

**Conservation District Gives Presentations to
Mid-West Fifth Graders at Camp Mt. Luther: October 2017**

Members from the Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) were invited to Camp Mt. Luther (west of Mifflinburg, PA) to teach fifth graders about the benefits and importance of pollinators and soil during Mid-West School District's annual Outdoor Education program. SCCD's presentations took place on October 19 and 26, 2017.

Jason Winey (Watershed Specialist), Renee Swineford (Administrative Assistant) and Barry Spangler (Agricultural Conservation Technician) gave presentations to fifth graders from West Snyder and Middleburg Elementary Schools. Fourteen presentations were given during the two days to approximately 160 fifth graders.



Above Photos: Jason Winey, SCCD Watershed Specialist, (left photo) holds a cantaloupe during his talk about the importance of bees as pollinators of many of the foods we eat. Most of the foods pictured in the right photo would not be available at all or be very limited and more expensive to consumers.

Honeybees and other bees need a food source (flower nectar) and habitat (flowering plants and clean environment). To reinforce that, students made "soil balls" by mixing clay, potting soil and wildflower seed mix. After the "seed balls" were formed, they were air dried and given back to the students to take home. The "seed balls" will break down and wildflowers will sprout, giving bees a suitable food source in the future.



Above Photos: Renee Swineford, SCCD Administrative Assistant, (left photo, standing far left, pink sweatshirt) and Jason Winey (right photo, far right, green shirt) help students make their “soil balls.” Below Right: Fifth graders making “soil balls.” Below Right: Example “soil balls.”



Left: Each student had the opportunity to make his/her own soil profile tube. A soil profile tube is a miniature cross section of the soil profile. The soil profile starts from the organic matter and topsoil horizons (layers) to the bedrock at the very bottom. Jason Winey (standing, far right) helps out the students while making their soil tubes.

For more information regarding this event and other environmental educational opportunities for youngsters, call the Snyder County Conservation District at 570-837-3000 or email us at sccd@ptd.net.

Check what else we do by visiting our website at www.snyderconservation.org.

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