

# Soils



Volunteer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Soils Type, Structure & Productivity

1. Fill in the chart

What are the 3 mineral components of soil from smallest to largest:	How does it feel?
smallest: clay	
mid-size: silt	possible answers depending on component: slippery, coarse, smooth, rough, grainy,
largest: sand	

2. Does the soil at this site have more sand, silt or clay?

CIRCLE ONE:      Sand                      Silt

answers will vary depending  
on site  
Clay

3. What are three non-mineral components of soil?

1. critters                                      2. air                                      3. water

## Soils Erosion and Compaction

1. FILL IN THE BLANK: Vegetative cover stabilizes soil. Leaving buffers/riparian areas helps to minimize silt moving into the water.

2. Which soil absorbs water faster? CIRCLE ONE: compacted

uncompacted

Why?

because it has more air spaces through which water can travel

3. Name two causes of compaction.

1.

possible answers: Hiking, heavy  
2. equipment, animal use

4. Discussion: When might compacted soil be helpful?