

# 2023 CLEAR WATER ALABAMA™

## Keep the River Singing

### FIELD DAY AGENDA

Thursday, September 21, 2023

- 7:30 - 7:55 a.m. **Registration, Exhibits Open & Continental Breakfast**
- 7:55 a.m. **Welcome and Logistics**  
Perry Oakes, Erosion and Sediment Control Program Coordinator  
Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee
- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Groups Load Buses to Tour Field Day Sites**
- Visit Sites**  
Review Erosion Control, Sediment Control & Stormwater Management Practices
- 12:00 - 12:45 p.m. **Lunch**  
Marriott Shoals Convention Center
- 12:45 p.m. **Pick-up Certificate of Training**  
Marriott Shoals Convention Center
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. **Visit American Excelsior Plant** (*optional*)
- 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Qualified Credentialed Inspector Training** (*HBAA only*)  
Marriott Shoals Convention Center

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## CLEAR WATER ALABAMA INDUSTRY SPONSORS

### SWITCHGRASS

Alabama Power Company  
American Excelsior Company  
Applied Polymer Systems, Inc.  
Auburn University SRF  
CMS Environmental Solutions  
Envirocert International  
FODS, LLC.  
Franklin County SWCD  
Hanes Geo Components  
Lauderdale County SWCD  
Osprey Initiative  
Silt Saver

### BERMUDAGRASS

Motz Enterprises, Inc., Flexamat  
Schoel Engineering  
Western Green

### FESCUE

AACD  
AGC  
Erosion Pros, LLC  
Faircloth Skimmer  
Sunshine Supplies, Inc.  
Thompson Engineering

## LOCAL SPONSORS

Colbert, Franklin, Lawrence & Lauderdale County Conservation Districts  
Cities of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Tuscumbia, and Sheffield  
Local County Commissions  
AL Department of Transportation  
Lauderdale County Highway Department  
The American Excelsior Company

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### FIELD DAY SITE VISITS

#### Bank Independent - New Headquarters Construction



The new headquarters of Bank Independent is being constructed on a beautiful 50+ acre site composed of mature hardwoods and meadows. The plan is to integrate the Headquarters building into the picturesque environment preserving as many trees as possible, minimizing disturbances, sequencing construction to minimize erosion and capture sediment, retrofit a main detention basin as a sediment basin during the construction phase, amending the meadows with pollinators, and other well thought-out features. On the site visit, you will see the site, hear about the vision from Hallie Mauldin of the Bank Independent staff, hear about the conceptual plan from Tony Renta of Renta Urban Land Design the landscape architect, and hear about the civil design of the site from Richard Edmonds of White, Lynn, Collins & Associates Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors.

#### Hill Streambank Stabilization Project

This project consisted of 2 sites. Site 1 was approximately 300 ft long and site 2 was approximately 450 ft. The landowner tried to secure the banks with large slabs of concrete on site 1. This accelerated the erosion because the water got behind the slabs and was eating out into a drainage way. The landowner was losing pastureland on both sites every time it rained. The initial repair was completed in the fall of 2020, but in March 2021, this area received a historic rainfall event causing massive flooding upstream in Tennessee and had to be repaired by adding additional rock. Both sites and the repair were funded in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners grant, the Lauderdale County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The project was completed in October of 2021. Nick Specker – NRCS North Area Engineer will be presenting at the site. He was the engineer that oversaw the installation of the project. Some of the practices used to stabilize the site were toe stabilization with rock, sloped banks, and erosion control mat. Grass was established by the drain on site 1 and hardwood trees were planted on site 2.



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### FIELD DAY SITE VISITS

#### Polyacrylamide Demonstration

While the attendees are at the Streambank Stabilization project, they will also hear from the experts about the proper use of Polyacrylamides. Dr. Mike Perez of the Auburn University Stormwater Research Facility, and Seva Bray of Applied Polymer Systems Inc. will demonstrate the proper selection and use of polyacrylamides to reduce turbidity



#### County Road 16 Bridge Replacement



This bridge replaces an existing bridge that was closed in 2018 due to structural concerns. The new bridge is upstream of the existing one.

This site had ALL the challenges. Cypress Creek has a threatened and endangered species, the slackwater darter, which not only uses the stream but the floodplain for spawning. This site contained an abundance of cultural resources including Paleo Indian artifacts which resulted in doing a Phase III cultural mitigation. Extensive wetlands near the creek and the cultural resources forced the County to move the bridge location and also resulted in having to skew the bridge across the creek rather than being perpendicular.

This project area contains an “island” that had to be accessible during construction, so the contractor had to build a temporary bridge to access this area. This had to be done carefully for erosion and sediment control measures to be maintained during the project. Some floating booms were used early in the project in this area. Silt fence and rip rap were also used.

The group will hear from Eric Hill, Lauderdale County Engineer, at the site.

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### FIELD DAY SITE VISITS

#### American Excelsior Plant Tour\*

4032 Parkway Drive, Florence, AL 35630

*\*Optional plant tour for those who registered and have signed a Waiver. Participants will provide their own transportation. There is adequate parking at the plant.*



American Excelsior Company, founded in 1888, is a reputable and long-standing American company based in Arlington, Texas. With 135 years of industry expertise, the company has established itself as a leading manufacturer and distributor of a diverse range of high-quality products. Committed to providing innovative solutions, American Excelsior Company serves various industries, including packaging, cushioning, engineered foam specialties, erosion and sediment control, and engineered wood fibers.

American Excelsior Company's Florence, Alabama facility, specializes in the production of erosion and sediment control products. Leveraging cutting-edge technologies and employing a skilled workforce, the Florence location manufactures an assortment of effective solutions designed to combat soil erosion and sediment runoff.

As American Excelsior Company enters its 135th year of business in 2023, it remains committed to meeting the evolving needs of its customers and promoting responsible practices in erosion control and beyond.

At this tour, the participants will see eight and sixteen ft. Erosion Control Blanket machines, and a Sediment Log production line.

Presenters at the plant will be Chuck Rayburn, Paul Odom, and Alison Hawn.