

Soil and Plant Science Division Exhibits

New exhibits that feature the importance of healthy soil and the value of soil survey work are now available for loan. These exhibits are available for use by NRCS employees. Please complete the [Reservation Form](#).



#1 – Soil: More Important Than You Think
8-ft x 10-ft



#2 – Soil: We Can't Live Without It
8-ft x 10-ft



#3 – Did You Know?
3-ft x 8-ft



#4 – Free Apps
5-ft x 8-ft

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.nrcs.usda.gov

Free Data

- Web Soil Survey
- Geospatial Data Gateway
- National Soil Survey Lab Data
- OSD Official Series Descriptions
- Digital Soil Survey

GET DATA

Did you know?

World population was seven billion in 2013 and is projected to be more than nine billion in 2050. To sustain this level of growth, food production will need to increase by 70%.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

#5 – Free Data
5-ft x 8-ft

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Free Education Services

- Collaborating with all levels of academia in soil science and soil survey mapping.
- Generating community awareness and providing opportunity to explore good land use decisions.
- And much more...

Did you know?

Soil is the foundation of the food chain and is the cornerstone of life on earth.

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#6 – Free Educational Services
5-ft x 8-ft

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Free Soil Maps

Provide information to make land use decisions

- Farming
Crop, Grazing and Forestry
- Urban
Residential, Commercial and Recreational
- Mining and more...

Did you know?

There are more than 70,000 unique soils in the United States.

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#7 – Free Soil Maps
5-ft x 8-ft

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Ecological Site Descriptions

- ✓ Provide framework for organizing scientific and technical land management information.
- ✓ Help translate research findings into management guidelines that assist landowners to:
 - Decide what is possible
 - Weigh alternatives for achieving objectives
 - Select conservation practices
 - Evaluate results and modify management

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#8 – Ecological Site Descriptions
8-ft x 8-ft

Worth Taking Note:
Soil Health Principles

- Maximize diversity in the soil system, including plants and animals.
- Manage soils more by disturbing them less.
- Keep plants growing throughout the year to feed the soil.
- Maximize soil cover.

Did you know?
Improving soil health is key to sustainable agriculture.

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#9 – Soil Health Principles
8-ft x 8-ft

Hardest Working Resource:
Soil Functions

- Supports ecosystem productivity
- Nutrient cycling
- Water cycling
- Habitat and food for diverse organisms
- Filtration and buffering
- Structural support

Did you know?
In the US 6 pounds of soil are lost to erosion for every pound of food produced.

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#10 – Soil Functions
8-ft x 8-ft

Coastal Zone Soil Survey

The Natural Resources Conservation Service collects, maps and distributes soil data on terrestrial and shallow-subtidal submerged lands, providing valuable soil and ecological information in addition to interpretations for coastal uses.

Hooksan Succotash Nagunt Beaches, Sandy

Interpretations:
 Seagrass Habitat
 Prime Aquaculture Locations
 Bottom Type
 Blue Carbon Pools
 CMACS Classification
 Soil Taxonomic Classification
 Oyster Reef Restoration Sites
 Chemical and Physical Properties
 Acid Sulfate Soil Potential

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#11 – Coastal Zone Soil Survey
8-ft x 8-ft

gNATSGO
gridded National Soil Survey Geographic Database

One-Stop Shopping for Soil Data

Raster Soil Survey
 SSURGO
 STATSGO2

Customizable Full Coverage Grids of Soil Properties and Interpretations

DATA SOURCES

STATSGO2:
A broad-based inventory of soils and nonsoil areas. It is based on shared soil properties and related features from SSURGO-level mapping. The generalized soil associations are designed for State or Regional land use planning.

SSURGO:
The largest U.S. soil mapping effort. It has been evolving for over a century and is designed for use by landowners and by city and county governments. Soil information was typically collected between scales of 1:2,000 and 1:5,360.

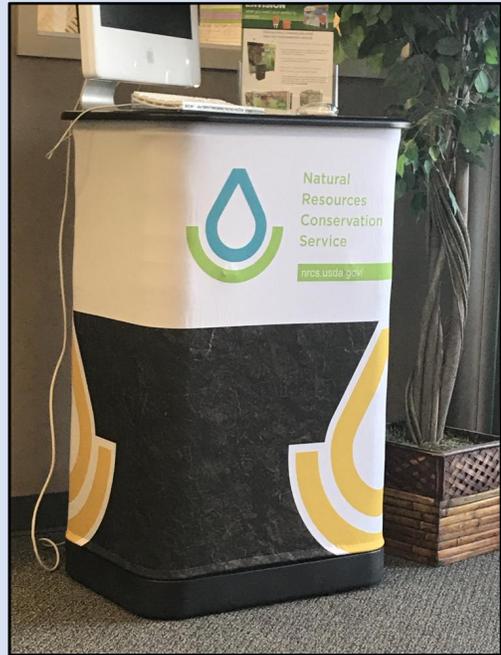
RASS:
Provides a high level of detail by utilizing the quantitative relationships between soil sampling and environmental data. These inventories are just getting underway and will be our next generation of data.

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#12 – gNATSGO
8-ft x 8-ft



#13 – Urban Soil Survey
8-ft x 8-ft



#14 – NRCS
Case to Counter