

Jennifer Gagnon Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program



You are here: Web Soil Survey Home

Search Enter Keyword All NRCS Sites Browse by Subject



Archived Soil Surveys Status Maps Official Soil Series Descriptions (OSD)

Series Extent Explorer Geospatial Data

Gateway eFOTG National Soil Characterization Data Soil Health Soil Geography



Welcome to Web Soil Survey (WSS)

Web Soil Survey (WSS) provides soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. It is operated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

> Interest tab to define vour area of interest.

> Click or Press the Enter

or Spacebar key to view

the larger image. Press

the Escape key to close.

(NRCS) and provides access to the largest natural resource information system in the world. NRCS has soil maps and data available online for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties and anticipates having 100 percent in the near future. The site is updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information.

Soil surveys can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning. Onsite investigation is needed in some cases, such as soil quality assessments and certain conservation and engineering applications. For more detailed information, contact your local USDA Service Center at the following link: USDA Service Center or your NRCS State Soil Scientist at the following link: NRCS State Soil Scientist.

Four Basic Steps





Survey (WSS) **Know Web Soil** Survey

Start Web Soil

I Want To..

- Requirements **Know Web Soil**
- Survey operation hours
- Find what areas of the U.S. have soil data
- Find information by topic
- Know how to hyperlink from other documents to Web Soil Survey
- Know the SSURGO data structure
- Use Web Soil Survey on a mobile device

Announcements/Events

Web Soil Survey 3.4.0 has been released! View Web Soil Survey release history Sign up for e-mail updates via GovDelivery

I Want Help With.

• Getting Started With Web Soil Survey

How to use Web Soil Survey Online





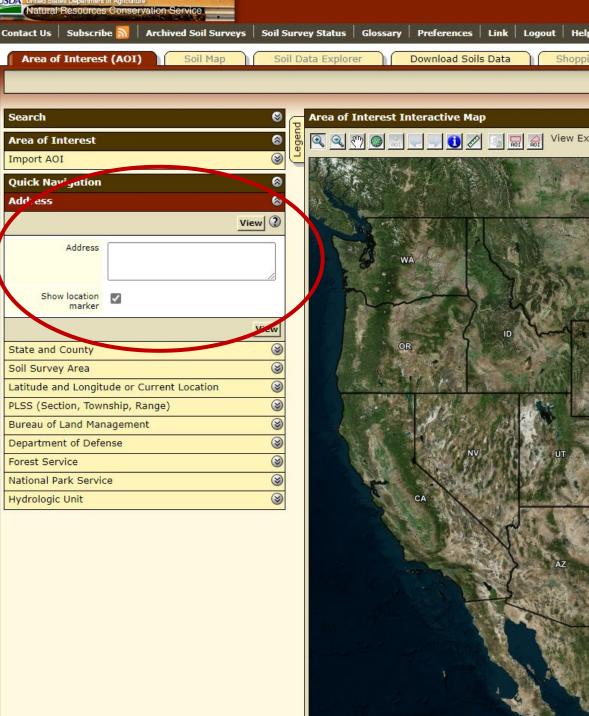
- You will learn about soil surveys in Module 4
- There are still a few areas in the east that don't have a soil survey click here to check your property
- If no survey is available, please contact your local <u>Natural Resources</u> <u>Conservation Service (NRCS)office</u> ~ they may be able to map your property
- Hard copies of soil surveys are still available for some locations check your local NRCS office
- The <u>Web Soil Survey</u> (WSS) is the best place to find your soils data
- You can also make topo maps and find aerial photos on the WSS, but I
 recommend doing this in the more user-friendly Google Earth

- Go to <u>http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/a</u> <u>pp/HomePage.htm</u>
- Click the green button: Start WSS

The simple yet powerful way to access and use soil data.



 If you have a physical address for your property, click "Address" on the lefthand menu under the "Quick Navigation" tab; enter your address; click view



 If you don't have a physical address, click "State and County" on the left-hand menu under the "Quick Navigation" tab; from here you can zoom in to locate your property USDA

Contact

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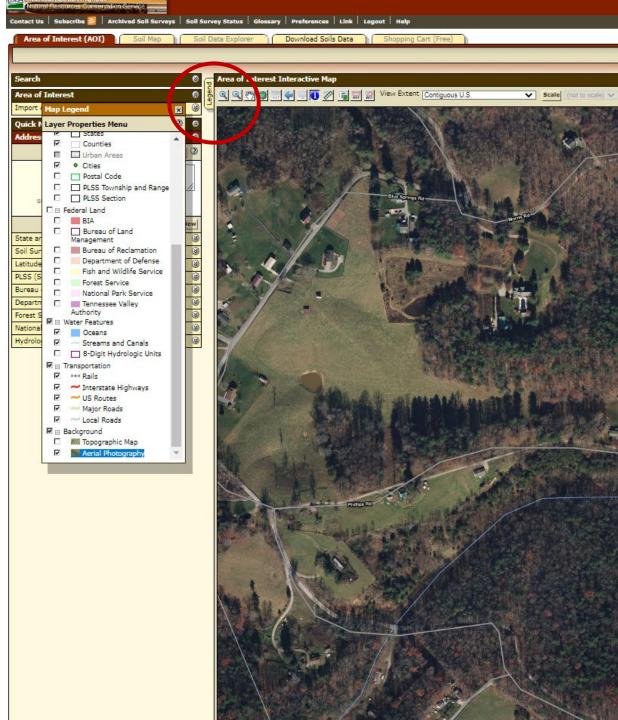
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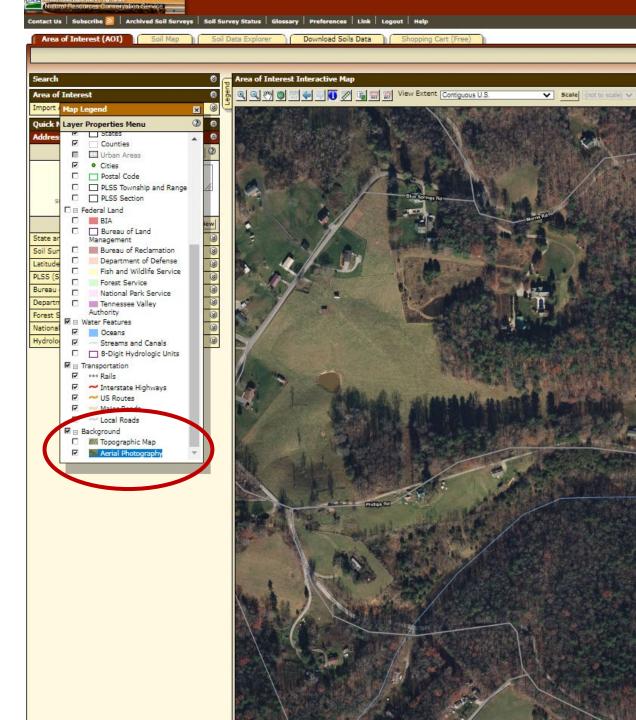
Either option will bring up an aerial photo of your property. To find the year it was taken, click the "Legend" tab

• when the legend appears, scroll down to find "Aerial Photography"



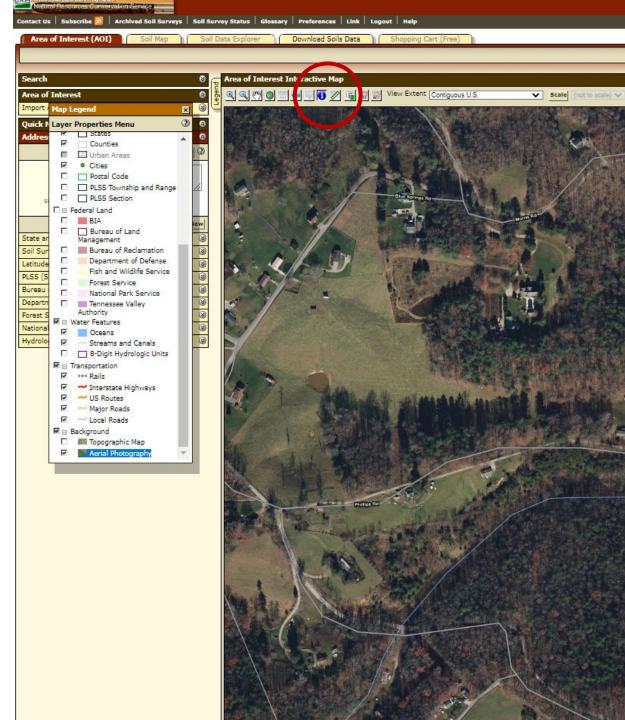
Either option will bring up an aerial photo of your property. To find the year it was taken, click the "Legend" tab

- when the legend appears, scroll down to find "Aerial Photography"
- highlight "Aerial Photography"

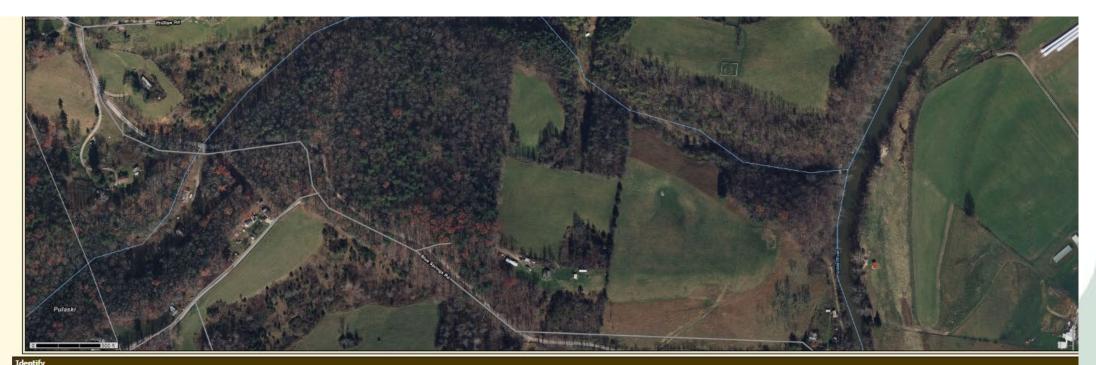


Either option will bring up an aerial photo of your property. To find the year it was taken, click the "Legend" tab

- when the legend appears, scroll down to find "Aerial Photography"
- highlight "Aerial Photography"
- click the ion the top of the photo, then click the photo – the information will appear in a table below the aerial photo



The aerial photo for this property is from November 2020

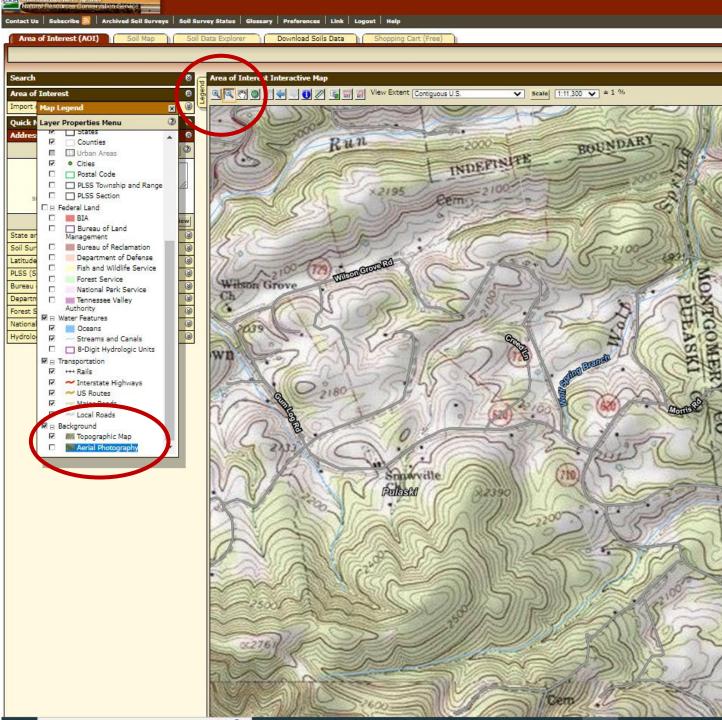


Layer	Attribute Name	Attribute Value
Location	Latitude, Longitude	37.00792°, -80.54365°
States	State Name	Virginia
	State Abbreviation	VA
	State FIPS Code	51
Counties	County Name	Managomery
	FIPS Code	51121
	State Name	Virginia
Aerial Photography	Date(s) Photographed	Nov 14, 2020-Nov 19, 2020

The WSS includes topo maps

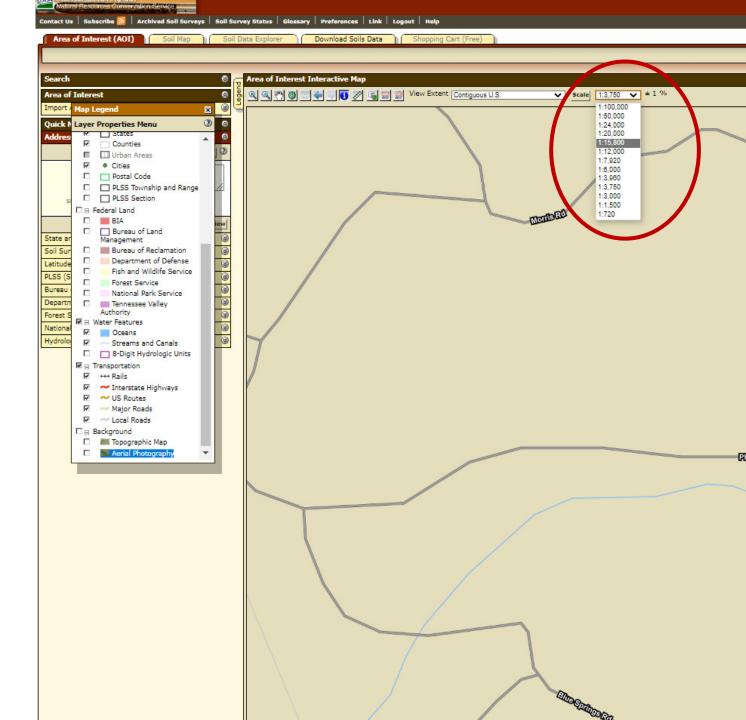
- Click on the "Legend" tab
- Scroll down and select "Topographic Map"
- This topo map should be the same as the one in Google Earth
- You can zoom in and out

 just note the changes
 in scale



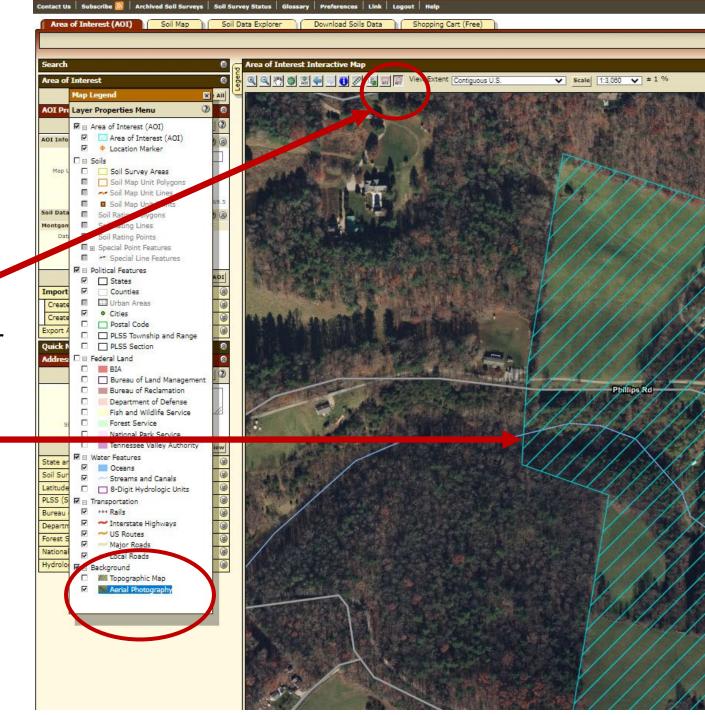
The WSS allows you to set the scale of the maps

- Click the "Scale" button over the photo and follow the instructions to calibrate your computer screen
- Set the scale to 1:24000



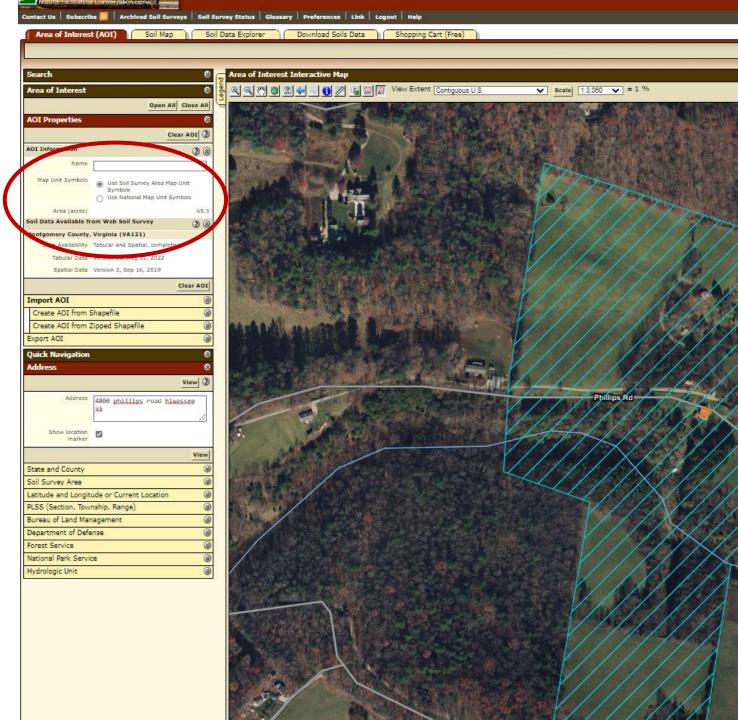
Let's get to the soils

- Re-select "Aerial Photography" from the "Legend" tab
- Select one of the two "AOI" (Area of Interest) boxes at the top of the photo – one tool works better for irregular borders
- Use this tool to outline your property
- Double click to close your polygon

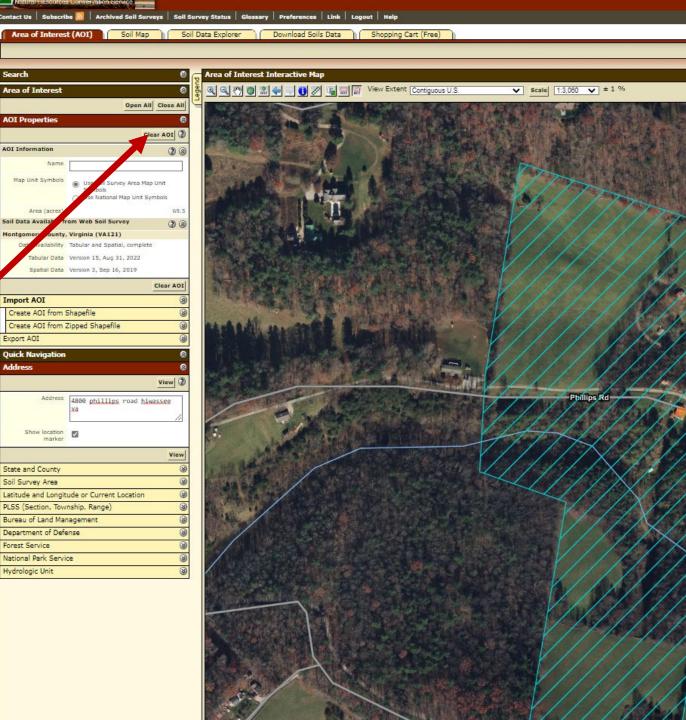


SOIL SURVEY WEB

 To see the total acres in your AOI look under "AOI Information"should be close to your actual acreage



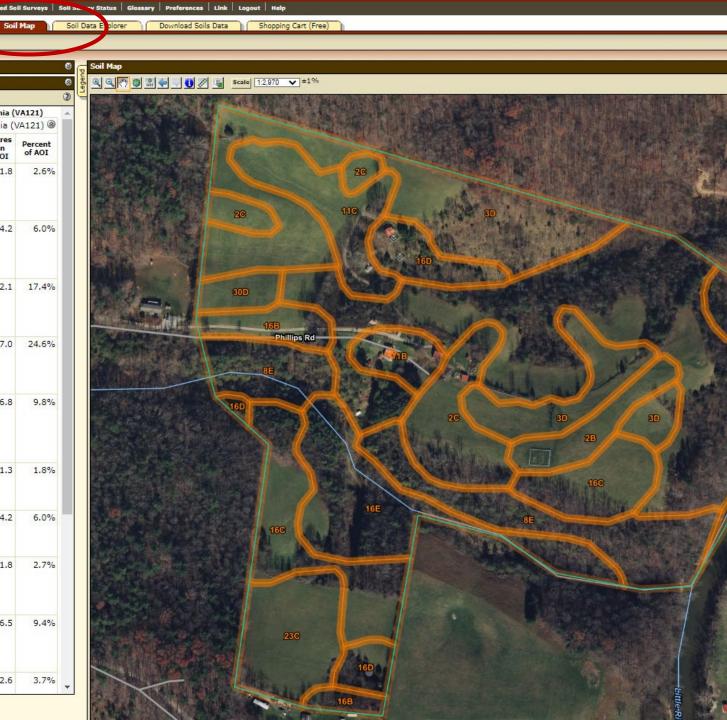
- To see the total acres in your AOI look under "AOI Information"– should be close to your actual acreage
- If you need to redraw your boundaries, look under "AOI Information" and click "Clear AOI"



 To see the soils on your property, select the "Soil Map" tab

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lap Unit	Legend			8
	gomery County, Vir mery County, Vir		-	*
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI	
2B	Berks- Groseclose complex, 2 to 7 percent slopes	1.8	2.6%	
2C	Berks- Groseclose complex, 7 to 15 percent slopes	4.2	6.0%	
3D	Berks-Lowell- Rayne complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	12.1	17.4%	
3E	Berks-Lowell- Rayne complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	17.0	24.6%	
8E	Caneyville- Opequon-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes	6.8	9.8%	
11B	Duffield-Ernest complex, 2 to 7 percent slopes	1.3	1.8%	
11C	Duffield-Ernest complex, 7 to 15 percent slopes	4.2	6.0%	Ī
16B	Groseclose and Poplimento soils, 2 to 7 percent slopes	1.8	2.7%	
16C	Groseclose and Poplimento soils, 7 to 15 percent slopes	6.5	9.4%	
16D	Groseclose and	2.6	3.7%	+

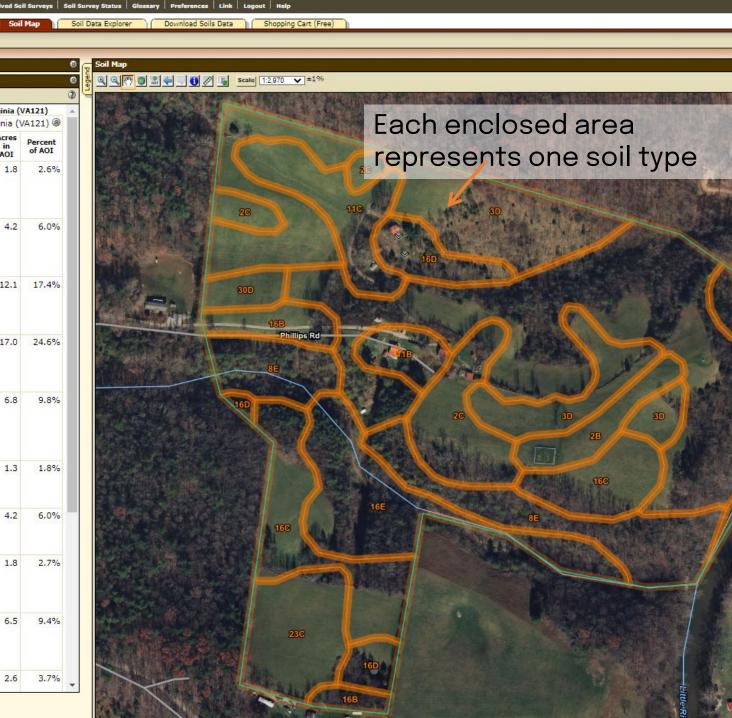
Area of Interes



- To see the soils on your property, select the "Soil Map" tab
- The soils in your AOI are identified by a numberletter combination

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Mont	gomery County, Vi	rginia (1	VA121)
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Area of Interest (AOI)

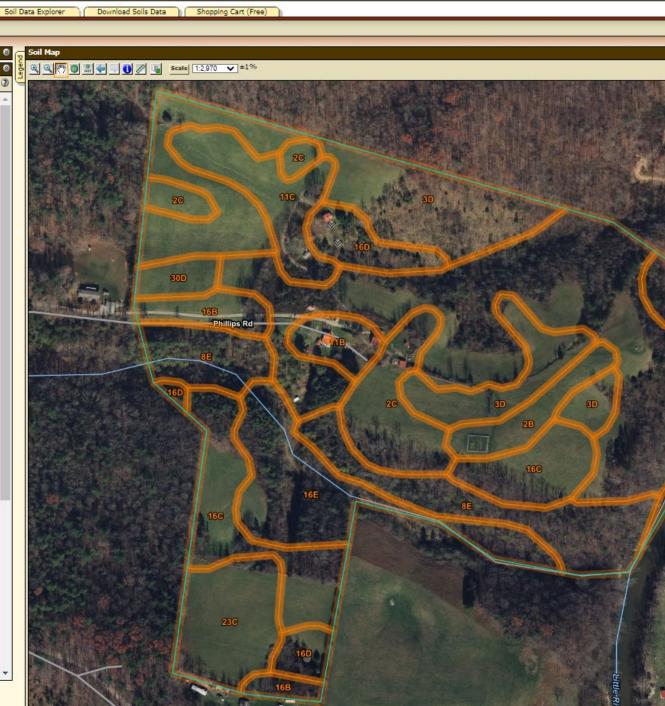


- To see the soils on your property, select the "Soil Map" tab
- The soils in your AOI are identified by a numberletter combination
- Each numberletter combination is defined in the "Map Unit Legend" on the left

Search			
4ap Unit	Legend		
Mont	gomery County, Vi	roinia /	(4121)
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Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
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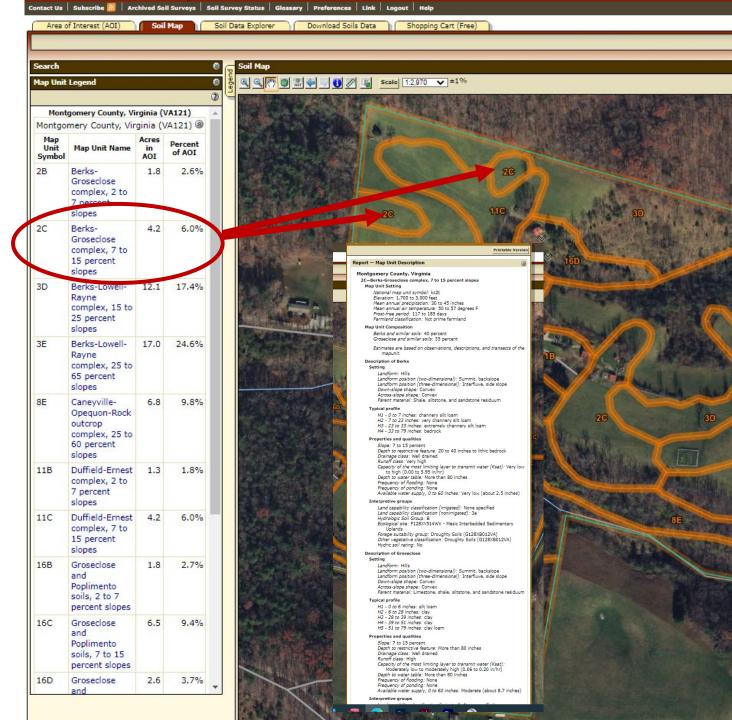
Area of Interest (AOI)

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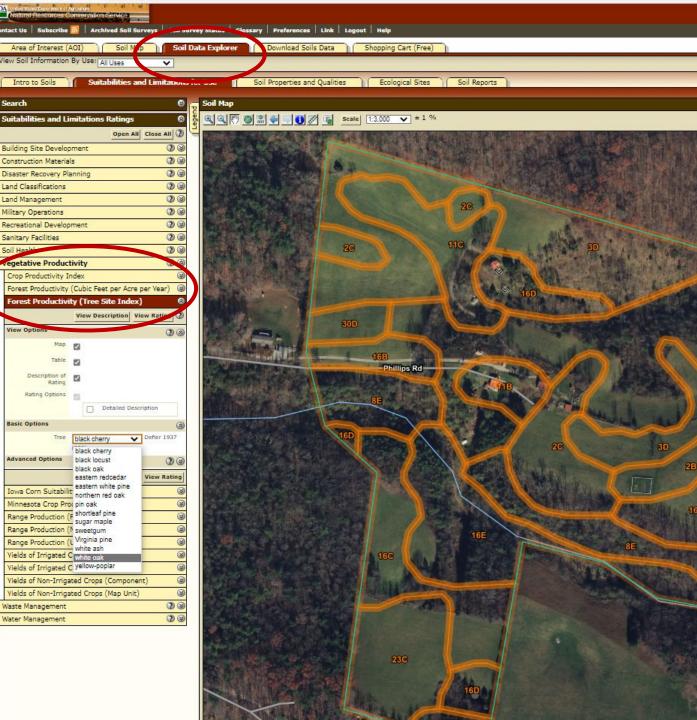
Using the "Map Unit Legend"

- Match the map unit symbol (i.e., 2C) to the map unit name
- The "Map Unit Legend" will tell you how many acres (and the %) in your AOI have a particular soil and the name of the soil series
- Click on the soil series name to learn more about the soil



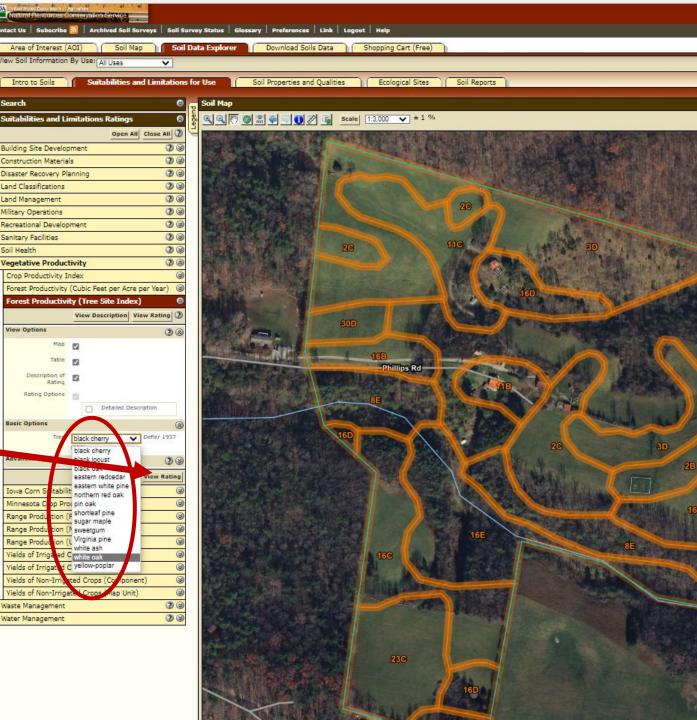
Select the "Soil Data Explorer" tab

- Select the "Vegetative Productivity" menu
- Select "Forest Productivity (Tree Site Index)" to compare site indices of different tree species
- Site index is a measure of productivity – the higher the site index, the more productive the soil is for growing a particular tree species



Select the "Soil Data Explorer" tab

- Select the "Vegetative Productivity" menu
- Select "Forest Productivity" to compare site indices of different tree species
- Select a species and click "View rating"

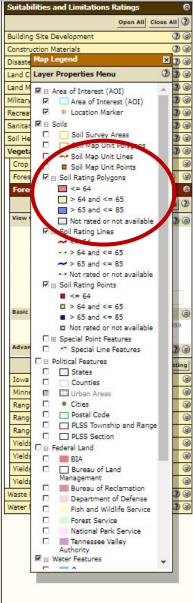


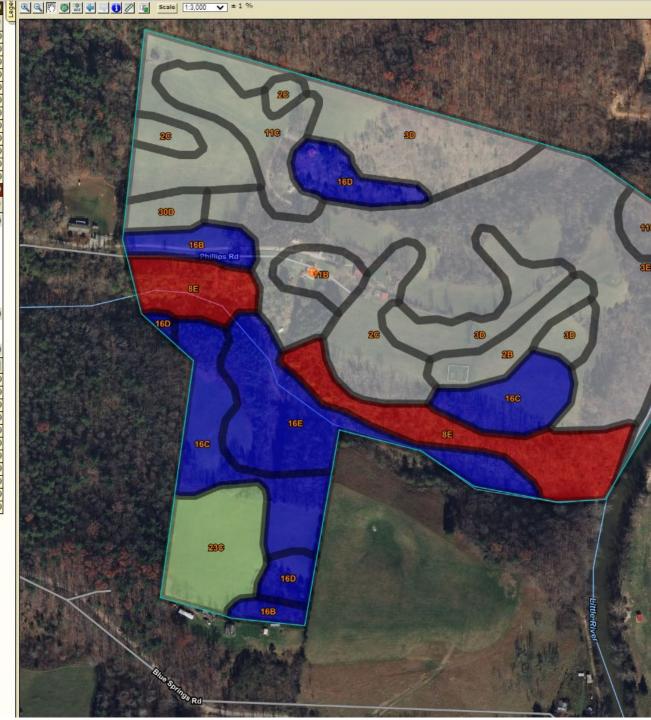
This will bring up a color-coded map

Colors indicate different productivity levels by soil type

Use the "Legend" tab to see productivity ratings

The ratings refer to site index





- On this property, 2C is a Berks-Groseclose complex, occurring on 7-15% slopes; 4.2 acres of the AOI are this soil type
- This soil has between 117–185 frost free days (i.e., growing season)
- Occurs at elevations between 1700 and 3000 feet
- Has a depth of 20 to 40"
- Site index for growing northern red oak is 70

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Area of	Interest (AOI)	Soi	il Map 🥤
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- For a more advanced tutorial, visit: <u>http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/Help/WSS_HomePag</u> <u>e_HowTo.pdf</u>
- You may be thinking to yourself, why would I use Google Earth Pro when I can get all the information I need, to scale, here on the WSS?
- Well, for one thing, you may have noticed a big difference in usability Google Earth Pro is more user-friendly
- Google Earth Pro also has more aerial photos, including historic ones
- The choice is yours use what you are comfortable with

- If you are a Smart Phone or Tablet user, there is a free App version of the WSS available
- This App does not have all the functionality the website does
- The App displays the soil type under your feet
- You can use this App to create your own soils map
- Search either in the iTunes Store or Google Play for: Soilweb (one word)



SPONSOPS















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