

*Citizen Science Opportunity*  
**SOIL HEALTH SURVEY TRAINING**  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Forest Park, St. Louis, MO



**MO DIRT - Missourians Doing Impact Research Together**, is a citizen science initiative to educate citizens on the importance of healthy soils and engage them in examining the current properties of our state soils and how these are being influenced by land use and climate change. The **soil health surveys** are conducted by volunteer citizens working as individuals or in small teams (~2-5 people). They measure indicators of soil health in sites that are representative of natural systems (prairie, forest, woodland) or agricultural systems (grassland, crop fields, pastures). Urban or suburban gardens are not included. The sites are monitored monthly between February and November for at least one year. Participants can join anytime. The data generated from the soil surveys offers baseline information that is shared through an open access online website. This information provides educators with access to data for teaching purposes. Scientists will use this data to better understand the health status of Missouri soils with changing weather patterns leading to climate change.

**WHEN:** September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm.

**WHERE:** Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center, 5595 Grand Drive in Forest Park, St. Louis, MO 63112.

**WHAT:** Participants will learn about soil science, how to monitor soil health by measuring soil physical, chemical, and biological indicators, and how to contribute data.

**WHO:** Volunteer citizens (teachers, high school students, land owners, youth groups, etc.). Interested high school students are encouraged to attend the training even if their teachers cannot attend.

**COST:** Free

**WHAT YOU WILL GET:** If you decide to join the soil health surveys project you will receive a manual and a soil kit free of charge.

**REGISTER AT:** [MODirt@danforthcenter.org](mailto:MODirt@danforthcenter.org); 314.587.1412

**VISIT WEBSITE AT:** [modirt.missouriepscor.org](http://modirt.missouriepscor.org)

