

SOIL AND PLANT SCIENCE DIVISION

Technical Soil Services

Northeast Soil Survey Region

Dover-Foxcroft Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) Soil Survey Office (SSO)

SPSD Staff Participate in Environmental Jobs Fair

Purpose

The Dover-Foxcroft MLRA SSO assisted the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD), Maine TREE, Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), and Rural Aspirations Project host their first Green Jobs Career Fair. The career fair showcases “green” jobs in the environmental and natural resource sector by providing interactive lessons in environmental fields to middle school students on public land, named the Law Farm, owned and maintained by the PCSWCD.

Key Outcomes

Over 25 private, state, and federal businesses and organizations provided students with interactive forestry, wildlife, soil science, and recreation lesson stations and an exhibition area. The four stations and exhibition area had unique and inspirational mentors and activities. Students were curious to explore the interactive station activities and eager to handle the various tools and equipment used by the different environmental fields.

At the soils station, students were able to use field description equipment, paint with soils, sieve different soil components, texture soils, and talk to soil scientists about careers with NRCS. The Dover-Foxcroft MLRA SSO were excited to contribute to a successful first launch of the Green Job Career Fair and inspire the next generation.



Figure 1: Soil Scientists Josh Dera (left) and Alaina Kresovic (right) talk with interested students about soil science as a career.



Figure 2: A photo of the students' soil painting masterpieces.