOP hats to be available in time for the picnic.

*Steve Prebonick*

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## 2004 Directory of Officers

*Steve Prebonick, President*  
*Rick Buzard, President-elect*  
*Dan Lemaster, Past President*  
*Todd Houser, Secretary*  
*George Derringer, Treasurer*  
*Steve Miller, Newsletter editor*  
*George Hall, Academic Rep.*  
*Rick Griffin, Federal Rep.*  
*Lawrence Tornes, Private Rep.*  
*Neil Martin, State Rep.*

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# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## Events

- **Urban Soils (Kentucky)—Wednesday July 14, 2004**
- **AOP Summer Picnic (Canton)—Saturday August 14, 2004**
- **Fracture Flow Workshop (Columbus)—Tuesday September 9, 2004**
- **Landslide Seminar (Cincinnati)—Wednesday September 12, 2004**
- **AOP Annual Meeting (Columbus) - Thursday January 13, 2005**

## Annual Meeting

Coordinated by Lawrence Tornes

The 2005 AOP Annual meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 13, 2005 in the meeting room of the Nature Center at Highbanks Metro Park. The entrance to this Metro Park is on the north side of Columbus about two and one half miles north of I-270 on U S Route 23.

The Program Committee hopes to schedule two or three technical presentations on soils, geology, and/or soil consulting concerns for continuing education credits prior to the noon luncheon. This location has a larger meeting room than Cedar Lodge at Battelle-Darby Creek Metro Park and space in the Nature Center for visiting by people that do not attend the technical presentations. The meeting room is also free to AOP.

## AOP Sponsored LANDSLIDE SEMINAR

Coordinated by Neil Martin

AOP will be hosting a day long seminar to examine landslide geology and remediation in the Cincinnati Area. Cincinnati has been known as the nation's 'Landslide Capital', and we have some of the leading geotechnical experts in the area lined up to give presentations from their first hand experience.



Arrangements for the event are just now being formulated, but please mark your calendar for September 15 and plan to attend. The play-off bound Cincinnati Reds will be in town the night before, so this may be your chance to combine business and pleasure, (i.e. have some peanuts and Cracker-Jacks with your CEU's).

The program will look at the physical geology of landslides, local attempts to evaluate landslide potential, remediation projects and the potential roles for soil scientists in this work. It will feature classroom training and visits to field sites to view landslide remediation. Plan to attend and pass the word to other professionals you know who may like to join us.



# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## Hats

Thanks to the work of Rick Griffin the popular AOP hats will be available for purchase at the Summer Picnic. The *leftovers* will be available at other AOP functions.



## ARCPACS Update

ARCPACS, the soil scientist certification program, may be changing the ARCPACS acronym in the near future to better represent all the disciplines involved. ARCPACS certified members received notification from the board.

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## MY POINT OF VIEW

This section of the newsletter is used to encourage people to state their views and opinions. Please feel free to send any comments or suggestions you may have. The topic should be about any issues or concerns you have with our association or the discipline.

This is in response to the "My Point of View" article (Spring 2004), where the unknown author, hiding behind a veil of anonymity, wrote an article, some good but mostly "not so good", to put it euphemistically. While all too tempting and easy to respond item by item, I will simply dismiss the "not so good" part, due to time and space constraints, as anonymous, irrational, distorted, unhelpful, and unprofessional.

My name is Bob Parkinson, and this is "My View". Feel free to "single me out". Just don't misquote me, or take my comments out of context, as was the case here.

My opening statement given at the annual meeting debate is available upon request by emailing me: bob.parkinson@oh.usda.gov. I would be very pleased to share my opening remarks with anyone requesting them.

If you read our Constitution and Bylaws (available @ <http://www.ohiopedologist.org>), you will see that the Association of Ohio Pedologists (AOP) is deeply rooted in pedology. This should be a point of pride for us and certainly not one for objection.

As pedologists, we uniquely draw upon soil genesis, morphology, classification and edaphology along with other diverse areas such as remote sensing, agronomy, botany, cartography, climatology, conservation, engineering, forestry, geology, geomorphology, geographic information systems, and hydrology, as well as many other disciplines within the broader realm of soil science.

The soil chemist's laboratory might be 20X30 feet with a concrete floor underfoot. In stark contrast, the pedologist's land laboratory might be 20X30 miles with natural soil underfoot. The difference between pedologists and other soil scientists involves the scope & scale of our work and the spatiality of the land and soil resource, and it is no less scientific.

Pedology puts the soil in the survey. Soil surveyors know that conducting a countywide soil inventory is like solving a

300,000 acre 3-Dimensional jigsaw puzzle, and if you tried it without pedology, the pieces just wouldn't fit together. And our soil inventory is the common ground for working with professionals from many different arenas.

I was fortunate to work with agronomists, archaeologists, botanists, foresters, wildlife biologists, geologists, pedologists & other soil scientists, planners, professors, sanitarians, civil & metallurgical engineers and even one nuclear engineer who switched fields to soil engineering, and it added another dimension to my career. We all know pedology can be more than a job. It can be an adventure!

And AOP is our partner in this adventure by promoting better science, better soil surveys, better on site investigations and increased public recognition of the important work we do *by making us better professionals*. As professionals, this adventure needs to be promoted to students interested in earth science -- the future members of AOP -- as well as the general public.

However, it appears there might be more soul searching and work ahead for AOP to refine or redefine itself if last year's foiled attempt at a "name change" is any indication of the need to do so. Contained within this proposal to "simply" change the name of our association was substantially more than was advertised or possibly even envisioned by its proponents. How much more was unclear, but it would have involved at a minimum amending our constitution and bylaws -- which no proponent had even bothered to look into -- and ultimately could lead to other change at our very core, be it intentional or unintentional. And the Law of Unintended Consequences is alive and well.

So it seems we still have two persistent questions: 1) "Who are we as an organization?" and 2) "What's in it for me?" The answers will have real impact on our future as an organization.

## Cont. — Point of View

One thing we are not -- AOP is not a marketing association. So if you want professionalism, come to AOP. If you want marketing assistance, go to the National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists (NSCSS). If you want more business, develop your marketing plan, then go to your local newspaper and advertise.

Returning to our foundational documents, it is clear that AOP is an organization *ideally* dedicated to promote, first and foremost, the profession of pedology through the development of its *entire* membership, *including Soils Professional and Affiliate members*, and to promote the recognition of the pedologist as a professional in all segments of society.

I certainly hope AOP will continue to grow and prosper as a professional organization well into the future as a viable group true to its stated purpose. The framers of our Constitution and Bylaws also developed a process for orderly change that AOP has exercised in the past. They also made provisions for AOP's dissolution in Article XI, if the need ever arises. Upon AOP's dissolution, Association assets, after paying all just debts, would be transferred to The Ohio State University, School of Natural Resources. The funds explicitly would be used to establish of a scholarship for the study of, *what else*, pedology – a fitting end to a great organization that would have run its course. And still more proof of AOP's inseparable ties to pedology.

And hypothetically speaking, *if conditions ever warrant* – and by that I mean if we ever lose our roots in our founding discipline -- I would rather see Article XI exercised, establishing that scholarship for pedology, before AOP would ever subordinate pedology and lose its original identity and purpose. This would end AOP's existence before it could ever mutate or morph into some different organization. This is coming from an AOP charter member who has benefited tremendously as a member and gladly served as an officer of the Association for eight of its 28 years. In my opinion, any new Ohio association of soil scientists or technicians should be started from scratch, period. Like AOP did back in 1975.

But the good news is AOP has as viable a role to play today under its current structure as it had when it first was created. That doesn't mean that I don't think AOP should ever change if necessary. In fact, I have supported all four relevant amendments that we have made to our Constitution and Bylaws in the past that made us better and not just different. One of those amendments established the Soils Professional membership category that brought in many new members and infused new energy, skills and much needed volunteerism into AOP.

And far from being an exclusive closed fraternity, AOP has opened itself up to new members and will continue to welcome newcomers to the soils profession who share a common professional interest and appreciation for the land and soil.

However, we may have short-changed some of these newcomers by potentially excluding them from becoming Pedologist members unnecessarily if what I am about to write is actually true ...

In reading the Pedologist definition (Bylaws Article II, Section 2), I can see no reason why some Soils Profes-

sional or Affiliate members cannot eventually progress to become Pedologist members (if they meet the academic requirements, etc.), if they so choose -- provided their employers and AOP afford them the opportunity.

I say this because I cannot find any reference to any specified requirement of time "mapping soils". The only time requirement I read to become a Pedologist is a minimum of **3 years experience in USDA taxonomic classification with the ability to identify, map, and describe soils in the field**, and interpret their use potential (along with the required academic training).

Perhaps I have misinterpreted or missed something and would welcome anyone to show me where the potentially prohibitive requirements are written. But if true, several more questions come to mind:

- *If true, would this resolve many, most, or all of our issues?*
- *If true, would some of these members wish to progress to that of a Pedologist?*
- *If so, is AOP willing to establish some mechanism to do this?*
- *If so, would there still be continued interest and/or a large faction of members intent on "changing the name" of the association? And, if so, to what end?!?*

Regarding the current Pedologist criteria as I interpret them: If private sector employers would permit their employees to use Soil Taxonomy routinely (which would actually be in their best interest as well), Item 1 – the three years of experience in soil taxonomic classification -- could be possibly be satisfied after the time requirement is met and the ability to accurately classify soils is demonstrated. The remaining items – the ability to identify soils on the landscape, map their location, describe their characteristics, and interpret their use potential, etc. -- possibly could be met through some field practicum conducted by field soil scientists of the Ohio Soil Survey or AOP pedologists. Order 1 mapping they might have done for clients might also be reviewed in much the same way as our functional inspections and map reviews have worked in the past. But even if there is a three-year "mapping" requirement, there still may be other "work-arounds" if AOP is willing to develop them.

Just a little food for thought, in order to form a more perfect association, maybe we need to change again ... but maybe we don't. Who really knows?!?

So let's not rush to judgment, half-baked rash actions or other band-aid solutions to fix what may or may not be festering. Let's take a little time to read our Constitution and Bylaws (granted it's not any fun), gather the facts, shed the misconceptions, and then let's analyze the situation. I certainly would be willing to help.

Let's discuss -- and not cuss -- the real underlying problems, if any. Let's avoid the unilateral approach and keep the lines of communication clear and open. Let's do it together in a comprehensive, objective, and constitutional way, where folks can ultimately agree to disagree -- if necessary -- and amicably abide by the result. We owe it to our association, to Ohio and to ourselves.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Parkinson, CPSS, CPSC, AOP Certified Soil Scientist



# SUMMER PICNIC—Football Hall of Fame and Sippo Lake

Coordinated by Rick Buzard

## HALL OF FAME INFORMATION: [www.profootballhof.com](http://www.profootballhof.com)

We will plan on meeting at the Hall of Fame on the afternoon of **August 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 to 1:00**. The Hall of Fame will provide an official to greet our group and provide information. The tour will commence at 1:00.

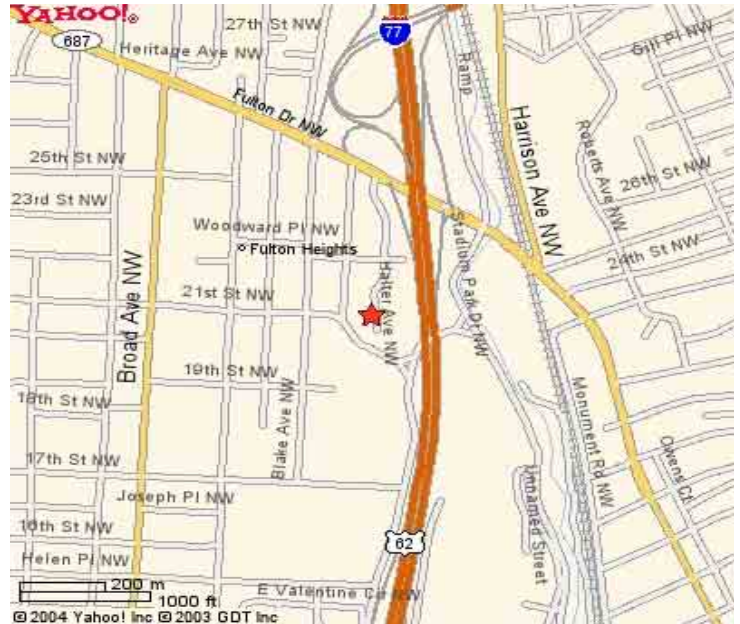
Location of the Hall of Fame is in Canton off I – 77 at exit 107A. This puts you on Fulton Drive. Take George Halas DR. off Fulton and into the parking lot. See map.

Hall of Fame Group Rates (12 or more) are as follows:

Adult - \$8.50 (22 and over)  
Student - \$6.00 (15-21)  
Senior - \$7.50 (62 and over)  
Child - \$5.00 (6-14)

I am requesting that money for reservations be sent to me so that I can monitor the situation. I will need to make a lump sum payment to the Hall of Fame the day of our tour. Make checks payable to

Richard W. Buzard  
854-17<sup>th</sup> ST N.E.  
Massillon, OH 44646  
330-832-7448



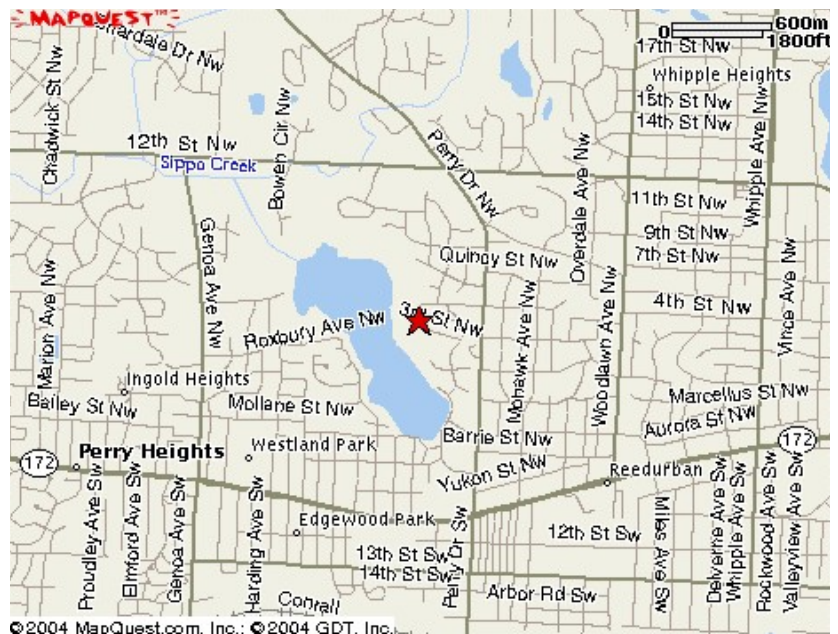
## SIPPO LAKE INFORMATION: [www.starkparks.com](http://www.starkparks.com)

We will plan on meeting at Sippo Lake Park at 6:00 PM. The main park entrance is located on Tyner Street off Perry Dr. NW in Canton. Tyner Street dead ends into the parking lot for Sippo Lake. Take the stairs down toward the lake from the parking lot and our pavilion is on the right.

AOP will pick up the cost of the food, drinks and dessert. The food will be catered by Bill Weaver a local businessman who has restored and operates Russell House in Massillon which is a historical bed and breakfast. [www.russellhousebb.net](http://www.russellhousebb.net)

Anyone planning on attending the picnic but not taking the Hall of Fame tour must keep in mind that **they will not be able to get access to our pavilion until 6:00 in the afternoon.** You certainly can go to Sippo Lake earlier and fish or boat or hike if you wish.

**I will need to know how many reservations for the Hall of Fame and or the Sippo Lake Picnic by August second.** Please send these to me at the above address. If anyone has questions and needs additional information feel free to call.



# 2004 Fracture Flow Workshop

**Who:** Organized by the Ohio Academy of Science Ohio Fracture Flow Working Group (OFFWG).  
Sponsored by the Association of Ohio Pedologists (AOP), the Ohio Academy of Science (OAS), and OSU Extension

In cooperation with The Ohio State University (OSU), the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), the US Geological Survey (USGS), the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Bennett & Williams (B&W).

**What:** Ohio Fracture Flow Working Group "Annual" Workshop, this year Central Ohio. This year, at the recommendation of AOP, we have decided to take our gathering inside, at OSU's Ag Campus in Columbus to talk about updates and upgrades in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) advances in natural resources applications over the last 30 years. When this effort began in Ohio at ODNR and OEPA, GIS was a standalone program on mainframe computers. Now SWCDs, health districts, and local planning agencies have GIS systems running on PCs. With the continuous efforts to create electronic SSURGO soils data bases for each county in Ohio, as well as all the other supporting data layers, we are all moving into the electronic GIS age, prepared or not.

**When:** Thursday, September 9, 2004, 9:00 AM to 4:30PM

**Where:** Room 100 Agricultural Engineering Bldg, 590 Woody Hayes Dr. The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio – Bldg 298 on map.

**Why:** Share in a multidisciplinary exploration into Ohio's GIS application of geology, hydrogeology, soils and other natural resources data. "No GIS system ever came in on time and/or on budget" (Duane Marble, 1993). Most of the cost comes from developing the data layers. If you can borrow/purchase basic layers from other agencies, you can get your GIS system up and running far faster and for much less money. But remember your GIS system is only as accurate as your "weakest" data layer so you need to know the strengths and weaknesses of those "borrowed" layers. Once you have the system in place, what do you do with it? See what other counties have done with their data. Listen to the story of one SWCD's effort to come into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. View and/or show off displays of successful local applications. Here is your chance to share "bragging rights" with other Ohioans. Learn about GIS applications for Precision Agriculture, Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA) applications at the county level and county based Ground Water Pollution Potential mapping projects and applications. Go home with a workbook designed to help the beginner understand the basics but filled with information that may even provide a few surprises to the experts. OSU Extension will administer the workshop. We are applying for 6 hours of Continuing Education Credits for Certified Soils Professionals (AOP, ARCPACS) and Registered Sanitarians. May also be accepted by some states requiring CEU's for geologists' registrations.

**How Many:** Space limited to the first 100 applicants so reserve your seat early.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2004  
NATURAL RESOURCES GIS WORKSHOP  
PRELIMINARY MEETING AGENDA  
(All presentations confirmed – final titles & speakers pending)

- 8:00–9:00 AM Registration
- 9:00–9:10 AM Introduction  
Dr. Julie Weatherington-Rice, OFFWG
- 9:10–10:10 AM History of Natural Resources GIS in Ohio – Keynote  
History of OCAP, Other ODNR GIS Systems not independently covered, and OGRIP,  
Dave Crecelius, GIS-IT ODNR
- 10:10–10:35 AM ODNR Floodplain GIS systems  
Tim Beck or Ken Pendley, ODNR DOW
- 10:35–10:50 AM Morning Break
- 10:50–11:15 AM ODNR Ohio Geo Survey databases  
Donovan Powers, ODNR DGS
- 11:15–11:40 AM OEPA "GIS databases; Past, Present, and Future"  
David White, OEPA DD&GW
- 11:40 – 12:05 PM USGS "The National Map and the Ohio Spatial Data Framework", Charles Hickman, USGS Col.**
- 12:05–1:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00–1:30 PM NRCS STASGO & SSURGO (digital orthophotos?)  
Rich Gehring or Bob Parkinson, NRCS State Office
- 1:30–2:00 PM What's needed for a local office full GIS application?  
Larry Ufferman – Delaware SWCD
- 2:00–2:30 PM Precision Agriculture, GIS & GPS  
Dr. Reza Ehsani, OSU Extension
- 2:30–2:45 PM Break
- 2:45–3:30 PM "Linking Strategic Planning and GIS/LESA Modeling"  
Tim DeWitt, Bennett & Williams
- 3:30–4:15 PM DRASTIC & applications at the county level  
Mike Angle or Wayne Jones, ODNR DOW
- 4:15–4:30 PM Wrap-up and safe journey home
- 6 hours Total contact time for AOP and ODH certification



**Parking:** In the “Green Area” which is really a parking lot, between buildings 298 and 003. Someone will meet you with your parking sticker when you enter the lot off Fyffe Road.

— Exit 315 at Lane Ave, go east toward University, take right at first light (Fyffe Rd), take first left into parking lot drive (just before light at Woody Hayes Dr.), park in lot straight ahead and to the left. Ag Engineering Building is to the East of parking lot.

**How Much:** \$100.00 (Students, \$30.00), Registration due by Friday, Aug 27, 2004

Make Check out to OSUE GIS Workshop and Mail Registration to:

Carol Moody, Administrative Assistant  
 247 Agricultural Engineering Bldg.  
 590 Woody Hayes Dr.  
 The Ohio State University  
 Columbus, Ohio 43210-1057

## Registration Form

Name	Phone
Address	e-mail
	Zip
Employer	Title
Organization	
Special Diet Requirements	

Need CEUs, AOP \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. Sanitarian \_\_\_\_\_

Setting up a display? \_\_\_\_\_ Need Extra Work-  
 book? \_\_\_\_\_

Need Parking Pass? \_\_\_\_\_ Contributions to OJS Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Make check out to OSUE GIS Workshop, Fee is \$100.00 (\$30.00 for students) includes meals & materials. Additional Work-books must be pre-purchased at \$15.00 each. Additional contributions towards publication page charges for the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Issue on Fractured Glacial tills, Ohio Journal of Science (OJS) gratefully accepted.



# URBAN SOILS: *Interpretation and Classification*

**Certified Professional Soil Scientists: Earn 5.5 CEUs**

The goal of this workshop, sponsored by the Soil Science Society of America, is to highlight problems associated with urban and suburban soils and current efforts to provide interpretation and classification that more realistically reflects these unique areas. In the past, urban and suburban areas were mapped as Udorthents with variable interpretations, or mapped similarly to the soils in adjoining areas.

These methods, however, did not inform the landowners about the true soil conditions. With soil surveys complete in most states, the next step is building upon them to improve their uniformity and reliability. This includes bringing the spatial and temporal patchwork of existing soil surveys up to a uniform standard, and incorporating data into geographic information systems (GIS).

During the course of this workshop, we will discuss soil problems and classification issues related to urban and suburban soils followed by an educational tour of soils in and around the Louisville area.

**Registration Deadline: June 30, 2004**

## **MORNING**

8:30.9:00

Welcome and sign-in for CEUs

9:00. 9:55

Overview of problems and discussion of classification

9:55.10:05

Break

10:05.11:00

Continue discussion

11:00.1:00

Travel to Louisville

Box Lunch

*(Lunch & bus transportation included with registration fee.)*

## **AFTERNOON**

1:00.4:30

Observation of soils in and around Louisville

5:00

Return to Shelby Community Center

## **Registration Form**

**URBAN SOILS: *Interpretation & Classification*  
CPSS.5.5 CEUs**

July 14, 2004 . 9:00am.5:00pm

Shelby Community Center . Shelbyville, KY

**Registration Fee: \$59**

Includes all breaks, lunch and bus to/from Louisville.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province & Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **Method of payment:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Check or U.S. money order enclosed

(Payable to: **Soil Science Society of America**)

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit card (a \$2 processing fee will be added),

check one:

## **Directions**

### **Shelby County Community Center**

98 7th Street, Shelbyville, KY 40065

### **From I-64 take exit -35**

North on Highway-53 for 1.9 miles to the intersection of Highways-53 and US-60. West on US-60 for 0.9 miles to the intersection of US-60 and 7th Street. North on 7th Street for 0.2 miles, go over a set of railroad tracks; then under a railroad bridge. The Shelby Community Center is immediately on the left.

### **From I-71 take exit-34**

South on Highway-421 to New Castle and the intersection of Highways-421 and 55. South on Highway-55 to Shelbyville and the intersection of Highways-55 and US 60. West on US-60 for 0.9 miles to intersection of US- 60 and 7th Street. North on 7th Street for 0.2 miles, go over a set of railroad tracks; then under a railroad bridge. The Shelby Community Center is immediately on the left.

### **Soil Science Society of America**

677 S. Segoe Rd. • Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 608-273-8095 • Fax: 608-273-2021

headquarters@soils.org • www.soils.org





**Ohio Pedologist**  
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School of Natural Resources  
Columbus, OH 43210

Mailing label