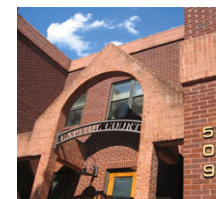
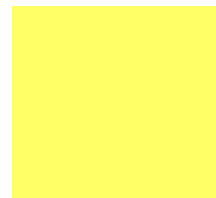
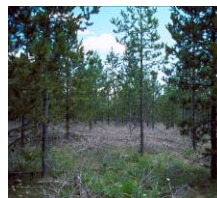




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**2008 NACD BOARD MEETING**
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**& LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE**
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*July 18-23*
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■
*Washington, D.C.*



509 Capitol Ct, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002  
 Phone: (202) 547-6223 • Fax: (202) 547-6450  
[www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)





# Save the date!



63rd NACD Annual Meeting  
February 1-4, 2009  
New Orleans, LA

Begin making plans now to support NACD's Legislative efforts through the Live NACD Auction, scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2009 at the NACD Annual Meeting. Showcase your state pride with an item unique to your area of the country, or lend your support by serving as a repeat bidder! Proceeds from the auction are unrestricted funds that can be used for lobbying activities. Contact [Tamara-Daniel@nacdnet.org](mailto:Tamara-Daniel@nacdnet.org) or (512) 869-4986 with questions or donations.

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Conservation Leaders:

I would like to personally welcome you to your Legislative Conference and thank the members of the Legislative Committee for outstanding efforts in a very unusual Farm Bill. Please take this opportunity while visiting your congressional delegation to thank them for their efforts and support of this very important legislation.



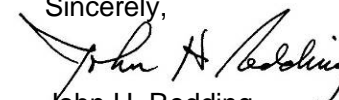
While here, I hope that you will benefit from the many excellent speakers including Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer, Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dale Hall, and key Congressional staff and many more who will share with us valuable information for conservation of our natural resources. These and others will give updates on topics such as climate change, Farm Bill Implementation, appropriations and renewable energy.

You will have a once in a life time opportunity to be a part of the Smithsonian "Dig it: Secrets of Soil" Exhibit grand opening and enjoy a private tour of the exhibit. Your NACD has worked extremely hard to position us as a partner with one of the most prestigious historical organizations so please take advantage and participate.

Finally, I would invite you to the Congressional Reception in the Historic Mansfield Room of the U.S. Capitol Building to help express our appreciation to Congress and staff. Everyone has worked extremely hard this year to produce a Farm Bill and we should express our thanks to Congress, Congressional Staff, NACD Legislative Committee and especially your own NACD Staff that has worked extremely hard under difficult circumstances to produce a conservation friendly Farm Bill.

Thank you for your love of the land and being willing to share it with others. Remember, working together and speaking with one voice, NACD is America's Voice for Conservation.

Sincerely,



John H. Redding  
NACD President

# BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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## Saturday, July 19, 2008

- 1:00 – 5:00 PM REGISTRATION  
Ballroom Foyer
- 1:00 – 4:00 PM NACD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
- 4:15 – 6:30 PM NACD REGION MEETINGS

## Sunday July 20, 2008

- 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM REGISTRATION  
Ballroom Foyer
- 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM NACD FOUNDATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Communications           | <i>Monticello</i>    |
| DO/MS                    | <i>Madison ½</i>     |
| Legislative              | <i>Sagamore Hill</i> |
| Natural Resources Policy | <i>Montpelier</i>    |
| Stewardship & Education  | <i>Mount Vernon</i>  |
- 1:00 – 5:30 PM NACD BOARD MEETING

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

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## Sunday, July 20, 2008

- 6:00 – 7:00 PM CONFERENCE KICKOFF RECEPTION  
Atrium Ballroom

## Monday, July 21, 2008

- 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM REGISTRATION  
Ballroom Foyer
- 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  
Ballroom Foyer

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

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## *Debbie Reed*

President, DRD Associates

Debbie Reed is the President and Director of DRD Associates, providing strategic and policy support for national environmental, energy and agricultural groups on agricultural mitigation strategies for state and federal global climate change policies.

Reed previously worked for President Bill Clinton at the White House Council on Environmental Quality as the Director of Legislative Affairs and Agricultural Policy for the Climate Change Task Force. Prior to that, she was a Senior Legislative Assistant for U.S. Senator Robert Kerrey (D-NE), where she handled environmental, natural resource/agriculture, and energy issues.

Reed has graduate and undergraduate degrees in nutrition, communications, dietetics and chemistry.

## *Bob Young*

Chief Economist, American Farm Bureau Federation

Bob Young joined American Farm Bureau Federation in 2003 as the Chief Economist, coordinating the activities of the Economic Analysis Team.

Prior to coming to Farm Bureau, Young was Co-Director of the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) from 1991 through 2003. He also served as an associate professor in Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri. He was active in the development of the 1990 Farm Bill as well as various budget and disaster assistance bills.

Young has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, and a B.S. and M.S. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Missouri.

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

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## ***Barbara Stauffer***

Exhibition Developer, Dig It! The Secrets of Soil

Barbara Stauffer has been developing exhibitions at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History since 1990. Ms. Stauffer is particularly interested in exhibitions that illuminate past and present global biological, environmental and cultural connections, change perceptions of the natural world, and explore the intersection of art and science.

Stauffer received her B.A. in History from the University of Virginia and a M.A. in Cultural Geography from The George Washington University.

## ***Patrick Megonigal***

Senior Scientist, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

Pat Megonigal is the Lead Curator of *Dig It! The Secrets of Soil* and Chair of the Wetland Soils Division of the Soil Science Society of America. His major research interests are in soil carbon cycling, microbial ecology, global change, and wetland ecosystems. Megonigal was Assistant Professor of Biology at George Mason University before joining the Center in 2001.

Megonigal holds a PhD in Biogeochemistry from Duke University.

## ***Bob Stephenson***

Director, Farm Service Agency Conservation and Environmental Programs

Bob Stephenson is the Director of the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Conservation and Environmental Programs Division (CEPD). His responsibilities include the Conservation Reserve Program, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Emergency Conservation Program.

Stephenson previously served as CEPD's Deputy Director; Deputy Director of the Southwest Area; Staff Assistant in the Midwest Area; hearing officer with the Agency's Appeals Staff; and the County Executive Director of the Decatur County FSA office in Indiana.

After graduation from the Indiana University School of Business, he returned to his family's grain farm until joining the Department of Agriculture in 1984.

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

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**Monday, July 21, 2008 (continued)**

*All sessions with the exception of lunch will be held in **Ballroom 1-3**.*

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|----------|---|
| 8:30 AM  | WELCOME<br><b>John Redding, NACD President</b>  |
| 8:40 AM  | CONFERENCE OVERVIEW<br><b>Keira Franz, NACD Director of Legislative Affairs</b>   |
| 9:00 AM  | WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTION<br><b>Gary Mast, USDA Deputy Undersecretary</b>  |
| 9:15 AM  | USDA PERSPECTIVE<br><b>Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer</b><br><i>Meet the 29<sup>th</sup> Secretary of Agriculture, sworn into office earlier this year. Secretary Schafer will oversee the implementation of all elements of the farm bill, and direct the Department for the remainder of the Bush Administration.</i> |
| 9:30 AM  | PARTNERING FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE<br><b>Dale Hall, FWS Director</b><br><i>NACD has a longstanding partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Many of you are familiar with the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, but there are several areas where Districts and U.S. FWS can work together.</i>           |
| 10:00 AM | BREAK   |
| 10:15 AM | APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE<br><i>Hear from key Congressional staff that works on annual appropriations bills in NACD priority areas. Learn the ins and outs of the appropriation process, and the best time to make contacts.</i>  |

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

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Monday, July 21, 2008 (continued)

- 11:00 AM FOLLOW THE MONEY – WHAT HAPPENS AFTER CONGRESS PASSES THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS?  
**Dana York, NRCS Associate Chief**  
**Sally Collins, FS Associate Chief**  
**Jane Hardisty, NRCS State Conservationist, Indiana**  
*NACD key federal partners talk about the process after the appropriations bills are signed. How is funding allocated to state and local offices? Why is there such a delay and how are the programs that you help to implement or utilize affected? Understanding this funding process will help you, your state, and your district plan.*
- Noon – 1:30 PM LUNCHEON  
Atrium Ballroom  
**Barbara Stauffer, Smithsonian Office of Exhibits**  
**Dr. Pat Megonigal, Lead Curator of DIG IT! The Secrets of Soil**  
*NACD has partnered with the Smithsonian Institute's Soil Exhibit on Stewardship Education materials. The Exhibit opens this week and Smithsonian representatives will be on hand to tell you about the exhibit and prepare you for your tours this week.*
- 2:00 PM WHAD'YA KNOW?  
**Keira Franz, NACD Director of Legislative Affairs**  
*Our version of National Public Radio's quiz show—test your knowledge of NACD's policy priorities and the legislative process.*

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

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## *Sally Collins*

Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service

Sally Collins was named Associate Chief for the USDA, Forest Service in August 2001.

With over more than 20 years with the Forest Service in both Washington DC and Oregon, she has held positions including Deputy Forest Supervisor and Forest Supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest and Planner on the Siuslaw National Forest. She worked for with the Bureau of Land Management in Colorado for four years, serving as a Wilderness Specialist, Environmental Coordinator, and Energy Minerals Coordinator.

Collins received her Bachelor's degree in Outdoor Recreation from the University of Colorado and her Master's degree in Public Administration, with a Natural Resources Emphasis, from the University of Wyoming.

## *Jane Hardisty*

Indiana State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Jane Hardisty has served as State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Indiana since March 2000.

Hardisty leads a workforce of 250, delivering agronomic, engineering, soils and other technical services to farmers who are voluntarily applying conservation measures to farmlands all over the state. She is also responsible for incentive programs that offer about \$30 million a year in financial assistance to agriculture producers for applying conservation measures.

Hardisty was born and raised on a livestock and grain farm in South Central Indiana. She graduated from Ball State University with a degree in Natural Resources, Geography and Biology.

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

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## *Dale Hall*

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Dale Hall has served as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since October 2005.

A career Fish and Wildlife Service employee, Hall previously served as Regional Director for the Service's Southwest Region in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In that capacity, he was responsible for directing the Service's fish, wildlife, and habitat conservation, protection, and enhancement activities in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma. He is the author of numerous published papers on wetlands and fisheries ecology, and has also taught courses on wetlands identification and delineation.

Hall received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and chemistry from Cumberland College and a Master's degree in fisheries science from Louisiana State University.

## *Dana York*

Associate Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Dana York was selected as the first female Associate Chief for NRCS in August 2004. In the associate chief position, she manages the agency's overall programs and operations, including a \$3.2 billion annual budget.

York began her career with the former Soil Conservation Service (SCS) as a student trainee. She has held various positions with the agency in Tennessee and Ohio, including soil conservationist, district conservationist and deputy state conservationist.

York is a native of Tennessee and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Science from Tennessee Technological University and a Master's degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Middle Tennessee State University.

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

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Monday, July 21, 2008 (continued)

2:10 PM

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF CRP?

**Bob Stephenson, FSA Conservation & Environmental Protection Division Director**

*Hear about changes in the Conservation Reserve Program resulting from the 2008 Farm Bill. What enrollments continue and what is the future of the program? What additional options are available to landowners through other FSA programs?*

2:30 PM

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISTRICTS IN THE CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE

**Debbie Reed, DRD Associates**

*Global Climate Change is at the forefront of all environmental discussions, and hot topic on the 2008 Presidential campaign trail. Where do districts fit in and what does all this mean for your local community?*

3:15 PM

PRODUCING ENERGY

**Bob Young, Chief Economist, American Farm Bureau Federation**

*How does conservation fit into the growing production of biofuels? Where can Districts target outreach efforts and which areas of the country will feel the greatest long-term impact of the growing biofuels market?*

3:30 – 4:00 PM

ARE YOU READY FOR THE HILL?

**NACD Legislative Staff**

5:00 – 6:00 PM

GUIDED TOUR OF THE SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM SOILS EXHIBIT (*tickets required*)

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

- 8:00 – 9:00 AM DID YOU FORGET ANYTHING?  
Hotel Lobby  
*Pick up extra copies of handouts if necessary. Staff on hand to answer last minute questions.*
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM CONGRESSIONAL VISITS  
*Please take this opportunity to meet with your local Representatives and Senators on the work of your district, your state and NACD.*
- 9:00 – 10:00 AM GUIDED TOUR OF THE SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM SOILS EXHIBIT (*tickets required*)
- 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM NACD OPEN HOUSE  
509 Capitol Court, NE  
*Plan to stop by to tour the office and rest during your day of hill visits. Our office will be open for visitors until staff needs to head to the Hill to set up for our evening reception.*
- 5:00 – 7:00 PM CONGRESSIONAL RECEPTION  
Historic Mansfield Room (S-207), 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Capitol Building  
*Finish up your day of visits to Capitol Hill with light refreshments at NACD's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Congressional Reception.*



## NACD Congressional Reception

Access to the U.S. Capitol and the reception requires your conference name badge and photo ID. Please use the **North Entrance** of the Capitol to access the Senate Wing.

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## *Gary Mast*

Deputy Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment

Gary Mast was named USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment in February 2007. As Deputy Under Secretary, Mast oversees NRCS and works closely with NRCS Chief Arlen Lancaster and Under Secretary Mark Rey.

Prior to joining USDA, Mast served as President of the National Association of Conservation Districts. He has been a Soil and Water Conservation District supervisor from 1981 to 2005 and was President of the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Districts from 1995 through 1997. He is a sixth-generation farmer on his family's Ohio dairy farm.

Mast received a BA in Biology from Malone College in Ohio.

## *Ed Schafer*

Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Ed Schafer was sworn in as the 29th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in January 2008 and brings with him a record as an innovative two-term governor of North Dakota along with extensive private sector experience.

Schafer has had a lifelong interest in conservation. He helped arrange the U.S. Forest Service's May 2007 purchase of the Elkhorn ranch in North Dakota, site of President Teddy Roosevelt's 5,200-acre cattle ranch. Before entering public life, Schafer was an executive with the Gold Seal Company in Bismarck, a successful marketer of nationally-known consumer products.

Born and raised in Bismarck, North Dakota, Schafer graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1969 with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and earned an MBA from the University of Denver in 1970.