Soil Science Society of America
Membership Information
www.soils.org

Soils Sustain Life
For over seven decades, the Soil Science Society of America has provided a professional home for soil scientists from around the world.

**Mission**
To advance soils as fundamental to life.

**Vision**
Assuring a healthy and sustainable planet through our soils.

**SSSA Grand Challenges**
The Soil Science Society of America, in consultation with individual members of the U.S. National Committee for Soil Science and other experts in soil science, has identified the following research priority areas and corresponding critical knowledge gaps to guide interdisciplinary soil science research for the next 20 years and beyond.

- Human & Ecosystem Health
- Waste Treatment & Water Quality
- Food and Energy Security
- Climate Change

**Soil Science Society of America**
Members: 6,842
Founded: 1936

The Soil Science Society of America is the home for professionals dedicated to advancing the discipline and practice of soil science relating to environmental quality, ecosystem sustainability, bioremediation, waste management and recycling, crop production, and wise land use. A common thread across the programs and services of SSSA is the dissemination and transfer of scientific knowledge to advance the profession.

**Publishing Opportunities**

**Digital Library**
www.dl.sciencesocieties.org

The ACSESS Digital Library is a complete collection of all content published by the Soil Science Society of America, Crop Science Society of America, and American Society of Agronomy. A subscription provides full access to all journals, including the complete archives, the full text of 300+ books, annual meeting recordings, robust search features, search “binders,” author profiles, and so many other features. Subscriptions are available to individual and corporate members and libraries.

**Books | Journals | Magazines**
www.soils.org/publications

SSSA places a high priority on publishing scientific journals, books, and monographs. Members benefit from having their work both peer-reviewed and by staying informed on developments in their field. **Currently, there are no page charges for accepted manuscripts of less than eight pages.** Researchers are encouraged to submit articles to our publications. SSSA publishes books independently and in cooperation with other societies, bringing you new titles in a variety of formats for diverse audiences.
Soil Science Society of America Journal

The Soil Science Society of America Journal (SSSAJ) is a highly cited international journal containing research relating to physics; chemistry; biology and biochemistry; fertility and plant nutrition; genesis, morphology, and classification; water management and conservation; forest, range and wildland soils; nutrient management and soil and plant analysis; mineralogy; and wetland soils. Published bi-monthly in electronic format.

Journal of Environmental Quality

Published six times per year, papers in JEQ are grouped by subject matter: heavy metals in the environment; plant and environment interactions; organic compounds in the environment; surface water quality; ground water quality; ecosystem restoration; vadose zone processes and chemical transport; waste management; atmospheric pollutants and trace gases; landscape and watershed processes; wetlands and aquatic processes; biodegradation and bioremediation; and ecological risk assessment. SSSA jointly publishes the Journal of Environmental Quality with ASA and CSSA.

Natural Sciences Education

Written by and for educators, Natural Sciences Education covers all disciplines in the life sciences, natural resources, and agriculture. It is published continuously online by ASA in cooperation with SSSA, CSSA, and other cooperating societies.

Vadose Zone Journal

The pressure of increasing human impacts requires a multidisciplinary approach to sustainable management of the unsaturated zone. Published online by SSSA in cooperation with the Geological Society of America, Vadose Zone Journal addresses the physical, chemical, and biological processes operating in the zone and appeals to a diverse range of scientists and engineers.

CSA News

Members receive a monthly subscription to our news magazine, CSA News, which SSSA publishes together with ASA and CSSA.

Professional Development

Annual Meeting

SSSA's International Annual Meeting regularly draws several thousand attendees from 50 countries for three days of networking, sessions, field trips, exhibits, and events. Hundreds of sessions feature oral/poster papers, specialized lectures, and symposia. Volunteered presentations are generally accepted. The Annual Meeting is held jointly with ASA and CSSA.

Join us for our upcoming Annual Meetings

- Nov. 15–18, 2015 | Minneapolis, MN
- Nov. 6–9, 2016 | Phoenix, AZ

Specialized Conferences

SSSA holds specialized, single-topic conferences that advance the soil science discipline. Several specialized conferences are in development and will be announced as they are confirmed.

Global Soil Security Symposium
May 19-21, 2015, College Station, TX

Membership Working for You

Science Policy

The Science Policy Office in Washington, DC represents SSSA to Congress, federal agencies, and other organizations. Through congressional briefings, statements, and appointments, the office works to give our science a voice on Capitol Hill and in federal agencies. Activities focus on science policy leadership and initiatives, tracking policy issues, directing grassroots advocacy and seeking opportunities for members to provide written and oral science-based information to policymakers. All of these are aimed at increasing the importance and awareness of research funding and raising the visibility of our sciences.

SSSA has formed the Congressional Soils Caucus, with 38 congressional members, to heighten the awareness of and appreciation for the importance and role of soils and soil science among policymakers and the public.
Undergraduate Student Opportunities

The Undergraduate Student program offers a variety of programs and activities on the local and national level. Undergraduate students, with support from faculty advisors and departments, have the opportunity to:

• Build skills to present research
• Gain leadership skills and training
• Associate with professionals in the soil sciences
• Build and maintain a close relationship with the Society
• Meet their peers and begin developing important contacts
• Compete for scholarships
• Attend national and regional meetings
• Present in contests

Graduate Student Opportunities

The Graduate Student program focuses on networking, presenting, and career development, including:

• Topic-specific competitions and sessions
• Socials and networking at the Annual Meetings
• Scholarships and fellowships

Divisions of Interest

SSSA has 14 specialized divisions of interest organized within four groups. The major activities of the divisions are focused on presenting papers and symposia at the Annual Meeting. They may host listservs, web pages, and newsletters. As a benefit of membership, you may join as many SSSA divisions as you are interested in.

Groups and Divisions

Fundamental Soil Science Group
• Pedology
• Soil Biology & Biochemistry
• Soil Chemistry
• Soil Mineralogy
• Soil Physics & Hydrology

Agricultural Soil & Food Systems Group
• Nutrient Management & Soil & Plant Analysis
• Soil & Water Management & Conservation
• Soil Fertility & Plant Nutrition

Soil & Ecosystem Processes Group
• Forest, Range & Wildland Soils
• Soils & Environmental Quality
• Wetland Soils
• Urban & Anthropogenic Soils

Education & Practicing Professionals Group

• Consulting Soil Scientists
• Soil Education & Outreach

Additional membership benefits include:

• Service to the Society – through committee, board, reviewer activities
• Awards and fellow recognition
• Career resources
• Member directories
• Ongoing member communications

Outreach

SSSA is proactively working to enhance the recognition of soil science at several levels, including soil science licensing and certification programs at the state level, K-12 outreach activities, collaborations with other organizations, and extensive media outreach. Membership in SSSA supports all of these activities.

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