

Technical Soil Services Breakout Group 4 discussion 1:00-2:30 pm Thursday

Comments from participants:

It is desired/preferable that RSS assistance is requested upfront instead of after the fact

Connecticut has created specialist teams including agronomy team, inventory team, and community team. They conduct initial assessments. STC is supportive

Non ag requests are via Districts or directly from other Gov't entities

Training re TSS via Intro to Soil Survey for new employees and Soil Quality course

STC Ill. Bill Gradle a big supporter of TSS

New Jersey has 2 mini tech centers to assist DC's

Toolkit: RSS should conduct the soils portion of Toolkit training

A soil scientist should attend all staff meetings and Field Office Appraisals

Planner certification should include a component on map content

Submit short success stories to Smith for inclusion in NRCS This Week, etc.

Bootcamp contains a good soils component

Suggest putting a pre-made template in Toolkit. Also, shape files of dominant themes should be posted into f:geodata for field office easy access.

Create a set of practices that the soil scientist should be called about in FO plan development activities

SSS request becoming aware of data needs for other models or programs about 6 months in advance. E.g. Weren't notified of soils needs for WEPS training in advance

Conservation Planning Certification training: revisit how much soil scientists get involved and increase presence

NHQ Programs Eligibility: should use most current data. Data refresh should come before annual program implementation

Cross training should occur for both soil scientists and conservationists

RSS should provide needs for soil survey update

RSS need SDV training

Make sure pedons and other field notes