



# Union County Soil & Water Conservation District

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## **Union Soil & Water Conservation District to Host National Conference Remote Listening Forum**

**February 7, 2014, Monroe, NC** – Union County Soil & Water Conservation District will host a remote listening forum of the opening session of a national conference on cover crops and soil health on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at the Union County Agricultural and Conference Center in Monroe. Check-in starts at 9:15 a.m., and the program begins at 9:45 a.m.

The conference, held in Omaha, Neb., is sponsored by the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and will bring together key leaders, researchers, innovators and policy makers in American agriculture to examine the benefits, opportunities and challenges associated with improving the health and function of our soils through the adoption of soil health management systems.

To make the conference more accessible and to take advantage of this unique opportunity, the opening session on Feb. 18, featuring Secretary Tom Vilsack (invited), Howard G. Buffett, and leading producers, will be streamed via the internet to several hundred remote “forum” locations throughout the country. These concurrent state- and local-level forums will provide NRCS and its conservation partners and stakeholders with a unique opportunity to fully organize or reenergize state and local efforts to further the soil health movement—at the grassroots level.

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