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**Affinity Water to demonstrate soil and**

 **water relationship at Groundswell**

At this year’s Groundswell, headline sponsor and the UK’s largest water only supply company, Affinity Water is setting out to demonstrate the relationship between soil and water, with informative break-out sessions, a high tech ‘catchment augmented reality experience’, and BASIS points being offered on and around the Affinity Water Catchment Hub.

The first of the break-out sessions will take place at 10.15am on day one of the event. Featuring a panel-led debate, the discussion will cover the role cover crops play in building soil health and providing wider ecosystem services, such as reducing nitrate leaching and sediment loss.

The second learning session at 3:15pm on day two, will be led by Geodata experts Sophia Burke and Mark Mulligan, who will present their work on ‘Low cost, open-data and DIY approaches to assessing the public goods provided by your land’.

Affinity Water will also host a rainfall simulator on both days, explained by Jay Fuhrer, which will visually display how soil health impacts run-off and infiltration. Delegates will also get the chance to step into the virtual world via an interactive tool dubbed ‘the catchment augmented reality experience’ where they can explore in detail the link between land, rainfall and water flow.

Delegates are encouraged to come along to the stand to talk to the Affinity Water catchment team about soil health, water and ecosystem services, and to take part in a questionnaire to gain BASIS points.

[Box out]

Affinity Water at Groundswell

* Stand FY1: Affinity Water Catchment Hub
* Cover crop panel debate – 10:15am on 26 June in conference barn
* ‘Low cost, open-data and DIY approaches to assessing the public goods provided by your land’ – 3:15pm 27 June in the conference barn, Sophia Burke and Mark Mulligan
* Rainfall simulator with Jay Fuhrer – at the Affinity Water Catchment Hub
* Catchment augmented reality experience – at the Affinity Water Catchment Hub
* BASIS points
* Water station with free souvenir Groundswell re-usable water bottles

***ENDS***