

VOLUNTEERS

helping people help the land

Navy Veteran volunteers by helping with "field" work

After 5 ½ years in the Navy, Lee Cummings decided to continue his life of service by supporting conservation in his community. The son of NRCSer Chuck Cummings was aware of the agency's important contributions to natural resource protection and joined Earth Team in October 2014 to work with farmers in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley.

During his time in the Lexington Service Center, Lee has helped identify and determine solutions to resource concerns and survey and measure installed practices on asbuilt reviews. He also assisted the Verona Civil Engineering Team with monitoring and surveying of flood control dams in Pittsylvania and Augusta counties. In the office, Lee performed a myriad of office tasks to lighten the load for field staff.

Lee assisted with cost estimates, application rankings, contract reviews, and practice checkouts. He spent substantial time creating topographic maps of project locations in ArcMap, completed background documentation for Cultural Resource Reviews, helped with HEL reviews, and gathered information regarding wetland determinations.

Like many Earth Team volunteers, Lee has gained knowledge as a volunteer that has opened the door to a position in conservation. In fact, he was recently hired as a TMDL Technician for the Natural Bridge Soil and Water Conservation District.



Earth Team volunteer Lee Cummings, a Navy Veteran, helps with "hands-on" field work in Lexington, VA.

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.

NRCS
Earth Team