

## How to Request Local Important Farmland Soils Designation

1. The highest ranking elected official for your town makes a written request to the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service's State Conservationist,\* asking for assistance in the identification of farmland soils of local importance, and explaining why they want this designation (examples: have areas that are farmed that are not prime or statewide important farmland; to enhance efforts in identifying important lands to protect, etc.).

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2. NRCS receives the letter and runs an analysis of the soils and soil map units in your town that based on physical and chemical properties and agricultural limitations and potential, have the makings to be farmland of local importance. NRCS develops a spatial map layer that displays the new designated soils.
3. The list and map are sent to the town for review. If they are accepted, the highest ranking elected official signs the documentation and returns it to NRCS.
4. It then becomes official and may be used for planning and land protection efforts. Areas that have designated local important farmland soils are placed in Section II of the CT eFOTG at <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/treemenuFS.aspx> under soils information.

The entire process (provided at no cost to your town) can be completed quite quickly depending on the time it takes to route the paperwork and obtain signatures.