



Snyder County Conservation District

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Snyder County Scouts Learn about Soil & Water

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) was invited to give presentations to Snyder County boy scouts during their spring campout on April 30, 2011. Two SCCD technicians talked to the scouts and their leaders about the following items:

- Water (hydrologic) cycle and water availability
- Soil formation, soil characteristics and what is in soil
- Stormwater, point and non-point source pollution and its prevention
- Watersheds, groundwater and the Chesapeake Bay



Above Left: Boy scouts learn about watersheds, stormwater management and point and non-point source pollution on the Enviroscope®. Brian Herber (not shown in picture), SCCD Resource Conservation Technician, also talked about sediment control practices on excavation sites and explained the purpose of the stormwater stenciling project to scouts and their leaders.



Above Right: Boy scouts look at a soil aggregate model to learn about soil formation, soil particle sizes and soil life from Barry Spangler (standing, green jacket), SCCD Agriculture Conservation Technician, who also talked about the water cycle and availability. Thanks goes to Union County Conservation District for allowing SCCD to borrow its soil aggregate model.

Below: More pictures of boy scouts participating in the campout and SCCD presentations.



Each boy scout received a refrigerator magnet titled “Keep Sediment Away from Clean Water” and made a miniature soil tube showing the many layers in the soil to take home.

All scouts and their leaders listened to a presentation regarding the availability of stencils to mark stormwater drains available for local organizations to use. These stencils are to educate the general public about the importance of keeping stormwater, which may carry various pollutants into our streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay, clean.



These educational presentations were part of a three day campout planed by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Susquehanna Council’s Susquehannock District. Scouts also learned about forestry and other natural resources, worked to clear a nearby woodlot, and witnessed a sawmill demonstration given by the Middlecreek Valley Antique Association. All activities were held on or near the SCCD managed Selinsgrove Grounds were to help attending scouts earn their Soil & Water Conservation Merit Badges.

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Over the years, the Conservation District have given presentations and demonstrations to home school students, agriculture students in the Selinsgrove Area High School, 4-Hers, boy scouts and Young Farmers, other civic groups and the general public in Snyder County. Topics ranged from water quality, soil erosion prevention, watershed protection to nutrient management and energy conservation.

If your school or organization would like the Conservation District to give a presentation, please contact the [Conservation District](#) at 570-837-3000.

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If you have any questions regarding the stormwater stenciling project, please call the Conservation District at 570-837-3000. Stencils and supporting items (*paint, safety orange cones, brushes, etc*) are available on loan for local groups. If your group is interested, please contact us and ask for our information brochure on stormwater stenciling before making plans. *Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*

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