

## What is ACE?



**The Association of Conservation Engineers (ACE)** is a professional organization of engineers and others in related disciplines who work with the natural environment

and promote the application of sound engineering practices in the field of natural resource protection and recreation development.

ACE is an international organization and was founded on March 6, 1961, in Washington, D.C.

The organization's objective is to bring together the knowledge and experience of engineers and other personnel employed by conservation and recreation agencies and consultants who have a community of specialized interests in the areas of fish, wildlife, parks, forests and related conservation and recreation fields.

## What is Conservation Engineering?



Conservation engineering involves the creation of outdoor recreation facilities that everyone can use and enjoy safely. But more important, conservation engineering ensures that these facilities blend into the surrounding environment as much as possible in order to enhance the areas' natural resources. It's a field that requires expertise in many engineering disciplines, such as

construction, structural, hydraulic and sanitary, to name a few.

Along with this engineering versatility, conservation engineers must have an understanding of the biological and environmental functions of the project on which they are working. They must be able to transform the biological requirements of fish production or wildlife management into an operating facility; protect and rebuild the past as part of rehabilitating historic structures; and apply creative thinking and innovative design solutions to construct recreation facilities in environmentally sensitive areas.

ACE represents the "best of the best" engineers engaged in the development and management of facilities within the world's greatest natural resources.

The conservation engineer must depend a great deal upon communication between resource managers, biologists, and fellow conservation professionals to meet conservation engineering challenges.

There are very few textbooks or college-level courses available on conservation engineering. ACE helps to fill this void through interaction among its members, quarterly newsletter, development of reference designs, and attendance at the ACE annual meeting.

Members are able to exchange information, learn new concepts from the experience of others, and follow the latest trends in natural resource development by communicating with other professionals in the field. A member can consult with members in other states and provinces, and gain access to unique solutions and proven designs for recreation facilities. The experience of other ACE members can be employed to realize a significant savings in time and expense.



## Advantages of ACE Membership

- ✓ Learning the latest trends in conservation engineering projects. Learning to develop project criteria by discussing issues with engineers and allied professionals who have already planned, designed and constructed projects.

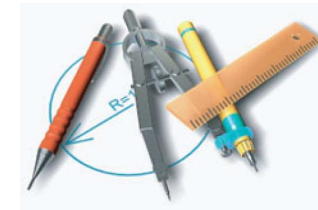
- ✓ Visiting facilities in other states as part of the annual conference.
- ✓ Finding out what works and what does not. ACE members are a unique group of professionals who are willing to discuss mistakes and lessons learned. Members share experience on developments that did not work and solutions to engineering problems.
- ✓ Building long-term relationships with other professionals engaged in the same type of projects, studies, management activities, and state and federal programs involving fish, wildlife and recreational activities.

## Membership Types

Membership is by application, and modest annual dues provide the financial resources to meet the organization's routine operating funds. The ACE does not have a headquarters or a paid staff. Active members assume these duties by means of their election as officers and by committee assignments.

Three grades of membership are available. Active members shall be persons engaged in conservation engineering work with involvement directly related to the engineering planning, design, construction and development of projects. An associate membership is open to all other persons engaged in similar pursuits and to those who have special interests in the conservation field. A student membership is also available for those who are working toward a college degree.

## College Scholarship Program



The James (Jim) Schalk Memorial Association of Conservation Engineers Scholarship is awarded annually to eligible college students. See our website for details.

<http://www.conservationengineers.org>

