

Madison County Soil Conservation District

Why Conservation?

Over 70% of the earth's surface is covered with water!

Less than 30% of the earth's surface is land!

Topsoil is rich & is needed to grow plants for our food & fiber!

It can take as long as 1,000 years for nature to form 1 inch of topsoil!

Yet, in less than one year rainfall can erode away 1 inch of topsoil!

11% of all land is ice capped. This leaves only 25% of the earth's surface for the earth's 7,000,000,000 (7 billion) people to live, to have houses, roads, factories, businesses, stores, schools, parks, etc... and the land necessary to grow crops, to feed, house, and clothe us. This 25% includes barren and mostly uninhabitable places like deserts, marshes, severely eroded areas, and tundra. This equates to less than 5 acres of land per person, including the mostly uninhabitable lands; an area of about 5 football fields per person, to meet each person's many needs.

By 2025 it is estimated that the earth's population will increase 8 billion and by 2050 to 9 billion..

As earth's population increases more of the land will be used for houses, roads, factories, stores, etc... and less land available for food and fiber production.

To insure there is a relatively cheap & adequate supply of food & fiber in the future it is essential that we value our soil today & use it wisely.

Earth: Our Home



Life's vital resources

Surface Area of the Earth



Puzzle Clues:

1. The total of our surroundings; the earth, plants, animals, soil, water, air, and people.
2. The liquid that covers 70% of the earth's surface.
3. Living organisms such as dogs, cats, horses, and cattle, as distinguished from plants.
4. Living organisms such as trees, grass, shrubs, cotton and corn; as distinguished from animals.
5. Living things collectively, whether animals or plants.
6. The invisible mixture of gases we breath that surrounds the earth.
7. The wise use of natural resources so as to preserve a healthy environment for the future.
8. Men, women, boys, and girls, as distinguished from animals.
9. The natural material in which plants grown.
10. The only planet known to support life.

Choices:

Air
Water
Soil
People
Plants

Animals
Life
Earth
Conservation
Environment