

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Farmland Restoration Grant

2023 Grant Application Guidelines and Forms

***Application Deadline:
December 9, 2022, at 4:00pm***

**Ned Lamont, Governor
Bryan P. Hurlburt, Commissioner**



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
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Hartford, CT 06103
www.CTGrown.gov



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Important Information

Applications must be received by: December 9, 2022, at 4:00pm on the Grant Platform.

Applications ***will not*** be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on December 9, 2022

Questions can be directed to: Lance Shannon, Lance.Shannon@ct.gov or Simon Levesque, Simon.Levesque@ct.gov

On **Tuesday November 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.** a virtual webinar will be held for interested agricultural producers and cooperatives to learn about the Farmland Restoration Program application process. The webinar will be held utilizing Webex and the link to join via a video call or voice call is below.

Please visit www.CTGrown.gov/grants to obtain the webinar link and recording.

Grant Description

The Farmland Restoration Grant (FLRG) provides matching funds to Connecticut farmers, nonprofits and municipalities to increase food and fiber production in the state by restoring lands into active agricultural production. FLRG focuses on restoring and improving land with prime and important farmland soils, in accordance with a Farmland Restoration Program Plan and a Climate Smart Resiliency Plan (FLRP Plan).

Funding for the Farmland Restoration Grant is made possible by Connecticut General Statutes 22-6c. The Farmland Restoration Grant and any awards are subject to the requirements and provisions of state funding.

For the purposes of this grant, farmland restoration is the act of bringing land into agricultural production for human food, animal feed, or livestock grazing.

The maximum grant awarded is **\$20,000.00**. Applications of any amount up to the maximum possible award will be considered for funding. There are two opportunities for funding under the Farmland Restoration Program. The opportunities for funding are for projects on either **publicly owned land** or for projects that are on **privately owned land**. Applicants will choose the grant that best fits their property to apply.

Eligible Applicants

The following entities are eligible to apply for the Farmland Restoration Grant:

1. Agricultural producers, who are owners or tenants of an existing agribusiness within the State of Connecticut with at least one year of production experience.
2. Not for profits owning or leasing a property in use for agricultural production.
3. Municipalities leasing farmland, currently in use by a farmer. The lease must be no less than five years in duration, with a five-year option to renew in the terms. .

Producers must be registered with the Connecticut Secretary of State as a business in the State of Connecticut. If the producer is established as a limited liability company or corporation, the producer must obtain or be applying to obtain a Farmer's Tax Exemption Permit. Farms should be a business in good standing with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg), State, and Federal requirements. Not for profits must be registered with the Connecticut Secretary of State, and provide a copy of the federal IRS exemption letter.

Prior grantees may apply for a Farmland Restoration Grant. Open awards, past awards, project completion and outcomes will be considered in the evaluation of the 2023 award application.

Applicants who have received two years of consecutive funding are ineligible for an award for one year. Applicants may reapply for funding in the next grant cycle following the year's ineligibility. For example:

2020: Project awarded
2021: Project awarded
2022: Ineligible for an award

2023: Eligible for an award

Match Requirement, Expenses, & Payment

All eligible expenses funded by any Farmland Restoration Grant program must advance farming and agriculture, as defined by [Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-1\(q\)](#).

Matching project funds are required by the applicant. Matches may be provided through cash or in-kind services. The cash match requirement may be self-financed, bank-financed, or provided through other grants or sponsorships such as but not limited to federal, state, or foundation grants. If other grant funds provide the necessary match requirement, the applicant must disclose the grantor/funder, the grant name, and amount awarded. Please be aware per CGS 22-6c, no more than 90% of the total project cost may be covered by state and federal funds. Matches may not be from other DoAg funded grants.

Match Requirements and Examples:

Projects on **Publicly Owned Land: These projects are on lands owned by a municipality or that are state-owned land** – there is a **90/10 match requirement**. 90% of project expenses may be grant funded, 10% of total project expenses should be covered by the applicant as match funding to the award. *For example: With a \$10,000 project: Up to \$9,000 of the project may be covered by an award and at least \$1,000 of the total project costs must be covered by the farmer.*

Projects on **Privately Owned Land: These projects reference land that is owned privately by a farmer or not for profit**. On these lands, a **50/50 match is required**. 50% of project expenses may be grant funded and 50% of project expenses must be covered by the applicant as match funding to the award. *For example: With a \$10,000 project: Up to \$5,000 of the project may be covered by this award and at least \$5,000 of the total project costs must be covered by the farmer.*

For in-kind match requirements using volunteer hours for a component of the required match funds, please reference the [Independent Sectors](#) information on the volunteer cost per hour. These estimated hours must be accounted for with a monetary amount in the budget towards the match requirement.

Expenses:

The following expenses **may not be used as a match** and will **not be funded by this grant**:

- Any expense incurred prior to contract execution
- Land acquisition/mortgages
- Cost of borrowing (points and other fees)
- Any portion of expense for which the applicant barter/pays a contractor in merchandise or service in lieu of cash
- Routine business expenses (example: equipment maintenance)
- Disposable supplies (office, farm, otherwise) unrelated to the project
- Legal expenses related to litigation
- Indirect or contingency costs of any percentage
- Land remediation expenses

- Projects conducted on brownfields or contaminated lands
- Purchase of general-purpose equipment
- Lobbying

The following **expenses are an acceptable match** if these directly and meaningfully support the proposed project:

- Employee salaries/payroll paid to execute the project
- Attorneys' fees (not related to litigation)
- Consumable or disposable supplies (example: gas, oil)

Examples of **eligible expenses** for grant funded projects:

- State/local/federal permits related to the project
- Rental of equipment
- Hiring contractors
- Soil amendments
- Well digging
- Pond dredging
- Fence and fence installation
- Irrigation
- Pumphouses
- Stone and stump removal
- Land clearing/brush hogging
- Invasive removal
- Tree pruning/maintenance
- Field drainage

To be eligible for payment, Eligible Expenses (listed above) must be included in the signed contract and in the approved Farmland Restoration Plan ("Plan").

Payment

This award is a reimbursement grant. Funds shall not be paid to the awardee until the project is completed to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Agriculture. All project expenses have to be paid for and documentation has to be submitted to the Department for payment to be processed. The Farmland Restoration Grant may only be paid directly to the individual or organization who is the awardee and listed on the grant contract.

Incomplete projects will not be fully reimbursed.

Once awards are made no additional funds will be awarded, even if a project's costs increase. Only expenses in the budget and spent during the project period shall be reimbursed. If project expenses are less than originally budgeted, only the amount actually spent shall be reimbursed. For example, if a public land project costs \$8,000 at the time of completion instead of an original budget of \$10,000, a prorated amount of \$7,200 will be paid for the completed work (accounting for the 10% match of the project costs). The remaining \$2,800 will be returned to the grant pool for future awards. Using the

same example of a private land project completed under budget at \$8,000, only \$4,000 would be paid with a 50/50 match fund requirement. It is important to note that the match fund amount applies as indicated above, whether the project is completed on or under budget.

Project Duration & Post Award Requirements

Projects must be **completed within 18 months** of contract execution. Contract and project extensions are not allowed. **Applicants should be prepared for an anticipated contract start date of April 1, 2023.**

Upon the contract start date, DoAg will assign a soil scientist to work with the awardee to develop a Farmland Restoration and Climate Resiliency Plan (Plan). Awardees cannot begin work on their project until a Plan is completed and approved by DoAg. The Plan will also incorporate wetlands and NDDB reviews of the farmland to be restored. Further, all municipal, state and/or federal approvals required for the work must be obtained prior to the start of work and any fees associated with those approvals must be paid after the contract start date to be reimbursed.

Awardees should be prepared to begin work on their project within 6-8 weeks of the contract start date.

Applicants of awarded projects will be responsible for the following:

1. Signing an agreement with the State of Connecticut
2. Providing a Certificate of Insurance holding the state harmless or listing the state as an additional insured on the grantee's liability insurance policy
3. Executing the contract within the contractual time frame
4. Working with the assigned soil scientist to develop the Farmland Restoration and Climate Resiliency Plan
5. Meeting with the assigned soil scientist for a final walk through of the completed project area
6. Submitting a final project report in the required format per the executed contract
7. Submitting a final financial report itemizing actual expenses. Copies of invoices and proof of payment must be submitted with the payment request at the conclusion of the project
8. Other requirements as outlined in the State of Connecticut contract

Upon receiving an award, awardees will receive guidance on necessary contract requirements from the DoAg program coordinator. The contract process moves quickly, and applicants should be prepared to review agreements and complete all needed forms within the time frames provided by DoAg to ensure projects start timely.

By receiving the Farmland Restoration Grant, awarded applicants agree to use their best efforts to ensure that land improvements that result from this award shall be used for agricultural purposes for at least five (5) years or the duration of the lease (if a lease is applicable).

Submission Process

All Farmland Restoration Grant applications are required to be submitted through DoAg's online grant portal. Applicants will need to create an account for the grant portal.

The grant portal may be accessed [here](#).

Instructions on how to apply for grants on the DoAg Grant Portal is located [here](#).

For additional information on the grant application submission process, we encourage attendance at the **grant writing workshop on November 8, 2022**.

Applicants should consider applying well in advance of the grant deadline, as DoAg will not accept applications submitted late, even if technical issues prevented the applicant from submitting on time. Applicants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the portal prior to submission and to communicate timely with DoAg if there are accessibility or other concerns.

Application Requirements

A complete application includes:

1. Grant Narrative (please see page 13 of this guidance for more information).
2. Budget Form and Project Timeline Workbook
3. Aerial maps of the project area. Please include on this map a detailed sketch of the project, identifying what will be done to the land. *The aerial maps can be obtained from Google maps or USDA, (please see page 14 for an example map and sketch)*
4. Farmland Classification Soil(s) map of project area, showing prime, statewide important, and locally important soils *These can be obtained from NRCS or online at the [Web Soil Survey](#) (please see page 15 and 21 for an example Farmland Classification Soils Map [and an instruction guide for using Web Soil Survey](#))*
5. Pictures of the project area as it currently exists, prior to the project being completed.
6. Profit and Loss statements for up to the previous three years.
7. If applicable – an approval letter from the easement holder for approval of the project. *A template for the approval letter can be found on the Farmland Restoration Grant webpage at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.*
8. If applicable – A statement from the landowner for approval of the project for projects on rented or leased land. *A template for the approval letter can be found on the Farmland Restoration Grant webpage at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.*
9. If applicable – an approved copy of an NRCS Conservation Plan or Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan.

Evaluation Criteria and Process

The Farmland Restoration Grant is a competitive grant. Only complete applications, as described above and submitted timely, will be evaluated.

The evaluation will be weighted heavily on the project plan described in the Grant Narrative.

Project applications should clearly present how the project will be accomplished and undertaken in a reasonable timeline.

Additional information, such as quotes, conceptual drawings, and other documentation justifying and supporting the budget and project, is required to present a competitive application. All prospective purchases for the completion of the project should be accompanied by a quote or estimate, when possible, for a stronger application. Projects that involve hiring a subcontractor should include recent quotes from the subcontractor for a stronger application. DoAg strongly recommends when seeking quotes to advise potential Contractors of the anticipated contract start date and need for soil scientist approval prior to start of work for the best estimate of costs.

Applications to the Farmland Restoration Grant shall be evaluated based on:

1. **The soil composition of the project area.** Does the project area contain prime, important, or locally important farmland soils?
2. **Existing conservation easement or application under consideration.** Does the land where the project is taking place have a conservation easement?
3. **What the land is going to be used for.** Is the land going to be used for the production of human food, animal feed, or livestock grazing?
4. **Farm business planning.** Does the farming operation(s) using the land have a current farm business plan?
5. **Annual gross farm sales.** How much revenue is being generated by the farming operation(s) using the land?
6. **Who owns the land?** Is it state-owned, a municipal property, or a farm with a charitable, community or educational component?
7. **The type of production practices used.** Are [USDA Climate Smart](#) practices and resources being used by the applicant?
8. **Who is farming the land?** Is the farmer of the project land a new farmer with one to three years of production experience? Is the farmer a limited resource or socially disadvantaged producer? Is the farmer a veteran?
9. **Outcome and impact of the project.** Has the applicant identified an outcome and impact as a result of the project?

Budget Form and Project Timeline Workbook

The information provided below for the Budget Form and Project Timeline Workbook is for informational purposes only. The three excel sheets within the workbook will need to be filled out and submitted with the appropriate MS Excel fillable form link available at [Farmland Restoration Grant Program \(ct.gov\)](https://www.ct.gov/farmlandrestoration/grant-program) and added as an attachment on DoAg's grant portal.

Budget Sheet:

Budget Application Form							
2023 Farmland Restoration Grant							
Directions: In the cells below, itemize the project expenses for each category. The sum function will automatically total the itemized expenses in each of the gray category boxes. Rows can be added in each category if needed. Be sure to check the sum function of each category to ensure it includes the additional rows added.							
In addition to the itemized budget below, please also fill out the budget narrative (on the next sheet) that contains the following information: a. Where the match is coming from (cash, loan, other grant, etc.) b. Sufficient explanation and justification of the financial support requested and the need for a cash advance (for New Farmer Micro Grant)							
BUDGET	ITEMIZED SUBTOTALS - GRANT FUNDS	GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED	ITEMIZED SUBTOTALS - MATCH FUNDS	IN-KIND MATCH BY APPLICANT	ITEMIZED SUBTOTALS - MATCH FUNDS	CASH MATCH BY APPLICANT	TOTAL COST
SALARIES AND FRINGE. Employee salary & fringe paid to execute the project is eligible. Salary is an eligible cash match as well.	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salary and Fringe 1:	N/A		\$0.00		\$0.00		
*RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT. Rented equipment required to complete the project (rollers, heavy duty equipment)	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	\$0.00
Item 1:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Item 2:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
*MATERIALS & SUPPLIES. A list of materials and supplies required for the project.	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	\$0.00
Item 1:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Item 2:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Item 3:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Item 4:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Item 5:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
CONTRACTUAL/CONSULTANT. Expenses associated with procuring services performed by an individual or organization other than the applicant. If more than one, each contractor/consultant hired must be described separately. Attaching quotes to justify the expense is required.	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contractor 1:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Contractor 2:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
OTHER COSTS. A list, with descriptions, of each item listed as "Other Costs"	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	Leave blank	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other 1:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Other 2:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Other 3:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Other 4:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
Other 5:	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
PROJECT TOTALS	Leave blank	#REF!	Leave blank	#REF!	Leave blank	#REF!	\$0.00
*If you're hiring a contractor do not break up the contractor's estimate into the various budget categories. The contractor's full cost/estimate should be listed as one item in the <i>Consultant/Contractual</i> category.							

Budget Narrative Form

Budget Narrative			
2023 Farmland Restoration Grant Application			
<p>The budget narrative should contain evidence or justification for costs reported on the budget sheet. For example, to complete your project you plan on utilizing two of your employees. While the budget sheet shows that the cost for your employees to do that work is \$8,000, here is where you justify that cost with an explanation.</p>			
<p>For supplies or materials ordered online, insert a link to the product or service in the justification column. Remember to include shipping/freighting costs in the total cost of the item.</p>			
For example:			
Item	Justification	Total Cost	Is this cost covered by another grant? If so, please indicate the grant name, awarding agency, and grant amount.
Salary	2 employees, \$25/hr, 4 hrs per week for 40 weeks	\$8,000	N/A
Other Costs: 3 Hydro Flow Clear Vinyl Tubing, 1/4 Inch (ID), 100 Feet	3 at \$24.95 each, plus \$28.06 estimated shipping; Link: https://hydrobuilder.com/hydro-flow-clear-vinyl-tubing.html?opts=eyJhdHRyaWJ1dGUxNDYxIjoiMTgzNzUifQ==	\$102.91	Grant A, USDA, \$2000
Fill out the table below as it pertains to your project. Add or remove rows as needed.			
Item	Justification	Total Cost	Is this cost covered by another grant? If so, please indicate the grant name, awarding agency, and grant amount.

Project Timeline

Project Timeline			
2023 Farmland Restoration Grant Application			
Include all project milestones and related deadlines. Applicants must budget in three months to plan the project once the contract is executed, 12 months to execute and complete the project, and 30 days past project completion for all reporting.			
Projects must be completed within 18 months of contract execution. As a reminder, no extensions will be given. No incomplete projects will be funded.			
The following template will be used to provide the project timeline. Anticipate a project start date of April 1, 2023.			
For example:	Task	Anticipated Timeline	
	Contractor Hired	By 6/1/2023	
	Building permit acquired	By 5/1/2023	
Fill out the table below as it pertains to your project. Add or remove rows as needed.			
	Task	Anticipated Timeline	

Grant Narrative

The information provided below for the Grant Narrative is for informational purposes only. The Grant Narrative will be completed and submitted through DoAg's Grant portal.

Farmland Restoration Grant 2023 Grant Narrative

The following questions will be asked on the Farmland Restoration Grant application on the Grants portal. It is recommended that you type your answers using Microsoft Word and then copy and paste your final answers into the spaces provided in the application portal.

- 1. Introduction** – Introduce your business and tell the reviewers about the project area. Include information:
 - a. Briefly describe your farm business and current production on your farm including total acres and production types.
 - b. What is the current and existing use of the proposed project area?
 - c. Are you a limited resource or socially disadvantaged producer? Are you a veteran?
 - d. Do you use USDA Climate Smart practices on the farm? Will you use climate smart practices on the land once the project is complete?
 - e. Are there any prime, important or locally important farmland soils in the project area? Web Soil Survey
 - f. Have you made any efforts to improve the soil and land in years past?
 - g. Are there any wildlife or plants that are referenced for the project area on the NDDDB?
- 2. Project Explanation** – Explain in detail what your project is, what your project will do for your business. Be sure to identify how many acres are to be restored and if the land going to be used for the production of human food, animal feed, or livestock grazing. What is the cost per acre to complete the project? **Please note, there is a 4,000-character limit for responses.**

The reviewers will be looking for a statement that begins with “This project will....”

- 3. Goals and Tasks** - Describe in detail the goals and tasks needed to complete your project. Your answer here should reflect the tasks outlined in the Project Timeline from the Budget and Project Timeline Workbook. We want to understand exactly what you will accomplish and how.

For example:

Goal 1: Clear four (4) acres of land.

Tasks to Complete Goal 1:

1. Rent necessary equipment.
2. Identify employee (or subcontractor) to run equipment and clear land.

- 4. Project Outcome or Impact** – How do you predict the completion of this project will impact your business for the next three to five (or more) years? Please identify at least one outcome you strive to achieve after completing the project.

An *outcome* is a quantifiable result and is usually accomplished after the project is done.

Example: 5 additional acres will be put into production and will allow the farm to produce 15% more of its total feed therefore reducing the amount of feed the farm has to purchase.

Example Site Plan/Drawing

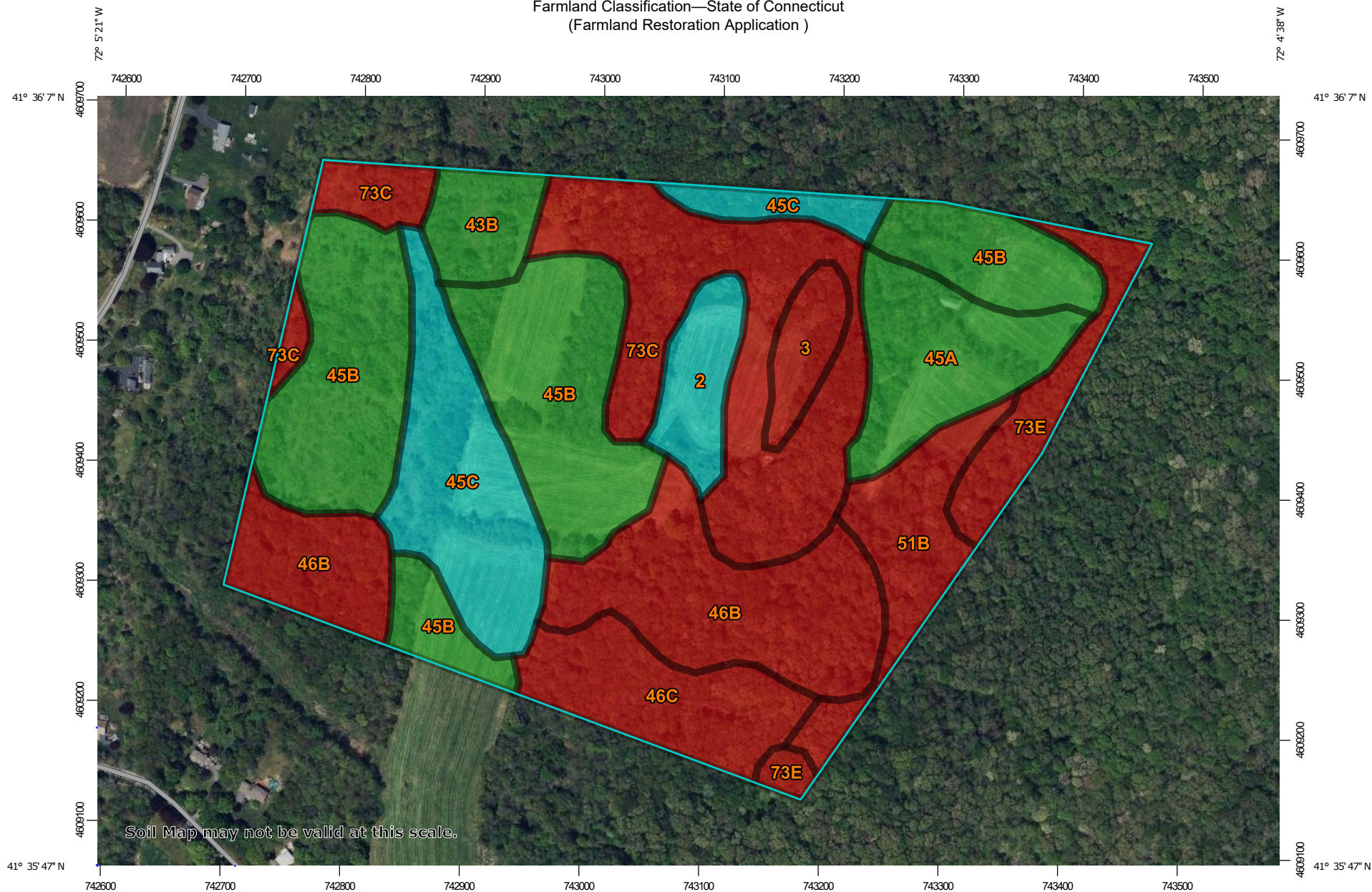


Clear approx. 10 acres
for hay and pasture

Clear hedgerow

Install three strand electric
fencing for cattle (approx
2,800 LF of fence)

Farmland Classification—State of Connecticut (Farmland Restoration Application)



Map Scale: 1:4,520 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 50 100 200 300 Meters

0 200 400 800 1200 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 18N WGS84



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**


Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

9/13/2022
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Farmland Classification—State of Connecticut
(Farmland Restoration Application)









MAP LEGEND








Area of Interest (AOI)






 Area of Interest (AOI)








Soils



Soil Rating Polygons

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season









-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available

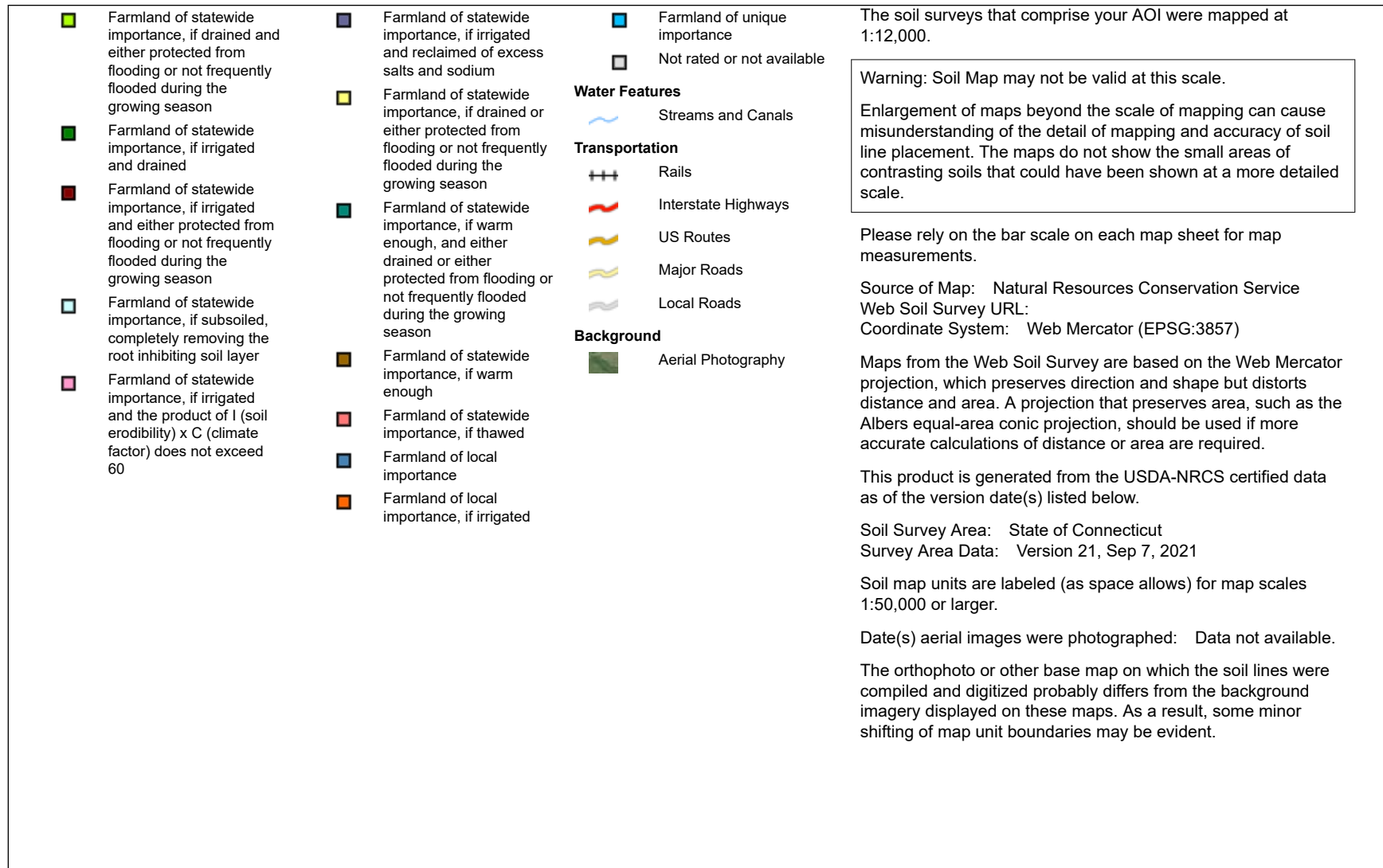
Soil Rating Lines

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Farmland Classification—State of Connecticut
(Farmland Restoration Application)

	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of unique importance		Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	Soil Rating Points			Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Not prime farmland		Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
	Farmland of statewide importance		Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed		Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance
	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of local importance		Prime farmland if irrigated		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
	Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season				Farmland of local importance, if irrigated		Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated						Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

Farmland Classification—State of Connecticut
(Farmland Restoration Application)



Farmland Classification

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
2	Ridgebury fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	2.3	3.3%
3	Ridgebury, Leicester, and Whitman soils, 0 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony	Not prime farmland	1.5	2.2%
43B	Rainbow silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	2.0	3.0%
45A	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	4.8	7.0%
45B	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	17.1	25.1%
45C	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	7.3	10.8%
46B	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland	10.2	15.1%
46C	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland	4.5	6.6%
51B	Sutton fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland	3.8	5.6%
73C	Charlton-Chatfield complex, 0 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	Not prime farmland	11.5	17.0%
73E	Charlton-Chatfield complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes, very rocky	Not prime farmland	2.9	4.3%
Totals for Area of Interest			67.9	100.0%

Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

Web Soil Survey: Soils Information Needed for the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farmland Restoration Program Application

Information provided by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Farmland Restoration Program Application must include:

- Soils Map
- Acres of Prime Farmland soils, Statewide Important Farmland soils, and Locally Important Farmland soils.

Applicants will be able to get this information from the digital **Soil Survey of the State of Connecticut**, (dated July 15, 2005, or later). This *official* soil survey for the state is accessed via the internet; it is not published in a book. The eight published county soil survey reports (or any information from the reports or derived from them) are not to be used.

To get a soil map

NOTE: You must have pop-ups enabled on your web browser to use some of the functions of the web soil survey.

1. Go to the web soil survey homepage and click on the green **Start WSS** button.

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



The screenshot shows the Web Soil Survey homepage. At the top is a banner with the USDA logo, the text "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service", and a large "Web Soil Survey" title. Below the banner is a navigation bar with links: Home, About Soils, Help, and Contact Us. The main content area features a search bar on the left, a central text block with a "START WSS" button, and a sidebar on the right with sections like "I Want To..." and "Announcements/Events".

Search
Enter Keywords
All NRCS Sites
Browse by Subject
▶ Soils Home
▶ National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS)
▶ Archived Soil Surveys
▶ Status Maps
▶ Official Soil Series Descriptions (OSD)
▶ Soil Series Extent Mapping Tool
▶ Soil Data Mart
▶ Geospatial Data Gateway
▶ eFOTG
▶ National Soil Characterization Data

You are here: Web Soil Survey Home

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

START WSS

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 (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.

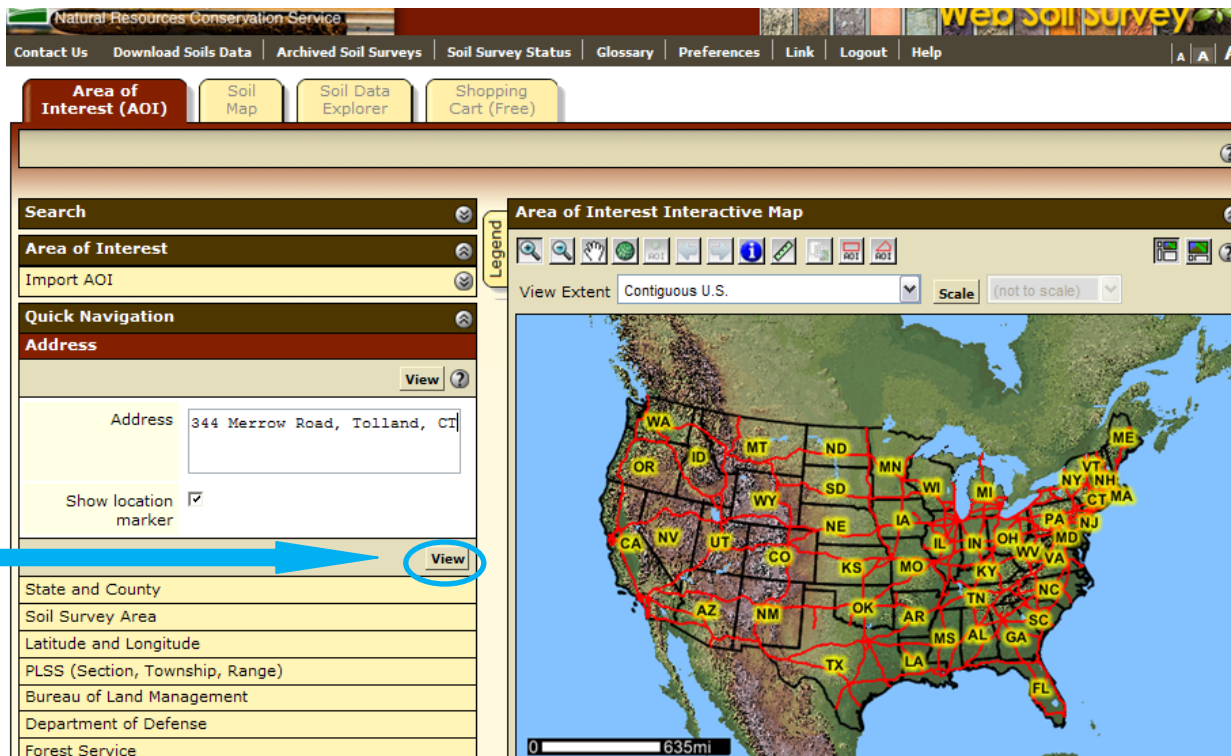
Four Basic Steps
1. Define. Use the Area of Interest tab to define your area of interest.

I Want To...
◦ Start Web Soil Survey (WSS)
◦ Know the requirements for running Web Soil Survey — will Web Soil Survey work in my web browser?
◦ Know the Web Soil Survey hours of operation
◦ Find what areas of the U.S. have soil data

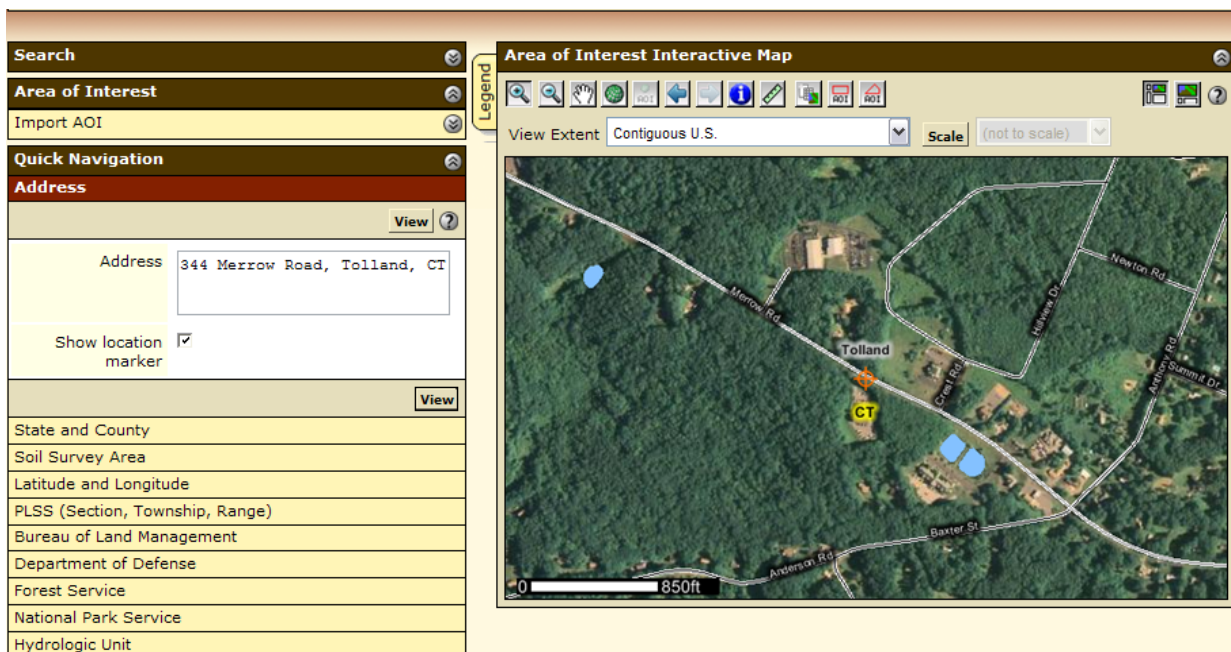
Announcements/Events
◦ Web Soil Survey 2.3 has been released! View description of new features.
◦ Web Soil Survey Release History

I Want Help With...

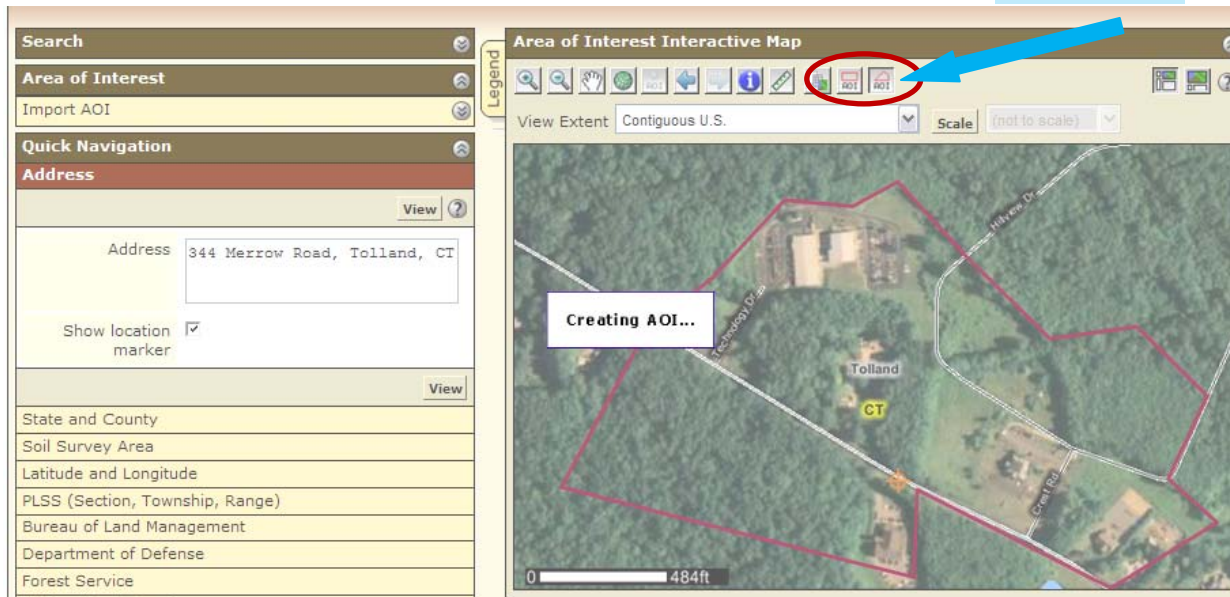
- Next, you need to navigate to your **Area of Interest**. The easiest way is to *type in the street address*, but you can also *click on the county and zoom in* on the map until you locate your site. Click **view**.



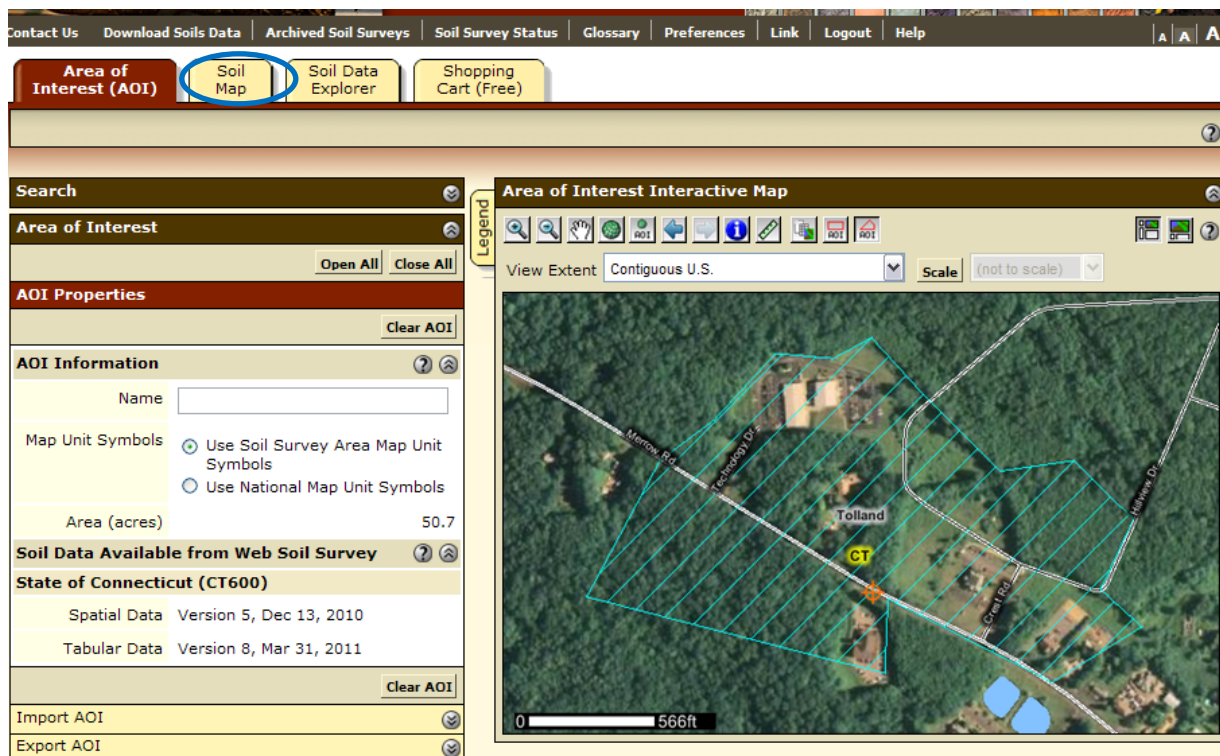
- A map is displayed.



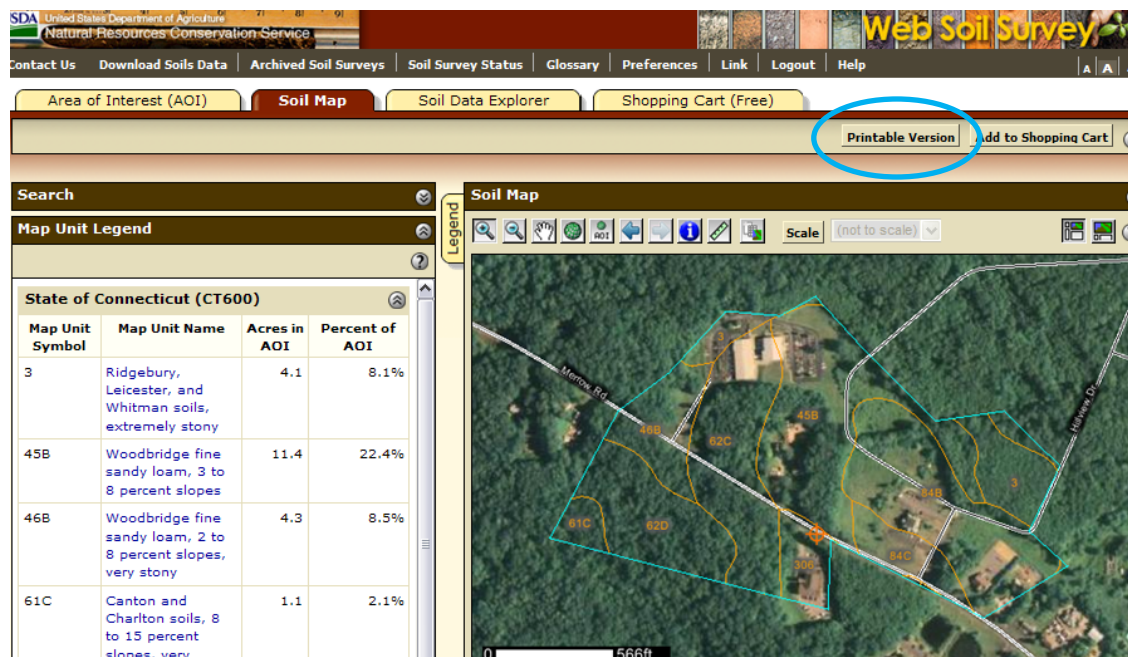
- Click one of the **AOI buttons** and *drag* to outline the boundaries of your area of interest. The **left AOI button** will create a rectangle. The **right AOI button** will allow you to click around an irregularly shaped property (*double click* when you get back to your starting point).



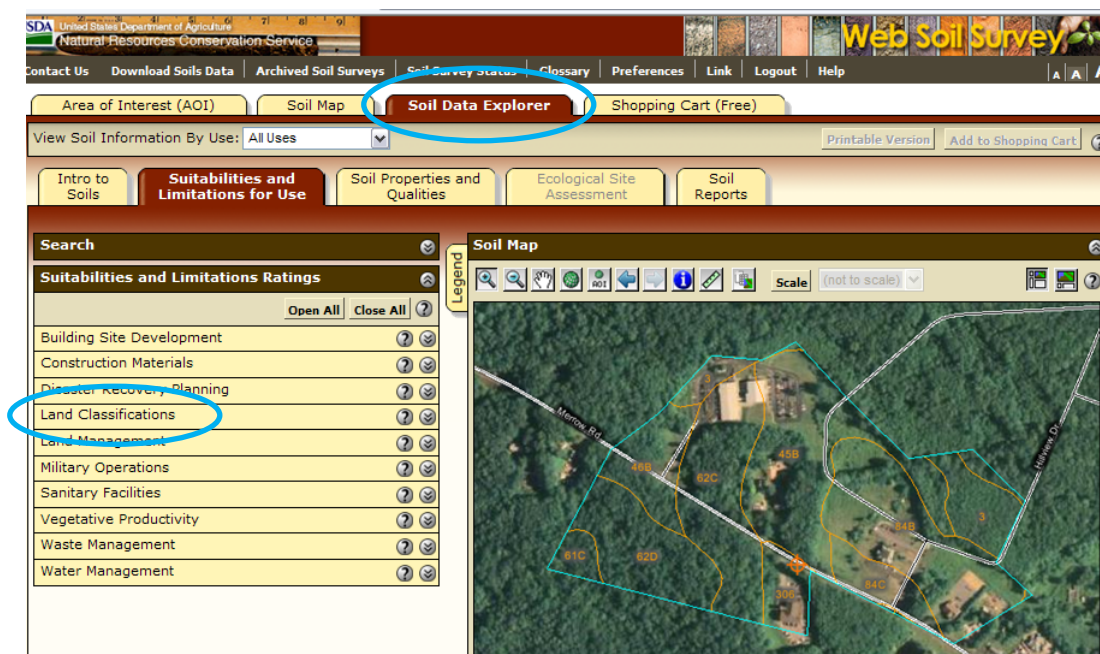
- Your **AOI (Area of Interest)** has been created. (This AOI is 50.7 acres.)



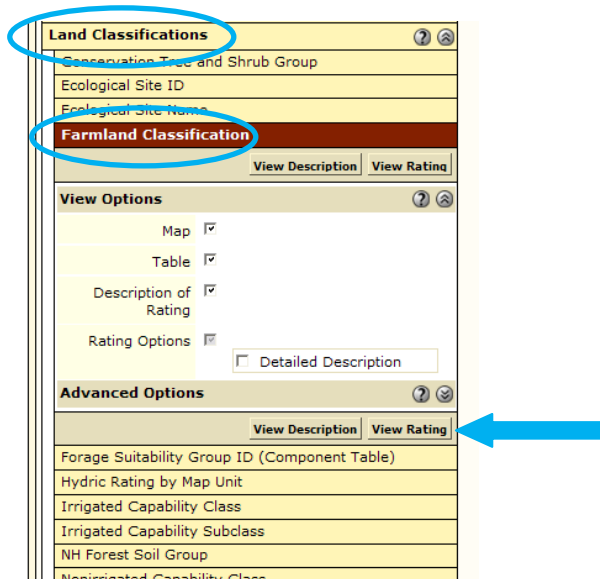
- Click on the **Soil Map Tab** (see picture above) and the **soil map, legend, and acres** of each map unit will be displayed.



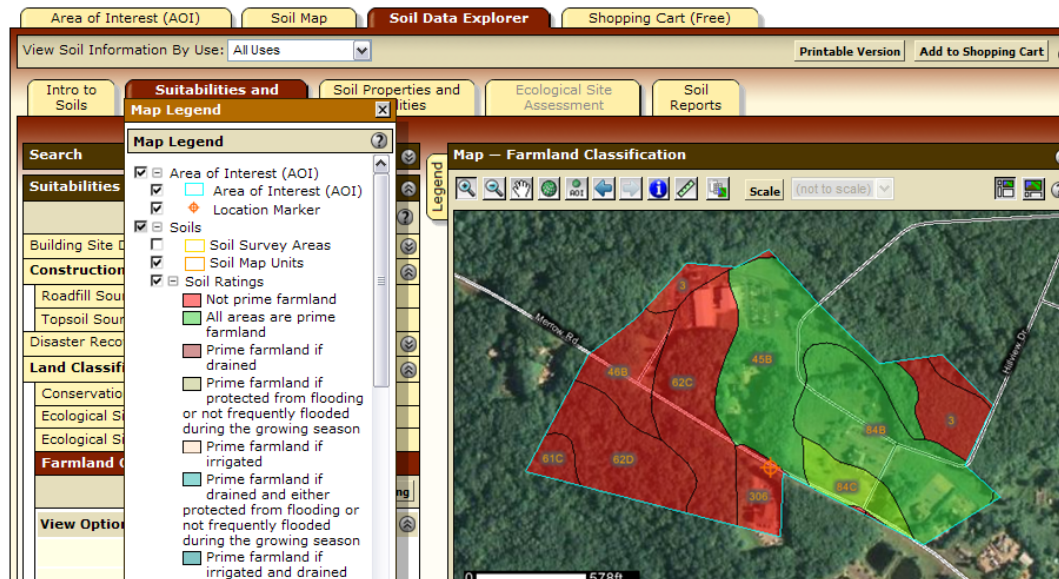
7. Create the printable version of the map by clicking on "Printable Version" (see above picture). You will get a pop-up document containing the soil map and map legend. You can save or print this file. You will need to refer to the soil map, map unit legend, and acres in AOI when you determine the extent of locally important farmland soils.
8. **To make a map showing prime farmland soils and soils of statewide importance:**
Click on the **Soil Data Explorer** Tab. (The following picture is what will show up after you click.)



9. Click on **Land Classifications** (see picture above).
10. Then, click on **Farmland Classification** and then **view rating**.



11. Map and table are displayed: (You can save or print this map, or just tally the acres that are prime or important farmland soils)



Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
3	Ridgebury, Leicester, and Whitman soils, extremely stony	Not prime farmland	4.1	8.1%
45B	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	11.4	22.4%
46B	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland	4.3	8.5%
61C	Canton and Charlton	Not prime farmland	1.1	2.1%

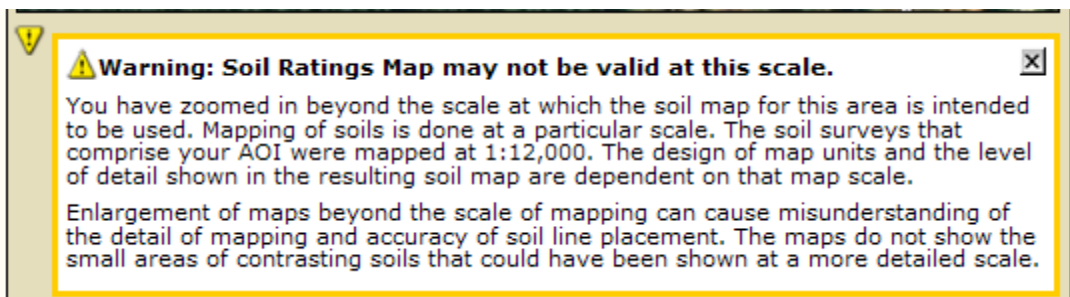
Part of the table that is displayed below the map.

To find out the acres of Locally Important Farmland Soils: Go to the following website to see if your town is listed as having officially designated locally important farmland soils.

www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov/local_important_farmland.html

If your town is listed, compare the soil map unit symbols on the official list with the map unit symbols on the soils map you made in Step 7 (the soils for your restoration area). Add up the number of acres of in your restoration area that are locally important soils.

A general comment about using web soil survey: This message may show up on the map pages of the web soil survey when you are zoomed into a site. The web soil survey soil map and information is to be submitted with your application to the Farmland Restoration Program (whether or not you see this message displayed).



Should you experience problems with the Web Soil Survey, *click* **Contact Us** in the upper left corner of the website.