



“Essentially, all life **depends**
upon the *soil*...
There can be **no life** without soil
& **no soil without life**:
they have evolved *together*.”

-CHARLES E. KELLOGG, 1938

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SAY IT WITH SOIL

People have been talking about soil since the dawn of time. Dig in to some of these quotes. What do you know about the people who said them? How can you add to the conversation?

“We know more about the movement of celestial bodies than about the soil underfoot.”

— Leonardo DaVinci, 1500s

“When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers therefore are the founders of human civilization.”

— Daniel Webster, 1840

“We are part of the Earth and it is part of us... What befalls the Earth befalls all the sons of the Earth.”

— Chief Seattle, 1854

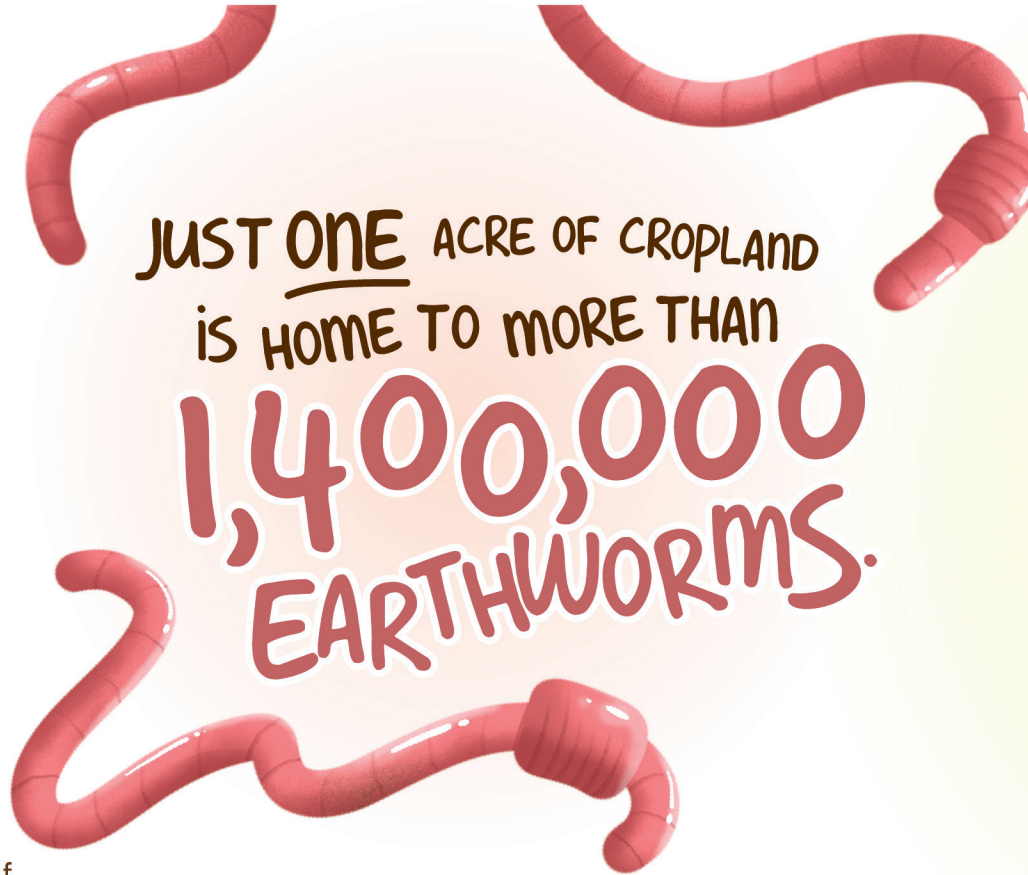
SOIL YOUR UNDIES

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- 1 GET UNDIES.**
 - Start with a brand-new pair of underwear right off the shelf.
 - Whatever you choose, just make sure it's 100% cotton.
 - We recommend getting a 5 or 6 pack. Keep one as a control and bury the rest.
- 2 BURY YOUR SHORTS.**
 - Dig a hole big enough to lay each pair of underwear flat, about 3-4" deep.
 - Take a "before" photo, then cover the hole with the dirt you removed.
 - Be sure to mark where you buried them with a flag or stick - something that won't move!
- 3 DIG 'EM UP.**
 - Act like an archaeologist! Carefully dig up your undies throughout the year to reveal what's left and to see how active the critters are in your soil!
 - We recommend you bury your undies the first week of school, then dig up once a month to see what is left.

The wealth of Illinois is in her soil and her strength lies in its intelligent development.

— Andrew Sloan Draper
President, University of Illinois, 1899



JUST ONE ACRE OF CROPLAND IS HOME TO MORE THAN **1,400,000** EARTHWORMS.

ONE TBSP OF HEALTHY SOIL HAS MORE ORGANISMS IN IT THAN THERE ARE PEOPLE ON EARTH



“A Nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself.”

— Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1937



ILLINOIS STATE SOIL DRUMMER

In 2001, after a bill was passed by the Illinois General Assembly, Governor George Ryan signed into law the State Soil as Drummer.

Drummer is the most common among the dark colored soils or 'black dirt' of Illinois. The dark color is due to the high amount of organic matter inherited from the decomposition of prairie vegetation that grew on the soil. Drummer soil is excellent for agriculture.

Drummer soil can be found in 41 of the 102 Illinois counties as well as part of Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin. In Illinois over 1.3 million acres are covered by Drummer soil making it the most extensive soil of the 560 soil types in our state.

“A cloak of loose, soft material, held to the earth's hard surface by gravity, is all that lies between life and lifelessness.”

— Wallace H. Fuller, 1975