Soils Information for the Electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG)
January 2006

All Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) soils information can be accessed in this section. The eFOTG soils reports are downloadable or viewable as Adobe Acrobat® Reader (pdf) documents or can be produced from the Soil Data Mart website. Soil maps (spatial data) are available from the Web Soil Survey, the Soil Data Mart (for those proficient in GIS), and from other sources through the local NRCS Field Office. Field Office locations can be accessed through the Vermont NRCS website: http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov.

There are two categories of soil reports accessible directly from the eFOTG website: Statewide Soils Information and County-specific Soils Information. These reports are generally in pdf format and are formatted for easy 8 x 11 printing. All reports are dated and are subject to change.

Statewide soils information includes: the Key to the soils of Vermont, Classification of the soils, the narrative for the Forest Value Groups for Vermont soils, Hydrologic Soil Groups for Vermont soils, the narrative for Important Farmlands classification, the narrative for Vermont on-site septic ratings, Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) K and T erosion values, the narrative for the Vermont State Soil Survey Legend and alphabetical and numerical listings for the State Soil Survey Legend, soils and natural communities information, nitrate leaching maps, and status maps for the Soil Survey Program in Vermont.

County-specific soils information includes: Vermont Act 250 Criteria 9C information, nitrate leaching maps, Forest Value Group ratings, Highly Erodible Land (HEL) ratings, Hydric Soil listings, Important Farmland ratings, Leaching Index, Official Copy of the Soil Survey statement, a Soil Catena Key, Soil Survey Map Unit Legend, Soil Survey Evaluation Worksheet, and for several counties, a Soil Survey Supplement with updated soil properties tables. A direct link to the Soil Data Mart is also provided for each county.

The Soil Data Mart *(http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/ or use the link for each county in the eFOTG)*
In an effort to improve soil data distribution, NRCS has developed the Soil Data Mart. The Soil Data Mart is an interactive website that allows the user to: download data for one soil survey area at a time, download a Microsoft Access® database template for working with downloaded data, generate a variety of reports for one soil survey area at a time, and "subscribe" to a soil survey area so that you will be notified whenever data for that soil survey area are updated. All reports from the Soil Data Mart have a Distribution Generation Date listed at the bottom of the generated reports that identifies the date when the data was created.

For Vermont counties, certified and provisional tabular datasets are posted at the Soil Data Mart. Certified data is either certified through the Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Database process or by the State Soil Scientist. Only certified spatial data is available through the Soil Data Mart.

Web Soil Survey *(http://soils.usda.gov/survey/ or http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/)*
This new website allows online viewing of soil survey maps and reports, based on certified spatial and tabular data. This new application greatly enhances access to information on soils. Direct online access and viewing of certified soil maps is available for all Vermont counties except Caledonia, Chittenden, and Essex counties at this time. Chittenden county will be online later in 2006. The optimal screen resolution for Web Soil Survey is 1024 x 768 or higher. The software will run at lower resolutions, but lower resolutions require that you scroll more. Web Soil Survey has been tested on the following browsers on MS Windows XP: Internet Explorer 6.0 and higher; Netscape 7.2 and higher; Mozilla 1.7.5 and higher; Mozilla Firefox 1.0 and higher; AOL Explorer 1.1 and higher. On Macintosh, the only supported browser is: Mozilla Firefox 1.0 and higher.

Disclaimer
The interpretations and analysis derived from these data do not eliminate the need for onsite investigations of specific sites. These data and interpretations are intended for planning purposes only. Files are dated and users are responsible for obtaining the latest version of the data.