



Bradford County Conservation District education coordinator Dan Rhodes works with high school students from North Rome Christian School to provide an activity/experiment designed to show the causes and effects of soil erosion within the County's many acres of agricultural, forested, residential, urban, and industrial land uses. Within this experiment, students discovered that no matter what land use type or soil they wished to examine on the landscape, keeping soil erosion to a minimum and therefore water quality at a maximum, often hinges on the simple and cost effective soil management decision to keep some sort of natural vegetative plant matter layer on the surface of the soil at all times. This management tool works as a mechanism to allow for the both the absorption of rainfall that will limit the water's ability to pick up speed and carry the soil away, but also lends itself to providing a way for the water to slowly percolate down into the soil; thereby making itself available for the growth and continued vitality of crops, forests or other plant life.



During this part of their visit to the Conservation District, the North Rome Christian School students learned about the physical properties of some of the main types of soils found within Bradford County, and as a direct correlation, what sorts of agricultural, industrial, residential, forested or other land uses would be best for that soil type.



Dan Rhodes-Education Coordinator for BCCD facilitates a wildlife education program for the Canton High School FFA students that plan to participate in the annual FFA soils, land-use, wildlife, aquatics and forestry competition held at Mt. Pisgah State Park. Overall this competition is one of the most useful and interactive tools used to teach students that will soon be responsible for natural resource management decisions as adults, how knowledge of such principles will make them not only into effective and environmentally conscious agricultural producers, but also informed, environmental stewardship-minded citizens overall.

