

The Soil Tunnel Trailer-Western KS is

- Educational
- Hands-on
- Virtual Experience
- Three Dimensional
- Museum Quality
- Mobile
- Walk through Display
- Handicap Accessible
- In English and Spanish
- And a Non-Profit Project

A self-contained 14' by 8.5' trailer features soils and allows for interaction with our underground natural resources. The professional design inside, outside, and on top of the trailer will bring the world of soil to life.

One side of the trailer will educate viewers about the natural history of soil with 3-D prairie dog, worm, roots, and organisms. Examples of human impacts on soil such as toxic waste and septic system contamination are featured on the opposite wall.



The Soil Tunnel Trailer will be used across Kansas to educate youth and adults about the relationship between their daily activities and the resulting effects on soil and other natural resources. The Soil Tunnel Trailer will serve as a learning tool and backdrop for a variety of lessons at schools, field days, county fairs and beyond.



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Kansas Conservation Districts are equal opportunity providers and employers.

Bring the Soil Tunnel Trailer to your community or school by contacting your local conservation district or:

Pawnee County Conservation District  
**Soil Tunnel Trailer—Western Kansas**

324 Main Street—Larned, KS 67850

620-285-2821 Ext 3

[www.soiltunneltrailerwk.com](http://www.soiltunneltrailerwk.com)

or

Miami County Conservation District  
**Soil Tunnel Trailer**

100 Angela Street, Suite 3—Paola, KS 66071

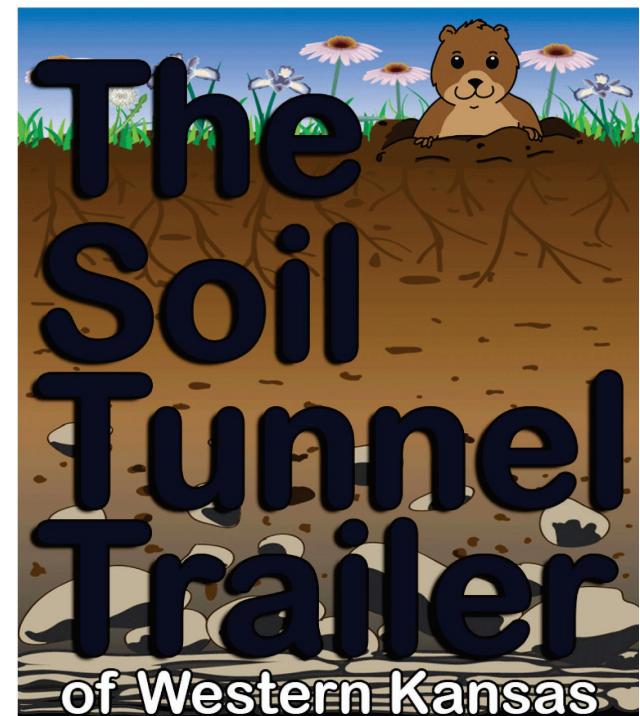
[mi.co.conservation@gmail.com](mailto:mi.co.conservation@gmail.com)

[www.soiltunneltrailer.com](http://www.soiltunneltrailer.com)

For a listing of Conservation Districts in Kansas  
visit

[www.kacdnet.org](http://www.kacdnet.org)

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**Giving Kansas a new look at the  
wonderful world of  
soil**



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## Soil is the basis for success of every industry!

Every day you walk on soil, but you cannot really see what is in the soil beneath your feet and understand the value of it.

Today's youth increasingly exhibit a disconnect with the products they use daily. When asked where their food comes from, children often reply, "The grocery store." Kansans need to understand and appreciate that it is necessary to protect soil because the food, fiber, and fuel we use daily come from the soil, not the store.

With this in mind, the Miami County Conservation District in Paola, Kansas, came up with the idea of the Soil Tunnel Trailer as a tool to teach about the wonderful natural resource—soil and with its success there soon reached a need for a second trailer, so the Rush County Conservation District, in LaCrosse, Kansas constructed a second Soil Tunnel Trailer for easier access in Western Kansas. With the availability of both Soil Tunnel Trailers, Kansans will learn more about the soil and connect it to their everyday lives.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT SOIL ONLINE:

USDA Web Soil Survey

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

The Dirt on Soil

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/schooladventures/soil/>

Painting with Soil

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/lewisandclark/paintingwithsoil.html>

Smithsonian National Museum of  
Natural History

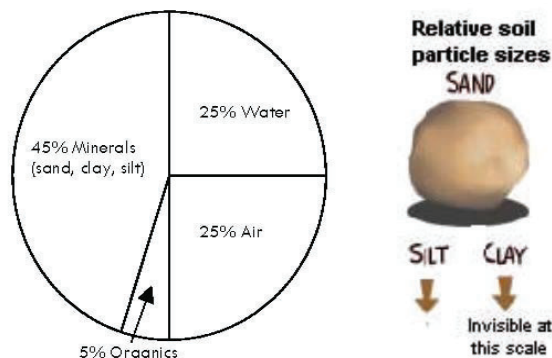
<http://forces.si.edu/soils/>

NACD Stewardship

<http://nacdnet.org/stewardship&education/>

## What is soil made of ?

For one thing, it is not just made of dirt. Dirt is made of materials that plants avoid growing in. Soil, on the other hand, is made up of a mixture of decayed organic material, living organisms, and minerals.



## Why is soil so important ?



Soil provides us with many things we depend on; there are probably more than you think. The food, fiber, and fuels that we depend on daily are all connected back to soil. Much of the food we eat either grows in soil, or comes from animals that eat plants, which grow in the soil. Many plants are used as herbs and must be grown in soil. Many of these plants and herbs can be used to make medicines; so soil helps keep us healthy! Soil is also the home of billions of organisms and microorganisms, including fungi and bacteria. Fungi and bacteria from the soil can also be used in medicines; for example, penicillin is one medicine produced by fungi.

Donate today to help the Soil Tunnel Trailer  
reach and teach others in Kansas.

Contact us at  
785-222-2615 ext 101

## Kansas Soil

Harney Silt Loam was adopted as the Official Soil of Kansas on April 12, 1990. Harney (meaning people) is derived from *harahey* an ancient Wichita Indian term for "Pawnee Indian," stemming from 1541 when Coronado journeyed across Kansas.

Harney soil has the ideal qualities of prairie soils. They are recognized as prime farmland and have excellent properties for producing food and fiber crops. These soils occur on about four million acres in west central Kansas.



**Map shows location  
of Harney soils in  
Kansas.**

### Harney Soil Profile

Surface layer: dark grayish brown silt loam

Subsurface layer: dark grayish brown silty clay loam

Subsoil—upper: grayish brown silty clay loam

Subsoil—middle: light brownish gray, calcareous silty clay loam

Subsoil—lower: light gray, calcareous silt loam



The paint colors on the Soil Tunnel Trailer were modeled after the colors of Harney Silt Loam Soil by artist Randall Bennett of Tall Grass Museum Services.