

Natural Resources Conservation Service A product of the National Cooperative Soil Survey, a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local participants

# Custom Soil Resource Report for Tompkins County, New York

**East Shore Circle Subdivision - Phase 2** 



# **Preface**

Soil surveys contain information that affects land use planning in survey areas. They highlight soil limitations that affect various land uses and provide information about the properties of the soils in the survey areas. Soil surveys are designed for many different users, including farmers, ranchers, foresters, agronomists, urban planners, community officials, engineers, developers, builders, and home buyers. Also, conservationists, teachers, students, and specialists in recreation, waste disposal, and pollution control can use the surveys to help them understand, protect, or enhance the environment.

Various land use regulations of Federal, State, and local governments may impose special restrictions on land use or land treatment. Soil surveys identify soil properties that are used in making various land use or land treatment decisions. The information is intended to help the land users identify and reduce the effects of soil limitations on various land uses. The landowner or user is responsible for identifying and complying with existing laws and regulations.

Although soil survey information can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning, onsite investigation is needed to supplement this information in some cases. Examples include soil quality assessments (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/health/) and certain conservation and engineering applications. For more detailed information, contact your local USDA Service Center (https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs) or your NRCS State Soil Scientist (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/contactus/?cid=nrcs142p2 053951).

Great differences in soil properties can occur within short distances. Some soils are seasonally wet or subject to flooding. Some are too unstable to be used as a foundation for buildings or roads. Clayey or wet soils are poorly suited to use as septic tank absorption fields. A high water table makes a soil poorly suited to basements or underground installations.

The National Cooperative Soil Survey is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local agencies. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has leadership for the Federal part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Information about soils is updated periodically. Updated information is available through the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the site for official soil survey information.

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# Soil Map

The soil map section includes the soil map for the defined area of interest, a list of soil map units on the map and extent of each map unit, and cartographic symbols displayed on the map. Also presented are various metadata about data used to produce the map, and a description of each soil map unit.



### MAP LEGEND

### Area of Interest (AOI)

Area of Interest (AOI)

### Soils

Soil Map Unit Polygons

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Soil Map Unit Lines

Soil Map Unit Points

### Special Point Features

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Blowout

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Borrow Pit

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Clay Spot

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Closed Depression

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Gravel Pit

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Gravelly Spot

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Landfill

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Lava Flow

Marsh or swamp

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Mine or Quarry

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Miscellaneous Water

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Perennial Water
Rock Outcrop

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Saline Spot

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Sandy Spot

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Severely Eroded Spot

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Sinkhole

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Sodic Spot

Slide or Slip

### 8

Spoil Area Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot Other



Special Line Features

### Water Features

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Streams and Canals

### Transportation

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Rails

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Interstate Highways

\_\_

US Routes



Major Roads

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Local Roads

### Background

No.

Aerial Photography

### MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:20.000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Tompkins County, New York Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 29, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50.000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Apr 1, 2020—Oct 1, 2020

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

# **Map Unit Legend**

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
IcA	Ilion silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.2	1.7%
OaA	Ovid silt loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	9.5	98.3%
Totals for Area of Interest		9.7	100.0%

# **Map Unit Descriptions**

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions, along with the maps, can be used to determine the composition and properties of a unit.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named and some minor components that belong to taxonomic classes other than those of the major soils.

Most minor soils have properties similar to those of the dominant soil or soils in the map unit, and thus they do not affect use and management. These are called noncontrasting, or similar, components. They may or may not be mentioned in a particular map unit description. Other minor components, however, have properties and behavioral characteristics divergent enough to affect use or to require different management. These are called contrasting, or dissimilar, components. They generally are in small areas and could not be mapped separately because of the scale used. Some small areas of strongly contrasting soils or miscellaneous areas are identified by a special symbol on the maps. If included in the database for a given area, the contrasting minor components are identified in the map unit descriptions along with some characteristics of each. A few areas of minor components may not have been observed, and consequently they are not mentioned in the descriptions, especially where the pattern was so complex that it was impractical to make enough observations to identify all the soils and miscellaneous areas on the landscape.

The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The objective of mapping is not to delineate pure taxonomic classes but rather to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. The delineation of such segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, however,

onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

An identifying symbol precedes the map unit name in the map unit descriptions. Each description includes general facts about the unit and gives important soil properties and qualities.

Soils that have profiles that are almost alike make up a *soil series*. Except for differences in texture of the surface layer, all the soils of a series have major horizons that are similar in composition, thickness, and arrangement.

Soils of one series can differ in texture of the surface layer, slope, stoniness, salinity, degree of erosion, and other characteristics that affect their use. On the basis of such differences, a soil series is divided into *soil phases*. Most of the areas shown on the detailed soil maps are phases of soil series. The name of a soil phase commonly indicates a feature that affects use or management. For example, Alpha silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is a phase of the Alpha series.

Some map units are made up of two or more major soils or miscellaneous areas. These map units are complexes, associations, or undifferentiated groups.

A *complex* consists of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas in such an intricate pattern or in such small areas that they cannot be shown separately on the maps. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar in all areas. Alpha-Beta complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes, is an example.

An association is made up of two or more geographically associated soils or miscellaneous areas that are shown as one unit on the maps. Because of present or anticipated uses of the map units in the survey area, it was not considered practical or necessary to map the soils or miscellaneous areas separately. The pattern and relative proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar. Alpha-Beta association, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

An *undifferentiated group* is made up of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas that could be mapped individually but are mapped as one unit because similar interpretations can be made for use and management. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas in a mapped area are not uniform. An area can be made up of only one of the major soils or miscellaneous areas, or it can be made up of all of them. Alpha and Beta soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

Some surveys include *miscellaneous areas*. Such areas have little or no soil material and support little or no vegetation. Rock outcrop is an example.

### **Tompkins County, New York**

### IcA—Ilion silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes

### **Map Unit Setting**

National map unit symbol: 9xmh Elevation: 600 to 1,800 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 32 to 42 inches Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 120 to 160 days

Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

### **Map Unit Composition**

*Ilion and similar soils:* 75 percent *Minor components:* 25 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

### **Description of Ilion**

### Setting

Landform: Depressions

Landform position (two-dimensional): Toeslope Landform position (three-dimensional): Base slope

Down-slope shape: Concave Across-slope shape: Concave

Parent material: Loamy till derived from calcareous dark shale

### Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 10 inches: silty clay loam H2 - 10 to 26 inches: silty clay loam H3 - 26 to 60 inches: silt loam

### **Properties and qualities**

Slope: 0 to 2 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Poorly drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to

moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr) Depth to water table: About 0 inches

Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: Frequent

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 10 percent

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 7.9 inches)

### Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 4w

Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D

Ecological site: F101XY014NY - Wet Till Depression

Hydric soil rating: Yes

### **Minor Components**

### Lyons

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Depressions

Hydric soil rating: Yes

### **Darien**

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

### **Erie**

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

### Alden

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Depressions Hydric soil rating: Yes

### Ovid

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

### OaA—Ovid silt loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes

### **Map Unit Setting**

National map unit symbol: 9xnm Elevation: 250 to 1,000 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 32 to 42 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 120 to 160 days

Farmland classification: Prime farmland if drained

### **Map Unit Composition**

Ovid and similar soils: 75 percent Minor components: 25 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

### **Description of Ovid**

### Setting

Landform: Till plains, reworked lake plains
Landform position (two-dimensional): Footslope
Landform position (three-dimensional): Base slope

Down-slope shape: Concave Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Loamy till with a significant component of reddish shale or reddish

glaciolacustrine clays, mixed with limestone and some sandstone

### Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 14 inches: silt loam
H2 - 14 to 24 inches: silty clay loam
H3 - 24 to 60 inches: gravelly loam

### Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 6 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to

moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr) Depth to water table: About 6 to 18 inches

Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 5 percent

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.7 inches)

### Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3w

Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D

Ecological site: F101XY013NY - Moist Till

Hydric soil rating: No

### **Minor Components**

### Rhinebeck

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

### Cayuga

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

### Lyons

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Depressions

Hydric soil rating: Yes

### llion

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Landform: Depressions Hydric soil rating: Yes

### Kendaia

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

# Soil Information for All Uses

# **Suitabilities and Limitations for Use**

The Suitabilities and Limitations for Use section includes various soil interpretations displayed as thematic maps with a summary table for the soil map units in the selected area of interest. A single value or rating for each map unit is generated by aggregating the interpretive ratings of individual map unit components. This aggregation process is defined for each interpretation.

### Land Classifications

Land Classifications are specified land use and management groupings that are assigned to soil areas because combinations of soil have similar behavior for specified practices. Most are based on soil properties and other factors that directly influence the specific use of the soil. Example classifications include ecological site classification, farmland classification, irrigated and nonirrigated land capability classification, and hydric rating.

# **Hydric Rating by Map Unit**

This rating indicates the percentage of map units that meets the criteria for hydric soils. Map units are composed of one or more map unit components or soil types, each of which is rated as hydric soil or not hydric. Map units that are made up dominantly of hydric soils may have small areas of minor nonhydric components in the higher positions on the landform, and map units that are made up dominantly of nonhydric soils may have small areas of minor hydric components in the lower positions on the landform. Each map unit is rated based on its respective components and the percentage of each component within the map unit.

The thematic map is color coded based on the composition of hydric components. The five color classes are separated as 100 percent hydric components, 66 to 99 percent hydric components, 33 to 65 percent hydric components, 1 to 32 percent hydric components, and less than one percent hydric components.

In Web Soil Survey, the Summary by Map Unit table that is displayed below the map pane contains a column named 'Rating'. In this column the percentage of each map unit that is classified as hydric is displayed.

Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (Federal Register, 1994). Under natural conditions, these soils are either saturated or inundated long enough during the growing season to support the growth and reproduction of hydrophytic vegetation.

The NTCHS definition identifies general soil properties that are associated with wetness. In order to determine whether a specific soil is a hydric soil or nonhydric soil, however, more specific information, such as information about the depth and duration of the water table, is needed. Thus, criteria that identify those estimated soil properties unique to hydric soils have been established (Federal Register, 2002). These criteria are used to identify map unit components that normally are associated with wetlands. The criteria used are selected estimated soil properties that are described in "Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff, 1999) and "Keys to Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff, 2006) and in the "Soil Survey Manual" (Soil Survey Division Staff, 1993).

If soils are wet enough for a long enough period of time to be considered hydric, they should exhibit certain properties that can be easily observed in the field. These visible properties are indicators of hydric soils. The indicators used to make onsite determinations of hydric soils are specified in "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States" (Hurt and Vasilas, 2006).

### References:

Federal Register. July 13, 1994. Changes in hydric soils of the United States.

Federal Register. September 18, 2002. Hydric soils of the United States.

Hurt, G.W., and L.M. Vasilas, editors. Version 6.0, 2006. Field indicators of hydric soils in the United States.

Soil Survey Division Staff. 1993. Soil survey manual. Soil Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 18.

Soil Survey Staff. 1999. Soil taxonomy: A basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil surveys. 2nd edition. Natural Resources Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 436.

Soil Survey Staff. 2006. Keys to soil taxonomy. 10th edition. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.



### MAP LEGEND

## Area of Interest (AOI) Area of Interest (AOI) Soils Soil Rating Polygons Hydric (100%) Hydric (66 to 99%) $\sim$ Hydric (33 to 65%) Hydric (1 to 32%) Not Hydric (0%) Not rated or not available Soil Rating Lines Hydric (100%) Hydric (66 to 99%) Hydric (33 to 65%) Hydric (1 to 32%) Not Hydric (0%) Not rated or not available **Soil Rating Points** Hydric (100%) Hydric (66 to 99%) Hydric (33 to 65%) Hydric (1 to 32%) Not Hydric (0%)

Not rated or not available

Streams and Canals

**Water Features** 

### Transportation

→ Rails

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Interstate Highways

US Routes

Major Roads

Local Roads

### Background

Merial Photography

### MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:20.000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

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Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

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# **Table—Hydric Rating by Map Unit**

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
IcA	llion silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	85	0.2	1.7%
OaA	Ovid silt loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	10	9.5	98.3%
Totals for Area of Inter	est		9.7	100.0%

# Rating Options—Hydric Rating by Map Unit

Aggregation Method: Percent Present

Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified

Tie-break Rule: Lower

# References

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). 2004. Standard specifications for transportation materials and methods of sampling and testing. 24th edition.

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). 2005. Standard classification of soils for engineering purposes. ASTM Standard D2487-00.

Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of wetlands and deep-water habitats of the United States. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service FWS/OBS-79/31.

Federal Register. July 13, 1994. Changes in hydric soils of the United States.

Federal Register. September 18, 2002. Hydric soils of the United States.

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National Research Council. 1995. Wetlands: Characteristics and boundaries.

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Soil Survey Staff. 1999. Soil taxonomy: A basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil surveys. 2nd edition. Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 436. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/soils/?cid=nrcs142p2 053577

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United States Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Laboratory. 1987. Corps of Engineers wetlands delineation manual. Waterways Experiment Station Technical Report Y-87-1.

United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. National forestry manual. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/home/?cid=nrcs142p2 053374

United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. National range and pasture handbook. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/landuse/rangepasture/?cid=stelprdb1043084

United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. National soil survey handbook, title 430-VI. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/scientists/?cid=nrcs142p2\_054242

United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. 2006. Land resource regions and major land resource areas of the United States, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 296. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/soils/?cid=nrcs142p2\_053624

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1961. Land capability classification. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 210. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2\_052290.pdf