


NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service



New Jersey

Report
Fiscal Year
2005



A Partner in Conservation Since 1935

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Natural Resources Conservation Service Celebrates 70 Years

The United States Congress established the Soil Conservation Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conserve natural resources on agricultural lands on April 27, 1935. The Soil Conservation Service opened an office in New Jersey that year on the Douglass College campus in New Brunswick. Over the years, it moved to Bayard Street in New Brunswick, then to Hamilton Street in Somerset, and finally to its present location at 220 Davidson Avenue in Somerset. The agency changed its name to the Natural Resources Conservation Service in 1994 to reflect its expanding mission.

NRCS has been at work with conservation partners in New Jersey since 1935 helping people help the land. By providing technical and financial assistance, NRCS has worked to protect and improve natural resources and the environment to ensure that Garden State residents can continue to enjoy the benefits of productive soils, clean air and water, and open spaces.

In honor of the 70th Anniversary of NRCS, Acting Governor Richard Codey issued an official proclamation naming April 27, 2005, "Conservation Day" in New Jersey.

Conservation Technical Assistance

In New Jersey, most NRCS customers are private landowners, municipalities or counties. Much of NRCS technical assistance is provided in cooperation with conservation partners in New Jersey. There are 21 counties and 15 soil conservation districts that share common boundaries. NRCS has strong partnerships with the Soil Conservation Districts and the NJ Association of Conservation Districts. NRCS also works effectively with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and other State and Federal agencies. These partnerships sharpen the delivery of natural resource management and conservation in the State. Some examples of partnership efforts include:

- **NJ 8-year Cost Share** for agricultural conservation practices (NRCS is responsible for development of conservation plans and technical services.)
- Two agreements with Rutgers University to develop technical data
- Outreach and Education
- Envirothon (NJ team placed sixth in national competition in the summer of 2005)
- Career Days at Rutgers (Land Grant University)
- Classroom visits
- Monitor wetlands for Naval Weapons Station Earle
- Resource management activities at US Army installation at Fort Dix

Grazing Land Conservation Initiative

The Garden State Grazing Coalition, New Jersey's GLCI producer-driven steering committee, focused on increasing producer participation and updated their Plan of Action for the upcoming year. NJ NRCS Grassland Specialist assists with the administration of this group, as well as educational activities such as pasture walks and articles in their newsletter. Activities are announced on the GLCI website, (<http://www.nj.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/glci/>) along with other grazing events within the state and useful links to grass-based agriculture. All events focus on promoting grass-based agriculture within the state, by increasing efficiency, profitability and sustainability.



Plant Materials

The Cape May Plant Materials Center (PMC) located west of Avalon, New Jersey is adjacent to New Jersey's most expansive tidal marsh estuaries. The Cape May PMC is working to:

- develop local eco-types of native plants for Farm Bill conservation programs.
- diversify native plant availability for coastal sand dune systems.
- develop additional native species for tidal shoreline
- stabilization along marshland/tidal marsh estuaries
- develop "how to" re-vegetation technologies for stabilization of highly disturbed areas such as mined lands and brownfields



In 2005 the Cape May Plant Materials Center celebrated 40 years of conservation success in New Jersey and the Mid-Atlantic Region and hosted about 90 guests for a tour of the facility on September 15. The Cape May Plant Materials Center has been instrumental in helping protect our coastal resources, saving lives and property. The 88th Congress authorized NRCS to establish the Cape May Plant Materials Center after a Nor'easter, known as the 'Storm of 1962,' caused severe damage from Long Island to the North Carolina coast. The Center's mission was and still is to develop plant products and technology to enhance shoreline stabilization in coastal areas vulnerable to damage from hurricanes and tropical storms.

The PMC assisted the NY District Army Corps of Engineers launch and carry out a large scale seed collection of *Spartina alterniflora* during the month of September. The seeds will be used to develop plantings for the restoration of estuarine wildlife habitat at the National Park Service- Gateway National Recreation Area in Brooklyn, NY.

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D)

North Jersey RC&D (Sussex, Warren, Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon, Union Counties)

With the support of our partners, North Jersey RC&D continues work on projects to effectively address resource concerns in the RC&D area. Visit them online at www.northjerseyrcd.org. In 2005, the Council:

- Completed a record seven riparian restoration projects through various funding sources. In total 912 trees & 1370 shrubs were planted with the help of volunteers working over 2700 hours from more than 15 volunteer and municipal groups.
- Conducted 3 stream ecology workshops for educators in Morris, Hunterdon and Warren Counties. These full-day training programs brought the outdoors into the classroom while providing hands-on in-stream exploration and six professional continuing education credits.
- Sponsored two community resource protection workshops attended by over 100 community members. The workshops highlighted RC&D's new Internet Mapping Service (IMS) which allows community leaders to access GIS maps and data from their home computers. The information on this IMS can be utilized to help protect a community's natural resources.
- Continues to offer support to local farmers through our Agricultural Outreach Specialist and our Integrated Crop Management and Pasture Management service programs. In 2005 nutrient and pest management plans were developed for over 4,300 acres of cropland.



South Jersey RC&D (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Salem Counties)

South Jersey RC&D has initiated several new projects. Visit them online at www.sjrccd.org. In 2005, the Council:

- Responded to concerns about dike and levee safety following Hurricane Katrina by spearheading a group of flood plain managers to investigate the need for maintenance and upgrades on the more than 35 existing structures in South Jersey.
- Took on the task of promoting cleaner air and less dependency on foreign oil by advancing the sale and distribution of E85, a mix of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline. This fuel can be used in many cars on the road today, but is not available in the state. The Council is working to develop a supply source and distribution points for local partners as the first step.
- Assisted Camden, Gloucester, Cape-Atlantic and Freehold Soil Conservation Districts to create Regional Stormwater Management plan in small watersheds.
- Hosted four Wildlife Habitat Workshops in conjunction with the local Quail Unlimited chapter that highlighted the results of the 400-acre savanna-style habitat for grassland birds, butterflies and moths in Cumberland County's Buckshutem Wildlife Management Area.

Liberty RC&D (Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Passaic Counties) – application pending

NRCS provides assistance to the Soil Conservation Districts that comprise the applicant Liberty's RC&D Council with advice and technical assistance to carry out District objectives and goals. In 2005, the Council:

- Reestablished contact with Weequahic Park in Newark, Essex County. An early UCAP project to provide rehabilitation assistance to the park's historic landscape, assistance now is centered around improving the park's wildlife habitat. As a result, Weequahic Park has applied for NRCS cost share under the WHIP program.
- Completed a six-year grant project in Rahway River Park, Union County. The project has stabilized the eroding pond banks with vegetation that both detracts geese from the pond and attracts songbirds and other desired species. Over 100 volunteers helped with the project.
- Completed installation of a 6,700 foot nature trail in Westfield's Brightwood Park, Union County.
- Completed installation of the final section of Patriot's Path through Morristown, Morris County, one of the last pieces of this historic path that links several dozen Federal, state, county and municipal parks, watershed lands, historic sites and other points of interest across Morris County.

Farm Bill Program Activity



New Jersey received \$11,705,050 in FY2005 through the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) for eligible New Jersey landowners and agricultural producers through six USDA voluntary programs. This was a decline from the FY2004 funding allocated for New Jersey but still near record levels. The Conservation Security Program (CSP) was funded for the first time in 2005 for producers in the Cohansey-Maurice watershed in southern New Jersey and much time was spent in outreach efforts for this program.

Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)

AMA reduces the economic risk of adopting conservation measures for limited resource, small scale and beginning farmers. Approximately \$489,484 of AMA funds was received in FY2005 to provide technical assistance for and obligate new and existing contracts.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CRP allows producers to retire highly erodible or marginal cropland or pasture and receive rental payments as well as financial assistance to convert the land to grass or trees. CRP is managed by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). NRCS provides technical assistance to producers interested in the program, and receives a small allocation of technical assistance funds for this purpose.

Conservation Security Program (CSP)

CSP rewards producers who are actively protecting soil and water resources on their farm. In 2005, the Cohansey-Maurice watershed in Salem and Cumberland counties was selected for participation in the national program. Successful applicants received \$59,648 in their first year payments, with a total of more than \$300,000 to be paid over the life of their 5 or 10 year contracts.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

EQIP provides financial assistance to producers to install permanent measures or adopt management strategies that address existing resource concerns. NJ received \$4,735,142 in FY2005 for technical and financial assistance toward new and existing landowner contracts. In FY2005, NJ also provided \$150,000 in funding to two cooperating entities (\$75,000 each) through Conservation Innovation Grants. This competitive grant program was offered through a Request for Proposals for the first time in FY2005. New Jersey was one of 15 states to pilot this effort.

The grants will provide a recognition system for exceptional conservation work in the Neshanic River watershed, and a showcase equine farm demonstrating innovative grazing practices.

Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP)

FRPP provides matching funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farmland in agricultural uses. NJ received \$6,221,444 in FRPP for FY2005, which was passed on to two cooperating entities through Cooperative Agreements. Over the next two years, almost 4,000 acres will be protected from development through these agreements.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

GRP offers private landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance grasslands on their property. The program is jointly managed by NRCS and FSA. NJ received \$418,745 in FY2005, and in addition to several 10-year contracts signed, will be working to develop a permanent easement on 20 acres in Salem County.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

WHIP provides financial assistance to develop or improve wildlife habitat in six priority areas on non-federal lands. NJ received \$669,570 in WHIP funds for FY2005. Approximately \$350,000 was obligated to individual contracts (private landowners). NJ also signed nine Contribution Agreements with cooperating partners for the remaining funds. These Agreements will provide habitat improvement on nearly 3,000 acres with the cooperating agency contributing their technical assistance to get the work done.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

WRP provides technical and financial assistance to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal land from agriculture. For FY2005, NJ received a supplemental allocation for a 2200-acre project originally funded in FY2004 in Burlington County. The funds will allow restoration measures to move forward. A Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program was offered nationally for the first time in FY2005. A NJ cooperating partner received one of the nine awards made nationally, for work to improve bog turtle habitat on two farms.

Statewide Program Implementation - FY 2005

Program	Funded Projects			Unfunded - Backlog	
	Contracts (Acres)		Amount	Applications	Estimated Cost
AMA	16	(225.9)	\$ 349,164	47	\$ 1,131,750
CSP	5	(808.9)	\$307,107	N/A	N/A
EQIP	65	(6606.6)	\$ 3,565,040	145	\$ 6,650,910
GRP *	5	(157.6)	\$ 184,824	12	\$ 606,093
FRPP #	55	(3,902)	\$ 6,153,175	150	\$ 20 million
WHIP	35	(923.3)	\$ 345,812	49	\$ 480,450
WRP	Supplemented 1		\$ 470,000	2875 acres	\$ 2,746,700

* Does not include GRP easements pending

approximate – actual numbers may change upon easement closing

Program Obligations by County – FY 2005

New contracts obligated with FY2005 funds

County	AMA		CSP		EQIP		FRPP		GRP		WHIP	
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
Atlantic					6	311,132					4	21,063
Bergen												
Burlington #	2	38,704			7	155,125			1	75,834	2	28,543
Camden	1	32,264							1	19,983		
Cape May											1	12,497
Cumberland	2	60,417	2	91,081	1	23,670						
Essex											1	1,647
Gloucester	1	16,200			4	163,915	4	1,166,280			1	19,230
Hudson												
Hunterdon	4	77,779			8	437,480	18	1,936,345			15	166,103
Mercer					2	22,340			2	45,159		
Middlesex					2	12,145					1	4,350
Monmouth	2	25,320			1	136,347					2	11,464
Morris					1	32,734	1	423,400			1	24,750
Ocean											1	21,012
Passaic					1	19,874						
Salem	2	29,954	3	216,026	11	583,958	4	558,740			1	5,625
Somerset					6	291,716					1	3,926
Sussex					6	503,234	1	78,280				
Union												
Warren	2	68,526			9	871,370	27	1,990,130	1	33,848	4	25,602

Program Payments - Cumulative

Cumulative payments made on previous obligations for major program

Fiscal Year	AMA		EQIP		WHIP	
	Obligations	Payments	Obligations	Payments	Obligations	Payments
2001 and prior	\$180,281	\$ 95,291	\$2,469,472	\$1,578,318	\$ 521,706	\$ 417,775
2002	\$252,900	\$ 72,947	\$ 579,278	\$ 164,648	\$ 159,646	\$ 67,993
2003	Not Funded		\$ 2,256,505	\$1,019,846	\$ 239,657	\$ 113,133
2004	\$ 385,690	\$ 60,123	\$ 4,521,421	\$ 648,779	\$ 329,422	\$ 31,130
2005	\$ 345,422	\$ 19,134	\$ 3,266,404	\$ 314,615	\$ 333,827	\$ 55,079
Total	\$ 1,164,293	\$ 247,495	\$ 13,093,080	\$ 3,726,206	\$ 1,584,258	\$ 685,110

Farm Bill Accomplishments

Farm Bill programs provide technical assistance and funding to private landowners and agricultural producers for the planning and implementation of conservation practices. In New Jersey Farm Bill dollars promote the development and use of conservation plans and nutrient management systems, wildlife habitat creation and enhancement, wetlands restoration, grazing land maintenance, and development of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans.

Below is a summary of the key planning and implementation accomplishments for the fiscal year. For the most part, planning is a result of current year requests for assistance from private landowners applying for current year programs. Implementation is for prior year contracted practices reported through September 30, allowing for the time needed to prepare practice designs and oversee construction.

Statewide Accomplishments – FY 2005

	Planned	Applied	Estimated Annual Need
Conservation Planning on Cropland (Ac)	21,862	21,862	47,551
Nutrient Management (Ac)	24,514	6,081	23,724
Wildlife Habitat (Ac)	14,009	813	4,622
Wetland Restoration (Ac)	62	110	375
Grazing Lands (Ac)	2579	1060	8,645
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) (No)	30	22	108

Accomplishments by County - FY 2005

County	Conservation Plans (all lands)		Nutrient Management		Wildlife Habitat		Wetlands		Grazing Lands		CNMP (Ac)	
	Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied
Atlantic	1093	1097	1006	141	179	15						
Bergen	9		9								2	
Burlington	2723	2206	6229	1095	7879	63	23	18	231	70		52
Camden	236	180	286	192					65		22	22
Cape May						134						
Cumberland	1424	2592	1113	315	46	118			35		83	73
Essex												
Gloucester	1505	596	1601	235	1				56	6		100
Hudson												
Hunterdon	3712	3054	3787	351	521	482	16	5	574	121	71	63
Mercer	1702	1771	1305	140	51				83		161	15
Middlesex	542	755	273		2				4		12	12
Monmouth	785	1165	350		1	1	1		7	157	18	16
Morris	126	98	370	228	55				173		17	67
Ocean	157	469	7		5528				29			
Passaic					14	14			1		15	
Salem	2482	3226	2655	1846	128	134		12	247	190	89	328
Somerset	1356	1236	1020		9	9	17	2	92	109		36
Sussex	669	614	1332	364	99			67	475	178	179	5
Union												
Warren	3341	2805	3173	1774	25	10	5	6	510	132	735	21
Totals	21862	21862	24514	6081	14540	979	62	110	2579	1060	1403	809

Conservation Practices Planned and Applied in FY2005

Conservation Practices	Planned	Applied
Access Road (ft)	42,813	9,965
Agrichemical Mixing Facility (no)	6	
Alley Cropping (ac)	153	
Animal Trails and Walkways (ft)	1,819	440
Bedding (ac)	25	
Brush Management (ac)	350	177
Channel Bank Vegetation (ac)	46	
Clearing and Snagging (ft)	2,990	
Composting Facility (no)	8	3
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (no)	32	23
Conservation Cover (ac)	462	573
Conservation Crop Rotation (ac)	17,461	15,138
Constructed Wetland (ac)	2	
Contour Buffer Strips (ac)	147	9
Contour Farming (ac)	896	443
Contour Orchard or Fruit Area (ac)	37	
Cover Crop (ac)	9,610	2,818
Critical Area Planting (ac)	286	80
Deep Tillage (ac)	169	27
Diversion (ft)	32,756	8,935
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (ac)	1,719	317
Energy Management Enhancement (ac)	205	158
Habitat Management Enhancement (ac)	3	
Nutrient Management Enhancement (ac)	205	205
Pest Management Enhancement (ac)	335	177
Soil Management Enhancement (ac)	362	205
Water Management Enhancement (ac)	47	47
Fence (ft)	292,604	85,296
Field Border (ft)	194,884	40,870
Filter Strip (ac)	540	51
Fish Passage (no)	1	
Fishpond Management (no)	1	
Forage Harvest Management (ac)	1,527	748
Forest Site Preparation (ac)		289
Forest Stand Improvement (ac)	15,360	58
Grade Stabilization Structure (no)	17	1
Grassed Waterway (ac)	416	30
Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (ac)	185	1
Heavy Use Area Protection (ac)	117	2
Irrigation Land Leveling (ac)	3	
Irrigation Storage Reservoir (ac-ft)	9	4
Irrigation System, Microirrigation (ac)	791	477
Irrigation System, Sprinkler (ac)	1,371	1,224
Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (no)	1	1
Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, Aluminum Tubing (ft)	3,000	
Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, High-Pressure, Underground, Plastic (ft)	67,829	23,061
Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, Low-Pressure, Underground, Plastic (ft)	9,860	3,661
Irrigation Water Management (ac)	8,850	2,238
Land Clearing (ac)	40	8
Land Smoothing (ac)	385	21
Lined Waterway or Outlet (ft)	4,321	645

Conservation Practices	Planned	Applied
Manure Transfer (no)	6	1
Mulching (ac)	153	118
Nutrient Management (ac)	24,514	6,081
Obstruction Removal (ac)	99	22
Pasture and Hay Planting (ac)	3,739	2,726
Pest Management (ac)	20,732	5,297
Pipeline (ft)	51,638	8,850
Pond (no)	22	8
Precision Land Forming (ac)	125	
Prescribed Burning (ac)	13,331	29
Prescribed Grazing (ac)	1,181	538
Prescribed Grazing (ac)	1,398	522
Pumping Plant (no)	9	3
Recreation Trail and Walkway (ft)	3,900	
Residue Management, Mulch Till (ac)	4,308	3,286
Residue Management, No-Till/Strip Till (ac)	3,837	3,252
Residue Management, Seasonal (ac)	6,172	4,094
Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats (ac)	10	
Riparian Forest Buffer (ac)	121	18
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (ac)	51	24
Roof Runoff Structure (no)	431	233
Row Arrangement (ac)	4,430	2,059
Runoff Management System (ac)	3	
Spoil Spreading (ac)	168,091	200
Spring Development (no)	3	
Stream Crossing (no)	17	1
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (ac)	16	
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (ft)	5,980	100
Stripcropping (ac)	467	378
Stripcropping, Field (ac)	147	
Structure for Water Control (no)	31	16
Subsurface Drain (ft)	95,033	21,880
Surface Drainage, Field Ditch (ft)	89,097	6,171
Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral (ft)	30,418	
Terrace (ft)	23,595	2,584
Tree/Shrub Establishment (ac)	183	7
Tree/Shrub Pruning (ac)	132	
Underground Outlet (ft)	13,976	2,020
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (ac)	14,315	920
Use Exclusion (ac)	146	10
Vegetative Barrier (ft)	1,525	
Waste Storage Facility (no)	41	4
Waste Utilization (ac)	1,605	203
Wastewater Treatment Strip (ac)	23	
Water Well (no)	69	20
Watering Facility (no)	190	36
Wetland Creation (ac)	6	
Wetland Enhancement (ac)	25	88
Wetland Restoration (ac)	31	21
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (ac)	225	60
Wildlife Watering Facility (no)	5	2
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (ft)	5,400	3,025
Woodland Pruning (ac)	67	67

Soil Survey

The NRCS Soils Staff in New Jersey consists of the State Soil Scientist, Assistant State Soil Scientist, and two MLRA (Major Land Resource Area) Project Leaders.

NRCS soil scientists in New Jersey have produced completed surveys for 19 of the 21 counties. Soil survey products include:

- Web Soil Survey <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/> was introduced in 2005. Data for most of New Jersey is available in this format which provides the most current data available. Soils maps, interpretations and a photo background are now available from this website and can be utilized by anyone with a computer and Internet access.
- Soils Data Mart <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/> provides the most current data available in GIS format. GIS system users can download county survey data with soils lines, attribute data, and SSURGO meta data for 19 NJ counties.
- Historical Soil Surveys are useful for background information on survey areas, and are still available for many NJ counties in paper and/or PDF files.
- Soil Explorer/Soil Searcher, a CD with specialized content for land use decision-makers and educators, has been developed for Somerset (2000), Cape May (2004), Cumberland (2005), Gloucester (2005), Salem (2005), Sussex (2004) and Essex Counties (2005). The Cape Atlantic Soil Conservation District, the State Soil Conservation Committee, and Cape May County supported this project.



Four counties requested soil survey projects and then raised funding to defray some of the costs of the work. This is the final field season for updating Warren County with web availability expected early in calendar year 2007. Sussex, Essex, and Gloucester Counties are available on the web soil survey with work continuing on the CD publication. Essex and Gloucester Counties are expected to be published this year.

The Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District in cooperation with the State Soil Conservation Committee and Hudson County continues to seek funding from the New Jersey Legislature for a modern soil survey of Hudson County. Hudson County is the only New Jersey County without a pending or completed soil survey. If funded, the survey will be published in digital formats with a limited number of flat maps produced.

The soils and resource staff are in the process of writing a soil management standard. This work is being done in cooperation with Rutgers University, the NRCS East Technical Service Center, Ocean County SCD and others. A field trip was conducted in September in Ocean County to facilitate this process.

In addition to the regular annual training sessions conducted by the soils staff, they provided three public training sessions on the new web soil survey. These well received sessions were attended by GIS specialists, planners, and soil conservationists, among others. Approximately 100 people received the training.

Status of New Jersey Surveys Available in 2005

New Jersey County	Soils Data Online		Historical Soil Surveys		
	Web Soil Survey	Data Mart	Book	PDF on CD (Publication Date of Soil Survey data)	Available from USDA Service Center or other location as noted
Atlantic	Available	Available	Available	Available (1978)	Vineland
Bergen	Available	Available	Available	Not Available	Liberty RC&D
Burlington	Available	Available	Out of Print	Available (1971)	Hainesport
Camden	Available	Available	Out of Print	Available (1966)	Hainesport
Cape May	Available	Available	Available	Available (2002)	Vineland
Cumberland	Available	Available	Out of Print	Not Available*	Vineland
Essex	Available	Available	Out of Print	Not Available*	Liberty RC&D
Gloucester	Available	Available	Out of Print	Not Available*	Woodstown
Hudson	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	
Hunterdon	Available	Available	Available	Not Available	Frenchtown
Mercer	Available	Available	Out of Print	Available (1972)	Freehold
Middlesex	Available	Available	Available	Available (1987)	Freehold
Monmouth	Available	Available	Available	Available (1989)	Freehold
Morris	Available	Available	Reprint for Sale	Available (1976)	Morris County SCD
Ocean	Available	Available	Available	Available (1980)	Hainesport
Passaic	Available	Available	Available	Not Available	Liberty RC&D
Salem	Available	Available	Out of Print	Available (1969)	Woodstown
Somerset	Available	Available	Available	Available (1976)	Frenchtown
Sussex	Available	Available	Out of Print	Not Available*	Hackettstown
Union	Available	Available	Available	Available (2002)	Frenchtown
Warren	In process	In Process	Available	Not Available	Hackettstown

*PDF on CD of most current Soil Survey data is under production.

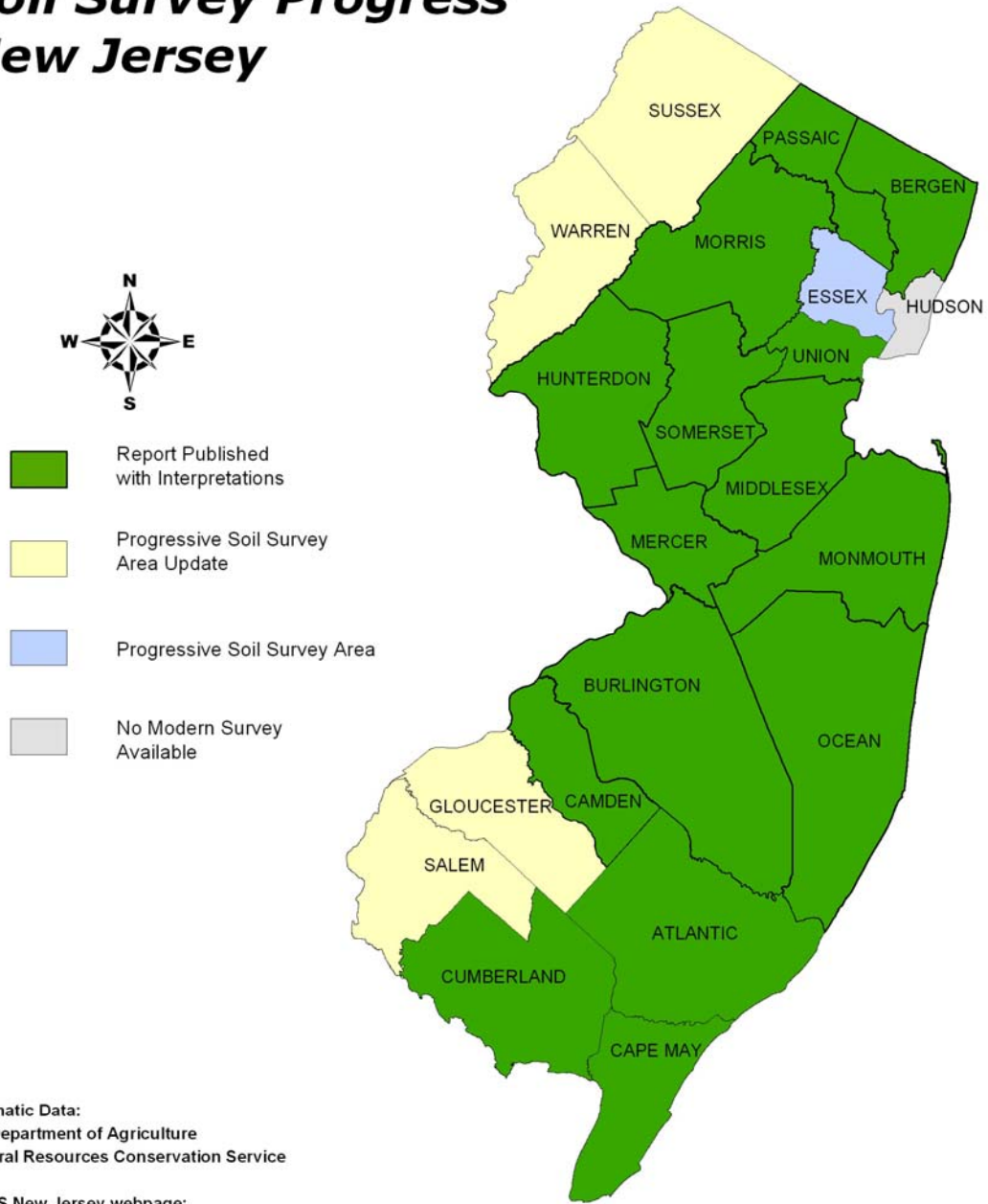
WebSoil Survey – Most Up to Date Information

Soil Data Mart – GIS info download by County

Historical Surveys – Static data

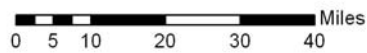
Soil Searcher Products – Static data useful for training in GIS technology

Soil Survey Progress New Jersey



Thematic Data:
US Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS New Jersey webpage:
www.nj.nrcs.usda.gov

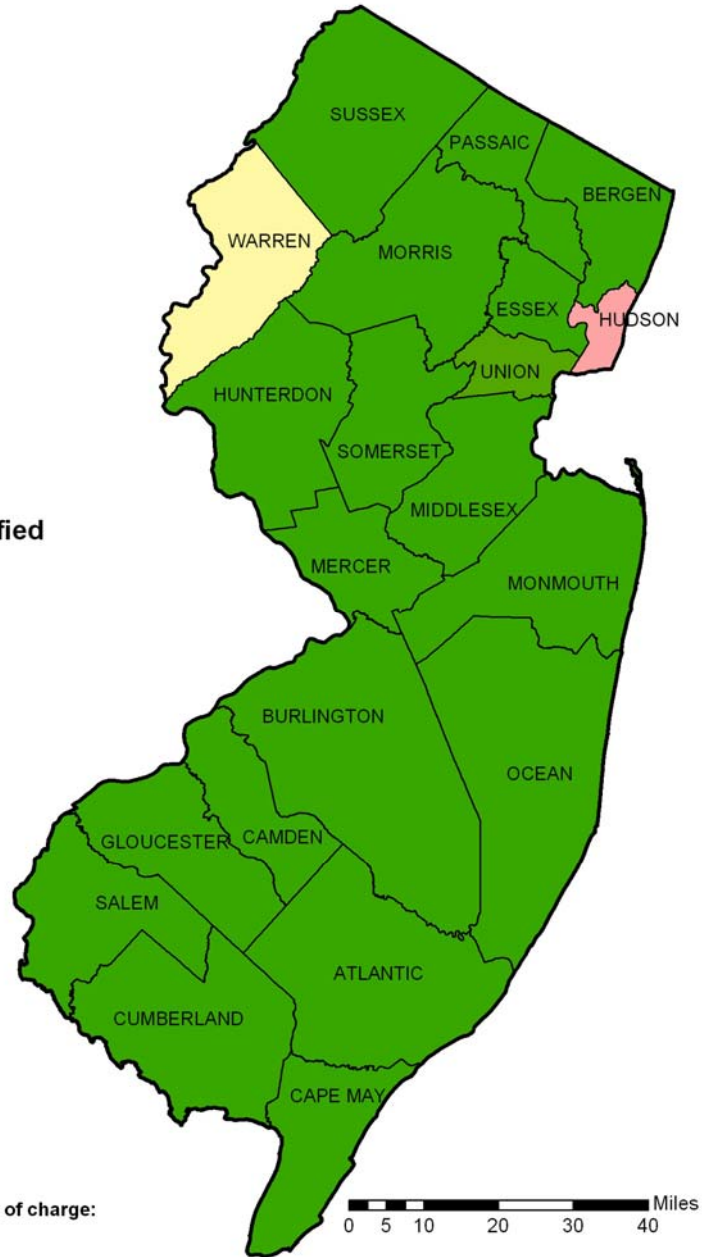


November 2005

Digital Soil Survey Projects New Jersey



-  Complete and Certified
-  In Process
-  Pending



Thematic Data:
US Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Digital soils data may be downloaded free of charge:
<http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Interactive web mapping is also available at:
<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

November 2005

Watershed Programs

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention

Lockatong Creek and Wickecheoke Creek

NRCS is assisting the New Jersey Water Supply Authority in its effort to protect one of New Jersey's key drinking water resources, the Delaware & Raritan Canal. The Canal, which begins at the Delaware River near Stockton, provides 100 million gallons per day to Central New Jersey. In addition to water from the Delaware River, the Canal also receives water – and major pollutant loads – from two streams in western Hunterdon County. These streams are the Lockatong Creek and Wickecheoke Creek watershed. A draft report on sediment sources in the watersheds is under preparation.

Flood Mitigation Plans

NRCS has been requested by a number of Central New Jersey municipalities to assist them in the preparation of Flood Mitigation Plans under the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. NRCS worked with locally-led committees which included representatives of flood victims, local emergency management coordinators, municipal engineers, and others. Surveys of property owners in the flood-prone areas were conducted to determine answers for where flooding occurs, dollars of flood losses, participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and other planning-related questions. Flood Mitigation Plans have been completed for Millstone Borough, Princeton Township and Montgomery Township.



Governor's Flood Mitigation Task Force

Greg Westfall, Water Resource Planner, was selected to serve on the Governor's Flood Mitigation Task Force. The Task Force was created as a result of the September 2004 and April 2005 Delaware River flooding.

The Task Force met between April and October 2005 on a regular basis to develop a report for Governor Codey by the end of 2005 that will provide: 1) a full review of the causes of the April flooding; 2) a review of the responses made by various government agencies to the flooding; and 3) recommendations for measures that can reduce the impacts and likelihood of future flooding and improve communications and assistance to residents before, during and after a flood event. Several public meetings were held through the Delaware River watershed in New Jersey to gain public input. The final report will be made available by the end of 2005 when a public meeting for comments will be held.

Watershed Rehabilitation

To date, six flood control dams have been assessed for repair needs and enhancements necessary to ensure the continued safe functioning of the structure. Sponsors are evaluating the reports and, where appropriate, are considering making application for assistance through the Watershed Rehabilitation Program. In FY 2006, two additional assessments will be conducted.

Earmark funding of \$942,400

This earmark involved the delivery of technical assistance to install conservation practices associated with NJ agricultural cost share programs including the Conservation Cost Share Program and Farmland Preservation Program. Over the last three years, NRCS has hired additional staff at eight locations and has provided funds to the NJ Soil Conservation Districts to fund twelve other field positions (50% share).

In FY 2005 the eight NRCS and twelve SCD staff supported:

- 122 Contracts through various Farm Bill programs totaling \$4,678,761 providing assistance to 104 farmers
- 160 Contracts through the NJ 8-year Cost Share program (from 9/2004 to 9/2005) totaling \$2,594,556.

The conservation practices planned and installed as a result of earmark funding in 2005 include a wide range of soil and water related practices such as irrigation water management, integrated crop management, animal waste management, soil erosion control and others. The benefits of these practices are predominantly linked to water quality and maintaining soil productivity.

Earmark funds used in Hunterdon SCD support

This funding was used to hire 1 administrative and 4 technical employees.

Counties and areas served: Hunterdon, Somerset, Union, Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hudson, Essex, Bergen, and Passaic

Earmark funds used in Gloucester SCD support

This funding was used to hire 2 administrative and 3 technical employees.

Counties and areas served: Cape May, Cumberland, Atlantic, Salem, Gloucester

Earmark funds used in Mercer SCD support

This funding was used to hire 2 technical employees.

Counties and areas served: Burlington, Camden, Ocean, Monmouth, Middlesex, Mercer

