



Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Developing effective technical standards that protect Wisconsin's natural resources

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WDNR XXXX Urban Soil Health Standard Team

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday 19 March 2026 ▲ 9:00am – 2:30pm ▲

UW-Madison Arboretum - 2880 Longenecker Dr, Madison, WI 53713

9:00 Brief welcome & overview (Pete, Christina & Carl)

Attendance: Andy Kaminski, Mark Polega, Christina Rauh, Phil Gaebler, Neal O'Reilly, Pete Wood, Stu Schwartz, Jamie Patton, Carl Wepking

9:05 Review changes to current draft (25 min; Pete, Christina)

Notes:

Compaction evaluation

- Looser criteria
- Soil moisture & penetrometer readings
- Would we expect a typical urban soil to be experiencing meaningful compaction?
- From an ag perspective, often soils are assumed to be compacted until other evidence is collected
- Potentially move this evaluation to considerations (instead of criteria)
- Options:
 1. Simplify – assume compaction for urban soils and construction-associated soils
 2. Use current language
 3. Very prescriptive (as originally framed in the tech standard)
- Do we want to include follow-up testing – potentially introduces tracking complications on behalf of the regulator
- Other framings of the situation
 - Initial screening – if a user is on the fence as to whether a site is compacted, provide some tests that could be run to help make a determination as to whether to proceed
 - Site evaluation – once you've decided to proceed, here are some parameters you'll want to characterize for your site
 - [what should this look like? – item to focus on before the next meeting –]
 - Soil evaluation
 - Compaction evaluation
 - Other parameters?
- Variability in how construction-related compaction is handled around the state – Madison shifts the hydrologic soil group; if the whole state took this approach, the urban soil health tech standard may see better uptake

9:30 Homework follow-ups (30 min; Carl)

- Curve number and spreadsheet (Stu)
 - **Notes:**
 - Values in current table have issues due to a rounding error and will need to be updated
 - Current table #2 was built by Pete using Stu's curve numbers, so this will need to be updated as well [homework – Stu will reproduce table erring on the conservative side of estimates]
 - Coordination with WINSLAM will need to be considered
 - Considered that this approach to calculating decompaction benefit will pose challenges for larger storm events
- Language, re-writes in the draft (Christina, Pete, Carl)
 - **Notes: updated revegetation language was discussed**
 - Further discussion regarding broad types of vegetation and approaches (landscape architecture) to avoid re-compaction or discourage recompaction
- Engage with soil investigation-type company, references to justify 10% slope & investigate slope length question (Neal)
 - **Notes: - revisit at a later date**
- Practical implications/applications of curve number changes (Phil & Stu)

10:00 Break (15 min)

10:15 Rounding out Suburban Subsoiling (45 min; Pete)

Notes:

- This period of time was spent crafting draft language – see changes to draft tech standard

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Rounding out Complete Cultivation (45 min; Pete)

Notes:

- This period of time was spent crafting draft language – see changes to draft tech standard

1:15 Break (15 min)

1:30 Continuation of earlier topics / TBD (45 min)

2:15 Next steps & action items (15 min; Carl)

1. Site evaluation description
 - a. Soil evaluation
 - b. Compaction evaluation
 - c. Other parameters?
2. Table updates (Stu, Pete)

2:30 Close meeting

Zoom connection info:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83897688109?pwd=r7isXDtU5Wbfq83fY0sIS88lgobhJu.1>

Meeting ID: 838 9768 8109

Passcode: 072287