

PRESS RELEASE

National Soil Scientist Dr. Liz Haney to Lead Soil Health Masterclass in Kansas

BALDWIN CITY, KS — March 26, 2026 — Farmers, agronomists and agricultural professionals from across Kansas and the central Plains will have a rare opportunity to learn directly from a leading soil health scientist when Dr. Liz Haney presents an intensive Soil Health Masterclass on March 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Worden Cornerstone Church near Baldwin City in rural Douglas County.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: This event is open to farmers, agronomists, crop consultants, conservation professionals and anyone interested in soil health and regenerative agriculture.

Hosted by the Kansas Soil Health Alliance, this in-depth workshop will focus on biological soil testing approaches that evaluate soil as a living system rather than relying solely on conventional chemical extraction methods.

Unlike traditional soil tests, these approaches measure microbial activity and plant-available nutrient pools that soil organisms are actively cycling. The result is a clearer understanding of how much fertility the soil is already providing.

“Farmers can’t control markets or input prices, but they can control how well they understand their soil,” said Haney. “When you know what your soil is already providing, you stop paying for what you don’t need.”

With fertilizer prices continuing to fluctuate and margins tightening, understanding soil function is becoming increasingly important for producers looking to improve efficiency while maintaining productivity.

“The most profitable acre on a farm is the one where the soil is doing the work,” Haney said. “Our goal is to help farmers understand how to measure that.”

Soil Biology and the Future of Farming

Many producers exploring soil health practices refer to this approach as regenerative agriculture.

North Dakota farmer Gabe Brown describes regenerative agriculture as “farming and ranching in synchrony with nature to repair, rebuild, revitalize and restore ecosystem function, beginning with all life in the soil and moving to all life above the soil.”

According to agroecological perspectives, this reflects a growing scientific understanding that when soil is managed as a living system, photosynthesis, soil biology and nutrient cycling begin working together to support crop nutrition more efficiently.

Why This Matters for Farmers

- Identify nutrients already supplied by soil biology
- Improve fertilizer efficiency and reduce unnecessary inputs
- Strengthen microbial activity that drives nutrient cycling
- Build resilience into cropping systems
- Protect profitability as input costs fluctuate

Event Details

Soil Health Masterclass with Dr. Liz Haney

March 26, 2026

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Worden Cornerstone Church (near Baldwin City, KS)
294 E 900 Rd

Lunch is included with registration.

Register here: bit.ly/Soil-Masterclass