

Purpose

To increase audiences knowledge about hydric soils and to provide skills to identify wetland soils using hydric soil indicators.

Objectives

By attending this training event:

- Participants understand hydric soil characteristics and the dynamics pertaining to wetland soils.
- Participants identify hydric soil indicators predominant in Gulf Coast wetland soils.
- Participants demonstrate basic proficiency in the field identifying hydric soil indicators in a variety of soil types.

Target Audiences

Professionals primarily involved with wetland determinations and/or delineations that wanted to know more about soils but wanted to spend a significant amount of time looking at soils and hydric soil indicators in the field; private consultants, regulatory and other federal, state, and local government agencies.

Why You Should Attend

This 2-day, lecture and field based course features expert instruction on hydric soil characteristics and the use of hydric soil indicators developed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Participants gain an understanding of the evolution of wetland soils. They gain knowledge of hydric soil indicators for the region and practice their use in the field. Participants benefit from instruction, resources and materials provided.

Current Topics in Wetland Soils and Application of Hydric Soil Indicators Workshop

Class space is limited.

Early registration is recommended.

Bring with you sharpshooter shovels, trowels, hand lens, soil color books, soil augers, tape measures, rulers and other tools of the trade if you have them. This class meets *RAIN or SHINE*, so remember to dress appropriately for the field. Hats, sunscreen and insect repellent is recommended.

Presented By:
Professional Soil Classifiers Association
of Alabama
Baldwin County Soil and Water Conservation
District
Alabama Department of
Conservation and Natural Resources, State
Lands, Coastal Section
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
Weeks Bay National Estuarine
Research Reserve Coastal
Training Program



Current Topics in Wetland Soils and Application of Hydric Soil Indicators Workshop



March 19-20, 2020

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Weeks Bay Tonsmeire

Resource Center

11525 US Highway 98

Fairhope, Alabama

Between Fairhope and Foley, under the
bridge over Fish River

Current Topics in Wetland Soils and Application of Hydric Soil Indicators Workshop

Agenda Outline March 19, 2020

8:00 Sign-in
8:15 Welcome/Introductions
8:30 Hydric soil science and properties
11:00 Hydric soil features/indicators
12:30 Lunch Provided
1:30 Field site visits
4:30 Dismiss

March 20, 2020

8:00 Convene at Week Bay NERR
8:15 Lecture review and questions;
Procedures for documenting
soils onsite; instrumentation
9:30 Field site visits
12:00 Lunch Provided
1:00 Field site visits
4:30 Dismiss

Primary Instructors

Dr. Jacob Berkowitz is a research soil scientist at the US Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center, where he is the team leader for wetlands research focusing on wetland biogeochemistry, ecological assessment and restoration, and wetland delineation. Dr. Berkowitz also holds adjunct faculty positions at Louisiana State University and The University of South Florida where he conducts collaborative teaching and research. Dr. Berkowitz has executed wetland investigations in over 35 states and authored more than 50 peer-reviewed journal publications, technical reports, and book chapters in wide variety of landscapes ranging from Alabama to Alaska. Dr. Berkowitz is co-author of the "Field Indicators for Hydric Soils" version 8.2.

Travis Richardson is President and Owner of T. Richardson Soils and Environmental. A Certified Professional Soil Scientist and a Florida Certified Soil Scientist, Richardson is an expert soil and wetland scientist with more than 19 years of experience developing an understanding of the relationship among soil characteristics, hydrology, and vegetation. He has extensive experience implementing Ch 62-340 Florida Administrative Code to delineate the landward extent of wetlands and surface waters, including areas with substantial mechanical and/or hydrologic alterations. Richardson has experience establishing Minimum Flows and Levels, permitting environmental resource impacts, developing and implementing wetland mitigation plans, evaluating wetland functional value (UMAM/WRAP), and completed soil and vegetation monitoring.

Gena Todia is a wildlife biologist, botanist, and wetlands specialist with over 30 years of experience in natural resources management and wetland regulatory issues. She is a graduate of Auburn University and worked as a park ranger, wildlife biologist, and park manager for the Mobile District Corps of Engineers for 12 ½ years. Gena formed Wetland Resources Environmental Consulting in 1993 and offers services throughout the southeast, including wetland identification and delineation, wetland permitting and mitigation, ecological restoration, botanical surveys, wetland functional assessment, threatened and endangered species surveys and permitting, invasive exotic plant species control, environmental training courses and workshops, and expert reports and testimony. Her office and home are located in Fairhope.

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March 19-20, 2020
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Lunch is provided each day. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Please register online and Remit payment by credit card. To make payment by check or purchase order, please contact Mike Shelton by phone, 251-490-8968

Cost: \$ 175.00

Register online at

<https://weeksbayhydricsoils2020.eventbrite.com>

Registration deadline is March 14, 2020. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** No refunds after March 14, 2020 registration deadline. Organizers reserve the right to cancel this event at their discretion.

For more information about this workshop or other Coastal Training Program events, please contact Mike Shelton to receive notifications.

