

# MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY



**SOIL  
AND WATER  
CONSERVATION  
SOCIETY**

**2000 Membership GUIDE**

## FOREWORD

This 2000 Directory has been prepared for use by the Chapter Officers, Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, Chapter Area Officers and others to aid in an orderly year of progress for the Mississippi Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

In order to make progress in promoting good land and water use, the Mississippi Chapter must strive to:

- ***Maintain and increase membership.***
- ***Develop and execute meaningful progress in each Area.***
- ***Develop and execute meaningful committee activities.***
- ***Increase awareness of programs through an effective newsletter.***
- ***Participate fully in area, chapter and national meetings.***
- ***Cooperate and work closely with SWCS Regional Committees.***

The efforts of each member are critical to accomplishing these missions. This is your Society. Your support will make it productive and fruitful.

I look forward to working with each one of you. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.



Laura Beiser, President

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## MISSISSIPPI

### 2000 SWCS Chapter Officers and Executive Committee

#### Chapter Officers

Laura Beiser, President	601-961-5373
Scott Edwards, President-Elect	662-675-2588
Liz Cox, Vice President	228-831-0881
Denise Branch, Secretary/Treasurer	601-965-5233
Ronnie Thomas, Past President	601-965-5144

#### Area Presidents

Tombigbee	Dan Bagley	662-680-9991
Big Black//Pearl	Coen Perrott	601-961-5374
Yazoo	Scott Edwards	662-675-2588
Pascagoula	Allen Hughes	601-795-4409

#### Committee Chairs

Membership	Scott Edwards	662-675-2588
Program (Tours)	Liz Cox	228-831-0881
Publicity and Newsletter	Stacey Mills	601-961-5316
Finance and Audit	Chuck Jepsen	601-965-5233
Constitution and By-laws	Michael Cox	662-325-2767
Natural Resource Issues	Seth Dabney	662-232-2975
Awards	Deborah Laird	601-965-4030
College Relations & Scholarships	Tony Thompson	662-323-5273
Student Chapter Development	Clifton Peters	601-877-3849
Conservation Education	Lynn Porter	601-965-5682
Urban Conservation	Ernie Dorrill	601-965-4597
Strategic Planing	Paul Dillard	662-844-2341
Nominations	Jeannine May	601-965-4337

#### **National SWCS Contact:**

Pat Mulligan 1-888-526-3227, ext. 17

## PHILOSOPHY

*The Soil and Water Conservation Society is dedicated to the promotion and advancement of renewable natural resources conservation to the end that water, soil, grass, forests, and wildlife, in abundance, may be used and enjoyed, renewable resources are indispensable to the support and growth of strong, prosperous, free nations; they are interrelated and interdependent-dependent on the development, coordination, and proficient application of the several acts, sciences, and professions dealing with the promotion of good resource management. Toward the early attainment of this goal the Soil and Water Conservation Society pledges the direction of its energies and facilities.*

## SWCS Mississippi Chapter Presidents

<i>1986 – 1987</i>	<i>Chuck Jepsen</i>
<i>1987 – 1988</i>	<i>Don Meyer</i>
<i>1988 – 1989</i>	<i>Ramon Callahan</i>
<i>1989 – 1990</i>	<i>Eddie Funderbery (3 months)</i> <i>Tony Thompson (9 months)</i>
<i>1990 – 1991</i>	<i>Dan Bagley</i>
<i>1991 – 1992</i>	<i>Jac Varco</i>
<i>1992 – 1993</i>	<i>Ronnie Thomas</i>
<i>1993 – 1994</i>	<i>Joe Johnson</i>
<i>1994 – 1995</i>	<i>Jeannine May</i>
<i>1995 – 1996</i>	<i>Seth Dabney</i>
<i>1996 – 1997</i>	<i>Pattie Rogers</i>
<i>1997 – 1998</i>	<i>Jeff Wilson</i>
<i>1998 – 1999</i>	<i>Ronnie Thomas</i>
<i>1999 – 2000</i>	<i>Laura Beiser</i>

## SWCS OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Society shall be the development and advancement of the science and art of good land and water use and related renewable natural resources, including without limitation trees, grass, fish, wildlife, and all forms of beneficial plant and animal life and for these purposes to employ education of the people and other appropriate means to the end that mankind may have the use and enjoyment of these resources forever. The specific objectives of this Society are to:

1. Support the several arts, sciences, and professions that have to do with the conservation of our renewable natural resources in such a manner as to encourage sound formulation and development of the best possible system of land and water management.
2. Sponsor and carry out programs to help bring about a better understanding of the need for conserving our renewable natural resources to the end that conservation becomes an intimate part of the thinking, doing and living of urban and rural people alike.
3. Encourage research and demonstration that will contribute toward a better understanding of the means by which more effective conservation methods can be developed and put into practice.
4. Encourage high ethical standards on the part of all those who are professionally engaged in the furtherance of improved use of land and water.
5. Work with other conservation agencies and organizations in support of their conservation efforts.
6. Strive for a better appreciation and understanding of the importance of conservation of renewable natural resources on a world-wide basis.
7. Recognize noteworthy achievements by individuals, agencies, and organizations that have assisted in planning, developing, and carrying out resource conservation programs.
8. Publish and encourage publication of information that will aid in the development and adoption of improved concepts and practices in conservation.
9. Encourage and assist with the development of improved educational programs on conservation in elementary and secondary schools, in colleges and universities, and in adult education fields.
10. Augment the concepts of conservation so they include not only better use of soil, water, grass, forest, and wildlife resources in the economy of the world but aesthetic and human values as well.

## **REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

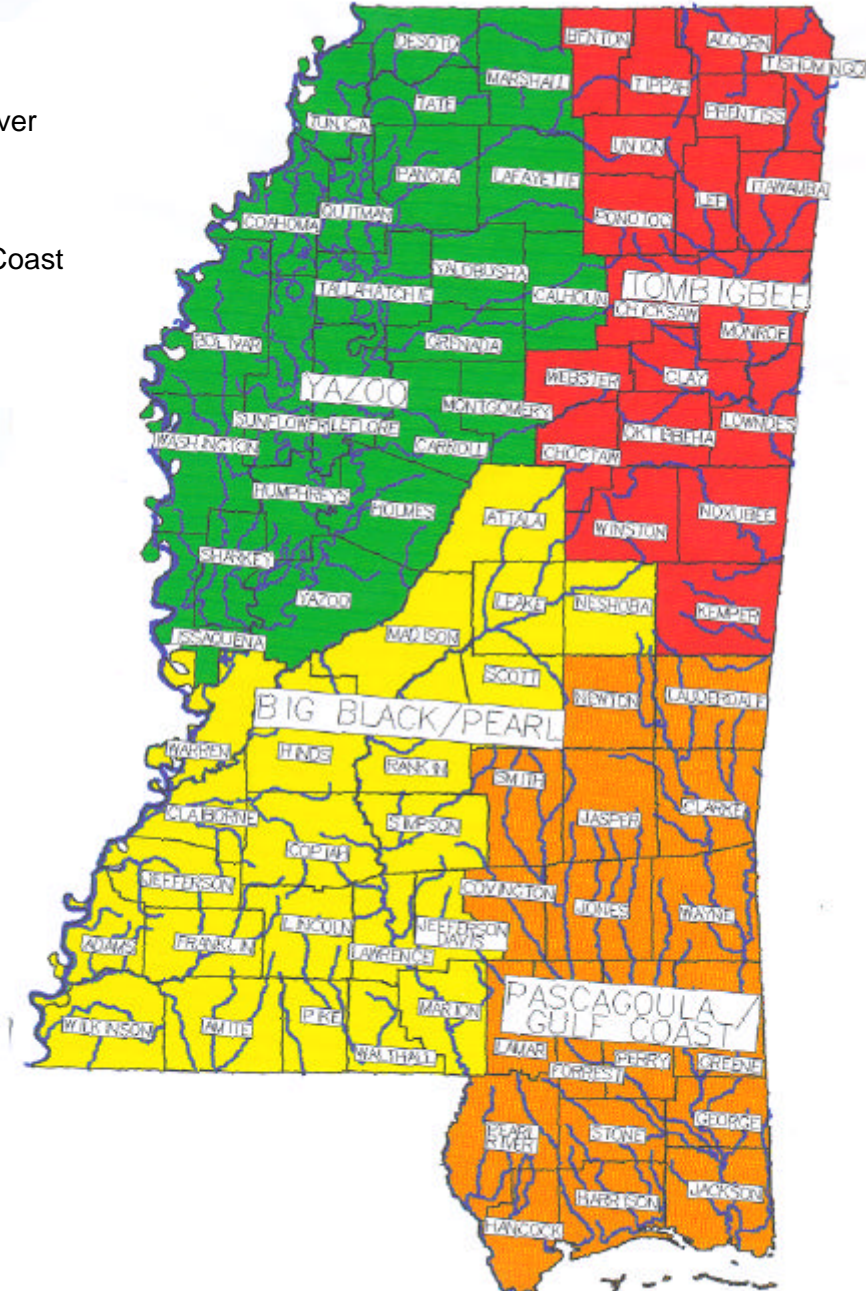
1. Through membership in the Society, you have the opportunity to combine your expertise with others to "advance the science and art of good land and water use worldwide."
2. Through membership in the Society, you may offer your leadership to local chapters and the parent organization to address local resource problems. This is a day and age when individuals' abilities are best used in an organized manner.
3. Today's resource problems require an interdisciplinary approach. The Society provides a common meeting ground where experiences are shared to the benefit of all. Members include agronomists, engineers, foresters, range specialists, soil scientists, hydrologists, biologists, administrators, geographers, geologists, economists, educators, planners, legislators, and many others. Farmers, ranchers, businessmen and lay leaders in conservation also find membership available.
4. The Journal of Soil and Water Conservation is a benefit of membership in the Society. An interdisciplinary bimonthly magazine, the JOURNAL is a forum for the discussion of land use and related issues. It regularly features authoritative viewpoints, research and general interest notes, news of current events on land resources management, and Society news.
5. Membership in the Society is valuable for the contacts the individual makes. These contacts help members keep up-to-date on the latest technical and sociological developments. Agencies of federal, state, and local governments find that membership is valuable for their employees, keeping them alert and in contact with the continuous advances in other areas of conservation work.
6. The Society represents its members by maintaining liaison with many important organizations: Alliance for Environmental Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Grassland Council, American Planning Association, American Society of Agronomy, Conservation Education Association, Keep America Beautiful, Inc., National Association of Conservation Districts, National Recreation and Park Association, National Watershed Congress, Natural Resource Council of America, Society of American Foresters, Society of Range Management, Soil Science Society of America, and others. Officials and representatives of the Society will consider your suggestions in relation to these groups.
7. The Society's annual meeting affords members an opportunity to stay abreast of recent developments in land and water conservation and to exchange ideas with colleagues. Because of the Society's multidisciplinary nature, the annual meeting results in an exchange of views across a spectrum of resource issues.
8. The Society, through its resource conservation divisions, studies public policy, sponsors special symposia, and prepares guidelines for action by policy-making bodies. The statements and the symposia will prove valuable to all members.

# Mississippi Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society

## Breakdown of Areas with in the Mississippi Chapter of SWCS

### Areas

1. Big Black Pearl River
2. Tombigbee
3. Pascagoula/Gulf Coast
4. Yazoo



**Mississippi Chapter**  
**Soil & Water Conservation Society**

**5-Year Goals**

**2000-2004**

**Mission**

To foster the science and the art of soil, water, and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability. To promote and practice the interdependence of people and the environment.

**Chapter Activities 2000-2004**

Chapter activities developed at the Annual Chapter meeting in December 1999 to involve members during the next 5 years to help us reach our mission.

1. Publicity/Marketing Plan: Awareness, Newsletters, Media, Web Page
2. Networking and Recruiting New Members-Involve industry/private sector, Develop Miss. Chapter Handbook
3. Develop Program Committee-Include statewide events, Aqua-Fair, Community Tours and Programs, Field Trips, Successes
4. Develop Youth Chapters at High Schools and University Campuses
5. Assist with Miss. Basin Planning Efforts Statewide  
Develop Broader Agency and Industry Representation, Involve State Directors and Staff of Conservation Groups

## **ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE**

This committee promotes the attendance of the SWCS membership to the Annual SWCS Meeting and makes transportation arrangements.

It is the responsibility of this committee to:

1. Actively solicit and encourage SWCS members to attend the annual national meeting.
2. Make arrangements for a bus tour to the annual SWCS meeting, if it is determined there is sufficient interest for a tour.

(Selected by Executive Committee)

## **ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE**

This committee is to work with the President and the Annual Meeting Program Committee Chairman to make arrangements for the Chapter's annual meeting.

It is the responsibility of the committee to:

1. Plan for the physical arrangements of the annual meeting, correlating plans with the Program Committee and the President.
2. Prepare materials for registration.
3. Arrange transportation for tours if needed.
4. Arrange for necessary equipment and supplies to conduct the meeting.

(Selected by Vice President)

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

This committee is to review the constitution and by-laws at least once each year and make recommendations to the Executive Committee for proposed amendments to the document to keep it current.

It is the responsibility of this committee to:

1. Make a report to the Chapter President in writing by July 1st concerning the results of the review including any recommendations for proposed amendments to the constitution and bylaws.

## **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

This committee guides the Chapter's awards program to recognize individuals and organizations for outstanding work in natural resource conservation.

It is the responsibility of the committee to:

1. Study the Society's and Chapter's awards program and make recommendations to the Executive Committee of persons deserving awards.
2. Promote nominations for the various awards. Review those nominations and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.
3. Recommendations for Chapter awards are to be made at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting.
4. Submit a written report to the President prior to the Annual Meeting and present an oral report at the meeting.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

It shall be the responsibility of this committee to collect Chapter dues and promote and organize activities within the Chapter and areas which will provide revenue for chapter and area expenses. This committee will be made up of the Chapter Secretary-Treasurer and all area Secretary-Treasurers. The Chapter's Secretary-Treasurer will serve as Chairman.

## **FINANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

This committee will be responsible for making an audit of the Chapter's finances after the Chapter's Secretary-Treasurer has summarized records for the year and prior to turning them over to the new officers. The new officers take office on January 1. The committee will submit an audit report to the President.

## **NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE**

This committee will nominate candidates who are qualified and willing to serve the Mississippi Chapter as President and Vice President and conduct the election.

It is the responsibility of this committee to:

1. Nominate and submit to the membership the name of at least two members as candidates for the office of Vice-President.
2. Set the date of the election about one month prior to the Annual Meeting and notify each member to this effect.
3. Accept ballots from members until 1:00 p.m. on the date of the election.
4. Count votes and make a record of results.
5. Prepare a written report to the President prior to the annual meeting and present an oral report at the Annual Meeting.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Chapter President-Elect and the four area Vice Presidents make up the Membership Committee. This committee assumes the major responsibility for membership recruitment. Each member should be alert to all opportunities for expanding the membership base through enlistment of highly qualified people in all aspects of resource conservation.

It is the responsibility of this committee to:

1. Devise ways and means of maintaining and increasing membership.
2. Work with the Chapter President regarding special membership promotions to key groups that offer logical opportunity for membership growth and development.
3. Seek ways and means to broaden the membership base of the Society and its functions.
4. Keep a current list of paid-up members and encourage all delinquent members to renew their membership. Membership growth is critical to our Society.

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

This committee is to arrange the program for the annual Chapter and special meetings.

It is the responsibility of the committee to:

1. Develop a program for the annual and any special meeting in concurrence with the Executive Committee.
2. Contact and get concurrence of speakers.
3. A final copy of information to be printed on the program is to be submitted to the President at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.
4. Obtain a biographical sketch of each speaker at least 15 days prior to the meeting date.

## **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

It shall be the responsibility of this committee to arrange for appropriate publicity concerning Chapter and Society objectives and activities, arrange for local recognition of Chapters, publicize Chapter plans and activities when practical, and invite interested persons and prospective members to participate in Chapter and Area meetings.

## **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

This committee is to promote improved chapter relations with colleges and universities to involve faculty members and students as SWCS members to work toward greater achievement of goals and objectives of the Society.

It is the responsibility of this committee to:

1. Develop student and faculty interest and activity in SWCS endeavors and encourage membership in SWCS.
2. Contact the Mississippi colleges and universities to see if they are receiving SWCS scholarship announcements. Provide announcements to schools not presently receiving them.
3. Advise SWCS members of the Donald A. William Soil Conservation Scholarship for academic training.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

This committee is to provide leadership in environmental education for the Chapter; to disseminate information on programs, new findings, and appropriate education methodology in the field of environmental education; and to emphasize the importance of conservation education as it relates to all Society programs.

It is the responsibility of the committee to:

1. To promote the development of environmental education laboratories for school and community use and help conduct workshops in environmental education for teachers as outlined in the conservation position statement.
2. Give increased effort to distribution of the Society's educational cartoon booklets as an educational device.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES ISSUES**

This committee is to promote and develop current guidelines, policy statements, exhibits, etc., which are to help advance the science and art of good land and water use and treatment in Mississippi.

1. Encourage the use of soil information wherever knowledge of soil characteristics is essential to proper planning to achieve good land use
2. Promote the use of natural vegetation educational programs for youth camps, camping sites, nature trails, picnic grounds and outdoor plant laboratories.
3. Develop among members and the public an understanding of and alternate approaches to proper use and management of water resources with emphasis as to how they are related to conservation, development, and use of energy.

## MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

### AWARDS

1. **Individual Award** - Rendering distinguished service in "Advancing the Science and Art of Good Land Use."

To recognize deserving individuals who have rendered distinguished service in "Practicing the Science and Art of Good Land Use." All nominations must originate on the area level. Only one name will be submitted by the Area Awards Committee to the Chapter Committee.

2. **Industry Award** - Rendering distinguished service in "Advancing the Science and Art of Good Land Use."

To recognize deserving industry which has rendered distinguished service in "Practicing the Science and Art of Good Land Use." Same as Number 1 above.

3. **4-H Club Land Judging Team** - to recognize the 4-H Club Land Judging Team in Mississippi that has, through competition, attained the most outstanding accomplishments in "Advancing the Science and Art of Good Land Use" during the past year.

4. **FFA/VO-Ag Land Judging Team** - to recognize the FFA-VO-Ag Land Judging Team in Mississippi that has, through competition, attained the most outstanding accomplishments in "Advancing the Science and Art of Good Land Use."

5. **Outstanding SWCS Chapter in Mississippi**

6. **SWCS Journalist Award** – to recognize a deserving journalist in any news media who has rendered distinguished service in "Promoting the Science and Art of Good Land Use."

7. **Conservation Educator Award** – to recognize a deserving individual who has rendered distinguished service in "Teaching the Science and Art of Good Land Use." This may be a teacher or individual who presents educational programs to classrooms or organization. (Example: public affairs specialists, district clerks, soil conservationists, technicians, volunteers, etc.)

**MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER  
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
ARTICLE I**

**Name**

The name of this chapter shall be the Mississippi Chapter, hereinafter referred to as the CHAPTER, of the SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INCORPORATED, hereinafter referred to as the SOCIETY.

**ARTICLE 11**

**Objectives**

**Section 1.** The Chapter is dedicated to the promotion and advancement of conservation of renewable natural resources to the end that water, soil, grass, forests, and wildlife in abundance may be used and enjoyed by mankind forever. The Chapter is founded on the knowledge and belief that these renewable resources are indispensable to the support and growth of strong, prosperous, free nations; that they are inter-related and interdependent - inseparable one from the other; and that their everlasting abundance is dependent upon the development; coordination and proficient application of the several arts, sciences, and professions dealing with the promotion of good resource management. Toward the attainment of this goal, the Chapter pledges its energies and resources.

**Section 2.** The objectives of this Chapter shall be to promote and advance all phases of the science of conservation of soil and water resources; to provide a medium for the exchange of experience, facts and thoughts; and to represent, advance and protect the standards of the basic and allied sciences of soil and water conservation. These objectives of the Chapter shall be accomplished by:

- a. Championing the several arts, sciences, and professions that deal with the conservation of our renewable natural resources in such a manner as to encourage sound formulation of the best possible system of land and water management within land and water capabilities and the principles of multiple use.
- b. Vitalizing the understanding of the need for conserving our renewable natural resources to the end that conservation may become an intimate part of the thinking, doing, and living of city and rural people alike.
- c. Fostering study of the names by which greater skill in the management of land and water can be developed and put into practice.

- d. Encouraging high ethical standards on the part of those who are engaged in the furtherance of improving land and water use.
- e. Working with other agencies and organizations in support of their conservation resolve and purpose.
- f. Working for the adoption of a long-range, statewide land and water policy as a guide to all agencies, organizations, and the individuals in their renewable resource conservation activities.
- 9- Proclaiming noteworthy achievements by individuals, agencies, and organizations (awards) that have assisted in the development of sound concepts for conservation.
- h. Working for an enlarged research program to develop better and more effective conservation methods.
- i. Promoting development of improved educational programs on conservation in elementary and secondary schools, colleges, universities, and in adult education.
- j. Inspiring public recognition of the urgent need for completion of the statewide modern soil survey of Mississippi.
- k. Advancing the theory and practicing the science of conservation of soil and water resources by (1) encouraging research, experimentation, and other original work in soil and water conservation; (2) encouraging the preparation of original papers on soil and water conservation topics; (3) holding meetings for the presentation and discussion of original papers and participation in meetings with other scientific and conservation groups; (4) publishing papers and reports and disseminating knowledge and experience of value to people engaged in soil and water conservation work; (5) developing and promulgating recommended soil and water conservation practices, standards, and codes; (6) encouraging cooperation among workers in the field of soil and water conservation and other conservation groups generally for the mutual exchange of knowledge, facts, experience, and thought; (7) conferring awards and other honors in recognition of and to encourage meritorious contributions to the science of conservation of soil and water resources.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Memberships**

Membership in the Society is not a prerequisite to membership in the Chapter. The membership of each shall consist of individuals interested in the advancement of soil and water conservation. An affiliate membership is available to the Chapter only.

A candidate for admission to membership need not be engaged actively in the science and profession of conservation of soil and water resources, but shall be one who is now or formerly was engaged in work in closely allied fields, either professionally or otherwise, or who shall in their field of work have furthered the program of soil and water conservation. Services in these respects should show that the candidate understands the fundamental objectives and principles of the science and practice of soil and water conservation. Membership in the Chapter may be terminated by voluntary written resignation, by failure to pay Chapter and Society dues, or by action of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Officers**

Officers of the Chapter shall consist of President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Executive Committee, Chairs of the Standing Committees, and Chairs of such other committees as may be needed.

Area officers shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Chairs of such committees as may be needed.

The duties of the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be those which usually pertain to such officers of similar organizations. In addition to their general duties, the President-Elect shall chair the Membership Committee and the Vice-president shall chair the Program Committee.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Election of Officers**

A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President 60 days in advance of the annual meeting, with said committee charged with the responsibility to submit two nominees for Vice-President and, in the event of a vacancy in the office of Vice-President, two nominees for President-Elect. Election shall be by majority vote. If there are not vacancies, the outgoing Vice-President shall automatically ascend to the office of President. In case of a vacancy in the office of President, the President-Elect shall automatically become President. In case of a vacancy in the office of the President-Elect, the Vice-President shall automatically become President-Elect. In case of a vacancy in the office of the Vice-President, the office shall remain unfilled.

until the next election, at which time the President-Elect and Vice-President shall be elected. Under such circumstances, the Nominating committee shall present two nominees for each office.

Area Officers shall be elected by the active members within each geographical area. This election may be conducted locally by secret ballot at a called meeting of the area members or by a poll conducted by the incumbent President, except when the total membership within a given area exceeds twenty-five. In the latter case, the nomination and election of the area officers (President, President-Elect, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer) shall be conducted in the same manner as specified for the Chapter officers, with the Area President appointing the nominating committee. The nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

The term of office begins January 1 and shall be for one year. The Secretary and committee members shall serve concurrently with the President who appointed them.

## ARTICLE VI

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the Chapter. It shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the immediate Past-President and Presidents of the four areas within the state.

The Chapter is divided into the following four areas:

**Tombigbee Area** - Benton, Tippah, Alcorn, Prentiss, Tishomingo, Union, Pontotoc, Lee, Itawamba, Chickasaw, Monroe, Webster, Clay, Lowndes, Oktibbeha, Choctaw, Winston, Noxubee and Kemper counties.

**Pascagoula - Gulf Coast Area** - Newton, Lauderdale, Clarke, Jasper, Smith, Jones, Wayne, Covington, Lamar, Forrest, Perry, Greene, Pearl River, Stone, George, Hancock, Harrison and Jackson counties.

**Yazoo Area** - Tunica, DeSoto, Marshall, Lafayette, Panola, Quitman, Coahoma, Calhoun, Yalobusha, Tallahatchie, Sunflower, Bolivar, Washington, Leflore, Carroll, Tate, Grenada, Montgomery, Holmes, Yazoo, Sharkey, Issaquena and Humphreys counties.

**Big Black - Pearl Area** - Attala, Leake, Neshoba, Madison, Scott, Rankin, Hinds, Warren, Claibome, Copiah, Simpson, Jefferson Davis, Lincoln, Amite, Pike, Walthall, Jefferson, Adams, Wilkinson, Marion, Lawrence and Franklin counties.

Any county may transfer one area to another if the majority of the members in the county petitions and obtains approval from the Chapter Executive Committee for the change.

## ARTICLE VII

### Standing Committees

The Chapter President, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, shall appoint those committee chairs not provided for in the by-laws. Committee chair shall select committee members. A quorum of any committee shall be a majority of its members.

**The Membership Committee** shall consist of four members, one from each area within the state. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to solicit new members by providing membership goals, conducting membership campaigns, and designating individuals for special solicitation. Members of this committee will also chair the respective Area Membership Committee.

**The Program Committee** shall have the responsibility of developing program objectives for the Chapter and arranging programs for annual and special meetings.

**The Publicity Committee** shall be responsible for arranging appropriate local and state publicity concerning chapter and society objectives and activities, arranging for local recognition of chapter, publicizing area plans and activities when practical, and inviting interested people and prospective members to participate in chapter and area meetings.

**The Finance Committee** shall be responsible for collecting chapter dues and promoting and organizing activities within the chapter and areas to provide revenue for chapter and area expenses.

**The Constitution and By-laws Committee** shall be responsible for reviewing the constitution and by-laws at least once a year and making recommendations to the Executive Committee for proposed amendments to keep it current.

**The Urban Conservation Committee** shall have the responsibility of developing recommended plans of action that will result in increased interest and activities in urban conservation with adequate treatment to help insure the preservation of the urban resource base. There will be six members, each serving three years. Two members will rotate off the committee each year and two new members will be added.

**The Nomination and Election Committee** will be responsible for the nomination of two persons for the Vice-President and/or other officers with vacancies, developing and sending out ballots to the membership, and receiving and tabulating votes.

Each standing committee, through its Chair, shall make a written report of its activities during the year and present it to the President at the annual fall meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Chapter Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Chapter will be held annual on the date and at the place set by the Executive Committee. Special meetings may be called by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Area Meetings**

Area Presidents are encouraged to hold meetings of chapter members within their respective area. Each area is encouraged to develop specific objectives and programs.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Dues**

National membership dues shall be as determined by the Society, payable in advance. Chapter dues shall be \$5.00 per calendar year beginning in 1990. Membership is from January through December. Fifty cents (\$.50) of the Chapter dues will be available for refund to the respective areas. Refunds to the Area Presidents will be made at their request.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **AMAO**

The Chapter, being a charter member of the Association of Mississippi Agricultural Organizations, will participate in activities of AMAO. The Chapter will be represented in the AMAO by the Chapter President and the Past-President of persons they designate.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Dissolution**

**Section 1.** The Chapter is a non-profit organization dedicated to the furtherance of natural resource conservation for benefit to the general public and not for monetary profit or gain to its members. It does not pay compensation to its officers.

**Section 2.** If the Chapter should ever cease to exist, any assets above and beyond the amount required to meet the obligations of the Chapter will be disposed of by the last Executive Committee to a non-profit organization(s) or institution(s) with objectives

similar to the Chapter. In no event will any member benefit from such assets except for authorized expenses incurred by such member in conducting Chapter business.

### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### **Amendments**

These By-laws may be amended by submitting the proposed amendment or amendments to all members of the Chapter at least 30 days in advance of the dates designated by the Executive Committee for voting on the amendment(s). If two-thirds of those voting favor adoption, the amendment(s) shall become part of the By-laws.

Adopted by the membership of the Mississippi Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society assembled at the first annual meeting this sixth day of November 1956, and amended February 1958, November 1959, November 1960, June 1971, September 1977, October 1978, October 1985, and January 1989.