

# Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District

7775A Route 47 • Yorkville, Illinois 60560 • Phone 630.553.5821 • Fax 630.553.7442

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Eric McTaggart (NRCS) showing students how to make soil ribbons to determine the texture of the soil.



Students learning about aquatic habitats with Laura McCoy, an environmental educator from the Oswego School District.

## **Kendall County Natural Resource Tour**

As Kendall County has continued to develop and become more sub-urban, the need to educate it's citizens about our water and soil resources has become increasingly important. In response to this growing need, the education program through our county developed a Natural Resource Tour in order to provide an opportunity for 4th-5th grade students in the county to learn about these important natural resources and the importance of their conservation. This tour is held each year during the month of May at a Kendall County Forest Preserve location in Yorkville.

While at the tour, students travel through 8-10 unique learning stations. These stations are hosted by a variety of educational entities from Kendall and the surrounding counties. Involved organizations include the Conservation Foundation, Kendall County Forest Preserve, Kendall County Outdoor Education Center, Oswegoland Park District, Kendall County Health Department, Oswego School District Hands-on Science Program, Kendall County Farm Bureau, and Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District. Topics covered by these groups include Prairies and Wetlands, Water Conservation, Aquatic Habitats, Soil Science, Animal Habitats, and Interpretive Hiking.

Last year, over 600 students participated in the Natural Resource Tour, which was held for two days. This year, over 700 students are expected to attend the event, which has been expanded to a three day event. This tour provides a valuable experience for it's attendants as well as their teachers. It allows them a chance to be outside and learn how important our natural resources are by interacting with them. The tour is also a great opportunity for different agencies in the county to come work together in one common mission. Our county looks forward to this event's growth and development in the future.

*For more information on activities and events, visit [www.kendallswcd.org](http://www.kendallswcd.org)!*