

My Opening Welcome.

Pennsylvania welcomes each of you to the 2010 Northeast Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference.

According to the By-Laws- the purpose of the Conference is to bring together representatives of the National Cooperative Soil Survey in the northeast states for discussion of technical and scientific questions. Through the actions of committees and conference discussions, experience is summarized and clarified for the benefit of all; new areas are explored; procedures are synthesized; and ideas are exchanged and disseminated. The Conference also functions as a clearinghouse for recommendations and proposals received from individual members and state conferences for transmittal to the National Cooperative Soil Survey Conference.

So let's take this opportunity to participate fully in the Conference to improve the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

We are in a new Era of the Soil Survey, with the establishment of MLRA soil survey areas and offices, and new demands being made on soil survey information to help society make wise decisions for environmental, social and economic purposes.

The game has changed. We have new tools to help us improve and enhance our soil survey information some of these include LiDAR and other high resolution elevation data, multiple sources of digital photography and remotely sensed imagery, backhoes, geophysical investigation tools, data loggers, powerful GIS analysis tools, and the potential to use all the corporate knowledge and field work to enhance what we know and deliver as soils information.

Let's exploit these new opportunities—Learn from others, delve into the new, and improve our society.

Now a few Logistics:

Meal Cards- I have extra- see me. All meals included in registration fees. Cannot share (only one use per meal) If staying at College, room card is also meal card. Note that room cards need to be returned.

Parking- You can park in Visitor spaces, but I have Parking permits

College- If you have time (i.e) before dinner tonight- Might want to check the Master's Mineral Gallery in the lobby of the Ebenshade Hall - Science Math Engineering building.

Wireless – if you requested see me. It is available in classrooms and Myer First Floor Lobby

Can use facilities, Thompson Gym, pool basketball, racquetball, weight room. Outdoor Fields, etc.

No Smoking in Buildings, alcohol prohibited in public areas including meeting spaces, residence hall LOUNGES, and outdoors.

Remember that on the Wednesday Technical Tour- You need to bring \$15 cash or check if you want to participate in the Wine Tasting at Waltz Vineyards.