

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Soil Science Division

Soil Survey Region 11



Soil Survey Office at Juneau, Wisconsin

Soil Suitability Training — Manure Storage Facilities

Purpose

NRCS soil scientists provide training to NRCS technicians and engineers, State technicians, and private consultants on how to describe soil properties.

Background Information

Soil scientist Karla Petges from the Juneau, Wisconsin MLRA Soil Survey Office assisted the area engineer and the area resource soil scientist teach two workshops in Kewaunee and Waupaca Counties in Wisconsin. The purpose of the workshop was to teach participants how to describe soils according to the new State and National standards for manure storage facilities. Each workshop had approximately 15 NRCS technicians and engineers, along with 15 Wisconsin Land Conservation Department technicians and private consultants, with a total of sixty participants between both workshops.

The guidance provided in Engineering Field Handbook Notice 210-WI-137 was outlined and instruction was given on how to describe soil properties such as texture, color, redox features, plasticity, dilatancy, and structure. Participants described at least two soil pits followed by a discussion of the conclusions.



Participants were taught how to describe soil properties such as the oxidized rhizosphere, the bright orange section of soil pictured above.

Key Outcomes

The training provided will help technicians, engineers, and private consultants describe the soils and assess the suitability of sites for the construction of manure storage facilities.

By training partners to describe soils, conservation practices such as animal waste management can be implemented using site-specific soils information. Collaborating with partners allows NRCS to provide the most effective and efficient customer service to our producers.

