

## WV Soil Tunnel Trailer

Imagine you're an earthworm making your way through the soil. What do you think you would see? Insects? Specialty crops? The West Virginia Soil Tunnel Trailer is an interactive learning exhibit that enables its visitors to get a glimpse of the underground. One wall displays a variety of specialty crops such as a carrot, onion and ginseng. Many insects that are commonly found in the soil can be found on the other wall. Impressively, all the contents of the trailer have been carefully carved out of foam.

Thanks to sponsorship by the West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association and Potomac Valley Conservation District, the WV Soil Tunnel Trailer traveled to the Eastern Panhandle for an entire week in March. During school visits, students at North Fork Elementary, Franklin Elementary, Brandywine Elementary and Petersburg Elementary enjoyed hands-on activities and educational tours. Approximately 600 students from Pendleton and Grant Counties participated in building habitats for insects, learning the importance of pollinators, and making know-and-show hats decorated with soil needs. Following the activities, students were in awe as they toured the rendering of the underground and learned about the ecosystem that supports and sustains our lives.

The WV Soil Tunnel Trailer is stationed at the Capitol Conservation District in Kanawha County. Visit <http://www.wvsoiltrailer.org/> for more information about the trailer.

