

Glossary

Clay: soil type made of small particles that clump together and become hard when dry; clay soils have less air space and plant roots have a difficult time growing in this soil type.

Ecosystem: a community of plants, animals, and microorganisms that are linked by energy and nutrient flows; interact with each other and with the physical environment including temperature, soils, precipitation, and many other factors.

Erosion: the removal or wearing away of soils by the action of wind, water, ice, or other forces.

Ethic: a system of principles, rules, and/or standards of behavior (conduct) based on beliefs and values.

Land ethic: a standard of behavior based on respecting the land and the responsible management of land and natural resources

Loam: a rich soil composed of clay, silt, sand, and organic matter.

Natural resources: the materials the environment provides necessary for our survival or useful towards our quality of life which include water, air, forest, wildlife, soils, oil, natural gas, and many other resources.

Preparation: the process of planning for an activity in advanced

Respect: appreciation and consideration for the value of rights, values, beliefs, people and property

Safety: freedom from harm or danger

Sand: soil type made large course textured granular particles (largest relative to other soil types), are loosely arranged, do not hold water and are usually nutrient poor

Silt: smaller than sand and larger than clay this soil composed of rock and minerals

Soil biodiversity: the variety of life (plants, animals, and microorganisms) that live in soils

Soil compaction: compression of soil that removes pores, eliminating water- and air-holding capacity resulting in erosion and limited plant growth

Stewardship: caring for land and natural resources and passing healthy ecosystems to future generations

Values: a belief of characteristic of something that is important to a person which is believed to be good, right, and desirable