

**ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL &  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS**  
-Carolinas Section



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**Fall Field Trip**  
**Wine Terroir and Tasting Tour, Yadkin Valley, North Carolina**  
**October 9, 10 and 11, 2015**

**Where:** Elkin and surrounding area, Yadkin Valley, NC

**When:** Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

**Cost:** \$155 for AEG members and non-members, \$140 for student members (must be 21 years old)

**Field Trip Registration Deadline:** Tuesday, September 1, 2015

**Field Trip Waiver:** Please sign/date and return field trip waiver

**South Carolina Continuing Education Credits:** 8 credits for field trip participation

\*\*Due to the occupancy limits at vineyards, the maximum attendee number is 50. Thus, first come, first serve.

**Field Trip Leaders**

Dr. Stephen Harper is a Teaching Associate Professor at East Carolina University, who teaches courses in Physical Geology, Environmental Geology, Geomorphology, and Field Geology. He is Director of the North Carolina Summer Geology Field Course taught every May-June in New Mexico and Colorado, and has been a Wine Enthusiast for 40 years. His research interests include implementing teaching strategies to improve learning outcomes for introductory geology classrooms and laboratories, and the origin of tower karst in Southeast Asia.

Dr. Marlene McCauley is a professor at Guilford College, emphasizing in Petrology, Mineralogy, Geochemistry, and the Science of Wine. She has led field seminars in Italy, the Colorado Plateau, Africa, and the Galapagos. Her recent research focuses on the design of innovative and engaging lab science courses in the liberal arts curriculum, including "Terroir: the Science of Wine".

Jane Gill-Shaler is a geologist, who currently researches and compiles articles, technical information, and human interest items for a variety of online publications. She is an active AEG Carolinas member whose has upgraded the AEG Carolinas newsletter and sponsor recruiting process.

**Field Trip Summary**

The Yadkin Valley became North Carolina's first federally-approved American Viticultural Area (AVA) in 2003. With this appellation, the [wineries](#) and vineyards of an area covering all or part of Surry, Yadkin, Wilkes, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, and Stokes counties began labeling their wines "Yadkin Valley," proudly proclaiming the fruits of our region. Five years later, the Swan Creek region, which is mostly inside the Yadkin Valley AVA, was recognized as its own AVA, reflecting its particular microclimate.

Yadkin County, North Carolina, was formed in 1850 and was originally a farming community with flue cured tobacco as the major cash crop grown. As tobacco use declined, production of other crops continued to increase. The Yadkin Valley AVA is now home to 44 wineries, the largest concentration in



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the State of North Carolina. The Yadkin Valley Wine Region was the first and remains the largest federally designated wine producing region, or appellation, in North Carolina. The four vineyards, which we will visit, produce Red Wines, such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Bordeaux or Meritage blends from the previous 4 grapes, Tempranillo, Syrah, and Chambourcin; White wines, such as Chardonnay, Viognier, Riesling, Petit Manseng, and Seyval Blanc.

The Yadkin Valley wineries are small, with intimate wine tasting rooms providing more access to the winemakers and owners (often one and the same). This setting offers a great chance to try new wines and learn about the winemaking process.

Marlene McCauley will start off the field trip on Friday evening with an informal session to introduce participants to wine tasting. Participants will learn to detect the different aromas in red and white wines, and then we will practice on some local vintages. Steve Harper will also introduce participants to hard apple and pear ciders from McRitchie Winery and Ciderworks.

The field trip stops on Saturday and Sunday will focus on touring and tasting wines at four vineyards, Jones von Drehle Vineyards, Dobbins Creek Vineyards, Shadow Springs Vineyard, and Flint Hill Vineyards. The vineyard owners will talk about their wines, give tours of their vineyard and wine production, and Marlene McCauley and Steve Harper will discuss the local geology of the areas. We will also discuss/ speculate on the effects that the physical aspects of the terroir – bedrock, soil, elevation, slope, slope aspect, and climate – have on the wine.

### **Field Trip Logistics**

The field trip will begin at 7:30 PM on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Fairfield Inn and Suites (628 CC Camp Road /268 Bypass, Elkin, NC 28621; 336-353-2008) with an informal session in wine tasting by Marlene McCauley. Steve Harper will talk briefly about hard apple and pear ciders produced by McRitchie Winery & Ciderworks. 1-2 hours total time. Parking is available at the hotel. **AEG will not be providing dinner or bus transportation this evening**, so please plan accordingly and drink responsibly.

The field trip will continue at 10:00 AM on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, at the Fairfield Inn and Suites. Please be ready to board a coach bus by 10:15 AM as we will be traveling to the first of three vineyards, Jones von Drehle Vineyards (964 Old Railroad Grade Road, Thurmond, NC). We need to be on time at the vineyard by 11:00 AM. Chuck Jones, vineyard owner, will give us a walking tour and talk about their 10 wines. **Lunch will be provided at Jones von Drehle vineyards**. Participants with special dietary needs for this lunch, such as gluten free, vegetarian, should inform Stephen Harper or Sue Buchanan of those dietary needs at [harpers@ecu.edu](mailto:harpers@ecu.edu) or [sbuchanan@schnabel-eng.com](mailto:sbuchanan@schnabel-eng.com) by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

We will be departing Jones von Drehle Vineyards by 1:30 PM, and traveling to Dobbins Creek Vineyards (4430 Vineyard View Lane, Hamptonville, NC). The owner, Charles King, will talk about their 8 to 9 wines and give us a tour of the vineyard. We plan to spend about 1.5-2 hours at this stop.

The third and final stop on Saturday is the Shadow Springs Vineyard (5543 Crater Rd, Hamptonville, NC). Here owners, Jamie and Chuck Johnson, will have us taste their 8 to 10 wines and talk about their vineyard. We will be at Shadow Springs Vineyard until about 5:00 PM. The bus will then drive us back to the Fairfield Inn and Suites (we should arrive around 5:30 to 6:00 PM). **AEG will not provide a dinner on Saturday night**. However, there is a large restaurant across from the Fairfield Inn, called Pirates Landing (161 Interstate Way, Elkin, NC, 336-366-4150), where we can all meet up and have



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dinner together. Otherwise, there are plenty of other restaurants and fast food options in the Elkin/Jonesville area.

**Optional Day: Sunday, October 11**

For those that are interested, the field trip will continue on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Flint Hill Vineyards (2133 Flint Hill Road, East Bend). *This day will be an optional day, thus the registration form indicates an additional fee for Sunday.* Lunch at Flint Hill Vineyards will start at 11:30 AM. Wine tasting will commence at Noon as no alcohol can be served before Noon on Sundays. The cost for a lasagna and salad lunch + wine tasting at Flint Hill will be \$20 + tax. **AEG will not be providing meals or bus transportation for Sunday**, so please plan accordingly and drive yourself to Flint Hill Vineyards near East Bend, NC.

**Hotel Stay: Friday and Saturday night, October 9 and 10, 2015**

If you would like to stay at a hotel Friday and Saturday night, then please make your own reservation. AEG has reserved a block of hotel rooms at the Fairfield Inn & Suites (336-353-2008) for Friday night only, but please make your own reservation. Some other hotels that are located in the Elkin and Jonesville area are: Hampton Inn (336-835-1994), Best Western (336-835-6000), and the Comfort Inn (336-835-9400).



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**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Wine Terroir and Tasting Tour, Yadkin Valley, North Carolina  
October 9, 10 and 11, 2015**

**Please fill out top portion for each individual attendee.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle one: Member, Non-Member, or Student)

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Society Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (office, home, or cell): \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fill in the total cost below.**

Event	Member		Non-member		Student (must be 21 years old)	
Friday Evening, Wine Tasting Social (October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM) & Saturday, All day Field Trip (October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM)		\$130.00		\$130.00		\$115.00
Sunday, Half day Field Trip (October 11 <sup>th</sup> , 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM)		\$25.00		\$25.00		\$25.00
<b>Total Cost</b>						

**PAYMENT METHOD (Payment MUST accompany this registration form.)**

Make check payable to **AEG Carolinas Section**. Please mail registration form and payment to:

**Sue Buchanan**  
**Schnabel Engineering**  
**11A Oak Branch Drive**  
**Greensboro, NC 27407**  
**Or email to: sbuchanan@schnabel-eng.com**

Total Payment Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

List attendee(s) for which this payment is for: \_\_\_\_\_



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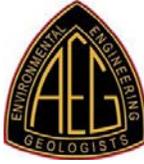


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## LIABILITY WAIVER FOR FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

The undersigned having been fully advised as to the nature and possible dangers and hazards of the field trip, hereby acknowledges and agrees this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, that:

1. (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ (herein referred to as "Participant") intends to participate in one or more field trips sponsored by the Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists (herein referred to as "AEG").

The field trip for which this waiver is being made is to be held on Friday, October 9 through Sunday, October 11, 2015, in the Yadkin Valley, North Carolina.

2. Participant agrees and understands that during such field trip(s), he/she will be under the direction and control of the trip leader approved by the AEG, and specifically agrees to comply with all reasonable directions and instructions by the trip director during the course thereof.

3. Participant understands and acknowledges that there are risks of injury to person and/or property that are associated with field trips, including without limitation risks related to travel hazards, terrain, weather, eating and sleeping arrangements, and other circumstances. Participant hereby voluntarily assumes all risks connected with or arising out of his/her participation in field trip activities, and waives any claim against AEG, its officers, directors, employees, agents and members for any injury, harm, damage or other liability arising out of field trip activities.

4. Participant understands and acknowledges that the AEG assumes no liability for personal injuries or property damages to participants or to third persons arising out of field trip activities. Participant agrees to hold AEG harmless from any liability for harm arising out of the acts or omissions of AEG or Participant during any such field trip, and indemnify AEG against any and all awards or judgments against AEG in favor of third parties for losses and damages (including attorney's fees and any costs involved because of said claims), on account of injury, death or property damage, or inconvenience or loss of money due to delay that may arise, by reason of Participant's participation in field trip activities.

5. I understand that my use of alcohol or drugs would impair my judgment and coordination, and I hereby waive, and will hold the AEG harmless from, any and all claims of bodily injury or other harm arising from my use of either. I will indemnify AEG against awards or judgments in favor of third parties for losses or damages (including attorney's fees and costs), of whatever nature, arising out of my use of alcohol or drugs while participating in field trip activities.

6. I hereby state that **I am at least twenty-one (21) years old**, am competent to sign this document, and am legally permitted to consume alcoholic beverages.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Participant's Signature)

<b>Mail liability waiver to:</b> Sue Buchanan Schnabel Engineering 11A Oak Branch Drive Greensboro, NC 27407	<b>or email to:</b> sbuchanan@schnabel-eng.com
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