



Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

January 9, 2023

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TO: Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Districts
FROM: MASWCD Board of Directors
SUBJECT: 2023 Educational Seminar

The 2023 Educational Seminar will be held on March 8 and 9, 2023, in Jefferson City. It is imperative that supervisors make themselves available to discuss issues with their legislators not only at the seminar, but any chance the opportunity arises.

The objective of the seminar is to get to know the members of the Missouri General Assembly and inform them of the important and effective job soil districts are doing in using the sales tax funds through the soil and water conservation programs. The legislators do not always understand the priorities required by soil and water conservation as well as the intended use by voters of the sales tax. With so many new legislators this year, it is essential that we take the time to educate them about our program.

There will be training again this year. The training will be held on Wednesday afternoon at the Capitol Plaza Hotel. Once the training is determined an email will be sent to all SWCDs.

The Seminar will begin with a reception at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, 415 W. McCarty, in Jefferson City. You will need to personally invite your Legislators to the reception. Following the reception there will be presentations on House and Senate bills concerning soil and water conservation and the DNR budget currently in the legislature. The morning of March 9th will be visits with Legislators.

Each District should personally invite their Legislators to the reception and if desired schedule an appointment on March 9th to follow-up the evening discussion or meet with those who cannot make it to the reception.

Information containing addresses and phone numbers of the legislators and current bills of concern or interest will be available from the MASWCD web page (in the near future) at www.moswcd.com and the state of Missouri web site at www.house.mo.gov. The registration fee for the seminar will be \$25 per person attending. This will help cover the cost for the meeting

rooms and the reception.

Please return the registration form indicating if you plan to attend the training workshop and the registration fee by February 24th to MASWCD, P.O. Box 105981 Jefferson City, MO 65110.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City for the night of March 8th for this meeting. The room rate is \$96 plus tax. Each district is responsible for making their own hotel reservations. For reservations call 800-338-8088 or 573-635-1234 or you can also click on the following link, <https://reservations.travelclick.com/13414?groupID=3769896>. Rooms need to be reserved as soon as possible. Hotel rooms are very tight in Jefferson City during January, February and March due to the Legislative Session. The block of rooms will be held until February 12, 2023.

The MASWCD Board of Directors will hold their board meeting on March 8th from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. If you have questions concerning the 2023 Educational Seminar, please contact Jim Boschert at 573-298-1314, or by e-mail at maswcd.net@gmail.com.

Because there is training on Wednesday afternoon some travel expenses for board members and employees that attend the training can be paid with state funds. If an individual attends the training on March 8th the following expenses can be claimed from state funds -- mileage to Jeff City on March 8th, mileage from Jefferson City on March 8th or 9th, and meal expenses on March 8th based on 12-hour travel status policies and state per diem. These are the only expenses that will be allowed from state funds, any overnight hotel expenses must come from personal expense or local funds.

In closing, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of this seminar to all of Missouri's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. We must continue to remind the public and our elected officials about the importance of soil and water conservation and the purpose of the sales tax funds.

Sincerely,



Ron Willis
MASWCD President

**2023 EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
REGISTRATION
March 8 & 9, 2023**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DISTRICT _____ POSITION _____

Attending Training Workshop

Please return this form along with \$25 Registration per person to the MASWCD Office:

MASWCD
P.O. Box 105981
Jefferson City, MO 65110

