

Why Do We Care?

...About Energy and Air Quality?

Who We Are and What We Do

- Work with agriculture to *help people help the land*
- What is agriculture?
 - The management of living systems to obtain useful products
- How can living systems be managed?

Life's Little Necessities

- What are the requirements (inputs) for living organisms/systems?
 - Sense of purpose
 - **Energy** (food)
 - Water
 - Shelter
 - **Air**
 - Trace elements for facilitation of processes

Life's Toils and Successes

- What are the outputs for living organisms/systems?
 - **Energy**
 - Water
 - **Volatile compounds/gases**
 - Solid-phase compounds/elements

Importance of Air and Energy

- Air and energy are necessary inputs to living systems
- Gaseous compounds and energy are also outputs from living systems
- *Air and energy are vital components of life!*

Why is NRCS Involved?

- Clean Air and an Adequate Energy Supply are two of the six Mission Goals in the 2005-2010 NRCS Strategic Plan



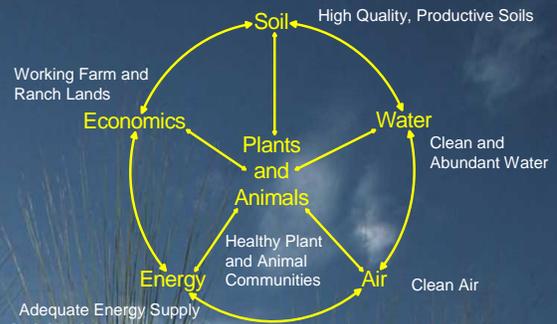
- Foundation Goals
 - High-Quality, Productive Soils
 - Clean and Abundant Water
 - Healthy Plant & Animal Communities
- Venture Goals
 - Clean Air
 - Adequate Energy Supply
 - Working Farm & Ranch Lands

The Circle of Life

- Should we deal with air and energy issues in a traditional soil and water agency?
- Consider the “Resource Circle of Life”



The Resource Circle of Life



Summary

- Agriculture is dependent upon the success of living systems
- Living systems require clean air and adequate energy
- Living systems can impact air quality and energy supplies/utilization

