



Earth Team Volunteers: The Volunteer Workforce of the Natural Resources Conservation Service



The Earth Team provides volunteer leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

The Earth Team is the volunteer workforce of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Earth Team volunteers are an integral part of the conservation partnership and each member takes pride in the fact that they maintain and improve our natural resources and environment on private lands.

When you sign on as an Earth Team volunteer, you are on your way to becoming a caretaker of natural resources in your community. You may find yourself helping farmers, ranchers, and other landowners prevent wind and water erosion, conserving and cleaning up water, enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing flooding, or helping citizens of all ages learn about the environment and conservation through exciting educational activities.

The Earth Team offers outstanding and exciting opportunities for people who need professional work experience or academic credit. Who knows? After serving on the Earth Team, you may decide to pursue a career in conservation.

The Earth Team needs a variety of people with a variety of skills and talents. As an Earth Team volunteer, you can join professional conservationists as they work directly with local farmers and ranchers in putting conservation practices on the land. You also may play an important part in improving wildlife habitat or taking inventories of natural resources.

If you are interested in conservation education, you can work with elementary and high school students, and college and university students, too. Through camps, classes, tours, and exhibits, you can introduce them to the wonders of nature and get them in closer touch with natural resources.

Interested in other kinds of community outreach? As an Earth Team volunteer, you may organize and develop conservation tours and exhibits for professional societies, civic groups, and people of all ages. You can get folks involved in improving water quality and erosion control projects. You can write newspaper and magazine articles or speak to community groups. Or you may apply your artistic talent to produce conservation publications.

Successful conservation work relies on people who have office skills. The Earth Team needs your talents for computer data entry and programming, typing, and filing. Also needed are people who have “people skills” – folks who enjoy providing information about conservation to those who stop by or call NRCS offices.

To become an Earth Team volunteer, you must be 14 years of age or older and interested in conserving natural resources. You can work part time or full time, evenings or weekends, outdoors or in a local NRCS office.

It’s easy to sign up. Contact your local NRCS Office (which can usually be found in the Government section of your telephone book). You can also call 1-888-LANDCARE (526-3227) and leave your name, address, and phone numbers. Your information will be passed on to an office near you.

Join the Earth Team! Your community’s natural resources need you.