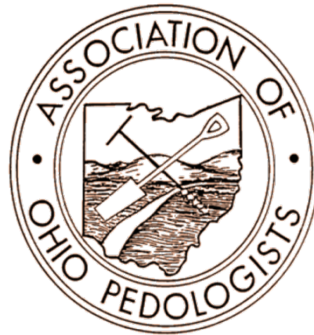


AOP ANNUAL WINTER MEETING 2026

50th Anniversary
1976-2026



The AOP Annual Winter Meeting will be held February 12th, 2026 at the Geological Survey's H.R. Collins Lab and Core Repository near Alum Creek Reservoir north of Columbus. The meeting will focus on a variety of topics including CAUV, soil and vegetation management in solar installations, tropical soils of Thailand and more.

The program agenda, registration details, and meeting venue information are provided herein.

Registration may be [mailed](#) to the Treasurer or completed online in the [Store](#). Free meeting registration is available for Students & Speakers.

Registration includes morning refreshments and a lunch catered by City BBQ. Don't miss this opportunity to both learn and socialize with colleagues.

Program and Agenda

Association of Ohio Pedologists Annual Meeting

H.R. Collins Lab and Core Repository
Ohio Division Geological Survey
3307 S. Old State Road
Delaware, OH 43015

Schedule

8:30-9:00 Registration, coffee and donuts

9:00-9:10 *Welcome and introductions* - Duane Wood, current AOP present

9:10-9:40 *Soil and Vegetation Management Best Practices for Utility-Scale Solar Projects* – Ben Balskus, senior associate, Vegetation management, Invenergy

9:40-10:20 *The CAUV Formula: How do the inputs impact soil values?* – Joshua Roloson and Stephanie Stultz-Wynkoop, Ohio Department of Taxation

10:20-10:40 Break

10:40-11:10 *Soils and agroecosystems of Thailand.* - Scott Demyan, SENR OSU

11:10-11:30 *Above- and belowground plant-soil interactions on utility rights-of-way across Ohio.* – Anna Pallone, SENR OSU

11:30-12:00 *Rapid pedogenesis of reclaimed mine soils: morphology, SOC stocks, and the role of vegetation and root abundance.* – Thomas Doohan, SENR OSU

12:00-1:00 Lunch (City BBQ), texturing contest

1:00-1:10 awards – Joe Ringler, AOP past-president

1:10-1:40 *Hydrology Lies, But Soils Remember: Wetland Identification, Due Diligence, and the Problem with “Looks Dry to Me.”* – Dan King, TerraGenesis, LLC

1:40-2:00 *Quantifying management gains and the effects of inherent soil properties on soil organic carbon* – Alec Ogg, SENR OSU

2:00-2:15 *AOP needs assessment results* – Scott Demyan, AOP president-elect

2:15-2:30 *50th anniversary of AOP* – Joe Steiger, AOP charter member

2:30 Business meeting

- Old business
 - Treasurer’s report – Jon Gerken
 - Secretary’s report, vote on 2024 Annual meeting minutes – Jessica Martin
 - Certification committee updates
 - Education updates – Anna DeFosset
 - Agency updates (ODA, NRCS)

- New business
 - 50th anniversary knives, shirts (Joe Ringler)
 - Election
 - Other items
 - Passing of the gavel

~3:30 adjourn

Speaker Biographies

Ben Balskus



Benjamin Balskus is a Senior Associate in Vegetation Management at Invenergy. Ben has been working on utility-scale vegetation management strategy and implementation development since 2021. At Invenergy, he provides vegetation management guidance in the Midwest with a focus on projects in Ohio and Indiana.

Josh Roloson



Josh is a Tax Examiner Manager with Ohio’s Division of Tax Equalization. Before stepping into this leadership role, they served as the Department of Taxation’s CAUV Specialist, where their work centered on education, transparency, and making the CAUV formula more accessible to stakeholders across the state. They bring a strong foundation in public accountability from their earlier career as a Senior Auditor with the Arizona Auditor General, where they lived and worked for a decade before returning home to Ohio. This blend of auditing experience, tax administration, and a commitment to clear, practical education shapes their approach to supporting counties, landowners, and professionals statewide.

Stephanie Stultz-Wynkoop



Stephanie serves as the Tax Program Assistant Administrator at the Ohio Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization. She has worked in the Division for 21 years, focusing on various aspects of property tax administration. Her extensive experience includes responsibilities related to property tax equalization and compliance. In 2022, Stephanie began working with the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) program, where she continues to apply her expertise to support accurate and efficient program operations.

Scott Demyan



Scott Demyan is an associate professor at the School of Environment and Natural Resources at the Ohio State University. He has a split teaching and research position. His research focuses on soil mineralogy and how it supports soil ecosystem services such as carbon stabilization, retention, nutrient cycling, and physical properties.

Anna Pallone



Anna Pallone is a Senior Research Technician and future master student at The Ohio State University in Dr. Scott Demyan's Soil Mineralogy Lab. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology from the University of Dayton while working as a lab technician and lab manager in Forest Ecology. She has experience in soil and vegetation surveying of pipeline right of ways, testing soil chemical properties and is interested in soil remediation, ecological conservation, and restoration.

Thomas Doohan



Thomas Doohan is a postdoctoral scholar in the Soil and Environmental Mineralogy Lab in the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Ohio State University. His research investigates the impact of land use and soil properties on SOC dynamics and soil development. He has a special interest in reclaimed minesoils and pedogenesis in highly disturbed soils. Thomas did his graduate work in soil science at OSU, completing his PhD in 2026 and his M.S. in 2020. He graduated with has a B.A. in public

affairs journalism from OSU in 2013.

Daniel King



Mr. King is the Owner, President, and Principal Scientist of TerraGenesis with over 18 years of experience in environmental consulting. He is a Certified Professional Soil Scientist and Professional Wetland Scientist specializing in soil and wetland science, soil evaluations, wetland delineations, vegetation management, and regulatory permitting nationwide.

Alec Ogg



Alec Ogg is a research associate in the Soil and Environmental Mineralogy Laboratory working with Dr. Scott Demyan. He recently completed his M.S. in Environmental and Natural Resources at Ohio State, where he studied the effects of inherent soil properties and agricultural management on soil organic carbon gains. He will be sharing results from that work in today's talk.

Joe Steiger, Soil Scientist, Columbus, OH



Joe Steiger worked on mapping soils for NRCS in Summit, Medina, Crawford, Wyandot, Muskingum and Fairfield Counties from 1963 to 1996. He also worked for Fairfield SWCD as a soil resource specialist for ten years and started the Farmland Protection Program there. From 2006 to 2016 he served as soil consultant in east central Ohio doing soil evaluations for new home or business sites. Married to Carolyn in 1965, they raised four children and now celebrate with eight grandchildren.

Current AOP Executive Council

Past President: Joe Ringler (2025)

President: Duane Wood (2025, becomes Past-Pres. for 2026)

President Elect: Scott Demyan (2025, becomes President for 2026, Past-President 2027)

Secretary: Jessica Martin (2025)

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Rice (2025)

Treasurer: Jon Gerken (2026)

Digital Information Manager: Anna DeFosset (2026)

Member At Large: Jason Sneed (2025)

Member At Large: Steve Miller (2026)

Member At Large: Katy Serr (2027)