



## Steps to Follow to Request Local Important Farmland Soils Designation

1. In Connecticut, the highest ranking elected official in your town sends a request, in writing, to the NRCS State Conservationist, stating they would like assistance in the identification of farmland soils of local importance. The letter should state the reason for the designation (i.e., have areas that are farmed that are not Prime or Statewide Important farmland; to enhance efforts in identifying important lands to protect;, etc.). Address the letter to:

Lisa R. Coverdale  
State Conservationist  
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service  
344 Merrow Road, Suite A  
Tolland, CT 06084

2. Once NRCS receives the letter, they will run an analysis of the soils and soil map units in the town that have the potential to be designated farmland of local importance – based on physical and chemical properties and agricultural limitations and potential. NRCS develops a spatial map layer that displays the new designated soils.
3. Two copies of the list and map are sent to the town for review. If it is accepted, the highest ranking elected official signs and returns one copy to NRCS.
4. The designation then becomes official and can 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 the town – can be completed quickly, depending on the time it takes to route the paperwork and obtain signatures.

Questions should be addressed to Barbara Alexander (860) 871-4046 or via email at [barb.alexander@ct.usda.gov](mailto:barb.alexander@ct.usda.gov).