



## **USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference**

### [Watershed Academy: Water Resource Capacity Building for Extension Agents and Research Associates at 1890 Institutions](#)

The watershed academy is one of the special projects of the Southern Region Water Quality Coordination Program. The goal of the academy is to provide educational workshops for local watershed groups in the region. Since there is a strong interest in water resource education, extension and research at most of the 1890 institutions; the watershed academy was used to reinforce 1890 institutions capacity to provide scientific knowledge in water resources to underserved communities. A watershed academy workshop was held in Nashville, Tennessee on November 6 and 7, 2006. The workshop was open to the public but the majority of the attendees were 1890 Institution extension agents, specialists and research associates. The 1890 National Facilitation Project provided limited travel scholarships of up to five hundred dollars to seven of the sixteen attendees from 1890 institutions. The workshop agenda consisted of lectures and field experiences in watershed restoration, storm water management, stream habitat assessment and basic hydrology. There was also a session on Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The workshop instructors included extension and research faculty from Tennessee State University, Alabama A&M University, Florida A&M University, Auburn University, North Carolina State University, the University of Tennessee and officials from USDA-NRCS in Nashville. Workshop attendees were asked to evaluate the content of the workshop and to provide information on knowledge gained during the 2-day workshop. The workshop further demonstrates the enhanced collaboration between 1890 and 1862 institutions water resource faculty; which is an outcome of the 1890 National Facilitation Project and the Southern Region Water Quality Coordination Program.

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