

Training Current Events

TNI and IDPs and the NCSS Training web pages @ soils.usda

The screenshot shows the NCSS Training page on the NRCS website. The header includes the United States Department of Agriculture logo and the text 'United States Department of Agriculture NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service'. The 'Soils' section is highlighted in the top right. The navigation menu includes 'Soils Home', 'About Us', 'Soil Survey', 'Soil Use', 'Soil Education', 'Photo Gallery', 'Technical References', 'Partnerships', and 'Contact Us'. The left sidebar contains a search box and an 'Education' menu with links to 'Soil Facts', 'Key Messages', 'State Soils', 'Water Movement in Soil', 'Twelve Orders of Soil Taxonomy', 'Grades K-6', 'Grades 7-12', 'College level', 'Dig It!', 'NCSS Training', 'Web Soil Survey', and 'NRCS Photo Gallery'. The main content area is titled 'NCSS Training' and features a red notice: 'This training information is directed to employees of agencies participating in the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS)'. Below this is a link to 'Subscribe/Unsubscribe to NCSS Training News'. A message states 'This document requires Acrobat Reader.' followed by a link to 'Training for NCSS Soil Scientists poster (PDF; 2.6 MB)'. The page also lists 'Syllabuses' (Recommendations for soil scientists and GIS support), 'NCSS Training Course Materials' (Links training course materials), and 'Training' (Links to distance learning and classroom course descriptions). A bulleted list at the bottom includes 'GIS Training (distance learning, classroom)' and 'Database Training (distance learning, classroom)'.

United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

Soils

Soils Home | About Us | Soil Survey | Soil Use | Soil Education | Photo Gallery | Technical References | Partnerships | Contact Us

Search
Soils
Enter Keywords **GO**

Education
▶ Soil Facts
▶ Key Messages
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▶ Twelve Orders of Soil Taxonomy
▶ Grades K-6
▶ Grades 7-12
▶ College level
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▶ NCSS Training
▶ Web Soil Survey
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NCSS Training

This training information is directed to employees of agencies participating in the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS).

[Subscribe/Unsubscribe to NCSS Training News](#)

This document requires [Acrobat Reader](#).

[Training for NCSS Soil Scientists poster](#) (PDF; 2.6 MB)

Syllabuses -- Recommendations for soil scientists and GIS support.

NCSS Training Course Materials -- Links training course materials.

Training -- Links to distance learning and classroom course descriptions.

- [GIS Training](#) (distance learning, classroom)
- [Database Training](#) (distance learning, classroom)



Training News subscriptions



SGI this year at UC-Davis,
tentatively followed by SSI @ Kansas
State in FY11



Soil Tech – Measurement & Data Evaluation



Technical Soil Services



Advanced Hydric Soils for Soil Scientists *on the road*



FSA Wetland ID Procedures *New!*

- ◎ in 2009 (Circular 4; December 2009), the Chief made a decision that NRCS would utilize the Corps Methods (1987 Manual and Supplements) when appropriate (within our statutory and regulatory authority) for the identification of FSA wetlands.
- ◎ Training under development will have 2 parts
 1. Self-paced with regional supplements of field indicators to be piloted soon (April availability?)
 2. Classroom and field face to face with pilot course sessions for up to 45 participants in each
 - **Stevensville, MD (May 24 – 28) Champaign, IL (June 21 – 25) Davis, CA (July 19 – 23)**



Remote Sensing *New!*

- ① 1 – Basic Image Interpretation
 - Self-paced via internet
- ② 2 – Introduction to Digital Remote Sensing
 - Classroom or bridge via CD (if not via internet)
- ③ 3 – Remote Sensing for Soil Survey Applications
 - Classroom in Fort Worth

Using Comparison Studies to Inventory Soil Change *New!*

- Under develop by interdisciplinary team
- Pilot tentatively scheduled for _____
- The course Soil Quality Assessment and Applications for Field Staff is a prerequisite
 - Get training in use of tools and procedures for Dynamic Soil Properties in that course
 - Comparison studies course will focus on designing and completing the studies

Effort to develop OJT modules continues *(slowly!)*

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▶ Find a Service Center
▶ States and Regions
▶ Centers and Institutes

On-the-Job Training (OJT) Modules

PDF files require [Acrobat Reader](#) and DOC files require [Microsoft Word](#).

OJT for MLRA Soil Survey Offices

- Mapping Soils
 - [How to name map units](#) (PDF; 36 KB)
 - [How to recognize and distinguish map units](#) (PDF; 35 KB)
 - [How to recognize and use components in soil survey](#) (PDF; 80 KB)
 - [Know what environmental issues exist - how to deal with emergencies](#) (PDF; 142 KB)
 - [Understanding the processes of mapping soils](#) (PDF; 12.2 MB)
 - [How to develop a soils key for your survey area](#) (PDF; 86 KB)
 - [How to identify native and non-native plant vegetation and relate them to soils in your survey area](#) (PDF; 192 KB)
- Soil Classification
 - [How to use Soil Taxonomy and Keys to Soil Taxonomy](#) (PDF; 41 KB)
- Soil Survey Information
 - [How to access and use the soils.usda.gov website](#) (PDF; 26 KB)
 - [How to find access and use the Web Soil Survey website](#) (PDF; 32 KB)

OJT for Technical Soil Services Providers

- Soil Science
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OJT for MLRA SSOs


OJT for MLRA Soil Survey Offices

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 - [Know what environmental issues exist - how to deal with emergencies](#) (PDF; 142 KB)
 - [Understanding the processes of mapping soils](#) (PDF; 12.2 MB)
 - [How to develop a soils key for your survey area](#) (PDF; 86 KB)
 - [How to identify native and non-native plant vegetation and relate them to soils in your survey area](#) (PDF; 102 KB)
- Soil Classification
 - [How to use Soil Taxonomy and Keys to Soil Taxonomy](#) (PDF; 41 KB)
- Soil Survey Information
 - [How to access and use the soils.usda.gov website](#) (PDF; 26 KB)
 - [How to find access and use the Web Soil Survey website](#) (PDF; 32 KB)

OJT for new non soil scientists

OJT for Technical Soil Services Providers

- Soil Science
 - [How to find access and use the Web Soil Survey website](#) (PDF; 32 KB)
 - [What are hydric soils?](#) (PDF; 100 KB)
 - [Understanding soil erosion](#) (PDF; 67 KB)
 - [Soil salinity -- the what, where, and how of salinity development](#) (PDF; 47 KB)
 - [Soil salinity -- identification and measurement](#) (PDF; 32 KB)
 - [Soil salinity -- effects and management](#) (PDF; 31 KB)
 - [Importance of OM and SOC to soil quality](#) (PDF; 62 KB)
- Soil Survey
 - [Understanding map units, delineations, and the components within your survey area](#) (PDF; 643 KB)
- Describing Soils
 - [How to determine soil texture in the USDA Soil Classification System](#) (PDF;



Mapping Skills, landscape modeling, map unit design *new!*

- *First stage:* on the ground, understanding landscapes, segmenting the landscape, methods for mapping, etc.
- *Second stage:* incorporate current techniques utilizing the computer and the *eworld*
- *Third stage:* immersion in the processes to gain some level of experience



Digital Soil Mapping *drawing board!*

Other items on the horizon from the SSD Training LRP

- ⦿ Ecological sites, ESDs, state & transition models
- ⦿ Encouraging all our MLRSA SSO staff to get training in terrain analysis through Spatial Analyst (NCGC offering) or other means
- ⦿ Develop training related to landscape modeling
- ⦿ Development of an informal network for mentoring related to particular skill sets

Your Feedback

- ① Any comments regarding training?
- ① What are our gaps in training from your perspective?