



North Carolina Wetland Assessment Method (NC WAM) and Training Course

September 13- 16, 2016



Class Location:

Hampton Inn Brevard

275 Forest Gate Road, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768

828-883-4800

Registration Fee:

\$640.00 (or \$665.00 for NCAEP members)

Organized by:

NC Association of Environmental Professionals

Taught by:

John Dorney, Sandy Smith, and Leilani Paugh

Introduction: This 4-day lecture and field course will focus on the North Carolina Wetland Assessment Method (Version 5) (NC WAM) that was implemented by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District (USACE) in a public notice dated April 21, 2015. The USACE intends to utilize NC WAM for internal reviews of permit applications, including decisions regarding the amount and type of compensatory mitigation, avoidance and minimization of impacts, or other decisions pertaining to aquatic resource quality and functions. Environmental consultants, federal and state agency personnel, and local government staff members who deal with regulatory programs related to wetlands are encouraged to attend. Emphasis will be on identification of North Carolina general wetland types, determination of evaluation areas, discussion of evaluation concepts and functional assessment metrics, experience using the computer rating calculator, and field exercises in both undisturbed and disturbed wetlands and wetland complexes. The course will conclude with a written test, and successful students will be presented with a Certificate of Training. Though the method is specific to North Carolina, this course may also be useful for professionals who work in neighboring states. Continuing education credits have been requested or can be requested for Foresters (SAF), Engineers (NCBELS), Landscape Architects (NCBOLA), Erosion & Sediment Control (CPESC), and Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ). In addition, others can be sought upon request. Applicants who are interested in continuing education credits must notify us by e-mail so appropriate arrangements can be made (president@ncaep.org).

Instructors:

John Dorney: Senior Environmental Scientist, Moffatt & Nichol and retired from N.C. Division of Water Quality, Wetlands and Stormwater Branch. Mr. Dorney worked with the Division of Water Quality for over 28 years, was actively involved in the development of NC WAM, has taught courses in the method for more than 10 years, and has co-authored several papers on the method. He is an expert in wetland and stream functional assessment, isolated wetlands, as well as wetland and stream permitting.

Sandy Smith: Senior Project Manager, Axiom Environmental, Inc. Mr. Smith has worked as a private environmental consultant in North Carolina for 27 years, was actively involved in the development of NC WAM, and has co-authored several papers on the method, and has taught courses in the method for more than 10 years. He is an expert in wetland delineation, functional assessment, and permitting.

LeiLani Paugh: ICI/On-Site Mitigation Group Leader, N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT), Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Natural Environment Section. Ms. Paugh has worked for NCDOT for 17 years, was actively involved in the development of NC WAM, and has co-authored several papers on the method, and has taught courses in the method for more than 10 years. She is an expert in wetland delineation, functional assessment, mitigation, and permitting.

Logistics: The lecture portion of the course will be conducted in a classroom setting each morning, while field exercises will be conducted at various locations on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons. All field trips will depart from the classroom site, and vans will be provided for transportation. Field trips are conducted in all weather conditions except unsafe weather. If field trips cannot be conducted due to weather, the class or a portion thereof will be rescheduled. Knee boots or hiking boots will be adequate for the field trips.

The registration fee includes the NC WAM User Manual, class paper supplies, and field trip transportation, as well as field snacks and drinking waters. Liability waivers must be signed upon your arrival to class.

Registration: Class enrollment is set at a minimum of 25 registrants and a maximum of 30 registrants. Payment can be made to the N.C. Association of Environmental Professionals (NCAEP) by check or credit card at www.ncaep.org. All checks will be held until we are certain that the minimum number of students is achieved for the class. Registration fees must be received by NCAEP no later than September 9, 2016. Cancellation notifications received prior to September 3 will receive a full refund. Cancellation notifications received on or after September 3 will receive a refund of the registration fee, less a \$100 administrative fee. Paid registrations may be transferred to another individual upon written request. No refunds will be given after the start of the class. Registrations on or after September 6 will be charged an additional \$100.00.

Classroom Location/Motel Reservations: The course classroom will be in the Hampton Inn Brevard (275 Forest Gate Drive, Pisgah Forest, NC; 828-883-2800; <http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/north-carolina/hampton-inn-brevard-BVDNCHX/index.html>). Motel reservations must be made separately from the class registration. The Hampton Inn is holding a block of rooms at a reduced rate (\$92.75/night, including tax) until August 13, after which, room charges will increase to their “fall color” rates. When making reservations, let the Hampton Inn know you are attending the N.C. Wetland Assessment Method (NC WAM) class.