



# USDA's NIFA-CEAP Watershed Synthesis: Lessons Learned



Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Two-hour audio Web broadcast

Eastern: 1:00p.m.–3:00p.m.

Central: 12:00p.m.–2:00p.m.

Mountain: 11:00a.m.–1:00p.m.

Pacific: 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

## A Watershed Academy Webcast:

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) in partnership with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) established university-led watershed-scale research and extension projects in support of the USDA Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). CEAP addresses USDA's need to quantify the effects and benefits of agricultural conservation practices. This webcast will highlight a study led by North Carolina State University to analyze and synthesize key lessons learned from 13 of these watershed-scale projects on cropland and pastureland. The goal of CEAP Watersheds is to better understand how the suite, timing, and spatial distribution of conservation practices influence their effect on local water quality outcomes. The NIFA study also evaluated social and economic factors that influence implementation and maintenance of practices, as well as education critical to transferring knowledge to farmers, ranchers, community leaders, and other stakeholders to improve practice effectiveness. This webcast will also highlight linkages between USDA's CEAP project and US EPA's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Program. Most of the 13 watersheds studied in the analysis also have 319 projects.

### Instructors:

**Roberta Parry**, Senior Agriculture Advisor, US EPA's Office of Water, has been with US EPA working to improve water quality associated with agriculture for more than 20 years. She has been involved with USDA'S CEAP almost since the beginning of the project, including a two-year detail to NRCS to coordinate CEAP in its earlier years. She represents EPA's Office of Water on the CEAP Steering Committee.

**Lisa Duriancik**, Coordinator, Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Resource Assessment Division, has served as Coordinator of CEAP, a major USDA-led interagency project to quantify the effects of conservation practices, since 2007. Lisa's responsibilities include coordinating across the entire CEAP effort, coordinating with partners, and managing the CEAP Watershed Assessment Studies collaboratively with USDA's ARS and NIFA. Prior to joining NRCS, Lisa helped establish the NIFA CEAP Watershed Assessment Studies in the beginning of the Project (2003/4) while working for the USDA-CSREES (now called NIFA).

**Deanna Osmond**, Professor and Department Extension Leader, Soil Science Department, NC State University, has worked at the interface of nutrient management and water quality for more than 20 years. Her diverse research interests have ranged from riparian buffer effectiveness to a comparison of cropping systems (conventional versus organic) relative to nutrient and sediment losses. More recently, she has been leading an interinstitutional, interdisciplinary team that synthesized the findings, and developed lessons learned, from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture Conservation Effects Assessment Projects for cropland and pastures.

### The Watershed Academy

The Watershed Academy is a focal point in US EPA's Office of Water for providing training and information on implementing watershed approaches. The Academy sponsors live classroom training and online distance learning modules through the Watershed Academy Web at [www.epa.gov/watertrain](http://www.epa.gov/watertrain). For more information, visit [www.epa.gov/watershedacademy](http://www.epa.gov/watershedacademy).

### Registration

You must register in advance to attend this webcast. Register at the Watershed Academy Webcast website at [www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts](http://www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts). Note: The Watershed Academy is using a NEW webcast vendor, and your computer must have the capability of playing sound in order to attend this webcast. To view archived webcasts, go to [www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/webcasts/archives.html](http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/webcasts/archives.html).

**Questions?** Please contact Amber Siegel at [amber.siegel@tetrattech.com](mailto:amber.siegel@tetrattech.com).

*The materials in this webcast have been reviewed by US EPA staff for technical accuracy. However, the views of the speakers and the speakers organizations are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of US EPA. Mention of commercial enterprises, products, or publications does not mean that US EPA endorses them.*