

Operations

Soil Survey Standards Branch maintains standards for mapping, classification, interpretation, investigation, analysis, and data management.

Soil Survey Research Staff addresses geomorphology, geophysics, geochemistry, digital soil mapping, nutrient dynamics, simulation modeling, and hydrology.

The Kellogg Laboratory Staff supports soil survey, NRCS programs, and National Cooperative Soil Survey projects that include Rapid Carbon assessment, NRI soil monitoring network, CEAP watershed assessments, SCAN and SNOTEL, and EPA National Wetland Conditional Assessment.

Soil Quality and Ecosystems Branch is responsible for Dynamic Soil Properties (DSP), soil health assessment tools, and Ecological Site Descriptions (ESD).

Soil Survey Interpretations Branch addresses practice-specific needs; new user needs, such as wildlife habitat suitability; disaster response; climate and land use, nutrient leaching and runoff risk, and storm water management; and other non-agricultural interpretations.

Soil Business Systems application development includes, but is not limited to, NASIS (National Soils Database), Web Soil Survey, LIMS (Laboratory Management System), as well as 14 other soil applications and interfaces.

Technical Soil Services Branch updates protocols for onsite technical investigations and consultations to support conservation planning and compliance. It also maintains databases to support conservation planning, such as RUSLE2 and WEPS.

For More Information:

National Soil Survey Center
100 Centennial Mall, North
Federal Building, Room 152
Lincoln, NE 68508-3866

Phone: 402-437-5499

<http://www.soils.usda.gov>

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>



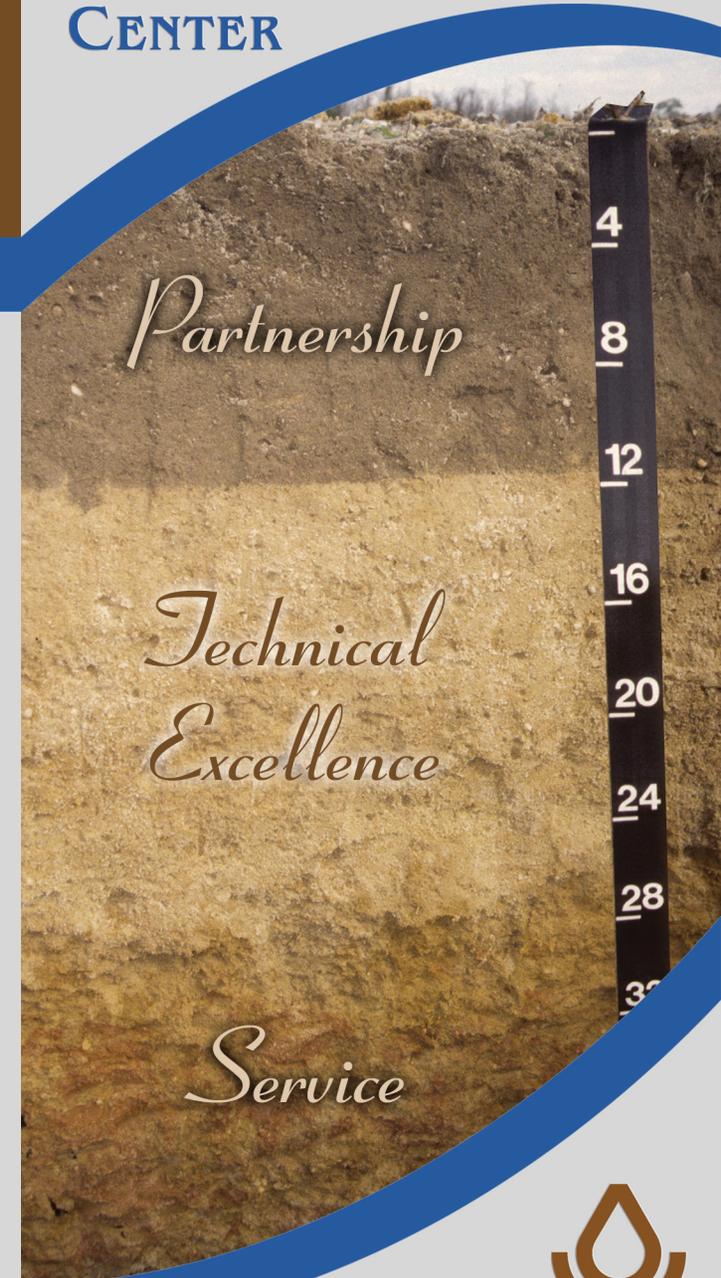
HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND

Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

April 2014

NATIONAL SOIL SURVEY CENTER



A banner for the Web Soil Survey featuring a close-up of soil profiles and a pair of hands holding a small green seedling in soil.

Web Soil Survey

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>

Provides access to the largest natural resource information system in the world and is the authoritative source of soil survey information. Soil maps and data are available for more than 95 percent of the Nation.



<http://tinyurl.com/mnwfrjz>

Provides access to several soil topics to which you may subscribe. Informational bulletins are periodically e-mailed out as information for that topic becomes available.



<http://tinyurl.com/o6joekh>

An extension to ArcMap™ that allows users to create soil-based thematic maps. Provides users with a tool for quick geospatial analysis of soil data for use in resource assessment and management.

Mission

Through the National Cooperative Soil Survey, the National Soil Survey Center (NSSC) provides the leadership needed to develop and apply soil information to land use decisions for the purpose of conserving, maintaining, and improving the Nation's natural resources.

The Center's principle responsibility is to inventory soil resources and to keep the inventory current to better address the Nation's changing natural resource needs.

Vision

As an essential part of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Center bases its vision on the fundamental principles of NRCS and how it conducts business now and in the future.

- 1) *Service*—strive to anticipate the public need; improve service to meet that need; and measure efforts against the highest professional standards.
- 2) *Partnership*—value relationships with State and local government, other Federal agencies, and university and private partners that share common objectives.
- 3) *Technical Excellence*—produce information that is science-based, uses up-to-date technology, and is designed to meet user needs.

Branches

Soil Survey Standards

- Develop and maintain soil survey standards to ensure high quality and consistent products for soil survey users.
- Develop and implement the National Cooperative Soil Survey training program.
- Establish national and international classification and taxonomy standards.

Soil Survey Research & Dr. Charles E. Kellogg Soil Survey Laboratory

- Conduct research on the genesis, landscape distribution, function, and behavior of soils to better define and understand proper use and management as well as provide soil characterization data to support the National Cooperative Soil Survey and other national and international cooperative activities.
- The Dr. Charles E. Kellogg Soil Survey Laboratory provides support for soil survey, NRCS programs, and NCSS cooperative projects.

Soil Quality and Ecosystems

- Inventory, interpret, and predict the impacts of natural and human disturbance on soil and ecosystem function.
- Develop soil quality/soil health tools.
- Provide outreach.
- Inventory Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs).

Soil Survey Interpretations

- Provide user-friendly information that explains how soil characteristics and properties affect everyday life.
- Develop new soil interpretations.
- Maintain and improve existing interpretive products.
- Provide customer service.

Soil Business Systems

- Research, evaluate, and develop soil information technology.
- Collect and deliver soil data and information.
- Develop applications.
- Design systems.
- Provide public assistance.

Technical Soil Services

- Provide tailored and accurate information for site-specific planning.
- Support NRCS operations.
- Provide customer service.