

# Farmland Soils

## Town of Nottingham, NH

### Prime Farmland

- Soils that have an aquic or udic moisture regime and sufficient available water capacity within a depth of 40 inches to produce the commonly grown cultivated crops adapted to New Hampshire in 7 or more years out of 10.
- Soils that are in the frigid or mesic temperature regime.
- Soils that have a pH between 4.5 and 8.4 in all horizons within a depth of 40 inches.
- Soils that have either no water table or have a water table that is maintained at a sufficient depth during the cropping season to allow cultivated crops common to New Hampshire to be grown.
- Soils that have a saturation extract less than 4 mmh<sub>2</sub>O/cm and the exchangeable sodium percentage is less than 15 in all horizons within a depth of 40 inches.
- Soils that are not frequently flooded during the growing season (less than a 50% chance in any year or the soil floods less than 50 years out of 100.)
- The product of the erodibility factor times the percent slope is less than 2.0 and the product of soil erodibility and the climate factor does not exceed 50.
- Soils that have a permeability rate of at least 0.06 inches per hour in the upper 20 inches.
- Soils, that have less than 10 percent of the upper 6 inches consisting of, rock fragments larger than 3 inches in diameter.

### Farmland of Local Importance

Farmland of local importance is farmland that is not prime, unique or of statewide importance, but has local significance for the production of food, feed, fiber and forage. Criteria for the identification and delineation of local farmland is determined on a county-wide basis by the individual County Conservation District Boards. The original criteria were established on June 20, 1983. Updates are noted according to the county initiating the update. The criteria for soils of local importance is as follows:

- Soils that are poorly drained, have artificial drainage established and are being farmed.
- Specific soil map units identified from the NRCS county soil survey legend, as determined by the Conservation District Board.

### Farmland of Statewide Importance

Land that is not prime or unique but is considered farmland of statewide importance for the production of food, feed, fiber, forage and oilseed crops. Criteria for defining and delineating farmland of statewide importance are determined by a state committee chaired by the Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food, with members representing the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts and the New Hampshire Office of State Planning. The NRCS State Soil Scientist serves on this committee in an advisory capacity. The original criteria were established on June 20, 1983. It was updated on December 7, 2000.

- Soils of statewide importance are soils that are not prime or unique and:
- Have slopes of less than 15 percent
  - Are not stony, very stony or bouldery
  - Are not somewhat poorly, poorly or very poorly drained
  - Includes soil complexes comprised of less than 30 percent shallow soils and rock outcrop and slopes do not exceed 5 percent.
  - Are not excessively drained soils developed in stratified glacial drift, generally having low available water holding capacity.

Type	Area (acres)
Prime Farmland Soils	730.9
Farmland Soil of Local Importance	1,560.2
Farmland Soil of Statewide Importance	632.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,923.6</b>
Agricultural Lands	763.4
Developed Lands	2,582.4

Note: This information is tabulated for areas within the Town of Nottingham only.  
Soils data are from the NRCS Rockingham County Soil Survey, 2008.  
Land Use data were interpreted from 2010 photography, 1-ft resolution.

### Legend

- |                        |                  |                                       |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Municipal Boundary     | <b>Road Type</b> | Agricultural Lands                    |
| Tax Parcel             | State            | Developed Lands                       |
| Brook, Stream, River   | Recreational     | <b>Farmland Soils</b>                 |
| Lake, Pond             | Local            | Prime Farmland Soil                   |
| Wetland                | Not Maintained   | Farmland Soil of Local Importance     |
| Pawtuckaway State Park | Private          | Farmland Soil of Statewide Importance |

**Data Sources**  
Base features are from USGS 1:24,000 scale Digital Line Graphs, as archived in the GRANIT database. Digital data in NH GRANIT represent the efforts of the contributing agencies to record information from the cited source materials. ComplexSystems Research Center (CSRC), under contract to the Office of Energy & Planning (OEP), and in consultation with cooperating agencies, maintains a continuing program to identify and correct errors in these data. Neither OEP nor CSRC make any claim as to the validity or reliability or to any implied uses of these data.  
Digital tax parcels taken from SRPC database. Data should be used for planning purposes only. Data was derived from various sources and were updated at different time frames, with varying levels of accuracy.  
For further information regarding GIS data sources contact SRPC GIS staff.

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