

My area is unique due to a very diversified habitat. We have large lakes, swamps, extensive farming areas and golf courses in our community. It is a constant job for ecologists to balance out all types of ecosystems.

Farmers in my area use intergrated pest management, meaning they only apply pesticides when necessary. I interviewed Russell Duncan, a Clemson University certified crop advisor, and I learned soil samples are studied to figure out what type of ecosystem will exist in a specific area. Studying earth is to gain knowledge on how humans and animals affect the earth. Crop rotation means not growing the same crops in the same spot year after year. These rotations produce healthier crops and reduces the risk of diseases. I talked with Gene Morris, department of natural resources and we can better study earth by understanding what causes algae to take over swamps. A Geological team studys throughout our county by drilling into underground water to make sure there is no contamination. Sargeant Morris expects our county population to double in 5 to 10 years, therefore we will need newer sewer systems to contain the growth of the population and nature. Our community is working on ways to control our environment every day. To make it a better place for humans and animals to live.