

*Conserving
America the Beautiful*

STARS, STRIPES & STEWARDSHIP

Southeast Conservation
District Employees Association

2026
Annual Conference

November 3–4, 2026

Music Road Convention Center
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

"Our vision is to have a
professionally accepted and
integrated team dedicated to the
cause of conservation."



Monday, November 2, 2026

9:00 a.m. Governing Board Meeting

6:00 p.m. Special Project Committee Meeting

Networking Activity/Outing

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

7:30 a.m. Registration by South Carolina DEA

9:00 a.m. Conference Welcome

Kelly Snoddy

Invocation

Beth Rhea

Presentation of Colors/ Flag Ceremony

National Anthem

AJ Waters

Roll Call of States & Photos

9:30-9:50 a.m. Networking Activity

Penny Warwick

9:50-10:20 a.m. Share Fair - AL, FL, GA

10:20-11:20 a.m. NACD's Soil Health Champions Network

Beth Mason

11:20-11:30 BREAK

11:30-12:00 p.m. Local Resource Concerns by Local Groups

Michael Kent

12:00-1:15 p.m. SECDEA Business Luncheon

Invocation

Business Session

Committee Reports

1:20-2:20p.m. Meet Mr. Lincoln

Dennis Boggs

2:20-2:35p.m. SENACD Partner Agency Report

Steven Meeks

2:35-3:00 p.m. Fun by Celia

Celia Miller

3:00-3:30 p.m. Share Fair - KY, MS, NC

3:30-3:45 p.m. TACD Partner Agency Update

Matt McClanahan

3:45-4:30 p.m. Who Wants to be a Conservation Millionaire

Mona Hager

SECDEA Presidents Reception

6 PM - Music Road Inn Room 501

Everyone is Welcome

Sponsored by VACDE

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

8:00 a.m. Registration by South Carolina DEA

9:00 a.m. Call to Order

Kelly Snoddy

Invocation

Beth Rhea

9:10 - 9:40 a.m. Share Fair - SC, TN, VA

9:40-9:55 a.m. NCDEA Partner Agency Update

Tim Riley

9:55-10:25 a.m. Mutual Aid Agreements

Mark Walton

10:25-10:40 a.m. NRCS Partner Agency Update

10:40-10:50 am. Native Seeds & District Partnership Ideas
with Bamert Seed Company

Nicholas Demel

10:50-11:00 a.m. BREAK

Silent Auctions end immediately following the break

11:00-12:00 p.m. Camp/Program Safety

Katie Hammock

12:00-12:45 p.m. NACD Education

Aimee Figgatt

12:45 p.m. Nominating Committee Report
Candidate Election

Kayleigh Evans

Silent Auction Announcements

1:00 p.m. SECDEA Election Results

Kayleigh Evans

Announcements & Adjourn

Kelly Snoddy

2:30p.m. SECDEA Governing Board Exit Meeting

6:00 p.m. SECDEA Banquet

Dinner, Awards, LIVE Auction & Entertainment!

**Thank you for attending our
2026 SECDEA Annual
Conference!**

"Our mission is to promote our natural resources through education and encourage professionalism of conservation district employees."



SECDEA Governing Board

Kelly Snoddy, President

Hope Daley, Vice-President

Amy Lies, Secretary

Janice Weiss, Treasurer

Kayleigh Evans, Past-President

Beth Rhea, Chaplain

Holly Killian, Alabama DEA President

Audrey Kuipers, Florida DEA President

Penny Warwick, Kentucky DEA President

Monica Gates, Mississippi DEA President

Lisa Marochak, North Carolina DEA President

Crista Lukoski, South Carolina DEA President

Janice Weiss, Tennessee DEA President

Allyson Ponn, Virginia DEA President



SECDEA 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

FULL REGISTRATION

- 1 LUNCHEON TICKET & 1 BANQUET TICKET: \$200.00
 - REGISTRATION POSTMARKED AFTER 9/30/26
ADDITIONAL \$50.00

PARTIAL REGISTRATION

- 1 LUNCHEON TICKET ONLY: \$150.00

REGISTRATION ADD-ONS

- MONDAY EVENING TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY: \$45.00
- ADDITIONAL LUNCHEON TICKET (FOR GUESTS): \$35.00
- ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKET (FOR GUESTS): \$75.00
- FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION DONATION – BENEVOLENCE FUND: \$10.00
- SECDEA SCHOLARSHIP DONATION: \$10.00
- 2025 SECDEA HISTORICAL BOOK: \$50.00

Register online for packets/individual tickets through the Jotform link –

<https://dconc2.jotform.com/261812878998884>

You will receive two emails:

Your Jotform answers and an automatically generated invoice from SECDEA1993@gmail.com

Please print the invoice to mail with your check to:

Janice Weiss, Cheatham Co. SCD

1104 N. Main Street, Ashland City, TN 37015

REGISTRATION WILL BE DEEMED INCOMPLETE UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED
NO PAYMENTS WILL BE TAKEN ON SITE FOR REGISTRATION
LATE FEES MAY APPLY



REGISTRATION INFORMATION CONFERENCE LODGING

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DOES NOT INCLUDE LODGING
CONTACT HOTEL TO MAKE LODGING RESERVATIONS

Music Road Hotel & Inn Reservations
1-800-429-7700 Group Id: 12198

Mention when reserving: SECDEA
Southeast Conservation District Employees Association

Room Reservation Deadline: 9/30/2026
Room Rate: \$131.00 plus 12.25% tax

Preference for Hotel or Inn must be given during reservation
Hotel staff cannot change room assignments during check in
Room availability and price not guaranteed after deadline



OUR MONDAY EVENING TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY HAS BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT! IT IS AN OPTIONAL OUTING FOR EMPLOYEES THAT ARE IN TOWN ON THAT MONDAY NIGHT AND WISH TO GATHER TOGETHER. THERE WILL BE A SEPARATE FLYER PROVIDED WITH DETAILS ON THIS ACTIVITY.

THE FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION PROGRAM ARE FUNDS SET ASIDE TO ASSIST OUR FELLOW SOUTHEAST DISTRICT EMPLOYEES IN TIMES OF NEED.

A REQUEST FORM CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.SECDEA.NET/BENEVOLENCE.

THE SECDEA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP AIMED AT ASSISTING MEMBERS WITH DISTRICT BUDGET CONSTRAINTS TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL SECDEA CONFERENCE.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.SECDEA.NET/CONFERENCE-SCHOLARSHIPS.

THE SECDEA SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM SUPPORTS THE SECDEA THROUGH OUR EFFORTS IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP AND FOSTERING COLLABORATION THROUGH TRAININGS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS. FURTHER INFORMATION ON SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND A DONATION FORM CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.SECDEA.NET/SPONSORSHIP.



Join us as we recognize those
preserving 'America the Beautiful'
through conservation stewardship

SECDEA AWARDS BANQUET

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

Music Road Resort & Conference Center,
Pigeon Forge, TN

6:00pm

Show your red, white & blue spirit! States will vote
on their best dressed attendee for the
2026 SECDEA Spirit Award

Traditional Patriotic "America the Beautiful"
or
Costume Patriotic "Firecracker"



2026 SECDEA TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY

MONDAY 11/2/2026 * 5PM-7PM

GREAT BIG GAME SHOW

GREAT BIG GAME SHOW
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?
V=ZUKJYHTQSBQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUKJYHTQSBQ)



IMAGINE...being picked as a contestant on your favorite game show. The host calls your name - **your face glows with studio lights.** Instead of watching from the couch, **you're on the stage**, competing in mini games. There's a **live host, lights, and music.** When you slam the buzzer and nail the answer, **you'll feel like a game show legend!**



ESCAPE GAME

THE ESCAPE GAME:
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?
V=EMO-KBMYLTO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMO-KBMYLTO)

- Multiple Rooms in every game
- Unlimited Hints
- 60 minute Escape Games

The Escape Game experience is very different from what you typically see in other escape rooms. The games aren't scary, gross, or dark. The themes are exciting and adventurous.



\$45
2 HOURS
OF PLAY

**1 hr for games and 1 hr
for the escape rooms**

GREAT BIG GAME SHOW PIGEON FORGE IS LOCATED AT **THE ISLAND, PIGEON FORGE'S** MOST POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX, RIGHT IN THE HEART OF THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS TOURISM CORRIDOR.