

# Getting soil survey maps online

This shows screenshots taken by using  
Internet Explorer.

Different web browsers may appear  
differently, but should still function.

Go to this website, for NC soil surveys:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/surveylist/soils/survey/state/?stateId=NC>

The screenshot shows the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soils website. The header includes the USDA logo, the text "Natural Resources Conservation Service Soils", and "United States Department of Agriculture". Navigation links include "About Us", "Soil Survey Releases", "National Centers", and "State Websites". A search bar is present with a magnifying glass icon. Below the header are buttons for "Topics", "Soil Survey", "Soil Health", and "Contact Us". A secondary navigation bar includes "Browse By Audience", "A-Z Index", and "Help". A breadcrumb trail reads "You are Here: Home / Soil Survey / Soil Surveys by State / Soil Survey List". Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr are displayed under the heading "Stay Connected".

**Soil Survey**

- Soil Survey - Home
- Soil Surveys by State
- Partnerships
- Publications
- Soil Classification
- Soil Geography
- Tools
- Soil Survey Regional Offices
- Soil Climate Research Stations

### Published Soil Surveys for North Carolina

Soil survey information is regularly updated and posted to the [Web Soil Survey](#), which is the official source for current information. The Web Soil Survey provides both tabular and spatial data and allows you to create a custom soil resource report for your specific area of interest. In the table below, clicking on a survey area that is listed as "current" takes you to the Web Soil Survey.

Supplemental information is available in the form of published soil surveys. USDA has published soil surveys since 1899. Many of these publications are archived as PDF files. In the table below, clicking on a survey area that is listed "yes" for "Archived PDF online" takes you to a link to the files. Most of the archived soil surveys include detailed soil maps. For more information on accessing the maps, [click here](#).

Printed copies of soil surveys are available at Federal depository libraries and in some cases at USDA offices. For information about reference copies (CD or paper) of a publication or for information about publications that are not on the following list, contact the [State Conservationist](#).

Soil survey name (Click links for online surveys.)	Date	Archived PDF online	Web Soil Survey (generated from official soil data)
<a href="#">Alamance County</a>	1901	Yes	No
<a href="#">Alamance County</a>	1960	Yes	No
<a href="#">Alamance County</a>	current	No	Yes
<a href="#">Alexander County</a>	1995	Yes	No
<a href="#">Alexander County</a>	current	No	Yes

Scroll down the website page, to find the County you need. Click on the County Name. Do not select “current”....because that takes you to WebSoil Survey, and **you cannot use WebSoil Survey** for the Riparian Buffer Rules.

In this example, I clicked on Nash County.

Then click on “Manuscript”.

*(Note: file size is very large, it may take several minutes to download the PDF depending on your internet connection speed)*

Montgomery County	1930	No	No
Montgomery County	current	No	Yes
Moore County	1919	No	No
Moore County	1995	Yes	No
Moore County	current	No	Yes
Mount Mitchell Area	1902	Yes	No
Nash County	1926	No	No
Nash County	1989	Yes	No
<a href="#">Manuscript</a> (PDF; 25.2 MB)			
Nash County	<del>current</del>	No	Yes
New Hanover County	1906	Yes	No
New Hanover County	1977	Yes	No
New Hanover County	current	No	Yes
Northampton County	1929	Yes	No
Northampton County	1994	Yes	No
Northampton County	current	No	Yes
Onslow County	1921	No	No
Onslow County	1992	Yes	No

This is the “manuscript” PDF file for Nash County. Got to the left column, and scroll down to the bottom. If you don’t see this column, click on the little bookmark icon at the left (circled), to make this Bookmark column visible. (NOTE: This assumes using Adobe Reader DC version)

The screenshot displays the Adobe Reader DC interface. The top toolbar includes icons for Save, Print, Camera, and other functions. The main content area shows the title page of a PDF document titled "Soil Survey of Nash County, North Carolina". The document is published by the United States Department of Agriculture and Soil Conservation Service, in cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, North Carolina Agricultural Research Service, and Nash County Board of Commissioners. The title page features a large photograph of a white, two-story house with a prominent porch and columns. On the left side, the "Bookmarks" panel is visible, listing various sections of the document such as "Accessibility Statement", "Cover", "Contents", "Index to Map Units", and "General Soil Map Units". A small bookmark icon in the left sidebar is circled in red. On the right side, a vertical toolbar offers various PDF editing options like "Export PDF", "Create PDF", "Edit PDF", "Comment", "Combine Files", "Organize Pages", "Redact", "Protect", "Optimize PDF", "Fill & Sign", "Adobe Sign", and "Send for Review". At the bottom right, there is a promotional message: "Convert and edit PDFs with Acrobat Pro DC" and a "Start Free Trial" link.

**NOTE: This shows Mozilla Firefox access to this manuscript PDF.**

If you do not see the left column, then click on the “Toggle Sidebar” button, circled.

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying a PDF document. The browser's address bar shows "a (1 of 138)". The PDF content includes the title "Soil Survey of Nash County, North Carolina" and logos for the United States Department of Agriculture and the Soil Conservation Service. A table of contents is visible on the left side of the PDF, listing various tables and sections. A red circle highlights the "Toggle Sidebar" button in the browser's toolbar.

United States Department of Agriculture  
Soil Conservation Service

In cooperation with  
North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development,  
North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service,  
North Carolina Agricultural Research Service, and  
Nash County Board of Commissioners

# Soil Survey of Nash County, North Carolina

Table 6.-Capacity Classes and Subclasses  
Table 7.-Seasonal Production of Forages  
Table 8.-Woodland Management and Productivity  
Table 9.-Recreational Development  
Table 10.-Wildlife Habitat  
Table 11.-Building Site Development  
Table 12.-Sanitary Facilities  
Table 13.-Construction Materials  
Table 14.-Water Management  
Table 15.-Engineering Index Properties  
Table 16.-Physical and Chemical Properties of the Soils  
Table 17.-Soil and Water Features  
Table 18.-Engineering Index Test Data  
Table 19.-Classification of the Soils

**General Soil Map**  
**Soil Legend and Conventional and Special Symbols Legend**  
**Index to Map Sheets (Detailed Soil Maps)**

Click on “Index to Map Sheets”, or some manuscripts call it “Detailed Soil Maps”.

The image shows a PDF viewer interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with icons for saving, printing, and navigation. Below the toolbar is a header area with the text "a (1 of 138)", a "Share" button, and a "Sign In" button. The main content area displays the title page of a document titled "Soil Survey of Nash County, North Carolina". The page includes logos for the United States Department of Agriculture and the Soil Conservation Service, and a photograph of a large, classical-style house. The left sidebar contains a "Bookmarks" panel with a list of navigation items. The item "Index to Map Sheets (Detailed Soil Maps)" is circled in red. The right sidebar contains various PDF editing tools like "Export PDF", "Create PDF", "Edit PDF", "Comment", "Combine Files", "Organize Pages", "Redact", "Protect", "Optimize PDF", "Fill & Sign", "Adobe Sign", and "Send for Review".

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# Soil Survey of Nash County, North Carolina

Export PDF  
Create PDF  
Edit PDF  
Comment  
Combine Files  
Organize Pages  
Redact  
Protect  
Optimize PDF  
Fill & Sign  
Adobe Sign  
Send for Review

Convert and edit PDFs with Acrobat Pro DC  
Start Free Trial

Bookmarks

- Details
- Map Units
- Prime Farmland
- Use and Management of the Soils
- Soil Properties
- Formation of the Soils
- Classification of the Soils
- Soil Series and Their Morphology
- References
- Glossary
- Tables
- General Soil Map**
- Soil Legend and Conventional and Special Symbols Legend**
- Index to Map Sheets (Detailed Soil Maps)**

A new PDF file will download, showing an overall map of the whole county with a Map Sheet Index Grid. Click on the numbered grid you wish to view.

The screenshot displays the Adobe Acrobat Pro DC interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with icons for file operations (Save, Print, Copy, Paste, Undo, Redo, Rotate, Crop, Rotate 90 degrees), a page indicator showing '1 / 1', and a 'Share' button. On the left side, a 'Bookmarks' panel is open, listing various sections of the document such as 'Accessibility Statement', 'Cover', 'Caption for Cover Picture', 'How To Use This Soil Survey', 'Contents', 'Index to Map Units', 'Summary of Tables', 'Foreword', 'General Nature of the County', 'How This Survey Was Made', 'General Soil Map Units', 'Detailed Soil Map Units', 'Prime Farmland', and 'Use and Management of the Soils'. The main content area shows a map of Nash County, North Carolina, overlaid with a 4x3 grid of numbered map sheets (1-12). The map includes labels for various locations like Weldon, Hatterville, and various roads. Below the map is a title 'INDEX TO MAP SHEETS NASH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA' and a scale bar. On the right side, a vertical menu of actions is visible, including 'Export PDF', 'Create PDF', 'Edit PDF', 'Comment', 'Combine Files', 'Organize Pages', 'Redact', 'Protect', 'Optimize PDF', 'Fill & Sign', 'Adobe Sign', and 'Send for Review'. At the bottom right, there is a promotional message: 'Convert and edit PDFs with Acrobat Pro DC Start Free Trial'.

In this example, I clicked on Grid #4.

A new PDF file will download, showing the detailed soil survey map.

You can then Save this PDF to your computer, and reference it in the future.

The screenshot displays the Adobe Acrobat Reader interface. At the top, a toolbar contains various icons, with the 'Save' icon (a floppy disk) circled in red. A red arrow points from this icon to the text above. The main window shows a detailed soil survey map titled 'SHEET NUMBER 4, NEW COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA'. On the left, a 'Bookmarks' panel is open, listing sections such as 'Accessibility Statement', 'Cover', 'Caption for Cover Picture', 'How To Use This Soil Survey', 'Contents', 'Index to Map Units', 'Summary of Tables', 'Foreword', 'General Nature of the County', 'How This Survey Was Made', 'General Soil Map Units', 'Detailed Soil Map Units', 'Prime Farmland', and 'Use and Management of the Soils'. On the right, a sidebar contains a list of actions: 'Export PDF', 'Create PDF', 'Edit PDF', 'Comment', 'Combine Files', 'Organize Pages', 'Redact', 'Protect', 'Optimize PDF', 'Fill & Sign', 'Adobe Sign', and 'Send for Review'. At the bottom right, there is a promotional message: 'Convert and edit PDFs with Acrobat Pro DC' and a 'Start Free Trial' link.