

# VOLUNTEERS

helping people help the land

Virginia

## Student Eager to Learn about Conservation

Eager to learn about conservation planning and practices, Chase Lawhorn served as an Earth team volunteer in the Bonsack Service Center in Virginia. The Virginia Tech student volunteer proved to be an asset to the office completing 402 hours of volunteer service while averaging over 32 hours of work per week. He participated in planning appointments with clients, assisting with resource inventory, taking photos, and locating resource concerns on aerial photographs. Chase also participated in surveys for practice design including running the total station survey instrument and designing the practices.

Chase was instrumental in the planning and conduct of a very successful farm tour highlighting a mitigation project. He also represented NRCS at a public meeting for landowners interested in wildlife habitat where he compiled a list of potential Farm Bill program applicants. Partner agencies such as the Farm Service Agency, Mountain Castles Soil and Water conservation District and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries also benefited from Chase's volunteer service.



*Photo caption: Earth Team volunteer, Chase Lawhorn, works in the field for the Bonsack NRCS.*

Chase provided quality service to the Bonsack field office while building a foundation for conservation that will have long term benefits for the office, his community, and himself.

The Earth Team is the volunteer component of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact the National Earth Team office at (888) 526-3227 or visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/volunteers](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/volunteers).

