

NON-TECHNICAL SOIL DESCRIPTIONS

GENERAL

Non-technical soil descriptions describe soil properties and management considerations specific to a soil map unit or group of map units. These descriptions are written in terminology that non-technical users of soil survey information can understand. Non-technical soil descriptions are a powerful tool for creating reports which can be generated by conservation planners and other NRCS employees for distribution to land users.

The following are examples of land use categories and descriptions:

- **SOI** -- soil characteristics description
- **AGR** -- agronomic descriptions
- **ENG** -- engineering descriptions
- **RNG** -- range description
- **URB** -- urban description
- **WLH** -- wildlife description
- **WOO** -- woodland description

Non-technical soil descriptions, if available, may be found in the following places:

Soil Data Mart and Web Soil Survey (1), (2)

Non-technical descriptions can be found in the “Map Unit Text”, “Component Text”, “Map Unit Description (Brief)” or “Map Unit Description (Brief Generated)” standard reports.

Local Field Office

The local NRCS field office maintains access to the soil information in the local area and can generate this report for users.

Resource Soil Scientist

The local Resource Soil Scientist can provide non-technical descriptions as files in MSWord.

NOTE: If non-technical soil descriptions are not available, the technical map unit descriptions found in the published soil survey report for the survey area may be substituted. (3)

REFERENCES

- (1) Soil Data Mart
<http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/Survey.aspx?State=WV>
- (2) Web Soil Survey
<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
- (3) Archived Published Soil Surveys
http://soils.usda.gov/survey/printed_surveys/state.asp?state=West%20Virginia&abbr=WV