

Official Copy of Vermont Soil Survey Information – Certification Report

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Dated: January 8, 2008

The **official copy of soil survey information** consists of the following parts:

1. soil map unit descriptions
2. soil interpretation tables
3. soil properties tables
4. soil maps
5. digital data

This information, except where noted below, is available electronically over the internet or can be requested in hard copy format from local NRCS offices. Some information is also available on CD.

All traditional published soil surveys have been archived. The archived soil survey publication represents a snapshot in time. It contains information that was current as of the indicated publication date. The text, tables, and soil maps may have been updated since publication. Up-to-date information is available on the Web Soil Survey (see below).

Archived published soil surveys are available for examination in the local NRCS office. These publications are no longer considered to be official copies of soil survey information. This information is outdated and should not be used for administering NRCS programs or making land use decisions. It has value as a historical reference or teaching tool.

1. Soil Map Unit Descriptions

Soil map unit descriptions were originally contained in the archived published soil surveys. Parts of these map unit descriptions are now outdated. Soil Fact Sheets have been prepared to provide up-to-date map unit descriptions. Soil map unit descriptions will be updated and available on Web Soil Survey.

2. Soil Interpretation Tables

Soil interpretation tables provide ratings by map unit for a variety of land uses and describe the limiting features for each use. It should be noted that the method for determining soil interpretation ratings and rating class terms has changed considerably since the archived soil survey were published.

3. Soil Properties Tables

Soil properties tables provide information on a variety of soil properties, including physical, chemical, and engineering properties, and soil and water features. Some soil properties are based on each layer within the major soils in each map unit, and other properties are based on the entire soil profile.

4. Soil Maps

Soil maps are available digitally for 13 of the 14 counties in Vermont. Essex County is the only county in the state without digital spatial soils information on-line. The official source for data to generate electronic soil maps in a geographical information system (GIS) is the SSURGO data downloaded from the Soil Data Mart.

Soil maps for 13 of 14 counties in Vermont can also be generated from Web Soil Survey. Maps generated from Web Soil Survey use SSURGO data from the Soil Data Mart as its source.

Soil maps are available on CD for some counties in the state. However, the user of CDs is cautioned to periodically check for updates at http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov/soils/so_cdprods.html.

Some offices maintain hard copies of soil maps for distribution.

5. Digital Data

Digital data is available for most counties in Vermont for use in GIS. The official source for all digital data is SSURGO data maintained at the Soil Data Mart.

Official Copy Sources

Official copy information can be found in a number of sources, including:

Soil Fact Sheets - contain information about soil map units that will meet most customer needs. There is a specific Soil Fact Sheet for every soil map unit in the state. They stored by county and can be downloaded from the following FTP site: <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/VT/Soils/Soil Fact Sheets/>.

The electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) - contains soil interpretations in Section II, part A. The eFOTG can be accessed at the following website: <http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Soil Data Mart - contains SSURGO tabular and spatial data that can be downloaded as reports or as data files for use with GIS. The Soil Data Mart website is <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov>.

Web Soil Survey - can be used to create customized soil survey reports, including soil maps and interpretive maps and reports, for the specific area of interest of the user. The Web Soil Survey website is <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>.

Official Copy Sources by County

County	Soil Map Unit Descriptions	Soil Interpretation Tables	Soil Properties Tables	Soil Maps	Digital Data
Addison	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Bennington	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Caledonia	A, D	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Chittenden	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Essex	A	B, C, D	C, D	E	C*
Franklin	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Grand Isle	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Lamoille	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Orange	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Orleans	A, D	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Rutland	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Washington	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Windham	A*	B, C, D	C, D	D	C
Windsor	A	B, C, D	C, D	D	C

A. Soil Fact Sheets (* - see also archived soil survey)

B. Electronic Field Office Technical Guide

C. Soil Data Mart (* - only tabular data is available for Essex county)

D. Web Soil Survey

E. Contact the local office in St Johnsbury to obtain soil maps.

Soil Survey Products

In addition to customize reports that can be generated from Web Soil Survey, NRCS will continue to provide a variety of Soil Survey Products. In addition to those listed below, some field offices maintain a supply of hard copy information. Archived soil surveys are available for examination in some counties.

County	CD Available – Soil Fact Sheets and Soil Maps	CD Available – 1:24,000 Soil Maps	Archived Published Soil Survey
Addison	A		C
Bennington	A	B	C
Caledonia		B	
Chittenden			C
Essex			
Franklin			C
Grand Isle	A		C
Lamoille			C
Orange			C
Orleans		B	
Rutland			C
Washington	A	B	C
Windham			C
Windsor		B	

A. This CD contains Soil Fact Sheets, soil maps, and selected interpretive maps generated from SSURGO data. For up-to-date information on the availability of CDs, check the following website: http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov/soils/so_cdprods.html. Hard copy maps are available at the local field office.

B. This CD contains 1:24,000 soil maps generated from SSURGO data. Hard copy maps are available at the local field office.

C. Archived published soil surveys are available for examination at the local field office. Depending on current supply, some offices have copies for distribution.