United States Department of Agriculture



North Carolina Section II-(A)

Source Data for the Official Soil Survey

Buncombe County - General

The traditional final product of first generation soil survey mapping has been the soil survey publication. Each publication included soil map unit descriptions, series descriptions, tables of information (attributes), and maps. The new soil survey is a digital product named SSURGO. Electronic files may be downloaded from the Soil Data Mart. A web-based application, the Web Soil Survey, has also been made available for public use. It consists of the newest NRCS SSURGO soils data, along with information from other official federal data sources such as US Geological Survey and the US Census Bureau. These generally include an orthophotographic background, roads, streams, coordinates, and other data for orientation and location purposes.

The Buncombe County soil survey was published in 2009 and released in 2010. The soil survey manuscript and maps are available in Adobe PDF format. The soil maps have been digitized. The official source of soil data is the Soil Data Mart. The SSURGO tabular and/or spatial data may be downloaded from:

http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/Download.aspx?Survey=NC021&UseState=NC

A web-based set of data is also available. Interpretations and data may be accessed at:

http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/Report.aspx?Survey=NC021&UseState=NC

The Web Soil Survey is accessed from:

http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/

The data on these sites are the most current available.

The Buncombe County soil survey manuscript and maps in Adobe PDF format can be accessed at:

http://soils.usda.gov/survey/online surveys/north carolina/

For further information, contact the NRCS field office or the NRCS resource soil scientist at:

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The interpretations and analyses derived from these data do not eliminate the need for onsite sampling, testing, and detailed study of specific sites for intensive uses. Thus, these data and their interpretations are intended for planning purposes only. Files are dated and users are responsible for obtaining the latest version of the data.

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