Soil Drainage Class refers to the frequency and duration of wet periods under conditions similar to those under which the soil formed. Alterations of the water regime by human activities, either naturally or artificially drained. The soil, however, is not continuously wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season, but long enough that most mesophytic crops are not able to establish or maintain growth without irrigation or drainage. Artificial drainage systems, however, are not considered in the Soil Drainage Class ratings. Without drainage or irrigation, the soil is not able to support crop growth during the growing season for at least 4 weeks.

Soil drainage classes are determined by the characteristics of the soil profile, including the nature and thickness of the surface horizons, the permeability and structure of the soil, and the water table conditions. Drainage classes provide a guide to the limitations and potentials for irrigation, drainage, or other land management practices. The base map digital spatial data shown on this map is the most accurate single source of this information. To download the base map digital spatial data shown on this map, visit the NRCS soils website for the state of Connecticut. The base map data shown on this map is for the state of Connecticut. The base map data shown on this map is copyrighted data. Base map and street names are from Tele Atlas copyrighted data. Visit the NRCS soils website for the state of Connecticut for the most current information on soil drainage classes.

**Legend**

- **Essentially drained**: Water is removed very rapidly. The occurrence of water or water-logged conditions is very rare or very slight. The soil is essentially unsaturated, or the water table is very shallow or very deep. The soil is not continuously saturated or the water table is more than 2 feet deep. The soil is not very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.
- **Somewhat rapidly drained**: Water is removed from the soil rapidly but not as rapidly as the essentially drained class. The soil is not very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.
- **Well drained**: Water is removed from the soil quickly but not as quickly as the somewhat rapidly drained class. The soil is not very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.
- **Moderately well drained**: Water is removed from the soil moderately but not as quickly as the well drained class. The soil is not very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.
- **Somewhat poorly drained**: Water is removed slowly, so the soil is periodically saturated or water-logged during the growing season. The occurrence of water or water-logged conditions is not very frequent and not continuous. The soil is not very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.
- **Poorly drained**: Water is removed so slowly that the soil is very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season. The occurrence of water or water-logged conditions is frequent and continuous. The soil is very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.
- **Very poorly drained**: Water is removed from the soil very slowly. The soil is very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season. The occurrence of water or water-logged conditions is very frequent and very continuous. The soil is very wet at shallow depths periodically during the growing season.

**Data Sources**

- Soil Data Base (SDB), National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS), National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), accessed via the NRCS Soil Data Base Viewer (SDB Viewer).
- Base Map Data (BMD), created originally from 1:24,000 scale U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Quadrangle Topographic maps.
- Towns and Major Streets.

**Explaination**

The Soil Drainage Class is determined by the characteristics of the soil profile, including the nature and thickness of the surface horizons, the permeability and structure of the soil, and the water table conditions. Drainage classes provide a guide to the limitations and potentials for irrigation, drainage, or other land management practices. The base map digital spatial data shown on this map is the most accurate single source of this information. To download the base map digital spatial data shown on this map, visit the NRCS soils website for the state of Connecticut. The base map data shown on this map is copyrighted data. Base map and street names are from Tele Atlas copyrighted data. Visit the NRCS soils website for the state of Connecticut for the most current information on soil drainage classes.