Since 1993, Kevin Connors, a scientist at the Forage and Range Research Laboratory, has been a presenter at Utah’s Nature High Summer Camp for high school students interested in science. This is a program designed to educate and encourage pre-college age youth to consider natural resources as a career target. Kevin described careers in natural and agricultural research sciences with an emphasis on those associated with the USDA, Agricultural Research Service to over 600 students in the last 21 years.

Instruction involves presentations and handouts given to small groups of 4 to 6 students. He provides students with the general responsibilities associated with his support scientist position, where he references a handout entitled, “Typical Day” that details his specific daily assignments. Another handout describes the main positions available in ARS for natural resources. After the career discussion, he typically shows the students a “pressure bomb”, which is an instrument that allows for measurements of plant water stress using leaves sampled from intact plants. He uses this demonstration to engage the students in a very personal, real-time way (see photo).
Interested applicants may download the Application at: www.naturehighcamp.com

If you cannot access the Internet, please call: (801) 538-7107 to obtain a hard copy of the application. Applicants interested in becoming a camp counselor should fill out the new counselor application.

The $50 registration fee covers the cost of the camp, lodging, food, and materials. If you cannot afford the registration fee, we suggest contacting your local conservation district or other similar group for a scholarship.

Transportation is not provided, but if an attendee is not able to arrange for appropriate transportation, please call (801) 538-7107.

Please remember that camp enrollment is limited, so apply early!

Applications should be returned by May 20, 2013.

Send applications to:
UACD
Attn: Loralie Cox – NHSC
350 North Redwood Road
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6500

For more information or questions about Nature High Summer Camp, contact Sierra Hellstrom at (801) 625-5764 or via e-mail at sshellstrom@fs.fed.us.
What Is Nature High Summer Camp?

Nature High Summer Camp is a week-long, high energy camp experience. Held at the Historic Great Basin Environmental Education Center, located in the beautiful Manti-La Sal National Forest above Ephraim, Utah. High school students from around the state come together to learn about natural resources, meet natural resource professionals, learn the value of teamwork and have fun making new friends.

Past students of Nature High Camp have said:

“I LOVED the team games...that was my favorite part of camp.”

“Everything was so fun.”

“There are so many fun people to meet and fun things to do.”

“You guys rock, keep this camp going.”

What will you learn & experience?

• Learn about forest ecology.
• Practice soil sampling techniques.
• Practice stream flow measurement techniques.
• Evaluate ecosystem health.
• Work as a team and use real world problem-solving skills.
• Explore natural resource career Opportunities.
• Learn about college admission procedures and requirements for natural resources majors.
• Find out about seasonal natural resource jobs and volunteer opportunities.
• Learn how to apply for jobs with natural resource agencies.

What are the requirements & who can apply?

• Utah high school sophomores through seniors, who are in good standing with their high school may apply.
• Applicants will be selected based on their level of interest and experience.
• Students selected for Nature High Summer Camp will be required to participate in all lessons and activities.
• Registration is only $50 and includes all meals, lodging, and supplies.
• Sponsors for the fee are encouraged.
• Transportation to and from Nature High Summer Camp is not provided. Students will need to arrange for rides to and from Nature High Summer Camp.