



## Request a Soil Science Speaker for your Classroom

Many soil scientists, or those with soils training, would be pleased to visit your classroom and interact with your students about soils as a natural resource. They may need your help in developing a topic and specifically in presenting at the correct level to connect with your students. Among other things, they will need to know the students' background in soils. What have the students been learning about or should already know? How does the presentation tie in with your overall activities about the topic? Ideally, help plan the activity with your invited speaker.

How do you contact a potential speaker? Here are suggestions for making contact. If the person can't help you with the topic or desired date, ask if they could suggest someone who might be able to help.

1. Contact "[Ask a Soil Scientist.](#)" This is a contact who may be able to help you find a speaker.
2. Local **Agricultural Extension Office.** Your county likely has an agricultural extension office that might be able to help. States vary in their organizational structure, but you may check the phone book for a contact number or work through this link to [Find Your Local Country Extension Office.](#)
3. Local **Natural Resource Conservation Service.** Check the phone book for a phone number or check this link for the contact information for your United States Department of Agriculture [Local Service Centers Directory.](#)
4. Local **Soil Conservation Districts.** Check the phone book for a phone number or check this link for the [National Association of Conservation Districts.](#)
5. Local **Professionals.** Check with crop consultants, certified crop advisors, farm service or farm cooperative personnel, horticultural business or landscape company owners/employees, or the local vocational agriculture instructor. Perhaps a parent of your current or past students could help. Search your local area by phone book or search the WWW for locals nearby.
6. Nearest **University or Community College with a soil science program or soils coursework.** If in doubt about whether a university or community college has a soils program, call the general information number or search the WWW for the institution. On the institution's website, navigate to College/School of Agriculture, Natural Resources, or Biological Sciences. Under the college, look for Departments like Soil Science, Agronomy, Environmental Science, or Ecology/Sustainability. You can call the department's number for further enquiries. Also, the college or university may have an undergraduate [Students of Agronomy, Soils & Environmental Sciences](#) (SASES) club that might be able to provide a speaker, and you may wish to make a direct enquiry of the club through the link of the contact provided.