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MARYLAND TECHNICAL GUIDE

CHANGE NOTICE NO. 71

Purpose. To identify new official soil survey data for Allegany, Cecil, Kent, Prince George's, and Talbot Counties, Maryland.

Effective Date. Upon receipt.

Explanation. Section II: Official soil survey data for the following Maryland counties was updated in 2009:

- **Allegany County (MD001)** – Data was released in March, 2009. The new survey contains significant changes to the soil lines and map unit legend from the previous publication.
- **Cecil County (MD015)** – Data was released in July, 2009. The new survey contains significant changes to the soil lines and map unit legend from the previous publication.
- **Kent County (MD029)** – Data was released in July, 2009. Minor changes were made along the northern border to match the new Cecil County soil survey. No map units were added.
- **Prince George's County (MD033)** – Data was released in December, 2009. The new survey contains significant changes to the soil lines and map unit legend from the previous publication.
- **Talbot County (MD041)** – Data was released in June, 2009. The new survey contains significant changes to the soil lines and map unit legend from the previous publication.

Official soil survey data for all purposes except Highly Erodible Land (HEL) determinations is housed on the Soil Data Mart (<http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/>). HEL determinations for Farm Bill conservation compliance purposes will still be conducted using the HEL list and associated soil maps frozen on January 1, 1990.

Official soil survey data is also delivered through the Web Soil Survey (<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>) and referenced in Section II of the eFOTG under links for Online Statewide Soil Information for Maryland, Soil Reports (by county) and Soil Data Download (by county). A copy of the official spatial and attribute data have been placed on the Field Service Center shared drive for use by Field Service Center staff. Others may download copies of this data from the Soil Data Mart. In cases where soils data is not available through the Soil Data Mart, the published soil survey remains the official soil survey data.

Digital soil survey data is identified by a 5 digit alpha-numeric soil survey area symbol. In most cases, this is the 2 digit postal code followed by the 3 digit county FIPS code. For example, the soil survey area symbol for Allegany County is MD001.

Available spatial data include:

- Soil map unit polygons (soilmu_a_mdxxx¹.*)²)
- Soil map unit lines³ (soilmu_l_mdxxx.*)
- Soil map unit points³ (soilmu_p_mdxxx.*)
- Soil survey area boundary (soilsa_a_mdxxx.*)
- Soil special feature lines (soilsf_l_mdxxx.*)
- Soil special feature points (soilsf_p_mdxxx.*)

¹ where xxx is the soil survey area symbol (e.g., soilmu_a_md001.*)

² where * represents the individual files that make up an ESRI shapefile

³ these data layers are typically empty

Attribute data is available in a series of text files that can be imported into a SSURGO template for use. All of these files are included in a typical download from Soil Data Mart.

Filing
Instructions.

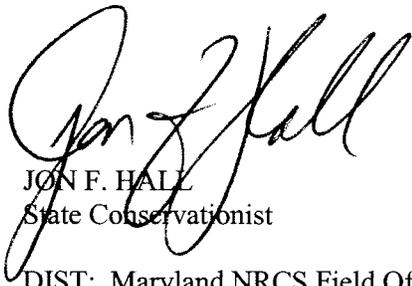
Section I:

- File this Change Notice and the Change Notice Register (new page xviii) in the front of Section I of the Field Office Technical Guide.

Distribution.

This Change Notice and the Change Notice Register are being distributed as paper copies to Maryland NRCS Field Service Centers. Digital copies of soil spatial data for Allegany, Cecil, Kent, Prince George's, and Talbot Counties have been copied to a folder labeled by the soil survey area symbol under F:\geodata\soils on the appropriate Service Center servers. Digital copies of soil attribute databases for Allegany, Cecil, Kent, Prince George's, and Talbot Counties have been copied to F:\FOTG on the appropriate Service Center servers. All documents will also be electronically distributed on the eFOTG at the following address:
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg>. Click on Maryland, and go to the appropriate section. The links for Online Statewide Soil Information for Maryland, Soil Reports (by county) and Soil Data Download (by county) can be used to access the official soil survey data.

If you have questions concerning soils information in Section II of the Field Office Technical Guide, please contact Amanda Moore, State Soil Scientist.



JON F. HALL
State Conservationist

DIST: Maryland NRCS Field Offices
Maryland State Technical Committee