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Farmland Protection Policy Act

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) is intended to minimize the impact Federal programs have on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements does not have to be currently used for cropland. It can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a Federal agency or with assistance from a Federal agency.

FPPA National website

Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Form (NRCS AD-1006)

Prime and Important Farmland maps

Important Farmlands are indicated on NRCS Soil Survey maps and tables, which are posted on Web Soil Survey (WSS).

Web Soil Survey may be found at: http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov

To use WSS, click on 'Start WSS'

This will bring up a general map of the US.

Then zero in on the area that you have questions about. (For example: You can type in Concord, NH)

Select an Area Of Interest (click an AOI icon above the map, then select the area you want on the map).

This will create a soil map of the AOI.

To see a farmland map:

Once the AOI has been set and the soil map generated, click on the 'Soil Data Explorer' tab.

Click on 'Land Classifications'.

Click on `Farmland Classification'.

Click on 'View Rating'.

A farmland map of the area will be created.

For more information about FPPA in New Hampshire, please contact:

Peter Whitcomb - Soil Scientist, Concord, NH



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