

Envirothon Soils & Forestry Workshop Agenda

Tolland County Agriculture Center
24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon CT 06066

Saturday October 26, 2019

8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

8:30 to 8:40 AM Welcome – Registration - Food and Beverages

8:40 to 9:40 AM **Presentation on the current Envirothon issue, Water Resources Management: Local Control and Local Solutions**

9:40 to 9:45 AM Break – Food and Beverages
Gather into groups for the Soil rotational sessions.

9:45 to 11:30 AM **3 Soil Station Rotations** (30 minutes each)

Soil Station Rotations – start 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, end at 11:30 AM

Work with soil scientists to learn more about the importance of soils in the natural (and unnatural) world. You'll be getting your hands dirty!! Brush up on basic soils skills, learn about earthworms, examine a soil pit, participate in a mock Envirothon soil station exam, and hone your map reading skills. Soils are a non-renewable natural resource, so you will learn how to describe soils and practical methods to preserve them.

Dig It! – Describe and interpret a soil profile; learn the 5 soil forming factors
Jacob Isleib, USDA NRCS Soil Scientist

See it! -- Discover how to texture and color soil; touch invasive worms; put a rainfall simulator into action.
Dawn Pettinelli, UCONN Extension Educator

Map it! – Sharpen your soil station exam skills – map reading and Web Soil Survey exercises
Debbie Surabian, USDA NRCS State Soil Scientist CT/RI

11:30 to 11:40 AM Break – Food and Beverages
Gather into groups for the Forestry rotational sessions.

11:45 to 1:30 PM **3 Forestry Station Rotations** (30 minutes each – 5 min to rotate)
Forestry Station Rotations – 11:45 start, 12:15, 12:50, end at 1:30 PM

Tree Measurement – Use a clinometer, a DBH tape, and a Biltmore (tree scale) stick for measuring tree diameter and merchantable height and estimating board-foot volume.

Tree ID – Identify common tree and shrub species in Connecticut

Tree Physiology – Identify “what makes a tree a tree”, and tree growth characteristics adapted to soil types, water availability, and the needs of a tree.

Connecticut Envirothon



Take the Natural Challenge!