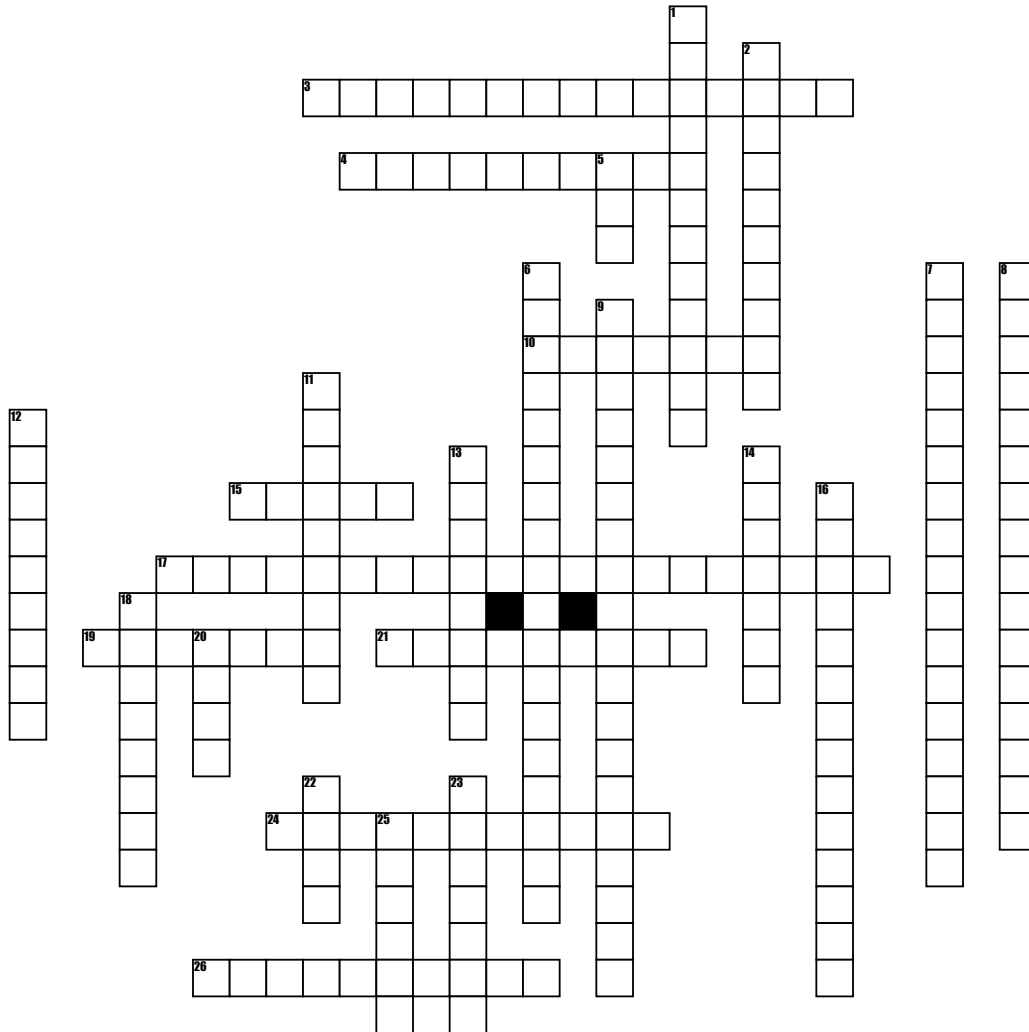


# Soil Conservation



**Across**

- 3. Anything in the environment that humans use.
- 4. Soil organism that breaks down the remains of organisms and digests them
- 10. The process by which water, ice, wind, or gravity moves weathered rock or soil
- 15. Dark colored organic material in soil
- 17. The type of weathering in which rock is physically broken into smaller pieces
- 19. The layer of soil beneath the topsoil that contains mostly clay and other minerals
- 21. A chemical change in which a substance combines with oxygen, as when iron oxidizes, forming rust
- 24. The layer of soil that differs in color and texture from the layers above or below it.
- 26. The chemical and physical processes that break down rock at Earth's surface

**Down**

- 1. The planting of different crops in a field each year to maintain the soils fertility
- 2. Process that splits rock when water seeps into cracks, then freezes and expands
- 5. A thick mass of grass roots and soil
- 6. The Process that breaks down rock through chemical changes
- 7. The geologic principle that the same geologic processes that operate today operated in the past to change earth's surface
- 8. The management of soil to prevent it's destruction
- 9. Soil conservation method in which the dead stalks from the previous year's crops are left in the ground to keep the soil in place
- 11. Characteristic of material that is full of tiny connected air spaces that water can seep through

- 12. A measure of how well soil supports plant growth
- 13. The grinding away of rock by other rock particles carried in water, ice, and wind
- 14. The solid layer of rock beneath the soil
- 16. Plowing fields along the curves of a slope to prevent soil loss
- 18. The area of the Great Plains were wind erosion caused soil loss during the 1930s
- 20. The loose, weathered material on earth's surface in which plants can grow
- 22. Rich, fertile soil that is made up of about equal parts of clay, sand, and silt
- 23. Mixture of humus, clay, and other minerals that form the crumbly, topmost layer of soil
- 25. The loose layer of dead plant leaves and stems on the surface of the soil

**Word Bank**

- |                   |                      |                       |                 |                     |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Permeable         | Topsoil              | Abrasion              | Crop Rotation   | Ice Wedging         |
| Natural Resources | Conservation Plowing | Fertility             | Soil Horizon    | Soil Conservation   |
| Soil              | Oxidation            | Sod                   | Humus           | Chemical Weathering |
| Dust Bowl         | Decomposer           | Litter                | Contour Plowing | Weathering          |
| Uniformitarianism | Bedrock              | Mechanical Weathering | Subsoil         | Erosion             |
| Loam              |                      |                       |                 |                     |