

# [***Getting the dirt on soil health***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:69BY-YMM1-JD34-V0P0-00000-00&context=1516831)

Newcastle Star

October 10, 2023 Tuesday

Internet Edition

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**Length:** 304 words

**Byline:** Staff reporter

**Body**

Citizen science will be used to help test the quality of ***soils*** in SA's Murraylands and Riverland regions.

Participants living in those areas will be given testing kits, which will demonstrate the level of carbon dioxide released by the ***soil***, indicating the ***soil***'s ability to convert carbon into components that support ***soil*** function and plant growth.

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board ***soil*** extension officer Barrie Williams said well-functioning ***soils*** are a cornerstone of the environments in which we live, providing the platform for native ecosystems and productive agricultural systems.

"***Soil*** plays an essential role in human life through the production of food, but also by providing habitat and filtering the air we breathe and the water we drink," he said.

"***Soils*** will play a driving role in helping us to reduce the effects of climate change by storing carbon, making ***soil health*** an important factor for future sustainability and resilience".

Anyone including primary producers, landholders, gardeners and school students are allowed to participate.

Participants will be given two test kits in order to get an idea of the variability of ***soil*** on their chosen site. They can do the the test onsite, and the results are visible within 24 hours.

"The ***soil*** tests will give you the opportunity to see how healthy your ***soils*** are, and explore any differences between the results of your two ***soil*** tests".

Participants can share their results with the landscape board, submit ***soil*** samples for more detailed analysis and attend a free regional workshop to learn more about their ***soils*** and the ways in which ***soil health*** can be improved.

For more information, click here or call the Murray Bridge office on 08-8532-9100.

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**Load-Date:** October 9, 2023

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