

## **Environmental Features**

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### **Physiography**

The City of Oglesby currently covers an area of approximately 2,710 acres, or 4.23 square miles. The land topography is generally flat and open except for the areas of the city near the Vermilion River and Illinois River Valleys that are steep and heavily wooded. Agricultural land surrounds the southwest portion of the City and is comprised of corn, soybean, and wheat crops.

### **Climate**

Oglesby has typical Midwest weather. On average the warmest month is July, with an average high of 85 degrees Fahrenheit and a record high of 104 degrees in 1983. January is the coldest month with an average high of 29 degrees Fahrenheit and an average low of 12 degrees. The record low was set in 1985 when the temperature was recorded at -26 degrees.

The average growing season in LaSalle County is 175 days.

### **Soil**

The following information on soils is from the 2006 Soil Survey of LaSalle County, Illinois. The United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service and the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station completed the survey. (See MAP 6 Oglesby Soil Map)


Soils are responsible for producing our food, filtering our water supply, and supporting our buildings and development. Because there are hundreds of soil types and formations, certain types of soil are better than others for certain uses. The five (5) general factors that determine the type of soil that forms in a certain location are composition of the parent material, climate, plants and organisms, land relief, and time.

Soil parent materials are formed by disintegration and decomposition of rock. Water, wind, or glaciers, resulting in varying mixes and densities, can distribute parent materials. Climate and vegetation are active factors in the soil formation process by altering the accumulated parent material and developing its characteristics to a certain soil classification. The climate accomplishes this by the processes of weathering and erosion. Freezing and thawing help break down minerals and rock fragments. Dead plants and other organisms add to the formation process by contributing rich nutrients and organic matter to the soil through decay.



## MAP LEGEND






















### Area of Interest (AOI)


 Area of Interest (AOI)


### Soils

 Soil Map Units

### Special Point Features




-  Blowout
-  Borrow Pit
-  Clay Spot
-  Closed Depression
-  Gravel Pit
-  Gravelly Spot
-  Landfill
-  Lava Flow
-  Marsh or swamp
-  Mine or Quarry
-  Miscellaneous Water
-  Perennial Water
-  Rock Outcrop
-  Saline Spot
-  Sandy Spot
-  Severely Eroded Spot
-  Sinkhole
-  Slide or Slip
-  Sodic Spot
-  Spoil Area
-  Stony Spot

 Very Stony Spot

 Wet Spot

 Other



### Special Line Features

-  Gully
-  Short Steep Slope
-  Other





### Political Features

 Cities

### Water Features

-  Oceans
-  Streams and Canals

### Transportation

-  Rails
-  Interstate Highways
-  US Routes
-  Major Roads

## MAP INFORMATION

Map Scale: 1:36,700 if printed on A size (8.5" × 11") sheet.

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.

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

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>  
 Coordinate System: UTM Zone 16N NAD83

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

Soil Survey Area: LaSalle County, Illinois  
 Survey Area Data: Version 5, May 12, 2008

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: 7/31/2007; 6/20/2007

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

LaSalle County, Illinois (IL099)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
23B	Blount silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	21.8	0.8%
67A	Harpster silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	21.2	0.8%
132A	Starks silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	5.4	0.2%
134B	Camden silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	28.1	1.0%
134C2	Camden silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	3.1	0.1%
134D2	Camden silt loam, 10 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	14.6	0.5%
148C2	Proctor silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	1.0	0.0%
152A	Drummer silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	4.8	0.2%
154A	Flanagan silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	304.9	11.1%
171C2	Catlin silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	34.9	1.3%
193C2	Mayville silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	0.7	0.0%
233B	Birkbeck silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	52.9	1.9%
233C2	Birkbeck silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	25.9	0.9%
234A	Sunbury silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	27.4	1.0%
236A	Sabina silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	310.9	11.4%
241E3	Chatsworth silty clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes, severely eroded	29.7	1.1%
241F	Chatsworth silty clay loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes	28.3	1.0%
241G	Chatsworth silty clay loam, 30 to 50 percent slopes	72.7	2.7%
242A	Kendall silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	19.3	0.7%
243B	St. Charles silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	3.6	0.1%
243C2	St. Charles silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	1.6	0.1%
298B	Beecher silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	3.3	0.1%
356A	Elpaso silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	454.0	16.6%
375B	Rutland silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	33.4	1.2%
527D2	Kidani loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	0.4	0.0%
530B	Ozaukee silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	9.6	0.3%
530C2	Ozaukee silt loam, 4 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	44.8	1.6%
530D2	Ozaukee silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	19.5	0.7%
530D3	Ozaukee silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	1.0	0.0%
530E2	Ozaukee silt loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	9.3	0.3%
530F	Ozaukee silt loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes	24.6	0.9%

LaSalle County, Illinois (IL099)				
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI	
549C2	Marseilles silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	31.3	1.1%	
549D2	Marseilles silt loam, 10 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	29.9	1.1%	
549F	Marseilles silt loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes	3.8	0.1%	
663B	Clare silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	11.4	0.4%	
668B	Somonauk silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	3.1	0.1%	
675B	Greenbush silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	3.2	0.1%	
732A	Appletree silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	1.2	0.0%	
794G	Marseilles, Northfield, and Ritchey silt loams, 30 to 60 percent slopes	155.5	5.7%	
802B	Orthents, loamy, undulating	40.5	1.5%	
802D	Orthents, loamy, rolling	8.1	0.3%	
804D	Orthents, acid, undulating and rolling	257.1	9.4%	
818A	Flanagan-Catlin silt loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	450.1	16.4%	
820E	Hennepin-Casco complex, 12 to 30 percent slopes	3.3	0.1%	
820G	Hennepin-Casco complex, 30 to 60 percent slopes	37.2	1.4%	
3073A	Ross loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	0.0	0.0%	
3321A	Du Page silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	66.9	2.4%	
3480A	Moundprairie silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	3.9	0.1%	
W	Water	18.4	0.7%	
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>2,737.8</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	



The 2006 Soil Survey of LaSalle County, Illinois identifies the following soil types as the most prominent in the corporate limits of Oglesby, Illinois: 154A Flanagan Silt Loam, 236A Sabina Silt Loam, 356A Elpaso Silty Clay Loam, 804D Orthents, and 818A Flanagan-Catlin Silt Loams.

*154A Flanagan Silt Loam*

Flanagan Silt Loam makes up 304.9 acres or 11.1% of the soils in the City of Oglesby. This type of soil is associated with ground moraines and is relatively flat with slopes of 0-3%. Though the soil is not prone to flooding or pooling, it is somewhat poorly drained and is generally incompatible as a location for structures. This soil is prime for farmland where drained.

*236A Sabina Silt Loam*

Sabina Silt Loam makes up 310 acres or 11.4% of the soils in the City of Oglesby. This soil type is associated with till plains and ground moraines and is relatively flat with slopes of 0-2%. Though the soil is not prone to flooding or pooling, it is somewhat poorly drained and is generally incompatible as a location for structures. This soil is prime for farmland where drained.

*356A Elpaso Silty Clay Loam*

Elpaso Silty Clay Loam makes up 454 acres or 16.6% of the soils in the City of Oglesby. This soil type is associated with ground and end moraines and is relatively flat with slopes of 0-2%. Though the soil is not prone to flooding, it is prone to pooling and is poorly drained. The soil is generally incompatible as a location for structures. This soil is prime for farmland where drained.

*804D Orthents, Acid*

Orthents make up 257.1 acres or 9.4% of the soils in the City of Oglesby. This soil type is associated with leveled land, spoil piles, and stream terraces. The soil is somewhat steep with and undulating and rolling slope. The soil is well drained and is generally somewhat limited as a location for structures. This soil is not prime for farmland.

*818A Flanagan-Catlin Silt Loams*

Flanagan-Catlin Silt Loams make up 450.1 acres or 16.4% of the soils in the City of Oglesby. This soil type is associated with ground and end moraines. The soil is relatively flat slopes with 0-3% slopes. The soil is moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained and is not prone to flooding or pooling. The soil is very limited as a location for structures, but is prime for farmland.

## Surface Water

The main hydrological feature in Oglesby is the Vermilion River (bordering the City's east, northeast, and southeast sides). The Vermilion River watershed occupies 1,330 square miles. The River travels 115 miles from its source in Ford and Livingston Counties and descends 115 miles to its confluence with the Illinois River near Oglesby. The Vermilion and its tributaries support 54 species of fish, 29 species of clams and mussels, and 12 species of crayfish. The waters of the Vermilion from the Illinois River upstream to Streator, IL are considered to be of good quality according to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). However the waters further upstream from Streator are considered to be impaired (polluted with high levels of bacteria, heavy metals, and/or nitrates)



The Illinois River is located just north of the City and runs east to west at this point. The River runs 332 miles from Minooka to Grafton, IL and has a watershed of more than 18.6 million acres in Illinois. The section of the Illinois River near Oglesby, among several other sections, is considered impaired by the IDNR. This section is impaired by high levels of fecal coliform bacteria. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has taken several steps to improve the health of the Illinois River. However, while the water quality has improved significantly in recent years it will take time to thoroughly improve the quality of the water.

## Groundwater

The City of Oglesby obtains its drinking water from two deep wells drilled approximately 2,800 feet into the Cambrian-Ordovician deep bedrock aquifer below Oglesby. There is currently an adequate water supply for Oglesby's industrial, municipal, and domestic uses.

## Mineral Resources

The most prominent resources around and under the City of Oglesby are sand, gravel, and limestone. The sand and gravel are located in alluvial and terrace deposits along the Illinois River. Until recently, when the quarries were shut down, Buzzi Unicem USA, Inc. was mining limestone around Oglesby for cement manufacturing

Historically coal was mined under Oglesby. There is still coal that to be mined in the Oglesby area. However, the local coal is now known to cause more pollution than other coals used today. The high sulfur content of the local coal causes acid rain (i.e. sulfur dioxide emissions). Most Illinois power plants are not equipped to burn high sulfur coal. A project just beginning in Mattoon, IL involving the U.S. Dept. of energy will continue to experiment with the zero emission coal-burning power plant. If the new technology proves effective local coal may again become a valuable commodity.