

# [***Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District plans soil health event***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B2R-VB71-DY8S-B0R0-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

Jan. 9—ROCHESTER — The Olmsted ***Soil*** and Water Conservation District is hosting a pair of free events for farmers in January and February 2024 in partnership with ***soil*** and water conservation districts in neighboring counties.

The first event, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Jan. 18 will address concerns of managing ***soil health*** practices when extreme weather hits. It will be held at Bluff Brothers Brewery at 817 N. Broadway Ave. in Spring Valley, with a free lunch at noon for attendees.

"This is an excellent time of the year to invite farmers to learn about resilient ***soil*** management practices that can be invaluable for the upcoming growing season," OSWCD Manager Skip Langer said in a statement announcing the events. "We have collaborated with other ***soil*** and water conservation districts to offer opportunities to learn from each other."

During the Jan. 18 event, Jerry Hatfield, who has researched how farmers can manage their land in different ways to store carbon and hold more water in the ***soil***, will discuss how air, water, and ***soil*** quality are connected.

Kenny Blumenfeld, an expert in climate science, will also talk about recent weather patterns and provide a detailed weather forecast for the area.

In addition to the scheduled speakers, a panel of local farmers will provide their perspectives.

Anyone interested in attending should register online at

tinyurl.com/3f6xtab3.

The second event is scheduled for Feb. 7 in Stewartville and will focus on practices farmers have implemented to make their crops, livestock and ***soil*** more productive and profitable. Additional details will be shared when finalized, with updated set to posted on the OSWCD webpage,

olmsted-***soil-health***-program-gis-olmsted.hub.arcgis.com/pages/events.

In addition to the planned events, OSWCD is asking all local farmers and landowners to take a brief online survey, which is available at

tinyurl.com/mpkpmkeh.

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