



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service Earth Team

# Volunteer Showcase

## Student Combines Communications and Science as Earth Team Volunteer

University of Wisconsin student Josie Dallam used both of her majors as an Earth Team volunteer.

The life sciences communication and agronomy major, who grew up on a dairy farm in Maryland, worked in the Maryland NRCS state office in Annapolis and the Hartford and Cecil County Conservation District, an important NRCS partner.

Josie applied and expanded her expertise by helping install conservation practices in a shallow-water wildlife area, working on a stream restoration project, taking soil samples, and planting trees.

Josie used this field experience to write many different articles for the NRCS Maryland's *Conservation Source*; a column for the *Delmarva Farmer* on tillage radishes; feature stories on the Pocomoke Watershed Restoration Regional Conservation Partnership Program; and success stories about agricultural producers.

"Josie brought a fresh perspective and tons of enthusiasm to the Maryland Public Affairs team," said Maryland NRCS public affairs specialist Genevieve Lister. "Her ability to describe complex agronomic practices in layman's terms helped spread the conservation message to new audiences."



"I have been blessed to have the great opportunity to work with, and learn from, many people in NRCS and have been able to experience a variety of different aspects of NRCS," Dallam said.

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: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/people/volunteers/>

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