The Virginia Soil Health Coalition
Quarterly Meeting
September 15th, 2022
2:00-4:00 PM

Agenda

2-2:15: Welcome!
  - Dr. Dan Goerlich, Associate Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension

2:15-3:00: “The soil health ‘metaphor’: Illuminating or illusory?”
  - Dr. Henry Janzen, Honorary Research Associate, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

3:00-3:30: Update on the Coalition Strategic Planning Process

3:30-3:50: Coalition/partner updates
  - Round robin organizational updates- bring your 30-second speed update!
  - 4 The Soil Initiative
  - Professional Development Soil Health Training

3:50-4:00: Announcements and opportunities

4:00: Adjourn
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Henry Janzen

Henry Janzen is an Honorary Research Associate with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Lethbridge, Alberta. As a soil biochemist, he has studied the flows of carbon and nutrients through farmlands, looking for ways to sustain their many functions: furnishing food, providing livelihoods, maintaining biodiversity, and buffering climate, among others. He has written extensively about the role of soils in mitigating climate change, participating in international forums such as earlier reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Other topics of his research and speaking engagements have included soil nitrogen dynamics, whole-farm greenhouse gas modelling (Holos), restorative cropping systems, and the place of livestock in ecosystems. More recently, he has contemplated how solar energy streams through our ecosystems, impelling their many and varied functions, ever-renewing their health. In all of these inquiries, Henry has sought a long-term perspective, reaching far into the past by probing soils’ memory, and peering into the future, trying to foresee how today’s choices shape the lands those who follow us will depend on as much as we do now.