

Avoiding Soil Loss

Soil Conservation

- Soil is a renewable resource, but it can be depleted more quickly than it regenerates.
- There are many ways for people to help avoid soil loss.

What Can We Do?

Agricultural

- Leave tree parts such as dead leaves on the ground.
- Adding organic material such as compost and manure can increase the amount of nutrients in the soil.
- Crop rotation, terracing farms, and low-till farming can prevent the loss of the Earth's topsoil.
- Plant trees to dampen the effect of harsh winds.
- Avoid using sprinklers that cause large spots of dirt on lawns.
- Keep animals away from hills that they could erode.

Urban Development

- Keep "Green Space" such as parks & gardens so plants can grow.
- Developed advanced irrigation systems to reduce water runoff.
- Drain water back into the rivers, bays, and oceans.
- Avoid using off-road vehicles on hills.

Concept Check

- How can soil be depleted?
- How can humans protect soil from erosion?

Study Tip

Think about the different ways of preserving soil. Is there anything you can do at home?



Compost bins can help preserve soil by returning nutrients into the soil.