

Recreational Development

General

The soils are rated according to limitations that affect their suitability for camp areas, picnic areas, playgrounds, and paths and trails. Not considered in these ratings, but important in evaluating a site, are location and accessibility of the area, size and shape of the area and its scenic quality, the ability of the soil to support vegetation, access to water, potential water impoundment sites available, and either access to public sewer lines or capacity of the soil to absorb septic tank effluent. Soils subject to flooding are limited in varying degrees for recreational use by the duration of flooding and the season when it occurs. Onsite assessment of height, duration, and frequency of flooding is essential in planning recreational facilities.

Camp Areas

These are tracts of land used intensively as sites for tents, trailers, campers, and accompanying activities of outdoor living. Camp areas require such site preparation as shaping and leveling in areas for tents and parking areas, for stabilizing roads and intensively used areas, and for installing sanitary facilities and utility lines. Camp areas are subject to heavy foot traffic and some vehicular traffic. The soils are rated on the basis of soil properties that influence the ease of developing camping area and the performance of the camping area after development. Soil properties that influence trafficability and promote the growth of vegetation after heavy use are also important.

Picnic Areas

Picnic areas are natural or landscaped tracts used primarily for preparing meals and eating outdoors. These areas are subject to heavy foot traffic. Most vehicular traffic is confined to access roads and parking lots. Soils are rated on the basis of properties that influence development costs of shaping the site, trafficability, and growth of vegetation after development. The surface of picnic areas should absorb rainfall readily, remain firm under heavy foot traffic, and not be dusty when dry.

Playgrounds

These are areas used intensively for games such as baseball, football, and similar activities. Playgrounds require a nearly level soil that is free of stones and that can withstand heavy foot traffic and still maintain adequate vegetation. Soils are rated on the basis of properties that influence cost of shaping, trafficability, and growth of vegetation. Slope and stoniness are the main concerns in developing playgrounds. For good trafficability, the surface of playgrounds should absorb rainfall readily, remain firm under heavy foot traffic, and not be dusty when dry.

Paths and Trails

Paths and trails are used for walking, horseback riding, and similar uses, and should require little or no cutting and filling in site preparation. Soils are rated on properties that influence trafficability and erodibility. Paths and trails should remain firm under foot traffic and not be dusty when dry.

See the National Soil Survey Handbook, Part 620, for criteria used in rating specific uses.

Recreational Interpretations

General

The purpose of these interpretative ratings is to help engineers, planners, and others understand how soil properties influence behavior when used for recreational uses such as camp areas, picnic areas, playgrounds, and paths and trails. Soils are rated for the uses expected to be important or potentially important to users of soil survey information. Ratings for proposed uses are given in terms of limitations. Only the most restrictive features are listed. Other features may need to be treated to overcome soil limitations for a specific purpose.

Soils are rated in their "natural" state, that is, no unusual modification of the soil site or material is made other than that which is considered normal practice for the rated use. Even though soils may have limitations, it is important to remember that engineers and others can modify soil features or can design or adjust the plans for a recreational use to compensate for most degrees of limitations. Most of these practices, however are costly. The final decision in selecting a site for a particular use generally involves weighing the costs for site preparation and maintenance.

Limitation Ratings

1. Slight - is the rating given soils that have properties favorable for the use. The degree of limitation is minor and can be overcome easily. Good performance and low maintenance can be expected.
2. Moderate - is the rating given soils that have properties moderately favorable for the use. This degree of limitation can be overcome or modified by special planning, design, or maintenance. During some part of the year, the expected performance is less desirable than for soils rated slight.
3. Severe - is the rating given soils that have one or more properties unfavorable for the rated use, such as steep slopes, bedrock near the surface, flooding, or a seasonal high water table. This degree of limitation generally requires major soil reclamation, special design, or intensive maintenance, which in most situations is difficult and costly.

RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Aroostook County, Northeastern Part

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
AgA ALLAGASH	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: small stones	Slight:
AgB ALLAGASH	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: slope, small stones	Slight:
AgC ALLAGASH	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
AgD ALLAGASH	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope
BeB BENSON	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Slight:
BeC BENSON	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Slight:
BeD BENSON	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Moderate: slope
CdB CANANDAIGUA	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
CgA CARIBOU	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
CgB CARIBOU	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
CgC CARIBOU	Moderate: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Slight:

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
CgC2 CARIBOU	Moderate: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Slight:
CgD CARIBOU	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
CgD2 CARIBOU	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
CgE CARIBOU	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Severe: slope
CoA CONANT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
CoB CONANT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
CoC CONANT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Severe: slope, wetness	Moderate: wetness
DaA DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
DaB DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
DaC DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope, wetness	Severe: wetness
EaA EASTON	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
EaA WASHBURN	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding
EaB EASTON	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
EaB WASHBURN	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding
EsB EASTON	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: small stones	Severe: wetness
EsB WASHBURN	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: ponding
FhA FREDON	Severe: small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
FhA HALSEY	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
FhB FREDON	Severe: small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
FhB HALSEY	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
HaA HADLEY	Severe: flooding	Slight:	Slight:	Slight:
HaB HADLEY	Severe: flooding	Slight:	Moderate: slope	Slight:

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
HoA HOWLAND	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
HoB HOWLAND	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
HoC HOWLAND	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope, small stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
HvB HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: wetness
HvC HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: wetness
MaA MACHIAS	Moderate: small stones, wetness	Moderate: small stones, wetness	Severe: small stones	Moderate: wetness
MaB MACHIAS	Moderate: small stones, wetness	Moderate: small stones, wetness	Severe: small stones	Moderate: wetness
MaC MACHIAS	Moderate: slope, small stones, wetness	Moderate: slope, small stones, wetness	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: wetness
MbA MADAWASKA	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
MbB MADAWASKA	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
MbC MADAWASKA	Severe: wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Severe: slope, wetness	Moderate: wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
Md MADELAND	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
MhB MAPLETON	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Slight:
MhC MAPLETON	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Slight:
MhC2 MAPLETON	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Slight:
MhD MAPLETON	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
MmC MAPLETON	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
MmD MAPLETON	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
Mn MIXED ALLUVIAL LAND PD	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness
MIXED ALLUVIAL LAND VPD	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: ponding
MoA MONARDA	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
BURNHAM	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding

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MoB MONARDA	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
BURNHAM	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
MrB MONARDA	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: wetness
BURNHAM	Severe: percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, large stones, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
NcA NICHOLVILLE	Slight:	Slight:	Slight:	Slight:
NcB NICHOLVILLE	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: slope	Slight:
Pa MUCK	Severe: excess humus, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness
PEAT	Severe: excess humus, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness
PeA PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, small stones	Moderate: wetness
PeB PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, small stones	Moderate: wetness
PeC PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope, small stones	Moderate: wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
PeD PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, wetness
PgA PLAISTED	Moderate: percs slowly, small stones	Moderate: percs slowly, small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
PgB PLAISTED	Moderate: percs slowly, small stones	Moderate: percs slowly, small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
PgC PLAISTED	Moderate: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Slight:
PgD PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
PgE PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Severe: slope
PrB PLAISTED	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Slight:
PrC PLAISTED	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
PrD PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
PrE PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
PvB PLAISTED	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Slight:

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
PvB HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: wetness
PvC PLAISTED	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
PvC HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: wetness
RaA RED HOOK	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
RaA ATHERTON	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding
RaB RED HOOK	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
RaB ATHERTON	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding
Re RIVERWASH	Severe: flooding, small stones, wetness	Severe: small stones, too sandy, wetness	Severe: small stones, too sandy, wetness	Severe: small stones, too sandy, wetness
SaA SALMON	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: small stones	Severe: erodes easily
SaB SALMON	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: erodes easily
SaC SALMON	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: erodes easily

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
sb ROCK OUTCROP	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: slope
THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
SgA STETSON	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
SgB STETSON	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
SgC STETSON	Moderate: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Slight:
SgD STETSON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
SgE STETSON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Severe: slope
ThB THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Slight:
ThC THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Slight:
ThD THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
ThE THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: slope

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
TkB THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Slight:
TkC THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
TkD THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
TkE THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
TrE THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
ROCK OUTCROP	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Moderate: slope
TsB THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Slight:
HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: wetness
TsC THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: wetness
Wn WINOOSKI	Severe: flooding	Moderate: wetness	Moderate: flooding, wetness	Moderate: wetness