IYS Soils Activity

Soil Science Society of America

This Clean Water Brought to You by Your Soil: Water in Forests

Summary

This brief video (25 minutes) provides a simple introduction to water in forests and describes how water moves through a forest and includes significant sections on soil (discusses texture, structure, soil moisture, infiltration, etc.). While the focus is on water moving through the forest, the discussion leader can broaden the discussion to help participants think about what affects water quality for recreational uses.

Learning Objectives/ Outcomes

1. To learn how water moves through a forest
2. To understand the role that soil plays in providing clean water
3. To identify why we need clean water for recreation
4. To learn how land use affects water quality

Materials (per student, group etc.)

– Video, *Water in the Forest*: (http://www.forestryvideos.net/series/managing-your-woodlot-the-complete-nine-part-series/view)

Ages of Audience

Adults

Recommended group size?

Unlimited

Where could you offer this?

Any place with video viewing equipment

What type of room do you need?

General seating

Type of Lesson (may be more than one)

1. Indoor
2. Video

Time Needed

1. Scientist prep time + clean up time: very little other than room setup and download time
2. Participant/class time: 35-45 minutes

Methods/Procedures

1. Go to (http://www.forestryvideos.net/series/managing-your-woodlot-the-complete-nine-part-series/view).
2. Download the high-resolution version of the video (this can take up to 15 minutes depending on internet connectivity)
3. Fast forward to Section 8, Water in the Forest, which you will find at time stamp 2:43:07 (2 hours, 43 minutes, 7 seconds).
4. Play video.
5. Lead discussion.

Discussion Questions

- What kind of recreation do you do that requires clean water?
- How does soil contribute to clean water for your recreational activity?
- How sensitive are fish to sediment in water?
- How can you keep water clean for fishing? For kayaking?

Celebrating the 2015 International Year of Soils

soils.org/IYS