

Mid-Atlantic Association of Professional Soil Scientists

INTRODUCTION

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Professional Soil Scientists (MAPSS) was organized in 1987 to promote soil science and its applications. The membership includes private consultants; members of university faculties; soil scientists employed by private firms; employees of federal, state, and local governments; and other interested persons. The membership is drawn from Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, and surroundings.

PURPOSE

The objectives of MAPSS are based on a concept of the soil mantle as a set of natural bodies comparable to rocks, flora, and fauna. Moreover, soils have been a major natural resource for humanity for thousands of years. Promoting the intelligent use of this natural resource is an obligation of the membership of MAPSS. To discharge that obligation, major goals of MAPSS are to improve public awareness, appreciation and understanding of soils and soil science; support interest between soil science and related fields; provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, views, and information; and promote wise utilization of soils. Additional major goals are to encourage high standards of ethical conduct on the part of its members, promote rigorous education in soil science, and support both basic and applied research in soil science.

MEMBERSHIP

MAPSS has four kinds of membership. Full membership requires that an individual have a degree in (1) soil science or (2) some other science combined with a minimum number of credits in soil science. Affiliate membership is available for those who do not meet requirements for full membership but wish to advance the goals of the Association. Student membership is available to persons presently enrolled in degree programs who are interested in the goals of the Association. Honorary membership is awarded to individuals the Association wishes to recognize for their outstanding contributions to the profession. MAPSS has these several kinds of membership so that all interested persons can take part in its activities and work toward its goals.

PRIVILEGES

All members receive notice of and are urged to attend Association meetings. All members may serve on committees and may take part in the discussions of all business matters. All members receive the MAPSS newsletter "PEDOLOGUE" and a membership card, which is renewed annually. Only Full and Honorary members can vote in elections and hold any of the offices of President, President-elect, Vice President, Council Member at Large, or Secretary-Treasurer.

OPERATIONS

Final responsibility for all operations or activities of MAPSS rests with the membership. Major issues are therefore considered at Association meetings to provide future direction of the operations. Between meetings, the Executive Council, comprised of the elected officers of MAPSS, is authorized to act on any matters needing attention.

Standing committees of the Association consider the following items: Finance, Constitution and By-Laws, Membership and Ethics, Nominations, Education and Public Relations, and Certification. Other committees are organized and created as needed.

MAPSS is affiliated with the American Society of Agronomy and subscribes to the Code of Ethics of the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils known as ARCPACS.

As an organization, MAPSS will be confronting many issues of importance to soil scientists both now and in the future. Good examples of such issues follow from growing environmental awareness in the mid-Atlantic region. Those issues include identification and delineation of wetlands, sewage disposal, storm water management, stream pollution, and appropriate education and training of people for the problems that must be faced. MAPSS conducts symposiums and field trips on topics of local importance to keep members, people in other disciplines, and the public as informed as possible about soil science and its role in resolving environmental problems. MAPSS also plans to provide leadership to ensure that soil science itself continues to develop and that it makes its appropriate contributions to solving problems encountered in the many uses of soils.

MAPSS is a non-profit organization without capital stock, dedicated to the advancement of soil science for the benefit of the general public and not for monetary profit for gain of its members.

MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM - PART I

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Employer _____ Work Phone _____

Professional Title _____

Highest Degree Completed _____ Major _____

Institution _____ Year _____

Areas which best describe professional activities and interests (select 3 and number in order of decreasing priority).

____ S01 Soil Physics

____ S07 Forest, Range and Wildland Soils

____ S02 Soil Chemistry

____ S08 Nutrient Management & Soil & Plant Analysis

____ S03 Soil Biology & Biochemistry

____ S09 Soil Mineralogy

____ S04 Soil Fertility & Plant Nutrition

____ S10 Wetland Soils

____ S05 Pedology

____ S11 Soils & Environmental Quality

____ S06 Soil & Water Management & Conservation

Class of Membership (Please check one)

____ **Member** - Eligibility for membership consists of a B.S. degree in (1) soil science, or (2) other science degree program with sufficient credits in soil science and related subjects to qualify for the position of Soil Scientist as defined and specified in the Federal Civil Service Announcement. Member applicants must list courses completed in soil science and related subjects, as well as provide the names of two individuals (preferably MAPSS members) familiar with the applicant's experience and qualifications. A brief summary of the applicant's work experience must also be attached on a separate page. Annual dues are \$30.00.

____ **Affiliate Member** - Shall be one who does not qualify under the above category, but who desires to participate in the advancement of the profession. A brief summary of the applicant's work experience must also be attached on a separate page. Annual dues are \$30.00.

____ **Student Member** - Sponsored students interested in the aims and goals of the Association may be considered qualified to become student members upon the approval of the membership committee. Annual dues are \$10.00.

Applicant will be given equal consideration without regard to race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, or physical and mental handicaps.

