

CONSERVATION *Showcase*

Impressive Interns Barbara Goehres Franklin County August 22, 2019

Current students at Shippensburg University, Troy Alleman and Cameron Weiser have spent their summer diligently working as volunteer interns. Troy is an intern for the Franklin County Conservation District and Chambersburg Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Cameron is a volunteer for Carlisle NRCS. Troy, a retired Navy veteran, is graduating with a master's degree in the Spring of 2020. Along with his work this summer, Troy has spent many hours as an Earth Team volunteer over the last year and a half. Cameron, an undergraduate, spent his summer alongside Troy during his first internship with NRCS. Troy and Cameron are both majoring in Geo Environmental Studies. After graduation, Troy would like to work for NRCS, and Cameron is interested in land use planning with community engagement.

Troy and Cameron have been a crucial part of our Franklin-Cumberland County NRCS Southeast-1 Field Team, pushing their education and knowledge about our practices into the fields and minds of Cumberland and Franklin County producers. Together, they have conducted field certification and for CTA reporting for approximately 6,000 acres. This helped the field team in completing approximately 80% of its reporting goal for the year! Troy and Cameron also assisted NRCS in collecting data on conservation planning visits, attended engineering visits with NRCS engineers to assist farmers to come up with solutions to solve resource concerns.

Even with CTA reporting consuming most of his time, Troy has volunteered many hours this summer helping with conservation practices, surveying for NRCS conservation practices, and meeting producers. Troy was also outstanding when NRCS paired up with the Conservation District in educating first graders in the Chambersburg area throughout multiple field trips at Caledonia State Park. Not to mention, Troy also helped with our Chambersburg Eco-Park public outreach event spending a lot of his time dedicated in planning of the day, working hard on the Eco-Park display and with social media advertising for the event.

We have all been extremely impressed and are eternally grateful for the time and dedication that Troy and Cameron have applied to their work with NRCS and our team. Their devotion to not only helping others, but to work in the field is infectious and is everything an Earth Team Volunteer stands for.



Cameron Wisner (left) and Troy Alleman (right) return from certifying CTA acres in the field.