Healthy Soils Are Full of Life! – Soil and Water Stewardship
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Daily each of us has the need of food. Vegetables, fruit, grains, dairy, meats and more. Do you think about how it got to your grocery store? Or the miles it had to travel or the people responsible for making it possible for you to have your glass of orange juice for breakfast or your sandwich at lunch or that bake potato for supper.
Our families depend on good food for healthy bodies. It takes healthy soil to produce the healthy food.
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Your food gets its start in the soil
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Healthy soil provides healthy food.
Conservation and your food
Soil is an important part of producing the food you eat each day. Farmers and Ranchers take great care of the soil so that we can eat everyday. Many use conservation practices to keep the soil in place so that it does not wash away when it rains or too windy. These are called Best Management Practices. Some Best Management practices are: Buffer Strip, Grass Waterway, and Windbreak.
Trace the bread back to the soil
Let's trace bread back to the soil.

It actually takes many steps to produce a product.

Bread is great for toast or for sandwiches. Bread is made from flour.

The flour is ground from wheat. Which comes from wheat grown in a field. The wheat is harvested by a combine. Which grows from seed grown in the soil. Think of all the people, machinery and time to get a loaf of bread to your table.
Food products in your community
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In your community and communities around the country is where you will find
the majority of the food you eat each day.
Wheat
Apples
Cattle
Vegetables
Each has a connection back to the soil
Soil and Water Stewardship
Harmony Litany

• Written by: Gina DeMarco, District Manager
Northern RI Conservation District, RI
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• Leader: The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and things on earth, visible and invisible...all things have been created through him and for him. 
   (Colossians 1:15-16)

• Response: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are his, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. 
   (Psalm 100:3)
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Response: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are his, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. (Psalm 100:3)
• Leader: “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you: I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.” (Ezekiel 36:26)

• Response: Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. (Colossians 3:10)
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• Leader: For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (Colossians 1:19-20)

• Response: For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth...they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit ... and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands...They shall not hurt or destroy on my holy mountain (Isaiah 65:17-25).
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• Leader: People of Zion, who live in Jerusalem, you will weep no more. How gracious he will be when you cry for help! He will send you rain for the seed you sow in the ground, and the food that comes from the land will be rich and plentiful. (Isaiah 30:19-23)

• Response: Come let us return to the LORD! (Hosea 6:1) Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscious and having our bodies washed with pure water. (Hebrews 10:22)
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• If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land (2Chronicles 7:14).
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Your home & community is a great place to grow food!
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Gardening is a great way to learn how food grows
If you don’t have room for a garden – many people are designing edible landscaping around their homes or apartments. Instead of flowers, plants things you can eat! You can even grow vegetables in containers.
Healthy Soil + Healthy Food = Healthy YOU
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Give thanks to the food we have each day and for those that make it possible.

He gives good to every living thing.  
His faithful love endures forever.

Psalm 136-25
Give thanks to the food we have each day and for those that make it possible

He gives good to every living thing.
His faithful love endures forever.
Psalm 136-25
• Your local conservation district helps people who want to do their part in caring for our soil and water resources. Contact your local office to get information on soils and a variety of natural resource areas.

• To find your local conservation district – Visit http://www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/conservation-district-directory/

• (Space for local conservation district to add their information)

• And additional slides for local community connections.
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