

Urban Conservation Accomplishments - 2009

Urban Update

By Supreet Rekhi

<u>Soil Erosion and Sediment Control</u>	Plans	Acres Protected with BMPs
Residential Sites	259	15,058.3
Commercial Sites	152	4,085.5
Governmental Projects	42	2,665.3
Standard Plan Sites	16	68.5
Forest Harvest Sites	3	182.2
Mining and Fill Sites	7	447.6
Green Stamp Plans	35	—
Waiver Letters	23	—
<u>Rough Grading Permits</u>	18	1,554.6
<u>Subdivision Plans</u>	6	—
<u>Pond Plans</u>	96	—
<u>Pond As-Builts</u>	35	—
<u>Exempt Pond Plans</u>	113	—
Total Plans	805	Acres 24,062
Total Number of Plan Reviews		1,486
Average Review Time in Days		1.9

New Soil Survey Released

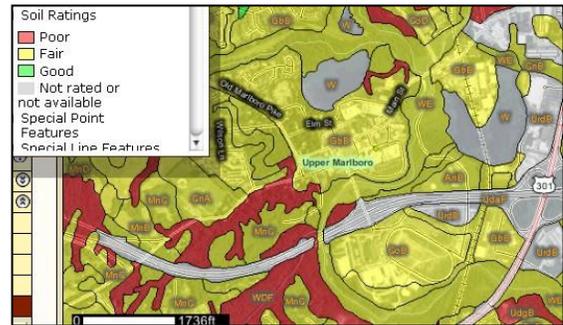
By Gene Whitehead

The District is pleased to announce that the updated Prince George's Soil Survey made its long-awaited debut in December, 2009. The new survey-- now fully online-- contains many new soils and map units, reflecting our increased understanding of the soils in our area. As such, it is a substantial revision to the previous soil survey originally published in 1967.

To locate and view the new survey, go to <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/Homepage.htm>. Click the green Start button to launch Web Soil Survey. Data from soil descriptions to use limitations, engineering properties and more can now be graphically displayed for any user-specified area within the county, complete with easy-to-read color coding. In addition, spatial and tabular data can be downloaded from Soil Data Mart for direct use in GIS applications. This represents the first time that we have a complete SSURGO dataset available for southern Maryland.

NRCS has pledged to provide the Conservation Partnership and other agencies with customized training on using the Web Soil Survey and Soil Data Viewer. The survey's completion was a collaborative effort, but we owe special thanks to Susan Davis, Dean Cowherd,

Susan Demas, Mike Jones, Edwin Muniz. Significant contributions were received from others as well, including Eddie Earles, Skip Bell, and our former colleague, David Verdone.



Map of potential topsoil sources generated by Soil Data Explorer

New MDE Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

By Lance Gardner

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a comprehensive review of the State's erosion and sediment control standards in early 2009. MDE has developed an initial draft of the "2010 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control" as part of the May 5, 2010 schedule for incorporation into regulation.

The proposed changes indicate the projects that have stormwater management and erosion and sediment plan approvals as of May 4, 2010 may proceed under current regulations. If plans have not been approved, the project will have to meet the new standards.

The new State regulations require the District to review and approve concept, environmental site development and final grading and erosion sediment control plans. This will require environmental site design (ESD) through the use of nonstructural best management practices and other better site design techniques, be implemented to the maximum extent practicable. We are now in the process of revising our Soil Erosion & Sediment Control - Pond Safety Reference Manual to be in compliance with these state regulations. We anticipate having a draft online at www.pgscd.org by early April 2010. Any change by MDE to their schedule of implementation of the new standards or regulations will cause a change to the dates above.