



# Definitions of selected items on the WI Log of Test Pits:

Description	Criteria
Stratified	Alternating layers of varying material or color with layers at least mm thick; note thickness
Laminated	Alternating layers of varying material or color with the layers less than 6 mm thick; note thickness
Fissured	Breaks along definite planes of fracture with little resistance to fracturing
Slickensided	Fracture planes appear polished or glossy, sometimes striated
Blocky	Cohesive soil that can be broken down into small angular lumps which resist further breakdown
Lensed	Inclusion of small pockets of different soils, such as small lenses of sand scattered through a mass of clay; note thickness
Homogeneous	Same color and appearance throughout

Description	Criteria
Nonplastic	A 1/8-in (3-mm) thread cannot be rolled at any water content
Low	The thread can barely be rolled and the lump cannot be formed when drier than the plastic limit
Medium	The thread is easy to roll and not much time is required to reach the plastic limit. The thread cannot be rerolled after reaching the plastic limit. The lump crumbles when drier than the plastic limit
High	It takes considerable time rolling and kneading to reach the plastic limit. The thread can be rerolled several times after reaching the plastic limit. The lump can be formed without crumbling when drier than the plastic limit

Moisture	
Dry	Absence of moisture, dusty, dry to the touch
Slightly moist	Apparent moisture but well below optimum moisture content
Moist	Damp, but no visible water; at or near optimum moisture content
Very moist	Above optimum moisture content
Wet	Visible free water; below water table

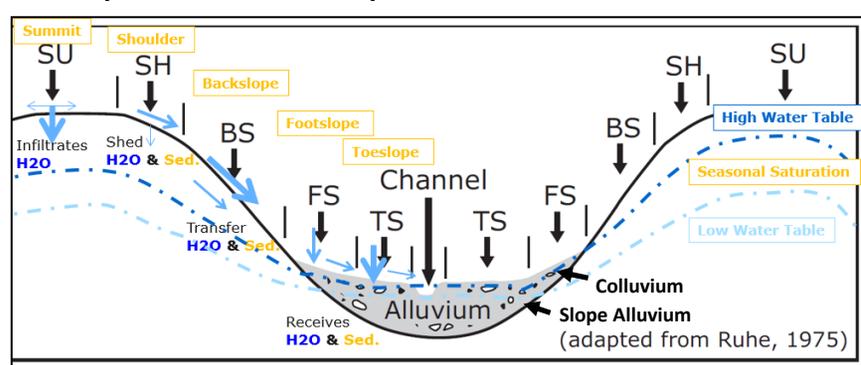
Description	Criteria
None	No visible change in the specimen
Slow	Water appears slowly on the surface of the specimen during shaking and does not disappear or disappears slowly upon squeezing
Rapid	Water appears quickly on the surface of the specimen during shaking and disappears quickly upon squeezing

Description	Criteria for Fine-grained Saturated Soils	Penetrometer tons/ft <sup>2</sup> or kg/cm <sup>2</sup>	Std. Penetration Test (ASTM D 1586) blows/ft
Very soft	Thumb will penetrate soil more than 1 in	< 0.1	< 2
Soft	Thumb will penetrate soil about 1 in	0.10-0.25	2-4
Firm	Thumb will indent soil about 1/4 in	0.25-1.00	4-15
Hard	Thumb will not indent soil, but readily indented with thumbnail	1.00-2.00	15-30
Very hard	Thumbnail will not indent soil	> 2.00	> 30

**Karst Features <1000 ft— look for Sinkholes**  
 (Intermittently wet or dry Closed Depressions), Interconnected Fissures / Fractures (seen in test pits or as sinkholes lined up on a fissure), Disappearing Streams (dry stream bed), Blind Valleys (stream ends in sinkhole), Caves, and Springs.

Till	Unsorted Glacial Till (SC, SM, GC, GM)
Sand & Gravel	Water-Sorted Outwash or Alluvium (SP, GP)
Clay & Silt	Stack Water Lake Deposits (Layered)

## The Importance of Landscape Position to Water Movement



## Glacial Water Table Features

