

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.

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
AaB ADAMS	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: slope	Slight:
AaC ADAMS	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
AaE ADAMS	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope
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	Moderate: slope
BaA BANGOR	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: percs slowly, small stones	Slight:
BaB BANGOR	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: slope, small stones	Slight:
BaC BANGOR	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
BaD BANGOR	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Moderate: slope

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BmB BANGOR	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Slight:
BmC BANGOR	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
BmD BANGOR	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope
BnB BANGOR	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Slight:
BnC BANGOR	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
BnD BANGOR	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
BoA BIDDEFORD	Severe: percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
BrA BURNHAM	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
BuA BUXTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness
BuB BUXTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness
BuC BUXTON	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: wetness

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BxB BIDDEFORD	Severe: percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, large stones, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
BUXTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: large stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
SCANTIC	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: large stones, wetness	Severe: wetness
CaC CANAAAN	Severe: depth to rock, large stones	Severe: depth to rock, large stones	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Slight:
ROCK OUTCROP	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Slight:
CaE CANAAAN	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Severe: slope
ROCK OUTCROP	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: slope
CcB COLTON	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Slight:
CcC COLTON	Moderate: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
CcD COLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
CcE COLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
CnA COLTON	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
CnB COLTON	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
CnC COLTON	Moderate: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Slight:
CnD COLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
CnE COLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Severe: slope
CsA COLTON	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
CsB COLTON	Moderate: small stones	Moderate: small stones	Severe: small stones	Slight:
CsC COLTON	Moderate: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Slight:
CsD COLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
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

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DaC DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope, wetness	Severe: wetness
DgA DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: wetness
DgB DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: wetness
DgC DAIGLE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: wetness
DxA DIXMONT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
DxB DIXMONT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
DxC DIXMONT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: percs slowly, slope, wetness	Severe: slope, wetness	Moderate: wetness
DyA DIXMONT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: large stones, wetness	Severe: large stones, wetness	Moderate: wetness
DyB DIXMONT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: large stones, wetness	Severe: large stones, wetness	Moderate: wetness
DyC DIXMONT	Severe: wetness	Moderate: large stones, slope, wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, wetness	Moderate: wetness
EwB ELMWOOD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Moderate: wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
Ha HADLEY	Severe: flooding	Slight:	Slight:	Slight:
HbB HERMON	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: slope, small stones	Slight:
HbC HERMON	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
HdB HERMON	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Slight:
HdC HERMON	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
HeB HERMON	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Moderate: large stones, small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Moderate: large stones
HeC HERMON	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: large stones
HeE HERMON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope
HhC HERMON	Severe: large stones	Severe: large stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: large stones
HoB HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Moderate: small stones, wetness	Severe: small stones, wetness	Moderate: wetness
HoC HOWLAND	Moderate: slope, small stones, wetness	Moderate: slope, small stones, wetness	Severe: slope, small stones	Moderate: wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
HvB HOWLAND	Severe: wetness	Moderate: large stones, wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones	Moderate: wetness
HvC HOWLAND	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope, wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: wetness
HvD HOWLAND	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope, wetness
Lk LIMERICK	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness
MaB MACHIAS	Moderate: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Moderate: slope, small stones, wetness	Moderate: wetness
MbB MADAWASKA	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness
Md MADE LAND	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
Md URBAN LAND	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
MeA MELROSE	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Slight:
MeB MELROSE	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Slight:
MeC MELROSE	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Slight:

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
Mn MIXED ALLUVIAL LAND PD	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness
MIXED ALLUVIAL LAND MWD	Severe: flooding	Moderate: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding	Moderate: flooding, wetness
MoB MONARDA	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
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
MsC BURNHAM	Severe: large stones, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, large stones, ponding	Severe: excess humus, large stones, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
MONARDA	Severe: large stones, small stones, wetness	Severe: large stones, small stones, wetness	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: small stones, wetness
Mu MUCK	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
On ONDAWA	Severe: flooding	Slight:	Moderate: flooding	Slight:
Pa PEAT	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
MUCK	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding

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Pc PEAT	Severe: excess humus, flooding, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
Pf PEAT	Severe: excess humus, flooding, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding
PgB PLAISTED	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: slope, small stones	Slight:
PgC PLAISTED	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
PgD PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Moderate: slope
PgE PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope
PhB PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, small stones	Moderate: wetness
PhC PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope, small stones	Moderate: wetness
PmB PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: large stones, small stones	Moderate: wetness
PmC PERHAM	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: wetness
PrC PLAISTED	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope	Slight:

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
PrE PLAISTED	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope
Ps PEAT	Severe: excess humus, too acid, wetness	Severe: excess humus, too acid, wetness	Severe: excess humus, too acid, wetness	Severe: excess humus, wetness
PxC PLAISTED	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope	Severe: large stones, slope	Slight:
Py PODUNK	Severe: flooding	Moderate: wetness	Moderate: flooding, wetness	Moderate: wetness
RaB RED HOOK	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
ATHERTON	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding
RdB RED HOOK	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness
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
RkC ROCKLAND	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Slight:
CANAAN	Severe: depth to rock, large stones	Severe: depth to rock, large stones	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Slight:

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RkD ROCKLAND	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Moderate: slope
CANAAN	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Severe: depth to rock, large stones, slope	Moderate: slope
RmC ROCKLAND	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Slight:
THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Slight:
RmD ROCKLAND	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Moderate: slope
THORNDIKE	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: depth to rock, slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: slope
Ro ROCK OUTCROP	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: slope
Sa SACO	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: ponding
ScB SCANTIC	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness
SeA STETSON	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: small stones	Slight:
SeB STETSON	Slight:	Slight:	Moderate: slope, small stones	Slight:

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SeC STETSON	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Severe: slope	Slight:
SeD STETSON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Moderate: slope
SfC STETSON	Slight:	Slight:	Severe: slope	Slight:
SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: wetness
SfE STETSON	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope
SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope
ShD HERMON	Severe: large stones	Severe: large stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Moderate: large stones
SpD PLAISTED	Moderate: large stones, slope	Moderate: large stones, slope	Severe: large stones, slope	Slight:
SuA SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness
SuB SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Moderate: wetness
SuC SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
SuC2 SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: wetness
SuD SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: slope, wetness
SuD2 SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: slope, wetness
SuE SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope
SvA SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness
SvB SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Moderate: wetness
SvC SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: wetness
SvD SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Moderate: slope, wetness
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

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Soil name and map symbol	Camp Areas	Picnic Areas	Playgrounds	Path and Trails
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
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:
TvB THORNDIKE	Severe: small stones	Severe: small stones	Severe: large stones, small stones	Severe: small stones
TvC THORNDIKE	Severe: small stones	Severe: small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: small stones
TvD THORNDIKE	Severe: slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones	Severe: large stones, slope, small stones	Severe: slope, small stones
Wn WINOOSKI	Severe: flooding	Moderate: wetness	Moderate: flooding, wetness	Moderate: wetness