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Important Scientist Characteristics

As a forest and soil

ecologist, I am interested

in how forest management

practices impact soils.

Curiosity contributes most to my scientific research. It is the reason I became a scientist. I am always questioning things, and these questions lead me down many different paths.

Dr. Dexter Strother

Forest/Soil Ecologist

Ph.D., University of Georgia USDA Forest Service scientist

Example of a simple research question I have

tried to answer: What are the effects of black carbon on labile carbon? Black carbon is a product created naturally during wildland fires. Labile carbon is the portion of carbon in soils that can be easily decomposed by soil organisms.

Most Exciting Discovery

I am still in the process of conducting research, so my most exciting discovery is still to come.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist?

I believe I have been studying science for a long time, even when I was little. I did not know I would become a scientist until my time in college.

Technology or equipment used in research:

I often use a PP Systems EGM-4 Environmental Gas Monitor. It is not very big, weighing about 4 pounds. This equipment allows me to measure how much carbon dioxide is in a soil sample that I am using for research.

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