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? answers will vary depending on site

CIRCLE ONE: Sand Silt 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. 2. possible answers: Hiking, heavy equipment, animal use

4. Discussion: When might compacted soil be helpful?