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### **NC Conservation Partners Celebrate the Mobile Soils Classroom Education Initiative**

**[Raleigh, NC]** The North Carolina Conservation Partners announce the Mobile Soils Classroom is ready to come to a school or public event near you!

It takes over 500 years to form one inch of soil. We all rely on healthy soils to grow our food and fiber. We need to take better care of our soils so they continue to take care of us! The Mobile Soils Classroom education initiative is a mobile teaching unit for North Carolina soil and water conservation districts to use at public events and school educational field days. The trailers are loaded with lots of great educational demonstrations to reach all ages, from little kids to adults.

The Rainfall Simulators are joining the education displays! These educational demonstrations drive home the idea that bare earth is bad, a ground cover needs to be maintained year-round. A farmer noted “I had no idea that rain water will barely seep into the ground if the top layer is bare. I’m definitely going to do things differently in the future”.

Partners gathered at NC Farm Bureau’s headquarters in Raleigh to celebrate the project’s success on March 23, 2017. The project is joint effort of the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation and the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The first Mobile Soils Classroom was funded by the Associations of Farm Credits, Smithfield Foods, Bayer Crop Science, Monsanto, and the NC Soil Science Society. The next three trailers were funded by NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, NC Agriculture and Farmland Development Trust Fund, and Duke Energy Foundation.

If you want to request a Mobile Soils Classroom at your next event, contact your local soil and water conservation district! To learn more about the project visit [www.ncsoilwater.org](http://www.ncsoilwater.org) and check out the You Tube video highlighting some demonstrations.