



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service Earth Team

Volunteer Showcase

Earth Team Volunteer Dave Brandt — ‘The Obi Wan Kenobi of Soil’

Dave Brandt is from Ohio, not from a “galaxy far, far away.”

Earth Team volunteer Dave Brandt, known to many as ‘The Obi Wan Kenobi of Soil,’ has spent countless hours volunteering for local, state, and national conservation efforts, becoming an Earth Team volunteer at the very onset of the program. Dave is a lifelong steward of the land and is passionate about improving the quality of his soil and sharing what he has learned.

A nationally-known leader of the soil health movement, Dave has hosted many training sessions and field days, and has traveled all over Ohio and across the country promoting cover crops and soil quality.

His on-farm trials and demonstrations of cover crops have been open to all who are interested.

Dave’s passion for improving cropping systems and conservation has merged research by the agricultural industry, conservation organizations, and university to give farmers real and usable recommendations to improve soil quality and water resources.

His dedication to soil health is one of the reasons NRCS used his farm to launch its Unlock the Secrets in the Soil campaign.



Earth Team volunteer Dave Brandt (left) recently hosted NRCS Chief Jason Weller (right) on his farm as part of Ohio’s No-Till Field Day. Brandt is president of the Ohio No-Till Council, which sponsored the event.

Dave and his wife Kendra have been caring for the land and promoting conservation on their farm for over 40 years.

The Earth Team is the volunteer component of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. If you are interested in volunteering, contact the National Earth Team Office at 888-526-3227 or visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/people/volunteers/>

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