

The Plant and Soil Sciences Department cordially invites
you to a seminar on
“The Role of Soils in Human Security in the 21st Century”

Dr. Donald L. Sparks
University of Delaware

February 12, 2016

12:20PM—1:15 PM in 132 Townsend Hall

Human security is extremely dependent on Planet Earth’s soil resources. Yet, there are major threats to these vital resources exacerbated by climate change, contamination, and increasing population and development, to name a few. Human impacts on soils have never been greater. How we respond to these threats will ultimately impact human prosperity and survival.



Dr. Sparks' research focuses on soil and environmental chemistry -- specifically the reaction rates of metals and nutrients with mineral surfaces and soils and impacts on bioavailability and transport in soils and water. Since joining the UD faculty 36 years ago, Dr. Sparks has created an internationally prominent graduate program in environmental soil chemistry in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He has won numerous awards and honors, including the University's highest academic recognition, the Francis Alison Award, and UD's Doctoral Student Advising and Mentoring Award, of which he was the first recipient.