



United States Department of Agriculture



Help America's farmers conserve soil, water, air and other natural resources.

# VOLUNTEER



**LEARN**  
about conservation and agriculture.



**GIVE**  
back to your community.



**GAIN**  
experience in field or office work.



**CREATE**  
opportunities for academic credit.

**& MORE**

Over 7 billion people live on our planet today. The earth's natural resources need to stay healthy to provide food, water, and energy for people today and for future generations.

That's where we come in.

## Volunteer with the Earth Team!

Contact your local USDA NRCS Office or the Pennsylvania Earth Team Coordinator at (717)237-2100.

[www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov)



*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.*

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# We can get conservation on the ground, with the help of Earth Team volunteers around!

## The Earth Team Needs You!

Conserving natural resources requires the time, energy, knowledge and talent of many individuals. With the help of Earth Team volunteers, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can expand its services, ultimately putting more conservation on the ground.

NRCS and its volunteer program, the Earth Team, help America's farmers conserve Pennsylvania's soil, water, air, and other natural resources. Through partnerships with individual landowners and local communities, NRCS plans and implements voluntary conservation practices and offers incentive-based conservation programs that benefit both the landowner and the environment.

## Who can be a volunteer?

Employees of NRCS or other Federal, State, or local government agencies; resource conservation and development (RC&D) board members; and conservation district officials may serve as volunteers.

## WE ARE EARTH TEAM!



During High School, Joshua Shank volunteered with the Gettysburg Field Office, mainly during the summer months. He assisted the field office with surveying conservation practices and has done some calculations and plotting of surveying notes.



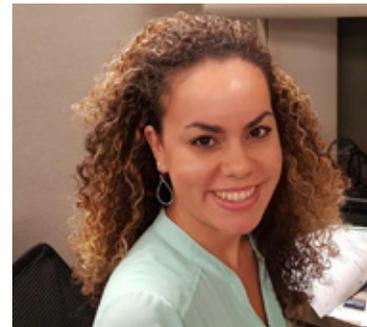
Michelle (Shelly) Baldwin is a great addition to the volunteer ranks. She gets any task done quickly and efficiently with little instruction. She stuffed over 900 seed packets in one day!

## What can volunteers do?

Anyone age 14 and older can be an Earth Team volunteer.

Earth Team volunteers:

- Conduct soil surveys
- Test water quality
- Work on wetland restoration projects
- Assist with field visits
- Perform clerical duties
- Create communications products (writing, design, photography)
- Coordinate and staff events
- Assist with layout of conservation practices
- Work on land reclamation projects
- Develop and present educational materials



Mariela Ortiz became a volunteer for the Pennsylvania USDA-NRCS State Office in August 2016, excited to support the conservation movement while also expanding her professional skills.

Mariela has worked on a variety of projects and has performed a wide range of duties. She did not require a lot of monitoring when showing her new tasks, as she is a very quick learner.



Josef Corso (middle) holding a soil sampler tool "Probe" with interns Adam Novac (left) and Aaron Johnson (right). Taking soil samples in Columbia County, Pennsylvania.