

Fishers & Farmers Working with NRCS & County Employees on Soil Health

After learning more about soil health from NRCS employees in Missouri and guest speaker Ray Archaeleta (NRCS-SC) at the Red Cedar Conference in WI, the Fishers & Farmers Partnership decided to purchase a rain simulator. The simulator has been educating not only farmers, but also biologists about the importance of soil health and how it can improve fish, wildlife and water quality in streams. “We don’t have a runoff problem,” Ray tells the EPA, “we have an infiltration problem. Tillage is not our friend.”

This past spring and summer, NRCS and county employees around Wisconsin have been using Fishers & Farmers rain simulator to educate farmers about soil health and train employees on how to engage farmers in more conservation practices. Specific topics include tillage practices, cover crops, residue, and managed grazing.



NRCS Photo

Shaunna Repking (NRCS-Onalaska, WI) attended the La Crosse Urban Stormwater’s outreach event to show how important soil health is in the city as well as the country.

Soil Health – NRCS: By farming using soil health principles & systems that include no-till, cover cropping and diverse rotations, more & more farmers are actually increasing their soil’s organic matter & improving microbial activity. As a result, farmers are sequestering more carbon, increasing water infiltration, improving wildlife & pollinator habitat—all while harvesting better profits & often better yields.



FWS Photo

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If fields are not tilled, healthy soil acts as a sponge & very little water runs off into streams & rivers.

Contact Fishers & Farmers Coordinator, Heidi Keuler, to learn more about scheduling the FFP educational trailer which includes a rain simulator and stream table for your event.