CART Soil Map Toolbox (version 3.0).

This is the user guide for **CART Soil Map Toolbox (version 3.0**). This version is compatible with ArcMap 10.4 - 10.6.1. Earlier versions of ArcGIS Desktop will not be able to run the tool, so please have ITS do an upgrade to at least 10.5 if this is an issue.

The purpose of the CART Soil Map Toolbox is to provide developers and soil scientists with more detailed information about the way soils data is being used by the CART application. Hopefully this information in the form of soil maps and reports can be used to improve queries for Soil Data Access and to validate the methods being used to summarize soils data to the land unit level. This ArcMap tool is not part of the actual CART application.

September 09, 2019

Input Spatial Data Layers

Input Data

The CART Soil Map tool is currently pulling data from three web services:

- https://sdmdataaccess.sc.egov.usda.gov
- http://csip.engr.colostate.edu:8083/csip-soils/d/wepot/2.1
- https://intapi.eauth.usda.gov/nrcs/cp/NRCS_RS_ConservationResourcesWQM/m/wqm/rfactor/1.2

These URLs are designed for handling AOI data requests from custom applications and do not have a webpage designed for web browsers.

Even though the databases behind the services contain spatial data, these three services are designed to return only data, not map layers. Soil Data Access can return coordinate data for soil features, but it requires a script to convert those coordinates into polygon geometry needed for a map layer.

Users may substitute a local PLU shapefile for the CLU web feature service.

Installation of the CART Soil Map Tool

Installation is one-time-process that does not require Admin privileges.

Upgrading to a newer version would involve removing the old folder and then downloading the replacement from the NRCS-GIS Sharepoint at:

NRCS-GIS SharePoint Tools-CART

Unzip the CART_SoilsMap_Tools zip file to a convenient location on a local hard drive. Make note of the location so that it can be found again later. The toolbox contents are self-contained within a folder named CART_SoilMap_Tools. This folder has all the files needed to run the tool and contents must remain intact because of interdependencies.

Installation of the CART Soil Map Tool

CART_SoilMap_Tools folder contains the following files and folders:

- Cart_Test_SoilMaps.mxd
- 2. CART Soil Map Toolbox.tbx
- 3. ToolData folder containing layers for ArcMap
 - a. Common Land Units Feature Service 2013 Data with Labels.lyr
 - b. Test_AOIs shapefile
 - c. World Imagery.lyr
- 4. Documentation: UserGuide CART SoilMap Toolbox.pdf
- 5. Other subfolders: Documentation, Scripts

Running the CART Soil Map Tool

Five steps required to generate a series of CART soil maps

- Open the Cart_Test_SoilMap.mxd. Please note. If you have problems opening the mxd, you can simply add the toolbox and even the layer files (Common Landunits and World Imagery .lyr) to your own ArcMap session. The background layers are all online, so it may take several seconds initially for the map to display.
- 2. Begin by selecting a couple of the Common Land Unit polygons to serve as an area-of-interest. Use the Select Feature tool in ArcMap.
- 3. Please note, the Common Land Unit layer will not display below 1:50,000 scale and if more than eight polygons are selected, the tool will not run.

Running the CART Soil Map Tool

Five steps required to generate a series of CART soil maps (cont'd)

- 3. Open the CART Soil Map tool. If you are unable to expand the 'CART SoilMap Toolbox because the little 'plus' button on the left is missing, please contact support (see last slide).
- 4. Select a valid land units layer from the first choice list. The layer must have at least one polygon selected (blue highlight) in order to run the tool. If a ❷ is displayed, hover the mouse cursor over it to see the error message.

 ArcToolbox

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ArcToolbox

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CART Soil Map Tool
Zoom To County
Cartography Tools

Running the CART Soil Map Tool

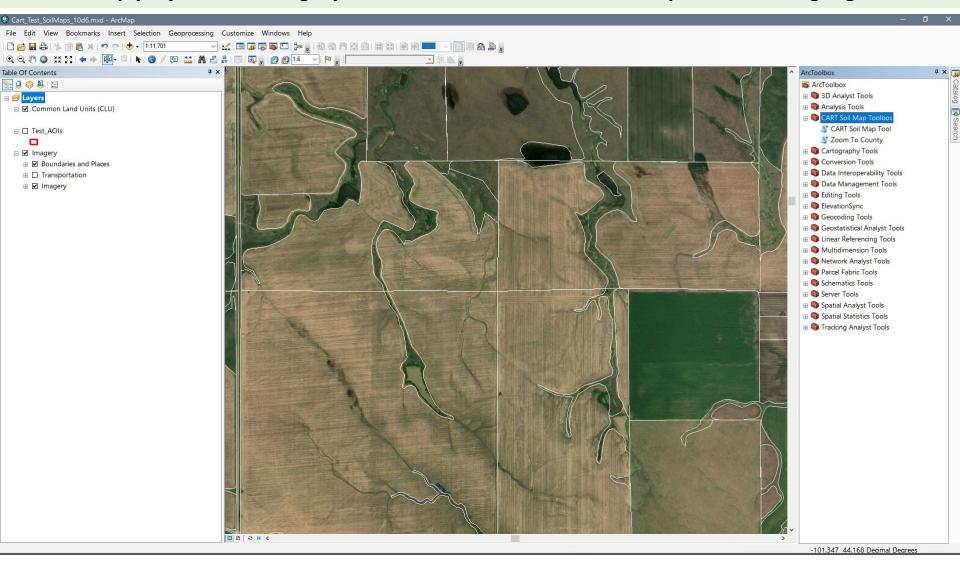
Five steps required to generate a series of CART soil maps (cont'd)

5. Set the output folder where the new geodatabase and other output data will be written. Output layers for the same land unit from previous runs may fail to overwrite until you quit out of ArcMap and start up again.

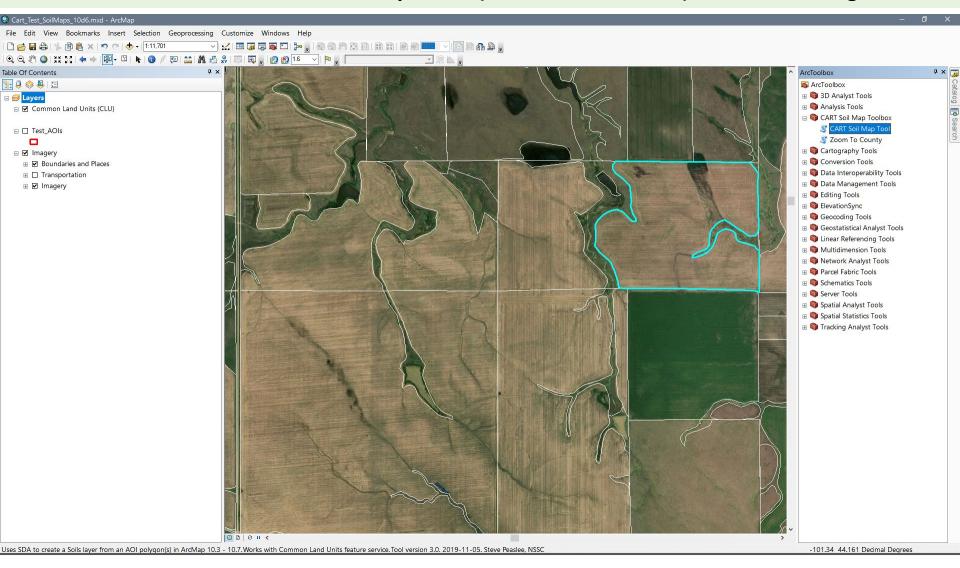
The following several slides illustrate the process and the tool output.

Contact information for assistance is on the final slide.

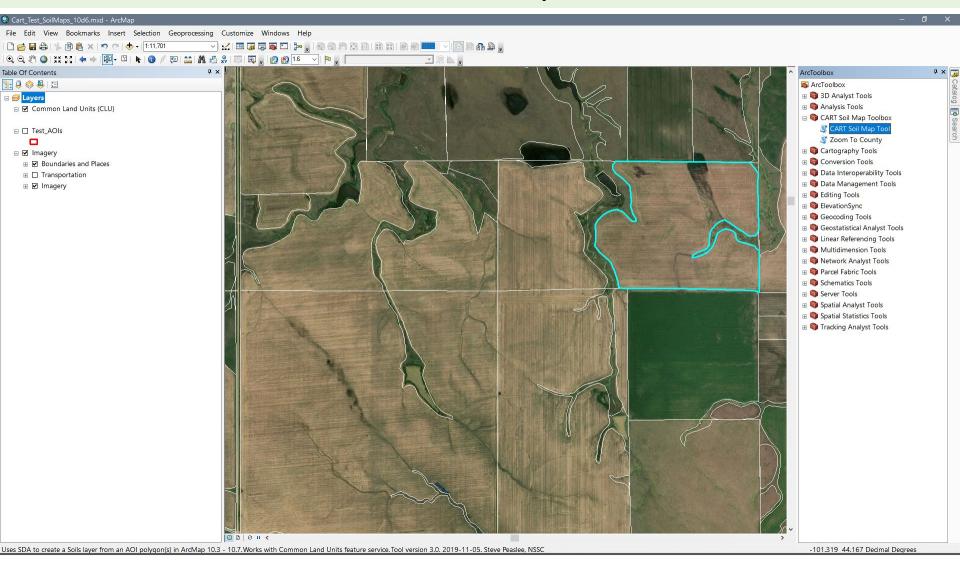
ArcMap project with imagery and 2013 CLU. The CART Soil Map Toolbox is highlighted.



Select one or more land units to process (Select Features Tool). Maximum is eight.



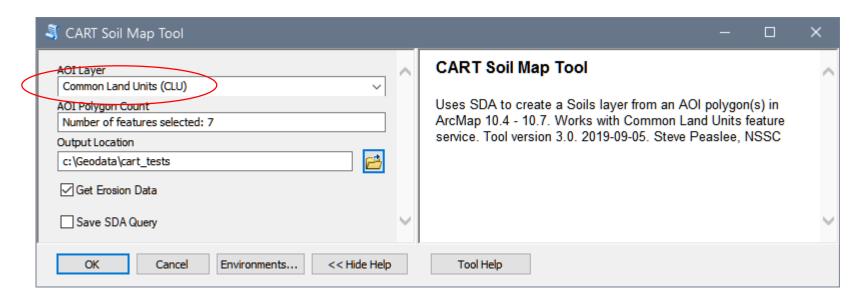
Double-click the 'CART Soil Map Tool' to execute.



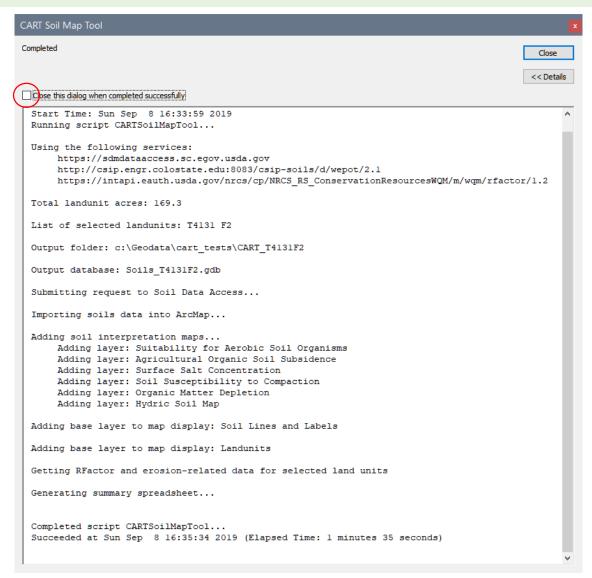
The CART Soil Map Tool menu...

If the 'Common Landunit' layer is present in the ArcMap table of contents (TOC), it will automatically appear as the first choice for the AOI layer. The user can switch to another layer in ArcMap by clicking the down arrow on the right side of 'AOI Layer'. Valid choices are any polygon map layer containing 'PLU_*' or 'CLU_*' attribute fields.

User may set the 'Output Location' to any folder. A local folder is recommended for storing the output data. Tool help for each menu choice is available on the right side.

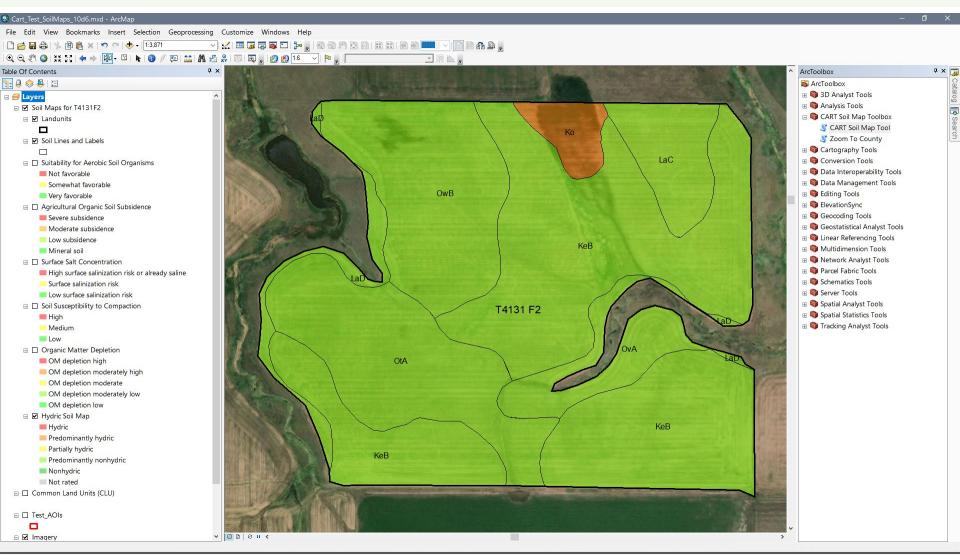


The tool console window displays status messages and processing time.



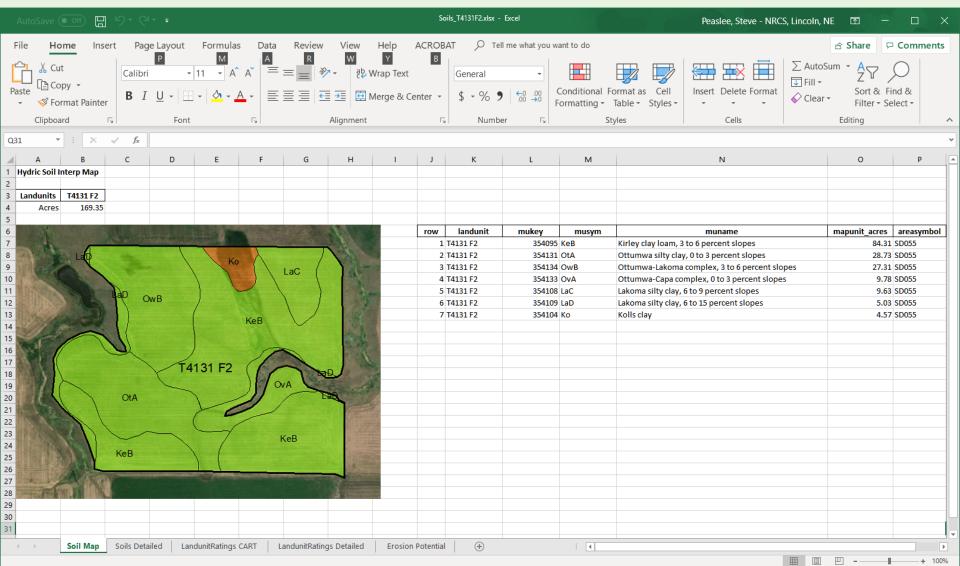
Uncheck the 'Close this dialog...' box in order to see any warnings or error messages.

Upon completion, the tool will display the hydric soil map and a spreadsheet will also pop up.



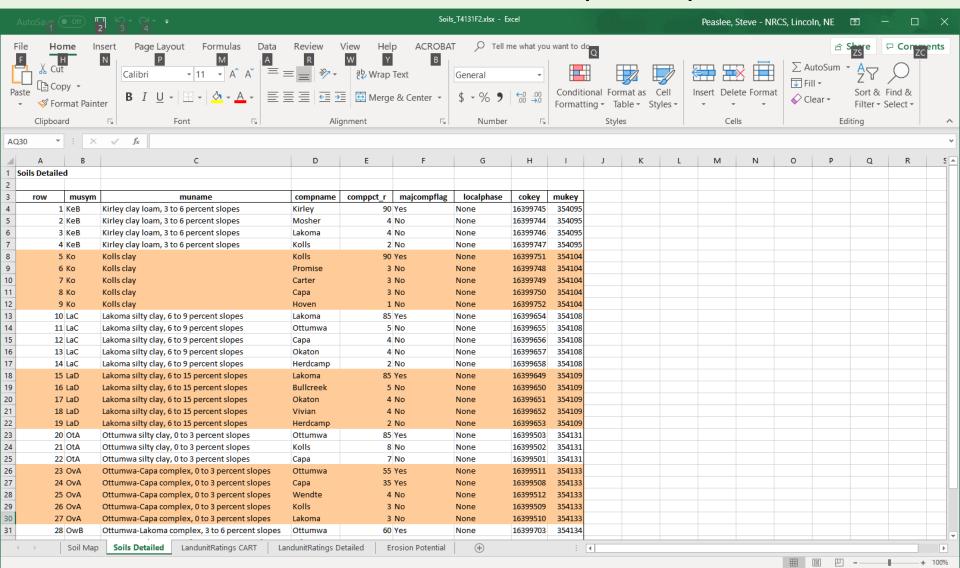
A series of soil map layers are generated. Only the hydric map is displayed initially.

The spreadsheet has several worksheet tabs. The first sheet contains the soils map.



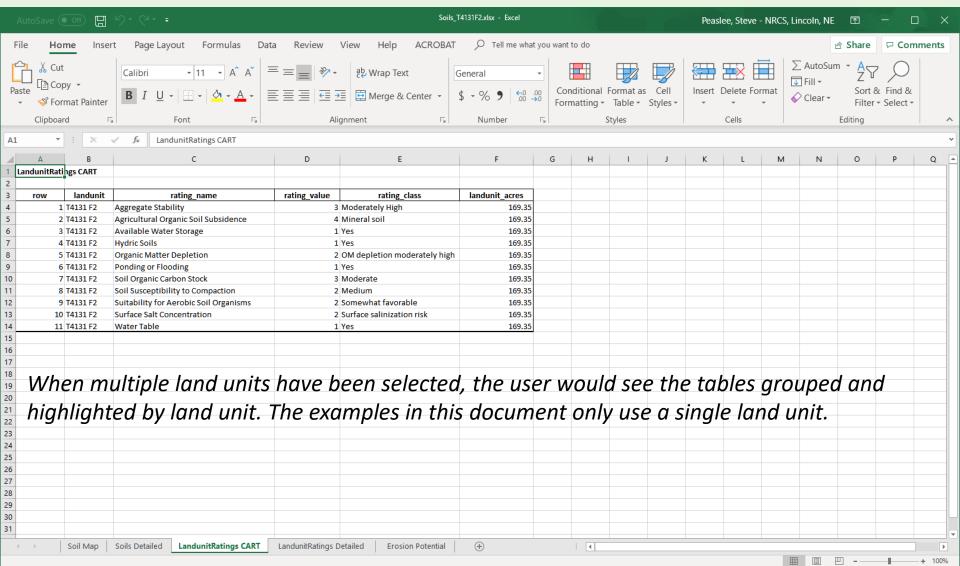
Soils are grouped and highlighted by land unit.

The 'Soils Detailed' sheet contains a table of soil mapunit-component information.

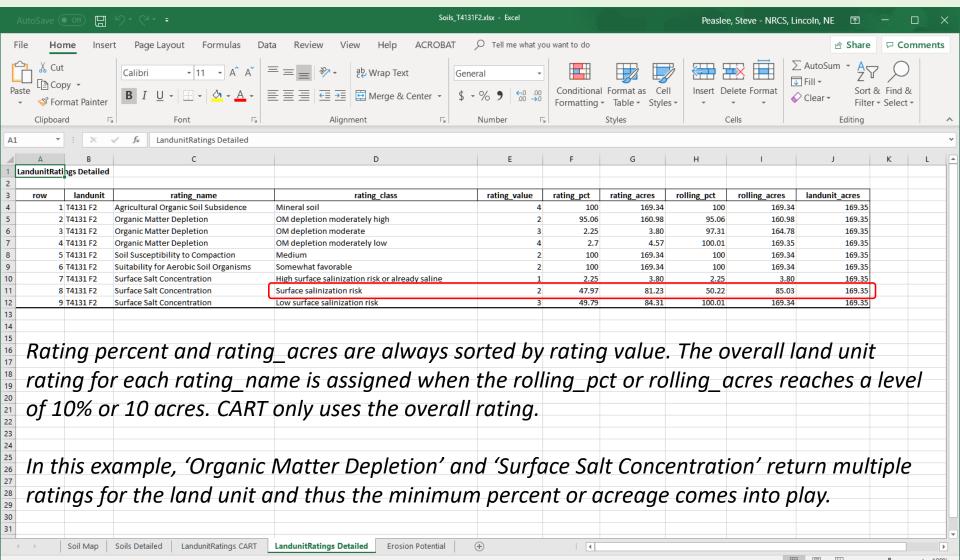


Soils are grouped and highlighted by soil map unit and sorted by component percent.

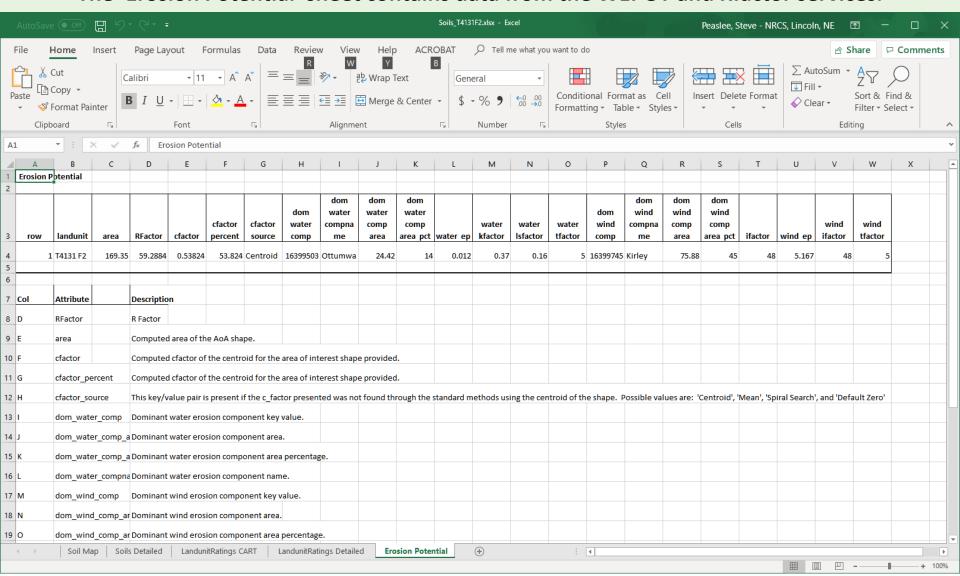
The 'LandunitRatings CART' sheet will contain summary ratings for each landunit.



The 'LandunitRatings Detailed' sheet will contain more detailed rating information.



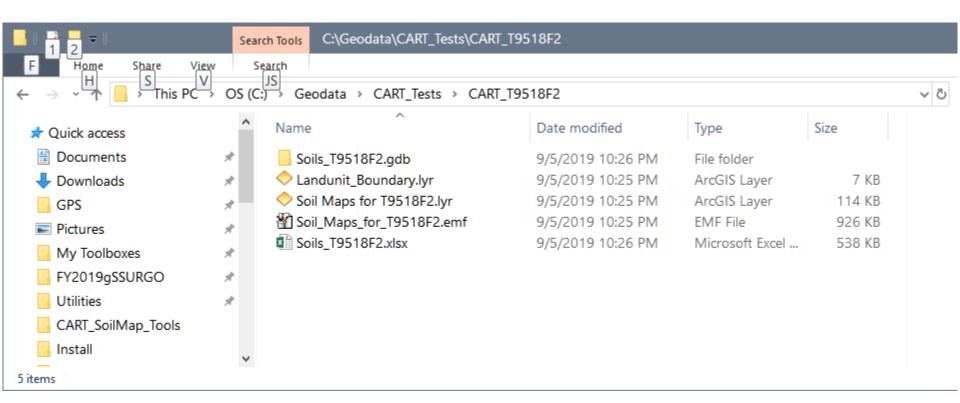
The 'Erosion Potential' sheet contains data from the WEPOT and Rfactor services.



The 'Erosion Potential' sheet contains data from the WEPOT and Rfactor services.

Below is a screenshot of Windows File Explorer with an example of the types of data created by the tool. The folder and most data files have the land unit identifier incorporated into the name.

The Soils geodatabase and .lyr files can be added to other ArcMap documents and even zipped up for distribution. All data paths are relative so keep the contents intact if the folder is moved.



Help!

In case of problems with installation/tool execution or if there are general questions, please contact: Steve Peaslee, National Soil Survey Center. steve.peaslee@usda.gov

The CART SoilMap ArcToolbox is compatible with ArcMap 10.4 through 10.6. It has not been tested with 10.7, but I wouldn't expect any issues.

To obtain support, tool errors should be captured by highlighting all tool messages from the very first line in the tool window to the very last line. Copy-paste the text (using Ctrl-C) into an e-mail to support. If the tool window is small you may have to expand it or scroll to the top to make sure none of the text is missed. See slide 12 for an example of what the tool messages normally look like. Sending message text rather than a screenshot is preferred because it is easier to read and the text should contain all input parameters plus the error message.

Periodic tool updates and documentation will be posted at: NRCS-GIS SharePoint Tools-CART